

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **CABINET MEMBER MEETING - CLEAN GROWTH AND REGENERATION** held on Thursday, 11 February 2021 virtually on MS Teams

PRESENT

Councillor T King – Cabinet Member

Also in attendance: Councillor G Hickton and R Mihaly.

1/21 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member held on 19 November 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

2/21 PERFORMANCE AND BUDGET MONITORING/FORECAST OUTTURN 2020-2021 AS AT QUARTER 3

The Cabinet Member was provided with an update on the Council Plan performance position and the revenue budget position of the Clean Growth and Regeneration portfolio for 2020-2021 up to the end of December 2020 (Quarter 3).

The report showed that progress was "good" or "strong" for the majority of the deliverables led by the portfolio and, after the use of additional Coronavirus (COVID-19) funding, the budget forecast position for 2020-2021 was a small overspend of £0.031m. The report contained detailed tables and graphs showing an overview of progress on deliverables and measures.

Key achievements were evident against the Council's good growth ambitions which were reflected in the approved COVID Economic Recovery Strategy driven through strong partnership working, specifically in relation to:

- Level of inward investment secured into the county - the annual 2020/21 target had been achieved due to strident progress being maintained on externally funded regeneration projects;
- Progress against the adopted climate change framework – particularly in relation to further installation of electric vehicle charging points and instigation of local energy generation projects. Major strategic infrastructure proposals continued to be developed to support low carbon transport;
- Continued roll out of programmes supporting routes to employment and development of business support programmes, including business start up and green entrepreneurs grant funds.

A key area for consideration was the need to continue targeted action to support vulnerable young people into positive destinations such as employment, training or learning (NEET). This remained a cross-departmental priority and interventions such as development of Careers Hub and Youth Hub had been included in the Employment and Skills COVID-19 Recovery Strategy. Further information on the portfolio's performance were included in Appendix A.

The net controllable budget was £0.803m, an additional £0.471m COVID-19 funding gave a total of £1.274m. The Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement forecasted a year-end overspend of £0.368m; this would be supported by £0.471m additional COVID-19 funding giving a forecasted underspend of £0.103m.

Economic Development saw an overspend of £0.300m due to COVID-19 hardship grant payments and an Employment and Skills overspend of £0.069m, due to there being no established budget for the Employment and Skills post.

Earmarked reserves totalling £0.695m were held to support future expenditure. These were detailed in the report.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member note the report and consider whether there were any further actions that should be undertaken to improve the budget position moving forwards or to address performance, where it had not met the desired level.

3/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting under Regulation 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, during consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that in view of the nature of the items of business, exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed to them.

4/21 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member held on 19 November 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.