

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of hybrid meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee held in the Council Chamber, 2 Hight Street, Perth on Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors S Donaldson and G Laing, Bailie A Bailey, and Councillors H Anderson (substituting for Bailie C Ahern), P Barrett, A Chan, D Cuthbert, E Drysdale, J Duff, A Forbes, Provost X McDade, T McEwen, Depute Provost A Parrott, J Rebbeck and C Shiers.

In Attendance: T Glen, Chief Executive; L Simpson, Head of Legal and Governance Services; B Renton, Executive Director (Communities); S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); C Mailer (Chief Executive's Service); S MacKenzie, Head of Finance, S Walker, C France, F Crofts, P Johnstone, S Crawford, N Sutherland, K Molley, A Brown and M Pasternak (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apology: Bailie C Ahern

Councillor S Donaldson, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting and an apology was noted above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Minute of Meeting of Finance and Resources Committee of 7 June 2023 for Approval

The minute of meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee of 7 June 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(ii) Minute of Special Meeting of Finance and Resources Committee of 20 June 2023 for Approval

The minute of special meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee of 20 June 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(iii) Minute of the Executive Sub-Committee of Finance and Resources Committee of 24 July 2023 for Approval

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of Finance and Resources Committee of 24 July 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(iv) Minute of Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of Finance and Resources Committee of 30 August 2023 for Approval

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of Finance and Resources Committee of 30 August 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

THE VICE-CONVENER LED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

4. REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 – UPDATE NO 1

There was submitted a report by Head of Finance (23/242) (1) providing an update on progress with the 2023/24 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the June 2023 ledger, updated for any subsequent known material movements; and (2) the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

Amendment by Councillors A Forbes and J Duff

Warm Spaces

That the Committee recognises the desire to help people with the cost-of-living crisis but also recognises that this is public money, and we need to ensure Best Value. We recognise that capturing accurate and pertinent data on the users of this service allows us to make better informed decisions in the future.

Thus, we request officers to gather the postcodes of all attendees on each date of attendance. From this data, officers will be able to analyse attendance using Acorn geo-demographics allowing us to ensure that the limited resources we have are meeting the objective of these funds. Officers are requested to report back on the outcomes of this analysis prior to the next round of funding coming to committee.

In terms of Standing Order 21.5, a roll call vote was taken.

9 Members voted for Motion as follows:

Provost X McDade, Depute Provost A Parrott, Councillors P Barrett, D Cuthbert, S Donaldson, E Drysdale, G Laing, T McEwan, and J Rebbeck.

6 Members voted for the Amendment, as follows:

Bailie A Bailey, Councillors H Anderson, A Chan, J Duff, A Forbes, and C Shiers.

1 Member abstained from a vote, as follows:

Councillor C Stewart

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of the Report 23/242, be noted;
- (ii) The projected outturn for General Fund Services set out in Section 5 and Appendix 1 and 2 of Report 23/242, be noted;
- (iii) The projected outturn for Corporate Budgets set out in Section 6 of Report 23/242, be noted.

- (iv) The funding update provided in Section 7 of Report 23/242, be noted.
- (v) The projected outturn for the Housing Revenue Account, which is summarised in Section 8 and Appendix 3 of Report 23/242, be noted.
- (vi) The adjustments to the 2023/24 Management Revenue Budget detailed in Sections 10,11 & 12 and Appendices 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 of Report 23/242, be approved.
- (vii) The financial risks set out in Section 13 and Appendix 7 of Report 23/242, be noted.
- (viii) The Y Perth Project be provided with a one off and final additional £75,000 from unearmarked Reserves towards its new home and flatted accommodation project for young people in the city centre.

THE CONVENER LED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS.

5. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2023/28 & HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2023/28 – MONITORING REPORT NUMBER No.1

There was submitted a report by Head of Finance (23/243) (1) providing a summary position to date for the 5-year Composite Capital Budget and the 5-year Housing Investment Programme for 2023/24 to 2027/28 and; (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the programmes.

DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES, THERE WAS A RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 3.34PM.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 23/243, be noted.
- (ii) The proposed adjustments to the five-year Composite Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28 set out in Sections 5 and 6 of Report 23/243 and summarised in Appendices I and II of Report 23/243, be approved.
- (iii) The proposed adjustments to the Housing Investment Programme Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28 set out in Section 7 of Report 23/243 and summarised in Appendix III of Report 23/243, be approved.

6. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE REPORT 2023/24 QUARTER 1

There was submitted a report by Head of Finance (23/244) updating the Committee on Treasury Activity for the quarter ending 30 June 2023 and to report on compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS); Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators.

Resolved:

The content of the Report 23/244, be noted.

7. TRANSFORMATION & CHANGE STRATEGY 2022/23-2027/28 – UPDATE REPORT

There was submitted a report by Chief Executive (23/245) (1) providing an update on the Council's Transformation & Change Strategy (Report 22/142), approved by Council in June 2022, and the Strategic Planning Update and 2023-26 General Fund Budget Report approved in March 2023 (Report 23/72); (2) showing how the transformation and change programme acts as an enabler to the delivery of

the key strategic objectives as outlined within the Medium Term Financial Plan 2023-29 (Report 22/249) and the Corporate Plan 2022-27 (Report 22/311), and;
(3) outlining the progress made in setting the conditions to support the organisation through a period of significant change, as well as providing updates on the projects outlined within the Transformation & Change Strategy and how they dovetail with the Leadership Review presented to the Committee in June 2023 (Report No 23/195).

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of the report and the progress to date, be noted.
- (ii) The use of £240,000 from the earmarked Reserve for Transformation & Workforce Management to further support the delivery of key projects as outlined in section 5 Report 23/245, be approved.
- (iii) It be noted that update/engagement sessions with all Elected Members would be programmed throughout the year for all Transformation and Change projects when appropriate.