

Appendix 3: Extract from draft Executive Board minutes 18/11/20

<http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/documents/g9977/Printed%20minutes%2018th-Nov-2020%2013.00%20Executive%20Board.pdf?T=1>

EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER, 2020

PRESENT: Councillor J Blake in the Chair

Councillors A Carter, R Charlwood, D Coupar, S Golton, J Lewis, L Mulherin, J Pryor, M Rafique and F Venner

77. Revenue Budget Update 2021/22 and Budget Savings Proposals Further to Minute No. 68, 21st October 2020, the Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report which presented the actions which were underway and proposed to address the financial gap for 2021/22, which was currently estimated at £118.8m. The report also presented a series of savings proposals to contribute towards the Council achieving a balanced budget for 2021/22 and, where appropriate, sought agreement to begin meaningful consultation with staff, trade unions, service users and the public as required.

In considering the range of proposals within the submitted report and the ongoing service reviews taking place, a Member specifically emphasised the key role played by Neighbourhood Networks, and also the importance of services in communities, such as the provision of bowling greens.

The transparency of the approach being taken by the submission of reports to the Board for consideration was highlighted, whilst a Member noted what they deemed to be the varying approaches to this process being taken by the different directorates.

In conclusion, it was noted that further detail regarding the level of Local Government funding for next financial year was awaited ahead of the Chancellor's Comprehensive Spending Review announcement, which was due later this month, and that available details would be provided to the Board in December.

RESOLVED - (a) That the Council's financial position for 2021/22, as outlined in the submitted report, be noted, with it also being noted that further savings are required to deliver a balanced budget position;

(b) That the 'Business as Usual' savings, as detailed within the submitted report be noted, with it also being noted that decisions to give effect to them shall be taken by the relevant Director or Chief Officer in accordance with the Officer delegation scheme (Executive functions);

(c) That the recommendations in the 'Service Review' proposals, as detailed at Appendix 2b to the submitted report, be agreed, and that agreement be given to the associated consultation commencing. The Board also notes that decisions to give effect to such matters shall be taken by the relevant Director or Chief Officer, following the consultation period, in accordance with the Officer delegation scheme (Executive functions) save where the Leader, relevant portfolio holder or Director considers that the matter should be referred to Executive Board for consideration.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, both Councillors A Carter and Golton required it to be recorded that they respectively abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)