

Meeting Date: 7 January 2020

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Councillor Jack Paton

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel Report for 21st November 2019 Meeting

This was our last meeting of 2019, which has been quite a busy year and today was going to follow the trend, as we had a busy programme.

HWSP 70/19 Budget 2020/21-2024/25

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources provided a summary for the Council's estimates for 2020/21 and forecasts up to 2024/25. The base estimates had been set out for the next five years in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

The report set out revisions to the MTFP affecting the budget that were currently unresolved. A summary of the key issues was also provided. The Executive had received the report on 18th November and noted the current MTFP would continue to be updated throughout the budget process.

Members were told in response to questions, the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources explained that the Sexual Assault Referral Service was a new service that had been added to the budget on a recurring basis. It was also suggested that the recycling income target was set too high and thought should be given to reducing the target in future budgets.

The Deputy Chief Executive agreed that expected income was an ongoing concern. Work was underway by a county wide group to address some of the issues and reach an agreement which everyone was happy with.

The Deputy Chief Executive clarified that the City Council were responsible for a number of footway lights in the City. The City Engineer is going to replace the sodium lighting with LED lighting which would reduce consumption and produce a financial saving.

Community Services

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which set out proposed fees and charges for 2020/21 for services falling within the Community Services Directorate. Details of the charges were contained within the report. The Executive had received the report and

decided to make the proposed charges available to the relevant Scrutiny Panels for their review and comments.

The Health and Wellbeing Manager was asked about the different fees on commercial events. Large events occupied the parks for some time and were charged by the day along with reinstatement fees.

Has the private car park at Talkin Tarn affected the income at the Council car park? There has not been any significant reduction in the use of the car park at Talkin Tarn.

Numbers attending the Old Fire Station have reduced, any thought to reduce ticket prices to encourage people in. The Deputy Chief Executive said there was a wide range of ticket prices for different events at the Old Fire Station. There were discussions underway with promoters to get more events to take place.

Were there any future proposals to change the fleet to electric to reduce carbon? The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources told us the technology was not ready yet, that the cost would be around £25m and the only way would be to increase Council Tax by 15%.

Tullie House Business Plan 2019-2025

The Director and Chair of the Trust Board from Tullie House were introduced to the Panel and gave us a detailed outlook on their Business Plan for 2019-2025. They gave us an overview on Project Tullie, the Trust's long-term plan to take the Museum into the 21st Century.

The agreement between Tullie House and Carlisle City Council was that core funding should be agreed for three years covered by a Business Plan. The Trust suggested that a four-year plan would offer more stability in budgeting for both parties. They also believe the four-year cycle would fit in with the Arts Council England funding and be beneficial to Tullie House.

The Executive has considered the matter and referred it to the Panel for their views before a final report went back to the Executive.

We congratulated Tullie House on securing two amazing art exhibitions, Rembrandt and Turner. We were told the Museum had been approached by the Imperial Decree Museum in Xuzhou, China, who were looking for a British partner to help them improve their Museum. They now had a good relationship with their Chinese partners.

The Borderlands would play a major part in the future of Tullie House. They also have had national press coverage in the last year.

The Panel debated the options at length and after many questions were still at a mixed outcome, so I put the vote amongst the Panel. It was resolved that the Panel would recommend the proposals made by Tullie House for core funding until 2023/24 of the Business Plan

Cllr Jack Paton

Chair – Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee