

Budget Review Group

Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 February 2024 at Shire Hall, Warwick at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Barton, Collins, R Dickson, Hales, and Milton.

Also Present: Councillor Davison, Leader of the Council; Councillor Chilvers, Portfolio Holder – Resources; Andrew Rollins, Head of Finance; Steven Leathley, Strategic Finance Manager; Philip Clarke, Head of Place, Arts and Economy; Andrew Cornfoot, Planning Policy & Major Sites Delivery Manager; and Sophie Vale, Principal Committee Services Officer.

5. **Appointment of Chair**

Councillor Hales was appointed to Chair the meeting.

6. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Browne, Day, Falp, Luckhurst and Tangri.

Members present requested that the Chair write to Group Leaders to encourage them to remind their Group that the Budget Review Group meeting was important, and therefore they should make every effort to attend.

7. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

8. **Cabinet Agenda (Non-Confidential items and reports) – Thursday 8 February 2024**

Item 5 – General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25

The Group thanked officers for their hard work in putting together the report.

The Group explored the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and the impact on reserves. They were keen to see the upcoming change management strategy and the assumptions underpinning it.

Members requested that communications material be made available detailing all of the grants that the Council had access to, and information be provided so that residents could see what was being delivered with those grant funds.

Item 6 – Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2024/25 (including Housing Rent Setting)

The Group acknowledged the need for greater general awareness of the details of the Housing Revenue Account across the Council and requested that a briefing be organised to ensure Councillors' full understanding.

They noted the report and awaited answers to the questions asked about the Council's social rent rates in comparison to other Councils across Warwickshire.

(The meeting ended at 7.15pm)

CHAIR OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
5 March 2024

CHAIR AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE
27 February 2024