

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2017

MAIN POINTS FROM THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
AND FOLLOW UP ACTION

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

(Contact: Peter Emery, Tel: (01865 731199))

(The report is for information).

1. PURPOSE

To consider the main points arising from the meeting held on 1 February 2017 and to update the Committee on the follow-up action which has been taken.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

3. BACKGROUND

At the meeting of the Committee held on 1 February 2017, consideration was given to ten substantive items of business.

3.1. Agenda Item No. 5: Main Points of the Last Meeting and Follow up Action

The Committee noted the report of the Chairman, which gave details of the main points arising from its meeting held on 1 December 2016.

Local Authority Partnership Purchase Broker Scheme

The Committee received an update on the development of the Local Authority Partnership Purchase Broker Scheme.

3.2. Agenda Item No. 6: Committee Work Programme

The Committee received an update on its Work Programme for 2016/2017.

Re-organisation of Local Government

The Strategic Director and Head of Paid Service advised that an update report was to be submitted to the Cabinet and Council in the next cycle of meetings to enable Members to consider and debate the Council's position.

At its meeting held on 22 February the Council considered a report regarding the County Council's One Oxfordshire Project. At that meeting it approved additional funding of £25,000 to finance the current communications strategy and other actions to protect the services and democratic mandate of West Oxfordshire residents and requested that the Leader of the Council respond to the proposals following feedback from Councillors at the meeting.

A further update will be provided at this meeting.

Community Housing Fund

The Committee noted that a report on the submission of a future programme of expenditure for the Community Housing Fund in West Oxfordshire was to be submitted to the next Cabinet meeting.

The report was considered by the Cabinet on 15 February and a draft Community Housing Fund programme approved for submission to Government. The Cabinet also requested that a report be prepared for an appropriate future meeting to consider individual projects in the programme and their proposed funding.

3.3. Agenda Item No. 7: Cabinet Work Programme.

The Committee noted the contents of the Cabinet Work Programme published on 17 January 2017.

3.4. Agenda Item No. 8: 2020 Vision: Update on Progress towards the Company Set Up

The Committee received a presentation from David Neudegg, the Managing Director of the 2020 Vision Partnership, on the progress towards the Company set up.

3.5. Agenda Item No. 9: Ubico – Depot Services 2015/2016

The Cabinet received and considered the report of the Go Shared Service Head of Finance regarding performance of Ubico in providing depot services for the Council in 2015/2016.

3.6. Agenda Item No. 10: Rural Broadband Project Update

The Committee received and considered the report of the Strategic Director and Head of Paid Service which provided an update on the Superfast Broadband project.

3.7. Agenda Item No. 11: Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy

The Committee considered and endorsed the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18, Prudential Indicators, the MRP Statement and the Use of Specified and Non Specified Investments. These were subsequently approved and adopted by the Cabinet and Council at their meetings held on 15 and 22 February, respectively.

3.8. Agenda Item No. 12: Treasury Management Activity and Performance 2016/2017

The Committee received and considered the report of the GO Shared Service Head of Finance giving details of the performance of in-house and external fund managers for the period 1 April to 31 December 2016 and Phiroza Katrak of Arlingclose, the Council's financial advisors, gave a presentation on the Council's in-house and external investments.

3.9 Agenda Item No. 13: Members Questions

In response to a suggestion from Mr Postan, it was agreed that consideration should be given to the introduction of electric vehicle charging points within the Council's car parks and the Strategic Director and Head of Paid Service undertook to incorporate into the work programme.

4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

Not applicable.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

6. REASONS

The Chairman's summary of the previous meeting is an opportunity for the Chairman to outline to Members progress made on their ideas and suggestions from the last Committee meeting. It will also provide Members with a further chance to comment on these subjects and provide a transparent method of showing the effectiveness of member's contributions to this Committee and its key Overview and Scrutiny role.

P Emery

Chairman

Date: 20 March, 2017

Background Papers

None.