

POLICY AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY PANEL

Thursday, 11 February 2021 (6:45 pm – 7:47 pm)

PRESENT:

Councillor Gomer (Chair); Councillors Cross, Asman, Broadhurst, Couldrey, Duguid, Grajewski, Groves, Jurd, Tyson-Payne, Tidridge and Atkinson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Doguie

RESOLVED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS ONLY)

155. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

156. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation on this occasion.

157. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reminded Members that if they still they needed to complete the forms to register their interest in any standing portfolios that a new link was available.

158. GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2021/22 AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING TO DECEMBER 2020

The Chief Finance Officer introduced the report, which outlined the Council's General Fund Revenue Budget for 2021/22 with the associated forecast Medium-Term Financial Plan to 2025/26.

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Recommend Council approve service spending in line with forecast for 2020/21 which incorporates pressures and efficiencies as part of the Financial Monitoring to 31 December 2020;
- (2) Recommend Council set the net Revenue Budget requirement for 2021/22 at £9,914,000 and note the impact on the Council's General Fund balance;
- (3) Recommend Council note the provisional Local Government Finance settlement for 2020/21;

- (4) Recommend Council approve budget adjustments for 2021/22 in line with the Medium Term Financial Plan;
- (5) Recommend Council decrease the average Council Tax for Eastleigh Borough Council by 0.4% (1% below CPI) and
- (6) Recommend Council approve the Special Expenses for Parished and Non-Parished areas.

RESOLVED –

That the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Panel considered and noted the General Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 with the associated forecast Medium-Term Financial Plan to 2025/26 report.

159. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

The Executive Head of Finance & Housing Programme introduced the report, which considered the options for affordable housing delivery as detailed in the report and made any recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (7) Approve proposals to open a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to record expenditure and income arising from the provision of Affordable Housing accommodation by the Council as a Registered Local Provider;
- (8) Delegate authority to the Executive Head (Finance & Housing Programme) to write to the Secretary of State declaring the intention to open a Housing Revenue Account.

RESOLVED –

That the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Panel considered and noted the report.

160. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT PERFORMANCE

The Executive Head of Planning and Economy introduced the report, which outlined the positive enhancements to the delivery of the Planning Enforcement Service and the improving performance.

The panel made the following recommendations:

- (1) That Planning provided detail on caseload monitoring to Local Area Committees and Ward Councillors, including any lessons learned; and
- (2) That a list of items under enforcement in a quarterly report, to include detail on any community actions and benefits, is provided.

RESOLVED –

That the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Panel considered and noted the report.