

FINANCIAL RESOURCES SCRUTINY FORUM

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 5, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 5 October 2017

Chair:

Councillor Joe Fagan

Councillors Present:

Margaret Cowie (*substitute for Councillor McAdams*), Isobel Dorman, Mark Horsham, Lynne Nailon (*substitute for Councillor Holford*), Margaret B Walker, Jim Wardhaugh, Jared Wark

Councillors' Apologies:

Archie Buchanan, Janine Calikes, Eric Holford, Monique McAdams

Attending:**Community and Enterprise Resources**

G Wells, Roads Maintenance Manager

Finance and Corporate Resources

G Bow, Administration Manager; G Cochran, Administration Assistant; T Donnachie, Finance Adviser; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy); J Taylor, Head of Finance (Strategy)

Housing and Technical Resources

D Craig, Property Manager (Commercial)

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 7 September 2017 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

Councillor Wark entered the meeting after this item of business

3 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2017/2018

A report dated 27 September 2017 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure against budgeted expenditure for the period ending 18 August 2017 (Period 6).

The figures included an overspend of £0.706 million on the General Fund Revenue Account and a breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account. The overspend related to Social Work Resources and the position would continue to be closely monitored.

At 18 August 2017, Trading Services' actual surplus totalled £3.718 million, representing a breakeven position against the phased budget.

Other factors impacting on the Revenue Budget 2017/2018 were given in the report, including:-

- ◆ an underspend on loan charges

- ◆ additional Council Tax collectable for the year due to new properties
- ◆ surplus achieved by the Council's Trading Operations

The Forum decided:

- (1) that the overspend on the General Fund Revenue Account of £0.706 million at 18 August 2017 and the position relating to budget pressures on Social Work Resources be noted; and
- (2) that the breakeven position on the Housing Revenue Account at 18 August 2017 and forecast to 31 March 2018 of a breakeven position be noted; and
- (3) that the actual surpluses achieved by the Trading Operations of £3.718 million at 18 August 2017, representing a breakeven position against the phased budget, be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 27 September 2017 (Paragraph 4)]

4 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2017/2018 - Detailed Resource Analysis

A report dated 27 September 2017 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the detailed financial analysis as at 18 August 2017 (Period 6) for each of the Council's Resources.

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 18 August 2017 (Period 6)
- ◆ details of the most significant variances within Resources and the Housing Revenue Account across subjective headings and across Services as at 18 August 2017 (Period 6)
- ◆ a line by line trend analysis of the total Resources' expenditure and income across subjective headings as at 18 August 2017 (Period 6)

The Forum decided: that the financial position for each of the individual Resources' revenue budgets for 2017/2018 at 18 August 2017 (Period 6) be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 7 September 2017 (Paragraph 4)]

5 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2017/2018 - Trading Operations Performance Review - Roads

A report dated 8 September 2017 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the financial and operational performance of the Roads Trading Operation for the period ending 18 August 2017 (Period 6).

The Roads Trading Operation was showing a surplus of £1.467 million against a budgeted surplus of £1.467 million for the period ending 18 August 2017.

Details were also provided on a number of key operational and personnel issues including:-

- ◆ absence statistics for the period 1 April to 18 August 2017 by Service and type, including details of Management Interventions during the reporting period
- ◆ operational activity undertaken within the Roads Trading Operation
- ◆ performance reporting

The Forum decided: that the position at 18 August 2017 (Period 6) be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 24 November 2016 (Paragraph 5)]

6a Capital Budget Monitoring 2017/2018 - General Fund Capital Programme

A report dated 12 September 2017 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the position of the General Fund Capital Programme 2017/2018 at 18 August 2017 (Period 6).

The General Fund Capital Programme for 2017/2018, including a number of revisions approved by the Executive Committee on 27 September 2017, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, totalled £77.950 million. At 18 August 2017, £19.005 million had been spent against a phased budget of £19.825 million, representing expenditure of £0.820 million behind profile.

Details were provided on the main reasons for the underspend on the General Fund Capital Programme.

The physical progress achieved on the General Fund Capital Programme 2017/2018 at 18 August 2017 was detailed in Appendices C to E to the report.

The Forum decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 27 September 2017 (Paragraph 3)]

6b Capital Budget Monitoring 2017/2018 - Housing Capital Programme

A report dated 12 September 2017 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the position of the Housing Capital Programme 2017/2018 at 18 August 2017 (Period 6).

The Housing Capital Programme for 2017/2018, including a number of revisions approved by the Executive Committee on 27 September 2017 and which were detailed in the report, totalled £40.581 million. At 18 August 2017, £10.381 million had been spent against a phased budget of £10.628 million, representing expenditure of £0.247 million behind profile.

The physical progress achieved on the Housing Capital Programme 2017/2018 at 18 August 2017 was detailed in Appendix B to the report.

The Forum decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of the Executive Committee of 27 September 2017 (Paragraph 3)]

7 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.