

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Looked after Children, Safeguarding for Children and Young People, Schools and Early Years:-

### **MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, 2020**

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

Councillor Galloway	- Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services
Councillor Donaghy	- Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor McGeown	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Sanders	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hornby	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Wright	- Minor Opposition Spokesperson

#### **Officers**

Ms B. Brown	- Director of Children's Services
Mr P. Rankin	- Assistant Director of Children's Services – Performance, Planning and Resources
Mr I. Walker	- Assistant Director of Children's Services – Social Care and Early Help
Ms. L. Butcher	- Head of Finance
Mrs. S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

## **16. 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.**

## **17. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT – 2020/21 - QUARTER TWO**

The Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a joint report which outlined the financial position of the Department of Children as at Quarter Two of the 2020/21 Financial Year.

This report presented the financial position in respect of the Department of Children's services for the 2020/21 as at Quarter Two. The following key issues were highlighted:

- Revenue Expenditure - the revenue outturn position for the Local Authority block was expected to be in line with budget following use of reserves of £3.60m. Revenue expenditure for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) was to be £3.194m greater than the grant available.
- Capital Expenditure: - the original Capital Programme approved at Council in February 2020 totalled £23.967m. Expenditure at the 30st September 2020 was £2.705m against a revised programme of £12.874m.
- Reserves - reserves were expected to be £9.423m at the 31st March 2021. Of the £9.423m reserves, £17.136m related to capital monies held for future work on schools and -£7.483m related to schools' balances and other Dedicated Schools Grant reserves.

**The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED –**

- (i) The financial position of the Children's portfolio as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020;**
- (ii) The changes within the Capital Programme, as now detailed; and APPROVED:**
- (iii) The Director of Children's Services being given delegated authority to call off on the Frameworks for the Capital Programme, as detailed in Section 3 of the report now submitted.**

#### **18. DETERMINATION OF ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS TO COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY-CONTROLLED SCHOOLS IN SEPTEMBER 2022**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which sought approval for the proposed admission criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled primary and secondary school admission for the 2022/23 school year.

The report outlined the existing arrangements whereby the Local Authority had an agreed admission policy for all Community and Voluntary-Controlled primary and secondary schools for which it was the Admission Authority.

The report advised that the proposed arrangements for admission into the normal years of entry into Community and Voluntary-Controlled primary and secondary schools had not been amended and had only been updated to reflect the dates prescribed in the current Regulations. As such, there was no requirement to consult for admission in 2022.

The proposed updated arrangements for 2022/23 would be circulated to all schools, academies and neighbouring local authorities.

A copy of each of the proposed scheme was set out in the appendices attached to the report.

All Voluntary-Aided schools, academies and free schools were their own admission authorities and would make their own determination on their own proposed admission policies.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –**

- (i) The proposed admission criteria for Community and Voluntary Controlled primary and secondary school admission for the 2022/23 school year; and**
- (ii) The proposed co-ordinated admissions schemes for school admission, including in-year admissions, for the 2022/23 school year.**