



Minutes

Finance & Resources Committee

Date: 20 October 2023

Time: 10:30

Venue: FSHQ

Present: Cllr Tulley (in the chair), Cllrs Anderson, Garvani (as substitute for Cllr Bowden) Hall, Hawkins, Mohammed, O'Donovan and Pollard.

In Attendance:

Apologies: Cllrs Almas, Bowden and Hutchison

12 Minutes of meeting held on 21 July 2023

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2023 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

13 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

14 Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

15 Admission of the public

RESOLVED

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business specified below as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during these items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of the descriptions specified.

AGENDA ITEM NO.	TITLE OF REPORT	MINUTE NUMBER (to be added)	Description of exempt information by reference to the paragraph number in Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972
E8	Replacement Station End Equipment	19	Paragraph 3 – financial or business affairs
E9	FSHQ Redevelopment Update	20	Paragraph 3 – financial or business affairs

16 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

17 Reserves Strategy

Members considered a report from the Chief Finance and Procurement Officer which sought endorsement of the Reserves Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28 and approval to transfer £0.500m from the pay and prices reserve to the service support reserve to support the development of the data and digital strategy.

Members challenged the Chief Finance and Procurement Officer regarding the earmarked grant reserves and it was confirmed that accounting conventions and CIPFA accounting codes govern the use of these funds.

RESOLVED

- a. That the report be noted.
- b. That members approve the Reserves Strategy
- c. That members approve the transfer of £0.500m from the pay and prices reserve to the service support reserve.

18 Quarterly Financial Review

The Chief Finance and Procurement Officer presented a report providing an overview of the financial performance of the Authority.

The report identifies that the Authority is currently forecast to underspend its revenue budget in 2023/24 by £0.229m and that following a review of the revenue and capital budgets there has been a net transfer to revenue contingencies of £0.514m, the slipping of £5.013m of the capital plan into 2024/25 and the removal of £0.338m from the current plan altogether.

Members requested and were provided with further information regarding;

- feasibility studies and when projects are charged to revenue.
- the underspend, in particular on the training budget, which is largely due to Covid.
- delays with the fleet replacement programme, which is expected to be completed within this financial year.
- the Capital Plan at appendix B – a request for the appendix to include further details for future committees.

RESOLVED

- a. That the report be noted.
- b. That members approve the revised capital plan.
- c. That members approve the revised revenue budget.

19 Replacement Station End Equipment

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 – financial or business affairs)

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report requesting members to approve a capital budget of £817,000 to cover the cost of new Station End Equipment, to replace existing equipment which will become obsolete when the new mobilising system goes live.

RESOLVED

- a. That the report be noted.
- b. That members approve the capital budget of £817,000.

20 FSHQ Redevelopment Update

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 – financial or business affairs)

Members considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery updating members on the latest forecasted expenditure for the Birkenshaw site redevelopment and requesting approval to increase the capital budget.

Members challenged the report author regarding a slight discrepancy within the figures and subsequent investigations have revealed an error in the minutes from the EGM held 15 July 2022, which have been corrected. Members were assured the internal auditors conduct regular audits of the accounts.

Members also discussed the concrete grouting, which is required as shallow mine workings were not revealed in the original plans.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

Chair