

Cherwell District Council

Budget Planning Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Budget Planning Committee held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA, on 25 October 2022 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillor Patrick Clarke (Chairman)
Councillor Douglas Webb (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Hugo Brown
Councillor Phil Chapman
Councillor John Donaldson
Councillor Donna Ford
Councillor David Hingley
Councillor Matt Hodgson
Councillor Angus Patrick
Councillor Chris Pruden
Councillor Sean Woodcock

Substitute Members:

Also Present:

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Fraser Webster

Officers:

Michael Furness, Assistant Director Finance & S151 Officer
Sharon Hickson, Democratic and Elections Officer
Matt Swinford, Democratic and Elections Officer

10 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

11 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26 July 2022 were confirmed as correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

12 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

13 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

14 **Monthly Performance, Finance and Risk Monitoring Report**

The Committee considered a report from the Assistant Director of Finance that summarised the Council's forecast revenue and capital outturn for 2022/23 as of 31 August 2022.

In response to questions from the Committee regarding the Policy contingency figures, the Assistant Director of Finance advised that the release of £332,000 was an inflation contingency and the release of £458,000 comes from a commercial risk element of policy contingency in relation to the under recovery of income in car parks.

In response to the following questions from the Committee, the Assistant Director of Finance advised that further information would be sought from the relevant departments and circulated to Committee members after the meeting:

- The Council's car parking income assumptions for pre-Covid and for 2022/2023 and the impact of the Council's decision to no longer charge in council owned car parks between 18:00-19:00.
- If there were difficulties recruiting permanent staff in Waste and Recycling.
- Request for statistics for 2019 and 2022 showing the footfall to see if the reduction in anticipated car parking income was indicative of potential budget implications with services provided by the Council within Banbury.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the report be noted.

15 **Financial Management Code - Forecast Self-Assessment Update**

The Committee considered a report from the Assistant Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer that gave an update on the Council's forecast self-assessment position as of February 2023 against the requirements of CIPFA's Financial Management Code.

Resolved

- (1) That the Council's self-assessment against the requirements of CIPFA's Financial Management Code be noted.

Review of Committee Work Plan

The Assistant Director of Finance gave a verbal update regarding the Budget Planning Committee Work Plan.

The Assistant Director of Finance advised that the next committee meeting agenda would have one agenda item, consideration of 2023/24 budget proposals including pressures and savings

In response to a question from the Committee asking if the next meeting would be prior to public consultation, the Assistant Director of Finance advised that the consultation would commence prior to the Budget Planning Committee meeting however the Committee comments would be reported to Executive along with public consultation response to inform their budget recommendations.

Resolved

(1) The verbal Committee Work Plan update be noted

The meeting ended at 6.54 pm

Chairman:

Date: