

REPORT OF CABINET

(Meeting held on 3 July 2019)

1. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND OUTTURN REPORT (MINUTE NO 10)

The Cabinet noted the following:-

- (a) The performance and achievements (appendix 1 of the report)
- (b) The key strategies in progress for 2019/20 (appendix 2 of the report)
- (c) The provisional General Fund outturn position (appendix 3 of the report)
- (d) The provisional outturn position of the Capital Programme (appendix 3 of the report)
- (e) The provisional outturn position of the Housing Revenue Account (appendix 3)

Much of the focus for 2018/19 has been on the key strategies developed as part of the strategic framework whilst maintaining front service delivery in support of the corporate objectives and the annual budget. Performance continues to be maintained despite ongoing funding reductions.

This is the last Annual Performance and Provisional Budget Outturn report aligned to the current corporate plan. Work will be undertaken during 2019/20 to develop the Corporate Plan 2020-2024.

Cabinet endorse the good work undertaken and assure there is no complacency, as the Council looks to continuously maintain and improve performance.

2. HOUSING MAINTENANCE SERVICE REVIEW (MINUTE NO 11)

The Cabinet, having approved and endorsed the Housing Maintenance Service Review, is recommending the approval of the financial implications outlined in section 8 of the Cabinet Report to item 5 of the Cabinet agenda.

The recommendations arise from a detailed review of the Housing Maintenance Service which is responsible for maintaining the Council's housing stock which currently sits at over 5,000 properties, made up of tenanted houses, flats, hostels and schemes providing extra care. The review forms part of a wider fundamental review of all aspects of the Council's housing delivery.

Members of the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Cabinet fully support the proposals.

RECOMMENDED:

That the financial implications outlined in section 8 of the Cabinet Report to item 5 of the Cabinet agenda, be approved.

3. COMPULSORY PURCHASE AND OVERRIDING EASEMENTS POLICY (MINUTE NO 12)

The Cabinet approved the commencement of a four week consultation on the draft Compulsory Purchase and Overriding Easements Policy.

The use of Compulsory Purchase Powers, together with a range of other powers is being encouraged by government to assist local planning authorities to speed up

housing delivery. Housing delivery will be a major challenge for the local planning authority going forward and there is a need to demonstrate and implement a proactive programme focused on delivering the housing numbers promoted in the Local Plan.

Whilst a compulsory purchase would not be entered into lightly, the policy enabled the Council to act in a timely and coherent fashion to encourage site allocation in the context of the Local Plan.

The outcome of the consultation will be reported to Cabinet for further consideration in due course.

4. BALANCING THE BUDGET CONSULTATION – HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (MINUTE NO 13)

The Cabinet noted the consultation being undertaken by Hampshire County Council and requested that the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Investment and Corporate Services submits a consultation response on behalf of the Cabinet before the deadline on 17 July 2019.

The consultation being undertaken by Hampshire County Council addresses a number of options identified by the County Council to address their budget deficit to the period 2022. The outcome of the consultation may have an impact on service delivery within the district and the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

The Cabinet will work with Hampshire County Council and our partners on any service delivery implications for the District Council and encourages the wider community to participate in the consultation.

5. UK CITY OF CULTURE 2025 (MINUTE NO 14)

Given the potential benefits for the New Forest's community and economy, the Cabinet supported the relevant Portfolio Holders engaging with Southampton City Council to discuss the City Council's UK City of Culture bid.

Cabinet commend this is a fantastic opportunity to showcase what the New Forest has to offer in respect of Arts and Culture.

**COUNCILLOR B RICKMAN
CHAIRMAN**