

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

THURSDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY 2016 (6PM)

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**Present:**

Councillors: H E Dyke (Chairman), S Arnold (Vice-Chairman), G W Ballinger, J R Desmond, J Greener, A T Hingley, D Little, J Phillips, C Rogers and S J Williams.

**Observers**

Councillors: N J Desmond, M J Hart and F M Oborski MBE.

**OS.61 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**OS.62 Appointment of Substitutes**

No substitutes were appointed.

**OS.63 Declarations of Interests by Members**

No declarations of interest were made.

**OS.64 Minutes**

**Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**OS.65 Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17**

The Committee received a report from the Chief Financial Officer which provided Members with background information on the Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (Prudential Code), and sought approval for the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

The Chief Financial Officer gave Members a brief overview of the comprehensive report and appendices, and advised that the Council was required to receive and approve a minimum of three main reports each year which contained a variety of policies, estimates and actuals.

Councillor G Ballinger entered the meeting at this point, (6.08pm). Councillor N Desmond entered the meeting at 6.14pm.

#### **Agenda Item No. 4**

The Committee were advised the report had been fully scrutinised by the Treasury Management Review Panel at its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016.

The Chairman of the Review Panel, Councillor F M Oborski, advised that the Council's Treasury Management Consultants, Capita, had held a Member training session prior to the panel meeting which had been well received by those which attended. Councillor Oborski urged all Members to attend future training sessions.

**Agreed: Recommend to Council to:**

- 1. Approve the restated Prudential Indicators and Limits for the financial years 2016/17 to 2018/19 included in Appendix 3 of the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. These will be revised for the February 2016 Council meeting, as per paragraph 7.3 of the report, following any changes to the Capital Programme brought about as part of the budget process.**
- 2. Approve the updated Treasury Management and Investment Policy and Strategy Statements for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 (the associated Prudential Indicators are included in Appendix 3 and the detailed criteria is included in Section 10 and Appendix 5 of the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee).**
- 3. Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement that sets out the Council's policy on MRP included in Appendix 1 of the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**
- 4. Approve the Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator included in Appendix 3 of the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

#### **OS.66 How Are We Doing? Performance Update**

The Committee considered a report from the Business Improvement Officer which updated Members on the performance of the Council for quarter 3 (from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015).

Members discussed the updates and the Operational Services Manager gave a brief explanation of how the figures for LA065 (yearly percentage of household waste sent for reuse recycling and composting) was collated. A request was made for future reports to contain slightly more information than at present in order for Members to scrutinise the performance more easily.

**Agreed:**

- The progress in performance for quarter 3 be noted.**
- The Business Improvement Officer to look at amending the format of the report for the next quarter.**

#### **OS.67 Feedback from Cabinet**

**Agreed: The content of the Cabinet decision list following consideration of the recommendations from its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 be noted.**

**OS.68 Work Programme**

The Committee considered the work programme for the remaining of the municipal year. The Chairman advised that a suggestion had been made to have a scrutiny exercise into Section 106 monies. Members welcomed the suggestion and were advised a scoping form would be circulated for their attention. Members wishing to take part in the review was asked to contact the Principal Committee and Member Services Officer.

**Agreed:**

- **The work programme be noted.**
- **Members wishing to take part in the Section 106 Scrutiny exercise to advise the Principal Committee and Member Services Officer accordingly.**

**OS.69 Press Involvement**

There were no future items for scrutiny that might require publicity.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 6.59pm.