

At a meeting of the Executive held in Council Chamber - Allerdale House, Workington on Wednesday 19 February 2020 at 4.00 pm

Members

Councillor Marion Fitzgerald (Chair)
Councillor John Cook
Councillor Jim Lister
Councillor Stephen Stoddart

Councillor Mike Johnson (Vice-Chair)
Councillor George Kemp
Councillor Paul Scott

Staff Present

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

378. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2020 were signed as a correct record.

379. Declaration of Interests

None declared.

380. Questions

None received.

381. Members' Announcements

None received.

382. Quarter 3 Performance Report 2019/20

The subject of the decision

The Policy Manager (Corporate, Performance and Information) submitted a report to advise Members on the Council's performance at the end of quarter three 2019/20, covering the period from 1 October to 31 December 2019.

Members considered and noted the progress made against each of the key projects and activities set out in the Corporate Business Plan.

The report contained 58 projects/activities and 46 key performance indicators. Of the projects/activities 2 were marked as complete, 47 were on target, 6 had concerns over their deadlines or outputs being achieved and 3 had significant concerns on achieving outputs.

Of the listed KPIs, 25 were on target, 9 had concerns on their target being achieved, 8 had significant concerns and 2 were not targeted. 2 KPIs data was outstanding.

Councillor M Johnson moved the recommendation; this was seconded by Councillor P Scott. The recommendation was unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

None

The reason for the decision

To advise members of progress on the Corporate Business Plan priorities/activities and KPIs at the end of quarter three 2019/20.

The decision

Resolved

That the report be noted.

383. Quarterly Finance Report April to December 2019

The subject of the decision

The Head of Financial Services submitted a report which sought to inform Members of the Council's financial performance against budget for the period April to December 2019 along with the forecast position to 31 March 2020.

Members noted the headline messages at the end of quarter 3 2019/20, being:

Revenue Budget

- (i) Expenditure from the revenue budget, excluding projects funded from earmarked reserves, was forecast to exceed budget by £46k
- (ii) Income from Taxation & Government Grants was forecast to match budget
- (iii) This projected outturn position would result in £46K being required from general fund balances to finance the revenue budget.

Earmarked Reserves Budget

- (iv) A forecast underspend against the budgeted use of Reserves
- (v) This was largely reflecting changes in the anticipated timing of expenditure from reserves and the full balance of those reserves was expected to be spent in future financial years, meaning there was not saving/additional resources as a result.

Capital Budget

- (vi) Expenditure from the capital budget was forecast to underspend by £5,906K
- (vii) The forecast reprofiling of expenditure to subsequent financial years was £872K

(viii) This results in an underspend of £5,034K

Other

(ix) Treasury Management activities were carried out in accordance with the Councils treasury management and investment strategies

(x) No new external borrowing was undertaken.

Councillor M Johnson moved the recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor G Kemp. The recommendation 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 December 2019 along with the forecast position to 31 March 2020.

The decision

Resolved

That the report be noted.

384. Budget 2020-21 - Revenue and Capital

The subject of the decision

The Head of Financial Services submitted a report which sought to present to Members the draft revenue and capital budget and the formal advice of the chief financial officer on the robustness of the estimates included in the budget and the adequacy of the reserves which supported the Council's budgetary plans.

Councillor J Cook moved the recommendations contained within the report. This was seconded by Councillor P Scott. The recommendations were unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

None

The reason for the decision

The Council's statutory requirement to approve a balanced budget.

The decision

Recommended

That Council be requested to agree that –

1. The total planned revenue expenditure be £15,449,434 including parish precepts of £2,458,074
2. £15,259,834 be approved as the Council's net Budget requirement for 2020-21
3. Allerdale's share of council tax be increased, on properties in all Council Tax bands by 1%
4. No changes are made to the Council's Council Tax Reduction discount scheme and that the current scheme remains in place for 2020-21
5. The revenue estimates as approved are used in the calculation of the basic amount of tax under Section 31 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992
6. The minimum level of non-earmarked general fund balances be set at £2.7m and that no maximum level be set
7. That the capital budget of £11,439,691 (comprising £8,294,555 in 2020-21, £1,611,000 in 2021-22 and £1,534,000 in 2022-23) be approved
8. That the proposed capital budget for 2020-21 be financed as follows:
 - grants and contributions£5,879,856
 - borrowing.....£1,787,174
 - leases.....£47,000
 - capital receipts£571,817
 - general fund balances£8,708

385. Keswick Transport Study

The subject of the decision

The Head of Community Services submitted a report which sought members' approval of the recommendations highlighted in the Keswick Transport Study.

Councillor M Fitzgerald highlighted there was to be further stakeholder consultation in due course in which she hoped that the Council would fully engage with, in particular the relevant ward councillors.

Councillor G Kemp moved the recommendations; this was seconded by Councillor M Fitzgerald. The motion was unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

A number of options were outlined in the Keswick Transport Study document and the Non-Technical Summary shown in Appendix 2 of the report.

The reason for the decision

To outline the package of improvements resulting from the Keswick Transport Study and the next steps to support their delivery and implementation.

The decision

Resolved

That –

1. The principle of the packages of improvement (as summarised in Pro-formas 1-8 in the Keswick Transport Study's Non-Technical Summary) be endorsed;
2. It be agreed to work together to explore the opportunities to secure funding to deliver the packages of improvements through internal and external funding opportunities; and
3. A Programme Delivery Board be established to ensure the co-ordinated delivery of the package of improvements.

386. Food Safety Enforcement Policy

The subject of the decision

The Head of Governance and Regulatory Services submitted a report which sought member's approval of the Food Safety Enforcement Policy.

Councillor S Stoddart moved the recommendation in the report. This was seconded by Councillor M Johnson. The recommendation was unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

The Food Safety Enforcement Policy must comply with the relevant legislation.

The reason for the decision

To approve the Food Safety Enforcement Policy.

The decision

Resolved

That the Food Safety Enforcement Policy, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

387. Appointment of Representative to Energy Coast West Cumbria Limited

The subject of the decision

The Democratic and Support Services Manager submitted a report which sought the Executive to appoint a Member to serve as the Council's representative on the Energy Coast West Cumbria Ltd., Energy Coast West Cumbria (Properties) Limited and Energy Coast West Cumbria (Workspace) Limited outside bodies to replace Councillor M Jenkinson.

Councillor M Fitzgerald moved the recommendation contained within the report. This was seconded by Councillor J Cook. The motion was unanimously agreed.

Alternative options considered

Not to appoint a representative on to the outside bodies.

The reason for the decision

To appoint a Member to serve as the Council's representative following the resignation of Councillor M Jenkinson from the outside bodies.

The decision

Resolved

That Councillor Mike Johnson be appointed to serve on the Energy Coast West Cumbria Ltd., Energy Coast West Cumbria (Properties) Limited and Energy Coast West Cumbria (Workspace) Limited outside bodies until June 2023, to replace Councillor M Jenkinson.

The meeting closed at 4.40 pm