



Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Date: Thursday, 7 February 2019

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Council Antechamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

There will be a private meeting for Members only at 1.30pm in Committee Room 6 (Room 2006), 2nd Floor of Town Hall Extension

Access to the Council Antechamber

Public access to the Council Antechamber is on Level 2 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension. That lobby can also be reached from the St. Peter's Square entrance and from Library Walk. **There is no public access from the Lloyd Street entrances of the Extension.**

Filming and broadcast of the meeting

Meetings of the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee are 'webcast'. These meetings are filmed and broadcast live on the Internet. If you attend this meeting you should be aware that you might be filmed and included in that transmission.

Membership of the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee

Councillors - Russell (Chair), Ahmed Ali, Andrews, Barrett, Clay, Davies, Lanchbury, Kilpatrick, R Moore, B Priest, Rowles, A Simcock, Watson and S Wheeler

Agenda

1. Urgent Business

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

2. Appeals

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

3. Interests

To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears; [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If Members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

4. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2019.

7 - 14

5. Updated Financial Strategy and Directorate Business Plans 2019-20 - To follow

5A Corporate Core Business Plan - To follow

5B Strategic Development Business Planning - To follow

6. The impact of welfare reform agenda on the Council's finances and its ability to provide support to residents of Manchester

15 - 62

Report of the City Treasurer

The impact of welfare reform agenda on the Council's finances and its ability to provide support to residents of Manchester.

The scope of this report only considers the financial impact on the Council. A further report is due to go to Economy Scrutiny in March 2019 and this will cover the economic impact on residents, partners and communities

7. Changes to the Council Tax charges levied for tax on empty properties

63 - 84

Report of the City Treasurer

The Government has introduced further discretionary powers for councils to charge progressively higher rates of Council Tax for domestic properties that are empty for more than two years, five years and ten years. This report considers the impact of adopting these changes.

The report also revisits the decisions made in 2012 to give a 100% discount for one month if a domestic property is empty and unfurnished, and a 50% discount for up to 12 months if a domestic property is undergoing major works or structural alterations.

The purpose of this report is to provide final recommendations, following a consultation exercise about whether to adopt these new discretionary powers, and whether to retain or remove the discounts relating to properties empty for one month or undergoing major works.

8. Changes to the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme - results of consultation and final proposals - To follow

9. Overview Report

85 - 112

Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit.

This report provides the Committee with details of key decisions that fall within the Committee's remit and an update on actions resulting from the Committee's recommendations. The report also includes the Committee's work programme, which the Committee is asked to amend as appropriate and agree.

10. Exclusion of Press and Public

The officers consider that the following items contains exempt information as provided for in the Local Government Access to Information Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. The Committee is recommended to agree the necessary resolutions excluding the public from the meeting during consideration of this item.

11. Call In: The appointment of a Provider to deliver City Wide Advice Services (Public Excluded)

113 - 138

The decision of the Acting Executive Director Strategic Commissioning (with DASS responsibilities) has been called in by Councillors Clay, Curley, Reid, Hughes, Wheeler and Azra Ali in accordance with paragraph 13.3 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

The terms of the call in are:

" With a contracting process whereby only one bidder submits a tender it is difficult to see the process as a robust test of efficiency

and value."

A copy of the Decision Notice is attached.

Members of the Committee are asked to consider whether or not they will refer the decision back to the decision maker for reconsideration.

12. Management of staff performance and misconduct (Public Excluded)

139 - 196

Report of Director of HROD

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the Council's approach to managing staff performance and misconduct in line with the organisation's agreed policies. The report provides case numbers, key issues and trends in relation to the Council's Disciplinary and Capability policies as well as broader information on the work of HROD to strengthen the organisation's approach to people management.

This report responds to specific Member queries raised in response to this item at the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee in January 2019.

Information about the Committee

Scrutiny Committees represent the interests of local people about important issues that affect them. They look at how the decisions, policies and services of the Council and other key public agencies impact on the city and its residents. Scrutiny Committees do not take decisions but can make recommendations to decision-makers about how they are delivering the Manchester Strategy, an agreed vision for a better Manchester that is shared by public agencies across the city.

The Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee areas of interest include finances, Council buildings, staffing, corporate and partnership governance as well as Council tax and benefits administration. .

The Council wants to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions that affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair. Groups of people will usually be asked to nominate a spokesperson. The Council wants its meetings to be as open as possible but occasionally there will be some confidential business. Brief reasons for confidentiality will be shown on the agenda sheet.

The Council welcomes the filming, recording, public broadcast and use of social media to report on the Committee's meetings by members of the public.

Agenda, reports and minutes of all Council Committees can be found on the Council's website www.manchester.gov.uk.

Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive
Level 3, Town Hall Extension,
Albert Square,
Manchester, M60 2LA

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

Michael Williamson
Tel: 0161 2343071
Email: m.williamson@manchester.gov.uk

This agenda was issued on **Wednesday, 30 January 2019** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall Extension (Mount Street Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA