



MINUTES OF MEETING of the AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE held within the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, ALLOA, FK10 1EB, on THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2016 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillor Janet Cadenhead , Chair (In the Chair)
Councillor Bobby McGill
Councillor Alastair Campbell
Councillor Archie Drummond
Councillor Tina Murphy
Councillor Graham Watt (S)

IN ATTENDANCE

Nikki Bridle, Depute Chief Executive
Stephen Coulter, Head of Resources and Governance
Stuart Crickmar, Head of Strategy and Customer Services
Ahsan Khan, Head of Housing and Community Safety
Gordon McNeil, Head of Development and Environment
Celia Gray, Head of Social Services
Jim Robb, Assistant Head of Service, Adult Care
Lindsay Sim, Chief Accountant
Richard Saunders, Fraud Specialist
Andrew Wyse, Acting Legal Services Manager, Clerk to the Audit and Finance Committee

AF(16)10 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Jim Stalker, Councillor Craig Holden and Councillor Gary Womersley.

Councillor Graham Watt acted as substitute for Councillor Stalker.

AF(16)11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

The Chair welcomed Mr Angus Brown from Audit Scotland, who was attending the Committee today as an observer.

AF(16)12 COUNCIL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2016/17 – AUGUST OUTTURN

The report, submitted by the Chief Accountant, which provided and update to Committee on the financial performance of the Council in respect of both revenue and capital spend for the current financial year, 2016/17.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janet Cadenhead. Seconded by Councillor Graham Watt.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note:

1. The draft General Fund revenue overspend for the year of £0.144m;
2. Progress on delivering 70.3% of the planned savings in the year;
3. The draft favourable outturn of £0.596m on the Housing Revenue Account;
4. The draft underspend in General Services capital of £3.007m of which £0.998m are savings in delivery of programme with the remainder carried forward to 2017/18;
5. The draft underspend on HRA capital of £4.755m of which £2.560m is additional income from house sales and £0.336m are savings in delivery of programme with the remainder carried forward to 2017/18;

The Committee also agreed to endorse:

6. A reallocation of funding of £60k from underspends within the existing GF capital programme for a new project to upgrade security arrangements at Kelliebank and then refer this to Council for appropriate approval.

Action

Chief Accountant

AF(16)13 SOCIAL SERVICES FINANCE REPORT

The report, submitted by the Head of Social Services, provided an update on the financial performance of Social Services to date. The report focused on revenue spend for the current financial year, 2016/17. Projected outturns up to March 2017 are also set out in the report.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janet Cadenhead. Seconded by Councillor Bobby McGill.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note:

1. The Social Services projected overspend of £2.163m and the key reasons for this position (as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report) This is a net increase of £0.210m compared to

the last report;

2. The key pressures in Child and Adult Care services which contribute to the overspend forecast;
3. The additional pressures to that reported to the committee on 15 September 2016. Specifically:
 - a. Impact of Scottish Living Wage of £4.5k
 - b. Impact of increased care home placements for older people of £357k
 - c. Impact of MCB002 not being achieved, £373k, as care home capacity for older people is maintained
4. The updated recovery plan which aims to minimise the level of forecast overspend in 2016/17 (as set out in Appendix 2 of the report).

AF(16)14 ANNUAL FRAUD REPORT 2015/16

The report, submitted by the Head of Resources and Governance, provided an update on the work that was being undertaken during 2015/16 in relation to fraud.

Motion

That the Committee agrees the recommendation as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Janet Cadenhead. Seconded by Councillor Graham Watt.

Decision

Having commented and challenged the report, the Committee agreed to note the information set out in the report.

Ends: 12.30 pm

