

At a meeting of the Executive held in Cockermonth Town Hall on Monday 2 December 2019 at 5.00 pm

Members

Councillor Marion Fitzgerald (Chair)
Councillor John Cook
Councillor George Kemp
Councillor Stephen Stoddart

Councillor Mike Johnson
Councillor Paul Scott

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Jenkinson

Staff Present

B Carlin, N Hardy, C Holmes, J Irving, K Kerrigan, C Nicholson, G Roach, A Seekings, S Sewell and P Wood

248. Declaration of Interests

5. Allerdale Waste Services Business Plan.
Councillor Paul Scott; Interest; Due to a personal relationship associated with the Contractor.

249. Questions

None received.

250. Members' Announcements

None received.

Resolved -

“That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for agenda item 5 on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 5 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.”

251. Allerdale Waste Services Business Plan

The subject of the decision

The Head of Community Services submitted a report which sought member's approval of the Current Business Plan to provide waste and recycling services in Allerdale, delivering to the needs of the local people.

Members considered the information and legal advice provided in the report and asked questions of the Officers present.

Councillor M Johnson moved the motion as per the report; this was seconded by Councillor J Cook. The recommendations were unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

A review of options for service delivery model was considered by Executive at the meeting held on 16 September 2019, where they approved preferred Option 3 – bringing the service back in-house to be run by local authority company.

The reason for the decision

To approve the Current Business Plan.

The decision

Resolved

That –

- The operation of a Local Authority wholly owned trading Company ('the Company') as specified within this Business Plan be agreed with immediate effect (subject to the Council's Call-In procedure)
- Delegate authority be given to the Head of Service, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Environmental Quality to agree an appropriate company structure and related governance/ contract management arrangements, including:
 - Confirmation of the name and branding of the Company
 - Approval of the Articles of the Company and the size and composition of its Board
 - Recommending to the Shareholder Committee appointments to the posts of Managing Director, Company Secretary and (if determined) Non-Executive Directors of the Company
 - Preparation of a Shareholder's Agreement to be entered into between the Company and the Council for consideration by the Shareholder Committee
 - Ensuring that the Company holds appropriate insurances
 - Ensuring that appropriate client side contract management arrangements are in place
 - The Business Plan be further developed to ensure that the Company is working as efficiently and effectively as possible from April 2020.

252. Quarter 2 Finance update report and Revised budget 2019/20

The subject of the decision

The Head of Financial Services submitted a report which sought to inform Members on the Council's financial performance against budget for the period April to September 2019 and approval for the revised revenue and capital budgets for 2019-20.

Amended papers were tabled at the start of the item which detailed additional budget required to support the creation of a local authority trading company to deliver waste and recycling services.

Members noted the key messages at the end of quarter 2 for 2019/20, summarised on pages 3-4 of the agenda.

Councillor G Kemp moved the recommendations as per the report; this was seconded by Councillor P Scott. The motion was unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

None

The reason for the decision

To inform Members of the Council's financial performance against budget for the period April to September 2019 and approval of the revised revenue and capital budgets for 2019-20.

The decision

Recommended – That Council be requested to agree that –

- The forecasted position against the original revenue and capital budgets at the end of quarter 2 be noted
- The revised budget (inclusive of spend from earmarked reserves) of £17,043k be approved
- The revised net revenue budget requirement of £15,681k be approved
- An additional release from the Council's earmarked reserves of £678k be approved
- An increase in the contribution from the Council's General Fund of £32k be approved
- The revised three year capital budget (including proposed financing) of £34,846k comprising £8,628k in 2019-20, £25,148k in 2020-21 and £1,070k in 2021-22 be approved
- The revised position on earmarked and un-earmarked general fund balances be noted.

253. 2020/21 Budget Strategy & Updated Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2022/23

The subject of the decision

The Head of Financial Services submitted a report setting out the guidelines for preparing the 2020-21 Budget. The Strategy took into account current and future financial issues and set out assumptions and initial proposals for delivering a balanced budget in 2020-21.

Councillor P Scott moved the recommendations set out in the report. This was seconded by Councillor S Stoddart. The recommendations were unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

None

The reason for the decision

The report was the first report of the Council's budget setting process for 2020-21 onwards. It set out the financial pressures that the Council was likely to face in the coming years and suggested an appropriate strategy to ensure that the authority remained financially stable over the long term.

The decision

Resolved

That –

- The significant financial challenges that the Council faces be noted
- The planning assumptions for building the 2020-21 budget be noted
- A public consultation on budget proposals be undertaken

The meeting closed at 5.35 pm