

CABINET**Tuesday, 27th June, 2017**

Present:-

Councillor P Gilby (Chair)

Councillors T Gilby
Blank
A Diouf
Huckle

Councillors Brunt
Ludlow
Serjeant

Non Voting Catt
Members Dickinson

J Innes

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

15 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS
RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bagley.

17 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 13 June, 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 July to 31 October 2017 was reported for information.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Forward Plan be noted.

19 DELEGATION REPORT

Decisions taken by Cabinet Members during May 2017 were reported.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Delegation Report be noted.

20 GENERAL FUND BUDGET OUTTURN 2016/17

The Director of Finance and Resources submitted a report on the General Fund Revenue and Capital Outturns for 2016/17. The report provided details of significant variations from the Revised Estimates previously approved by Cabinet and also sought approval for carry forward requests.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the General Fund Revenue and Capital Outturn reports for 2016/17 be noted.
2. That the £100k revenue account surplus be transferred to the Budget Risk Reserve.
3. That the General Fund carry forward request for the Tidy Streets service, as set out at paragraph 4.6 of the officers' report, be approved.
4. That the requests for retention of direct labour organisation surpluses of £90k, as set out at paragraph 5.2 of the officers' report, be approved.
5. That the level of General Fund Reserves and Balances as set out at Section 6 and Appendix D of the officers' report, be approved.
6. That the capital financing arrangements as set out in Appendix E of the officers' report, be approved.

REASON FOR DECISIONS

In the interests of sound financial management.

21

PROGRESS ON COUNCIL PLAN - YEAR 2 2016/17

The Policy and Communications Manager submitted a report to enable the progress made during the second year of delivery on the Council plan 2017 – 2019 to be reviewed, and to highlight the key activities and commitments to be delivered during the remaining two years of the plan.

In 2015/16 the Council had moved from the production of a one year plan to a four year strategic Council Plan in response to a recommendation from the Local Government Association's peer challenge in late 2013. The four year Council Plan, along with a revised medium term financial plan and strengthened transformation programme, enables the council to plan effectively for the financial and policy challenges it faces.

The Policy and Communications Officer noted that during 2016/17 there had been 56 key activities scheduled for delivery; of these 43 had been fully delivered and a further nine were expected to be completed in the first half of 2017/18. The report also highlighted the key outputs and outcomes achieved during 2016/17, which included:

- Working with Sheffield City Region to facilitate business access to apprenticeships and workforce training. This activity has benefited 210 learners and brought in funding contributions of £161,345 so far;
- Increased commercial trading with a view to securing surpluses to reinvest in council services; this included achieving £84k from commercial building works;
- Over 2,400 improvements carried out to tenants homes;
- Over 90 events delivered or supported by Chesterfield Borough Council in parks and open spaces across the Borough.

The report also provided information on the 38 key activities to be taken forward in 2017/18. Progress on these activities would be monitored and challenged via the performance management framework.

***RESOLVED –**

That the progress made towards delivering the Council Plan 2015 – 2019 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION

To raise awareness of key outcomes and outputs against the Council Plan commitments and to enable Cabinet Members to challenge performance.

22 **SKILLS ACTION PLAN 2017 - 2020**

The Economic Growth Manager submitted a report to recommend adoption of the Chesterfield Borough Council Skills Action Plan 2017 - 2020.

The report noted that £700m plus of key developments were due to enter the delivery phase in 2017. Along with the estimated 4000 new jobs which could be created in the next five years as a result of these developments, a highly skilled work force would be required to deliver the greatest economic benefits to the area. The Skills Action Plan would provide the platform from which the activity required to improve Chesterfield's skills profile and maximise the benefits of newly created jobs for local people could be delivered.

The report noted that, compared to other leading industrialised nations, the UK was falling behind in productivity levels, with around 20% of the UK's productivity gap being attributable to low skill levels amongst the workforce. In addition, there were local issues relevant to Chesterfield:

- Chesterfield has fewer people with higher level qualifications and more people with no qualifications than the national average;
- Rates of youth unemployment and residents in receipt of out of work benefits were notably higher than regional and national averages.

The report advised that improving the skills and work readiness of individuals in Chesterfield was vital to ensure that local people could fully benefit from the jobs and economic growth opportunities that would result from the multi-million pound investments being made in Chesterfield. It was noted that having a skilled workforce was crucial to the future economic success of the Borough. The main objectives of the Skills Action Plan were to:

- Work with partners to ensure local people and businesses have the right skills to access current and future employment opportunities;
- Work with Local Enterprise Partnerships and education partners to ensure that skills provision is aligned to future jobs growth and economic opportunities from emerging sectors;
- Provide clear advice and support to local people and businesses about the range of skills programmes available.

The report noted the benefits the Skills Action Plan would bring to Chesterfield which included:

- Ensuring that Chesterfield continued to perform well in attracting funding from Local Enterprise Partnership funded programmes;
- Ensuring that local people benefit from investment within the borough;
- Enabling activity that seeks to address emerging skills gaps across priority sectors.

The report outlined the role of partners in delivering the objectives set out in the Skills Action Plan. The financial implications of delivering the outputs of the Skills Action Plan were also detailed in the report.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the Skills Action Plan, as detailed in Appendix A to the officer's report, be approved.
2. That the budget request of £5,000 for the year 2017/18 be approved and taken from the council's reserves to support the activities outlined in the Skills Action Plan 2017 - 2020 be approved.

REASON FOR DECISIONS

A Skills Action Plan will provide a platform from which to deliver activity to improve the skills profile of Chesterfield and to maximise the impact of skills related programmes. The operating budget requested will enable the activity detailed in the report to be delivered.

23 HOUSING REVENUE FINAL ACCOUNTS 2016/17

The Director of Finance and Resources and the Housing Manager submitted a report on the Housing Revenue Final Accounts for 2016/17. The report provided explanations for significant variations from the Revised Estimates previously approved by Cabinet.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the revenue carry forward requests, as detailed in paragraph 3.5 of the officer's report, and the capital carry forward requests, as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the officer's report, be approved.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS

1. To enable the HRA revenue outturn to be included in the Council's overall Statement of Accounts.
2. To consider the carry forward requests to allow for the completion of the revenue and capital schemes which were not finalised during the financial year.

24 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**RESOLVED –**

That under Regulation 21(1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

25 BUILDING CLEANING DSO BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

The Director of Finance and Resources and the Commercial Services Manager submitted the Business Plan for 2017/18 in respect of the Building Cleaning D.S.O.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Business Plan forecast for 2017/18 be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION

To update the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

26 LANDSCAPE AND STREETSCENE SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

The Director of Finance and Resources and the Commercial Services Manager submitted the Business Plan for 2017/18 in respect of the Landscape and Streetscene Services "Spirepride" D.S.O.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Business Plan forecast for 2017/18 be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION

To update the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

27 OPERATIONAL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

The Director of Finance and Resources and the Commercial Services Manager submitted the Business Plan for 2017/18 in respect of the Operational Services Internal Service Provider (ISP).

***RESOLVED –**

That the Business Plan forecast for 2017/18 be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION

To enable the estimated outturn financial position of the Operational Services Division in 2017/18 to be included in the Council's Medium Term Forecast.

28 MIDDLECROFT ROAD GARAGE SITE

The Housing Manager submitted a report to seek approval for the disposal of the Middlecroft Road Garage Site for a capital receipt.

The report detailed the poor condition of both the site and the four garages, which had resulted in a lack of demand for the garages. The site would require substantial investment to improve the quality of the garages, the forecourt and to provide adequate security. A site assessment had been carried out which recommended the demolition of the garages due to their condition.

The report outlined the financial implications including the cost of refurbishment or replacement of the garages and the options for selling the site as a cleared site or with the garages in situ. The report also noted the legal implications of the disposal including the notice period for tenants of garage plots and access rights.

***RESOLVED –**

That the disposal of the Middlecroft Road garage site be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION

To meet the council's priority 'to improve the quality of life for local people' and objective 5 'to increase the supply and quality of housing in Chesterfield Borough to meet current and future needs'.

29

SECURITY SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

The Director of Finance and Resources and the Commercial Services Manager submitted the Business Plan for 2017/18 in respect of the Security Services D.S.O.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Business Plan forecast for 2017/18 be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION

To enable the estimated outturn financial position of the Security Services direct service organisation in 2017/18 to be included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.