

ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 29 June 2023

PRESENT – Councillors , Baker, Coe, Dillon, Durham, Haszeldine, Henderson, Marshall, McGill, Ray and Mrs Scott

APOLOGIES – Councillors ,

ABSENT – Councillors

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Brett Nielsen (Assistant Director Resources), Anthony Hewitt (Assistant Director Highways and Capital Projects), Anthony Sandys (Assistant Director - Housing and Revenues) and Michael Conway (Mayoral and Democratic Officer)

ER46 CHAIR

RESOLVED – That Councillor Rebecca Baker be appointed chair of this Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2023/24

ER47 VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED – That Councillor Joe Dillon be appointed Vice-Chair of this Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2023/24

ER48 TIME OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED - That, for the Municipal Year 2023/24, meetings of this Scrutiny Committee be held at 10.00 a.m. on the dates agreed in the Calendar of Meetings by Cabinet at Minute C258/Feb/23

ER49 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

ER50 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 2 February 2023 be taken as read and approved as an accurate record

ER51 PROJECT POSITION STATEMENT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING OUTTURN 2022/23

The Assistant Director Transport and Capital Projects and the Assistant Director Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) updating Members on the current position in relation to the delivery of the Council's capital programme, the financial outturn position as at 31 March 2022 and the proposed financing of the 2021/22 capital expenditure, together

with an update on the current status of all the construction projects being managed by the Council.

It was reported that the Council currently had 43 live projects being managed with an overall projected outturn value of £186.705 million, with the majority of those projects running to time, cost and quality expectations with no foreseeable issues. Further information was provided for those projects which did have variances due to delays, together with the action being taken.

Discussions were held and clarification provided on energy efficiency work on properties and the reasons for delays on certain projects. Assurance was provided that inflation remains a consideration in all projects.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted

ER52 REVENUE BUDGET OUTTURN 2022/23

The Assistant Director Resources submitted a report (previously circulated), which was being considered by Cabinet at its meeting scheduled for 3 July 2023, requesting Members to consider the 2022/23 revenue outturn.

It was reported that the Council's General Fund reserves position at the 31 March 2023 is £23.894m, which is a decline of £0.119m on the planned balances in the 2022-26 MTFP. This decline relates to £0.384m underspend in the Council's 2021/22 financial results, £0.305m Group underspends in the 2022/23 financial year and a £0.808m decline in corporate resources.

Carry forward requests to 2023/24 were highlighted amounting to £1.037m from departments and corporate budgets. The requests are categorised into three areas: slippage, assisting in achieving the conditions of the MTFP and budget pressures. Approval will be requested to carry these amounts forward to the new financial year.

Discussion also ensued on the possibility of renting office space to partners and private companies as a means of income due to agile working freeing up office space and it was proposed that this could link into the Office Demand Study.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted

ER53 WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24

The Assistant Director Law and Governance submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the work programme for this Scrutiny Committee for the Municipal Year 2023/24.

RESOVLED – That the draft work programme be approved.