

MINUTES OF CABINET

3 FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENT:

Councillors Moran (Chair), Brown, C Edwards, Livesey, Mistry, O'Rourke and Robinson.

Councillors McKenzie, Picker, Poole and Roodhouse were also in attendance.

80. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

81. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

82. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

83. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

Growth, Investment, Digital and Communications portfolio

84. SOUTH WEST RUGBY DESIGN CODE SPD – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning a proposed public consultation on the draft South West Rugby Design Code SPD.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the South West Rugby Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix 1 to this report) be approved for four weeks' public consultation in accordance with Regulations 12, 13 and 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) (as amended); and
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to make minor amendments as necessary to the document before it is published for public consultation.

Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.

Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio

85. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING – QUARTER 3 2024/25

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning the Council’s finance and performance position for quarter 3 of 2024/25.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the Council’s forecast financial position for 2024/25 be noted; and
- (2) performance information in section 5 of the report be noted.

86. DRAFT GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2025/26 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025-30

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning the Council’s draft General Fund revenue and capital budget for 2025/26 together with the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2025-30.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) the new Medium-Term Financial Strategy as outlined in Section 1 of the Budget Booklet 2025/26 (Appendix A to this report) be approved;
- (2) the new Medium-Term Financial Plan as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Budget Booklet be approved;
- (3) the new Growth proposals for 2025/26 as set out in Appendix 3 of the Budget Booklet be approved;
- (4) the Fees and Charges as set out in the detailed schedule at Appendix 4 of the Budget Booklet be approved;
- (5) the reserves reallocation as per Appendix 5 of the budget booklet be approved;
- (6) the Section 25 Statement of the Chief Financial Officer on Reserves, Robustness of estimates and affordability and prudence of Capital investments as set out in Appendix E is considered when making decisions on setting the budget and Council Tax for 2025/26; and
- (7) subject to further information being available, updates on the budget be presented to Council in accordance with the deadlines for the 13 February meeting.

87. DEVOLUTION WHITE PAPER

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning summary and key points in respect of the Devolution White Paper published in December.

RESOLVED THAT – the contents of the report be noted.

Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.

Communities, Homes, Regulation and Safety Portfolio

88. DRAFT HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS 2025/26 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025-29

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officers – Communities and Homes and Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning the Council’s first draft HRA revenue and capital position for 2025/26 together with a HRA Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2025-29.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) the draft revenue budgets for 2025/26 and the updated medium term financial plan in Appendices A and C be approved inclusive of 2.7% increase in rent and service charges based on estimated costs; and
- (2) the approved capital budget in Appendix B to the report be noted.

CHAIR