



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Scrutiny Performance Panel – Service Improvement & Finance**

Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

Monday, 29 October 2018 at 10.00 am

Present: Councillor C A Holley (Chair) Presided

Councillor(s)

P R Hood-Williams

P K Jones

Councillor(s)

L James

J W Jones

Councillor(s)

M H Jones

D W W Thomas

Officer(s)

Bethan Hopkins

Ben Smith

Scrutiny Officer

Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer

Apologies for Absence

Councillor(s): P Downing and B J Rowlands

1 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

- None

2 Public Questions

- None

3 Financial Report

4 Capital Outturn and Financing 2017-18

- Section 151 Officer went through the report
- Underspend is bad for capital but good for capital financing costs
- Have obligations under the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015
- Underspends on disables facilities grants and Pipehouse Wharf move needed more explanation
- Discussed some other underspends

5 Q1 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2018-19

- Most of the overspend is in social services
- Limited options to triage overspend
- 2019/2020 will see the roll forward of some of the overspend pressures, as these are one off actions only in 2018-19

- Spend has to be slowed – and this needs to be demonstrated
- Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant reinstated so reserve not needed
- Housing Revenue Account is in healthy position
- Council faces challenging financial position
- General reserves at a minimum level already
- Any money from WG in future is likely to be for social services
- Discussed invest to save initiatives – green vehicles and sustainable drainage

6 Revenue Outturn and Savings Tracker 2017-18

- Services overspent by £7m
- General reserves are reduced and this won't be able to happen next year
- The education underspend is due to recoupment and independent placements so predicting the amount is volatile – some years under and some over
- Savings should be reasonable and achievable
- Discussed business rates and how much would be retained by the Council for any new build

7 Revenue Outturn Housing Revenue Account 2017-18

- Straightforward report
- No further plans or comments outside of the report

8 Work Plan 2018 - 2019

The meeting ended at 11.30 am

Chair