

## **REPORT OF CABINET**

**(Meeting held on 5 September 2018)**

### **1. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT (BASED ON PERFORMANCE APRIL TO JULY 2018 INCLUSIVE) (MINUTE NO 29)**

The Cabinet has been updated on the current position with respect to the General Fund, Capital and Housing Revenue Account budgets, based on performance to July 2018.

As a result of additional savings and income of £577,000, which have been partially offset by new requirements of £102,000 and the rephasing of £606,000 of expenditure from 2017/18 into 2018/19, the General Fund budget has reduced from £17.243 million to £16.768 million. Further details on each of the key variations are set out in Section 3 of Report Item 4 to the Cabinet.

The Cabinet has agreed additional expenditure of £80,000 for car park maintenance and equipment. It is however expected that, as car park income is currently ahead of the year to date profile, over the full year there will be no net increase in this budget.

The Capital Programme has increased from £26.225 million to £27.985 million to reflect the rephasing of expenditure from 2017/18. Further details are set out in paragraph 4.2 of Report Item 4 to the Cabinet.

The Housing Revenue Account is now expected to benefit from savings of £250,000 against the maintenance budget as a result of efficiencies in the delivery of cyclical maintenance and rephasing the decoration of properties that are still in good condition.

### **2. THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF THE PLANNING SERVICE (MINUTE NO. 30)**

Following the National Park Authority's decision not to explore joint arrangements with this Council for the delivery of the planning function, the Cabinet has decided to recruit a Chief Planning Officer to lead the Council's Planning Service.

The Cabinet is satisfied that the Planning Service is integral to the delivery of many of the Council's functions and that the developing Local Plan will see increasing levels of development that must take place in a manner that delivers high quality, sustainable and vibrant communities. Affordable housing is a particular priority in this area. This requires a clear "plan led" approach and the Service needs to be sufficiently robust to deliver the Council's aspirations. In accordance with the recommendations of the Royal Town Planning Institute it is therefore proposed to recruit a Chief Planning Officer at a senior level, comparable to an Executive Head. An external recruitment agency will be used to undertake the recruitment process, in consultation with the Council's Human Resources team.

**COUNCILLOR B RICKMAN  
CHAIRMAN**