

Cabinet

Minutes



Monday 7 November 2022

NOTE: This meeting was held remotely. A recording of the meeting can be watched at on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLxUpxsqdk4>

PRESENT

Councillor Stephen Cowan, Leader of the Council
Councillor Ben Coleman, Deputy Leader
Councillor Wesley Harcourt, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Ecology
Councillor Andrew Jones, Cabinet Member for The Economy
Councillor Sharon Holder, Cabinet Member for Public Realm
Councillor Bora Kwon, Cabinet Member for Civic Renewal
Councillor Rowan Ree, Cabinet Member for Finance and Reform
Councillor Frances Umeh, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Jackie Borland

ALSO PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Councillor Alex Sanderson, Cabinet Member for Children and Education
Councillor Lisa Homan, Chair of the Policy and Oversight Board
Councillor Patricia Quigley, Lead Member for Inclusive Community Engagement and Co-production

1. INTRODUCTION

The Leader welcomed all to the Cabinet meeting. He stressed that Covid-19 cases were on the rise and urged everyone to get their vaccine promptly as it was the singular best way to be protected from the virus.

2. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2022

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 10 October 2022 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the proceedings, and that the outstanding actions be noted.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rebecca Harvey and Councillor Alex Sanderson attended virtually and did not vote.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

5. 2022 CORPORATE REVENUE MONITOR - MONTH 4 (JULY 2022)

RESOLVED:

Councillor Rowan Ree introduced the report which described the revenue expenditure forecast for July. The monitoring reports ensured that the Council was being ruthlessly financially efficient in spending their capital within agreed budgets.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CABINET MEMBERS:

1. To note the General Fund forecast overspend of £4.666m.
2. To note that the forecast draw down from the Housing Revenue Account general balance will be £5.216m. This is £1.166m more than budgeted.
3. To note the in-year Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs Block forecasted surplus of (£0.599m), reducing the cumulative deficit.
4. To approve General Fund virements totalling £1.852m as detailed in appendix 10.

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

6. MODERN DESKTOP SERVICE AND TECH-TONIC 2 DEVICE REFRESH

The Leader reported that over the last few years the Council had successfully greatly reduced the cost of the desktop service and improved the quality of the service provided. The new proposed service would advance productivity and increase efficiency.

Councillor Rowan Ree stated that the report recommended the adoption of a new hybrid managed modern desktop service to improve efficiency while delivering increased benefits to the workforce, and deliver a modern, flexible, cost-efficient desktop service to the Council. It also recommended provision of future devices and the upcoming Tech-tonic 2.0 device refresh.

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CABINET MEMBERS:

That Cabinet

1. Notes Appendix A and Appendix B are not for publication on the basis that they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) as set out in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
2. Approves the strategy for a hybrid managed modern desktop service (option 3) which continues to support the council's strategy to invest in its workforce. The indicative costs are contained in exempt Appendix A.
3. Approves one-off investment of £4,410,000 for the Tech-tonic 2 rollout (option B) including replacement devices to be funded from a combination of HRA contributions, reserves held for corporate IT and capital funding. The indicative costs are contained in exempt Appendix B.

Reason for decision:

As set out in the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

As outlined in the report.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Note of dispensation in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None.

7. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

The Key Decision List was noted.

8. DISCUSSION OF EXEMPT ELEMENTS (ONLY IF REQUIRED)

There was no discussion of exempt elements.

Meeting started: 7.02 pm
Meeting ended: 7.10 pm

Chair