

MINUTE
of
CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 15 October 2015.

Present:

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Leader)
Councillor Ian McAlpine

Councillor Paul O’Kane
Councillor Mary Montague

Councillor Fletcher, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); and Paul O’Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Tony Buchanan (Deputy Leader); Danny Devlin; Elaine Green; Alan Lafferty; and Vincent Waters.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1760. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16

1761. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Financial Officer monitoring expenditure as at 14 September 2015 against the approved General Fund Capital Programme 2015/16, and recommending adjustments where necessary in light of issues that had arisen since the programme had been approved.

The report highlighted the latest developments relating to the programme, including the latest income and expenditure movements and cash flow management issues and indicated that the projected shortfall of £64,000 representing 0.2% of the resources available was within manageable limits.

The report also sought approval of the transfer of £7million between the new Barrhead High School and Crookfur Primary School/Nursery Condition Improvement Projects and the transfer of £60,000 between various Environmental projects and Rouken Glen Park improvements.

It was noted that a review of the impact of inflation on capital projects was being undertaken and the outcome of this review would be reported back to a future meeting of the Council.

The Cabinet, having heard the Chief Financial Officer provide an update on the reasons for the delay in delivering the Barrhead High School project, agreed to:-

- (a) **recommend to the Council** that the proposed adjustments to the General Fund Capital Programme 2015/16 be approved;
- (b) note that the shortfall of £64,000 would be managed and reported on a regular basis;
- (c) approve the transfer of £7 million between the new Barrhead High School and Crookfur Primary School/Nursery Condition Improvement Projects; and
- (d) approve the transfer of £60,000 between various environmental projects and Rouken Glen Park improvements.

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16

1762. The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Chief Financial Officer and Director of Environment, monitoring expenditure as at 14 September 2015 against the approved Housing Capital Programme 2015/16, and recommending adjustments where necessary in light of issues that had arisen since the programme had been approved.

The report highlighted the latest developments relating to the programme, including the latest income and expenditure movements and cash flow management issues, and indicated that the projected shortfall of £157,000 representing 2.4% of the resources available was within manageable limits.

It was noted that rewiring and door entry works had been hindered due to a lack of co-operation from some residents. In view of this, the report proposed to transfer savings from these projects to progress additional heating systems and structural works. Approval was therefore sought for transfers of £50,000 from the Communal Door Entry to the Renewal of Heating Systems and £110,000 from the Rewiring to External Structural Works.

The Cabinet agreed to:-

- (a) **recommend to the Council** that the movements within the Housing Capital Programme 2015/16 be approved;
- (b) approve the transfer of £50,000 from the Communal Door Entry to the Renewal of Heating Systems;
- (c) approve the transfer of £110,000 from Rewiring to External Structural Works; and
- (d) note that the shortfall of £157,000 would be managed and reported on a regular basis.

ESTIMATED REVENUE BUDGET OUT-TURN 2015/16

1763. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive, detailing the projected revenue outturn for 2015/16 and providing details of the expected variances together with summary cost information for each of the undernoted services as at 14 August 2015:-

- (i) Objective and Subjective Summaries;
- (ii) Education Department;
- (iii) Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP);
- (iv) Environment Department;
- (v) Environment Department – Support;
- (vi) Corporate and Community – Community Resources;
- (vii) Corporate and Community – Support;
- (viii) Chief Executive’s Office;
- (ix) Other Expenditure and Income and Other Housing; and
- (x) Housing Revenue Account.

Whilst noting that the estimated year end position showed a net favourable variance on net expenditure of £369,900, the report highlighted that for General Fund services the projected underspend was noted as £568,100. This variance was anticipated in addition to the planned transfer to reserves of £1.010 million agreed at the meeting of the Council on 12 February 2015.

The report also explained that the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 placed a statutory requirement on significant trading operations to achieve a break even position over a rolling three year period. However, it was noted that none of the Council’s services fell within the definition of a significant trading operation.

The report concluded by highlighting that a number of operational variances required management action to ensure that expenditure would be in line with budget at the end of the financial year. Furthermore, it was expected that management action would lead to all overspends being recovered, that all underspends were consolidated wherever possible and that spending up to budget levels did not take place.

The Cabinet, having noted the reported probable out-turn position of the Revenue Budget 2015/16, agreed:-

- (a) that all departments currently on target to remain within budget be required to monitor and maintain their position to the year end;
- (b) that those departments currently forecasting a year end overspend position be required to take action to bring net expenditure back within budget; and
- (c) that all service departments ensure that effective control and measurement of agreed operational efficiencies are undertaken on a continuous basis.

CHAIR

