

## **REPORT OF CABINET**

**(Meeting held on 3 June 2015)**

### **1. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND PROVISIONAL BUDGET OUTTURN REPORT 2014/15 (MINUTE NO. 5)**

The Cabinet has received the Council's Annual Performance report which sets out an overview of the Council's performance and achievements, together with provisional financial outturn positions for the General Fund, Capital Programme and Housing Revenue Account over the last 12 months. Final figures will be presented to the Audit Committee later in the month.

The Council's direction and priorities were determined by the Corporate Plan that was adopted in June 2012, and performance evaluated against the key performance indicators that had been established. The simplified report format, which was adopted in 2014, includes illustrative summaries of the Council's performance, together with summaries of significant innovations in key activity areas. Members welcomed the use of this illustrative format, which adds interest to the presentation of this material, and allows clearer communication with customers and the Council's staff, who have contributed to the success. The Leader has emphasised the importance of Councillors using this information to demonstrate to the local community how the Council is using the resources that are available to it.

The provisional outturn figures for the General Fund show a saving of £662,000 against the original budget, with a significant proportion of that sum coming from increased income. Similarly, the Housing Revenue Account is showing a provisional improvement of £612,000 against the budget.

The Capital Programme has also seen significant changes, with £1million additional funding having been allocated for housing acquisitions, while the rephasing of non-housing items has led to a saving for this year of £2.121 million.

Overall, the Council's performance and services to its customers has been maintained, despite continuing reductions in central government funding, while maintaining the same level of Council tax for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in succession. Every opportunity has been taken to secure additional sources of funding as they become available. Nonetheless, the key indicators do demonstrate some of the pressures facing the Council, in particular with respect to homelessness and the provision of affordable homes for local people, which will be a priority under the Corporate Plan that will be developed to direct the Council's activities and priorities over the current 4 year term of office. The Leader has welcomed this Annual Performance report as a useful tool in establishing the current position, from which to develop priorities for the future.

**Cllr B Rickman  
CHAIRMAN**