

Performance and Finance Select Committee

22 January 2020

Comments from the Members Budget up-date session 16/01/20

<u>General comments on the revenue budget</u>
Members raised a number of questions to clarify specific issues in the budget:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capital receipts flexibility,• Financial resilience in relation to the amount of reserves• Loss of funding experienced over last 5yrs
Improvement Plans, Transformation and environmental targets <ul style="list-style-type: none">• changes need to be made to the ethos of the Council in relation to becoming more efficient and using different working methods. The changes will need investment and the budget for this needs to be reflected in the Improvement Plans and Transformation Programme.• also the impact of environmental and sustainability targets need to be reflected in a clear strategy and closer working with other authorities to achieve these.
<u>Adults and Health</u>
Points raised about the review of direct payments and self-funders and needing better control over assessments and over-payments.
<u>Children's Services</u>
Members expressed concern over the review of Early Help and the savings to be made. Requested that the review includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• consultation with users and an understanding of the impact this will have on families and the need to manage the process so that families understand any proposed changes,• work with partner organisations to understand issues across the whole county,• work with schools to ensure they have the necessary support available,• transport links/issues to be considered,• effect on rural communities.
<u>Environment, Highways and Communities</u>
Members requested any change in service standards to be communicated to the public.
<u>Fire and Rescue Service</u>
Members supported the need to continue to lobby Government for a review of the funding formula and the development of the new training facilities at the Horsham site.
<u>Capital Programme</u>

Members raised the quality of the Council's own assets as an issue and requested whether budget could be found to improve facilities.

Also requested whether thought could be given to using some of the budget set aside for Income Generating Initiatives (IGIs) to improve our own assets – buildings and highways and to meet the environmental/sustainability targets.