Minutes of Health & Housing Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 7 November 2019 starting at 6.30pm

Present: Councillor B Hilton (Chairman)

Councillors:

J Alcock
T Austin
D Birtwhistle
R Elms
D Peat
J Hill
M Robinson
M Hindle
R Knox
R Newmark
D O'Rourke
D Peat
M Robinson

B Holden

In attendance: Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Environmental Health Services and Senior Accountant.

Also in attendance: Councillor B Buller.

351 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of the Chief Executive, Housing Strategy Officer and Councillor S Atkinson.

352 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

353 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest.

354 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

355 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES

The Director of Resources submitted a report to seek Member approval on proposals to increase this Committee's fees and charges with effect from 1 April 2020. The Senior Accountant gave Committee an overview of the report highlighting the guidance from Budget Working Group targeting an overall increase in income from fees and charges of 2%. This review of fees and charges was coordinated by Financial Services working together with Heads of Service and budget holders. Particular reference was given to Clitheroe Market fees and Environmental Health and dog related offences fixed penalty notices.

Members discussed protection for bees, regulation of dog breeding licences and penalties for dog fouling. Officers confirmed that the Council had appropriate procedures for the protection of bees in the pest control service, stringent regulations for breeding licences and that the maximum penalty allowed for dog

fouling was in place. Members also discussed fees for market pitches in relation to Thursday markets and proposed an amendment to retain the existing fee level.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the 2020/21 fees and charges proposed for the Committee in Annex 1, for implementation from 1 April 2020, save that the Clitheroe Market pitches Thursday per day fee is £8.50.

356 CAPITAL PROGRAMME REVIEW AND NEW BIDS

The Director of Resources submitted a report to recommend the proposed future five-year capital programme (2020/21 to 2024/25) for this Committee.

The Senior Accountant gave an overview of the report. This highlighted two amendments to the previously approved 2020/21 to 2023/24 capital programme; these being an indicative increase to the Disabled Facilities Grants budget each year and the delayed replacement of the pest control van due to its current good condition and lower than expected mileage. Also highlighted were three new capital bids, these being an upgrade of the Civica APP IT system in 2022/23 and 2024/25 bids for Disabled Facilities Grants and Landlord/Tenant Grants. Committee was informed that the final Disabled Facilities Grants scheme budgets each year would be set to match the actual central government grant funding received each year.

Committee discussed various aspects of the report and raised several queries.

RESOLVED: That Committee

- 1. approve the proposed five-year capital programme for 2020/21 to 2024/25 as outlined in the report; and
- 2. recommend to Policy and Finance Committee a future five year capital programme for this Committee's services.

357 CAPITAL MONITORING 2019/2020

The Director of Resources submitted a report to provide this Committee with information relating to the progress of their 2019/20 capital programme for the period to the end of September 2019.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

358 REVENUE MONITORING 2019/2020

The Director of Resources submitted a report to provide this Committee with information relating to the progress of the 2019/20 revenue budget as at the end of September 2019.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

NEW STATUTORY DUTY AND GUIDANCE ON SOCIAL HOUSING ALLOCATION FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report to inform Members of a new duty for local authorities to provide safe accommodation for

domestic violence victims and also new statutory guidance on social housing allocation for victims of domestic abuse.

The Head of Regeneration and Housing informed Members that the Council was seeing increased reporting of domestic violence which needed careful monitoring and addressing. It was noted that discussions on this issue were ongoing and further information would be presented to future Committees.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

360 BREXIT PREPARATION AND THE FOOD SAFETY SERVICE

The Chief Executive submitted a report to inform Members of the preparations being made by the food safety team for the potential exit from the EU.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

361 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

362 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be an Exempt

Information under Categories 1 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government

Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

363 UPDATE ON GRANT APPROVALS

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report to inform Committee of recent approvals for 4 Disabled Facilities Grants, 7 Ribble Valley

Adaptation Grants and 1 Affordable Warmth Capital Grant.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).