

Selby District Council



Minutes

Executive

Venue:	Committee Room, Civic Centre, Selby
Date:	6 September 2012
Present:	Councillor M Crane (Chair), Councillor Mrs G Ivey, C Lunn, J Mackman and C Metcalfe
Officers present:	Chief Executive, Executive Director (S151), Director of Community Services, Policy Officer and Democratic Services Manager.
Also Present:	None
Public:	0
Press:	0

NOTE: Only minute numbers 25, 26, 27 and 28 are subject to call-in arrangements. The deadline for call-in is 5pm 18 September 2012. Decisions not called in may be implemented on 19 September 2012.

22. Apologies for Absence

None received.

23. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 5 July 2012 were submitted and agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

24. Disclosure of Interest

None received.

25. 1st Interim Budget Exceptions Report – Key Decision

Councillor Lunn presented the report which updated the Executive with details of major variances between budgeted and actual expenditure and income for the 2012/13 financial year to 30 June 2012 for the Core, Access Selby and Communities Selby.

Councillor Lunn highlighted that, at the end of June 2012, the Council was forecasting a net surplus on the General Fund of £166k. The surplus was largely as a result of Internal Drainage Board Levies being below the budgeted allowance.

The Executive discussed the forecasted surplus on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The discussion focussed on the future scope to develop a considered approach to reallocate the surplus. A report on the options available to the Executive would be received at a future meeting.

Resolved:

- i) To endorse the actions of officers and note the contents of the report.**
- ii) To adjust budgets to reflect the savings expected to be achieved this year as per Appendix C, and that the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan be amended to take account of projected savings in 2012/13 and 2013/14 where these are not currently allowed for in the budget;**
- iii) To consider the options available for the saving identified (£314k) on external interest payments within the HRA.**

Reason for decision:

To ensure that budget exceptions are brought to the attention of the Executive with explanations from officers, in order to approve remedial action as necessary.

26. 1st Interim Treasury Management Progress Report

Councillor Lunn presented the report which reviewed the Council's borrowing and investment activity (Treasury Management) for the first three months of 2012/13 and presented performance against the Prudential Indicators.

Councillor Lunn was pleased to inform the Executive that, despite the challenging financial environment, overall investment was forecasted to exceed the budget for the year.

Resolved:

To endorse the actions of officers on the Council's treasury activities for the period ending 30 June 2012 and approve the report.

Reason for the decision:

To comply with the Treasury Management Code of Practice, the Executive is required to receive and review regular treasury management monitoring reports.

27. 1st Interim Corporate Plan Progress Report

Councillor Crane presented the report which provided details of Access Selby's key performance indicators following the 1st quarter of reporting for the financial year 2012/13. The update also provided progress against the development plan that is included within the Service Level Agreement between the Core and Access Selby.

Councillor Crane highlighted the good work being undertaken within Access Selby. He provided a brief update on the work undertaken to address the issue of housing stock voids.

Resolved:

To approve the necessary action taken by officers to ensure performance meets the targets set.

Reason for the decision:

The ongoing management of performance and improvement data assists Access Selby in achieving its priorities for 2012/13.

28. Corporate Enforcement Policy

Councillor Crane presented the new Corporate Enforcement Policy which standardised the approach Access Selby takes across its enforcement activities.

The Executive discussed the policy and were keen to see a consistent approach across all areas of enforcement. The Director of Community Services clarified issues raised by the Executive in respect of the use of surveillance.

Resolved:

To approve the Corporate Enforcement Policy.

Reason for the decision:

The Corporate Enforcement Policy standardises the approach taken across Access Selby's enforcement duties. The Policy will improve consistency in the delivery of services to local people.

29. Anti Social Behaviour Policy

The Executive requested that this item of business be considered at the October meeting.

Resolved:

To consider the Anti Social Behaviour Policy at the October meeting of the Executive.

Reason for the decision:

To allow the Executive opportunity to further consider the policy.

30. Motion from Council 26 June 2012

Councillor Metcalfe presented the report which considered the Motion submitted by the Labour Group to the Council meeting on 26 June 2012. The Council had asked for a response from the Executive.

The Executive heard that discussions had been held with a number of councillors from the two main political groups. The report sought to amend and refine the operation of scrutiny at the Council in order that the process adds value to the Council's operations.

To recommend to Council:

i) To amend the Council's Constitution in respect of the Scrutiny Committee to give effect to the following:

- to debate all call-ins
- To have the call-in presented to the Scrutiny Committee by the "sponsor" of the call-in and one or more of his/her co-signatories
- To hear from any other appropriate contributors, including where necessary the relevant Executive member
- To pass any relevant and specific recommendations to the Executive or Council as appropriate
- To comment on the validity of the call-in itself

ii) To provide a series of development workshops to re-appraise the role of the scrutiny function to help deliver the objectives set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report;

iii) To introduce a system of named substitutes for scrutiny committees.

Reason for the decision:

To improve the operation of the scrutiny function following discussions with elected members from across the Council.

The meeting closed at 5pm.