

CABINET

19th February, 2008

PRESENT - Councillor Williams (in the Chair); Councillors Chapman, Copeland Dixon, Harker, McEwan, D.A. Lyonette, Thistlethwaite and Wallis. (9)

INVITEES – Councillors I. Haszeldine, S. Jones, Mrs. Scott and Swainston. (4)

APOLOGIES – Mr. A. MacConachie.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors Barker, G. Cartwright, Coultas, Dunstone, Johnson, B. Jones, Mrs. D. Jones, Lewis, Ruck and Walker. (10)

C183. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were no declaration of interests made at the meeting.

C184. REPRESENTATIONS – Members, Officers and members of the public in attendance at the meeting, made representations in respect of Minute C164(1) below.

C185. KEY DECISIONS – (1) Medium Term Corporate Plan (Incorporating the Medium Term Financial Plan 2008/12) – Draft – Pursuant to Minute C164(2), the Leader introduced the report of the Corporate Management Team (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the draft Medium Term Corporate Plan, in light of consultation and responses received and changes since the original draft.

A copy of the updated Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP); the leaflet used for consultation response; a summary of the response, general comments and issues raised from the consultation; the minutes from the Resources Scrutiny Committee held on 29th January, 2008; a written response to the proposals from Unison; and a further refined Corporate Plan, were appended to the submitted report.

Following examination of the consultation and taking account of the improved financial position, Cabinet made a number of amendments to the draft Revenue Medium Term Financial Plan 2008/09 to 2011/12, details of which were circulated at the meeting together with a revised copy of the draft revenue MTFP 2008/09 to 2011/12.

In response to petitions received in respect of the changes to the Concessionary Fare Scheme, it was reported that a special ‘Talking Together’ event would be held in Central Hall in the Dolphin Centre during March, in respect of this issue. A number of organisations would be present at the event to assist members of public to better understand the scheme.

Representations were made at the meeting, in respect of a number of issue including the bus services to Sadberge; grants to Parish Councils; the provision of the civil advice service on trading standards; staff car parking charges; the Environmental Health service; and the Ring-a-Ride Service.

Those in attendance at the meeting, in general, welcomed the proposed changes, to the METP, which were circulated at the meeting. In relation to the bus services to Sadberge, the Parish Council and the Ward Councillor welcomed the opportunity to work with the Council in order to provide a single bus service, which was reliable and effective to meet the needs of residents, but would like assurances that the bus service would continue to service other villages.

Discussion ensued on the distribution criteria for parish grants and the involvement of the Parish Councils in the process and the alternative proposals submitted by the Conservative Group.

RESOLVED - (a) That the revised Corporate Plan, as appended to the submitted report at Appendix 6, and the draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2008/09 to 2011/12, as circulated at the meeting, be noted.

(b) That it be recommended to Council that:-

- (i) the Corporate Plan, as detailed at Appendix 6 to the submitted report, be approved and the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Leader, to make any minor amendments to the Plan;
- (ii) with the extension of the consultation period on charging for non-residential care services and the withdrawal of the proposed £200,000 reduction in respect of the review of charging for those services, the outcome of which would be reported to a future meeting of Cabinet, the Medium Term Financial Plan, including the proposed charges for the Railway Museum, be approved, incorporating the amendments and the withdrawal of the reduction in funding, as detailed below:-

	£
Civil Advice – delete one post not two	27,000
Pest Control –Retain Service	63,000
Rural Bus Subsidy – Reconfigure services in consultation and save £52,000	80,000
Car Allowances – Remove one band of allowances not two	30,000
Staff/Member Car Parking – Increase by 20% not 100%	30,000
Environmental Health – delete one post not two	40,000
Parish Grants – Retain and review distribution criteria	34,000
Ring A Ride - Retain and consult on options to reduce cost	47,000
	<u>351,000</u>

- (iii) the Capital Medium Term Financial Plan, as detailed at Appendix 10 to the submitted report, together with the additional schemes identified in paragraph 99 of the submitted report, be approved; and
- (iv) a provision of £400,000 be made each year in the capital programme for Community Environmental works starting 2008/09 and ending 2011/12.

REASON - (a) To note changes to the Corporate Plan and the Medium Term Financial Plan since 16th January, 2008.

(b) To enable the production of the Corporate Plan.

(c) To enable Cabinet to recommend a budget to Council.

(2) Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy 2008/09 – Pursuant to Minute C164(3), the Cabinet Member with the Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Corporate Services (previously circulated) requesting Cabinet to make its final recommendations to Council on the Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy report 2008/09.

RESOLVED – (a) That the views of the Resources Scrutiny Committee, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That it be recommended to Council that :-

- (i) the prudential indicators and limits for 2008/09 to 20010/11, as contained within Tables 3 to 10 of the submitted report, be adopted;
- (ii) the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRR) Policy Statement, as contained within paragraph 21 of the submitted report, be approved;
- (iii) the Treasury Management Strategy 2008/09, as contained within paragraphs 35 to 56 and the treasury prudential indicators contained within Table 13, of the submitted report, be approved; and
- (iv) the Investment Strategy 2008/09, as contained within the Treasury Management Strategy, and the detailed criteria included in Appendix 3 to the submitted report, specifically the criteria for specified investments and the criteria for non-specified investments, be approved.

REASON - (a) In order to comply with the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and ODPM guidance on investments.

(b) To comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003.

(c) To approve a framework for Officers to work within when making investment decisions.

**DECISIONS DATED –
THURSDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY, 2008**