

FINANCIAL RESOURCES SCRUTINY FORUM

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 5, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 14 November 2019

Chair:

Councillor Jared Wark

Councillors Present:

Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Grant Ferguson, Councillor Eric Holford

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Archie Buchanan, Councillor Mary Donnelly, Councillor Martin Lennon, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Jim Wardhaugh

Attending:

Finance and Corporate Resources

G Bow, Administration Manager; G Cochran, Administration Assistant; A Murray, Finance Adviser; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy)

Housing and Technical Resources

D Craig, Property Manager (Commercial)

Appointment of Chair

In terms of Standing Order No 32(b), Councillor Wark was appointed Chair for this meeting.

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 3 October 2019 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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 6 November 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the position of the General Fund Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 13 September 2019 (Period 6).

The General Fund Capital Programme for 2019/2020 totalled £80.569 million. At 13 September 2019, £21.878 million had been spent against a phased budget of £22.274 million, representing expenditure of £0.396 million behind profile.

The physical progress achieved with the General Fund Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 13 September 2019 was detailed in Appendices D to F of the report.

The Forum decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 6 November 2019 (Paragraph 3)]

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

A report dated 6 November 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the position of the Housing Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 13 September 2019 (Period 6).

The Housing Capital Programme for 2019/2020 totalled £61.835 million. At 13 September 2019, £18.936 million had been spent against a phased budget of £18.951 million, representing expenditure of £0.015 million behind profile.

The physical progress achieved with the Housing Capital Programme 2019/2020 at 13 September 2019 was detailed in Appendix C to the report.

The Forum decided: that the position as at 13 September 2019 (Period 6) be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 6 November 2019 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2019/2020

A report dated 6 November 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the detailed financial analysis as at 13 September (Period 6) for each of the Council's Resources.

The figures included an underspend of £7.027 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
- ◆ Social Work Resources' net overspend
- ◆ loan charges
- ◆ auto-enrolment
- ◆ corporate items and their use in the 2020/2021 budget strategy
- ◆ Education Resources and Pupil Equity Funding
- ◆ council tax income
- ◆ additional General Revenue Grant
- ◆ other funding

Officers confirmed the updated position following a question raised by Councillor Holford in relation to the settlement of the food safety court case.

The Forum decided:

- (1) that the underspend of £7.027 million on the General Fund Revenue Account at 13 September 2019 and the forecast to 31 March 2020 of an underspend of £9.640 million be noted; and

- (2) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account at 13 September 2019 and the forecast to 31 March 2020 of a breakeven position be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 6 November 2019 (Paragraph 4)]

5 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2019/2020 – Detailed Resource Analysis

A report dated 6 November 2019 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure against budgeted expenditure for the period ending 13 September 2019 (Period 6).

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 13 September 2019 (Period 6)
- ♦ details of the most significant variances within Resources and the Housing Revenue Account across subjective headings and across Services as at 13 September 2019 (Period 6)
- ♦ a line by line trend analysis of the total Resources' expenditure and income across subjective headings as at 13 September 2019 (Period 6)

The Forum decided: that the position as at 13 September 2019 (Period 6) be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 3 October 2019 (Paragraph 5)]

6 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.