

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER 2023, AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors K.J. May (Leader), S. J. Baxter, S. R. Colella,
C. B. Taylor, S. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker

Also in attendance: Councillor P. M. McDonald (via Microsoft
Teams) and Councillor R. J. Hunter

Observers: Councillor S. T. Nock

Officers: Mrs. S. Hanley, Mrs. C. Felton, Mr P. Carpenter,
Mrs. J. Bayley-Hill, Mrs. H. Mole, Mr M. Austin and Mrs. P. Ross

[It was noted that prior to the meeting there had been a request that a change be made to the running order of the agenda. The Housing Company – Shareholders Committee – Reserved Matters would now be considered directly following the consideration of the Governance Systems Task Group report.]

24/23

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C. A. Hotham.

25/23

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

26/23

MINUTES

It was noted that there were no Recommendations in the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 10th July 2023.

RESOLVED that the minutes from the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 10th July 2023, be noted.

27/23

GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS TASK GROUP REPORT

At the invitation of the Leader, Councillor P. M. McDonald, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, addressed the Cabinet with regard to the Governance Systems Task Group Report and the Recommendation

from the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on Monday 11th September 2023; as detailed on Supplementary Documentation 3 agenda pack.

Councillor McDonald informed the Cabinet that the Governance Systems Task Group had kept to their allotted timescale and had delivered their report.

The Task Group had received presentations from Councillor Craig Browne, Deputy Leader, Cheshire East Council, who's authority had changed over to the Committee System from the Leader Cabinet; and Mr. Ian Parry, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS).

Councillor McDonald stated that following on from a Comparative Analysis being carried out between the Committee System and a Hybrid System based on the present governance system in operation at the Council; the Task Group had concluded that we were very lucky to have achieved the current Hybrid System. The best bespoke system which enabled everyone, including opposition Members to be involved.

It was estimated that the cost to the Council, including the design principles, to move to a Committee System would be circa £200k, and it was felt that it would be ridiculous to spend this amount of money. Hence the Recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 11th September 2023.

The Leader took the opportunity to express her thanks to Councillor McDonald and Task Group Members for their thorough investigation and the time they had invested over the summer months.

In response to questions from Cabinet Members, Councillor McDonald explained that with regard to the Cabinet Advisory Panels being introduced, this would provide all Members, including Back Benchers, with an opportunity to get involved and to put recommendations forward to the Cabinet and Portfolio Holders.

The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services explained that any Sub-Committee could be created in an advisory capacity and would be able to look at the Forward Plan and any other items. Including items that existed on the Cabinet Working Group Work Programme or items they considered should be included on the Cabinet Working Group Work Programme. An advisory panel would help shape the Cabinet Working Group Work Programme and would be able to put forward any recommendations to the Cabinet.

Councillor S. J. Baxter suggested that a review of Cabinet Advisory Panels should be included in the Recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 11th September 2023.

In response Councillor McDonald stated that the Task Group had considered this and had suggested that it would be reviewed by the Overview and Scrutiny Board after a six month period.

Councillor McDonald responded to further questions and clarified that Cabinet Advisory Panels would not be talking strategically. It would be up to Portfolio Holders to look at topics and then circulate those topics to all Council Members, who could then decide if they were specifically interested in a particular topic and would like to sit on a Cabinet Advisory Panel.

The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services commented that it was important that the work undertaken by the Task Group and the model they saw, would need Members to be involved.

At the invitation of the Leader, Councillor R. J. Hunter addressed the Cabinet.

Councillor Hunter gave his thanks to the Leader for inviting him to attend the meeting, in order to make a last appeal to the Cabinet before Full Council on 20th September 2023.

Councillor Hunter continued and in doing so stated that both he and his Group were sympathetic to the Committee System being adopted. He was unable to agree with the Recommendations of the Task Group as they did not represent a significant improvement.

Councillor Hunter questioned Recommendations a) and b) and highlighted that this did not represent a step forward it was just the status quo. He had been disappointed where decisions have been made with his Group not being consulted with.

In response the Leader stated that whilst it was good practice to have an Opposition Group Leader as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Board; there was nothing currently in the Constitution that required this.

The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services explained that the Constitution was pained to 'fetter' to determine the administrative arrangements, but the Council could introduce a 'Memorandum of

Understanding' where working practices were clearly defined for Council to agree. Changes had been necessary to date due to the results of the recent Elections and there was Cross Party dissatisfaction with the working arrangements in place previously.

Councillor Hunter then referred to Recommendation c) and stated that there were already specific groups – Strategic Planning and Climate Change, therefore he did not understand the point of introducing Cabinet Advisory Panels and could not see how this moved us forward.

The Leader took the opportunity to respond and highlighted that Cabinet Advisory Panels provided an opportunity for all Members to commit. The culture at Council meetings had changed and it was about Members all working together, to take things on board and to listen with interest. Breaking down barriers and instigating involvement and change.

Councillor Hunter further stated that there was no binding vote, nothing that shared power and it was a 'Gentleman's Agreement'. It was a missed opportunity as it was fundamentally a Cabinet Model and to reinforce a model that was not fit for purpose and did not move us on. Hiding behind costs of £200k, yet the Task Group report showed costs of £80k and £40k if we stayed with the status quo. Cheshire East Council talked about the improvements that the Committee System had brought to the authority and that it had been cost neutral, so he did not accept the cost implications of £200k. No-one had asked about reducing the number of meetings and there was an assumption that Members would ask for higher allowances to attend additional meetings under a Committee System. Members were being pushed into making a decision with the September deadline given. He was very disappointed with the process and outcome, as there was evidence from only one authority. He had put forward two other Local Authorities but they were never considered, so he considered that it was not a thorough review as not enough evidence was heard from other authorities who had gone through this process. Therefore, his Group would not back down, they may be a small Group, but there was also a significant number of Members that were not happy, so he would suggest looking again. The Recommendations would not fundamentally change things at this Council.

In response the Leader stated that we had had significant change at the Council. Councillor McDonald informed the Cabinet that at the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting on 11th September, Board Members had discussed Councillor Hunter's motion and reasons and tonight the Task Group did not accept what he was saying. The ballot box had decided

who had the largest control of the Council. The bespoke Hybrid system would be included and embedded in the Constitution, to the benefit of opposition groups, and would not just be a 'Gentleman's Agreement'.

Councillor McDonald continued and explained that where the Constitution could not be changed, working practices were looked at; and we would have had to delegate more power to officers. Given the potential increase in meetings under a Committee System, all Members would need to be prepared to attend meetings during the day and not everyone could attend or lose income having to attend daytime meetings. He did not think that Members were being railroaded into making a decision. The Task Group had ensured that meetings were positive, rational and well attended by Task Group Members; hence keeping to the timelines, as all Task Group Members turned up for meetings. The Hybrid System was a bespoke system that suited Bromsgrove District Council and Chairman would be supported by it being embedded into the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Baxter commented that previously if she wanted to achieve anything she would talk to the Cabinet and Portfolio Holders. We were now embedding a process enabling all Members to influence decisions. At the first Full Council meeting we were all finding our feet with the new administration and some Members knew the failings of the previous system.

Members further commented that the £200k costs had been explained and were the set up costs. Members agreed that decisions should be made to the benefit of residents which the Task Group report stipulated 'Putting the Residents at the Centre of all Decisions'. The Task Group report highlighted the best model and pragmatic model for the Council; and was not considered in a 'mad rush', but in a considered timeframe. The results of the Task Group would be considered at Full Council, and the Overview and Scrutiny Board had done exactly what Council had asked.

For clarity the Leader read out the Overview and Scrutiny Board Recommendations on the subject of the Governance Systems Task Group's report, as agreed at the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting on 11th September 2023.

RECOMMENDED that Bromsgrove District Council should have a hybrid Leader and Cabinet governance model from May 2024 onwards, and as detailed in the preamble above, to be monitored by the Overview and

Scrutiny Board after 6 months. To achieve this model, the Council should do the following:

- a) Agree changes to the Council's constitution during the 2023/24 municipal year, as detailed in the Task Group report;
- b) Introduce working protocols designed to embed more collegiate working in the Council's governance culture;
- c) Introduce Cabinet Advisory Panels;
- d) Take action to improve communication with Members;
- e) Introduce a Memorandum of Understanding between all political group leaders to maintain these working arrangements for at least the next four years; and
- f) A review to take place after 6 months by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

Prior to the next agenda item being introduced, Councillor McDonald asked for it to be noted that at the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 11th September 2023 it was agreed that all Senior Officers would attend the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting on 16th October 2023. All Council Members would also be invited to attend for the Agile Working Policy to be explained.

28/23

HOUSING COMPANY - SHAREHOLDERS COMMITTEE - RESERVED MATTERS

The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services presented that Setting up a Shareholders Committee report for Members consideration.

Cabinet was informed that in July 2023 the Council had approved the setting up of a Housing Company to manage the Burcot development.

There was a requirement for Member oversight of the Company and paragraph 3.2 and 3.3, on page 30 of the main agenda pack provided details.

In response to a question as to why the Shareholders Committee would be a Cabinet and not Council function, the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services clarified that; it was exercising an executive function and that Local Government Association (LGA) rules were that it

should be a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet, but you could have cross party Members. The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Enabling would sit on the Committee and Cabinet would monitor performance.

Members asked if Councillor C. A. Hotham had been made fully aware. The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services could not confirm this but did think that Councillor Hotham was consulted with.

It was agreed that subject to Councillor Hotham being fully informed that it be

RESOLVED that

- 1) a committee of the Cabinet, to be known as the Cabinet Shareholder Committee, which would provide oversight over the Housing Company set up in July 2023 (and other Companies that the Council might set up in due course), be established;
- 2) the Shareholder Committee meet on a biannual basis or as otherwise necessary;
- 3) the Shareholder Committee be responsible for the recommendation to the Cabinet of reserved matters; and
- 4) authority be delegated to the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services to make necessary amendments to the Council's constitution for the Cabinet Shareholder Committee, including the introduction of terms of reference for the Cabinet Shareholder Committee.

29/23

EQUALITIES ANNUAL REPORT

The Business Improvement Manager (undertaking an extended management remit to cover Policy & Performance) presented the Equality Strategy Annual Report 2022 for Members consideration.

Members were informed that the Annual Report informed the progress on the Council's equality objectives covering the period January 2022 to December 2022. Building on the last report and work carried out since 2021, this progress report provided a detailed insight into our ongoing commitment to equality.

The Council adopted its new Equality Strategy 2022 to 2026, and this provided a detailed insight into our ongoing commitment to equality.

As we continued to recover from COVID-19, the Cost of Living crisis struck and this impacted greatly the work being undertaken by the Council and its partners, generating new activity to help support disadvantaged groups and to promote equality during this challenging period.

It should be noted that the examples included in this report were not a complete list of everything the Council had done or would do to achieve in terms of equality objectives.

Members' attention was drawn to 'Community Engagement' and 'Community Safety' as detailed in the report.

Members expressed their thanks for the report, which had stimulated a lot of questions; as follows:-

- The demographics of the Bromsgrove Community Panel. The Leader explained that the next Community Panel was in October 2023, whereby it was our opportunity to engage and ensure that residents were aware of the Community Panel and were used to prioritise our priorities. It needed to be promoted so as there were more than 393 members, with just over 99,200 population; it might not be representative. The Business Improvement Manager further added that earlier this year the annual community survey was to go big, in an effort to increase the Community Panel. It may be a wide representation of Bromsgrove, but only those who opted to respond, and it was optional as to whether they divulged their area in the District.
- The Bromsgrove Partnership Board – could all Members have copies of the minutes, as the minutes were distributed to all Parish Councillors. The Business Improvement Manager agreed to action this.
- The Social Prescribing Service – with a population of 99,200 we needed to get the bigger picture. The Leader highlighted that she chairs the district collaborative and was looking at how this could be included. Members agreed that Hagley, Wythall and Alvechurch needed to be brought back into Bromsgrove's Social Prescribing Service. The Leader explained that the social prescribing service was commissioned by Bromsgrove Primary

Care Network, hence some slight anomalies. The Leader and Deputy Leader agreed to continue to raise these anomalies at the next meeting of the Primary Care Network.

- Employee Support – Staff Q & A sessions were referred to and the possibility of Cabinet Members and Group Leaders being invited to attend. It was agreed that the Chief Executive (Interim) would liaise with the Communications Team with regard to Cabinet Members and Group Leaders being invited to attend a future Staff Q & A session, (where a Senior Officer was in attendance); with staff being given the opportunity to submit any questions prior to the Q & A session.
- Theme Groups – how knowledgeable were Back Benchers? Engagement, how did new Councillors know / find out, via Democratic Services / Groups Leaders? The Leader informed Members that she was looking at producing a Members Bulletin in order to cascade information to all Members. The Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing further informed Cabinet Members that all of this information was included in the Partnerships emails which were sent to all Members and was also included in the Portfolio Holders reports to Full Council.

At the invitation of the Leader, Councillor Hunter addressed Members. Councillor Hunter said it was an interesting report and the first year that the 2021 census results were available to look at. The point was made at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board to look at our staff and user groups, with 10% having a disability. Were our staff representative of our communities, going forward look at this information, how representative were they of the communities we supported. The Leader added that we advertise in the appropriate places and that we are an equal opportunities employer and strived to be an employer of first choice.

In response Councillor Whittaker commented that he did not agree and it should be the best person for the job and with equal opportunities to attain the job.

- Community Builders – how did they enable the community, and how could Councillors and residents get involved? The Leader highlighted that as Councillors you were Community Champions and should be familiar with the links provided on the Council's website. The Leader asked the Business Improvement Manager to ensure that once the report had been ratified at Full Council

that a link to the Equality Annual Report 2021 be placed on the Council's website.

RECOMMENDED to COUNCIL

- that the Equality Annual Report 2022, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be endorsed.

30/23

GRASS VERGE MAINTENANCE

The Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services presented a report on Grass Verge Maintenance for Members consideration.

The report highlighted the Motion proposed at Full Council on 20th July 2022 to manage verges differently during 2022, the Motion was detailed as follows: -

“This Council changes its grass verge grass cutting and mowing regime to allow wildflowers to remain in bloom during the height of the season when bees, butterflies and general small wildlife rely on the pollen from wildflowers to flourish. This will not be a one size fits all approach. Council will work with local residents and Councillors to find an approach that worked for each community.”

The problem during the grass cutting season was being totally dependent on the weather. Regular mowing on the perimeters ensured that growth did not infringe on highway safety or inhibit drivers and pedestrian's line of sight.

A number of grass verges across the District were identified in 2020 and 2021 that could be left uncut to support wildlife and pollinators without causing concern for highway safety.

This had mixed responses from the public, with a strong public perception that grass should be maintained for aesthetics in residential areas, and this resulted in a number of these sites reverting to aesthetic maintenance rather than to support local habitat and plant life during 2021 and 2022.

Following discussions between the Portfolio Holder and the Environmental Services Manager, an addendum to the report was agreed. The addendum detailed the potential to reduce the Capital funding requirement in the 2023/24 financial year. This was by deferring

a final decision on the purchase of a second flail mower until the end of the 2024/25 grass cutting season.

The Environmental Services Manager further explained that wildflower verges and natural verges were different. There was a lot of benefit to the habitat for wildlife. An interim measure to support what we already had was decided after an Ecologist was engaged to inform any future decisions to manage our biodiversity and to engage with our residents and Parish Council's with regards to future grass cutting maintenance. A further decision was then taken, as explained by the Portfolio Holder not to purchase a second flail mower.

Members were fully supportive of the addendum and commented that the challenge we had was in getting the message to residents who thought we were not maintaining grass verges in order to save money. The Council needed to get the right message out to Members and residents.

The Leader stated that she fully agreed, we were trying to meet the Council's environmental responsibilities.

Councillor S. R. Colella commented that he very much supported this and the Council's responsibilities to the environment. This was one step to the bigger picture, having adopted a Carbon Reduction Strategy. With the new Environmental Bill UK, the Council would be required to carry out more initiatives. The Council needed the support of Members of the Council and residents and to tighten the Council Plan. Councillor Colella took the opportunity to thank the Environmental Services Manager.

Members expressed their support of this approach and reiterated that it was important to educate and have an engagement process to involve all Members.

Members further agreed with Councillor Colella that we needed a biodiversity action plan/strategy. Members highlighted that officers needed to be careful of ragwort and Himalayan balsam, which were highly invasive.

It was further noted that a biodiversity action plan/strategy might say to leave certain hedges / grass verges that residents wanted cut.

Members further reiterated that the depot should identify the areas and determine which areas would be left and inform local Members. Local Members could also provide the depot with a list of areas to cut / leave.

This would help to reduce the number of complaints received from residents who thought that the Council were not maintaining some areas. It was also suggested that signage could be erected on the areas that were being left explaining why, and that this could also help alleviate complaints.

The Environmental Services Manager informed Members that they had carried out various ad hoc trials and this had identified communication issues, but they had erected some signage for areas left uncut. The new admin post would help support communications with local residents and officers worked closely with Worcestershire County Council Highways Team in maintaining visibility splays on the highway. Officers recognised the issues in supporting wildlife with some residents agreeing to the principles but not wanting grass verges left outside their homes not being maintained.

RESOLVED that

- 1) Cabinet accepts the proposal; and
- 2) agrees for the Capital and Revenue Budgets to be adjusted for the identified financial years, as set out in the Grass Verge Maintenance – Addendum, as detailed below:-

Capital Investment Required		
2023/24	Flail Deck Mower	£30,000
	Three Brush Cutter Strimmers	£2,100
2024/25	Flail Deck Mower	£30,000
2025/26	<p style="text-align: center;">The Capital Funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25 would support a reduction in the existing mowing fleet of two rotary mowers at an estimated saving of £34,000 on the Capital replacement budget over the following three years for existing rotary mowers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Capital Replacement budget will be updated to support the replacement costs of the new specification of mower as part of the fleet replacement programme.</p>	-£34,000.00
2026/27		
2027/28		

31/23

DRAFT OUTTURN REPORT 2022/23

The Interim Deputy S151 officer presented the Provisional Financial Outturn Report 2022/23.

Members' attention was drawn to the Financial Implications as detailed on page 34 of the report, as follows: -

The report sets out the Council's provisional revenue and capital outturn positions for 2022/23 against budget.

The £12.068m full year revenue budget was the budget that was approved by Council in March 2022.

At Quarter 1 of 2022/23, it was noted that the budget included £478k of organisational cross-cutting efficiency targets which had not been allocated to services. This target was offset in the main by forecast underspends across other service areas predominantly due to vacancies. The 2022/23 budget had therefore, been revised to reflect the allocation of £424k operational efficiency target to those areas.

Whilst the Council had been on a finance recovery programme since April 2022, following the implementation of a new financial system in February 2021 which led to a deterioration of the Council's financial position, it was important to note that at the time of writing the Council was yet to formally close its accounts for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years. This could therefore result in adjustments to the actual expenditure and income in those years and could have a consequential impact on the 2022/23 accounts.

The Finance team had undertaken a detailed review of the 2022/23 accounts since year end. There were a number of assumptions and manual adjustments that had been made to arrive at the provisional revenue outturn position, mainly as a result of transactions still being cleared from suspense. Those assumptions and manual adjustments included:

- Anticipated accruals and prepayments,
- Grants are applied to known expenditure and remaining balances are carried forward,
- Reserves are applied to known expenditure,
- Shared service recharges between Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough councils where a shared service arrangement exists, and

- Transfers between the Collection Fund and the General Fund.

Work continued to refine the position including addressing the backlog of entries that were in suspense and any miscoding. Therefore, the provisional position detailed in this report was subject to change, and a further update would be presented to Members in due course. Taking this into account, the provisional revenue outturn position was anticipated to be a £956k overspend; a £54k increase over the forecast Q3 £902k overspend position. These figures were after the “absorption” of the £424k of non-allocated savings and efficiency targets.

The variances for each service area against the 2022/23 revenue budget were as set out on pages 36 to 37 of the main agenda report.

Members’ attention was further drawn to the Earmarked Reserves and General Fund Position.

Appendix B – to the report detailed the Reserves Position.

Members were informed that the Council had no long term borrowing.

Questions followed from Members on the following: -

- Efficiency savings being predominantly linked to vacancies, as shown on page 37 of the main agenda pack, was this an efficiency saving? It was explained that this was lined to efficiency targets by taking out staff vacancies where we did not need staff in order to set out a balanced budget by taking out staffing numbers. At Quarter 1 of 2022/23, officers looked at cross-cutting efficiency targets that had not been allocated to services and were re-allocated to where budgets should have been in previous years; and areas that were holding a significant amount in finances, which would be looked at again. A fuel reserve for 3 years was also created.
- The Council being understaffed due to sick leave or maternity leave – The Council were understaffed with agency staff currently covering vacancies. It was explained that this was a national problem with difficulties in trying to recruit and fill vacancies across the industry. Where budgets had been taken away those areas would not be able to employ staff.
- Pay Awards – It was highlighted that the pay award for 2 years running had had an impact, it had been fully counted for 2022/23,

but the expected pay award of 6.8% for 2023/24 had not, as it was expected to be around 2%. With an increase in pension and national insurance contributions, the pay award would total 8/9%.

Further discussions followed around service areas overspend and underspend, whereby the Interim Deputy S151 officer responded and provided brief explanations.

The Interim Deputy S151 officer responded to questions from some Members with regards to Council Tax and NDR Collection Rates, who had commented that linear lines had been profiled on page 40 of the main agenda pack; which made predicting outcomes difficult. It was explained that the figures for Quarter 1 had not been received in order to reflect actual collection; and that there was usually a dip in collection during December, however there was a catch up during January to March.

The Leader asked if the Provisional Financial Outturn Report 2022/23 had been presented to a meeting of the Finance and Budget Working Group.

The Interim Deputy S151 officer explained that due to the tight report and meeting deadlines there had not been time, so the report had not been presented.

With this in mind and following a brief discussion, Members agreed to defer this item to the next Cabinet meeting. Officers were tasked to arrange for the Provisional Financial Outturn Report 2022/23 to be presented to a meeting of the Finance and Budget Working Group, prior to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

RESOLVED that

- 1) prior to the next Cabinet meeting to be held on 18th October 2023, that Officers arrange for the Provisional Financial Outturn Report 2022/23 report to be presented to a meeting of the Finance and Budget Working Group; and
- 2) following on from this, that the findings of the Finance and Budget Working Group; and the Provisional Financial Outturn Report 2022/23, be presented at the Cabinet meeting on 18th October 2023.

32/23 **TO CONSIDER ANY URGENT BUSINESS, DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED TO THE HEAD OF LEGAL, DEMOCRATIC AND PROPERTY SERVICES PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING AND WHICH THE CHAIRMAN, BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, CONSIDERS TO BE OF SO URGENT A NATURE THAT IT CANNOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING**

There was no urgent business on this occasion.

33/23 **MINUTES**

The minutes from the Cabinet meeting that took place on 12th July 2023 were submitted for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED that the minutes from the Cabinet meeting held on 12th July 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record.

34/23 **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE QUARTER 1 MONITORING 2023/24**

Following on from the outcome of the discussions held during Minute Number 31/23 (Agenda Item No. 8, Provisional Financial Outturn Report 2022/23; Members agreed to defer the Quarter 1 2023/24 Financial and Performance Report, to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

Therefore, this item was not presented or discussed.

RESOLVED that the Quarter 1 2023/24 Financial and Performance Report, be deferred and brought back to the Cabinet meeting on 18th October 2023.

The meeting closed at 7.59 p.m.

Chairman