

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 15 February 2018 at 5.00pm at Addenbrooke House, Ironmasters Way, Telford

PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2018

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2018)

Present: Councillors S Davies (Leader and Chair), L D Carter, A R H England, R C Evans, J C Minor, A D McClements, R A Overton, S A W Reynolds and P R Watling.

Also Present: Councillors A J Eade (Conservative Group Leader) and W L Tomlinson (Liberal Democrat/Independent Group Leader).

CB-149 Apologies for Absence

None.

CB-150 Declarations of Interest

Councillors R C Evans, R A Overton and S A W Reynolds declared an interest in minute number CB-157 and indicated that they would withdraw from the meeting during determination thereof.

CB-151 Minutes

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

CB-152 Driving Delivery of the Council's Priorities: Council Plan 2018/19 to 2019/20

Key Decision identified as **Driving Delivery of the Council's Priorities: Council Plan 2018/19 to 2019/20** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 January 2018.

Reserved for Council

Councillor R C Evans, Cabinet Member: Customer Services, Tourism & Partnerships, presented the report of the Managing Director. The report presented a refreshed Council Plan setting out the organisation's priorities and the headline progress the Council had made towards delivery of those priorities.

The Council Plan, attached to the report as Appendix 1, set out the organisation's priorities as identified through consultation with residents and partners, analysis of performance delivering existing priorities and analysis of 'community need'. The Plan had two parts. Firstly it described the Council's vision for the Borough as "Telford &

Wrekin – the place to live, learn, work and do business” and set out its priorities, underpinned by the Council’s co-operative values, to deliver the vision

The second part of the Plan set out how the organisation would continue to transform to deliver the priorities whilst delivering significant savings. This strategy, called “Being the Change”, was driven by 4 themes as described in the report.

The Plan demonstrated that despite the £110m+ savings the organisation has been required to make and with an ongoing budget position that was very challenging, the Council remained focussed on delivering the community’s priorities for the Borough. The Service & Financial Strategy was core to the delivery of these priorities as it set out how resources would be used to deliver them. Linked to this, as part of the Council’s strategic planning framework, each Assistant Director-led service area had developed a Service Plan which identified how they would drive delivery of the Council’s priorities. These Plans considered performance and risk and were used to inform the development of service workforce plans.

The report went on to highlight the headline messages mid-year for 2017/18 against each priority with further detail set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL that –

- (a) the Council Plan be approved; and**
- (b) the in-year performance against the Council’s priorities be noted**

CB-153 2017/18 Financial Management Report

Key Decision identified as **Financial Management Report** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 January 2018.

Councillor L D Carter, Cabinet Member: Finance, Commercial Services & Economic Development, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Finance & Human Resources and Chief Financial Officer.

The strength of financial management was reflected in the projected year end position which was now estimated to leave around £4.6m of the contingency available, an improvement of £0.8m compared to the position previously reported. This placed the Council in a good position to move into 2018/19 and demonstrated an ability to evolve and improve despite financial challenges. The Council’s aim was to sustain this position over the final few weeks of the year and to look to make further improvements where possible.

Children’s Safeguarding and Early Help & Support continued to be key areas of pressure and both had cost improvement plans in place to reduce costs and deliver savings. Those plans were monitored on a regular basis both by senior managers and Cabinet Members.

There were a number of variations from the approved budget, including a benefit of £2.6m relating to Treasury Management activities, an anticipated requirement of

additional investment of £3.3m to Children's Safeguarding & Early Help which was an improvement of £0.1m since the last report, the majority relating to the cost of Children in Care placements, and additional investment of £0.3m to Adult Social Care was required this year mainly relating to the purchase of care packages but this was a significant improvement of £0.7m compared to the previous report.

The capital programme totalled £101.6m, which included all approvals since the budget was set. Spend was projected at around 97% of the budget allocation; actual spend was 61% indicating a requirement for some re-phasing at year end. There were some new allocations and slippage identified which would be presented to full Council on 1 March 2017 as part of the Service & Financial Planning reports.

In total £1.9m more cash from Council Tax, Sales Ledger outstanding debt and business rates had been collected than at the same point in the previous year. However, collection rates for Council Tax, Sales Ledger outstanding debt and business rates were slightly behind the challenging targets set for the year.

A number of Cabinet Members expressed their thanks to the Senior Management Team and budget holders across the organisation for the high degree of financial control and active budget management being exercised.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) it be noted that 2017/18 revenue spending is currently projected to be within budget and work will continue with the Senior Management Team to sustain this position;**
- (b) the position in relation to capital spend and Cabinet be noted; and**
- (c) the collection rates for NNDR, council tax and sales ledger be noted.**

CB-154 Service & Financial Planning 2018/19 to 2019/20

Key Decision identified as **Service & Financial Planning Report** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 January 2018.

Reserved for Council

Councillor L D Carter, Cabinet Member: Council Finance, Partnerships & Commercial Services, presented a series of reports of the Managing Director, the Chief Financial Officer, the Director for Customer, Neighbourhood & Wellbeing Services and the Assistant Director: Customer & Neighbourhood. The reports, detailing the Revenue Budget, Capital Programme, the Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators, formed the Council's overall Medium Term Service & Financial Planning framework, and identified the service priorities and budget for 2018/19. The report included details of savings proposals and investments for 2018/19 and 2019/20 and set out the proposed approach to developing the further savings that would be required through to 2020/21.

The Overview and Revenue Budget report set out the severe financial challenges facing the Council. By the end of this financial year, the Council would have made savings of £110m per annum, meaning that every year there was now £1,500 less to spend delivering services to each household in the Borough. The Council had sought to do this in ways that protected front line services as far as possible and where services to the public were affected to do this in as compassionate a way as possible.

However, despite the financial challenges, the Council was committed to continuing to invest in Telford's future. Ensuring that the Borough was an attractive place to live, work and visit was essential to attract new businesses, create jobs and bring prosperity to the area and the people that live here.

Following the publication of its draft budget proposals in early January, and a one month consultation period, Cabinet had confirmed its key budget priorities as Adult Social Care and Children's Safeguarding. After implementing the government's new 2% social care precept, the budget for Adult Social Care would increase by £2.2m and Children's Safeguarding and Early Help services would increase by £1.9m.

There were four core elements to the medium term service and financial strategy which were in line with the "Being the Change" ethos to take the organisation forward and deliver budget savings:-

- Focusing on solving problems and promoting social responsibility and action to manage and reduce demand for services,
- Challenging and changing, reviewing and reimagining the way the Council did things
- Reducing dependency on Government grants,
- Being a modern organisation with modern practices and which always got the basics right.

The Council had also adopted a new, approach to the budget consultation which would take place throughout the year, rather than being compressed into a 4 week period which would allow greater focus and interaction with the community. The Council had commenced targeted discussions with Town and Parish Councils and voluntary sector organisations during December 2017. This was the start of an ongoing dialogue that would continue throughout the year as budget proposals were developed further. Engagement with the business community and other partners commenced in January 2018 and would also be part of an ongoing dialogue.

Attached to the report were a number of appendices, including savings proposals, Impact Assessments of the savings proposals, the Pay Policy Statement 2018/19, analysis of base budget movements, and details of Reserves and Balances.

The final settlement had still not been received for central government but limited change was anticipated. Any changes required to reflect the final settlement would be made by adjusting the level of one-off resources. As part of the provisional settlement, it had been announced that on a one-off basis for 2018/19 Councils would be allowed to increase Council Tax by an additional 1% (equating to £0.6m in Telford & Wrekin) before a referendum was held. However, due to the economic challenges faced by

many local residents, the Council was proposing to continue with its strategy of increasing Council Tax over the next two years by 3.2% pa.

An equality impact analysis of the overall impact of the budget was appended to the report, along with environmental and economic impact assessments.

It was noted that the Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee had agreed that there was nothing contentious in the budget this year as it was a two-year budget, which had been scrutinised thoroughly in 2016/17. The Committee agreed to the Council's proposal to invest in Adult Social Care and safeguarding only and not in anything else. The Council's approach to savings was also supported and the use of one-off balances was felt to be appropriate.

The Council's Chief Financial Officer was required to give a view on the robustness of the Council's financial strategy, including the use of balances, and this was appended to the report. This had concluded that the Council was pursuing a sound financial strategy in the context of the most prolonged and challenging financial position it had ever faced due to the combined effect of Government grant cuts and increased service pressures.

The report on the Capital Programme presented the Council's Capital Strategy for 2017/18 – 2020/21 and later years and a capital programme of £254m that included the proposed investments contained in the overall budget strategy. It also set out the Council's Asset Management Plan and planned building maintenance programme, particularly focusing on 2018/19, and the three year Highways and Transport capital investment programme.

The report on the Treasury Management Strategy detailed the Treasury Strategy to be adopted for 2018/19. The Strategy was set within the parameters of relevant statute, guidance and accounting standards. It was expected the Council would borrow up to £43.3m in 2018/19 based on the current capital programme plans, and would adopt a flexible approach to borrowing. The report also provided an update on the treasury management activities during 2017/18. The weighted average return on internal investments at the end of December 2017 was 0.19% compared to a benchmark return for the period of 0.19%. The report also included the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement, which overall was in line with that previously agreed. However, the Department for Communities and Local Government had issued a consultation paper on proposed changes to the Prudential Framework of Capital Finance which included proposals which would impact on MRP. Until the changes were finalised, it was not possible to assess any financial implications for the Council.

The report on Prudential Indicators sought approval of the prudential indicators for 2018/19 to 2020/21 required under the Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

Recommendations by Cabinet would be considered at full Council on 1 March 2018 as full Council was responsible for setting the overall revenue and capital budget framework. At that meeting full Council would also set the Council Tax for 2018/19.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL on 1 March 2018 –

- (i) Overview & Revenue Budget 2018/19 – 2020/21**
- (a) that a two year service and financial planning strategy linked to the period of the CSR and the local authority funding settlement from the Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government be agreed;**
- (b) that the previous decision that Council Tax should be increased by 3.2% (made up of 2% in respect of the Government’s Adult Social Care Precept and a general Council Tax increase of 1.2%) in both 2018/19 and 2019/20 be reaffirmed;**
- (c) that a further £2.226m (the equivalent of a 3.7% council tax increase) be invested into Adult Social Care services in 2018/19 rising to a cumulative ongoing £3.509m new investment in 2020/21. In total the Council will be investing an additional £6.5m in to Adult Social Care over the next 3 years;**
- (d) that £1.9m be invested in Children’s Safeguarding & Early Help services in 2018/19 and £0.75m in 2019/20, a cumulative increase in budget of £2.65m;**
- (e) that £1m of usable one-off resources be earmarked to create an additional one-off budget contingency in 2018/19 to be available to support the full implementation of the cost improvement plans for Children’s Safeguarding & Early Help and Adult Social Care;**
- (f) that additional budget savings totalling £6.852m in 2018/19 rising to a cumulative total of £12.580m in 2019/20 as detailed in Appendices 4 and 5 of the report be made;**
- (g) that a measured approach be taken to the use of available one-off resources of £3.818m in 2018/19 and £3.157m in 2019/20 to seek to cushion the impact of continuing Government cuts in council funding;**
- (h) that the commitment to continue to work with partner organisations, including Town & Parish Councils and Voluntary Sector and Community Groups to seek to identify ways to mitigate the impact of some of the cuts to services that we can no longer afford and to note the availability of the £744,000 Partnership Capacity Fund be noted;**
- (i) in order to further support these discussions and the delivery of other future savings, the transfer of the £1m superannuation benefit referred to in section 5.1 the Financial Management report, also on this agenda, to the Invest to Save/Capacity Fund be approved;**
- (j) that the Pay Policy for 2018/19 shown at Appendix 3 of the report which has already been approved by the Personnel Committee be approved;**

- (k) that the overall service and financial planning strategy set out in the report and the base budget in Appendix 7 of the report be approved;**
- (l) that the policy framework for Reserves and Balances outlined in Appendix 9 of the report be approved;**
- (m) the CFO's robustness statement contained at Appendix 11 of the report be noted;**
- (n) that the Risk Register included at appendix 16 of the report be approved;**
- (o) that the revenue implications of the medium term capital programme for the period 2017/18 - 2020/21 set out in the Capital Programme report be approved;**
- (p) that the Assistant Director: Finance & Human Resources be authorised to action any virements required following the final allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant and other related Grants as long as they are within the budget and policy framework;**
- (q) that the Assistant Director: Early Help & Support, in consultation with the Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care, be authorised to enter into appropriate Section 256 and Section 75 Agreements under the NHS Act 2006 (as amended);**
- (r) that the Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning be authorised to execute all necessary contract documentation including the affixing of the common seal of the council as appropriate to enable the council to enter into appropriate Section 256 and Section 75 Agreements under the NHS Act 2006;**
- (s) that should any late changes be announced as part of the final Revenue Support Grant settlement, authority to adjust the level of the planned use of one-off resources in 2018/19 to compensate be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Council Finance, Commercial Services & Economic Development;**
- (t) that this suite of service and financial planning reports be approved as the Council's Efficiency Strategy for 2018/19, including the summary document at Appendix 15 of the report, to enable new capital receipts generated in the six year period starting 1 April 2016 to be used to fund the revenue costs of reform as assumed throughout these reports;**
- (u) the projections for the potential budget gap in 2020/21 be noted and work start now in order to identify options for how this will be bridged as these savings will be more challenging than those previously agreed by the Council given that they come on top of the £110m of savings already made and may therefore have a significant lead time before spending reductions are delivered;**

(ii) Capital Programme

- (a) that the report and associated capital estimates for 2017/18 and 2018/19 – 2020/21, which incorporates the Capital Strategy, the Capital Programme (Annex I), the Planned Building Maintenance Programme (Annex II), and Asset Management Plan (Annex III) and the three year Highways and Transport capital investment programme (Annex IV) be approved;**
- (b) that the Assistant Director: Development, Business & Employment be authorised to deliver the planned programme of works within the Asset Management Plan and to the Assistant Director: Neighbourhood & Customer Services to deliver the Highways and Transport capital investment programme in line with the approved budgets with any variations or changes to schemes in these programmes, that remain within overall approved budgets, after consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Members;**
- (c) to note that following changes to the Prudential Code in late December, the Council is required to approve a summary Capital Strategy before the end of 2018/19. This will be presented to Full Council for consideration and approval during 2018/19 once final guidance has been received;**

(iii) 2018/19 Treasury Strategy and Treasury Update

- (a) that the treasury management activities for the first half year be noted;**
- (b) that the Treasury Management Policy Statement shown at Appendix A of the report be noted;**
- (c) the Treasury Strategy, including the Annual Investment Strategy for 2018/19 together with the associated treasury Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement, which will apply from 2018/19 onwards be approved;**
- (d) that the Council's Section 151 Officer, after consultation with the Chair of Audit Committee and the Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial Services & Economic Development be authorised to make any amendments required arising from the proposed changes to the Prudential Framework of Capital Finance;**

(iv) Prudential Indicators

- (a) that the prudential indicators as proposed in the report as part of setting the budget for 2018/19 be approved; and**
- (b) that the Council's Section 151 Officer, after consultation with the Chair of the Audit Committee and the Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial Services & Economic Development be authorised to make any amendments required arising from the potential changes to the Prudential Code for Capital Finance.**

CB-155 Declaration of two new Local Nature Reserves: Rough Park and Randlay Valley

Key Decision identified as **Declaration of two new Local Nature Reserves** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 January 2018.

Councillor J C Minor, Cabinet Member: Leisure, Green Spaces & Parks, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment.

The Council had made a commitment to the retention of locally important green spaces which had value to local communities. This already included the protection afforded to the Green Network through policies in the adopted Local Plan, through the existing 104 Green Guarantee Sites and 11 Local Nature Reserves. The report sets out proposals to designate two new Local Nature Reserves at Rough Park and Randlay Valley as part of a wider program of greenspace projects to be launched during Telford's 50th year celebrations with those LNRs designated in 2018 forming part of the Telford@50 legacy. Through this commitment the area of LNR protected would increase by 90 hectares to a total of 368 hectares of approved LNR. The extent of LNR provision was more than double Natural England's target and meant that 89% of households were within 300m of greenspace. Maps showing the proposed LNRs were attached to the report at Appendix 1 and 2.

These proposals had been developed in liaison with the local community including the local Parish Councils and would involve local friends groups and volunteers carrying out small scale conservation tasks as part of the management of the sites. The designation of additional LNRs further reflected the Council's commitment to promoting health and wellbeing.

The selection, declaration and management of Local Nature Reserves was a function of local authorities. The proposed sites were all within Council ownership, with the exception of an area of Randlay Valley which was pending legal transfer from HCA, and were considered to fulfil the requirements to become a formally declared LNR.

Following the approval, the sites would progress through a formal process with Natural England prior to final legal declaration.

Members welcomed the report.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) the declaration of two Local Nature Reserves at Rough Park and Randlay Valley as detailed in the report be approved in principle; and**
- (b) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment (and any officer authorised in writing by that Assistant Director) following consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member for Leisure, Green Spaces & Parks to complete the declaration process.**

**CB-156 Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Consideration of
Examiner's Recommendations and Proposed Modifications Prior to
Referendum**

Key Decision identified as **Edgmond Neighbourhood Plan** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 January 2018.

Councillor R A Overton, Cabinet Member: Housing & Enforcement, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment.

Enabled by the Localism Act 2011, Edgmond Parish Council had submitted their neighbourhood development plan (the "Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan") (ENP) and other supporting documents to Telford & Wrekin Council as the local planning authority in August 2017. In response and in accordance with its statutory duties, the Council had undertaken a number of checks to ensure that all the procedural and other requirements had been met and completed a 6-week publicity period which allowed written representations to be made.

An Independent Examiner had been appointed to conduct the examination of the ENP with a report being submitted back to the Council in December 2017. The Report recommended proceeding to Referendum, subject to a number of modifications. Those modifications had been applied to the ENP and incorporated into a Referendum version of the ENP which was attached to the report together with the Examiner's Report. Officers and the Examiner were satisfied that the ENP met the basic conditions required in order to proceed to a Referendum.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) subject to the modifications recommended by the Examiner being made, the Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan meets the 'basic conditions' and all other legal requirements as set out in the report and appendices;**
- (b) the required modifications be made to the Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan, and that the Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Version (February 2018) should then proceed to Referendum;**
- (c) the Referendum Area should not be extended beyond the designated area to which the Edgmond Neighbourhood Plan relates;**
- (d) authority be delegated to the Managing Director to exercise all the relevant powers and duties and undertake all necessary arrangements for the Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan (Referendum Version) to now proceed to Referendum and for the Referendum to take place asking the question whether the voter wants Telford & Wrekin Council to use this neighbourhood plan for the Edgmond Parish Neighbourhood Plan area to help it decide planning applications in this neighbourhood area.**

CB-157 Better Homes for All: Tackling Rogue Landlords & Improving Private Rented Housing

(In accordance with their declarations of interest Councillors Evans, Overton and Reynolds left the room during determination of this item of business.)

Key Decision identified as **Houses in Multiple Occupation Revised Licence Fees Structure and Licence conditions** and **Selective Licensing** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 January 2018.

Councillor L D Carter, Cabinet Member: Finance, Commercial Services & Economic Development, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Customer & Neighbourhood Services & Assistant Director: Commercial Services.

Councillor Carter reminded Cabinet that approval to consult on a proposal to designate selective licensing in four zones which met the criteria for this type of licensing scheme in Hadley & Leegomery, Malinslee & Hollinswood, Brookside & Sutton Hill and Woodside had been given by Cabinet on 23 March 2017.

A robust consultation programme on the scheme had commenced on 12 June 2017 ending on 21 August 2017. The proposals had stimulated extensive discussion and active engagement from residents and landlords with a total of 907 responses to the survey. The largest groups represented amongst survey respondents were owner occupiers (35.4%), private tenants (27.9%) and private landlords (26.5%). 48.9% of respondents indicated that they were residents in one of the proposed zones and 19% said that they were landlords or letting agents owning or managing properties in the proposed zones.

Analysis of the responses reflected a divergence of opinion amongst different types of respondents. Private landlords, letting agents and tenants were more likely to disagree with the proposals than owner occupiers who were more likely to feel that the scheme should be implemented. A full report providing an in-depth analysis of the consultation process and the results from the engagement exercise was available from the Council's website.

The majority of respondents strongly agreed with many of the conditions that would have formed part of a selective license particularly those relating to health and safety, property, structure and services as well as conditions relating to waste, refuse, fly-tipping, pest control and anti-social behaviour. However, whilst there was general consensus amongst all the respondents that there were challenges within the zones identified and that the issues outlined in the selective licensing business case must be tackled, 66.8% of respondents did not agree that a selective licensing scheme would address the issues of low housing demand and anti-social behaviour and therefore stated they didn't feel the scheme should be introduced.

Some of the free text comments provided by survey respondents highlighted a number of reasons the proposal was not supported including a concern that people living in the zones would have their rent increased to cover the cost of the proposed licence fee by their landlord and a fear that the designation would lead to increased insurance costs and property devaluation. Some felt the scheme would not be effective in delivering the

intended outcomes and placed too much responsibility on landlords for the actions of their tenants and many wanted to the Council to explore making greater use of their enforcement powers to help tackle the problems highlighted in the business case and put forward alternative options for consideration.

There was insufficient support from residents and landlords to introduce a selective licensing scheme in the zones proposed. However environmental enforcement data still showed that anti-social behaviour, fly tipping and housing disrepair were still prevalent in the proposed zones. Comments received during the consultation indicated that whilst selective licensing was not the preferred option there were issues in these areas that those taking part in the consultation felt had to be addressed.

The report outlined the actions the Council intended to adopt which would help to address some of the problems identified. The impact of these actions would be monitored over a two year period and if improvements were not seen then the Council and its partners may need to reconsider the option of a selective licensing scheme at some point in the future. These actions included:-

- Implementation of enhanced license conditions for Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's) along with a new license fee.
- Major Pride in Our Community investment being provided over the next two years to tackle hot spots across the borough where environmental standards needed improvement
- Deployment of powers and tools contained within the proposed new Housing Enforcement Policy to tackle rogue landlords.
- Bidding to secure external funding to increase the number of Environmental Health Officers and Trading Standards officers with specialisms in Housing related engagement and enforcement. .
- A new enhanced landlord accreditation scheme

RESOLVED that –

- (a) as a result of the findings of the public consultation, as summarised in the report, a selective licensing scheme in the proposed zones not be implemented;**
- (b) the revised standards and conditions for the licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation as set out at Appendix A – Section 1 of the report be approved**
- (c) the revised licence fee structure for the issue licences for Houses in Multiple Occupation which include a fixed fee of £723 per 5 year licence for HMO's with up to 5 bedrooms ; £745 for HMO's with 6-10 bedrooms and £783 for HMO's with 11+ bedrooms as outlined in Appendix A of the report be approved;**

- (d) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director for Customer & Neighbourhood Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Enforcement to approve any future minor amendments to the HMO Fees structure; and the Conditions for Houses in Multiple Occupancy required to be licenced**
- (e) an amendment to the Houses in Multiple Occupation licence application process to require applicants to acquire and submit an up to date self-check Disclosure and Barring Service Check by scot.gov.uk to allow an assessment of the applicant's 'fitness' to hold such a licence as outlined in Appendix A Section 4.6 of the report be approved;**
- (f) the adoption and implementation of the new Housing Enforcement Policy detailed in Appendix B of the report be approved;**
- (g) the Pride in Our Community Investment to provide additional capacity to raise the cleansing standards across the borough until the new Grounds & cleansing contract is re-let in April 2019 at which point a number of these enhanced standards will be maintained as part of the new contract be endorsed;**
- (h) the external funding bid to provide financial support to increase capacity within Public Protection Team to tackle poor housing disrepair and rogue landlords and in the event of the bid being unsuccessful commit to investing £237,000 to achieve the same results through the use of the Councils Capacity Fund Budget be acknowledged;**
- (i) the development of a revised landlord accreditation scheme to include the elements set out in Appendix C Section 4.2.3 of the report be approved;**
- (j) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director: Commercial Services in consultation with the Lead Member for Housing and Enforcement to appoint the preferred partner(s) identified through the procurement exercise for an external accreditation partner(s); and**
- (k) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director: Commercial Services in consultation with the Lead Member for Housing and Enforcement to implement the revised landlord accreditation scheme, as set out in Appendix C Section 4.2.6 of the report.**

The meeting ended at 6.01pm

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

Jonathan Eatough
Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning
Date: 21 February 2018

Signed:

Date: