

CABINET

Meeting held remotely on Tuesday, 13th October, 2020 at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr D.E. Clifford, Leader of the Council
Cllr K.H. Muschamp, Deputy Leader and Customer Experience and Improvement
Portfolio Holder

Cllr Marina Munro, Planning and Economy Portfolio Holder
Cllr A.R. Newell, Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Portfolio Holder
Cllr M.L. Sheehan, Operational Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr P.G. Taylor, Corporate Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr M.J. Tennant, Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder

The Cabinet considered the following matters at the above-mentioned meeting. All executive decisions of the Cabinet shall become effective, subject to the call-in procedure, from **26th October, 2020**.

29. **MINUTES –**

The Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 15th September, 2020 and 29th September, 2020 were confirmed.

30. **KAREN EDWARDS - AWARD OF BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL –**

The Cabinet wished to place on record its congratulations to Karen Edwards, Corporate Director, who had been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2020 in recognition of her services to the community during the Coronavirus pandemic.

31. **BUDGET STRATEGY 2021/22 –**

(Cllr Paul Taylor, Corporate Services Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. FIN2029, which set out the budgetary framework to support the preparation of the Council's 2021/22 budget.

The Cabinet was informed that Covid-19 had had a significant impact on the Council's financial position in 2020/21 and was likely to continue to have an impact on the Council's finances in 2021/22 and beyond. The report set out the Council's current financial position and proposed a strategy for addressing the projected core budget deficit highlighted in the Medium Term Financial Strategy, which had been published in February, 2020. Members heard that the strategy would also consider options to mitigate the impact from Covid-19. The main pressures on the revenue budget in the current year were due to a shortfall in income from sales, fees and charges, in particular car parking income, planning fees and income from the Princes Hall. It was confirmed that the shortfall in the Council's finances would be funded from reserves in the short term. The Council would need to take steps to mitigate the pressure on the revenue budget for 2021/22 and would look at controlling

expenditure and continuing to act in a commercial way to improve the Council's net budget position.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the Budget Strategy 2021/22, as set out in Section 5 of Report No. FIN2029, be approved; and
- (ii) the impact from Covid-19 on the financial planning process and associated risks and uncertainties, as set out in Section 7 of the Report, be noted.

32. **BUSINESS RATES - DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF APPLICATIONS –**
(Cllr Paul Taylor, Corporate Services Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. FIN2026, which set out details of applications for rate relief from The Source Young People's Charity (Suite No.2, Quarter Masters Stores, Browning Barracks, Alison's Road, Aldershot) and WSX Developments Limited (St. Anne's House/Mandora, Louise Margaret Road, Aldershot).

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) 20% discretionary relief be awarded to The Source Young People's Charity until 31st March, 2022; and
- (ii) 50% discretionary relief be awarded to WSX Developments from 1st April, 2017 to 31st March, 2020.

The Meeting closed at 7.23 pm.

CLLR D.E. CLIFFORD, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
