

CORPORATE SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

THURSDAY, 31 AUGUST 2017

PRESENT: Councillors Colin Rayner (Chairman), Dr Lilly Evans, Jesse Grey, Ross McWilliams, Eileen Quick and Lynne Jones

Also in attendance: Councillor Carwyn Cox and Councillor Samantha Rayner

Officers: Craig Miller, Russell O'Keefe and David Scott

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bowden and Burbage.

Councillor Grey was substituting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

MINUTES

The Part I minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2017 were approved as a true and correct record.

TELEPHONY OPTIONS

The Chairman informed the Panel that the report had been circulated to all members of the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel. Many comments and questions had been raised and had been answered by Andy Jeffs, Executive Director, with no further comments. (Questions attached)

The Panel **Agreed Unanimously** that the report be forwarded to Cabinet.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Rob Stubbs, Deputy Director & Head of Finance, presented the report to the Panel. The report highlighted a forecast overspend of £828,000 for the Council Managing Directors directorate, which was unchanged from the last reported position. A grant funded budget was requested of £173,000 to repair pot holes in the borough.

The Chairman informed the Panel that he had met with Rob Stubbs and the deputy Pension Fund Manager since the last meeting to discuss pension issues and was a lot clearer now.

The Panel **Agreed Unanimously** the officers recommendations. This was put forward by Councillor McWilliams and seconded by Councillor L Evans.

STATION OPPORTUNITY AREA

Russell O'Keefe, Strategic Director Corporate & Community Services, presented the report to the Panel informing them that it was currently not possible, without an increased budget, to include a bus interchange. The site was small and constrained and the adjoining land was not for sale at present. The leases would come up in 5-10 years.

Russell O'Keefe went through the three core elements of the scheme and the timetable for implementation.

Other points raised included:

- The provision for one retail business in the station, was this not for Great Western to find and arrange. Russell O'Keefe informed the Panel that it was our duty to provide them with certain aspects.
- It was a good idea to keep all options open for additional function ability, at present it would not be cost effective but may be in the future.
- The design shown was not the actual design; it was just a mock up. These actual designs were due the following day.

The **Panel Unanimously** agreed to recommend the paper as per the officers recommendations. This was put forward by Councillor McWilliams and seconded by Councillor Quick.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The meeting, which began at 7.30 pm, finished at 8.30 pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....