

UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH MATTERS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY THE SOCIETY, ENVIRONMENT, AND COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT EAB

Date of Meeting	Item	Lead Officer	Lead Councillor	Action Agreed	Progress to date
7Jan 2016	Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2016-17	Philip O'Dwyer (Director of Community Services)	Councillor Tony Rooth	The Board approved the recommendations to the Executive (19/01/16), as submitted in the report.	The Council adopted the HRA budget for 2016-17 at the Budget Council meeting on 10 February 2016.
	General Fund Capital Programme (2016-17 to 2020-21)	Claire Morris (Head of Financial Services)	Cllr Nigel Manning (now Cllr Michael Illman)	<p>The Board advised the Executive</p> <p>(i) That external funding for Chilworth Gunpowder Mills and all appropriate projects be explored by officers.</p> <p>(ii) That annual forecast balances of the respective costs and benefits be included in capital expenditure proposals whenever possible.</p>	
	Service and Financial Planning - General Fund Budget 2016-17	Claire Morris (Head of Financial Services)	Cllr Nigel Manning (now Cllr Michael Illman)	Board members reiterated the need to be aware of the potential risks of capital programme debt given the position and outlook for the Council's revenue account.	The Council adopted the General Fund budget for 2016-17 at the Budget Council meeting on 10 February 2016.
25 Feb 2016	Procurement	Satish Mistry (Director of Corporate Services)	Councillor Matt Furniss	The Board agreed to invite officers back to a meeting in six to nine months, to report on what had been achieved and to provide new information regarding a targeted approach to cost savings.	Report back scheduled for 17 November 2016
	Play Strategy	Jonathan Sewell (Leisure Services Manager)	Councillor Iseult Roche	The Board reviewed the objectives of the strategy, the preparation process and the policy decisions and were supportive of the content.	Executive adopted the Play Strategy on 19 April 2016

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7 April 2016	The Future of the Electric Theatre	James Whiteman (Director of Environment)	Cllr Geoff Davis (now Councillor Nikki Nelson-Smith)	<p>The Board fully supported the recommendations for Executive's consideration.</p> <p>The Board suggested that detailed specifications for community use of the Electric Theatre, as well as a break clause, should be included when setting out the terms and conditions as part of the procurement exercise</p>	<p>On 19 April 2016, the Executive authorised the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Lead Councillor, the Director of Corporate Services and the Electric Theatre and Yvonne Arnaud Theatre Working Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To agree the precise form of the procurement exercise b) To agree the criteria to be used in the procurement exercise (including the nature and extent of the community use to be secured) c) To agree the nature and form of any disposal of The Electric Theatre pursuant to the procurement exercise d) To carry out the procurement exercise e) To report back to the Executive at the conclusion of the above and prior to the award of any contract and/or disposal of The Electric Theatre
26 May 2016	Business Rates Discretionary Rate Review	Steve White (Director of Resources)	Councillor Michael Illman	<p>The Board indicated that the application process should encourage the dual-use of properties, as well as offering incentives for pursuits that may complement local authority activity.</p> <p>The Board suggested that the Executive should receive an explanation of what each organisation in receipt of rate relief offered to the community.</p>	<p>On 19 July 2016, the Executive agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) to make no changes to the discretionary rate relief scheme, but noted that there will be an increase in cost over the next three years; (2) to review the scheme again in 2019 when there will be more information available about both future funding and the health of the high street.

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	Business Planning: Assumptions, Priorities and Deficit Reduction	Claire Morris (Head of Financial Services)	Councillor Michael Illman	<p>The Board suggested that the public should be consulted before the transformation of any Council services.</p> <p>The Board recommended that the Executive consider adopting a mixed economy of the organisational models described in the report for the medium term financial strategy.</p>	On 19 July 2016, the Executive agreed the various budget assumptions, but decided that the Council should adopt an 'Entrepreneurial Council' model for the medium term financial strategy.
14 July 2016	Arts Development Strategy	Jonathan Sewell (Leisure Services Manager)	Councillor Nikki Nelson-Smith	<p>The Board suggested that a review should be carried out to identify any missed opportunities due to a lack of resources and to determine how additional funding could be used to enhance the arts development provision in the Borough.</p> <p>The Board resolved that the officers and the lead councillor review the budget for the Arts Development Service.</p>	
8 September 2016	Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2017-18	Steve White (Director of Resources)	Councillor Tony Rooth/Councillor Michael Illman	The Board recommended that no changes be made to the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme, subject to the feedback the Council would receive from stakeholder consultation.	This would be considered by the Executive at their meeting on 29 November, and Full Council at the meeting on 6 December.
	Website Development Project	Jenifer Davis (Web Programme Manager)	Councillor Paul Spooner	The Board suggested that as both Councillors and residents used Modern.Gov and the search system for planning applications regularly, it was important that they functioned properly and should be included in the	<p>This project is progressing well and all set to be delivered before Christmas.</p> <p>The actions arising from the meeting referred to two specific areas where the website is integrated to internal systems – the planning</p>

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				project.	<p>system (Idox) and Modern.Gov, which the committee services team use for managing and publishing committee information.</p> <p>As part of the website development project we are working with Modern.Gov to ensure a consistent look and feel across the two areas, we are also looking at the way that the information is presented to simplify the user journey. Additionally, by introducing a "Council and Democracy" area on the site, we hope to make this type of information more easily accessible to all.</p> <p>The action to look at the planning application searches is more complex, as the system for the storage and retrieval of planning applications is provided by Idox and the roadmap to deliver upgrades and improvements needs to be agreed with them directly. We are working with them to determine whether we can change the look and feel of the area, and can make requests for functional changes, but, as part of a large group of customers using the same system, we are not able to determine the timescale or priority for any functional development or implementation. The planning team work directly with Idox and will continue to ensure the system meets our customer needs. We will report back to EAB once progress is made with Idox.</p>
20 October 2016	Smart Cities: An Energy, Climate Change and Sustainability Perspective		Councillor Nikki Nelson-Smith		

