



**At a meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 01st February 2019**

Present : Councillor Louise Harbour
Councillor Tony Concepcion
Councillor Diane Roscoe
Councillor Steve Williams
Councillor Tony Norbury
Councillor Yvonne Sayers
Councillor Charlie Preston
Councillor Joe Hanson
Councillor Stef Nelson

36. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Robertson-Collins

37. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 23rd November 2018**

Resolved that the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 23rd November 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

38. **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**

There were no declarations of interest.

39. **Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9**

There were no questions submitted by Members in accordance with Procedural Rule 9.

40. **Question(s) from Members of the Public under Procedural Rule 10**

There were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Procedural Rule 10.

41. **Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15**

There were no motions proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15.

42. **Timetable of Authority Meetings 2019-20**
WDA/05/19

Members were presented with a report and were asked to set the date for the Annual Meeting and approve the timetable of Authority Meetings for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

Resolved that:

1. the Authority fix the date of its Annual Meeting for 2019/20 to 21st June 2019 and consider a programme of meetings for the 2019/20 Municipal year;
2. members note that a meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee is to be scheduled for July 2019 to approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts; and
3. the Clerk be granted delegated powers to make any future alterations to the timetable of meetings as deemed appropriate, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.

Cllr Williams requested that the start time of the Authority Meeting is changed to an earlier or later time. It was agreed a poll would be circulated to Members to establish the preferred start time.

43. **Budget 2019-20**
WDA/02/19

The Authority is required to prepare a budget and to set a Levy each year. Members were provided a report detailing this information. The level of Levy to be charged to each of the constituent Local Authorities needs to be agreed annually alongside a Levy payment schedule. The Authority also needs to consider and approve capital programme proposals.

Resolved that:

1. the revised budget for 2018-19 be approved;
2. the revenue budget for 2019-20 be approved;
3. the Levy proposal set out in Appendix 2 of the report is considered and the proposal for a Levy of £74,997,511 is agreed;
4. the Levy to be made on the constituent District Councils for 2019-2020 be authorised;
5. the payment dates for the levy be agreed; and

6. the indicative capital programme for prudential borrowing at Appendix 3 be agreed.

Members were asked to note that District Chief Executives have requested the Chief Executive to provide a joint response to the National Waste Strategy for England Consultations.

It was agreed that Members would be provided with information on options for the Levy Mechanisms and the Joint Consultation Responses, and a second workshop would also be arranged to progress the matter with Portfolio Holders and Senior Officers.

44. **Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019/20; Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement; Annual Investment Strategy; and Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators**
WDA/04/19

The Local Government Act 2003 (the Act) and the framework established by CIPFA through its Prudential Code requires the Authority set Prudential and Treasury Indicators for each of the next three years to ensure the Authority's capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Act requires the Authority to set out its Treasury Strategy for borrowing and to prepare an Annual Investment Strategy that sets out its policies for managing its investments and the priority given to the security and liquidity of those investments. Members were provided with a report and its appendix and were asked to consider and approve each of these elements.

Resolved that:

1. the report attached at Appendix 1 is considered;
2. the Treasury Management Strategy 2019/20; the Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement; the Annual Investment Strategy; and the Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators as set out in the report at Appendix 1 be approved;
3. the Treasurer be delegated authority, within the total limit for each year, to effect movements between the separately agreed prudential indicator limits in accordance with option appraisal and best value for money for the Authority; and
4. the Treasurer be delegated authority to effect movements between borrowing and other long term liabilities sums under the framework of the Prudential Code.

45. **Data Protection Policy**
WDA/01/19

Members were considered a report which proposed the implementation of a Data Protection Policy following the implementation of General Data Protection Regulation 2016 into UK legislation.

Resolved that the Data Protection Policy (Attached at Appendix 1), in line with the Authority's statutory duties in relation to the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation 2016, be approved.

46. **Internal Audit Reports**
WDA/03/19

As part of its statutory governance arrangements the Authority is required to maintain an effective Internal Audit which is provided by St Helens Council. Members considered a report from the Auditor, which reviewed the arrangements at the Authority and detailed the outcome of the latest reviews.

Resolved that:

1. the contents of the reports from the Internal Auditor be noted; and
2. the Authority's response to the Key Issues and recommendations identified by the Auditor in the action plans to their reports (at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2) is approved.

The Director of Finance confirmed that a substantial assurance had been received from the audit for the General Data Protection Regulations, which also identified areas of good practice.

The Director of Finance confirmed that a substantial assurance had been received from the audit for the Environmental Management System (EMS).