

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC POLICY AND BUDGET** held on 11 February 2014 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor Ms A Western

Also in attendance – Councillor M V Longden

1/14 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

2/14 **BUDGET MONITORING MONTH 3 2013-14** The budget for the Strategic Policy and Budget portfolio was approximately £5.2m. The budget monitoring was projecting an underspend for the year of £0.6m. The position statement at month 9 was detailed in the report. The key variances were as follows:-

Communications – projected underspend £0.429m

The main underspends related to staffing particularly within the Contact Centre (£0.200m), a full time post in Public Relations which was being used on fostering publicity funded by CAYA which hadn't been backfilled and the reduction in expenditure on publications and campaigns (£0.135m).

Policy Unit – projected underspend £0.105m

The main area of underspend related to staffing vacancies and maternity leave. The consultation budget was also currently projected to underspend but some of it may be required for engagement activities relating to the budget.

RESOLVED to note the position on the 2013-14 Revenue Budget.

3/14 **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 consider the exempt report of the Chief Executive on the engagement of external consultancy (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information))