

- Present: Councillor: Murphy (in the Chair)
- Councillors: Ali, Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Iqbal, King, Lancaster, Piddington, Quinn, Shilton Godwin, Smart, Young and Zaman
- Officers: Clerk, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Director of Contract Services, Solicitor, Deputy Treasurer, Head of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, Head of Contract Services, Head of Organisational Development & Administration and Senior Corporate Services Officer - Governance
- In attendance: Waste Infrastructure Delivery Programme (WIDP) Transactor
- Apologies: Councillors: Jones
- Officers: All Officers were present

M65 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

There was no urgent business introduced by the Chair.

M66 To receive Declarations of Interest in any contractor or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest received at the meeting.

M67 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 20th January 2017

M62 Authority and Committee Work Programme for the 2016/17 Municipal Year

A discussion took place about governance arrangements and a Member asked where the finance element sat within the structure. In response, Officers advised that the finance element sat with the Audit & Standards Committee and also formed part of the performance framework considered by the Authority. The Chair added that special Authority meetings would cover the financial element in addition to the Audit & Standards Committee. A Member of the Audit & Standards Committee reassured Members that the Committee had three Independent Members and an excellent Chair. In addition, the Grant Thornton (GT) the Authority's auditors also attended the meeting. The Member reassured the Authority that the finance element was safeguarded.

A Member enquired why the new Task & Finish Groups had not been set up to coincide with Authority meetings. It was advised that they had been. However, this Authority meeting was a special meeting specifically to consider the budget.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the last meeting held on 20th January 2017 are approved as a correct record.

M68 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press are excluded from the meeting at this juncture for the following business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respectively indicated paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

It would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose this information to the public and press for the reasons indicated within the report(s).

M69 Budget 2017/18 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2021/22 – Savings Programme Commercial Considerations

Members considered the joint Officers report of the Clerk, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services that set out commercial considerations in respect of the 2017/18 and beyond budget and Levy prospects. It was noted that all matters contained in the report had been appropriately summarised in the complementary open budget and Levy report so that all relevant information was included in a single point, to facilitate formal decision making. That would also ensure that the Authority was, in so far as possible, delivering on its aim to be open and transparent.

The report therefore covered several areas:

- a) the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Recycling & Waste Management Contract (the Contract) Savings programme proposals and current position (Section 4 of the report);
- b) key budget assumptions (Section 5 of the report);
- c) scenario modelling (Section 6 of the report); and
- d) risk assessment and Balances (Section 7 of the report).

The Solicitor reminded Members, that following legal advice in terms of budget considerations, all matters within this report were of a confidential nature and should not be discussed outside of the meeting.

The Clerk introduced the item and explained that the budget presented today was a culmination of work. This year had been even more complex than in previous years and would be more so moving forward. The Clerk thanked the Finance Team for their hard work and also thanked Members for their work the commitment.

Following the Clerk's introduction, the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and Director of Contract Services provided Members with a verbal summary to accompany the report.

Officers then provided Members with further clarification in relation to the transport Levy, communication with the press and public, savings, risk assessments, contamination, reserves and reputational damage.

In terms of communications, Members asked and the Authority agreed, to provide them with a briefing note.

Members thanked Officers for the comprehensive report and acknowledged their hard work in presenting the budget.

RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) notes the current position in relation to the development of the savings programme, as set out in Section 4 of the report;
- b) endorses the budget assumptions for 2017/18 and the associated critical judgements in relation to the MTFP, as set out in Section 5 of the report; and
- c) notes the scenario modelling, detailed risk assessment and proposed general Balances position, as set out in Sections 6 and 7 of the report.

M70 Authority to pass resolution to open the meeting up to the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That the meeting be opened to the press and public for the remaining items contained within the agenda.

M71 Budget and Levy 2017/18 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2021/22

Members considered the joint Officers report of the Clerk, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services that sought agreement for the budget and Levy for 2017/18 and set out a MTFP for a five year period to 2021/22. Those plans were delivery by:

- a) requiring a total Levy for 2017/18 of £247.295m was required, which represented a 53.5% average increase over 2016/17. The impact of that at District level was however, mitigated to 5.27% average increase, by a reduction in the Greater Manchester Combed Authority (GMCA) Levy; and
- b) the MTFP then proposed decreases of 23.1%, 9.5% and 2.4% Levy in 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 respectively (due to the impact of removing an additional Levy in 2017/18 and no support from the MTFP Reserve), before returning in 2021/22 to a normative increase level of 3.0%, which was around 70% of predicted annual inflation (as measured by the Retail Price Index, excluding mortgages (RPIx)).

The report brought together final proposals for the 2017/18 budget and Levy, building on Contract and savings updates that had been provided to each Authority meeting throughout the year. The report, and the preceding closed report, suggested a balanced risk approach be adopted in setting the budget requirements against a background of a savings programme, which was making good progress about the detail of how savings were to be delivered, but had not yet concluded. The 2017/18 Levy proposal also included an additional Levy sum of £77.701m, which was required to provide 'invest to save' resources and hence allowed the savings programme to be delivered. That sum had to be raised from Districts, but it was being neutralised at an individual District level by a corresponding reduction in the GMCA (transport) Levy. That sum would subsequently be returned to Districts, and then to GMCA, from future years' savings.

Members thanked the Finance Team and recognised the amount of work that had taken place to produce the budget.

In accordance with the Authority's Constitution, the Head of Corporate Services conducted a named vote, which was recorded as follows:

For: Ali, Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Iqbal, King, Lancaster, Murphy, Piddington, Quinn, Shilton Godwin, Smart, Young and Zaman

Against: none; and

Abstained: none.

RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) notes the proposed revised budget for 2016/17 which, whilst containing several changes at an individual budget spend level, is expected to be in line with the approved net budget, as set out in Section 6 of the report;
- b) approves the outline savings programme for the Contract, and further work to finalise that programme, as set out in Section 7 of the report;
- c) approves the 2018/19 Trade Waste rate at £92.60 (ie, £89.40 plus 3.6%) to allow forward planning by Districts, as set out in paragraph 8.6 of the report;
- d) agrees the Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2019/20 as set out in Appendix C of the report and inclusion of the consequential revenue effects in the budget and Levy from 2017/18, as set out in paragraph 8.6 of the report;
- e) agrees the base budget for 2017/18 of £176.904m (3.1% decrease), confirms the additional Levy requirement of £77.701m, use of £7.310m of MTFP Reserve and hence a total Levy requirement of £247.295m (a 53.5% increase), as set out in Section 8 and Appendices A to G of the report;
- f) notes the expected Levy decreases of 23.1%, 9.5% and 2.4% in 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 respectively (due to the unwinding of the additional Levy and MTFP Reserve support), before returning to an inflationary linked 3.0% increase in 2021/22, as set out in Section 9 of the report;
- g) notes the risk position set out in the Balances Strategy, and approves that the requirement from Balances be increased by the transfer of the remaining sum of £2.7m MTFP Reserve, thereby increasing Balances to £12.1m as set out in Sections 10 and 15, and Appendix E of the report;
- h) agrees the updated IAA schedule 1, with Appendix B, as set out in paragraph 8.3 of the report; and
- i) approves the instalment dates for receipt of Levy payments from the constituent Districts, as set out in Appendix H of the report.

M72 GMCA Extended Functions – Future of the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (the Authority)

The Authority considered the joint Officers report of the Clerk and Treasurer & Deputy Clerk that set out an update on progress with the Statutory Order for the extended GMCA. The report advised that the transfer of the powers and functions of the Authority would not take place until at least April 2018 (ie, 12 months later than originally proposed). However, proposals were being progressed to allow some early moves to be made to enable Authority staff to be co-

located with their future GMCA colleagues, and hence to be able to link into the GMCA infrastructure and extended resources.

RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) notes the delay in merger of functions of the Authority into the extended GMCA, until April 2018;
- b) requests that the Clerk writes to all District Council Leaders requesting that, in so far as possible, existing District Member representatives are returned for the new Municipal Year to facilitate a smooth transition during 2017/18; and
- c) notes that the Authority is covered by a protocol, attached at Appendix A of the report, designed to ensure transferring staff for in-scope services (including the Authority) are able to access wider opportunities in the GMCA.

The meeting opened at 9.30 am and closed at 10.21 am.

GMWDA