

AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 24th February 2011 at Retford Town Hall

Present:

Councillors: P C Offer (Chair)
Mrs V A Bowles, H Burton, D Challinor, C Entwistle, G Freeman, M T Gray, S May,
J W Ogle, D Potts, J B Rickells, A A D Tromans, C Troop and G J Wynne

Also present: S Brown, A Burton, G Blenkinsop, S Carter, C Crossland, M Hill, L Hull,
M Ladyman, R Theakstone and T Winfield

Standards Committee Members: None

41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Jones, Mrs A Simpson, Mrs J F Smith and S Toms.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

43. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH FEBRUARY 2011

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2011 be approved.

44. MINUTES FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

RESOLVED that the Minutes for Action be received.

45. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

RESOLVED that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

Key Decisions

None

Other Decisions

46. REPORT(S) OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

(a) Budget Monitoring and Capital Programme Update Report to 31st December 2010 (key decision No 251)

Members were informed of: the spending position for the period 1st April to 31st December 2010 for the council's General Fund, Housing Revenue and Capital Programme; any significant variances from the approved budgets; the requested approval for variations and additions to the existing Capital Programme; proposed resourcing of the Capital Programme and the level of Council capital resources available, including capital receipts; updates on regeneration projects and sites that are not monitored through the Council's Capital Programme; updates on Treasury Management Budget issues; and the regular quarterly update on performance against the approved Treasury Management Prudential Indicators for the period ending 31st December 2010.

The report was presented at the Cabinet Meeting on the 10th February 2011, giving details on: General Fund Revenue; Housing Revenue Account; Capital Programme Expenditure; Capital Programme Resourcing; Capital Programme Expenditure, Capital Receipts; Updates on Key External Regeneration Sites; and Treasury Management.

The Head of Finance and Property commented that it is anticipated that there will be an overspend of £0.171m on the overall General Fund budget, this is primarily from anticipated reduction in fees and charges receipts, increased housing, council tax benefit costs and changes to the Housing Subsidy interest rates that have a detrimental impact on the costs of long term borrowing. The impact of this forecasted overspend can be accommodated by withdrawing £0.022m from reserves to maintain the Minimum Working Balance of £1.0m at 31st March 2011.

In response to a question raised regarding the Icelandic banks the Head of Finance and Property informed the committee that in January 2011 the Council received £0.083m in respect of KSF bank and that he would have more information in April/May 2011.

Elected Members raised issues on the budget allocated to the recovery of monies from Icelandic banks, major repairs allowance and Langold Lake.

RESOLVED that the Budget Monitoring and Capital Programme Update Report to 31st December 2010 be noted.

47. REPORT(S) OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

(a) Corporate Plan Scorecard – Quarter 3 – 2010/11

Members were presented with a report which provided an update regarding the performance of the Council's Corporate Plan 2010-2013. The Scorecard covers the 4 priorities of the Corporate Plan: Customer, People, Process, Financial.

The Director of Corporate Services commented that under each priority is an update of the Corporate Plan projects and that beneath the projects are the Council's Performance Indicators that link to the Corporate Plan Priorities. For Quarter 3 no risks have been identified.

RESOLVED that the Corporate Plan Scorecard be received and performance noted for Quarter 3 of 2010/11

(b) Service Scorecards – Quarter 3 – 2010/11

Members were presented with a report which provided an update regarding individual Service performance. The scorecards covered four key areas: Customer, People, Process, Financial. The information used to populate the report is held on Covalent which all can access.

Each Head of Service or their representative presented their scorecard report, copies of which were appended to the report. For Quarter 3 no risks had been identified.

The Senior Support Services Manager informed the Committee that the Council has participated in a Diversity Peer Challenge and has been accredited with Achieving status within the Equalities Framework assessment. He added that the inspectors had been very complimentary about the Council and its employees.

An Elected Member congratulated the Senior Support Services Manager on the equalities and diversity achievement and asked that thanks be passed on to everyone who was involved in the process.

Members asked questions relating to domestic violence, recycling, energy efficiency of housing stock, agency workers and the cinema contract.

An Elected Member asked that thanks be given to the Community Safety team for all the work that they do across Bassetlaw.

RESOLVED that:

1. Thanks be given to everyone who was involved in the Diversity Peer Challenge process.
2. Thanks be given to the Community Safety team for all the work that they do across Bassetlaw.
3. the Service Scorecards are received and performance noted for Quarter 2 2010/11

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

None.

48. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

As there was no other urgent business to consider, the Chairman closed the meeting.