

**STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**5 July 2021 at 7.30 pm**

**MEMBERS:** Councillor Ruth Dombey (Chair), Councillor Jayne McCoy (Vice-Chair) and Councillor Manuel Abellan (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Jenny Batt, Sunita Gordon, Marian James, Steve Penneck, Barry Lewis, Tom Drummond, Neil Garratt, Param Nandha, James McDermott-Hill and Tim Foster

**,ABSENT** Councillor(s) Amy Haldane and Holly Ramsey

**6. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair, Councillor Ruth Dombey welcomed those present.

**7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Amy Haldane and Holly Ramsey with Councillors Ed Joyce and Tim Crowley attending as substitute members.

**8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**9. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2021 and 14 June 2021 be agreed as an accurate record.

**10. ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

**11. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE 2020/21**

Councillor Sunita Gordon, Lead Member for Resources introduced the report, followed by the Strategic Director of Resources.

Members discussed: support to residents experiencing financial difficulty and outreach work in relation to homelessness, food poverty, SEN support provision and the level of government grants provided to the Council in response to deficits created by the impact of the pandemic.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the key achievements for 2020/21, as set out in section 4 of the report, be noted
2. That the 2020/21 Financial Outturn position for the Council's revenue budget of £0.828m underspend leading to an increase in general fund balances which are now £8.236m, be noted.

5 July 2021

3. That the 2020/21 Financial Outturn position for the Council's capital budget of £0.430m underspend against the revised capital programme shown in Appendix A, to the report, be noted.
4. That the capital programme adjustments set out in Appendix B to the report be approved, to re-profile 2021/22 budgets to reflect the programme outturn.
5. That the additional budget of £30m over 6 years to deliver the Beech Tree Place redevelopment programme, as set out in paragraph 6.5 of the report, be approved following approval of the business case by the Housing Economy and Business Committee in June.
6. That the 2020/21 Financial Outturn position for the DSG budgets of £0.410m underspend be noted leading to an overall DSG reserves position of £1.321m and for the HRA of £0.366m overspend leading to HRA reserves of £4.5m.
7. That the financial risks and issues for the Council over the period 2022/23 - 2023/24 as set out in Section 11, of the report, be noted.

**Note:** members of the majority opposition group on the committee abstained on the vote in relation to recommendation 2.4 (resolution 4).

## **12. DELIVERING AMBITIOUS FOR SUTTON**

The Assistant Director of Customers, Transformation and Strategy, presented the report.

Members suggested receiving annual updates on the work done by relevant boards such as the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safer Sutton Partnership Board. Members discussed: the take up of the online parenting course, the annual saving from the insurance fund and the building insurance for the Aspects building.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the role of the Strategy and Resources Committee in discharging the Council's Ambitious for Sutton objectives, be noted.
2. That the wider policy and legislative context for the committee, be noted.
3. That the key priority areas for the committee over the next year, be noted
4. That the financial context for the committee over the next year., be noted.
5. That the key performance indicators for the committee over the next year, be agreed.

## **13. COVID-19 RECOVERY**

The Chief Executive introduced the report.

Members discussed: engagement with young people to shape the recovery, the uncertainty in relation to how people will work and interact with the local area in the future and potential opportunities in recovery, the specifics around the full programme of engagement and the impact on the end of restrictions for schools.

### **RESOLVED:**

**5 July 2021**

1. That the priorities and focus of the Council's initial recovery response, be agreed.
2. That the use of additional recovery funding provided by the government to support our short and longer term recovery work, be agreed.
3. That a full programme of engagement with residents, communities and business to shape the Council's ongoing recovery from the pandemic, be agreed.

#### **14. ASSET STRATEGY UPDATE**

Councillor Sunita Gordon, Lead Member for Resources introduced the report, followed by the Assistant Director of Assets.

##### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the new FM contract model that creates 'Soft' FM and 'Hard' FM service contracts and the transformation of the FM service, be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director of Resources to award both contracts for the new Facilities Management services in accordance with the conditions set out in the report, for: Contract 1 - Hard Facilities Management services; and Contract 2 - Soft Facilities Management services.

#### **15. EQUALITIES WORKFORCE**

Councillor Sunita Gordon, Lead Member for Resources introduced the report followed by the Assistant Director - HR and Organisational Development.

Members discussed anonymised recruitment and supporting the development of staff with protected characteristics. It was proposed that members who sit on the senior officer appointment panel should take part in some unconscious bias training.

**RESOLVED:** That the overview and analysis provided of key HR data workforce and the overall direction of travel, be noted.

#### **16. UPDATE ON DIGITAL STRATEGY**

Councillor Sunita Gordon, Lead Member for Resources introduced the report followed by the Assistant Director, Digital and IT.

Members discussed digital inclusion, the proposed website improvements, data security in relation to the Internet of Things and open data.

Members requested a briefing be circulated outside of the committee in relation to the governance of data security for the Internet of Things projects.

##### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the progress made on the delivery of the Digital Strategy and the work to update and refresh the Strategy, be noted.

5 July 2021

2. That the priorities set out in para 3.18, of the report, be agreed.

**17. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2021**

**RESOLVED:** That the appointments to the outside bodies as set out at Appendix A, to the report, be agreed.

The meeting ended at 10.00 pm

Chair: .....

Date: .....