

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL 2018

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 7 February 2018 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 7 February 2018, 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 29 November 2017.

3.2. Agenda Item No. 6: Committee Work Programme

The Committee gave consideration to its Work Programme for 2017/2018.

Re-organisation of Local Government

The Committee agreed that the Leader of the Council be invited to attend the next meeting to provide an update on the current position.

3.3. Agenda Item No. 7: Cabinet Work Programme

The Committee noted the contents of the full Cabinet Work Programme published on 14 November 2017.

The Unicorn Public House, Great Rollright

Members noted that a progress report with regard to the actions taken to secure the restoration of the Unicorn Public House and the recovery of the Councils associated expenditure was to be considered by the Cabinet on 14 February. The report may be viewed on the Council's website [here](#).

Oxfordshire Growth Deal

It was noted that a report on the Oxfordshire Growth Deal was to be considered by the Cabinet on 14 February.

At that meeting the Cabinet recommended, inter alia, that the Council agree to the Deal and Delivery Plan. The recommendations were subsequently approved by the Council at a special meeting at the conclusion of the Cabinet meeting.

Cottsway Housing

It was noted that a report on the Council's relationship with Cottsway Housing was to be considered by the Cabinet on 14 February. At that meeting it was noted that the Council will automatically lose its voting rights as a shareholding member of Cottsway Housing on 16 May 2018 and the Cabinet recommended the Council to support the removal of the voting rights and the amendment of the rules to remove the Council's ability to nominate to the Board of Cottsway Housing, also to be effective from 1 April 2018.

The recommendations were approved by the Council at its meeting held on 28 February.

General Data Protection Regulations

Members discussed the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations and the measures in hand to ensure that the Council was compliant with the new requirements.

3.4. Agenda Item No. 8: Publica Business Plan

The Committee received a presentation from the Managing Director of Publica regarding the Company's emerging Business Plan. At its meeting held on 14 March the Cabinet recommended that the Leader of the Council approves the Plan.

3.5. Agenda Item No. 9: Electric Vehicle Charging Points

The Committee considered the report of the Group Manager Go Shared Services, copies of which had been circulated, which provided a progress update on the work of the Electric Vehicle Charging Point Working Party. It was agreed that the Cabinet be recommended to include the sum of £250,000 within the Capital Programme for 2018/2019 to facilitate the provision of electric vehicle charging points.

The recommendation was endorsed by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14 February and financial provision incorporated within the Budget approved by the Council on 28 February.

3.6. Agenda Item No. 10: Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Capital Strategy 2018/2019 – 2020/2021

The Committee considered the report of the Group Manager Go Shared Services and endorsed the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and the Capital Strategy for 2018/2019, together with the Prudential Indicators, MRP Statement and the use of Specified and Non Specified Investments.

On the recommendation of the Cabinet, the Council approved the Treasury Management Strategy, adoption of the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and the application of 'Option 3: the Asset Life Method' for charging MRP in 2018/2019 and the adoption of the Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2018/2019 to 2020/2021 as outlined in the Treasury Management Strategy and Capital Strategy.

3.7. Agenda Item No. 11: Treasury Management Activity and Performance 2017/2018

The Committee considered the report of the Group Manager Go Shared Services regarding treasury management and the performance of internal and external Pooled Funds' activity for the period 1 April to 31 December 2017.

The report also invited Members to consider any changes to pooled funds having regard to advice from the Council's Treasury Management Advisors.

It was resolved that Officers be advised that the Committee is content with the proposition that capital gains in the Threadneedle Equity and M&G Global Equity funds be realised and those gains reinvested elsewhere.

3.8. Agenda Item No. 12: Revenues and Housing Support Services Recovery Policy

The Committee received and noted the report of the Group Manager for Revenues and Housing support, together with the revised Revenues and Housing Support Services Recovery Policy.

3.9 Agenda Item No. 13: Rural Broadband Project

The Committee received an update on progress of the Rural Broadband Project from the Group Manager ICT, Change and Customer Services.

3.10 Agenda Item No. 14: Call-in of Cabinet Decision – Review of the Future Management of Revenue Grants

The Committee gave consideration to the call-in request relating to Cabinet minute No. 103(c) of 10 January 2018 regarding the future management of revenue grants and resolved that the request be not supported.

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: 16 March, 2018

Background Papers

None.