STRATEGIC HOUSING AND PLANNING

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Strategic Housing and Planning:-

TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 2019

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

Councillor Hewitt	-	Executive Cabinet Member – Strategic Housing and Planning
Councillor Mrs. Thomas	-	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hayes	-	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Heslop	-	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hornby	-	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Brady	-	Minor Opposition Spokesperson

<u>Officers</u>

Mr. G. Brough	-	Director of Place
Mr. J. Hundal	-	Assistant Director of Economic Development and Regeneration
Mr. J. Morrissy	-	Assistant Director of Place
Ms. H. Gorman	-	Borough Solicitor
Mr. P. Lamb	-	Principal Project Officer
Ms. J. Pollard	-	Head of Strategic Finance and Accountancy
Mrs. V. Ridge	-	Democratic Services Manager

3. 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.

4. DIRECTORATE OF PLACE – FINANCE REPORT 2018/2019 – FINAL OUTTURN

A joint report of the Directors of Place and Corporate Resources was submitted which provided the Executive Cabinet Member with information relating to the financial final outturn position of the Directorate of Place.

The Executive Cabinet Member was advised that the final revenue expenditure outturn position for the Directorate of Place showed an overspend against budget of £62,000 after planned reserve movements and the capital expenditure for the Directorate of Place as at final outturn was £53,900,000 against a revised budget at quarter 3 of £62,400,000.

In terms of reserves, the Directorate of Place had fully used all general reserves in year and held £7.8 million balance of earmarked reserves. The budgetary efficiency savings for 2017/2019 for the Directorate of Place were £2.8 million and all planned savings had been achieved.

With regard to risk, the report advised that specific areas of financial risk related to loss of income due to the economic downturn and loss of grants.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report and APPROVED the revisions made to the capital programme, which fall under their portfolio, as detailed in the report.

5. DIRECTORATE OF PLACE – FINANCE REPORT 2019/2020 – QUARTER ONE

A joint report of the Directors of Place and Corporate Resources was submitted which provided the Executive Cabinet Member with information relating to the financial quarter one projected final 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 the budget of £378,000 after planned reserve movements and the capital expenditure for the Directorate of Place as at quarter one was £16,600,000 against a revised budget of £71,800,000.

In terms of reserves, the Directorate of Place had fully used all general reserves in year and held £7.5 million balance of earmarked reserves. The budgeted efficiency savings for 2019/2021 for the Directorate of Place were £5.7 million and all planned savings were projected to be achieved.

With regard to risk, the report advised that specific areas of financial risk related to loss of income due to the economic downturn and energy prices for street lighting.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report and APPROVED –

- (i) The revisions made to the capital programme, which fall under their portfolio, as detailed in the report; and AUTHORISED –
- (ii) The Director of Place to call off under any available framework(s) to enable the capital programme to progress.
- 6. DIRECTORATE OF PLACE PERFORMANCE REPORT AND QUARTER 1, 2019/2020

The Director of Place submitted a report which highlighted key performance measures for the Directorate of Place during the period 1st April, 2019 to 30th June, 2019.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

7. DRAFT RIVER CROAL SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD)

The Director of Place submitted a report which presented a draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the River Croal and sought the Executive Cabinet Members approval for its use as a basis for public consultation.

By way of background, the Executive Cabinet Member was advised that, in September, 2017, the Council approved the Town Centre Strategy and Masterplan Framework. In determining the vision for the town centre the framework considered the objectives of the Economic Strategy and stated that 'a key area of focus within the framework had been on opening up the River Croal through residential proposals to the east and west of Market Place (Croal Valley and Church Wharf) and improving links from development on the west of the town centre towards Queens Park'.

The report stated that to assist with achieving the above vision, a draft River Croal Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) had been produced which comprised a development brief guiding regeneration that sits along the route of the river and may therefore impact upon it. The SPD also provided guidance on the planning policies relating to adjacent sites, the factors that would constrain any development and the appropriate mix of uses. It was also stated that flood risk and drainage issues were significant with the riverside location and the draft SPD stressed the need for developers to engage in early discussions with the Environment Agency and referred to the potential use of the council's powers of Compulsory Purchase (CPO) should these be required.

The Executive Cabinet Member was advised that should the draft SPD be approved it would be subject to public consultation for a period of not less than four weeks in order for it to comply with the necessary legislation and carry sufficient weight in the determination of any planning applications and ultimately in support of any Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). The consultation process would include statutory consultees and businesses, residents and landowners in the area.

A copy of the draft River Croal Supplementary Planning Document was appended to the report.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED the draft River Croal Supplementary Planning Document, as detailed in the report and AUTHORISED the Director of Place to undertake public consultation on its contents.