

Democratic Services

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20 November 2018

SUMMONS TO ATTEND

MEETING: FINANCE & MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

PLACE: COMMITTEE ROOM 1, COUNCIL OFFICES, WOODGREEN,
WITNEY

DATE: WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2018

TIME: 2.00 PM

Members of the Committee

Councillors: Derek Cotterill (Chairman); Alex Postan (Vice-Chairman); Alvin Adams, Alaa Al-Yousuf, Louise Chapman, Julian Cooper, Charles Cottrell-Dormer, Pete Dorward, Duncan Enright, David Harvey, Ed James, Kieran Mullins, Geoff Saul and Guy Wall

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The law allows the council's public meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Committee Officer know before the start of the meeting.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Councillors are requested to remember to bring their copies of the report on the Budget for 2019/20 and the associated appendices with them to the meeting.

These were posted on 14 November.

A G E N D A

- 1. Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2018 (previously circulated)**
- 2. Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
- 3. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Local Code of Conduct, and any from Officers.

4. Participation of the Public

Purpose:

To receive any submissions from members of the public, in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure.

5. Main Points from the Last Meeting of the Committee and Follow up Action (Report of the Chairman of the Committee – copy attached)

Purpose:

To consider the main points arising from the meeting of the Committee held on 3 October 2018 and to update the Committee on the follow up action which has been taken.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

6. Committee Work Programme 2018/2019 (Report of the Head of Democratic Services – copy attached)

Purpose:

To provide the Committee with an update on the Work Programme for 2018/2019.

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes the progress with regard to the Work Programme for 2018/2019.

7. Cabinet Work Programme (Report of the Head of Democratic Services – copy attached)

Purpose:

To give the Committee the opportunity to comment on the Cabinet Work Programme published on 13 November 2018.

Recommendation:

That the Committee decides whether to express a view to the Cabinet on relevant issues in its Work Programme.

8. Budget 2019-2020 (Report of the Chief Finance Officer – copy previously circulated)

Purpose:

To consider the initial draft base budgets for 2019/20, draft fees and charges for 2019/20 and the latest Capital Programme for 2019/20 revised and future years. The Cabinet is required to consult Overview and Scrutiny Committees on its budget proposals in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Recommendations:

That consideration is given to the following and comments submitted to Cabinet:

- (a) The initial draft base budget for 2019/20 totalling £11,801,083 as summarised in Appendix A;
- (b) Draft fees and charges for 2019/20 at Appendix B; and
- (c) The latest Capital Programme for 2018/19 revised and future years at Appendix C.

9. Revised Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019-2028 (Report of the Chief Finance Officer – copy attached)

Purpose:

To consider the annual refresh of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Recommendation:

That the Committee passes its comments to Cabinet on the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy, spending targets and principles supporting it, as set out in the Appendices to the report.

10. Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20 (Report of the Group Manager Customer Services – copy attached)

Purpose:

To present the results of the public consultation on proposals for revising the current Council Tax Support scheme with effect from 1 April 2019, and give the Committee the opportunity to submit comments to Cabinet on the recommendations made.

Recommendations:

- (a) That Council be recommended to amend the current Council Tax Support scheme in relation to Working Age claimants for 2019/20, including any uprating, as follows:
- i) Introducing a banded scheme which would see a simple flat rate percentage discount awarded, depending on a person's total weekly 'net' income as follows:

Household weekly net income	% council tax support available
£0 - £125.99	100%
£126 - £187.99	75%
£188 - £290.99	50%
£291 - £384.99	25%
£385 +	0%

- ii) Ignoring all child maintenance payments when calculating weekly income.
- (b) That it be recommended to Council that those defined as disabled (see Appendix C) and those in receipt of War Widows Pension and/or War Disablement Pension, be protected from all the above changes.

11. Council Tax Exemption for Care Leavers (Report of the Group Manager for Customer Services – copy attached)

Purpose:

To consider the motion proposed at the meeting of the Council held on 24 October and submit views to Council, via Cabinet.

Recommendations:

- (a) That the Committee decides whether it wishes to recommend the Council, in principle, to agree that the Council should exercise its discretion under Section 13A (1) (c) (Local Government Finance Act 1992) to apply a new Care Leavers Council Tax Discount Scheme; and
- (b) That in the event of the Council agreeing the principle, it is recommended:

- (i) To instruct officers to seek to enter into an appropriate data sharing agreement with Oxfordshire County Council to enable that authority to share information about care leavers residing in the District;
- (ii) To request Oxfordshire County Council and Thames Valley Police to agree to fund their share of the cost of any discount scheme; and
- (iii) To request subsequent recommendations from Cabinet as to the detail of a proposed scheme, taking into account both the options set out in this report and the as yet unknown financial implications.

12. Quarter Two Performance Indicators 2018/19 (Report of the Group Manager, Council and Company Support – copy attached)

Purpose:

To provide information on the Council's performance as at the end of Quarter 2 2018/2019.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

13. Members' Questions

Purpose:

To receive questions from Members relating to the work of this Committee. In order to ensure that appropriate information is to hand at the meeting, Members may wish to give notice of any questions through the Committee Officer.

Recommendation:

That Members' questions be dealt with as appropriate.



Giles Hughes
Head of Paid Service

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