

Cabinet Response to the Overview & Scrutiny Board Finance & Budget Working Group

Introduction

At the Cabinet meeting on 7th December 2016 consideration was given to the recommendations put forward from the Overview and Scrutiny Board's Finance & Budget Working Group.

The Leader thanked the Working Group Members for their work and .

Response to recommendations

Please find below the formal responses to the recommendations contained within the Review report:

Recommendation 1

CMT to develop a set of principles around savings to be made.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 2

The Leader should source, with immediate effect, the services of an external commercial organisation in order to review the management structure of the Council.

Cabinet Response

We are liaising with the Leader of Redditch Borough Council, Cllr Bill Hartnett and have requested Officers to evaluate the options and costs in this respect.

Implementation date: to be determined

Recommendation 3

There be one overall corporate training budget and HR prioritise that budget to meet the needs of staff.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 4

The £11k in respect of Business Transformation, which was reserved for training be given up as a saving.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: February 2017

Recommendation 5

The Council should have a robust four year funded Capital Programme for the period 2017/18 to 2020/21 to include estimates across each year of the budget.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: February 2017 (part MTFP)

Recommendation 6

There be an overall corporate budget for apprenticeships.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 7

An exercise by carried out to ensure the Council makes the best use of its assets.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 8

Officers ensure that the Asset Register is kept up to date at all times.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: Immediate effect

Recommendation 9

A review of the Low Cost Housing Scheme be undertaken as soon as possible.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 10

Consideration be given to revising the pricing structure for the Recreation Road South car park, to blocks of hours and a day rate.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 11

Virements between pay and general expenditure only be allowed with approval from Cabinet.

Cabinet Response

Agreed

Implementation date: 1st April 2017

Recommendation 12

Virements between income and expenditure only be allowed with approval from Cabinet.

Cabinet Response

Agreed - subject to internal limit of £40k before Cabinet report required.

Implementation date: 1st April 2017