

Crawley Borough Council

Cabinet

Supplementary Agenda

Wednesday, 6 February 2019

Anne Maria Brown

Head of Legal, Democracy and HR

5 Matters referred to the Cabinet and Report from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

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Attached is a copy of the OSC Comments to Cabinet from its meeting on:
Monday 4 February 2019.

NOTE: The Leader has agreed that, although this report and information was not available for at least five clear days before the meeting, there are special circumstances justifying its urgent consideration.



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Agenda Item 5

Cabinet Wednesday 6 February 2019

Comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on Monday 4 February 2019 OSC/278

1. Cabinet Agenda Item 6 – 2019/20 Budget and Council Tax

Comments and Recommendations

The Commission considered report FIN/462 of the Head of Corporate Finance.

During the discussion, the following points were expressed:

- Confirmation that the report set out proposed growth elements and capital programme schemes, along with efficiencies, savings, latest investment interest projections and additional income being proposed.
- Appreciation that the Budget Strategy 2019/20-2023/24 had taken on board the Commission's recommendation that prioritisation should not preclude the initial consideration of capital projects that could deliver social value.

RESOLVED

That the Commission supported the recommendations to the Cabinet.

2. Cabinet Agenda Item 7 – Treasury Management Strategy 2019/2020

Comments and Recommendations

The Commission considered report FIN/464 of the Head of Corporate Finance.

Councillors made the following comments:

- Confirmation that the policy of investing according to the principles of security, liquidity, yield and ethical remains.
- Acknowledgement that there had been a great deal of uncertainty within the economy.
- Recognition that diversifying into property can be worthwhile in terms of investment. However there was an acknowledgement that there may be a need to be more creative in the future.

RESOLVED

That the Commission supported the recommendations to the Cabinet.

3. Cabinet Agenda Item 8 – Capital Strategy 2019/2020

Comments and Recommendations

The Commission considered report FIN/467 of the Head of Corporate Finance.

During the discussion, the following points were expressed:

- CIPFA now requires all local authorities to prepare a new Capital Strategy which sets out how the council will manage the investment and financing of capital resources.
- Support for the work undertaken to compile the Capital Strategy report.
- Commission Members commended officers from the Finance Team for their continued excellent work.

RESOLVED

That the Commission agreed to support the recommendations to the Cabinet.

Agenda Item 5

4. Cabinet Agenda Item 9 – Allocating Monies Collected Through Community Infrastructure Levy – Infrastructure Business Plan 2019/20

Comments and Recommendations

The Commission considered report PES/302 of the Head of Economy and Planning.

During the discussion, Councillors made the following comments:

- Support for the Crowdfunding platform, however it was recommended that an equivalent offline version should be made available to maximise use.
- Acknowledgement that liaison took place with Community Development together with local organisations to assist in capacity building and promotion of the scheme.
- Commission Members were pleased to hear that the Spacehive template was being reviewed in light of feedback.
- It was recommended that training took place to assist in gaining an understanding of the scheme.
- Clarity provided regarding eligibility criteria and scoring.

RESOLVED

That the Commission agreed to support the recommendations to the Cabinet.

5. Cabinet Agenda Item 10 – Review of Statement of Licensing Policy made under the Licensing Act 2003

Comments and Recommendations

The Commission considered report HCS/08 of the Head of Community Services.

During the discussion, the following points were expressed:

- Confirmation that the only response received following the consultation on the proposed draft policy was from Public Health at WSCC.
- Support for a Cumulative Impact Policy to be considered next year. Confirmation that this would need to be evidence based in partnership with Public Health, where there is data that the concentration of licensed premises in an area (or town) is negatively impacting on the licensing objectives.
- Acknowledgement that the Public Space Protection Order had been successful in various areas of the town.
- Confirmation provided regarding film classification and licensing.

RESOLVED

That the Commission supported the recommendations to the Cabinet.

Councillor Chris Cheshire
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission
4 February 2019