

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
COMMITTEE – (Special Budget)

03 January 2023

OPEN

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor Taylor (Chair)
and Councillors M Mulgrew, Shepherd (substituting for Councillor Heath),
Singh, Southerd and Tilley (substituting for Councillor Pegg).

Conservative Group

Councillors Brown, Dawson, Fitzpatrick, Haines, Patten (substituting for
Councillor Lemmon) and Watson.

Non-Grouped

Councillor Wheelton

In attendance

Councillor Smith

EDS/46 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from
Councillors Heath and Pegg (Labour Group) and Councillor Lemmon
(Conservative Group).

EDS/47 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations had been made.

EDS/48 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public
had been received.

EDS/49 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the
Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/50 **SERVICE BASE BUDGETS 2023-24**

The report was presented to the Committee by the Head of Finance highlighting the larger spend areas of waste collection and other environmental services together with income from the provision of services. The Committee noted increased costs in fuel, waste disposal and vehicles.

The Chair noted the report and that a separate report on the Environmental Education Service would be welcome given the risks to funding in that area. Members raised questions regarding any approved new planning validation, savings or noticeable updates to the budget and that the Medium Term Financial Plan should be closely inspected. The Chair confirmed that the new Planning structure was at the implementation stage and that there were no figures available at this point in the process.

Members questioned the introduction of commercialisation to gain more income from Developers. The Chair confirmed that last year a good service was provided by Planning and that pre-application services fees needed to be reviewed.

Members queried the cost and performance of the Building Control Service as a concern and would any data be available to analyse the services delivered. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) confirmed that the Annual Report due in July would provide the trends and income from the consortium.

Members queried if there was a plan to look at Land Charges costs and the budget that had already been spent. The Strategic Director informed the Committee that this was still under review.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved that the proposed income and expenditure revenue budget for the Committee's services for 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, was considered and recommended to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.

1.2 The Committee considered and approved the proposed fees and charges as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report for 2023/24.

EDS/51 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee.

Members requested that Committee dates be added to the items in the Work Programme.

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

EDS/52 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

EDS/53 **EXEMPT QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

The meeting terminated at 18:30 hours

COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

CHAIR