

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10th February 2021

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

Councillor Bambrick (Chairman), Mrs Stuart (Vice-Chairman) and Councillor Gee.

Conservative Group

Councillors Atkin, Hewlett and Muller.

Independent Group

Councillor Roberts.

In Attendance

Councillors Dunn, Dr Pearson, Richards, Tilley and Mrs. Wheelton.

OS/34 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that no apologies had been received.

OS/35 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest from Members of the Committee had been received.

OS/36 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the Public had been received.

OS/37 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

OS/38 **BUDGET SCRUTINY 2021-22**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report highlighting the late notification of the New Homes Bonus and retained rates. It was confirmed that Council Tax would be ratified at Full Council on 24th February 2021 and set by 9th March 2021.

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) provided a summary of the Housing Revenue Account and an overview of the General Fund and explained that an expected increase of spending showed in the medium-term financial plan was due to investment in services. It was noted that the Fair Funding review had been delayed due to the Covid-19 situation with results expected late in 2021.

The Chairman noted an excellent Budget report.

Members raised a queries regarding value for money and how much revenue had been lost through unlet properties over the last 12 months.

The Strategic Director informed the Committee that the report template included guidance for Officers to provide a statement on key areas of the proposal such as value for money and Members would be provided with details of lost revenue.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the Committee consider the proposed budgets of the Council for 2021/22 and provide any feedback to Finance and Management Committee as appropriate.***
- 1.2 That the Committee consider the medium-term financial plans of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Accounts and make any recommendations to Finance and Management Committee to support budget and policy development.***

OS/39 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) delivered the report to the Committee. Members requested that that an update on Universal Credit and Council Tax plus Tourism and Regeneration to be added to the Work Programme for the March Committee.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

OS/40 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

**EXEMPT QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

The Meeting terminated at 18:40 hours.

COUNCILLOR BAMBRICK

CHAIRMAN