

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

3rd December 2015

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

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

Labour Group

Councillors Rhind, Richards, Southerd and Wilkins.

FM/72 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received on behalf of Councillor Smith (Conservative Group).

FM/73 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meetings held on 3rd September 2015, 24th September 2015, 30th September 2015 and 15th October 2015 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

FM/74 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

FM/75 **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/76 **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/77 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no reports of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to consider.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**FM/78 CORPORATE SERVICES PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2015/16: QUARTER 2 TO SEPTEMBER 2015**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services presented the report to Committee, drawing particular attention to Council Tax collection, a subject that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is currently considering, as well as the absence management figures, which, positively, are now in decline.

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and noted the progress made against the performance targets.

FM/79 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MONITORING 2015/16

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services delivered the report to the Committee, highlighting the General Fund position, recycling, insurance, land charges, Business Rates income, housing maintenance and treasury management.

Comments and queries raised by Members relating to pension costs and land charges were noted and responded to.

The Chief Executive, in referencing paragraph 3.71 of the report, commended the Council's management of its land assets, resulting in additional income, land becoming free for housing projects and enabling the relocation of the Council's depot to a more suitable location.

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and approved the latest budget and financial monitoring figures for 2015/16.

FM/80 COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENTS AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS 01 APRIL 2015 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2015**RESOLVED:**

The Committee considered and noted the complaints and Freedom of Information requests, as detailed in the report.

FM/81 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 Meetings held on 3rd September 2015 and 15th October 2015 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.

RESTRUCTURING THE DIRECT SERVICES OPERATION (Paragraph 1)

The Committee approved the restructuring of the Direct Services operation as detailed in the report.

A REVIEW OF THE CLIENT SERVICES UNIT (Paragraph 2)

The Committee approved the proposed changes relating to the duties and responsibilities associated with the Client Services Unit, as detailed in the report.

CORPORATE SERVICES CONTRACT AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (Paragraph 3)

The Committee considered the option to extend the current partnership arrangement with its external contractor in accordance with the contractual terms.

DEBTS SUBMITTED FOR WRITE-OFF (Paragraph 1)

The Committee approved the write-off of debts detailed in the report, deemed irrecoverable under the provisions of Financial Regulations D2.4 (b).3.

The meeting terminated at 7.25pm.

COUNCILLOR J HARRISON

CHAIRMAN