

Cabinet
11 December 2013

Irvine, 11 December 2013 - At a special meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m. in Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Present

Willie Gibson, John Bruce, Marie Burns, Anthea Dickson, Alan Hill, Ruth Maguire and Tony Gurney.

Also Present

Robert Barr, John Bell, Ian Clarkson, Joe Cullinane, John Easdale, Alex Gallagher, John Hunter, Peter McNamara, Ronnie McNicol, Jim Montgomerie and Donald Reid.

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive; L. Friel, Corporate Director, Y. Baulk, Head of Finance and Property and G. Macgregor, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development (Finance and Corporate Support); I. Colvin, Director of North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership and A. Adrain, Interim Head of Housing (Social Services and Health); C. Hatton, Corporate Director (Development and Environment); C. Kirk, Corporate Director and S. Quinn, Head of Service Development (Education and Skills); and A. Fraser, Head of Democratic and Administration Services, M. McKeown, Committee and Member Services Manager, K. Dyson, Communications Officer and M. Anderson, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. General Services Revenue Estimates 2014/15 to 2016/17 and Capital Investment Programme 2014/15 to 2022/23

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the Council's revenue spending requirements and anticipated funding for the years 2014/15 to 2016/17, amendments to the 2014/15 budget as approved by the Council on 30 January 2013, the level of reserves and fund balances held by the Council, options to address the funding gap, and the draft capital investment programme to 2022/23.

The expenditure requirements identified for 2014/15 to 2016/17 were summarised at Appendix 1 to the report, with further details of service pressures given at Appendix 2. Proposed efficiencies and savings were outlined at Appendix 3. The Capital Investment Programme for the period 2014/15 to 2022/23 was attached at Appendix 4, and Appendix 5 provided a summary of the equality impact of all efficiencies and savings.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the amendment to the 2014/15 budget as approved by the Council on 30 January 2013; (b) note the revenue funding gap from 2014/15 to 2016/17; (c) support the proposed efficiencies and savings outlined at Appendix 3 to the report in order to address the funding shortfall and achieve a balanced budget for 2014/15; (d) support the draft capital investment programme to 2022/23 set out at Appendix 4 to the report; and (e) refer the report to the Council for determination.

3. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Investment Programme, Revenue Budget and Rent Levels for 2014/15

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the HRA capital investment programme and revenue budget for 2014/15 and the consequential rent levels.

The proposed 2014/15 HRA capital programme, including associated 2015/16 budgets for projects spanning both years, was detailed at Appendix 1 to the report. Appendix 2 outlined the proposed 2014/15 HRA revenue budget, with planned expenditure of £48.540m mainly funded by rental income, a contribution from the General Fund towards the cost of the homelessness service and charges for services. The report proposed to increase housing rents by 3.5% for 2014/15 and noted an anticipated rent increase of 4.5% for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) support the proposals set out in Section 3 of the report and its appendices; and (b) refer the report to the Council for approval.

The meeting ended at 10.35 a.m.