

## **Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel Meeting 11 January 2018**

### **Attendance**

#### Members:

Councillor Deirdre Hargey (Chair),  
Councillor Billy Hutchinson  
Councillor Michael Long  
Councillor Matt Garrett (for Cllr McVeigh)  
Councillor Lee Reynolds)  
Alderman Jim Rodgers (for Alderman D Browne)

Apologies: Alderman Browne, Cllr McVeigh, Cllr Attwood

#### Officers:

Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive  
Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources  
John Walsh, City Solicitor  
Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services (for item 2)  
Emer Husbands, Strategic Performance Manager (secretariat)

### **1. Finance - District Rate and Revenue Estimates 2018/19**

The Director of Finance and Resources updated the panel on the rate setting process and highlighted that the standing committees had agreed the proposed budgets for 2018/19. This would allow the SP&R committee to consider the proposed rate and overall council budget for 2018/19 at its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

### **2. Independent Leisure Review**

The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services provided an overview of the emerging findings from the Independent Leisure Review. The panel raised a few issues including the original efficiency target, staff communications and the ongoing operations of the centres which have been picked up in the review. The full report including recommendations would be presented to SP&R at its meeting in February 2018.

### **3. Cash Flow**

The Director of Finance and Resources outlined the proposal for the use of the previously agreed cash flow facility including the assurances that the council was seeking to release the money. A report on this would be presented to SP&R in January 2018.

#### **4. Organisational Development Update**

The Chief Executive updated the panel on the recent recruitment processes for senior positions in the organisation and informed the panel that a report would be presented to the January SP&R meeting.

#### **5. Date for Strategic Planning Session**

The Chief Executive circulated a number of dates that the Party Group Leaders had committed to between now and the end of March. It was therefore agreed that the Strategic Planning Workshop would be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 9.30 – 1.30 pm.

#### **6. City Deal Update**

A report on the timelines for the next steps in the development of the City Deal would be presented to the SP&R committee in January. A joint member meeting of the city deal councils was scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to ensure there was a common level of understanding of the possible content of any deal and outline the overall programme of work.

#### **7. Consultation and Engagement**

A briefing note on consultation and engagement was circulated and members agreed to invite The Consultation Institute to a future meeting of the Party Group Leaders to provide an interactive Member briefing / training session as part of the ongoing capacity building programme.

#### **8. Planning Updates**

The Chief Executive informed the panel of the applications that were being presented to the Planning Committee this month.

#### **9. AOB**

##### ECOC

The Chief Executive updated members that Council was waiting for a response from European Commission in relation to a request for a meeting with them in Brussels.

##### Social Outcomes Fund

The City Solicitor would circulate the response from senior counsel on the request to 'call in' the report on the Social Outcomes Fund.