

CABINET

At a meeting of Cabinet held on
30 May 2018

- (Present) **Councillor D Long (Chairman)
Councillors Bowden, Burns, Clarke, Neal,
Pearson and Quinn**
- (Not Present) **Councillor A Johnson**
- (Also Present) **Councillors Bond (Chairman, Environment,
Regeneration, Housing, Culture and Leisure
Overview and Scrutiny Panel) and
Charlton (Chairman, Children & Young People's
Services Overview & Scrutiny Panel Overview and
Scrutiny Panel).**
- (Present as an
observer) **Councillor Baines**

1 **APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor A Johnson.

2 **MINUTES**

- * **Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on
25 April 2018 be approved and signed.**

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**

No declarations of interest were made.

4 **ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

- a) **Scrutiny Review of Service Charges for Owner Occupiers within
Retirement Villages**

A report was presented by Councillor Bond which set out the findings of a Scrutiny Review of Service Charges for Owner Occupiers within Retirement Villages which had been undertaken by the Environment, Regeneration, Housing, Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

- * **Resolved that:**

- (1) **the report be noted; and**
- (2) **a report and action plan in response to the recommendations
be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet.**

Councillor Bond here left the meeting.

CABINET

b) Scrutiny Review of Teenage Sexual Health Services

A report was presented by Councillor Charlton which set out the findings of a Scrutiny Review of Teenage Sexual Health Services which had been undertaken by the Children & Young People's Services Overview & Scrutiny Panel Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) **the report be noted; and**
- (2) **a report and action plan in response to the recommendations be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet.**

Councillor Charlton here left the meeting.

5 CORPORATE FINANCIAL REPORT

A report was submitted which informed Cabinet of the following:

- (i) report on the Council's outturn figures (subject to audit) for 2017/18;
- (ii) report the latest reserves and balances position;
- (iii) restate the Council revenue budget for 2018/19 incorporating the effect of revised portfolios; carry forwards, and / or other issues arising from the outturn position for 2017/18, and
- (iv) provide the Treasury Management Outturn Report 2017/2018.

The main elements of the report are contained in the attached commentary on the Council's Financial Position.

Section	Content
1	Capital Programme Outturn 2017/18
2	Revenue Budget Outturn 2017/18
3	Reserves and Balances
4	Revenue Budget 2018/19
5	Treasury Management Outturn Report 2017/18

* **Resolved that Council be recommended to:**

- (1) **note the 2017/18 Capital Programme Outturn position (subject to audit) as summarised in Section 1 and detailed at Annex A;**
- (2) **approve the 2017/18 creation of a Town Centre Reserve and Equal Pay Reserve as detailed in Sections 2.1.2 and 2.1.3;**
- (3) **approve the 2018/19 creation of additional reserves as detailed in Section 3.1.2:**
 - **Business Attraction Fund;**
 - **Community Improvement Reserve;**

CABINET

- **Strategic Priorities Fund;**
 - **Service Improvement Reserve;**
- (4) **approve the re-designation of the Insurance Fund and the earmarking of additional sums as detailed in Section 2.1.4;**
 - (5) **note the Revenue Outturn position (subject to audit) for 2017/18 as detailed in Section 2.1.5;**
 - (6) **approve the carry forward and acceleration of budget provision for continuing earmarked reserve funded schemes, as detailed in Annex B;**
 - (7) **approve that there will be no reductions to any Directorate budgets in 2018/19 arising from the outturn position for 2017/18, as detailed in Section 2.2.3;**
 - (8) **approve the requests for carry forwards as outlined in Section 2.2.4;**
 - (9) **note the latest reserves and balances position as outlined in Section 3;**
 - (10) **approve the revised Revenue Budget for 2018/19 as outlined in Section 4; and**
 - (11) **note the Treasury Management Outturn Report 2017/18 as included in Section 5.**

6 PROPOSED CONVERSION OF HELENA PARTNERSHIPS TO A COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY

A report was submitted which informed Cabinet that Council had received notification from Torus regarding the proposed conversion of Helena Partnerships (“HP”) to a community benefit society (“CBS”). The proposed change would mean HP converting from a company limited by guarantee to a registered society under the Co-Operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, to be regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Council would still retain two nominated elected Members on the Torus Community Consultative Forum but there was no provision for a Council nominee to the HP or Torus Boards.

*** Resolved that**

- (1) **the proposal by Helena Partnerships to convert to a community benefit society be noted; and**
- (2) **the changes to the position of the Council in terms of voting rights upon conversion be noted.**

CABINET

7 REPORT ON INSPECTION OF ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

A report was submitted which updated Members on the inspection of St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic High School which was undertaken in February 2018. The school was judged to require special measures.

Where a school is graded inadequate, the Education and Adoption Act 2016 places a duty upon a local authority and the school's governors to facilitate the conversion of that school to academy status.

St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic High School is a voluntary aided school, in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The consent of the Diocesan Bishop must be given for academy conversion to take place. The current Archdiocesan position was that the relevant Bishop (Archbishop Malcolm McMahon) will not give his consent to the conversion of the school to an academy.

Ofsted requires the Local Authority to produce a Statement of Action, outlining the steps the Local Authority and governors will take to facilitate academisation. A draft Statement had accordingly been produced, and it set out the actions underpinning the conversion process that the Local Authority must take to comply with the Academy Order. They deal with matters such as the transfer of land belonging to the Local Authority to the nominated multi-academy trust.

When the Act was passed in 2016, the Department for Education signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Catholic Church, attached at Appendix 3 to the report. Amongst other matters, that Memorandum of Understanding stated that "decisions about the future of any Catholic school, particularly any decisions that relate to structural changes, including changes to governance arrangements, require both the consent of the Diocesan Bishop and the Trustees".

The instructions surrounding the Statement do not require the Local Authority to set out how it will work to improve outcomes at the school. The relevant instructions state that the Statement must set out "the actions the Local Authority and the governing body propose to take to meet their duty to facilitate the school's conversion into an academy; and the period within which proposed actions are planned."

Ofsted required the submission of the statement by Monday 16 April, and it was accordingly sent to it on that date.

The Local Authority's school effectiveness service will continue to provide challenge and support to the school, with the assistance of the Archdiocese. For instance, the Local Authority has deployed the former Headteacher of an outstanding school to work intensively with the school to improve the quality of leadership and of teaching at St Augustine's. A specialist consultant has also been asked to support the school to improve behaviour. Beyond that, the Local Authority will continue to conduct reviews of the quality of education at the school. Those contributions will serve to assist in improving leadership and governance at the school, behaviour, and the quality of teaching.

CABINET

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) the content and despatch of the draft Statement of Action at Appendix 1 be noted;**
- (2) the role of the Archdiocese of Liverpool be noted; and**
- (3) the way forward, as set out in paragraphs 6 and 8 of the Statement and below be agreed:**
 - compliance with the Education and Adoption Act 2016, in that the local authority (and governors) facilitate the conversion of St Augustine's to academy status; and**
 - the Local Authority to continue to work with the Archdiocese to assist the school to improve outcomes there and progress towards actions identified on the school improvement plan be presented to Cabinet on a regular basis.**

8 RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD CUP 2021 – HOST PARTNER BID

A report was submitted which sought Cabinet's approval to produce a bid for the 2021 Rugby League World Cup.

Rugby League has a strong heritage in the borough and was the largest spectator sport in St Helens. The Borough had provided international standard players in both the men's and women's game.

St Helens Rugby League Club and the Council had invested to build one of the best stadia in the country designed for and dedicated to the sport of Rugby League, with the aim of attracting high profile events such as the Rugby league World Cup.

The Rugby League had commissioned independent studies that place the economic value of hosting World Cup group matches at between £2.4m and £4.5m. Coupled with the direct economic impact each match will be broadcast live by the BBC raising the profile of the borough both nationally and internationally.

The hosting of the event in St Helens could also contribute to other strategic initiatives such as St Helens Town Centre regeneration, raising the profile of St Helens, and links to public health messages where sport is a key means of delivering healthy living campaigns.

* **Resolved that:**

- (1) the production of a bid to become a host for the 2021 Rugby League World Cup be approved;**
- (2) up to £30,000 per annum be contributed in 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 from the Transformation Reserve Fund to support the bid;**

CABINET

- (3) the bid be publically launched as part of the Borough's 150th Celebration's; and**
- (4) the Strategic Director, Place Services, in consultation with the Leader, be delegated responsibility for the final bid submission.**

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