
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 25 AUGUST 2011

ROSP.60/11 DRAFT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2011-2016

“The Executive had on 26 July 2011 considered the report (EX.084/11 refers) and decided:

- 1.) That the Executive noted the position as set out in Report RD.37/11
- 2.) That the Executive approved the update to the draft Asset Management Plan and made it available for consideration by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel, before coming back to the Executive and full Council in September 2011.”

The Property Services Manager (Mr Simmons) presented Report RD.37/11 and advised that the Plan was reviewed annually. The current Plan had been updated to reflect the key issues and changes affecting the future management and use of the property resource, the impact of the Asset Review Business Plan and the performance of the portfolio.

Mr Simmons commented that one of the key aspects of the Asset Review Business Plan was to segregate the portfolio in order to provide a clearer focus on the management and delivery of outputs. The objectives were to consolidate the portfolio, reducing the number of assets, increase overall returns and therefore lower management costs.

Mr Simmons informed Members that the Disposal Programme was a 4 year plan to consolidate the non-operational portfolio in order to raise capital and generate income. The operational section of the portfolio was used to deliver services and an Accommodation Review was being undertaken to rationalise back office space, the depots and subsequently other service premises.

Mr Simmons explained that the performance of the portfolio was measured on CIPFA models. He provided an explanation of the indicators, which showed year on year improvements. He stated that against the backdrop of cutbacks and recessionary difficulties the challenges ahead were to continue the process of efficiency improvements and the rationalisation of the non-operational portfolio through the delivery of the Asset Review Business Plan and the Disposal Programme.

In considering the report Members raised the following concerns and questions:

- *With energy prices increasing had Officers investigated alternative forms of energy?*

Mr Simmons explained that increasingly energy consumption was being monitored at the point of use and Officers were looking at the opportunities available for renewable energy sources to be used. A business case was being looked at for a scheme involving photovoltaic panels as an alternative energy source and if that would be a worthwhile investment.

- *Members requested that the paragraph regarding surplus property be amended to reflect the comments of the Task and Finish Group.*
- *A Member was concerned about the cost of work to be undertaken at Tullie House.*

The Performance and Development Portfolio Holder stated that as part of the discussions for the funding arrangement the Buildings and Facilities Manager (Mr Kay) had identified savings for energy usage that could be used to carry out the work at Tullie House. The Council would continue to carry out improvements to provide savings in energy costs. He confirmed that Tullie House remained in City Council ownership and reminded Members that they had been informed of the issues as part of the detailed negotiations that took place prior to Tullie House becoming a Trust.

The Assistant Director (Governance and Resources) advised that the capital schemes special project fund allocations had been presented to the Executive at their meeting on 26 July 2011.

- *It was important that the assets of the collection were properly cared for and that adequate levels of heating and lighting were in place and the proposed work was appropriate.*

RESOLVED –That the report be noted.