

FINANCIAL RESOURCES SCRUTINY FORUM

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 5, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 5 March 2020

Chair:

Councillor Monique McAdams

Councillors Present:

Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Mary Donnelly, Councillor Grant Ferguson, Councillor Eric Holford, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Archie Buchanan, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Jared Wark

Attending:

Finance and Corporate Resources

G Bow, Administration Manager; G Cochran, Administration Assistant; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy); J Taylor, Head of Finance (Strategy)

Housing and Technical Resources

D Craig, Property Manager (Consultancy Services)

Chair's Opening Remarks – Retirement of Clerk

The Chair advised that this would be the last meeting of the Forum that Gordon Bow, Administration Manager, would be attending prior to his forthcoming retirement. On behalf of the members of the Forum, the Chair thanked Mr Bow for his dedicated service to the Council, his contribution as Clerk of the Forum and other areas of Council work. Mr Bow responded in suitable terms

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum held on 6 February 2020 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Chair referred to a question raised at the last meeting on the failure to secure a contractor to carry out external repairs at East Kilbride Civic Centre. D Craig informed the Forum that the tender had been re-issued and work would commence in April 2020.

The Forum decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3a Capital Budget Monitoring 2019/2020 – General Fund Capital Programme

A report dated 26 February 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the position of the General Fund Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 3 January 2019 (Period 10).

The General Fund Capital Programme for 2019/2020 totalled £76.804 million. At 3 January 2020, £41.139 million had been spent against a phased budget of £42.023 million, representing expenditure of £0.884 million behind profile.

The physical progress achieved with the General Fund Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 3 January 2020 was detailed in Appendices E to G of the report.

The Forum decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 26 February 2020 (Paragraph 3)]

3b Capital Budget Monitoring 2019/2020 – Housing Capital Programme

A report dated 26 February 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the position of the Housing Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 3 January 2019 (Period 10).

The Housing Capital Programme for 2019/2020 totalled £61.835 million. At 3 January 2020, £32.622 million had been spent against a phased budget of £33.011 million, representing expenditure of £0.389 million behind profile.

The physical progress achieved with the Housing Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 3 January 2020 was detailed in Appendix B to the report.

The Forum decided: that the position as at 3 January 2020 (Period 10) be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 26 February 2020 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2019/2020

A report dated 26 February 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the detailed financial analysis as at 3 January 2020 (Period 10) for each of the Council's Resources.

The figures included an underspend of £13.279 million on the General Fund Revenue Account before any transfer to reserves. This position took into account the £10.629 million to be transferred to reserves. Following that transfer, the outturn position was an underspend of £2.650 million on the General Fund Revenue Account and a breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account.

The main factors contributing to the underspend on the General Fund Revenue Account were detailed in the report.

Additional information was provided on:-

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources' net overspend
- ◆ Education Resources
- ◆ Finance and Corporate Resources
- ◆ Housing and Technical Resources
- ◆ Social Work Resources' net overspend
- ◆ loan charges

- ◆ corporate items and their use in the 2020/2021 budget strategy
- ◆ Council Tax income
- ◆ Additional General Revenue Grant

The Forum decided:

- (1) that the underspend of £13.279 million on the General Fund Revenue Account at 3 January 2020 and the forecast to 31 March 2020, following a transfer to reserves, of an underspend of £2.650 million be noted; and
- (2) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account at 3 January 2020 and the forecast to 31 March 2020 of a breakeven position be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 6 February 2020 (Paragraph 4)]

5 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2019/2020 – Detailed Resource Analysis

A report dated 26 February 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure against budgeted expenditure for the period ending 3 January (Period 10).

The following information was provided for each Resource and the Housing Revenue Account:-

- ◆ an Executive Summary showing the top level position for each of the Services within the Resource and the Housing Revenue Account as at 3 January 2020 (Period 10)
- ◆ details of the most significant variances within Resources and the Housing Revenue Account across subjective headings and across Services as at 3 January 2020 (Period 10)
- ◆ a line by line trend analysis of the total Resources' expenditure and income across subjective headings as at 3 January 2020 (Period 10)

The Forum decided: that the position as at 3 January 2020 (Period 10) be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 6 February 2020 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.