

CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 4 September 2018 in the Civic Suite - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Gilligan (Chair), Philbin (Vice-Chair), Abbott, M. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, A. Lowe, N. Plumpton Walsh and Joe Roberts

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Howard, A. McInerney and Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, I. Leivesley, E. Dawson, G. Ferguson and P. Garnett and G. Tootle

Also in attendance: None

ITEM DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

		<i>Action</i>
CS13	MINUTES	
	The Minutes from the meeting held on 5 th June 2018 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
CS14	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
	The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.	
CS15	EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
	The Board was presented with the Minutes relating to the Corporate Services Portfolio which had been considered by the Executive Board since the last meeting of the Board.	
	Following a discussion on Minute EXB22 it was agreed that an update report on the work of property services should be brought to a future meeting.	
	RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.	

CS16 PROGRESS UPDATES REGARDING THE
DISCRETIONARY SUPPORT SCHEME, DISCRETIONARY
HOUSING PAYMENTS AND UNIVERSAL CREDIT

The Board considered a report which provided updates on the Discretionary Support Scheme (DSS), Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) and Universal Credit (UC).

With regard to the DSS, it was in its sixth year of operation. During 2017/18, 863 awards were made totalling £175,317. Full details of funding and expenditure for 2017/18 were outlined in the report.

In respect of DHP, Members were advised that in 2017/18 grant funding of £406,692 was received and actual expenditure totalled £412,767 representing 1,403 awards. This was an over spend of £6,075. This compared with 2016/17 where 1,201 in 2016/17 and a total expenditure of £379,974. It was reported that the increase in the number of awards and total expenditure in 2017/18 compared to the previous year had been caused by the increasing numbers of residents becoming eligible for Universal Credit.

In addition, Members noted that Halton Job Centres had commenced the roll out of UC on 27th July 2016. The report provided details on the UC caseload in Halton since April 2015 and the changes introduced by the Government since its introduction.

Arising from the discussion, it was agreed that:

- Members be provided with the number of Halton residents who had reached the benefits cap;
- a copy of the report be circulated to both MP's for the Halton area;
- the Board's appreciation be forwarded to staff for the work they do to administer these schemes; and
- information be forwarded to Members on the Council Tax position for Castle View House.

RESOLVED: That the latest position regarding the Discretionary Support Scheme, Discretionary Housing Payments and Universal Credit, be noted.

(N.B. Councillor M. Lloyd Jones declared a disclosable other interest in the following item of business as she was a governor at Beechwood Primary School)

CS17 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS - QUARTER
1 - 2018/19

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, which presented the Performance Monitoring Reports for Quarter 1 of 2018/19.

The reports related to the following functional areas which reported to the Board and detailed progress against service objectives and milestones, and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period:

- Finance;
- Human Resources and Organisational Development;
- ICT and Administrative Support;
- Legal and Democracy;
- Policy and Performance;
- Property Services; and
- Catering, Stadium and Registration Services.

Members sought clarification on the overspend at Quarter 1 of the Community and Environment Department budget. Members were advised as to the reasons of this position.

RESOLVED: That the first quarter performance monitoring reports be received and noted.

Meeting ended at 7.45 p.m.