

Cabinet 9/2/17 - Comments from Overview & Scrutiny

Part I

Planning & Housing

Budget 2017/18

The Planning & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Panel unanimously agreed to recommend to Cabinet that they recommended to Council that they noted the report and approve the:

- i)** Detailed recommendations contained in Appendix A which includes a Council Tax at band D of £915.57, including a 0.95% increase of £8.62.
- ii)** Adult Social Care Precept of 3% (an increase of £27.75 on the £18.14 precept included in the 2016/17 budget) to be included in the Council's budget proposals, making this levy the equivalent of £45.89 at band D.
- iii)** Fees and Charges contained in Appendix D are approved.
- iv)** Capital Programme, shown in appendices F and G, for the financial year commencing April 2017.
- v)** Prudential borrowing limits set out in Appendix L.
- vi)** Business rate tax base calculation, detailed in Appendix O, and its use in the calculation of the Council Tax Requirement in Appendix A.
- vii)** Head of Finance in consultation with the Lead Members for Finance and Children's Services is authorised to amend the total schools budget to reflect actual Dedicated School Grant levels.
- viii)** Head of Finance in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance is authorised to make appropriate changes to the budget to reflect the impact of the transfer of services to Achieving for Children and Optalis.
- ix)** Responsibility to include the precept from the Berkshire Fire and Rescue Authority in the overall Council Tax charges is delegated to the Lead Member for Finance and Head of Finance once the precept is announced.

It was requested by the Panel that the written response from Kevin Mist to Margaret Morgan regarding the breakdown of expenditure for Project CZ91 and where the £80k allocated funds for the bronze War Horse statue could be found in the budget be attached to the minutes.

The Panel requested that the generic terms in the budget be updated to reflect the planning terms (e.g. Project CI32 Planning Policy Supplementary Planning Document be updated to the Borough Design Guide).

The Panel requested that with regard to the 'temporary accommodation for homeless residents' written confirmation of the number of residents affected and the number of those who had utilised the services (e.g. halfway house, B&Bs, etc) be provided at the next meeting.

Adult Services & Health

Budget 2017/18

The Panel agreed to approve the recommendations in the report. Councillor Jones abstained from voting as she would be making a presentation on the budget at Full Council.