

**ADULTS AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

12 January 2018

**PRESENT** - Councillor Knowles (in the Chair); Councillors Culley Kane, Mills and Storr. (5)

**APOLOGIES** – Councillors Copeland, D Jones and Lyonette (3)

**ABSENT** – Councillors Grundy, Lister and M. Nicholson (3)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE –**

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE** – Elizabeth Davison, Assistant Director, Finance, Human Resources and Systems

**AH31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

**AH32. MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN** – Submitted – A report (previously circulated) of the Chief Officers Executive which had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 in relation to the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2018/19 to 2021/22.

Reference was made to the proposals within the submitted report in relation to the current position of the MTFP and to the proposed allocation of an additional £4.4 million which had been identified to create five Futures Fund Investment themes which would stimulate growth and would be used over the four years of the MTFP.

It was however reported that since the publication of those proposals there had been two significant areas of change which would affect that position, namely the announcement by the Government to allow Council's to increase Council tax by an additional one per cent in 2018/19 and 2019/20 before a referendum was required and the National Pay Award offer which had been made to the Unions which was over and above that originally budgeted for and would potentially remove all of the funding for the proposed Futures Fund.

Cabinet had considered the proposed increase to the Council Tax at its meeting held on 9 January, 2018, and had agreed to amend the proposed Council Tax from 1.99 per cent plus a social care precept of three per cent (4.99 per cent) to 2.99 per cent plus an adult social care precept of three per cent (5.99 per cent) in 2018/19.

Discussion ensued on the proposed allocation within the Futures Fund for one-off funding towards Neighbourhood Renewal and it was reported that, if approved, a further report would be submitted to Cabinet proposing an approach; the further use of that funding to assist Looked After Children, in helping LAC to become 'work ready'; and the significant work being undertaken in Adult Social Care as

part of the transformation programme which would bring additional savings and would be reported as part of the quarter 3 monitoring report to Cabinet.

**RESOLVED** – That Cabinet be advised that this Scrutiny Committee supports the proposed principles within Theme 5 of the Futures Fund and the proposed Council Tax increase of 2.99 per cent plus the three per cent social care levy to fund Adult Social Care for 2018/19.