

Agenda Item 3

All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the committee/panel. To find out the date of the next meeting please check the calendar of events at your local library or online at www.merton.gov.uk/committee.

CABINET

12 DECEMBER 2016

(7.15 pm - 7.50 pm)

PRESENT Councillor Stephen Alambritis (in the Chair),
Councillors Mark Allison, Nick Draper, Caroline Cooper-Marbiah,
Edith Macauley, Tobin Byers, Martin Whelton, Katy Neep and
Ross Garrod.

ALSO PRESENT Ged Curran, Chief Executive
Caroline Holland, Director Corporate Services
Chris Lee, Director Environment and Regeneration
Yvette Stanley, Director Children, Schools and Families
Simon Williams, Director Community and Housing
Paul Evans, Assistant Director Corporate Governance

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

No apologies were received.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2016 are agreed as an accurate record.

4 COMMERCIALISATION OF COUNCIL SERVICES SCRUTINY REVIEW (Agenda Item 4)

The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced the commercialisation of council services scrutiny review report, which set out the findings and recommendations of the task group. He expressed thanks to all members of the task group.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

- A. Considers the report and recommendations (attached in Appendix 1) arising from the scrutiny review of Commercialisation of Council Services
- B. Agrees to the implementation of the recommendations through an action plan being drawn up by officers working with relevant local partner organisations and Cabinet Member(s) to be designated by Cabinet.
- C. Does not wish to formally approve this action plan prior to it being submitted to the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

5 REFERENCE FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION –
PRE DECISION SCRUTINY OF THE BUSINESS PLAN 2017-21 (Agenda
Item 5)

The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced this report, detailing recommendations and comments that emerged from pre-decision scrutiny of the Business Plan 2017-21 by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the Panels at their meetings held in November 2016.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor Peter Southgate briefly addressed the Cabinet and highlighted the key recommendations made by the Financial Monitoring Task Group as detailed in the report.

The Leader thanked all members of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Panels for their input.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet, in taking decisions relating to the Business Plan 2017-21, takes into account the recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (set out in paragraph 2.3 below) and the discussion at the financial monitoring task group's meeting on 10 November 2016 (set out in Appendix 1).

6 COUNCIL TAX AND COUNCIL SPENDING CONSULTATION RESULTS
(Agenda Item 6)

The report was tabled at the meeting. The Leader advised that this item was for information only, to be considered in conjunction with item 7, Business Plan 2017-21.

7 BUSINESS PLAN 2017-21 (Agenda Item 7)

The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced this report, and expressed thanks to all officers and elected members involved in the process. He set the context for the financial situation of this authority and many others across the UK, and described the challenge in meeting the demand for adult and children's social care services.

The Director of Corporate Services gave a short introduction to the report.

At the invitation of the Leader, Lyla Adwan-Kamara from Merton's Centre for Independent Living spoke briefly to the Cabinet.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

1. Agrees the draft savings/income proposals (Appendix 2) and associated draft equalities analyses (Appendix 7) put forward by officers and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission in January 2017 for consideration and comment.
2. Agrees the latest amendments to the draft Capital Programme 2017-2021 which was considered by Cabinet on 12 October 2016 and by scrutiny in November 2016.(Appendix 5).

3. Considers the proposed amendments to savings previously agreed. (Appendix 3).
4. Agrees the growth as outlined in paragraph 2.3.8 and Appendix 9 and consider the options for closing the revised gap in the MTFS as set out in Section 7 and refers them to the Overview and Scrutiny panels and Commission with more details in January 2017 for consideration and comment.
5. Agrees the Council Tax Base for 2017/18 set out in paragraph 2.5 and Appendix 1.
6. Considers the draft service plans. (Appendix 6)

8 FINANCIAL MONITORING OCTOBER 2016 (Agenda Item 8)

The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced this report, highlighting the in-year overspend.

The Director of Corporate Services drew the Cabinet's attention to paragraph 2.4 of the report, which details actions to address the overspend.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health outlined the actions being taken to monitor and address the overspend in the Adult Social Care budget.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

- A. Notes the financial reporting data relating to revenue budgetary control showing a forecast net overspend at year end of £5.74 million, 1.09% of the gross budget.
- B. Considers the proposals set out in 2.4 to fund this shortfall without any impact on services in the current year.
- C. Approves the funding for the Social Care Information System for £417,750 from the revenue reserve for capital.
- D. Notes the adjustments to the Capital Programme detailed in appendix 5b and approves:

Scheme	2016/17 Budget	Virements	Revised 2016/17
	£	£	£
B672a-f Connecting Colliers Wd (S106)	5,050	236,390	241,44
Improving Information Systems (RCCO)	328,300	177,860	506,160

Scheme	2017/18 Budget	Virements	Adjusted & New
	£	£	£
Environmental Asset Management (RCCO)	81,690	168,770	250,460