

Cabinet Minutes

Date: 9 February 2015

Time: 7.00 - 9.28 pm

PRESENT: Councillor R J Scott (Executive Leader of the Council - in the Chair)

Councillor Mrs J A Adey	- Cabinet Member for Community
Councillor M A Foster	- Cabinet Member for Finance
Councillor A R Green	- Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration
Councillor M Hussain JP	- Cabinet Member for HR, ICT & Customer Services
Councillor N B Marshall	- Cabinet Member for Planning and Sustainability
Councillor H L McCarthy	- Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategy
Councillor Mrs J E Teesdale	- Cabinet Member for Environment

By Invitation

Councillor I Bates	- Leader of the Labour Group
Councillor Mrs L M Clarke OBE	- Chairman of the Council
Councillor R Gaffney	- Chairman of the Improvement & Review Commission
Councillor B R Pollock JP	- Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group
Councillor A Turner	- Leader of the Independent Group
Councillor P R Turner	- Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance

Also present: Councillors M C Appleyard, D H G Barnes, A D Collingwood, A E Hill, Mrs W J Mallen, B E Pearce and J L Richards OBE

72 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Knight (Leader of the East Wycombe Independent Group).

73 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 11 December 2014 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

74 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Collingwood declared an other interest in relation to Minute 75 by virtue of his employment.

75 REFERRAL FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE - TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2015/16

Councillor M Appleyard, Chairman of the Audit Committee, presented the recommendations from the Audit Committee relating to the Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/16, this included the Treasury Management Indicators, and the Treasury Management Policy Statement. The Audit Committee had considered and endorsed the recommendations at its meeting on 15 January 2015.

An addendum to the report was circulated at the meeting, including amendments to paragraphs 47 and 50 of the report, and an additional key change in relation to the use of counterparties when a rating agency announces a 'Negative Ratings Watch'.

The following recommendations were made as in February 2012, the Council adopted the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (fully revised 2011 edition), which required the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year, a mid year report, and an annual report after the end of each financial year.

Recommended: That (i) the Treasury Management strategy for 2015/16 including the following key changes

- Deposits with local authorities are now restricted to a maximum duration of 3 years (previously 10 years).
- New deposits with UK Building Societies are to be restricted to only those societies with a minimum long term credit rating of A-, previously the Council placed deposits with unrated societies.
- Although the PWLB loan has been repaid, this has not yet been financed and therefore the Capital Financing Requirement has not reduced and the borrowing has in effect become internal borrowing. This provides flexibility for the Major Projects Programme. MRP will continue to be set aside as before to finance the loan repayment.
- A counterparty needs to meet the minimum rating criteria from at least one of the rating agencies. Currently a Counterparty will be assessed against the lowest rating agency credit rating for investment purposes. However, if the Council continues to adopt this policy it has been advised by Capita Treasury Services that the rating reviews by S&P could result in a significant number of counterparties being removed from the Counterparty List, although this would be unrelated to any underlying change in the actual counterparties actual credit quality

and the Treasury Management indicators contained therein be approved; and

- (ii) the Treasury Management policy statement, attached at Appendix A of the report, be noted.

76 PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2015/16

Cabinet approval was sought to recommend the Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Policy for 2015/16 to 2017/18 to Council for approval. The report set out the Prudential Indicators which summarised the Council's capital expenditure projection, including the Minimum Revenue Policy which detailed how the Council would pay for capital assets through revenue each year, as required by the Local Government Act 2003. Cabinet recommended the annual report with due regard to the requirements placed upon the Council.

The following recommendations were made as the Local Government Act 2003 required approval of various Prudential indicators and strategies relating to Capital funding and treasury management activities before the start of each financial year. In addition the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 amended the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 so as to require the Council to approve the MRP policy for the year ahead.

Recommended That (i) the Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2014/15 to 2017/18 contained within Appendix A of the report be adopted; and

(ii) the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy statement as set out in Appendix A of the report be agreed.

77 STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Cabinet approval was sought to endorse the updated Strategic Risk Register for Quarter 3 April – December 2014, the report before Cabinet set out the progress that had been made in relation to the Strategic Risk Register. The purpose of the Council's Strategic Risk Register was to identify and manage the significant risks that could impact on the delivery of the Council's objectives. The report highlighted the main amendments to the way the Risk Register was to be reported in the future and summarised the current review being undertaken by the Audit Committee.

The following decision was made as the Strategic Risk Register acted as one of the key tools for managing and monitoring effective governance across the Council.

RESOLVED: That the updated Strategic Risk Register for Quarter 3 April – December 2014 as set out in Appendix A of the report be endorsed and reviewed twice a year by Cabinet.

78 REFERRAL FROM THE IMPROVEMENT & REVIEW COMMISSION - HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

The report before Cabinet set out the recommendations of the Improvement & Review Commission following a report from a Task and Finish Group (TFG) which had undertaken a review Houses in Multiple Occupation in the District.

The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group, Councillor D Barnes, presented the findings and recommendations of the TFG. During consideration of this item, Cabinet agreed that further information regarding the proposed recommendations would be helpful, including a detailed report on the implications of adopting the recommendations.

Cabinet thanked the Task and Finish Group and officers for all their hard work.

The following decisions were made to progress the recommendations of the Improvement and Review Commission where appropriate.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations made by the Improvement and Review Commission on Houses in Multiple Occupation be received, and a further report be presented to the July Cabinet meeting responding to each of the recommendations in detail.

79 REVENUE BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX SETTING 2015/16

Cabinet was asked to consider and formally recommend the General Fund and Special Expenses revenue estimates for 2015/16 in order for the Council to set the Council Tax for the forthcoming year.

The report proposed that Council Tax for 2015/16 be frozen under difficult circumstances, therefore qualifying for the 1% Council Tax Freeze Grant. It was noted that the General Fund revenue budget reflected the Final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2015/16.

Revised appendices C and E were circulated at the commencement of the item.

Cabinet were informed that whilst the Council had a balanced budget for 2015/16, without increasing Council Tax, there could be significant shortfalls in future years projections. The Council faced a difficult challenge in continuing to deliver a balanced budget over the medium term and will need to implement significant income growth policies or implement service reductions.

The following recommendations were made to enable budgets to be set for 2015/16, at Council on 26 February 2015.

Recommended: That in accordance with the Council's Budget Strategy the following items in respect of the 2015/16 revenue budget be approved:

Strategic

(a) The report of the Chief Financial Officer and adoption of its proposals.

Revenue Budget

(a) The overall General Fund revenue estimates for 2015/16 totalling £15,059,700 (Appendix B of the report);

(b) The repairs and renewals fund programme totalling £519,000 for 2015/16 (Appendix C of the report);

(c) The Higginson Park Trust budget for 2015/16, which requires a Council revenue subsidy of £292,400 (£427,000 2014/15), as set out in Appendix D of the report;

(d) The Special Expenses estimates for High Wycombe Town Committee (including fees and charges) for 2015/16 totalling £398,100. A precept £371,300 is proposed (£366,000 2014/15) which takes account of the impact of the government's Council Tax Support Regulations on the calculation of the Council Tax Base. The impact of this has been negated for 2015/16 by the transfer of £45,200 from the Council's General Fund by way of a grant. This is to be funded from Council Tax Support Grant funding provided as part of the local government finance settlement. This is set out at Appendix E of the report; and

(e) The Special Expenses estimate for West Wycombe close churchyard for 2015/16 totalling £3,100, set out at Appendix F of the report.

Council Tax

(a) The Chief Financial Officer is proposing that the District Council share of the Council Tax will remain unchanged for 2015/16 at £126.99. By leaving the level of Band D Council Tax unchanged for 2015/16 the Council will be eligible to receive an additional payment of Council Tax Freeze grant equivalent to the revenue that an increase of 1% (£93k) would have generated in 2015/16. This grant will be paid in addition to Revenue Support Grant in 2015/16 and then included in the future baseline grant from 2016/17. Any increase to the Council's share of Council Tax would result in this grant (£93k) being withdrawn and this sum not being added into future formula grant. This is consistent with the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan;

(b) The report on the Collection Fund and parish precept requests, together with the formal report on the level of Wycombe District Council and Parish and Town Council elements of the Council Tax (Appendices G & H) and approval of the recommendations contained therein; and

(c) That the Council pays to each Parish Council and Special Expenses a share of the Council Tax Support grant necessary to mitigate the projected impact of the reduction to their respective Council Tax Base following the introduction of Council Tax Support in 2015/16 at a total cost of £150k.

- (i) That it be noted that the following amounts have been calculated for the year 2015/2016 in accordance with regulations made inter alia under Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

(A) 65,726.80; being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations") as its Council Tax Base for the year.

(B)

Parish / Town Area	Council Tax Base
Bledlow-cum-Saunderton	1191.89
Bradenham	227.76
Chepping Wycombe	6290.44
Downley	1951.46
Ellesborough	431.76
Fawley (Parish Meeting)	136.33
Great & Little Hampden	159.55
Great & Little Kimble cum Marsh	474.93
Great Marlow	717.26
Hambleden	825.64
Hazlemere	3959.23
Hedsor (Parish Meeting)	81.06
High Wycombe Town	21213.59
Hughenden	3923.56
Ibstone	143.51
Lacey Green	1231.29
Lane End	1333.94
Little Marlow	800.52
Longwick-cum-Ilmer	681.84
Marlow Bottom	1521.17
Marlow Town	6579.77
Medmenham	516.49
Piddington & Wheeler End	260.48
Princes Risborough	3437.68
Radnage	378.92
Stokenchurch	1889.07
Turville	217.68
WestW'- Parish Council	531.74
Wooburn and Bourne End	4618.24
Grand Total	65726.80

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more of the special items relate;

(ii) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2015/2016 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the Act").

a) (Amount to be advised at Council) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31(A)(2) of the Act; taking into account all precepts issued to it by parish councils as at the date of the meeting.

b) (Amount to be advised at Council) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31(A)(3) of the Act;

c) (Amount to be advised at Council) being the amount by which the aggregate at (ii)(A) above exceeds the aggregate at (ii)(B) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(A)(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year.

d) (Amount to be advised at Council) being the amount at (ii)(C) above divided by the amount at (i)(A) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31(B)(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year;.

e) £ 2,627,548 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;

f) £126.99 being the amount at (ii)(D) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (ii)(E) above by the amount at (i)(A) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates:

(G)

Part of Council's Area	2015-16
Bledlow-cum-Saunderton	£ 141.09
Bradenham	£ 157.72
Chepping Wycombe	£ 180.70
Downley	£ 167.47
Ellesborough	£ 176.90
Great & Little Hampden	£ 142.01
Great & Little Kimble cum Marsh	£ 190.16
Great Marlow	£ 141.91
Hambleden	£ 163.33
Hazlemere	£ 184.34
High Wycombe Town	£ 147.19
Hughenden	£ 172.17
Ibstone	£ 170.54
Lacey Green	£ 146.84
Lane End	£ 206.94
Little Marlow	£ 179.54
Longwick-cum-Ilmer	£ 152.81
Marlow Bottom	£ 147.24
Marlow Town	£ 169.92
Medmenham	£ 163.99
Piddington & Wheeler End	£ 198.01
Princes Risborough	£ 222.20
Radnage	£ 190.33
Stokenchurch	£ 160.97
Turville	£ 156.85
West Wycombe	£ 204.75
Wooburn and Bourne End	£ 180.70

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (ii)(F) above the amounts of each of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the appropriate amount at (i)(B) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more of the special items relate.

(H) Part of the Council's Area	Band A Charge	Band B Charge	Band C Charge	Band D Charge	Band E Charge	Band F Charge	Band G Charge	Band H Charge
Bledlow-cum-Saunderton	£94.06	£109.74	£125.41	£141.09	£172.44	£203.80	£235.15	£282.18
Bradenham	£105.15	£122.67	£140.20	£157.72	£192.77	£227.82	£262.87	£315.44
Chepping Wycombe	£120.47	£140.54	£160.62	£180.70	£220.86	£261.01	£301.17	£361.40
Downley	£111.65	£130.25	£148.86	£167.47	£204.69	£241.90	£279.12	£334.94
Ellesborough	£117.93	£137.59	£157.24	£176.90	£216.21	£255.52	£294.83	£353.80
Fawley (Parish Meeting)	£84.66	£98.77	£112.88	£126.99	£155.21	£183.43	£211.65	£253.98
Great & Little Hampden	£94.67	£110.45	£126.23	£142.01	£173.57	£205.13	£236.68	£284.02
Great & Little Kimble cum Marsh	£126.77	£147.90	£169.03	£190.16	£232.42	£274.68	£316.93	£380.32
Great Marlow	£94.61	£110.37	£126.14	£141.91	£173.45	£204.98	£236.52	£283.82
Hambleden	£108.89	£127.03	£145.18	£163.33	£199.63	£235.92	£272.22	£326.66
Hazlemere	£122.89	£143.38	£163.86	£184.34	£225.30	£266.27	£307.23	£368.68
Hedsor (Parish Meeting)	£84.66	£98.77	£112.88	£126.99	£155.21	£183.43	£211.65	£253.98
High Wycombe Town	£98.13	£114.48	£130.84	£147.19	£179.90	£212.61	£245.32	£294.38
Hughenden	£114.78	£133.91	£153.04	£172.17	£210.43	£248.69	£286.95	£344.34
Ibstone	£113.69	£132.64	£151.59	£170.54	£208.44	£246.34	£284.23	£341.08
Lacey Green	£97.89	£114.21	£130.52	£146.84	£179.47	£212.10	£244.73	£293.68
Lane End	£137.96	£160.95	£183.95	£206.94	£252.93	£298.91	£344.90	£413.88
Little Marlow	£119.69	£139.64	£159.59	£179.54	£219.44	£259.34	£299.23	£359.08
Longwick-cum-Ilmer	£101.87	£118.85	£135.83	£152.81	£186.77	£220.73	£254.68	£305.62
Marlow Bottom	£98.16	£114.52	£130.88	£147.24	£179.96	£212.68	£245.40	£294.48
Marlow Town	£113.28	£132.16	£151.04	£169.92	£207.68	£245.44	£283.20	£339.84
Medmenham	£109.33	£127.55	£145.77	£163.99	£200.43	£236.87	£273.32	£327.98
Piddington & Wheeler End	£132.01	£154.01	£176.01	£198.01	£242.01	£286.01	£330.02	£396.02
Princes Risborough	£148.13	£172.82	£197.51	£222.20	£271.58	£320.96	£370.33	£444.40
Radnage	£126.89	£148.03	£169.18	£190.33	£232.63	£274.92	£317.22	£380.66
Stokenchurch	£107.31	£125.20	£143.08	£160.97	£196.74	£232.51	£268.28	£321.94
Turville	£104.57	£121.99	£139.42	£156.85	£191.71	£226.56	£261.42	£313.70
West Wycombe	£136.50	£159.25	£182.00	£204.75	£250.25	£295.75	£341.25	£409.50
Wooburn and Bourne End	£120.47	£140.54	£160.62	£180.70	£220.86	£261.01	£301.17	£361.40

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (ii)(G) and (ii)(H) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Major Projects Programme

- (a) That the Major Projects Programme totalling £65.877m be approved, including a new provision and release of £100,000 for the replacement of the Council's Internet Site and Content Management System and that the proposed scheme of delegation for the Regeneration Fund approved in December 2014 be approved. These are set out at Appendix I of the report.

80 REGISTERED HOUSING PROVIDER RENTED HOMES PARTNERSHIP

Cabinet approval was sought for the release of funds obtained through the sale of the former temporary accommodation properties, to grant fund Registered Housing Providers which would allow the providers to acquire one and two bedroom accommodation in High Wycombe. The report highlighted that the accommodation would be available in perpetuity for homeless people and households which would be nominated by Wycombe District Council on an assured short-hold tenancy basis.

The following decisions were made as Cabinet had on 4th November 2013 approved the sale of 4 units of temporary accommodation which were in disrepair. Cabinet agreed that the proceeds from these sales were to be used for the provision of temporary, affordable housing within the district to assist in the prevention and relief of homelessness. The November 2013 Cabinet report recommended that officers investigate a partnership approach with RPs and report back to Cabinet in due course.

The above mentioned four temporary accommodation houses had been sold, officers had consulted a number of Registered Provider's (RP'S) and were seeking Cabinet approval to proceed with provision of funding to one or more RP's to deliver accommodation for homeless households who would otherwise be owed a housing duty by Wycombe District Council.

RESOLVED: That (i) £403,000 funding in the form of a grant be provided to Registered Housing Providers (RP's) to assist them to acquire or develop properties within the Wycombe District for letting on Assured Short-hold Tenancies (AST's) to households nominated by the District Council - to enable the housing service to prevent and relieve homelessness by placement into such properties; and

(ii) delegated authority be given to the Head of Environment in consultation with the Head of Finance and Commercial Services, District Solicitor, the Cabinet Member for Community and the Cabinet Member for Finance to appoint the successful tenderer(s) for this phase and also for a second phase of this project, using the balance of the total of £806,000 capital receipt raised from the sale of four temporary accommodation houses that belonged to the Council.

81 HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN COMMITTEE REFERRAL - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY FUNDING IN THE UNPARISHED WARDS

Councillor A R Green, the Chairman of the High Wycombe Town Committee, presented that Committee's proposals for the 15% allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy funding for 5015/16 in the unparished wards.

The High Wycombe Town Committee had recommended eight schemes at its meeting in September 2014. The bids were then scrutinised by a panel and subsequently only six recommendations were recommended for funding. The two schemes that were not recommended for approval were feasibility studies for the Rye toilets and a new community facility on Shelley Road Recreation Ground. The reasons for not funding the two schemes at the current time were set out in agenda item 11, Appendix A.

It was noted that High Wycombe Town Committee had endorsed its original recommendations and sought Cabinet's approval for all eight schemes.

Cabinet felt that further information was required from Community Services on the two schemes, it was therefore:

RESOLVED: That subject to further discussion with Community Services, and the Community Facilities Strategy confirming that the two outstanding schemes (feasibility study for new toilets on the Rye, and a feasibility study for a new community facility on Shelley Road Recreation Ground) were appropriate schemes for inclusion, the two schemes be included in the allocation of funding – with delegated authority granted to the Leader, and Cabinet Members for Community, Finance, and Planning & Sustainability to approve the outcome of these discussions.

82 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTION FUNDING OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Cabinet approval was sought for the release of Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 funds to the spending services to fund the proposed schemes for the forthcoming year. The proposals would address the impact of development and support the development of the area.

The following recommendations were made to enable the S106 and CIL funding programmes to be implemented in order to address the impacts of developments that had taken place and to improve the infrastructure of the District.

RESOLVED: That (i) S106 and CIL funding is allocated for the identified projects to be implemented in 2015/16 outlined in Appendix C of the report.

(ii) S106 and CIL funding is released for the identified projects to be implemented in 2015/16 outlined in Appendix C of the report except where further info has been required by the panel, as referred to in paragraph 16 and indicated in Appendix A of the report.

(iii) Delegated authority is granted to the Head of Planning & Sustainability in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning & Sustainability to approve the release of funds for schemes where further information has been required by the panel as referred to in paragraph 16 and indicated in Appendix A of the report.

(iv) S106 funding approved for projects by March 2014 Cabinet which are being progressed but which will not be spent out by 31 March 2015 as set out in paragraph 17 of the report be carried over to be spent in the 2015/16 financial year.

(v) Subject to further discussion with Community Services, and the Community Facilities Strategy also confirming that the two outstanding schemes put forward by the High Wycombe Town Committee (see Minute 81) (feasibility study for new toilets on the Rye, and a feasibility study for a new community facility on Shelley Road Recreation Ground) were appropriate schemes for inclusion, the two schemes be included in the allocation of funding – with delegated authority granted to the Leader, and Cabinet Members for Community, Finance, and Planning & Sustainability to approve the outcome of these discussions.

83 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

The report before Cabinet summarised the main issues in relation to the revised procurement Strategy which had been amended to align with the National Procurement Strategy that had been published in July 2014. The amended strategy included the key principles which the Council will follow with regard to its procurement activities.

The following decisions were made in order to approve the proposed Procurement Strategy.

RESOLVED: That (i) the Procurement Strategy attached at Appendix A of the report encapsulated the guiding principles for Council procurement activities for the period from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2018 be approved; and

(ii) the implementation of the strategy as set out within the document be endorsed.

84 INFORMATION SHEETS

Cabinet received the following Information Sheet issued since the last meeting:

5/2014 Complaints, Comments, Compliment Quarter 2

85 FILE ON ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Cabinet received the following files on actions taken under delegated powers:

Community C/1/15 – C/16/15
Environment E/1/15 – E/2/15
Finance F/1/15 – F/6/15
Leader L/1/15 – L/2/15
Planning PS/1/15 – PS/3/15

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as they contain exempt information as defined in Regulation 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, more particularly as follows:

Minute 77 – Strategic Risk Register – part of Appendix A

Minute 79 - Revenue Budget and Council Tax Setting – Appendix I

Minute 86 – Improvement & Review Commission Budget Task and Finish Group Recommendations

Minute 87 - Appointment of a Managed Service Provider for Temporary & Agency Workers

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information (Paragraph 3, Part 1 of schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972)

[The need to maintain the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because disclosure could prejudice the Council's position in any future tender process or negotiations]

Minute 68 – File on Exempt Actions Taken under Delegated Powers

Economic Development & Regeneration Sheet Nos: EDR/1/15 – EDR/16/15

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information (Paragraph 3, Part 1 of schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972)

[The need to maintain the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because disclosure could prejudice the Council's position in any future tender process or negotiations]

86 IMPROVEMENT & REVIEW COMMISSION BUDGET TASK AND FINISH GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet received a presentation from Councillor R Gaffney, the Chairman of the Improvement & Review Commission, and J Richards OBE, the Chairman of the Task and Finish Group on the findings of the Budget Task and Finish Group's review of the budget position. In general, the group had supported the following principles resilience, raising standards, maximising the use of assets and ensuring value for money.

During consideration of this item, Cabinet noted the recommendations, and agreed that an interim report on progress of each recommendation be presented to the July Cabinet meeting, with the hope that most items would be completed by then.

Cabinet thanked the Task and Finish Group and officers for all their hard work.

The following recommendations were made to help inform the decisions being taken by Wycombe District Council in setting the budget for the forthcoming year 2015/16.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations made by the Improvement and Review Commission Budget Task & Finish Group be received, and a further report be presented to the July Cabinet meeting responding to each of the recommendations in detail.

87 APPOINTMENT OF A MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE PROVISION OF AGENCY STAFF

The report before Cabinet sought approval to appoint a managed service provider for the provision of temporary agency staff.

The following decision was made as appointing a managed service provider for the provision of temporary agency staff would allow the Council to more effectively manage its agency staff, obtain greater value for money on its agency worker spend and improve service to managers by establishing a single point of contact for the appointment and management of agency workers.

RESOLVED: That a call off contract for temporary, agency staff be awarded to the provider referred to in paragraph 7 of the report, for a period of two years with an option to extend for a further two years under the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) national framework agreement for Managed Services for Temporary Agency Staff (MSTAR).

88 FILE ON ACTION TAKEN UNDER EXEMPT DELEGATED POWERS

Cabinet received the following files on exempt actions taken under delegated powers:

Economic Development & Regeneration: EDR/1/15 – EDR/16/15

Chairman

The following officers were in attendance at the meeting:

Karen Satterford - Chief Executive
Ian Hunt - Democratic Services Manager