

## EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**HELD: 28 NOVEMBER 2013**

Start: 7.30pm

Finish: 8.45pm

**PRESENT:** Greenall (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Atherley Kay  
Baldock Ms Melling  
Blane Oliver  
Mrs R Evans O'Toole  
Furey Pendleton  
J Hodson Pope

In attendance:

Councillor: L Hodson

Officers: Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration (Mr B Livermore)  
Deputy Borough Treasurer (Mr M Kostrzewski)  
Assistant Solicitor (Mr M Hynes)  
Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer (Mrs C A Jackson)

### 27. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bell, Cheetham and Wilkie.

### 28. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2, Members noted the termination of membership of Councillors Jones, Cropper, Savage and Gagen and the appointment of Councillors Mrs Atherley, Ms Melling, G Hodson and J Hodson, for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the Political Groups.

### 29. URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY, INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

### 30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs Atherley, Baldock, Blane, Mrs R Evans, J Hodson, Mee and Pope declared non-pecuniary interests in relation to item 7 (Revenue Budget Mid Year Review) in relation to Parish Council matters in view of their membership of Parish Councils.

### 31. DECLARATIONS OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

### 32. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2013 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**33. RELEVANT MINUTES OF CABINET**

Consideration was given to the minutes of Cabinet held on 12 November 2013. Questions and comments were received in respect of the following items:

- Minute 52 (use of S106 Monies for the Skelmersdale & Up Holland Demand Responsive Transport System - cycle routes: maintenance (frequency of cleaning; lighting); cyclists' safety (particularly where cycle path is encased); detail related to routes (Tanhouse to Pimbo estate).
- Minute 53 (Use of Section 106 Monies in Skelmersdale) - 'pilot' Cycle to Work scheme - provision of bikes; retention / reuse; monitoring; contribution / involvement of businesses; widening of scheme.
- Minute 56 (Tenant's Cashback Scheme) - Feedback - training scheme for tenants.
- Minute 58 (Strategic Asset Management Project) - processes related to list of plots identified (liaison; proposals; Member involvement)
- Minute 61 (Liverpool City Region Superport Study and Wider Engagement with the Liverpool LEP) - The importance of the initiative for the region; involvement through the Liverpool City Region LEP; future benefits (employment /business opportunities et al) as part of the City Region.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Cabinet held on 12 November 2013 be noted.

**34. CALL-IN ITEMS**

There were no call-in items.

**35. REVENUE BUDGET MID YEAR REVIEW**

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Treasurer, as contained on pages 201 to 210 of the Book of Reports which provided a projection of the financial position on the General and Housing Revenue Accounts to the end of the financial year.

Members raised comments and questions in relation to:

- Impact of Welfare Reform on the HRA.
- Right to Buy and Help to Buy - take-up; disclosure of information.
- Issues that have impacted on void levels.
- District Wide Heating Service - costs associated with the provision of the service; use of cheaper / alternative energy (green energy opportunities; biomass; replacement of storage heaters; funding; take-up of Green Deal)

The Assistant Treasurer attended the meeting and responded to questions. The Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration, in relation to a question on the Rights to Buy legislation and Help to Buy Scheme disclosure of information, undertook to provide clarification.

RESOLVED That the financial position of the Revenue Accounts be noted.

**36. REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND MID YEAR REVIEW 2013/2014**

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Treasurer, as contained on pages 211 to 229 of the Book of Reports, that provided details on the Revised Capital Programme for 2013/14 and an overview on the progress against it at the mid-year point.

Members raised comments and questions in relation to:

- Right to Buy and Land Sales - analysis.
- Funding related to Phase 2 of the Wheelie Bin scheme.
- Right to Buy - processes related to receipts / payments to central government :  
“one for one” replacement of houses rules.

**RESOLVED** That the Revised Capital Programme and progress against it at the mid-year point be noted.

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Chairman