

Public

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL SERVICES** held on 16 March 2015 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor A Botham

31/15 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

32/15 **BUDGET MONITORING MONTH 9 2014-2015** The controllable budget for the Council Services portfolio was approximately £45m. As at month 9, the budget was showing a forecast underspend of £0.8m for the year. The position statement at month 9 was attached as Appendix 1 to the report. The key variances were as follows:-

Corporate Finance – projected underspend £0.358m

The main area of underspend was on staff vacancies. Around £120,000 of this underspend related to one-off funding to help manage the implementation of SAP in schools and would need to be carried forward into 2015-16.

VR/VER Costs – projected underspend £0.286m

During 2012-13 a decision was taken to meet the cost of any severance payments from the General Reserve thus generating an underspend on this budget. However, there was a need to fund residual early severance costs that could no longer be met from Dedicated Schools Grant.

HR Division – projected underspend £0.548m

The main area of underspend related to vacancies and unpaid staff absences. There were also underspends on the access to work budget and there was some generation of additional income.

Business Support (Derbyshire Business Centre) – projected underspend £0.276m

The main area of underspend was on staff vacancies and generation of additional income.

Industrial Development – projected overspend £0.746m

The main reasons for the overspend were the under recovery of forecasted income for industrial units and small business centres brought about by the difficult economic climate, and the additional costs due to non-domestic rates liability payable on empty properties.

Corporate Efficiencies – projected overspend £0.519m

These were the unallocated efficiency savings which had yet to be identified within the Corporate budgets.

Budget reductions totalling £2.7m were allocated and would be achieved by the end of the financial year. The table showing performance against target was attached at Appendix 2 to the report.

Earmarked reserves totalling £43m were currently held to support future expenditure. Details of all reserves were shown at Appendix 3 to the report and the larger ones are as follows:-

Property DSO £4.065m

The reserve mainly covered the replacement of large pieces of equipment and also provided a contingency against future losses.

CRD Reserve £10.711m

The department had provided for building projects which had received member approval but not yet started.

Change Management £6.175m

The Change Management Reserve had been established to meet the one-off costs of the change management programme that could not be met from within the annual base budget.

Insurance and Risk Management Reserve £13.607m

This was established to meet the costs of liabilities and claims incurred but not yet made against the Council. The adequacy of this balance was regularly verified by independent actuaries.

RESOLVED to note the position on the 2014-15 Revenue Budget.

33/15 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of exempt or confidential information.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2015 (contains exempt information)
2. To consider the exempt reports of the Strategic Director Corporate Resources on:-

- a) Drainage Easement
 - b) Disposal of Non-Operational Properties
 - c) Gamesley Sidings, Glossop
 - d) Ilkeston Landscape Depot
 - e) Land at Woodhouse Road, Kilburn
 - f) Minor Disposal of land
 - g) Sale by auction: Land at Heanor
 - h) Sale by auction: Property at Ilkeston
 - i) Sale by auction: Property in Heanor
 - j) Sale by auction: Property in Swadlincote
 - k) Sale of garden land, Dronfield
 - l) Sale by auction of surplus school property in Shuttlewood
 - m) Surrender of ground lease
(contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information))
3. To consider the exempt report of the Strategic Director Corporate Resources on a proposed redundancy within the Property Division
(contains information relating to any individual)