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CABINET

9 NOVEMBER 2015

(19.15 - 19.42)

PRESENT

Councillor Stephen Alambritis (in the Chair),
Councillor Mark Allison, Councillor Nick Draper,
Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Councillor Andrew Judge,
Councillor Edith Macauley, Councillor Maxi Martin,
Councillor Judy Saunders and Councillor Martin Whelton.

Ged Curran (Chief Executive), Paul Evans (Assistant Director of Corporate Governance), Caroline Holland (Director of Corporate Service), Chris Lee (Director of Environment and Regeneration), Yvette Stanley (Director of Children, Schools and Families), Sara Williams (Programme Manager Business and Economy), Simon Williams (Director of Community and Housing), and Chris Pedlow (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

ALSO PRESENT Councillor Oonagh Moulton.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

No apologies were received.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

No pecuniary declarations were made.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

4 PROPOSED CHARGES FOR THE UNIVERSAL DEFERRED PAYMENTS SCHEME (Agenda Item 4)

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health presented the report, which sought the Cabinet approval for the introduction of charges aligned to the operating of a universal deferred payment scheme. It noted that the proposed charges would be set so that the scheme is cost neutral to administer by the council and under the Care Act 2015 the council was required to have a deferred payment scheme in place. Members were informed that currently there were four residents using the scheme to defer payments for the cost of care, by taking a loan with the council secured against their property to pay for the care.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet agrees:

1. that the council introduces charges, to recoup the associated costs of arrangements made, under Sections 34-36 of the Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support (Deferred Payment Agreements) Regulations 2014, with customers for whom the council arranges support.
2. to the adoption of the schedule of charges as detailed in the report, for the rest of 2015/16 financial year.
3. that charges be reviewed annually in line with annual reviews of the Fairer Charging Policy.

5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REFRESH 2012-15 UNDERSPEND (Agenda Item 5)

The Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration presented the report that sought to extend the current economic development strategy which was due end in 2015/16 by a further year 2016/17. It was noted by continuing the scheme it showed the Council's continued support for economic development. It was proposed to fund the additional year by utilising the current underspend within the current scheme.

The report also proposed to use part of the underspend on a match funding bid with European Investment Social Fund, through a scheme being organised by London councils.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet agrees

1. to allow the Economic Development Strategy 2 (EDS2) to continue into 2016/17 (a fourth year) enabling it to utilise the remaining under spend, currently forecast at £539k.
2. to a reallocation for part of EDS2 whereby £122k of the forecast £539k be used as further European Investment Social Fund (ESF) match funding.

6 COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME (Agenda Item 6)

The Cabinet Member for Finance presented the report which sought the Cabinet's endorsement, prior to its consideration by Full Council, for the adoption of the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2016/17. It was explained that the proposed support scheme was principally the current scheme with a couple of minor changes. The

rationale behind the support scheme, Members were informed, was to have in place a system to ensure that the level of support awarded to our resident stayed in line with the old council tax benefit scheme to ensure that residents were not worse off.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

1. agrees to the uprating changes for the 2016/17 Council Tax Support Scheme, as detailed within the report, in order to maintain low council tax charges for those on lower incomes and other vulnerable residents.
2. recommends to Council the adoption of the new 2016/17 Council Tax Support Scheme.

7 FINANCIAL MONITORING SEPTEMBER 2015 (Agenda Item 7)

The Cabinet Member for Finance presented the report which provided the regular monthly financial monitoring update for September 2015, in respect of the 2015/2016 financial year. It was noted that the net overspend expected at the year end was £3.57million, 0.67% of the gross budget.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet

1. notes the financial reporting data relating to revenue budgetary control, showing a forecast net overspend at year end of £3.57million, 0.67% of the gross budget.
2. approves the virement of £118k from the corporate contingency to Children, Schools and Families for the second quarter costs of additional social worker capacity.
3. approves the adjustments to the capital programme detailed in appendix 5b
4. approves the following adjustments to the Capital Programme

Schemes	2015-16	2016-17
	£	£
Replacement of Civica Icon	125,000	0
Croydon Rd/Mitcham Rd Shared Use Path	0	300,000
Wimbledon TFL	(322,000)	200,000
TFL Projected Slippage from 2014/15*	(101,230)	0
Total	(298,230)	300,000

*Transport for London (TfL) Grant for 2014/15 permissible to spend up to 31/8/15. Unspent balance to be returned to TfL		
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