

EXECUTIVE MINUTE EXCERPTS

MONDAY 20 AUGUST 2018

A.4 REFERS

EX.83/18 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER POLICY (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Leader submitted report PC.09/18 presenting a Community Asset Transfer Policy, which had been developed through a Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel task group, and subsequently endorsed by the Panel on 5 December 2017.

The Leader outlined the background position, commenting that it was proposed that the Executive should adopt the Community Asset Transfer Policy (Appendix 1), together with the undernoted supporting documents to enable the Council to implement the policy:

- Community Asset Transfer Process (Appendix 2)
- Community Asset Transfer Application Form (Appendix 3)
- Community Asset Transfer Assessment Matrix (Appendix 4)

He added that the documents were based on research and consultation undertaken by the task group and lead officers. The CAT Policy and processes provided a clear framework for asset transfers, helping to identify the resources required to implement the process and who would lead on those at each stage.

In conclusion the Leader formally moved the recommendation, which was formally seconded by the Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive had given consideration to the amended draft Community Asset Transfer Policy and referred it to the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel, prior to considering adopting the policy and procedure on 17 September 2018.

Reasons for Decision

The Council had demonstrated its commitment to working with partners and the community to maximise the effectiveness of assets through existing leases and transfers. It recognised the benefits of Community Asset Transfer to both the authority and the community; however, that had not been explored and developed to its full potential

There could be many further opportunities to obtain the best use of resources for social and economic benefit that were not being realised. The Council did not have agreed

policies and processes in place to manage Community Asset Transfers, and there was a risk that it could be open to challenge regarding the transparency of its approach thus far

Recent enquiries regarding Community Asset Transfer had highlighted that there was growing interest in Carlisle. This was an excellent opportunity to build a comprehensive response, learning from the experiences of other authorities

A.5 REFERS

EX.77/18 REVENUE BUDGET OVERVIEW AND MONITORING REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2018 (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Leader presented report RD.18/18 providing an overview of the Council's overall budgetary position for the period April to June 2018 for revenue schemes only.

The Leader outlined the background information set out at Section 1. The budgetary position as at June 2018 showed an updated Budget 2018/19 totalling £13,340,500; and the main income and expenditure variances were as summarised at paragraph 2.4 of the report.

Section 3 recorded that the Council's financial position was affected by a number of external factors which would have a financial impact during the course of the year and ultimately at the year-end, including the general effect of local economic activity on the Council's income streams (e.g. car parking, tourism and leisure activities); fuel prices, energy costs and other inflationary issues; and the effects of the housing market and property prices, especially with regard to income from land charges, rents and building and development control.

The Council's financial position would continue to be closely monitored and the likely year end position would be reported more fully in a future monitoring report. It would be important to maintain a prudent approach so as to ensure a sustainable budget position for future years and to avoid any significant variance at the year end.

Attention was further drawn to the details of the Council's main sources of funding; balance sheet management; and action taken by the Chief Finance Officer in writing off bad debts.

In conclusion the Leader formally moved the recommendations set out in the report, which were formally seconded by the Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

1. Noted the budgetary performance position of the Council to June 2018;
2. Noted the action by the Chief Finance Officer to write-off bad debts as detailed in paragraph 6 of Report RD.18/18;
3. Noted the release of reserves as set out in the table at paragraph 2.2, and noted the virements approved as detailed in Appendix A.

Reasons for Decision

To show that the Executive had been informed of the Council's actual financial position compared with the budgeted position and to bring to their attention any areas of concern

A.6 REFERS

EX.78/18 CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW AND MONITORING REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2018 (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Leader presented report RD.19/18 providing an overview of the budgetary position of the City Council's capital programme for the period April to June 2018. He summarised the background position set out at Section 1 of the report.

The position statement recorded that, as at the end of June, expenditure of £1,549,842 had been incurred on the Council's core capital programme. When considered against the profiled budget of £1,446,956 that equated to an overspend of £102,886. The unspent balance remaining of the revised annual budget of £7,894,600 was £6,344,758. That would be closely monitored over the following months to identify accurate project profiles and any potential slippage into future years.

A number of schemes were included in the capital programme for 2018/19 that required reports to be presented to the Executive for the release of funding before the project could go ahead, some of which may slip into future years capital programmes.

Details of the manner by which the capital programme would be financed; and the position as a June 2018 of the capital resources due to be received during 2018/19 were provided at paragraphs 4.1 and 5.1.

Members of the Executive were asked to approve an increase to the capital programme for the additional Disabled Facilities Grant received in 2018/19 (£293,200).

The 2018/19 programme had been kept to a level that took account of the Council's ability to deliver schemes with regard to capacity and available resources. Work was ongoing to continue to monitor the profiling of budgets which were adjusted to reflect progress in current capital schemes. It was likely that there would still be a requirement for some carry forwards at the year end due to further slippage and delays on projects. Members were

reminded that budgets totalling £1,432,000 were being held in reserves until approved by the Executive for release.

The Leader concluded his presentation by formally moving the recommendations which were formally seconded by the Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

- (i) Noted and had commented upon the budgetary position and performance aspects of the capital programme for the period April to June 2018;
- (ii) Noted adjustments to the 2018/19 capital programme as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of Report RD.19/18;
- (iii) Approved an increase to the capital programme for the additional Disabled Facilities Grant received in 2018/19 (£293,200).

Reasons for Decision

To keep Members informed of the budgetary position of the Council's Capital Programme for the period April to June 2018