

## **CABINET – 17TH OCTOBER 2019**

### **Report of the Scrutiny Commission**

#### **ITEM 8      TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME – RESOURCING FOR MOBILISATION**

##### Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to the request for funding from the Reinvestment Reserve to facilitate the mobilisation of the Council's Transformation Programme.

##### Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission supports the recommendations as set out in the report of the Chief Executive.

##### Reason

The Commission was satisfied that the funding from the Reinvestment Reserve to facilitate the mobilisation of the Council's Transformation Programme was appropriate and would provide improvements to the Council.

##### Meeting Discussion

- i. The figure of £220,000 was based on projections from the Business Rates Retention Scheme, which had been designated for digital transformation and town centre support.
- ii. The funds would be used in the initial generation of a digital transformation project. It was unknown whether further funding for the project would be available in the future, but the effective establishment of the project would be secured.
- iii. There was a need to accelerate the delivery of transformational objectives and provide the best possible services. The intention of the Programme was to provide a highly accessible, inclusive service to all residents. Traditional methods of interaction with the Council would still remain, including personal support and signposting. However, access should more accurately reflect demand to access services via online and digital methods. It was stressed that there would be no disadvantage in terms of the methods of accessing services.
- iv. A Corporate Transformation Board had been created in order to develop, initiate, resource and monitor the programme. This Board consisted of a team of

Senior Officers and the Lead Member for Transformation. Technical knowledge and specialised skillsets would be required for the success of the project. Where the existing Programme Board did not have the capacity to provide this, then there would be an opportunity to recruit externally to meet the requirements of the project.

- v. The income generated by the Business Rates Retention Scheme had not been referred to in the Council's 2019/20 budget, as participation in the pilot scheme had not been confirmed at that time. This 'windfall' did not breach the Budget and Policy Framework as the prospective pilot monies did not result in amendments being required to policies and strategies falling within the Budget and Policy Framework, as the windfall monies added to reserves.

### Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

### Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information in this in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

### Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

#### *Financial Implications*

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

#### *Risk Management*

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

Key Decision:	Yes
Background Paper:	Scrutiny Commission Minute 53 2019/20, 14th October 2019
Officer to Contact:	Sally Watson Democratic Services Officer (01509) 634969 Sally.watson@charnwood.gov.uk

