

At a meeting of the Authority held on Friday 07th February 2020

Present: Councillor Roscoe

Councillor Preston Councillor Savers

Councillor Robertson-Collins

Councillor Norbury
Councillor Hanson
Councillor Concepcion
Councillor Williams
Councillor Nelson

44. Apologies for Absence and Appointment of Chair

No apologies for absence were received.

45. Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 22nd November 2019

Resolved that the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 22nd November 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

There were no Declarations of Interest submitted by Members.

47. Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9

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

48. 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.

49. <u>Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15</u>

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

50. <u>Authority Budget 2020-21</u> WDA/01/20

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 2019-20 is approved;
- 2. the revenue budget for 2020-21 is approved;
- 3. the Levy proposal set out in Appendix 2 of the report is considered and the proposal for a Levy of £77,547,428 is agreed;
- 4. the Levy to be made on the constituent District Councils for 2020-2021 be authorised;
- 5. the payment dates for the levy are agreed; and
- 6. the indicative capital programme for prudential borrowing at Appendix 3 is agreed.

51. Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2020/21; Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement; Annual Investment Strategy; and Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators WDA/04/20

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. Members considered the report attached at Appendix 1;
- the Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21; 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 is approved;
- 3. the Treasurer is 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 is delegated authority to effect movements between borrowing and other long term liabilities sums under the framework of the Prudential Code.

52. <u>Timetable of Authority Meetings 2020-21</u> WDA/02/20

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 2020/21 Municipal Year.

Resolved that:

- the Authority fix the date of its Annual Meeting for Friday 26th June 2020/21 to and consider a programme of meetings for the 2020/21 Municipal year;
- 2. Members note that a meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee is to be scheduled for July 2020 to approve the Authority's Statement of Accounts; and
- 3. the Clerk is granted delegated powers to make any future alterations to the timetable of meetings as deemed appropriate, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.

53. **Community Fund 2020-21 WDA03/20**

Members were presented with a report detailing the outcomes of the previous year's Community Fund and details of the current projects. Members were provided options to approve funding for the year ahead.

Resolved that:

- 1. Members noted the success and outcomes of the 2018-19 Community Fund projects.
- 2. Members noted the progress of the current 2019-20 Community Fund projects.
- 3. Members considered options for the continued allocation of funding for the Community Fund and approved the preferred Option 2 in paragraph 3.4 and:
- 4. Members continued the policy of delegating powers of the Authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairperson, to approve projects subject to the Community Fund being apportioned in line with the agreed funding allocation method.

54. <u>Initial Climate Action Plan</u> WDA07/20

Members were presented with a report produced in response to the declared climate emergency.

Resolved that:

1. Members approved the Authority's Initial Climate Action Plan attached at Appendix 1.

55. Food Waste Procurement Update WDA05/20

Members were presented with a report updating them on the progress of the work of the MRWA Chief Executive and the Senior Officers Working Group (SOWG) regarding Liverpool City Region's (LCR's) Waste Collection Authorities preparation for the delivery of food waste collections across the City Region.

Resolved that:

- Members noted the progress made by Senior Officers Working Group;
 and
- Members' views will be communicated to the Waste Collection Authorities.

Members agreed that the Chairperson relay their collective view in a letter to the District Waste Collection Authorities that, whilst there are a number of different service delivery options, a city region-wide food waste collection service presents the best option. However, MRWA Members recognise that this is a decision for the Waste Collection Authorities.

Cllr Roscoe thanked the SOWG for their work on the food waste collection scheme.

56. Internal Audit Report RRC WDA/06/20

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. Members noted the contents of the reports from the Internal Auditor.