

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

RESOURCES O&S COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING

1400 hours on Thursday 21 June 2018, Committee Room 6

Present:

Councillor Albert Bore (Chair)

Councillors Zaheer Khan and Meirion Jenkins

Also Present:

Jayne Power, Scrutiny Officer

Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services

1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chairman advised the meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.birminghamnewsroom.com) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Josh Jones, Ewan Mackey and Paul Tilsley.

3. APPOINTMENT OF RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIR, DEPUTY CHAIR AND MEMBERS

The Chair advised that one nomination had been received for Deputy Chair from Councillor Josh Jones.

- The appointment of Councillor Josh Jones as Deputy Chair was agreed.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

5. RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE 2018/19

(See document No 1)

The Terms of Reference were noted.

6. DRAFT EXECUTIVE/SCRUTINY PROTOCOL

(See document No 2)

The Chair told Members that the draft protocol had been discussed at a meeting of the O&S Chairs that morning and that further changes were being made. These changes would take account of the need to help with policy development and to pick up in a measured but ad-hoc way any issues which may arise. The amended protocol will be re-issued to O&S Chairs and feedback will be sought from Cabinet Members. It will then be issued in its final form to O&S members.

RESOLVED:-

- The final version of the protocol will be issued members of the Committee.

7. PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR AND WORK PROGRAMME

(See document No 3)

Members discussed priorities for the forthcoming year and the following were among the main points raised:

- The Chair told Members that he had met with one of the Cabinet Members whose portfolios reflect this committee's remit and will be meeting with the other two;
- The Month 2 budget monitoring report to Cabinet would provide the Committee with some issues to look at and the Chair said that this would be circulated to Members when available and he would then consult with them, either individually or collectively, around any areas of concern;
- The Chair went on to say that it was clear from the 2017/18 financial outturn report that the use of reserves was greater than envisaged at the start of the budget year with £20m or so more being used from reserves to balance the budget than anticipated plus pension fund strain cost. However, it was agreed that this would be best looked at by Audit Committee;
- One long term piece of work which had been indicated as worth exploring in discussion with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources was around the financial planning process. The Chair therefore suggested that Committee spends a period of time – say 3 to 4 months – looking at approaches to financial planning taken by some of the other core cities;
- July agenda to be agreed over the next couple of weeks.

RESOLVED:-

- Month 2 Monitoring Report to be circulated to Members when available;
- Agenda for July meeting to be agreed.

8. RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – DATES OF MEETINGS 2018/19

The dates were agreed.

9. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

None.

10. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

11. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

Agreed.

The meeting ended at 1428 hours.