

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Held Virtually via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 21 January 2021.

Present

Councillors Brackstone, Cussons MBE, Garbutt Moore, King, Middleton (Vice-Chairman), Oxley, Raine, Raper (Chairman) and Wass.

In Attendance

Alan Bardet, Simon Copley, Jonathan Dodsworth, Anton Hodge, Connor Munroe, Christine Phillipson and Thilina De Zoysa.

Minutes

27 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies from Committee Members.
Apologies were received from Gareth Mills from Grant Thornton.
[Apologies from Cllr Keal were received retrospectively on 27th January 2021.]

28 Minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2020

Decision
That the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Meeting held on 19 November 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Voting Record

8 For

0 Against

0 Abstentions

29 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

30 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

PART 'A' ITEMS - MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS OR MATTERS DETERMINED BY COMMITTEE

31 External Audit Annual Fee Letter 2020/21

Considered – The External Audit Annual Fee Letter 2020/21

Decision

That the External Audit Annual Fee Letter 2020/21 be received and noted.

Voting Record

8 For

0 Against

0 Abstentions

32 **Second Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Progress Reports 2020/21**

Considered – Report of the Chief Finance Officer.

Decision

That the Committee note the work undertaken by internal audit and the counter fraud team in the year to date.

Voting Record

8 For

0 Against

1 Abstention

33 **Counter Fraud Framework Update**

Considered – Report of the Chief Finance Officer.

Decision

That Members

a) approve the new counter fraud and corruption strategy;

b) comment on the updated counter fraud and corruption policy; and

c) comment on and note the analysis of current fraud risks faced by the council.

Voting Record

9 For

0 Against

0 Abstentions

34 **Internal Audit Plan 2021/22 - Consultation**

Considered – Report of the Chief Finance Officer.

Decision

That Members identify any specific risk areas which they believe should be considered a priority for audit in 2021/22.
Areas relating to staff wellbeing as a result of Covid-19 were identified as a key priority to review in the next 12 months.

Voting Record

9 For
0 Against
0 Abstentions

35 **Update on the use of RIPA**

Considered – Report of the Head of Corporate Governance.

Decision

That Members note that no application for covert surveillance has been made to the Council's approved "Authorising Officers" in the last twelve months and as a consequence no application to the Magistrates Court requesting approval of any such grant has been made

Voting Record

9 For
0 Against
0 Abstentions

36 **O&S Forward Plan**

Considered – The O & S Forward Plan.

Decision

That Members note the Overview and Scrutiny Forward Plan.

Voting Record

9 For
0 Against
0 Abstentions

PART 'B' ITEMS - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

37 **Treasury Management Statement and Investment Strategy 2021-22**

Considered – Report of the Chief Finance Officer.

Decision

That Council is recommended to note and approve:

- (i) Members receive this report.
- (ii) The Operational Borrowing Limit for 2021/22 is set at £7m.
- (iii) The Authorised Borrowing Limit for 2021/22 is set at £12.5m.
- (iv) Councillors delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to effect movement within the agreed authorised boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2021/22 onwards.
- (v) Councillors delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to effect movement within the agreed operational boundary limits for long-term borrowing for 2021/22 onwards.
- (vi) The treasury management strategy statement 2021/22 be approved.
- (vii) The minimum revenue provision policy statement for 2021/22 be approved.
- (viii) The treasury management investment strategy for 2021/22 be approved. The prudential indicators for 2021/22 which reflect the capital expenditure plans which are affordable, prudent and sustainable be approved.
- (x) The Capital Strategy for 2021/22 be approved.

Voting Record

9 For

0 Against

0 Abstentions

38 **Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.**

There being no other items of urgent business the meeting closed at 7.45pm.