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CULTURE

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Culture:-

MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

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| Councillor N. Ayub | - Executive Cabinet Member for Culture |
| Councillor Mrs. Fairclough | - Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Veevers | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Grant | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Heslop | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Sanders | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |

Officers

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Mr. L. Fallows | - Director of Corporate Resources |
| Ms. J. Pollard | - Head of Finance – Chief Executive's and Place |
| Mrs. N. Littlewood | - Head of Communications and Engagement |
| Mrs. V. Ridge | - Democratic Services Manager |

4. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Cabinet Member.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

**5. DIRECTORATE OF CORPORATE RESOURCES –
FINANCE REPORT 2023/2024 – QUARTER ONE**

A joint report of the Director of Corporate Resources and the Borough Treasurer was submitted which provided the Executive Cabinet Member with information relating to the financial quarter one projected outturn in respect of the Directorate of Corporate Resources for the 2023/2024 financial year.

The Executive Cabinet Member was advised that the revenue expenditure as at quarter one for the Directorate of Corporate Resources showed a projected overspend against budget of £20,000 after planned reserve movements.

In terms of capital expenditure for the Directorate of Corporate Resources as at quarter one this was £422,000 against a revised quarter one budget of £4.724 million.

With regard to reserves, the Directorate of Corporate Resources had a projected balance of £5.792 million earmarked reserves for the end of the year.

The report also advised that the budgeted efficiency savings for 2023/24 for the Directorate of Corporate Resources were £1.019 million and the savings programme for the Directorate was now complete.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED –

- (i) The report and the key findings; APPROVED –**
- (ii) The revisions made to the capital programme which fall under their portfolio; and AUTHORISED –**
- (iii) The Director of Corporate Resources to call off under any available framework(s) to enable the capital programme to progress.**

6. DIRECTORATE OF PLACE – FINANCE REPORT 2023-2024 – QUARTER ONE

A joint report of the Director of Place and the Borough Treasurer was submitted which provided the Executive Cabinet Member with information relating to the financial quarter one projected outturn position of the Directorate of Place.

The Executive Cabinet Member was advised that the revenue expenditure as at quarter one for the Directorate of Place showed a projected overspend against budget of £517,000 after planned reserve movements. There were two significant variances within the Directorate of Place and these were outlined in the report.

In terms of capital expenditure, the capital expenditure for the Directorate of Place, as at quarter one was £17.844 million against a revised quarter one budget of £100.209 million.

With regard to reserves, the Directorate of Place had a projected balance of £4.664 million earmarked reserves for the end of the year.

The report also advised that the budgeted savings for 2023/24 for the Directorate of Place were £676,000 and as at quarter one £496,000 of this total had been approved.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED –

- (i) The report and the key findings; APPROVED –**
- (ii) The revisions made to the capital programme which fall under their portfolio; and AUTHORISED –**
- (iii) The Director of Place to call off under any available framework(s) to enable the capital programme to progress.**

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The background papers and reports in relation to the following items were considered confidential as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act

1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

7. THE ALBERT HALLS, BOX OFFICE AND TICKETING PROCUREMENT

The Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which sought the Executive Cabinet Member's approval to tender for the ticketing and box office operation for The Albert Halls to ensure compliance with Standing Orders relating to Contracts.

The Executive Cabinet Member was advised that it was proposed to advertise the opportunity to deliver the ticketing and box office operation for The Albert Halls as a single contract and, as part of this process, it was intended to appoint a single provider under a concession agreement. This would involve a contractual arrangement between Bolton Council and a third-party ticketing operator (the concession holder) for the provision of box office and ticketing services (and related back-office functions).

It was explained that the proposal should enable the delivery of a much higher standard of customer service than was currently provided and would allow for commercial activity to be developed at The Albert Halls. It was also the best value option as it required minimal investment from, and risk to, the Council.

The report stated that the contract would be for an initial term of two (2) years, with the option to extend for a further one (1) year period, plus a further one (1) year period.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

- (i) The tender of box office and ticketing services at The Albert Halls to run on a two-year basis with the option to extend for two further one-year periods (2+1+1); AGREED**

- (ii) To delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Resources to approve the contract award; and AUTHORISED –**
- (iii) The Borough Solicitor to complete the necessary legal formalities.**

8. EVENT SUPPLIES AND SERVICES PROCUREMENT

The Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which sought the Executive Cabinet Member's approval to tender for various supplies and services for the Council's Event Programme to ensure compliance with the Council's Standing Orders relating to Contracts.

The Executive Cabinet Member was advised that it was proposed to advertise the opportunity to deliver the various elements which comprised the Council's Event Programme as a single contract with each of the key elements split into lots which were detailed in the report. As part of this contract, it was intended to utilise either a framework or flexible purchasing system which would allow for more dynamic commissioning in response to both a fast-paced market and the frequently shifting requirements for event supplies and services.

It was explained that the proposal would minimise the timescale for procurement activity and create new opportunities for a wider range of suppliers to bid for lots within the contract, whilst also ensuring that Bolton Council had robust processes in place to determine supplier suitability.

The report stated that the contract would be for an initial term of two (2) years, with the option to extend for a further one (1) year period, plus a further one (1) year period.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

- (i) The retender of various supplies and services for the Council's Event Programme to run on a two-year basis with the option to extend for two further one-year periods (2+1+1); AGREED**

CC6

- (ii) To delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Resources to approve the contract award; and
AUTHORISED –**
- (iii) The Borough Solicitor to complete the necessary legal formalities.**