

Minute extracts

Meeting: **Cabinet**

Date: **7 February 2018**

General fund revenue budget 2018/19 and capital programme 2017/21.

The Cabinet considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Chief Finance Officer) regarding the general fund budget proposals for 2018/19 and a rolling three year capital programme for 2017/2021.

The Cabinet highlighted the major challenges affecting councils as a result of continued reduction in government funding. Thanks were conveyed to Councillor Mattock and the finance team for their work towards planning and producing the budget, and ensuring that front line services were maintained.

The Chief Finance Officer gave an overview of the specific legal responsibility and legality of the budget, outlined at 1.6 of the report, in response to a question from Councillor Ungar.

Resolved (budget and policy framework):

That full council, at their meeting on 21 February 2018, be recommended to approve the following:

- (1) A general fund budget for 2017/18 (revised) and 2018/19 (original), as set out at appendix 1 to the report, including growth and savings proposals for 2018/19 as set out at appendix 2 to the report.
- (2) An increase in the council tax for Eastbourne Borough Council of 2.9% resulting on a 'Band D' charge of £239.67 for 2018/19.
- (3) A revised general fund capital programme 2017/21 as set out at appendix 3 to the report.
- (4) Note the section s151 officers sign off as outlined in 1.6 of the report.

Reason for decision:

The Cabinet has to recommend to Full Council the setting of a revenue budget and associated council tax for the forthcoming financial year by law.

Meeting: **Scrutiny**

Date: **5 February 2018**

27. General Fund 2018/19 and capital programme 2017/21.

Part extract only:

Members' discussion included:

- A request for further detail on the £51 million increase on capital project spend and borrowing over the four year period.
- A reminder that the Director of Regeneration and Planning had assured the Committee that she would provide a copy of the Asset Challenge report with a full analysis of assets and their returns.
- A request for more information regarding the proposed Waste and Recycling Income, specifically, clarification on the reasons for the increased income target from £300k to £450k since the December Cabinet meeting.
- If the new £52 Green waste charge was to be calculated per bin or per household.
- If the anticipated savings that would arise from moving to a fortnightly black bin collection could be calculated and compared with the proposed green waste charge income target.
- If further analysis could be provided with regard to the Tourism & Enterprise and Corporate Landlord budget heads.

Officers responded that:

- The Head of Finance would send a detailed analysis to the Committee of the increase in the capital programme.
- The Director of Regeneration and Planning would be requested to provide members with details of assets and their yields.
- Since the December Cabinet meeting, further work had been undertaken in respect of the proposed Green Waste service charges, including additional modelling as to the likely take-up and, as a result,

the revised income target was deemed more accurate.

- The Head of Finance would confirm whether the £52 charge was per bin or household and the answer would be circulated to members in due course.
- The anticipated savings of a fortnightly black bin collection would be provided by the Head of Finance and circulated in due course.
- Members overall concerns regarding the the future of waste services were noted, and the Strategy and Partnership Lead for Quality Environment would be invited to the next Scrutiny Committee meeting on 4 June 2018 to present a report on this service including issues around waste collection, recycling, and service delivery.
- The Head of Finance would circulate more information regarding the Tourism & Enterprise and Corporate Landlord budgets in due course.

Resolved:

- (1) That the recommendations were noted.

Democratic Services, 1 Grove Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4TW
Tel (01323) 410000
E Mail: committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk