

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 21 DECEMBER 2017

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 21 December 2017 at 4pm

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Dorrian, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, J McEleny, McVey, Moran, Murphy, Nelson, Quinn, Rebecchi and Robertson.

Chair: Provost Brennan presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Chief Financial Officer, Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications and Corporate Communications Manager.

689 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 689

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors C McEleny, McKenzie, MacLeod and Wilson.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

690 2018/20 Budget Update 690

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing updates on the 2018/19 Draft Local Government Settlement and the latest position of the 2018/20 Revenue Budget and (2) seeking decisions in respect of a number of related matters.

Decided: that the Council:

(1) note the 2018/19 Draft Grant Settlement for Inverclyde and the conditions attached in Appendix 1 and agree to defer the decision as to whether to not accept the offer until the final settlement is confirmed later in February;

(2) note the 2018/20 Revenue Budget funding gap set out in Appendix 3 based on this latest information and agree to the addition of a further £0.5 million to the 2018/19 Pay Inflation allowance;

(3) approve the adjustments set out in Appendix 4 and note that officers will continue to look for further adjustments which would reduce the funding gap;

(4) approve the Budget Pressures summarised in Appendix 5 and note that a more detailed report will be submitted to the Health & Social Care Committee providing further background on the pressures within Learning Disability, Elderly Care and Children & Families;

(5) note the latest position in respect of the Council's Free Reserves and approve the write backs from existing Earmarked Reserves detailed in Appendix 6;

(6) agree in principle to the use of Reserves to mitigate the impact of budget reductions in 2018/20 on the basis of a medium term strategy set out in Section 7 which delivers a recurring balanced budget no later than 2022/23;

(7) agree to include the consideration of the savings set out in Appendix 7 as part of the 2018/20 Revenue Budget and note the updated savings options lists contained in Appendix 8;

(8) note the timescales for the public consultation set out in Appendix 9; and

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(9) agree that the date for approving the Council Tax for 2018/19 will be the standing Council meeting of 22 February 2018 and that the date for agreeing all other aspects of the 2018/20 Revenue Budget will be a special meeting of the Council to be convened on 15 March 2018.