

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

11th February, 2015

199. **Present:** Councillors Houghton (Chairman), Andrews, Bruff, Tim Cheetham, Gardiner, Howard, Miller and Platts.

Councillors K. Dyson, Dures, Franklin, Mitchell and Morgan were also in attendance.

200. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interests.

201. **Leader of the Council - Call-In of Cabinet Decisions**

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 28th January, 2015 had been called-in.

202. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th January, 2015 (Cab.11.2.2015/3)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th January, 2015 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

203. **Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.11.2.2015/4)**

It was reported that no Record of Decisions had been taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers.

204. **Petitions Received Under Standing Order 44 (Cab.11.2.2015/5)**

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

205. **Leader and Corporate Services Spokesperson – Service and Financial Planning 2015-16 and 2016-17 – Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax (Cab.11.2.2015/6)**

(A) Budget Proposals 2015/16 and 2016/17

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2015:-

- (i) that the budget proposals for all services in 2015/16 and 2016/17, as detailed in Sections 4 and 5 of the report of the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services now submitted, be approved;
- (ii) that the following specific items incorporated within Section 2i (Medium Term Financial Forecast) including for 2015/16 be noted:-
 - (a) Provision for a 2.2% pay award in 2015/16 (covering 2014/15 and 2015/16);

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- (b) Provision for inflation in relation to external providers;
 - (c) An adjustment of £500,000 to reflect the provision required for the anticipated revenue costs of existing and new borrowing.
- (iii) that the 2015/16 and 2016/17 base budget adjustments and Phase 1-3 savings proposals outlined at Section 4 and Section 5 be approved for implementation along with any full year effects;
- (iv) that appropriate action be taken by the Senior Management Team in consultation with the Director HR, Performance and Communications in relation to all the Phase 1-3 savings agreed above;
- (v) that the total additional funded capital investment of £11.436M as outlined at Section 7 be included within the Capital Programme and funding be released subject to further detailed reports on the proposals for its use;
- (vi) that the detailed proposals for increases in fees and charges, as set out in Section 8 and included within the budget proposals at Section 4 and Section 5, be agreed;
- (vii) that Section 10 (Position on Reserves, Provisions and Balances) be noted;
- (viii) that the report of the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 at Section 1 be noted and that the 2015/16 budget proposals be agreed on the basis that the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and in consultation with the Senior Management Team, submits for early consideration detailed proposals from the ongoing activity in order that the potential budget gaps in 2016/17, 2017/18 and the longer term be closed;
- (ix) that the cash limited budgets for each service with overall net expenditure for 2015/16 of £174.686M (see Section 4i) be approved;
- (x) that the potential cash limited budgets for each service for 2016/17 as set out in Section 4ii and covered in Section 5 with the overall net expenditure for 2016/17 of £164.819M be noted;
- (xi) that the Budget Overview report and forecast budget positions for 2015/16 to 2017/18 contained in Section 2i (Medium Term Financial Forecast) be noted and monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the Future Council;

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- (xii) that the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services, in liaison with the Chief Executive and SMT as appropriate, be required to submit reports into Cabinet, as a matter of urgency, in relation to the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget for 2015/16, including recommendations on any action further to that set out above required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget for that financial year;
- (xiii) that the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of Phase 1-3 savings;
- (xiv) that the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and SMT be required to submit regular reports as necessary on the implementation of proposals into Cabinet as a matter of urgency to resolve any outstanding issues in relation to their budgets and deal with any consequential effects;
- (xv) that the Authority's Senior Management Team be charged with ensuring that the budget remains in balance and report regularly into Cabinet on budget/savings monitoring including any action required;
- (xvi) that the Cabinet be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 2015/16 budget;
- (xvii) that appropriate consultation on the agreed budget proposals takes place with the Trade Unions and representatives of Non Domestic Ratepayers and that the views of consultees be considered by Cabinet and the Council; and
- (xviii) that the budget papers be submitted for the consideration of the whole Council.

(B) Council Tax 2015/16**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2015:-**

- (i) that the contents of Section 9 (2015/16 Council Tax calculation) of the report of the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that the Council Tax Collection Fund net surplus as at 31st March 2014 relating to BMBC of £1.615M be used to reduce the 2015/16 Council Tax requirement, in line with statute;
- (iii) that the 2015/16 Band D Council Tax increase for Barnsley MBC's services be set at 1.9%;
- (iv) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley MBC's areas be determined following confirmation of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and South Yorkshire Fire Authority precepts for 2015/16; and

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- (v) that the Band D Council Tax for areas of the Borough with Parish/Town Councils be determined following confirmation of individual parish precepts for 2015/16.

206. **Corporate Services Spokesperson – Redundancy Compensation and Procedures 2015/16 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.1)**

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2015:-

- (i) that for the purpose of the 2015/2016 budgetary procedures, payments in accordance with the Discretionary Compensation Regulations 2006 be up to a maximum of 30 weeks actual pay based on the Statutory Redundancy Scheme; and
- (ii) that any employee (excluding Teachers) declared redundant be afforded the maximum of 12 weeks notice of termination of employment.

207. **Corporate Services Spokesperson – Treasury Policy and Strategy Statement 2015/16(Cab.11.2.2015/7.2)**

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2015:-

- (i) that the main treasury management policies, as outlined in the Treasury Policy Statement, attached as Annex A of the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the Treasury Strategy Statement for 2015/16 (Annex B), be approved, including:-
 - (a) the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement at Appendix E; and
 - (b) the Annual Investment Strategy for 2015/16.

208. **Corporate Services Spokesperson – Prudential Indicators 2015/16 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.3)**

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2015:-

- (i) that the Prudential Indicators, as detailed in Appendix B to the report now submitted, be approved for the financial year 2015/16 to 2017/18; and
- (ii) that further monitoring reports be submitted on the indicators during the year as necessary.

CABINET**11th February, 2015****209. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Corporate Finance Summary – Quarter Ending 31st December, 2014 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.4)****RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the update on the Authority's 2014/15 budget and savings (KLOE) position for the quarter ending 31st December, 2014, as detailed in the Corporate Finance Summary now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that the budget virements as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be noted;
- (iii) the forecast outturn, including the latest position on the 2014/15 KLOE savings contained within this report, be reviewed within the context of the Future Council planning processes;
- (iv) that the one-off balance identified in paragraph 5.3 of £1.3M be transferred to strategic reserves and be included in an updated reserves position at the financial year end in line with the Council's recently agreed Medium Term Reserves Strategy (Cab.3.12.2014/6.2);
- (v) that further updates be submitted to Cabinet on the budgetary issues in the Children, Young People and Families Directorate, including a progress report on the Looked After Children Placement and Sufficiency Strategy; and
- (vi) that Executive Directors report to Cabinet on any other adverse budgetary or performance issues.

210. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Capital Programme Update 2014/15 – 2017/18 – Quarter Ending 31st December, 2014 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.5)**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the position on the 2014/15 - 2017/18 Capital Programme, as at 31st December, 2014, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted;
- (i) that the variation in scheme costs requiring approval, as shown in Appendix 1 of the report now submitted, amounting to a decrease of £0.089M be approved; and
- (iii) that Executive Directors be required to report separately into Cabinet on major capital projects anticipated to exceed budgeted resources.

CABINET**11th February, 2015****211. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Treasury Management Activities and Investment Performance Report – Quarter Ending 31st December, 2014 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.6)****RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the Treasury Management activities undertaken for the quarter ending 31st December, 2014 and compliance with the Prudential Indicators, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the performance of the Authority's investments for the reported quarter be noted.

212. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Community Energy Project (Cab.11.2.2015/7.7)

RESOLVED that approval be given for Barnsley MBC to enter into a formal partnership agreement with British Gas/GenCom/Social Finance to deliver a community energy project, as detailed in the report now submitted, including the installation of solar PV on Council buildings and social housing , subject to legal approval.

213. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Employee Excellence Awards (Cab.11.2.2015/7.8)

RESOLVED that the Employee Excellence Awards, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved for implementation from 1st April, 2015.

214. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Quarterly Analysis of Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance – July, 2014 – September, 2014 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.9)

RESOLVED that the Quarterly Analysis of Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance from July to September 2014, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

215. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Quarterly Analysis of Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance – October, 2014 – December, 2014 (Cab.11.2.2015/7.10)

RESOLVED that the Quarterly Analysis of Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance from October to December 2014, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

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216. **Place Spokesperson – Empty Homes Programme 2015/18 (Cab.11.2.2015/8)**

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Barnsley MBC/Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) Empty Homes Programme 2015/18, including acceptance of £440, 000 capital grant funding from the HCA, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved;
- (ii) that the total programme cost of £1.57million be included in the Council's Capital Programme and funding be released accordingly;
- (iii) that the Director of Legal and Governance be authorised on behalf of the Council to enter into a contract with the Homes and Communities Agency for the delivery of the HCA-funded Empty Homes Programme 2015/18; and
- (iv) that discussions take place with Berneslai Homes regarding further investment of capital resources into empty homes work.

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Chairman