

Cabinet 29/9/16 - Comments from Overview & Scrutiny

Part I

Adult Services

Financial Update

The Adult Services & Health O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding the latest financial update and unanimously approved the recommendations.

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

The Adult Services & Health O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding savings proposals for the 2017-18 budget. The Panel were informed that the Corporate Services O&S Panel had already considered the report and had recommended changes to the reports recommendations. The Panel agreed with the CSOSP recommendations that:

- (i) Note the savings listed in Appendix A for submission to Council in the 2017-18 budgets and authorise officers to undertake work on proposed schemes where approval would be subject to any subsequent reports to Cabinet between October 2016 and January 2017 to allow them to be included in the 2017-18 Budget report to Council.
- (ii) Authorises Strategic Directors in agreement with Lead Members to develop requirements to implement savings proposals.

The Panel felt it was important that when presenting proposed savings to scrutiny that sufficient information should be provided for them to make an informed decision and that any saving proposals being worked upon before the Budget is presented to Council should be subject to scrutiny. The Panel also requested that in future where a savings proposal was subject to a future cabinet report that this was made clear.

Outcome Based Homecare Contract – Annual Review 2015-16

The Adult Services & Health O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding the one year review of outcome based homecare and fully endorsed the recommendations. The Panel felt it was a very positive report but recommended that the Part II case study could have been better presented to highlight the benefits of the scheme.

Delivery of Children's Services

The Adult Services & Health O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding the delivery of children's services and fully endorsed the recommendations.

Children's Services

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

The Children's Services O&S Panel considered the Cabinet report and were informed that the report's recommendations had been changed as a result of comments from Corporate Services O&S Panel. The Panel fully endorsed the revised recommendations subject to 'once approved by Cabinet' being added to recommendation three.

Delivery of Children's Services

The Children's Services O&S Panel considered the Cabinet report and fully endorsed the recommendations. The Panel felt that the communications plan could be better refined so it was more focused on getting the message to the local community about the benefits this would have for families rather than informing on the process.

Financial Update

The Children's Services O&S Panel considered the Cabinet report and fully endorsed the recommendations

Corporate Services

Council Manifesto Tracker

The Corporate Services O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding progress being made on the administrations manifesto commitments and fully endorsed the recommendations. Subject to that items highlighted in 'red' are fully explained by the Lead Member reporting why these manifesto promises cannot be achieved by this Council.

The Panel requested that where commitments were not being met that the Lead Member attends Panel meetings to explain why and what remedial action was proposed. There were concerns with the budget savings having to be made that they might lead to some of the manifesto commitments not being honoured.

Cllr Bateson was congratulated on achieving 50% of Manifesto Commitments already.

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

The Corporate Services O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding Initial Savings in Respect of 2017-18 Budget. The Panel endorsed the need to identify saving proposals but felt that the report lacked detail behind the individual proposals and thus could not endorse the recommendations being

put to Cabinet. The Panel request Cabinet consider and to adopt the following alternative recommendations:

- (i) Note the savings listed in Appendix A for submission to Council in the 2017-18 budgets and authorise officers to undertake work on proposed schemes where approval would be subject of any subsequent reports to Cabinet between October 2016 and January 2017 to allow them to be included in the 2017-18 Budget report to Council and to full debate by Councillors.**
- (ii) Authorises Strategic Directors in agreement with Lead Members to develop requirements for the implement savings proposals.**

If Cabinet were minded to approve the proposed recommendations it should be noted that point five in the report summary be amended accordingly. The Panel felt it would also have been useful to add to the report where a proposed scheme is subject to Cabinet approval or where a scheme had already been approved for implementation.

Delivery of Children's Services

The Corporate Services O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding the delivery of Children's Services and fully endorsed the recommendations. The panel wished Alison Alexander our best wishes on delivery of the scheme. The Chairman was disappointed that the Lead Member did not attend to present this very important Cabinet paper.

Financial Update

The Corporate Services O&S Panel reviewed the Cabinet report regarding the latest financial update and unanimously endorsed the recommendations; but had many reservations and thus the endorsement was subject to the following concerns been addressed by Cabinet. A major concern was raised that the Planning Department continued to be performing financially poorly for yet another quarter and that the Lead Member was not in attendance again to explain the overspend of his portfolio.

The Chairman questioned when was the planning department going to make an application for funding to deal with the Lower Thames Strategy planning application. As this could lead to over spends in future financial quarters

Culture & Community Services

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

None received

Planning & Housing

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

None received

Highways and Transport

Road and Streetworks Permit Scheme

Resolved Unanimously That: the Panel fully endorsed the recommendations to Cabinet:

That Cabinet:

- i. Notes the outcome of the consultation;
- ii. Approves commencement of the roads and Streetworks Permit Scheme.

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

Resolved Unanimously that: The Panel fully endorsed the recommendations to Cabinet:

That Cabinet:

- i. Agree the savings listed in Appendix A for submission to Council in the 2017-18 budgets subject to approval of any subsequent reports on individual schemes.
- ii. Authorises Strategic Directors in agreement with Lead members to implement savings proposals.

Crime and Disorder

Budget 2017-18 – Initial Saving Proposals

The Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny Panel unanimously agreed to recommend to Cabinet the concept of the following:

- (i) Agree the savings listed in Appendix A for submission to Council in the 2017-18 budgets subject to approval of any subsequent reports on individual schemes.
- (ii) Authorises Strategic Directors in agreement with Lead Members to implement savings proposals.

The Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny Panel agreed that the report should come back before the Panel.

The Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny Panel stated that the Community Wardens were very valued by the Council.

The Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny Panel suggested that the pilot be extended to other areas in the Royal Borough.