

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th January 2021

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Pegg (Chairman) and
Councillors Mrs. Brown (substituting for Councillor Atkin), Churchill,
Dawson, Mrs Haines, Mrs Patten, Dr Perry and Watson (substituting for
Councillor Corbin).

Labour Group

Councillors Heath, Mulgrew, Rhind, Richards and Shepherd.

In Attendance

Councillors Dunn, Southerd and Mrs. Wheelton.

HCS/59 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from
Councillors Atkin and Corbin.

HCS/60 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that Councillor Shepherd declared a Personal
Interest in Item HCS/63 by virtue of being a Trustee of a body that receives
funding from South Derbyshire District Council.

HCS/61 **QUESTIONS FROM 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.

HCS/62 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

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

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

HCS/63 **SERVICE BASE BUDGETS 2021-22**

The Head of Finance presented the report to the Committee and highlighted
the ear marked reserves, financial risks, restructures within Housing Services
and Cultural Services and the transfer of budget from Housing Services to

Finance and Management Committee to cover repairs and maintenance for Greenbank Leisure Centre and Melbourne Assembly Rooms.

Members raised concerns about charges in relation to children's funerals. The Head of Finance confirmed that the Council would seek recompense directly from central government and there would be no charge to families.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the proposed income and expenditure revenue budget for this Committee's services for 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report was considered and recommended to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.***
- 1.2 That the proposed fees and charges as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report for 2021/22 were considered and approved by the Committee***
- 1.3 The Committee considered the level of any increases in Grants to Voluntary Bodies and agreed that a 2% increase in 2021/22 be referred to Finance and Management Committee.***

HCS/64 **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET, FINANCIAL PLAN AND PROPOSED RENT 2021-22**

The Head of Finance presented the report to the Committee and highlighted the medium-term financial plan for two years. The key financial risks on the Housing Revenue Account were outlined and the Committee was advised that any changes to the County Council grant would be reported to Members.

Members discussed the proposal of a 0% rent increase and sought clarity of the impact of that. The Head of Finance gave an overview of the impact of 0% increase regarding reserves, capital and revenue expenditure and debt repayment.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 The Committee did not agree that Council House Rents be increased by CPI plus 1% for Tenants with effect from 1st April 2021 in accordance with the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and after conclusion of the Rents for Social Housing from 2020 consultation.***
- 1.2 That the proposed revenue income and expenditure for 2021/22, together with the 10-year Financial Plan for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, were considered and referred to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.***
- 1.3 That the HRA be kept under review and measures identified to mitigate the financial risks detailed in the report and to maintain a sustainable financial position.***

HCS/65 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee Work Programme was presented by the Strategic Director (Service Delivery).

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/66 **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 is 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.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

The Meeting terminated at 18:55 hours.

COUNCILLOR D PEGG

CHAIRMAN