

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 1st December, 2016 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor M Grant (Vice-Chairman) in the Chair.

Councillors Rhoda Bailey, S Corcoran, B Dooley, S Edgar, D Flude, S Pochin,
J Saunders, L Smetham, B Walmsley, H Wells-Bradshaw, J Wray and
C Browne

Apologies

Councillors M Simon and A Moran

34 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held 3 November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35 ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Rachel Bailey – Leader of the Council
Councillor Janet Clowes – Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Integration
Councillor Paul Findlow – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Policy and Legal Services
Peter Bates – Chief Operating Officer
Frank Jordan – Executive Director Place
Andrew Round - Director of Growth and Regeneration
Mark Palethorpe - Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health
Nigel Moorhouse - Director of Children's Social Care
Jacky Forster - Director of Education and 14-19 Skills
Tracy Ryan - Director of Children's Prevention & Support

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

37 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of the existence of a party whip.

38 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

39 PRE - BUDGET CONSULTATION

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Operating Officer relating to the pre-budget consultation 2017 to 2020.

The Committee had been briefed on 4th November about how the Pre-Budget consultation would be conducted. The pre-budget consultation document provided options to create sustainable services focused around an even split between raising additional funds through taxation and reducing costs through service change.

The Council had accepted an offer from the Government to fix general grant levels over the next three years. This would provide greater support and certainty for the Council.

The pre-budget consultation report was structured around the Council's six outcomes.

The Committee reviewed each of the outcomes in turn and questioned the respective Executive Director/Service Head on the specific details relating to each budget proposal.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the update on the Pre-Budget Consultation process be received and the following specific matters noted:
 - (1) That the consultation has started and feedback, to inform the Cabinet's Budget recommendations to Council, can be received up to 10th January 2017;
 - (2) That the Council's request for a Multi-Year financial settlement, from the Department of Communities and Local Government, has been formally accepted;
 - (3) That the Chancellor's Autumn Statement has not raised specific risks in relation to estimates contained within the Pre-Budget Consultation document

40 WORK PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

The committee reviewed its work programme.

The Committee had noted that Council on 15 December had in approving the new Overview and Scrutiny Structure given a commitment to review the new arrangements at some point in future.

The committee also believed that it would be beneficial for Members to receive an update on devolution proposal for Cheshire.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be received;
- (b) That the Constitution Committee be requested to set a deadline for the review of the Overview and Scrutiny structure and that attention should be given to the workload of the Health and Adult Social Care and Communities Committee;
- (c) That the |Leader of the Council be requested to provide an update on devolution proposals.

41 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee reviewed the forward plan.

RESOLVED – That the forward plan be received and noted.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.18 pm

Councillor Mo Grant (Vice Chairman)