

### Cabinet minute 24: 15 July 2014

The Corporate Management Team submitted a report outlining the finance monitoring position of the Council as at the end of June 2014, including the July 2014 spend and profile information.

The report –

- (a) proposed revenue budget variations as detailed in table 4 of the report;
- (b) indicated that the estimated revenue overspend was £4.607m as at July 2014 with key pressures remaining on services associated with looking after elderly and disabled people and children in care;
- (c) advised that further savings would be brought forward from the Council's transformation programme in the coming weeks to address the in year estimated overspend;
- (d) stated that the revised capital programme for 2013/14 to 2016/17 was £216.398m, an increase of £8.728m, following the inclusion of new schemes, re-profiling and variations approved under delegated authority and the inclusion of future years' government grants and other identified income streams;
- (e) set out a proposal for delegated authority to approve any changes to existing schemes on the same terms as existing delegations for new capital schemes and capital programme transfers (virements).

Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the proposals and indicated that the forecast overspend was the reason why transformation was essential. He also advised that the budget would continue to be monitored on a monthly basis and that meetings had already been held between himself, Councillor Tuffin, Tracey Lee (Chief Executive) and Carole Burgoyne (Strategic Director for People) to ensure that everything possible was being done to ensure that the needs of the adult social care and children's services were being met but that it was being undertaken in the most efficient way.

Councillor Peter Smith (Deputy Leader) referred to the 17 interim appointments that had been made to cover senior management vacancies, to provide capacity for the transformation programme and for other projects. He reported that the Council's ambitious change programme required expertise and extra capacity in addition to the staff needed to run the day to day services and that the majority of staff in transformation were now internal staff.

Councillor Tuffin (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) reported that adult social care was a needs led service and that although the service had made extensive savings in the previous year, officers were reviewing the budget again.

Carole Burgoyne indicated that referrals in adults and children had both increased and that officers were continuing to reduce the costs of packages whilst ensuring a high level of quality of care.

Councillor Evans (Council Leader) referred to the comments made in the press on interim staff by Councillor Bowyer and indicated that Councillor Bowyer had been part of the decision making process in the Appointments Panel.

David Northey (Head of Corporate Strategy) also attended the meeting for this item.

Alternative options considered and the reasons for the decision –

As set out in the report.

Agreed that –

- (1) the current revenue monitoring position and the action plans in place to reduce or mitigate the position, are noted;
- (2) the non-delegated revenue budget virements are approved as set out in Table 4 of the report;
- (3) the new schemes added to the Capital Programme by the Leader under delegated authority, totaling £3.866m, are noted;
- (4) the increase in the medium term Capital Programme funding to £216.398m is noted;
- (5) the City Council is Recommended to give the following delegated authority for approval of any changes to existing capital schemes, within the overall affordability envelope, based on a sound rationale -

Up to £200,000	Responsible Finance Officer in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members
Above £200,000	Leader in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) (following consultation with the City Council Investment Board)