

CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS GROWTH AND REGENERATION

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham S60
2TH**

Date: Monday, 2nd February, 2015

Time: 9.00 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine whether the following items should be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended March 2006) of the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item(s) the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for absence
4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th January 2015 (Pages 1 - 6)
5. Environment and Development Services - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2014/15 (Pages 7 - 10)
6. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the local authority)
7. Rotherham Town Centre - Business Vitality Grant - Variation to Award (Pages 11 - 13)
8. Date and time of next meeting - Monday 2nd March, 2015 at 9.00 a.m.

BUSINESS GROWTH AND REGENERATION
Monday, 12th January, 2015

Present:- Councillor Beck (in the Chair); Councillors Sansome and Whysall.

F30. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 1ST AND ON 12TH DECEMBER 2014

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Business Growth and Regeneration held on 1st December and on 12th December, 2014, be approved as correct records for signature by the Chairman.

F31. ROTHERHAM TO SHEFFIELD ECONOMIC CORRIDOR (TEMPLEBOROUGH AND LOWER DON VALLEY)

Reference was made to the forthcoming visit (January 2015) by the American business consultant, Mr. Bruce J. Katz, who would be providing advice to the Sheffield City Region authorities about the regeneration of the Rotherham to Sheffield economic corridor, which includes the Templeborough and Lower Don Valley areas.

F32. CHESTERFIELD CANAL - MEMBERS STEERING GROUP

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Project Officer (Economic and Development Services) proposing the creation of a Members' Steering Group, with appropriate Terms of Reference, to progress the development of the remaining disused section of the Chesterfield Canal in the Borough of Rotherham, situated between Kiveton Park Station and Killamarsh (Derbyshire).

Discussion took place on the history of the Chesterfield Canal, as well as the restoration work which will be overseen by the proposed Steering Group. The suggested Terms of Reference were appended to the report.

It was agreed that appropriate publicity be arranged for the Chesterfield Canal restoration scheme and that Parish Council representation on the Steering Group be considered further, in due course.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the formation of the Chesterfield Canal Members Steering Group, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved.

(3) That the Terms of Reference outlining the composition, objectives, frequency of meetings and reporting procedures of the Steering Group, as now submitted, be approved and adopted.

F33. LEISURE AND GREEN SPACES FEES AND CHARGES 2015/16 AND ALLOTMENT RENTS 2015/16 AND 2016/17

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Leisure and Green Spaces Manager, concerning the proposed fees and charges for Leisure and Green Spaces' Services, including allotments rents and charges, to be levied during the 2015/2016 financial year.

Members noted that most of proposed fees and charges would take effect on 1st April 2015. However, the proposed charges for water-sports at Rother Valley Country Park would start on 10th February 2015, because this is the date when the service re-starts for the 2015 season.

During discussion of the fees and charges, Members gave due consideration to the present and future financial position of the Borough Council. Reference was also made to (i) recent case law concerning the setting of rents for allotment plots; and (ii) historical subsidies for certain fees and charges and the implications of full cost recovery upon the overall level of fees and charges.

Reference was made to Minute No. 52 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Culture and Tourism held on 13th March, 2012, concerning the impact of the rate of inflation on the setting of fees and charges for Leisure and Green Spaces Services and for allotments.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the Leisure and Green Spaces fees and charges 2015/16, as set out in the report now submitted, be approved.

(3) That the allotment rents and charges for 2015/16 and 2016/17, as set out in the report now submitted, be approved.

F34. ROTHERHAM ECONOMIC REGENERATION FUND - ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Economic Development Manager, concerning the approval of two schemes, granted under delegated powers by the Director for Planning, Regeneration and Culture, from the Rotherham Economic Regeneration Fund (RERF) allocation to the Rotherham Growth Fund. Details of the two schemes were included within the submitted report.

Discussion took place on the overall benefits of these schemes to the economic regeneration of the Borough area.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the allocation of Rotherham Economic Regeneration Fund (RERF) funding to the following projects, during 2014/15, be noted:-

(a) Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District : £50,000;

(b) Rotherham Markets redevelopment : £15,000 (Minute No. G94 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Regeneration and Development held on 25th February, 2014 refers).

F35. ROTHERHAM GROWTH PLAN - CONSULTATION

Further to Minute No. 113 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Business Growth and Regeneration held on 6th October, 2014, consideration was given to a report presented by the Economic Development Manager, concerning the draft Rotherham Growth Plan, for which there is currently a consultation process including relevant stakeholders and interested parties. The report described the ambitions of the Rotherham Growth Plan, which are:-

: stimulating the local economy and helping people into work;

: protecting the Borough's most vulnerable people and families, enabling them to maximise their independence;

: ensuring all areas of Rotherham are safe, clean and well maintained;
and

: helping people to improve their health and well-being and reducing inequalities within the Borough.

In addition, Members noted the principal themes of the Rotherham Growth Plan, which are similar to those of the Sheffield City Region Strategic Economic Plan:-

- Growing existing and developing new businesses.
- Skills for employment.
- Social inclusion and combating poverty.
- Employment Land and Housing.
- The Rotherham town centre.
- Transport.

Members commented upon various aspects of the consultation document, including business regeneration issues affecting both the Rotherham town centre and the business improvement districts around the Rotherham Borough area, as well as possible public and private sector partnerships in respect of training opportunities for young people.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the comments of Elected Members be included in the consultation process for the draft Rotherham Growth Plan.

(3) That a further report be submitted to Elected Members, in due course, about the implementation and timescale of the Rotherham Growth Plan.

F36. ROTHERHAM TOWN CENTRE - EXPANSION OF STREET MARKET ON TUESDAYS

Further to Minute No. G67 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Regeneration and Development held on 26th November, 2012, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Retail Investment Manager, describing a proposal to extend the street market, held on Tuesdays within the Rotherham town centre, from 62 to 95 stalls. The report set out the business case for the proposed extension of the street market which, subject to approval, would be introduced in April 2015.

The report provided details of the financial investment, as follows:-

(i) One-off estimated capital costs (subject to tender):-
: £35,000 to replace all existing stalls and to purchase 33 new stalls.
: £8,000 to purchase a small trailer and a suitable vehicle for transporting equipment (plus associated servicing contract).
: £5,000 to purchase additional trestles and boards, required for the market stalls.

(ii) The continuing revenue costs of £12,000 per year for employees and on-costs (essential to accommodate the setting up and dismantling of the increased number of stalls).

Members noted the business case and the potential for an increase in income to the Council, resulting from these street market proposals.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the proposal to expand the street market, held on Tuesdays within the Rotherham town centre, as described in the report now submitted, be approved, including the replacement of existing market stalls and the acquisition of additional stalls.

(3) That the initial capital expenditure of £48,000 and the proposed repayment arrangements in the subsequent financial years, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved.

(4) That the increased staffing costs required to service the additional market stalls, estimated to be £12,000 per annum, as now reported, be approved.

(5) That a further report be submitted for consideration by Elected Members, in due course, relating to the review of fees and charges for market stalls.

F37. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2014/2015

Resolved:- That the following appointments be made to the outside bodies shown, for the remainder of the 2014/2015 Municipal Year:-

(1) South Yorkshire Joint Committee on Archaeology
Councillor D. Beck and Councillor K. Wyatt

(2) South Yorkshire Joint Committee on Archives
Councillor D. Beck and Councillor J. Whysall

F38. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended (information relating to the financial/business affairs of any person (including the Council) and is commercially confidential).

F39. ROTHERHAM TOWN CENTRE - APPLICATION FOR BUSINESS VITALITY GRANT

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Retail Investment Manager concerning an application for the approval of a Business Vitality Grant for the purchase, fitting-out and re-use of a currently vacant retail unit situated within the Rotherham town centre.

Members noted that the Town Centre Business Vitality Scheme is designed to encourage and support new and/or independent niche retail businesses to open up in the Rotherham town centre. The report stated that this project satisfies the eligibility criteria of the Business Vitality Scheme.

Having considered the report, Members were in favour of the award of a grant because of the strength of the business plan and the significant investment from the applicant and because the proposal presents an opportunity for an established and valued Rotherham town centre business to grow and operate from a significantly larger and more prominent retail unit, which should attract more customers.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That, in accordance with the details contained in the report now submitted:-

(a) a one-off capital grant of up to a maximum £10,000 is awarded to support the fitting-out element of the redevelopment and re-use of the retail premises, as now identified and situated in the Rotherham town centre;

(b) the award of this Business Vitality grant is subject to the terms and conditions as detailed within the submitted report.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisers for Business Growth and Regeneration
2	Date:	Monday 2nd February 2015
3	Title:	Environment and Development Services Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to 31st December 2014
4	Directorate :	Environment and Development Services

5 Summary

To report on the performance against budget for the Environment and Development Services Directorate Revenue Accounts at **the end of December 2014** and to provide a forecast outturn for the whole of the 2014/15 financial year.

Members are asked to note the forecast outturn position of an under-spend of -£455k for the Environment and Development Services Directorate based on expenditure and income as at December 2014.

6 Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member notes the latest financial projection against budget for the year based on actual income and expenditure to the end of December 2014. This report is referred to the Self Regulation Overview and Scrutiny Select Commission for information.

7 Proposals and Details

7.1.1 Cabinet Members receive and comment upon budget monitoring reports on a monthly basis. This report reflects the position against budget for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 December 2014.

7.1.2 The table below summarises the forecast outturn against approved budgets for each service division:

Division of Service	Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variation	Variation
	£000	£000	£000	%
Asset Management, Audit and Insurance	8,313	8,085	-228	
Business Unit	644	569	-75	
Communications	844	899	+55	
Regeneration, Planning and Cultural Services	6,999	6,763	-236	
Streetpride	28,958	28,987	+29	
Total Environmental and Development Services	45,758	45,303	-455	-0.99%

Following the December cycle of budget monitoring the Directorate has identified that it is likely to be underspent by **-£455k (-0.99%)** against its total net revenue budget of **£45,758k**.

7.1.3 The details below have previously been offered in a Briefing Note, but a revised template has now been created and is circulated with this report, referenced **7.1.4**.

Summary

The EDS reported pressures at April – December Monitoring shows an under spend forecast of -£455k.

As noted in earlier months, and still valid, there are some areas within EDS which could be over budget by the end of the financial year, but these are not currently being reported in the figures:

Winter Service has historically overspent by around (+£450k), a review of previous years data has updated the current estimate to year end as a £418k pressure, but this could fluctuate depending on the severity of the weather.

Planning income was under recovered last year (+£93k), at this stage it is too early to predict whether this financial year will outturn the same, as early months have seen some significant planning applications.

Riverside Café could potentially show an under recovery of income due to this service having to increase the price to customers to cover the increase on food prices. This could potentially mean the café may have fewer customers in the future

Details have been requested on the following types of spend:

Agency Costs

Total expenditure on Agency staff for Environment and Development Services for the period ending 31st December 2014 was £548,775. This was £493,179 for the same period 2013.

Consultancy

The data for the period up to December 2014 is currently under review, for the same period 2013 the spend was £124,649.

Non contractual Overtime

Actual expenditure to the end of December, 2014 on non-contractual overtime for Environment and Development Services is £326,982 whilst the same period to December 2013 spend was £399,493 Please note that the data for 2013/14 did not include Asset Management for the full year.

The actual costs of Agency, Consultancy and Overtime are included within the financial forecasts.

Currently ICT is reported via Resources staff

8. Finance

There are no other details to report this month.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The overall Directorate budget shows an under-spend of -£455k which has been identified and explained above and in the appendices. Winter Service, Planning Income and Riverside Café have been identified as areas that could potentially report a pressure by year end.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Directorate budgets are aligned only to corporate priorities and spending within the agreed Directorate cash allocation is key to demonstrate the efficient Use of Resources.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

This is the seventh budget monitoring report for the Directorate for 2014/15 and reflects the position from April 2014 to December 2014. This report has been discussed with the Strategic Directors for Environment and Development Services and the Chief Finance Officer.

Contact Name: Andy Sidney – Finance Manager (EDS and Capital) – 01709 822025

E-mail: Andy.sidney@rotherham.gov.uk

Budget Monitoring Period: April to December 2014 /15

Service	Forecast:		Nature of under/overspend: (eg. Staffing, Supplies & Services, income, etc)	Reason(s) for forecast under/overspend
	Overspend (+) £'000	Underspend (-) £'000		
Asset Management, Audit and Insurance				Service Total is £228k under spend
Emergency Planning, Health & Safety	4		Supplies and Services, Staffing	There is no budget to fund unscheduled rallies or protests, these have cost £42k. There is a small under recovery of income on some training £5k, and some monies have been credited back which were not required to settle an employment tribunal.
Management	5		Supplies and Services	This small overspend is being reviewed.
Facilities Services	46		Staffing, income	Building Cleaning is showing some pressure on staffing budgets costs £40k. There are a number of budgets across the service are showing some smaller pressures and some savings are reported, with a net pressure of £6k.
Corporate Property		-286	Staffing, Supplies and Services, Income	Mainly due to reduced costs relating to Riverside House -£200k, and fee billing income -£50k. Further savings offered from Environmental Management is mitigating smaller pressures on some budgets (Community Buildings, Estates and Commercial Properties).
Internal Audit	8		Staffing	Staffing cost pressure.
School Crossing Patrol		-5	Supplies & Services	Small savings due to the moratorium on non-essential spend. (Non staffing)
Business Unit				Service Total is £75k under spend
		-75	Staffing and supplies and services	Report now reflects reduced staffing costs within training budget, with the majority of the under spend being from a reduced training programme.
Communications and Marketing				Service Total is £55k over spend
	55		Staffing	Due to inability to capitalise some staffing costs. This has been addressed for 2015/16.
Regeneration, Planning & Cultural Services				Service Total is £236k under spend
Cultural Services		-226	Staffing, supplies and services and income	This is mainly due to holding vacant posts in Libraries whilst a staffing restructure was progressed and includes a £100k saving on the materials fund, and an over recovery of income from Theatres, mainly from the success of the pantomime.
Management		-32	Staffing	This is also due a vacant post and part of the staffing restructure
Customer Services	28		Staffing and services	This is mainly due to increased demand at contact centres and additional staff training requirements
Regeneration		-12	Staffing, supplies and services and income	Small savings due to moratorium
Managed Workspace (Business Centres)		-61	Income	This is partially due to increased occupancy levels, but also due to being able to maximise some grant funding for staffing costs.
Management	12		Services	This is mainly due to increased public liability insurance charges
Markets		-23	Supplies and services, income	Some expected charges will now not be incurred (-£16k) and small savings from the moratorium
Planning	70		Salaries and supplies and services	There is an expectation that there will be an underrecovery of income on planning applications. A further £40k has been added to an existing provision for potential property litigation claims.
RIDO	19		Staffing and services	In the main this is due to needing to purchase a new IT package
Building Control		-11	Income	There has been a small increase in the number of building applications, this may not be recurrent.
Streetpride				Service Total is £29k over spend
Network Management	118		Services and income	The key pressure is due to under recovery of income on Parking (+£220k), but there are some savings showing on Street Lighting energy costs and across other areas within NM totalling (-£100k). This projection does not include anything for winter maintenance.
Waste Management		-37	Supplies and services	Waste Collection is underspent by(-£-163k) mainly due to the WEEE Rebate, and also the impact of industrial action, reduced projected spend on HWRC sites and increased income on Bulky items and Commercial Waste.
Leisure and Green Spaces		-59	Staffing (agency), supplies and services and income	Waste Disposal has a pressure of (+£164k) as we await an outlet coming on line and have increased waste into Sheffield Erf. Waste PFI has a (-£38k) underspend relating to savings on professional advice required for the Waste PFI contract
Community Services	55		Staffing, supplies and services and income	There are a number of small pressures on budgets from allotments and Country Parks due to agency cover costs and under recovery of income, however, these are being mitigated by savings across the service area, mainly due to vacant posts (-£42k) and reduced spend on non pay budgets due to the moratorium, but also from Tree Services and landscape design.
Corporate Transport Unit		-58	Supplies and services	Across this service there are a number of pressures (+£64k) cleansing highways, (+£11k) Dog Warden services on a revised contract and (+£15k) relating to staffing on an overhead account. Increased income from Pest Control services is contributing (-£12.5k) and grounds maintenance(-£18.6k).
Transportation	8		Services and income	This is mainly due to the imposed moratorium on spend and the current levels of demand for transport services.
Corporate Accounts	2		Services	A pressure of (+£75k) from CCTV is being mitigated by (-£38k) over recovery of Highway Design income and savings from a vacant post (-£28k).
Total	430	-885		This small overspend is being reviewed.
Net Under/Overspend		-455		

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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