

Minutes

Title:	Portfolio Holder Briefing - Finance & Resources
Date:	Thursday 27th October 2022 at 10am
Location:	MO.2.09/Microsoft Teams
Attendees:	Simon Jones (SDJ) Cllr Harness (Cllr H), Guy Lonsdale (GL), Helen Isaacs (HI), Jo Robinson (JR) Emma Finch – Note Taker

	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION BY WHO
1.	<p>Apologies/Minutes from the previous meeting (30th September 2022)</p> <p>Apologies: Sharon Wroot</p> <p>Minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Actions from previous meeting;</p> <p>LT&B – GL liaising with Comms Team regarding any queries around the energy rebate. Action complete.</p> <p>Financial support for Franklin College – GL still engaging with Franklin College and will provide a briefing note.</p> <p>MTFP – GL to share last years questions for the community engagement process – Action complete.</p>	GL
	<p>Declarations of interests</p> <p>No declarations of interest were raised at this meeting.</p>	
3.	<p>Specific Items</p> <p>Q2 Update – GL reported the financial position remains fairly critical, the Council is now looking at £9.3million overspend at Q2 as oppose to £8million as previously reported in Q1. This is due to</p>	

<p>a number of factors, one being the demand pressures in Children's Services with Looked After Children cases that have risen from Quarter 1. Recruitment of the overseas social workers will mitigate against the costs associated with agency staff which have had a significant impact on our budget.</p> <p>The pay award has also had an impact as this is largely unfunded and is currently looking at a 7% increase.</p> <p>GL also reported the increase in the interest rate which is now at 5% which has added approx. 500k in terms of borrowing costs for this year.</p> <p>Mitigation - Currently relooking at the Capital Programme, reprofiling and re prioritising some of the schemes.</p> <p>There is now a vacancy freeze in place, there is also an instruction to all staff around non-essential spend which is being monitored.</p> <p>There are plans in place to draw down from corporate reserves for this financial year if mitigating actions unsuccessful.</p> <p>Star Chamber sessions have also been organised.</p> <p>Budget to be signed off by Full Council in February</p> <p>GL to send Cllr H a copy of the overview statement report by the end of the end. GL is briefing Informal Cabinet on the 31st October.</p> <p>Q2 Council Plan Update – JR reported the Q2 Council Plan will go to Informal Cabinet on the 31st October.</p> <p>JR reported this report was circulated to Leadership Team for final comments this week and confirmed this will go in the Leaders name.</p> <p>Priorities are on track and performance indicators are steady for Resources.</p> <p>The area showing mostly Red/Amber is Children's Services.</p> <p>There are concerns with the vacancy freeze implemented as this means the team may not have the capacity to support services to enable them to deliver the priorities.</p> <p>Council owned land and open space fees – HI reported there is a policy already in place which sets out the Councils position in relation to organisations that want to use Council land for events. The policy has been updated in three main areas to include the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council does not support events on its land that offers pets as prizes • A licence will not be given unless there is adequate additional toilet provision provided by the event organiser • A standard £10 per day charge for any event that required the provision of electricity for the event using Council infrastructure available at some sites such as the Riverhead and St James Square. <p>PFH supported the modifications to the policy and supported the fees and charges document.</p>	<p>GL</p>
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	<p>ODR - Customer and Service Management Platform – JR reported on the procurement of a new I.T system for Customer and Service Management. The procurement of this system was approved by Cabinet in April 2022. JR to provide Cllr H with the Officer Decision Record for signing in order to go ahead with the new supplier.</p>	<p>JR</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Standing Items</p> <p>a) Local Issues</p> <p>b) Performance</p> <p>(i) In year budget update –</p> <p>(ii) Quarterly Resource Performance</p> <p>(iii) Across Resource area</p> <p>(iv) Vital Signs (Power BI)</p> <p>(v) Council Plan KPIs</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>a) Cllr H reported he had received an email from Aldi Stores regarding their future investment plans for North East Lincolnshire and requested a meeting with the Council. SDJ advised Cllr H to respond to Aldi thanking them for their interest, copying in Damien Jaines-White as this is for his service area and advise them Damien will be in touch. SDJ also advised Cllr H to inform Cllr Jackson as this was for his Portfolio.</p>	<p>Cllr H</p>
	<p>Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 23rd November 2002 at 10am in MO.2.09/Microsoft Teams.</p>	