

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP, CULTURE AND TOURISM** held on 4 December 2018 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor B Lewis

28/18 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

29/18 **APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES** **RESOLVED** that approval be given to replace Councillor B Lewis with Councillor J Boulton as the Council's representative on the Derbyshire Law Centre

30/18 **BUDGET MONITORING 2018-19 - MONTH 5** The Cabinet Member was informed of the current budget monitoring position as at the end of month 5 (April to August 2018).

The budget for the Strategic Leadership, Communities and Tourism portfolio currently stood at approximately £13.072m. The budget monitoring for month 5 was currently showing an underspend of £0.158m.

Details were given of the key variances:-

Communications – underspend £0.255m - the key underspend related to the non-filling of vacancies throughout the section.

Policy – underspend £0.123m - the main underspend related to the non-filling of vacancies. Other areas of underspend related to a reduction in expenditure on running costs, and the non-payment of grant to a voluntary body that had ceased to operate.

Libraries - overspend £0.119m - the main area of overspend related to a delay in the achievement of budget savings pending the outcome of the library strategy review.

The savings allocated for 2018-19 were set out in Appendix 2 of the joint report. In respect of CCP, the allocation was £0.528m, of which £40k had been achieved. The balance relating to Libraries would be met by the implementation of the Library Strategy in 2019-20.

For Communications and Policy, these savings were scheduled to be met in 2019-20, along with £0.220m from previous years, mainly by re-structuring the services.

The shortfall was being met by funds allocated by Council in the 2018-19 budget, reserves and underspends.

In respect of ETE, the Environmental Studies and Forest Schools were allocated a saving of £0.120m, with the aim of the service being self-funded. This would not be achieved until 2020-21, and the shortfall would be covered by other departmental underspends

The current balances on the Portfolio's Earmarked Reserves, totalling £4.511m, were detailed in Appendix 1 to the joint report. These had been earmarked for corporate issues or committed to projects and initiatives that contributed to the Council's Council Plan pledges and priorities.

RESOLVED to note the monitoring position for period 5 of the 2018-19 revenue budget.