

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

14th June 2018

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Mrs Plenderleith (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Billings, Mrs Coyle, Ford, Hewlett, Stanton (substituting for Councillor Smith) Watson and Wheeler

Labour Group

Councillors Rhind, Southerd Taylor and Wilkins (substituting for Councillor Richards)

FM/1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Smith (Conservative Group) and Councillor Richards (Labour Group).

FM/2 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd May 2018 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

FM/3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Wheeler declared a pecuniary interest in Item 26 of the Agenda by virtue of a donation made to his wife's Member of Parliament fighting fund.

Councillor Mrs Plenderleith left the Chamber at 6.05pm to clarify the position regarding declarations. On the Councillor's return at 6.15pm, she confirmed that a donation had been made to the Member of Parliament's fighting fund and not to the Conservative Association nor for the District Council Elections, and advised that on this basis, no further declarations were required.

FM/4 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

FM/5 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

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

FM/6 **REPORTS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee was informed that no reports had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

FM/7 **CORPORATE PLAN 2016-21: PERFORMANCE REPORT (2017-18)**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to Committee highlighting achievements including the decrease in the average time taken in processing new benefit claims and areas requiring improvement which included mandatory training and the implementation of personal development reviews.

The Chairman sought clarification on the average time taken nationally in processing new benefit claims; the Director confirmed this to be 17-18 days.

A discussion ensued in relation to mandatory training. It was clarified that these were areas of training identified internally as mandatory.

Councillor Mrs Plenderleith returned to the Chamber at 6.15pm

RESOLVED:

The Committee noted the progress against performance targets.

FM/8 **SERVICE PLANS 2018/19**

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

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved the Service Plans for Corporate Resources and the Chief Executive's Directorate as the basis for overall service delivery over the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

FM/9 **CORPORATE EQUALITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18 AND ACTION PLAN 2018/19**

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

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved:-

1.1 The publication of the Corporate Equalities Annual Report for 2017/18, as attached at Appendix A to the report.

1.2 The Corporate Equalities and Safeguarding Action Plan for 2018/19, as attached at Appendix B to the report.

FM/10 **ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT 2017/18 AND ACTION PLAN 2018/19**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to Committee highlighting that any issues had been discussed in detail at the Employee Health and Safety Committee.

RESOLVED:

The Committee reviewed the key health and safety achievements and performance for the year ending March 2018 and endorsed the Health and Safety Action Plan that sets down the priority actions for 2018/19.

FM/11 **SICKNESS ABSENCE 2017/18**

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

Concerns were raised that the figure had risen for the second consecutive year and clarification was sought on how absence related to mental health sickness is handled and supported.

The Chairman requested that future reports on this matter include the wording 'having due regard to the needs of the business' in paragraph 3.11; which was accepted by the Director.

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved:-

1.1 The planned actions detailed in section 4 of the report to improve attendance levels across the Council.

1.2 That an update on absence levels is reported on a quarterly basis to this Committee to ensure performance is monitored and actions taken to work towards an average target of 8 days lost per employee.

FM/12 **CONSULTATION ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18 AND ACTION PLAN 2018/19**

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

RESOLVED:

The Committee noted the key consultation achievements for 2017/18 in Appendix A to the report and agreed the Consultation Action Plan for 2018/19, as attached in Appendix B to the report.

FM/13 **COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18 AND OBJECTIVES 2018/19**

The Chief Executive presented the report to Committee
Councillor Ford welcomed the report highlighting the increase to £1.76 million income from transactional payments made through the website demonstrated the Council are delivering what customers/residents want.

RESOLVED:

The Committee noted:-

1.1 The Annual Communications Dashboard for 2017/18, as detailed in Appendix A to the report.

1.2 The updated Communications Strategy 2016-2021, as shown in Appendix B to the report and approved the refreshed objectives for 2018/19.

FM/14 **COMMENTS, COMPLIMENTS, COMPLAINTS & FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS 01 OCTOBER 2017 TO 31 MARCH 2018**

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

The Chairman requested that for future reports, the comments and compliments be added as a link in the report. It was noted pursuant to Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, such information would require publication and it was agreed this would be detailed through a link within the report

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and noted the comments, compliments, complaints and FOI requests, as detailed in the report.

FM/15 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

FM/16 **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 is 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.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd May 2018 were received.

**TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

COMMUNITY SPORT ACTIVATION OFFICER (Paragraph 2)

Members approved the recommendation in the report.

PLANNING SERVICE REVIEW (Paragraph 1)

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

PAY AND GRADING REVIEW – DOWNGRADED POSTS (Paragraph 2)

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

STENSON FIELDS COMMUNITY FACILITY (Paragraph 3)

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

ROSLISTON FORESTRY CENTRE (Paragraphs 2 & 3)

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

LAND IN REPTON (Paragraph 3)

Members approved the recommendation in the report.

APPLICATION FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF (Paragraph 3)

Members approved the recommendation in the report.

LAND IN CHURCH GRESLEY (Paragraph 3)

Members approved the recommendation in the report.

The meeting terminated at 7.20pm.

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN