

Minutes of the Cabinet

**Thursday, 6th July, 2023 at 6.00pm
at Saltwells Education Development Centre, Netherton**

Present:

Cabinet Members

Councillor P Harley (Leader - Chair)
Councillor P Bradley (Deputy Leader - Vice-Chair)
Councillors P Atkins, I Bevan, R Buttery, S Clark, D Corfield, Dr R Clinton,
M Rogers and L Taylor-Childs.

Opposition Group Members Nominated to attend the Cabinet

Councillors A Aston, C Bayton, J Cowell, J Foster, S Ridney and P Sahota.

Officers

K O'Keefe (Chief Executive), B Heran (Deputy Chief Executive), I Newman
(Director of Finance and Legal), M Farooq (Lead for Law and Governance –
Monitoring Officer) and S Griffiths (Democratic Services Manager).

18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of
Councillors S Ali, K Casey, P Lowe and Q Zada.

19 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared in accordance with the Members' Code of
Conduct.

20 **2022/23 Provisional Revenue Outturn and Medium Term Financial Strategy**

A joint report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance and Legal was submitted on the provisional revenue outturn for 2022/23 and changes to the Medium Term Financial Strategy. In presenting the report, the Cabinet Member for Finance, Legal and Human Resources drew attention to the Council's financial position as set out in the report and made the Cabinet aware of the comments of the External Auditors as set out in their Annual Audit Plan 2022/23.

The Leader, Cabinet Members and Officers responded to detailed questions from Members of the Opposition Group concerning vacancy levels, the library service, children's services and schools budgets, regeneration, income generation from commercial activities and additional spending in highways and environment.

Resolved

- (1) That the draft General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) outturns for 2022/23 be noted.
- (2) That the potential need to amend the outturn in respect of a loan to the Black Country Innovative Manufacturing Organisation (BCIMO), as set out in paragraph 3 of the report, be noted.
- (3) That the effect of the General Fund outturn on General Fund balances as at 31st March, 2023 be noted.
- (4) That the continuation of the local scheme to disregard War Pensions in the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction schemes, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report, be approved.
- (5) That the financial position of the Council, as set out in the report and as summarised in paragraph 26 of the report, be noted.
- (6) That the Council be recommended to amend the budgets as outlined in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the report.

21 **Questions from Members to the Leader (Cabinet Procedure Rule 2.5)**

No questions were raised under this agenda item.

The meeting ended at 6.35pm

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL