

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Council on Wednesday, 6 December 2023

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

6	Capital Programme 2023-2024 to 2027-2028 Quarter Two Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the revised, medium term General Fund capital programme of £358.8 million, an increase of £9.0 million from the previously approved programme, and the change in associated resources be approved. 2. That the revised, medium term Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme of £523.5 million, a net decrease of £5.0 million from the previously approved programme, and the change in associated resources be approved.
7	Treasury Management Activity Monitoring - Mid Year Review 2023-2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be noted, a mid-year review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement had been undertaken and the Council had operated within the limits and requirements approved in March 2023. 2. That it be noted, that revenue underspends of £793,000 for the General Fund and £1.5 million for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) were forecast from treasury management activities in 2023-2024.
8	Final polling district and polling station proposals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the polling district and polling place scheme contained in Appendix 1 to this report be approved and adopted in relation to all elections. 2. That the necessary amendments to polling districts for the publication of the revised register on 2 January 2023 be approved. 3. That it be approved, authority be delegated to the Returning Officer and Chief Operating Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities, Leader and Leader of the Opposition to make minor alterations to the polling station scheme prior to the next compulsory statutory review in five years. 4. That it be noted, the annual publication of the revised register had been delayed from 1 December to 2 January 2024 due to a by-election taking place during the annual canvass period. 5. That it noted, the submissions made to the Council as part of the polling district and station consultation, and the Returning Officer response to these were contained in Appendix 2 to this report. 6. That it be noted, there had been an increase of 2 schools to 17. 1 of these schools

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		<p>stays open on polling day and 7 currently plan for polling day as either an inset day or remote learning day. Comparatively, Wolverhampton uses the least number of schools across the region. From analysis carried out in September 2022, the number of schools used by other metropolitan councils in the region was detailed in this report. All of these councils would also be carrying out their own statutory polling district review and many have boundary reviews so the situation may change.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Appointment of Section 151 Officer and Other Senior Vacancies</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be approved, with effect from 6 December 2023 the statutory Section 151 Officer function would be assumed by the Deputy Chief Executive as part of the transitional arrangements following the resignation of the Director of Finance. 2. That it be approved, the implementation of the job allocation outcome for the Chief Accountant post from Grade 12 to Grade 13 with effect from 10 August 2023. 3. That it be approved, following the job allocation review that the Chief Accountant (Deputy Section 151 Officer) be redesignated to Deputy Director of Finance as per the current structure for Grade 13 posts, retaining the Deputy Section 151 Officer responsibility. 4. That it be approved, to appoint with immediate effect, James Howse, Interim Director of Finance, as a further Deputy Section 151 Officer. 5. That it be approved, that interim arrangements would be considered to ensure a smooth transition for the Director of Adults post pending the secondment to the vacancy - any interim Director of Adults would assume the statutory DASS responsibility. 6. That it be approved, the redesignation of the vacant Executive Director of Families post to Executive Director with effect from 6 December 2023. 7. That it be approved, the funding for the vacant Executive Director post (detailed at para 1.5 to this report) would be funded from corporate budgets should that be required, following the review by the Chief Executive of strategic capacity. 8. That it be noted, the Director of Finance, currently the Section 151 Officer leaves the

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		<p>Council on 26 January 2024.</p> <p>9. That it be noted, interim arrangements had been made to ensure a smooth transition for the Director of Finance post pending the permanent recruitment to the vacancy, with James Howse, an experienced Section 151 Officer, as interim Director of Finance.</p> <p>10. That it be noted, the Director of Adults, currently the statutory DASS would be leaving the Council in the new year (2024).</p> <p>11. That it be noted, the 12 month secondment opportunity for the Director of Adults (including the DASS function) post would be subject to a Special Appointments Committee as per the Constitution.</p> <p>12. That it be noted, the dedication, commitment and positive impact that both the Director of Finance and Director of Adults have had on our Council and city.</p> <p>13. That it be noted, the Chief Executive would be carrying out a review of strategic capacity within senior officers and in the event that the vacant Executive Director role is required it would subject to a Special Appointments Committee as per the Constitution and have responsibility for portfolios as determined by the Chief Executive.</p>
10	Written Questions by Councillors	That the responses to written questions be noted.
11	Motions on Notice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the motion on City Centre Review be agreed. 2. That the motion on Green Innovation Corridor be deferred to the next meeting and be the first motion considered.