

COMMITTEE: STRATEGY

VENUE: Council Chamber, Council

Offices, Corks Lane, Hadleigh

DATE/TIME: Thursday, 12 February 2015 at

4.30 p.m.

Members

Clive Arthey Simon Barrett Tony Bavington Nigel Bennett Sue Carpendale Richard Cave John Hinton Jennie Jenkins Kathy Pollard Sue Wigglesworth

PLEASE NOTE START TIME OF MEETING

AGENDA

ITEM BUSINESS

The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded.

Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Committee Clerk who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

PARTI

1 SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES

Any Member attending as an approved substitute to report giving his/her name and the name of the Member being substituted.

To receive apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any interests as appropriate in respect of items to be considered at this meeting.

3 MINUTES

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on <u>15 January 2015</u> (to follow).

4 PETITIONS

The Head of Corporate Organisation to report, in accordance with Council Procedure Rules, the receipt of any petitions submitted to the Chief Executive.

BUSINESS

5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Chairmen of Committees to answer any questions from the public of which notice has been given no later than midday two clear working days before the day of the meeting in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

6 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

The Chairman to answer any questions on any matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties which affect the District and which fall within the terms of reference of the Committee of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

7 WORK PLAN

Paper P98

Report by the Head of Corporate Organisation attached.

8 JOINT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND 2015/16 BUDGET

Paper P99

Report from Management Board attached.

Strategy Committee on 15 January 2015 and Babergh Scrutiny Committee on 26 January 2015 considered Paper P90, to enable Members to make appropriate recommendations to Council on key aspects of the proposed Budgets for 2015/16, including Council Tax and Council House rent levels.

Babergh Scrutiny members shared the concerns of the Joint Audit Committee (Agenda Item 9 refers) regarding the sum of £25m included in the draft capital programme.

Paper P99 sets out the Strategy Committee's **recommendations to Council** which were endorsed by the Babergh Scrutiny Committee (2.1 - 2.5 refer).

The Committee is also asked to agree the following recommendations from the Babergh Scrutiny Committee, for consideration through the Budget process:-

- 1. That the proposed Community Grants (revenue) expenditure for 2015/16 be increased by 2.3%, being the RPI figure as at September 2014.
- 2. That use of the £25m, referred to in paragraph 8.11 of Paper JAC44, to be subject to business cases that will be presented to Strategy Committee for onward recommendation to Full Council.

9 JOINT TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2015/16

Paper P100

Report by the Head of Corporate Resources attached.

At its meeting on 19 January 2015, the Joint Audit and Standards Committee considered a report from the Head of Corporate Resources (Paper JAC44).

BUSINESS

The report presented for Members' scrutiny the proposed Strategy Statement, together with the Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement which are linked to the Budget.

Members discussed the proposal to include a provisional sum of £25m for each Council in the draft capital programme for 2015/16, as described in paragraph 1.3 of Paper P100, and made an additional recommendation (2.2(d)) to address Members' concerns regarding the potential use of the monies and the controls in place to monitor that use.

Members are asked to agree the **recommendations to Council** as set out in 2.1 and 2.2 of Paper P100, which include the additional recommendation in 2.2(d) as referred to above. In this connection, the Mid Suffolk Executive Committee will be asked to make a comparable recommendation to Council.

10 FINANCIAL MONITORING 2014/15 – QUARTER 3

Paper P101

Report by the Head of Corporate Resources attached.

11 JOINT PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING RENEWAL POLICY

Paper P102

Report by the Head of Housing attached.

12 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (WHICH TERM INCLUDES THE PRESS)

To consider whether, pursuant to Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public should be excluded from the meeting for the business specified below on the grounds that if the public were present during this item, it is likely that there would be the disclosure to them of exempt information as indicated against the item.

The authors of the report proposed to be considered in Part II of the Agenda is satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

PART II

13 <u>VIABILITY ASSESSMENTS (Exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of</u> Part 1)

Paper P103 Report from the Joint Housing Board attached.

For further information on any of the Part 1 items listed above, please contact Linda Sheppard on (01473) 826610 or via e-mail at committee.services@babergh.gov.uk