

CABINET**Tuesday, 9th January, 2018**

Present:-

Councillor P Gilby (Chair)

Councillors T Gilby
Bagley
HuckleCouncillors Brunt
Serjeant

Non Voting Members Dickinson

J Innes

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

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

No declarations of interest were received.

114 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Blank, Catt, Diouf and Ludlow.

115 MINUTES**RESOLVED –**

That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 19 December, 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

116 FORWARD PLAN

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 February 2018 to 31 May 2018, was reported for information.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Forward Plan be noted.

117 **MINUTES OF THE SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED
AUTHORITY**

Minutes of the meeting of the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority (SCRCA) held on 30 October, 2017 were reported for information.

The Assistant Cabinet Member, Councillor Dickinson, asked if the Council had been able to take advantage of any underspend in the budgets controlled by the SCRCA.

Huw Bowen replied stating that the SCRCA had reported an in-year underspend with regards to the Sheffield City Region Infrastructure Fund, and had invited the 9 member Councils to submit funding bids for capital infrastructure projects.

Chesterfield Borough Council had subsequently been party to two bid submissions, and are awaiting information from the SCRCA on whether the bids had been successful.

Members asked for an update on the activity and position of the SCRCA.

Huw Bowen informed the Cabinet that an election is to be held in May 2018 to elect a Mayor to lead the SCRCA. As it stood, the Mayor would not hold the powers and funding provided through the October 2015 devolution deal, as the 4 full member Councils had not collectively consented to the laying of the relevant parliamentary order.

Huw Bowen also reported that public consultations had been carried out in Barnsley and Doncaster to determine the level of public support for these Councils to continue to work on a Sheffield City Region geographic basis or to work on an expanded Yorkshire geography. The results of the consultations showed that 85 per cent of the public in these two areas supported working on a wider Yorkshire geography.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes and update be noted.

118 COLLECTION FUND REVISED ESTIMATES 2017/18

The Director of Finance and Resources presented the Collection Fund revised estimates for 2017/18. An estimated surplus of £523,799 on the Council Tax elements of the Collection Fund was expected.

The report noted that the major precepting authorities would be able to take this surplus into account when calculating their Council Taxes for the 2018/19 financial year.

RESOLVED –

1. That the estimated surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund of £523,799, be agreed and allocated to the major precepting authorities, as outlined in Appendix A to the officer's report.

REASON FOR DECISION

To fulfil a statutory requirement and to feed into the budget setting process for 2018/19.

119 ANNUAL HRA RENT AND SERVICE CHARGE SETTING 2018/19

The Assistant Director – Housing, and Director of Finance and Resources submitted a report recommending for approval Council house rent and service charge levels for 2018/19.

Pursuant to Minute No. 126 (Cabinet, 2016/17), from 1 April 2018 onwards all Chesterfield Borough Council housing rents (social and affordable) will be reduced by 1 per cent, which will result in an average actual decrease of £0.77 per week on a 52 week basis for tenants in 2018/19.

A detailed summary of the proposed service charge levels for 2018/19 was attached at Appendix A to the officer's report. It was noted that the proposed charges had been devised to ensure that all services break even on costs.

RESOLVED –

1. That for 2018/19, approval be given to set individual social rents based on the current National Social Rent Policy, giving a cash rent decrease of 1 per cent with effect from 1 April 2018.
2. That for 2018/19 onwards, approval be given to increase the rent level for a social rent property to the target rent, where the property is re-let to a new or transferring tenant.
3. That for 2018/19 onwards, approval be given to set individual affordable rents based on the current National Social Rent Policy, giving a cash rent decrease of 1 per cent with effect from 1 April 2018.
4. That for 2018/19 onwards, approval be given to set the rent level of an affordable rent property that is re-let to a new or transferring tenant, by reference to 80% of the market rent for a similar property prevailing at the time of re-letting.
5. That the revised levels of service charges as set out in paragraph 8.5 of the officer's report, be approved.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS

1. To enable the Council to set the level of Council house rents in accordance with Government guidelines.
2. To enable the Council to set service charges for 2018/19 and to ensure that the cost of delivering services continues to break even.
3. To contribute to the Council's Corporate Priority 'to improve the quality of life for local people'.