

Report to
Council

Agenda
Item
12.(i)

Meeting Date: 5 January 2021

Public/Private*: Public

Title: Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Jack Paton

First let me apologise for the length of the report as I was only present at the meeting until 12.30 as I had work commitments.

Budget Update

The Corporate Director of Finance presented a report to the Panel with the revised revenue estimates for 2020/21 along with 2021/22.

We noted that the Energy Monitoring System was the only reference to the Local Air Quality Plan and wanted to ensure that the budget was in place to address any actions, and also how the Council's obligations would be incorporated into the budget. We were told that money was in place and an affordable plan to include future climate change work in the budget, more information was to follow.

We asked if an application had been made to receive part of the £2.5m National Lottery Action Fund from the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership. We were told that any external grants were included in the budget documents and we were then told that no money had been allocated to Carlisle City Council.

When asked about the Old Fire Station we were told it remained closed due to government guidance, and the staff had been redeployed elsewhere.

Community Services

We asked about the enforcement action on fly tipping. We were told that the closure of the recycling centre had caused an increase in fly tipping but now the site has reopened the cases have dropped.

The maximum fine for fly tipping is £400. If the offender repeats their actions, it would go to court resulting in them having a criminal record.

It was suggested that there should be more publicity for the 10% discount on monthly and annual car parking permits, the Service Manager agreed that there should be more promotion of the available discount, but due to the current restrictions we would be better doing this in the future, as at the moment more people are working from home and the car parks are not being used.

The subject of pest control was raised, and we were told there was no discount scheme in place. Pest control is discretionary, and it was necessary to make a charge to cover the cost.

I do apologise as I cannot comment on Tullie House as I had to leave the meeting due to work commitments.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Panel members and myself to convey our gratitude to all the staff who have worked so willingly to ensure that the Council keeps providing the services to the public during this pandemic and most importantly we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a better outlook for 2021.

Cllr Jack Paton

Chair – Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee