MINUTE

of

CABINET

Minute of Meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock on 17 August 2017.

Present:

Councillor Tony Buchanan (Leader)
Councillor Paul O'Kane (Deputy Leader)
Councillor Caroline Bamforth

Councillor Alan Lafferty Councillor Colm Merrick

Councillor Buchanan, Leader, in the Chair

Attending:

Lorraine McMillan, Chief Executive; Caroline Innes, Deputy Chief Executive; Andy Cahill, Director of Environment; Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer); Louise Pringle, Head of Business Change and Revenues; Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Strategic Services); Gerry Mahon, Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement; Michelle Blair, Chief Auditor; John Wilson, Senior Estates Surveyor; and Paul O'Neil, Committee Services Officer.

Apology:

Councillor Danny Devlin.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

83. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2016/17

84. The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive, providing details of the Council's Annual Efficiency Statement for 2016/17. A copy of the statement was appended to the report.

Whilst noting that councils were required to provide annual efficiency statements to COSLA each year and that thereafter a summary statement was developed for the Scottish Government, the report indicated that the statement covered savings generated through the Council's Modern Ambitious Programme (MAP) or as a result of the focus on the Council's 5 capabilities and reported £4.5 million of cash efficiencies for 2016/17.

The report highlighted that the Annual Efficiency Statement demonstrated the Council's continued success in driving out real tangible efficiencies and making savings. Furthermore, there were significant programmes of change and improvement work underway moving at a considerable pace right across the Council and the Health and Social Care Partnership. It was noted that these were helping the Council deliver efficiencies for future years and this was a core part of the Council's long term financial plan.

The Cabinet agreed to:-

- (a) approve the Annual Efficiency Statement 2016/17 for submission to COSLA; and
- (b) note that further updates on change and improvement in East Renfrewshire, including the 'Modern Ambitious Programme (MAP)' would be presented to members at a pre-Council session on 13 September 2017.

END-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORTS 2016/17

85. The Cabinet considered reports by the Chief Executive and the Director of Environment in relation to the end-year performance 2016/17 for their respective departments, details of which were outlined in the appendices to the reports.

The Cabinet approved the reports as summaries of the Chief Executive's Office and Environment Department's end-year performance for 2016/17.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

86. The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Financial Officer, advising of the financial results for 2016/17 and comparing the out-turn with the final budgetary control statement for that year which was submitted to the meeting of the Cabinet on 6 April 2017.

The report demonstrated the continuing excellent financial performance of the Council and that subject to audit, the financial results contained within the accounts were satisfactory. Whilst noting that the Council's financial affairs had again been managed within its operational budget, the report highlighted that an overall surplus for the financial year of £2,434,000 had been recorded in the accounts.

The report highlighted that after transfers to earmarked reserves, the Council's non-earmarked General Fund reserve had increased by £652,000 resulting in a balance of £9,751,000 as at 31 March 2017. This represented 4.2% of the annual budgeted net revenue expenditure which complied with the Council's policy.

The report also provided details of transfers totalling £8 million that had been made from the General Fund balance to the Capital Reserve, Modernisation Fund, Repairs and Renewals Fund, and Equalisation Reserve. Furthermore, the Housing Revenue Account recorded an operational deficit of £134,000 after a transfer of £450,000 to Loan charges to reduce future financing costs, thus decreasing accumulated surpluses brought forward on that account.

The Cabinet:-

(a) noted the out-turn position compared to the previous Budgetary Control Report;

- (b) approved the transfers made from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Modernisation Fund, Repairs and Renewal Fund and Equalisation Reserve; and
- (c) noted that once the audit had been completed the final accounts would be submitted to a future meeting of the Council along with the External Auditor's report.

UPDATE ON PROGRESS IN RELATION TO CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

87. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, providing details of the progress made in relation to the management of corporate assets throughout the Council and seeking approval of the Corporate Management Asset Plan. A copy of the Plan was appended to the report.

The report explained that the Council owned a significant number of assets and emphasised the importance of using and managing the assets wisely through the development of asset management plans. Whilst noting that there were 6 asset management plans in place covering Roads, Fleet, Open spaces, Property, ICT and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) assets, the report further explained that the Roads Asset Management Plan was the subject of separate national arrangements, templates and timescales.

It was noted that the 6 asset management plans covering all Council assets were tied together with an overarching corporate asset management plan. Details of the governance arrangements associated with the asset management plans were outlined in the report together with information about recent developments to the plans.

The report concluded by highlighting that effective asset management arrangements which reflected best practice had been in place across the Council for a number of years, and that a number of refinements that had been made to these arrangements during the course of 2016/17. Further refinements had been introduced in the current financial year in order to ensure that the asset management plans fully reflected the current best practice and to ensure appropriate linkages to corporate policies.

The Cabinet:-

- (a) approved the Corporate Asset Management Plan; and
- (b) noted the continued progress made with Asset Management Plans across the Council.

Resolution to Exclude Press and Public

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Leader, the Cabinet unanimously resolved that in accordance with the provisions of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act".

SERVITUDE OVER LAND AT MAIDENHILL

88. The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment, seeking approval for the granting of a servitude over Council land which formed part of the road embankment of the Glasgow Southern Orbital Road (GSO), to allow Taylor Wimpey UK Limited and Cala Management Limited to form an acoustic/green wall mitigation treatment related to the development of the Maidenhill Strategic Residential Development Area.

The Cabinet agreed to authorise the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement to:-

- (a) enter into an agreement with Taylor Wimpey UK Limited and Cala Management Limited granting an access servitude (by a Deed of Servitude or as part of a Deed of Conditions) under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991;
- (b) agree the final details of the servitude at a financial consideration as detailed in the report payable by the developers, in terms of the Disposal of Land by Local Authorities (Scotland) Regulations 2010; and
- (c) finalise the details of the transaction and the level of fees payable by the developers for the work undertaken in relation to the Deed of Conditions/Servitude and the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991.

CHAIR