

Notice of Meeting

Executive

Thursday 8 September 2016 at 5.00pm

in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Market Street, Newbury

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday, 31 August 2016

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Democratic Services Team on (01635) 519462

e-mail: executivecycle@westberks.gov.uk

Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at www.westberks.gov.uk



Agenda - Executive to be held on Thursday, 8 September 2016 (continued)

To: Councillors Dominic Boeck, Anthony Chadley, Jeanette Clifford, Hilary Cole, Roger Croft, Lynne Doherty, Marcus Franks, James Fredrickson, Graham Jones and Rick Jones

Agenda

Part I	Page(s)
1. Apologies for Absence To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any).	
2. Minutes To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 28 July 2016.	7 - 16
3. Declarations of Interest To remind Members of the need to record the existence and nature of any Personal, Disclosable Pecuniary or other interests in items on the agenda, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct .	
4. Public Questions Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution. <i>(Note: There were no questions submitted relating to items not included on this Agenda.)</i>	
5. Petitions Councillors or Members of the public may present any petition which they have received. These will normally be referred to the appropriate Committee without discussion.	

Items as timetabled in the Forward Plan

	Page(s)
6. Council Performance Report 2016/17: Q1 (Key Accountable Measures and Activities) (EX3109) (CSP: MEC) Purpose: To present the basket of key accountable measures and activities for 2016/17.	17 - 26
7. Financial Performance Report 2016/17 - Quarter One (EX3135) (CSP: MEC) Purpose: To inform Members of the latest financial performance of the Council.	27 - 30



8. **Treasury Management Annual Report 2015/16 (EX3160)** 31 - 32
(CSP: MEC)

Purpose: To inform Members of the treasury management activity and performance of the Council's investments for the financial year 2015/16.

9. **Members' Question(s)**

Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.

(a) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport submitted by Councillor Alan Macro**

"Could I please have a breakdown of the legal and professional fees incurred to date on the project to redevelop the London Road Industrial Estate?"

(b) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport by Councillor Alan Macro**

"How often has the number plate recognition camera monitoring the Parkway bridge not been working during the last year and how much revenue is estimated to have been lost as a result?"

(c) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing by Councillor Lee Dillon**

"Can we please have an update on the anticipated percentage of affordable housing units proposed within the Market Street Development?"

(d) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing by Councillor Lee Dillon**

"What does the Council consider to be an acceptable percentage level of profit for developers when considering viability assessments which seem to be a major obstacle in providing affordable housing?"

(e) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing by Councillor Lee Dillon**

"Have the Council now secured sites to provide additional temporary accommodation units?"

(f) **Question to be answered by the Leader of Council by Councillor Lee Dillon**

"Newbury has been described by a former Executive member as a '21st-century market town' what plans do the Council have to provide support to the smaller towns in the District such as Hungerford, Thatcham and Theale?"



10. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

RECOMMENDATION: That members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as it is likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description contained in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 specified in brackets in the heading of each item. [Rule 8.10.4 of the Constitution refers.](#)

Part II

11. **Approved Provider List (APL) Intention to Award Contract**

33 - 38

(Paragraph 3 - information relating to financial/business affairs of a particular person)

(CSP: SLE, P&S, HQL)

Purpose: To inform the Executive of the intention to award a contract for the Domiciliary Care Approved Provider Framework.

To commence the contract in Autumn 2016 and agree a term of three years with the option to extend for a further one year.

Andy Day
Head of Strategic Support

West Berkshire Council Strategy Aims and Priorities

Council Strategy Aims:

- BEC** – Better educated communities
- SLE** – A stronger local economy
- P&S** – Protect and support those who need it
- HQL** – Maintain a high quality of life within our communities
- MEC** – Become an even more effective Council

Council Strategy Priorities:

- BEC1** – Improve educational attainment
- BEC2** – Close the educational attainment gap
- SLE1** – Enable the completion of more affordable housing
- SLE2** – Deliver or enable key infrastructure improvements in relation to roads, rail, flood prevention, regeneration and the digital economy
- P&S1** – Good at safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- HQL1** – Support communities to do more to help themselves
- MEC1** – Become an even more effective Council

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Moira Fraser on telephone (01635) 519045.

(a)

Agenda - Executive to be held on Thursday, 8 September 2016 (continued)

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Note: These Minutes will remain DRAFT until approved at the next meeting of the Committee

EXECUTIVE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 28 JULY 2016

Councillors Present: Anthony Chadley, Hilary Cole, Roger Croft, Lynne Doherty, Marcus Franks, James Fredrickson, Graham Jones, Alan Law and Garth Simpson

Also Present: John Ashworth (Corporate Director - Environment), Gabrielle Esplin (Finance Manager (Capital and Treasury Management)), June Graves (Head of Care Commissioning, Housing & Safeguarding), David Holling (Head of Legal Services), Peta Stoddart-Crompton (Public Relations Officer), Andy Walker (Head of Finance), Rachael Wardell (Corporate Director - Communities), Robert Alexander (Group Executive (Conservatives)), Stephen Chard (Policy Officer), Councillor Lee Dillon and Councillor Alan Macro

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting: Councillor Dominic Boeck

PART I

19. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2016 were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Deputy Leader.

20. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

21. Public Questions

There were no public questions submitted.

22. Petitions

There were no petitions presented to the Executive.

23. Council Performance Report 2015/16: Year End (Key Accountable Measures and Activities) (EX2964)

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 6) which outlined year end outturns against the Key Accountable Measures (KAMs) contained in the 2015/16 Council Performance Framework and any additional performance intelligence; provided assurance to Members that the objectives laid out in the Council Strategy and other areas of significance/importance across the Council were being delivered; and which presented, by exception, those measures/milestones behind schedule or not achieved and the remedial action taken/its impact.

Councillor Roger Croft explained that this report marked the end of the first year of the four year Council Strategy and reported that progress was being made in all priority areas. This was despite the financial pressures faced by the Council and increases in demand in some areas of activity. Councillor Croft added that a near to balanced budget had been achieved for 2015/16.

A key area of activity over the past year had been within Children and Family Services with significant effort being made to move from the 'inadequate' Ofsted judgement to 'Good'. It was also the case that the outcome of the recently undertaken LGA Peer

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Review would soon be published and it was hoped that this would also show that the service was moving towards 'Good'.

Councillor Croft also highlighted that an action plan would be developed to enable the Council to focus on enabling the delivery of 1000 affordable homes by 2020.

81% of the reported KAMs had been achieved for 2015/16 and were therefore 'Green', this compared to 78% achieved for 2014/15.

Five KAMS had been reported as 'Red' and Councillor Croft explained that plans were in place at service area level to address these.

Councillor Alan Law made reference to the Measures of Volume section of the report which highlighted that Business Rate growth was at an all time high and that the number of Jobseekers Allowance claimants in West Berkshire amounted to the second lowest unemployment rate in southern England.

Continuing with Measures of Volume, Councillor Hilary Cole pointed out the significant rise in the number of transactions made through the Council's website. This demonstrated that a high number of transactions could be easily accessed and achieved online by residents. Councillor James Fredrickson added to this point by advising that the Council's website received an overhaul around two months ago and this helped to enable the achievement of tasks online.

Councillor Marcus Franks advised that the number of crimes reported to Thames Valley Police (for West Berkshire) continued to reduce and the figure for Quarter Four 2015/16 was at the lowest point of the last three years.

Councillor Alan Macro noted that 158 affordable housing units had been completed during 2015/16, this was down from a figure of over 200 in 2014/15 and Councillor Macro queried whether the target of delivering 1000 affordable homes by 2020 was in jeopardy. This was particularly concerning when considering that the viability of affordable housing was reported as an issue for housing developers. In response, Councillor Croft reiterated his earlier point that an action plan would be developed to help enable the achievement of this target. He did however acknowledge the changing environment in terms of viability challenges for developers.

Councillor Macro then turned to the core business measure of the proportion of older people who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital. Year end performance of 79% was achieved against the target of 92% and Councillor Macro queried the reasons for this. Councillor Cole explained that this concerned a small cohort of people. Therefore, this measure not being achieved for one individual could alter the percentage achieved quite significantly.

Councillor Macro referred to the 'Red' measure to reduce the attainment gap at GCSE between disadvantaged and other pupils. For the 2014/15 Academic Year, this gap was at 34.7 percentage points and this was significantly higher than the national average. Councillor Macro sought assurance that efforts would be made to achieve improvement in this area. Councillor Croft advised that Councillor Dominic Boeck, Portfolio Holder for Education, would provide a written response on that point.

Councillor Lee Dillon commented that there were multiple cases where Quarter Four data was not included within graphs, where exception reports were not up to date and where reference was made to actions to be completed when in fact they had been undertaken, i.e. the Peer Review within Children and Family Services. Councillor Dillon highlighted the importance of ensuring this report was up to date to enable effective scrutiny to take place. If it was the case that data was awaited from an external source then this should be explained in the report.

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Councillor Fredrickson responded to these comments by firstly stating that the content of the report was as up to date as possible at the time of issue and Officers worked hard to produce this report within a tight timeframe. He added that it was published in advance of the meeting and there was therefore scope to rectify any inaccuracies prior to the meeting if they were made known and were of significance. Councillor Dillon stated that in some cases points of inaccuracy etc had already been raised and he would therefore have expected these to be rectified.

Councillor Lynne Doherty commented on the specific reference made to the Children and Family Services Peer Review and explained that this took place within 2016/17. It was therefore not referenced in this 2015/16 Year End report.

Councillor Dillon then returned Members to performance against Priority B – Enable the Completion of more Affordable Housing. This noted that the Sandford Planning Application had been received and this development had the potential to provide 40% affordable housing units from the up to 2000 home development. However, Councillor Dillon queried whether there was confidence that this would be achieved when considering concerns of viability. Councillor Law confirmed that there was no threat to 40% of the Sandford application being for affordable housing. This was part of the Sandford Master Plan against which all planning applications for the site would be judged.

Councillor Law also took the opportunity to comment on the concerns raised regarding viability. The Government criteria for viability rules had changed and this recommended the inclusion of starter homes as affordable. These homes were not as yet included in West Berkshire's affordable housing figures and doing so could improve the Council's performance in this area.

Mention was also made in this section of the report to the activity of Strategy Board in relation to affordable housing and Councillor Dillon questioned whether this reference should be amended to the work of Executive Members. Councillor Croft acknowledged this point and explained that Strategy Board was indeed a private meeting. He did however clarify that Strategy Board was not a decision making body.

Finally, in terms of affordable housing, Councillor Dillon noted from the report that due to the Council's difficult financial position the service responsible for bringing empty property back into use would cease. This could have a further negative impact on the ability to achieve the affordable housing target with empty homes not being returned to use. June Graves explained that work to bring empty properties back into use had achieved varied degrees of success. Support had been given to landlords to help achieve this, but properties brought back into use did not necessarily become new homes and did not necessarily contribute towards the affordable housing target.

Councillor Dillon welcomed the work undertaken to date to improve Children and Family Services to 'Good' performance. He also commended the excellent Member briefing received on this subject recently. Councillor Dillon looked forward to a new Inspection of the service. Councillor Croft gave thanks for these comments and added that social work teams worked tirelessly in helping to achieve this crucial priority.

Councillor Dillon then turned to the priority to 'Become a more effective Council'. He questioned the Council's effectiveness when considering issues which had arisen as part of/following recent decisions. Councillor Dillon specifically named the mistakes made surrounding the London Road Industrial Estate (LRIE) report and the loss of the Judicial Review (JR) of Short Breaks on a technicality following the Council's decision on this matter.

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Councillor Fredrickson responded to these points. In terms of the JR, this was indeed lost on a procedural matter. The Judge had commented on the significant efforts made by Officers to inform Members in advance of this decision, but the overview given of relevant regulations was not considered sufficient and this was needed in full. This was the technicality on which the case was lost. The Judge had acknowledged the difficult financial position faced by the Council and the associated reasons for the decision. The Council's process had also been accepted.

Plans for the LRIE would help to achieve the Council's affordable housing commitment and it was important that projects of this type were proceeded with to aid the delivery of this target. The potential for legal challenge had to be accepted when considering the number of parties affected by the plans for the LRIE.

Councillor Dillon then turned to the Measure of Volume which captured the number of alcohol related admissions to hospital. This showed a rising trend and Councillor Dillon queried plans to address this. Councillor Graham Jones noted that the trend was moving upwards, but pointed out that alcohol related admissions for West Berkshire was well below the national average. He did however offer a fuller answer in writing to explain the rising trend, alternatively Councillor Dillon could query this point directly with the Public Health and Wellbeing Service.

Councillor Dillon noted that the number of bus passenger journeys commencing in West Berkshire was increasing year on year and queried whether this was expected to continue. Councillor Garth Simpson explained that as part of the necessity to reduce bus subsidies in response to the Council's financial challenges, the volume was projected to reduce, but by no more than 15%. However, should the economy continue to grow then the number of bus journeys commencing in West Berkshire could see an increase.

Councillor Dillon returned to the point made earlier on the number of transactions made through the Council's website and queried whether the number and the 'most requested tasks' themselves changed as a result of Council consultations. He also queried the particularly high increase at Quarter Four. Councillor Fredrickson agreed to confirm these points after liaising with Councillor Dominic Boeck, Portfolio Holder for ICT.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the progress made against the Council Strategy priorities for improvement would be noted.
- (2) those areas reporting as 'red' were reviewed to ensure that appropriate action was in place.

Reason for the decision: to note the year end performance of the Council against the Key Accountable Measures.

Other options considered: None.

24. Superfast Berkshire Phase 3 (EX3159)

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 7) which outlined the progress made by the Superfast Berkshire project and which made a recommendation for a new phase of the project (Intervention Phase 3).

Councillor Roger Croft explained that this pan-Berkshire project, which commenced in 2011, was designed to fill the gaps in superfast broadband coverage across Berkshire. At the start of the project superfast coverage in West Berkshire was 65%. However, the Superfast Berkshire Project, under West Berkshire Council's stewardship, would achieve 95.6% of superfast broadband coverage across Berkshire by 2017 and close to 100% in West Berkshire (Phase 2).

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Investment funds available for Phase 3 improvements amounted to £2.5m. This comprised Gainshare funding of £816k, project underspend of £1m and unused basic broadband funding of £623k. It was proposed that West Berkshire Council would continue to oversee Phase 3 of the project and this expenditure.

Councillor Croft concluded his introduction by remarking that this project was a good example of the Berkshire unitary authorities and the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) working together to the benefit of residents across Berkshire.

Councillor Alan Macro noted that the LEP had offered to provide this project with an interest free loan of up to £1.8m which would allow the project to be funded in advance of British Telecom (BT) repaying the Gainshare and project underspend. He queried whether this was necessary if the tender for Phase 3 was awarded to BT. Councillor Croft responded that the view had been taken by the Superfast Berkshire Project Board that it would be preferable to engage in a competitive tender process with a view to achieving the best outcome for Berkshire residents.

Councillor Macro commended the work of the Council's Officers on this project and suggested that the Council's expertise/service could be sold to other local authorities. Councillor Croft added his praise for the efforts of Officers and explained that while the delivery of Phase 2 and the proposed Phase 3 were the first priority, the potential to sell the Council's capability in this area/its service could then be considered. This was a valuable skill set held by West Berkshire Council.

RESOLVED that:

(1) The circa £2.5m of underspend and gainshare funding from intervention phase 1 of the Superfast Berkshire project and the unspent phase 2 funds from Reading and Wokingham (including LEP contribution) be invested into a procurement for a Superfast Berkshire Phase 3.

The objective of this new phase is to get all Berkshire unitary districts to as close to 100% superfast broadband coverage as possible by the end of 2018. At the very least we should assist all districts in getting to 97% superfast broadband coverage.

(2) West Berkshire Council continues to act as the lead authority for this successful project, both for this new procurement and for overseeing delivery of the existing and new phases of the project.

(3) The governance arrangements, which were set up for phase 1 of the project, continue to be used. (Subject to the proposed updates to the Collaboration Agreement being completed).

(4) Project resource costs be divided equally across all 7 project participants.

Reason for the decision: To outline the progress made by the Superfast Berkshire project and to make a recommendation for a new phase of the project (Intervention Phase 3).

Other options considered: To accept an "Accelerated Gainshare" offer from BT whereby the £2.5m project underspend and gainshare is reinvested with BT under project change control. The Superfast Berkshire Project Board believes that procuring phase 3 in the open market will provide better technical solutions and better value-for-money than accepting BT's offer (Of course BT is free to bid competitively for this work).

That West Berkshire Council hand over responsibility to another Berkshire authority after completion of phase 2 of the project since it does not benefit directly in terms of increased broadband coverage from phase 3. However this project is an excellent

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example of how the 6 Berkshire authorities can work together and it is considered that West Berkshire Council should continue to use the knowledge and expertise it has built up to lead this project to its conclusion. The collaborative working and the infrastructure improvements brought by this project will continue to bring benefit to all project participants.

25. **Approval to Consult on the Draft Temporary Accommodation Policy (EX3165)**

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 8) which sought approval to proceed with a consultation on the draft Temporary Accommodation Policy.

Councillor Hilary Cole explained that this draft Policy had been developed to order to meet the requirements set out by the Court of Appeal. The Policy sought to provide a strategy for procuring new temporary accommodation to meet demand, as part of meeting the Council's statutory housing duties.

Subject to approval, the draft Temporary Accommodation Policy would be published for a six week period of consultation. A consultation process was necessary as the introduced Policy would have a likely impact on service users. All residents currently in temporary accommodation would be contacted asking them for their views, as would all statutory and voluntary stakeholders who had an interest in, or worked with households affected by, homelessness.

Councillor Alan Macro referred to the prioritisation given to housing homeless households outlined in the report. He queried whether this prioritisation would include families with very young children or with more than two children as these families were less suitable for bed and breakfast accommodation. Councillor Roger Croft suggested that this was a comment to make in response to the consultation (subject to its approval).

RESOLVED that the publication of the draft Temporary Accommodation Policy be approved for consultation.

Reason for the decision: to proceed with a consultation on the draft Temporary Accommodation Policy.

Other options considered: The Council could decide not to implement a Temporary Accommodation Policy. This could give rise to legal challenge if households are not allocated suitable accommodation under statutory homelessness duties.

26. **Approval to Consult on the Draft Decant Policy (EX3167)**

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 9) which sought approval to proceed with a consultation on the draft Decant Policy.

Councillor Hilary Cole explained that the Council had a small number of secure tenants who were afforded security of tenure. This Policy had been drafted to set out how the Council would manage decant of these tenants or licensees on a temporary basis in the event that major works or refurbishment works were required to the properties.

Subject to approval, the draft Decant Policy would be published for a six week period of consultation.

Councillor Alan Macro queried whether a six week consultation was sufficient when considering that this would take place over the school summer holidays. Councillor Cole explained that very few households would be effected by this Policy. All residents currently in accommodation to which the Decant Policy would apply would be contacted asking for their views, this included face to face meetings, and there was therefore felt to be no need to extend the consultation period.

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RESOLVED that the publication of the draft Decant Policy be approved for consultation.

Reason for the decision: to proceed with a consultation on the draft Decant Policy.

Other options considered: None.

27. **Members' Questions**

A full transcription of the public and Member question and answer sessions are available from the following link: [Transcription of Q&As](#). *(right click on link and 'Edit Hyperlink'. Insert URL to pdf on website in 'address' field)*

(a) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Public Protection submitted by Councillor Alan Macro**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Alan Macro on the subject of the number of vehicles which had been turned away from the Smallmead waste site in Reading since the re3 consortium stopped West Berkshire residents from using it was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Public Protection.

(b) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Adults, Care and Culture submitted by Councillor Alan Macro**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Alan Macro on the subject of the number of people who had attended the Library Needs Assessment drop-in sessions was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Adults, Care and Culture.

(c) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Education and Corporate Infrastructure submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Lee Dillon on the subject of the number of primary and secondary schools who were forecasting deficit budgets was answered by the Leader of the Council in the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Education and Corporate Infrastructure.

(d) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Education and Corporate Infrastructure submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Lee Dillon on the subject of the support and resources the Council would provide to improve the overall effectiveness rating of Thatcham Park Church of England Primary School following its recent inspection was answered by the Leader of the Council in the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Education and Corporate Infrastructure.

(e) **Question to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Education and Corporate Infrastructure submitted by Councillor Mollie Lock**

A question standing in the name of Councillor Mollie Lock, asked by Councillor Alan Macro, on the subject of the percentage and number of children, by school, who were offered their first choice of secondary school for this September's intake was answered by the Leader of the Council in the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Education and Corporate Infrastructure.

(The meeting commenced at 5.00pm and closed at 5.45pm)

CHAIRMAN

Date of Signature

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Note: These Minutes will remain DRAFT until approved at the next meeting of the Committee

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 28 JULY 2016

Councillors Present: Anthony Chadley, Hilary Cole, Roger Croft, Lynne Doherty, Marcus Franks, James Fredrickson, Graham Jones, Alan Law and Garth Simpson

Also Present: John Ashworth (Corporate Director - Environment), Gabrielle Esplin (Finance Manager (Capital and Treasury Management)), June Graves (Head of Care Commissioning, Housing & Safeguarding), David Holling (Head of Legal Services), Peta Stoddart-Crompton (Public Relations Officer), Andy Walker (Head of Finance), Rachael Wardell (Corporate Director - Communities), Robert Alexander (Group Executive (Conservatives)), Stephen Chard (Policy Officer), Councillor Lee Dillon and Councillor Alan Macro

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting: Councillor Dominic Boeck

PART I

28. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Roger Croft opened the special meeting by making an apology for the need to call it urgently. It was however required in order to consider proposals for the purchase of additional temporary accommodation to assist in meeting the Council's statutory housing duties.

Councillors Marcus Franks and Lee Dillon declared an interest in Agenda Item 4 by virtue of the fact that they worked for Sovereign Housing Association, but reported that, as their interest was personal and not prejudicial or a disclosable pecuniary interest, they determined to remain to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.

Councillor Dillon questioned the reasoning for considering this item in private and whether it was in the public interest to hold this debate in Part I. Councillor Croft explained that it was for Part II as the detail of the accommodation to be purchased could only be considered privately as it referred to financial transactions that would have to be made (if the report's recommendations were approved).

29. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the under-mentioned item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as contained in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006. Rule 8.10.4 of the Constitution also refers.

30. Purchase of Additional Temporary Accommodation

(Paragraph 3 - information relating to financial/business affairs of particular person)

The Executive considered an exempt report (Agenda Item 4) which outlined proposals for the purchase of additional temporary accommodation to assist in meeting the Council's statutory housing duties.

RESOLVED that the recommendations in the exempt report be agreed.

Reason for the decision: as set out in the exempt report.

Other options considered: as set out in the exempt report.

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(The meeting commenced at 5.45pm and closed at 5.55pm)

CHAIRMAN
Date of Signature

Key Accountable Performance 2016/17: Quarter One

Committee considering report:	Executive
Date of Committee:	8 September 2016
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Roger Croft
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	15 August 2016
Report Author:	Catalin Bogos
Forward Plan Ref:	EX3109

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To report quarter one outturns against the Key Accountable Measures contained in the 2016/17 Council Performance Framework and any additional performance intelligence.
- 1.2 To provide assurance to Members that the Strategic Priorities laid out in the Council Strategy and other areas of significance / importance across the council (core business) are being delivered.
- 1.3 To present, by exception, those measures/milestones behind schedule or not achieved and cite any remedial action taken and the impact, if it has, to allow the scrutiny and approval of the corrective or remedial action put in place.
- 1.4 To recommend changes to measures / targets, as requested by services.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To note progress against the Council Strategy Priorities for improvement and celebrate achievements.
- 2.2 To review those areas reporting as 'amber' to ensure that appropriate action is in place.

See exception report for details.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** Any implications will be highlighted in the individual exception reports.
- 3.2 **Policy:** Any implications will be highlighted in the individual exception reports.
- 3.3 **Personnel:** Any implications will be highlighted in the individual exception reports.
- 3.4 **Legal:** Any implications will be highlighted in the individual exception reports.

3.5 **Risk Management:** Any implications will be highlighted in the individual exception reports.

3.6 **Property:** Any implications will be highlighted in the individual exception reports.

3.7 **Other:** None

4. Other options considered

4.1 None

5. Executive Summary

5.1 This report presents qualitative and quantitative information to assess the performance levels achieved against measures from all the services provided by the council, identified for reporting at Executive level. It includes results against the measures of volume and key accountable measures combined with service performance intelligence.

6. Performance by Council Strategy Priorities for Improvement:

(A) Priorities for Improvement: Improve Educational Attainment and Close the Educational Attainment Gap

6.1 **Demand - Number of Pupils:** Between 2013 and 2016, the overall number of pupils has increased by 614 (2.13% WB, 3.74% SE region, 3.75% Eng). This includes the increase by 845 of primary state funded schools' pupils and a decrease of 456 of secondary schools' population.

6.2 Performance: Attainment

6.3 The latest annual results (2015) for the educational attainment measures have been reported in detail as part of the Quarter 4 2015/16 Performance Report. West Berkshire maintained or improved attainment for all the key measures (at all key stages) reaching a position in top 20% compared to the other authorities in England. The exception was the combined attainment measure for level 2+ in the three subjects (RWM - Reading, Writing and Maths) that declined to be in the top 30% nationally, following the improvement of the previous year (2014). This was due primarily to a decline in results in Mathematics – an exception report was included in the Q4 report.

6.4 Updated results are expected in January 2017 together with the confirmation of the new performance measures' definitions.

6.5 Performance: Attainment Gap Reduction

6.6 Similarly, the latest attainment gap information (2015) was detailed as part of the Q4 Performance Report and the next set of results are expected in January 2017 against new performance measures. Both cohorts (the disadvantaged pupils and their peers) have improved their educational attainment at Year 6 and in the secondary phase. The gap reduced at KS2 but has slightly increased at KS4 (as the non disadvantaged cohort has improved even more compared to previous year).

6.7 Additional intelligence:

6.8 The % of schools being good or better has increased significantly, because a number of the ones previously judged as requiring improvement have been re-inspected in the last 4 months, and, as a result their OfSTED reports have moved to good or outstanding. This has had an impact on the % of LAC young people in good or better schools increasing to 90% at the end of Q1. A robust approach is used when finding new schools for pupils when they need to move due to their placement changing outside of the LA. The default position is always to look at good or outstanding schools first to ascertain if they can meet an individual's needs.

- 6.9 **The latest available results (2015) suggest that further progress is required to achieve the priority by 2020. Additional intelligence is evidence that efforts continue to support this progress.**

(B) Priority for Improvement: Enable the Completion of More Affordable Housing

- 6.10 **Demand** - The number of new housing applications received during quarter 1 (592) is similar to the number received for the first three months of 2015/16.
- 6.11 Re-registration of the Common Housing Register applicants in the autumn has led to an overall drop in numbers and a reduction in the number of qualifying applicants from 1110 at the end of 14/15 to 850 at 15/16 year end. This number has further reduced to 777 at the end of quarter 1. However, this number may increase during the course of the year as those who have had their applications removed re-register.
- 6.12 Over the last 12 months Land Registry data shows that the average price for properties in West Berkshire has increased by 29% from £263k (Jun 2015) to £338k (Jun 2016) continuing the trend from 2013.
- 6.13 **Performance**
- 6.14 158 affordable housing have been completed during 2015/16 and an additional 21 during the first quarter of this financial year (compared to an average of 40 per quarter last year) reaching a total of 179 since Apr 2015.
- 6.15 ***Actual completion data is below an average annual or quarterly level required to deliver the priority to support the 1000 affordable homes completions. Further solutions are being explored by Strategy Board.***

(C) Priority for Improvement: Deliver or enable key infrastructure projects in relation to roads, rail, flood prevention, regeneration and the digital economy

- 6.16 **Demand** – The number of Highways and Transport Service requests received through the Contact Centre has increased by 26% compared to quarter 1 last year but the longer term trend is only slightly increasing (equivalent to only 4% increase over the last 9 quarters). The highway related third party claims increased from 21 in Q1 2015/16 to 35 last quarter and was above the levels for each of the last 6 quarters.
- 6.17 **Performance**
- 6.18 Activity is 'on track' for the submission of the detailed planning application to WBC Planning Committee regarding the Market Street Redevelopment.
- 6.19 A three months delay in the work required to achieve 94% of West Berkshire households having access to superfast broadband has now been addressed and plans are in place to achieve the end of year outcome.
- 6.20 Work is on track to complete the flood prevention and drainage improvement schemes listed in the capital programme.
- 6.21 **The delivery of this priority is broadly moving forward as expected.**

(D) Priority for Improvement: Good at Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

- 6.22 **Demand** - In comparison to Q4 there has been a 29% reduction in the number of adult safeguarding concerns raised in Q1 and a 9% reduction in the number that progressed to a full S42 enquiry, indicating that the number of concerns not meeting the safeguarding threshold has dropped more significantly than those concerns that do. Factors that impacted on the reduction relate primarily to the work with the ambulance service to improve understanding of the criteria for a concern and a combination of staff sickness, vacancies and annual leave in the team.
- 6.23 The reduction of concerns however, has been offset in terms of workload by 25% increase in DOLS (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards) applications from Q1 last year. The level for Q1 (184) has reversed the downwards trend seen for 2015/16 and is the highest quarterly number to date due probably to increasing awareness of the Cheshire West judgement amongst care providers and hospitals. Current DOLS activity levels are forecast to result in 700 by year end, a 32% increase on 15/16, due to increased provision of dementia care in West Berkshire.
- 6.24 **Performance**
- Children and Family Service has prepared for a Safeguarding Peer review for the week 11 – 15 July. This included conducting ‘deep dive’ audits on the selected cases, completing a number of actions to evidence the progress made over the last year, producing the Ofsted Annex A lists etc.
- 6.25 Performance measures have been reported in service and for partnership purposes on a monthly basis, the service and the key decision makers being aware of performance levels and using the information in the service management and improvement processes. However, due to the need to focus on supporting the peer review, quarter one performance information was not signed off for reporting at corporate level before the production of this report and will be included retrospectively as part of quarter 2 report.
- 6.26 Four out of the five Adult Social Care Services inspected (three care homes, Shared Lives and the Reablement Service) are rated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) ‘Good’ or better in the area of safe.
- 6.27 **Additional intelligence**
- During quarter one, the focus of the Adult Social Care (ASC) service has been on rolling out New Ways of Working across the entire service. The first phase of implementation started on 24 May 2016 and the three locality teams are now established and fully focused on making the ‘focus on strengths’ business as usual.
- 6.28 A Local Government Association (LGA) Safeguarding Peer Review took place within Q2 this year and considered data and practice from previous quarters and the progress against the Ofsted Improvement Plan. The review concluded that there is evidence of improvement in the safeguarding work with many strengths identified. It recommended as areas of development to ensure a shared understanding of what ‘good’ is in children’s services and maintain a priority and focus on doing the basics well rather than try and deliver everything at the same time.

- 6.29 Positive results have been achieved in Children and Family Service regarding the appointment to a full complement of Service and Team Manager roles and reduced staff turnover in the social work workforce.
- 6.30 **Local intelligence and feedback received from DfE and peer review suggest good progress is being made to deliver this priority.**

(E) Priority for Improvement: Support Communities to do More to Help Themselves

- 6.31 **Demand** - Following two phases of public consultations at the end of 2015/16, solutions have been implemented to manage the financial challenges resulting from the reductions in the Central Government funding for local authorities. Additional solutions are required to manage further financial pressures over the next three years and it will therefore be imperative that discussions are held with our Parishes and communities about how they can help themselves in the delivery of some of the key services that they value going forward.
- 6.32 **Performance**
- 6.33 There are several streams of activity currently underway in terms of 'Getting communities to do more for themselves'. These are:
- **Building Communities Together/BWB** - Five out of the six communities that are part of the programme are actively having community conversations; Greenham is instead having a sports/physical activity led community engagement strategy (led by Public Health), in response to feedback from local residents. During quarter one, an additional 287 staff, volunteers, children and young people have received restorative practice training (aiming to join up different organisations and people, and to build, maintain and repair relationships between different parts of our communities).
 - **Devolution of responsibilities to Parish Councils** – the Chief Executive and Head of Strategic Support are continuing to meet with Town and Parish Councils with a view to looking at opportunities to transfer assets and services, share and encourage greater community engagement. Discussions are underway with Hungerford, Thatcham and Burghfield. A prospectus is being developed for discussion at the October District Parish Conference.
 - **More detailed discussions continue** with Parish Councils and community groups regarding the provision of Libraries and public conveniences. In the case of the former the Needs Assessment is awaited.
 - **Neighbourhood Development Plans and Parish Plans** - Work is underway with 4 communities (Purley, Hamstead Marshall, Enborne and Brightwalton) to refresh their Parish Plans. These plans give local people the opportunity to engage with other residents, community groups, and service providers to set out a vision for their community.
- 6.34 **The Chief Executive is currently reviewing how this area is currently being resourced. This will form part of the forthcoming Senior Management Review and will link with the current governance review regarding the Health and**

Wellbeing Board. There is a desire to bring greater coherence and integration to this area of work.

(F) Overarching aim: Become a More effective council

6.35 **Demand** - During the first quarter, the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 has been approved by Council. A funding gap of between £11m and £22m (depending on the Council Tax levels) for the next three years has been identified, which is to be covered by savings or other income. Directors have been asked to find savings to match the challenging targets that need to be found.

6.36 **Performance**

Arrangements are being made to report, starting with quarter two, a summary progress update from the Corporate Programme Board. The areas covered will include the following work streams: better supply for temporary accommodation, New ways of working in Adult Social Care and also in Children and Family Service, Digital transformation etc.

6.37 **Additional intelligence**

Good progress is being made to deliver a new shared service agreement for the combined Trading Standards and Environmental Health and Licensing (Public Protection) services. Building on the current successful arrangement with Wokingham Council, the new agreement is expected to include Bracknell Forest Council from January. Alongside this discussions are taking place with other Berkshire Councils to consider a potential widening of the arrangement

6.38 The Building Control shared service commenced on the 1 July and is hosted by Wokingham District Council. West Berkshire staff transferred to Wokingham under TUPE provisions providing a joint agreement with Wokingham and RBWM.

6.39 The basket of key strategic measures used to monitor the delivery of the Council Strategy 2015-2019, indicates that 80% (16 / 20) of the reported measures are expected to achieve or exceed their end of year targets and the remaining 20% are reported Amber (behind schedule but still expected to achieve the targets). This level of performance across the council is better than the one achieved for quarter 1 2015/16, when 74% (14 / 19) of measures were RAG rated Green and 26% (5 / 19) Amber. (see exception reports for further details).

6.40 ***Arrangements are being made to strengthen the level of intelligence reported to assess the delivery of this overarching aim.***

7. Core Business Measures

7.1 Core business: **Protecting our children**

Performance data was used on a continuous basis for monitoring progress and supporting decision making at service, corporate and partnership levels. Weekly and monthly reports have been produced and used during the quarter. However, the end of quarter one results have not been signed off for reporting corporately before the production of this report, due to the need of the Children and Family Service to focus on the Safeguarding Peer Review.

This is an area that will be reviewed next quarter - quarter one information will be included as part of the quarter two performance report.

7.2 Core business: **Bin collection and street cleaning**

The estimated result for the proportion of household waste recycled, composted, reused or recovered (76.3%) is below the year end target (80%) due to the Energy from Waste closure in April. However, it is expected that the end of year target will still be achieved.

There are no issues to highlight regarding this core business area.

7.3 Core business: **Providing benefits**

The average number of day to make a full decision on new benefit claims and to make a full decision on changes in a benefit claimant's circumstances have increased respectively to 22.8 days (target 18.5) and 13.3 days (target under 8 days).

This is an area that requires consideration of available resources and re-assessment of targets during quarter 2. See exception reports for further details.

7.4 Core business: **Collecting Council Tax and Business rates**

Quarter one results show that the activity is on track to achieve the end of year targets for the 'in year' collection of Council Tax and also the Business Rates.

There are no issues to highlight regarding this core business area.

7.5 Core business: **Ensuring the wellbeing of older people and vulnerable adults**

A number of measures exceeded or are on track to achieve the end of year targets. Results are well above the targets regarding the timeliness of reviews for adult social care clients with a long term service (93.7% vs target 75%) and timeliness of financial assessments referred to the Financial Assessment & Charging team (99.5% vs. target 90%).

Data was not available for this report regarding the levels of Delayed Transfers of Care (DTC) measure. DTC is one of our areas of challenge, last year we were not able to maintain the significant improvement in performance we experienced in 14/15. The main problem is capacity in the care market and the Adult Social Care teams are working with their colleagues in commissioning to explore ways this can be addressed.

Our Better Care Fund (BCF) plans were fully assured and we are working with Health to deliver on the agreed work streams.

Good performance to be noted relating to many of the measures for this core business area. Missing DTC and BCF data to be reviewed at quarter 2.

7.6 Core business: **Planning and housing**

Quarter one results are above the end of year targets. The majority of them are above the level of last year, including for the timeliness of different types of planning applications (major, minor and other), prevention of homelessness and timeliness of

the Disabled Facilities Grant's approval. Plans are on track for the submission of the Minerals & Waste Local Plan and the adoption of the Site Allocation Development Plan Document as per agreed deadlines.

The timeliness to determine the claims for Discretionary Housing Payments at 58% is RAG rated Amber against the end of year target of 70% (see exception report for further details).

Housing Operations has received confirmation they have been awarded Silver Standard in the second step towards achieving the Gold Challenge set by the National Practitioner Support Service. There are currently 2 Gold Standard authorities, 12 Silver Standard authorities and 29 Bronze Standard authorities and the service will continue the process of service improvement and evidence gathering to submit for the Gold Standard early in 2017.

Excellent performance for the majority of the measures should be noted in relation to this core business area. The only area requiring scrutiny is the timeliness of determining the claims for Discretionary Housing Payments (see exception report).

7.7 Other Core Business areas

- **Planning Policy** – the Housing Site Development Plan Document (DPD) is currently (August 2016) being examined in public by a Government appointed Planning Inspector. The inspector has asked for 50 pieces of 'homework'. This additional work, the anticipated modifications and the public consultation will delay the adoption of the DPD by approximately six months.
This may result in a delay in the new Local Plan, potential problems with the five years land supply which in turn may expose the District to planning by appeal.
- **Legal Service** – recent recruitment difficulties have led to resourcing problems in the Legal Service. Progress is being made in appointing locums and now with permanent employment but work is having to be prioritised.
Proposals regarding demand management are currently being considered.

8. Conclusions

- (i) The results achieved by the end of Quarter 1 2016/17 show that progress continues in all priority areas of the Council Strategy 2015-2019.
- (ii) Further work is being progressed to better evidence the delivery of the 'Supporting Communities' priority and the 'More Effective Council' overarching aim.
- (iii) An action plan will be developed to enable the Council to focus on enabling the delivery of 1000 affordable homes by 2020.
- (iv) Performance results evidence good progress for the delivery of the majority of the core business areas.
- (v) Quarter one performance 2016/17 (80% of reported measures rated Green) is better than the Quarter one in 2015/16 (74% of measures rated Green).

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix A - Supporting Information

Financial Performance Report 2016/17

Quarter One

Committee considering report:	Executive
Date of Committee:	08 September 2016
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Anthony Chadley
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	18 August 2016
Report Author:	Gabrielle Esplin
Forward Plan Ref:	EX3135

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the latest financial performance of the Council

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the Executive approve the transfer of £657k budget from Care Commissioning, Housing and Safeguarding to Adult Social Care, as detailed in paragraph 5.8 below and in line with Financial Regulations.

3. Implications

3.1 **Financial:**

A revenue over spend of £1.28m is forecast at Quarter 1. If additional savings cannot be found to offset the forecast over spend, it may be necessary to draw down a large proportion of the risk reserves of £1.65m, which were set aside at the start of the financial year, to allow for any emerging pressures in Adult Social Care, Children & Family Services and Legal Services.

3.2 **Policy:** n/a

3.3 **Personnel:** n/a

3.4 **Legal:** n/a

3.5 **Risk Management:** n/a

3.6 **Property:** n/a

3.7 **Other:** n/a

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 Not applicable – factual report for information

5. Executive Summary

- 5.1 At Quarter One, the forecast revenue position is an over spend of £1.28mk against a net budget of £116.8m.
- 5.2 The Communities Directorate is forecasting an over spend of £1,033k. £996k of this relates to Adult Social Care as a result of an increase in client numbers and the complexity of their needs, together with an upward trend in the cost of commissioning nursing and residential care services. However a risk reserve of £1.1m was set aside at the start of the financial year to allow for unforeseen pressures such as these on the Adult Social Care budget. It may therefore be necessary to draw down a large proportion of this reserve to cover this overspend.
- 5.3 Children and Family Services are also forecasting an over spend of £37k due to pressure on the Adoption Panel joint arrangement. It may also be necessary to draw down £37k of the £500k risk reserve which was set aside for unforeseen costs in Children and Family Services. All other Communities services are forecasting to budget.
- 5.4 The Environment Directorate is forecasting to budget overall, although there is a £44k pressure in Culture and Environmental Protection which is offset by increased income from development control in the Planning and Countryside Service.
- 5.5 The Resources Directorate is forecasting an over spend of £214k. This includes an over spend of £259k in Legal Services, where there are cost pressures as a result of the London Road Industrial Estate procurement challenge and also pressure on fee income. A risk reserve of £50k has been set aside for unforeseen costs in Legal Services, and it may now be necessary to utilise this reserve in full. However, this may not be required if the Council is successful in reclaiming its costs on the procurement challenge through the judicial review. Strategic Support is forecasting an under spend of £45k and all other Resources services are forecasting to budget.
- 5.6 There is a £30k pressure on Levies and Interest because of the current low level of interest rates affecting the interest earned on the Council's investments.
- 5.7 In order to meet the funding available, the 2016/17 revenue budget was built with a £13.9m savings programme. Transitional grant funding of £1.4m and part year funding of £576k has been allocated to the 2016/17 budget, resulting in a net savings programme of £11.9m.
- 5.8 During the course of the year changes may be made to the approved Council budget, mainly by moving funds from one service to another. Corporate Directors and/or Portfolio holders may approve budget transfers up to certain limits, which are set out in the Council's Financial Regulations. At Quarter One, one revenue budget transfer requires Executive approval: £657k is to be transferred from Care Commissioning, Housing & Safeguarding to Adult Social Care, to provide ongoing services for former Supporting People clients who are now eligible for Adult Social Care.

- 5.9 The 2016/17 capital programme is 55.2% committed as at the end of Quarter One. Forecast capital spend is currently £37.5m against a revised budget of £44.1m, with £6.6m expected to be re-profiled into 2017/18. This is mainly due to delays to two school schemes, because of land acquisition issues. Two highways schemes are also to be postponed because of bad weather and delays caused by a private developer.
- 5.10 No variance is forecast on expenditure funded from the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Council remains in a challenging financial environment, and is faced with delivering savings of £13.9m as well as addressing in year pressures as they arise. The Council is taking steps to maintain financial discipline, ensure that the agreed savings programme is deliverable and to find additional savings to offset the revenue over spend currently forecast.

7. Appendices

Appendix A (1) – Supporting Information

Appendix A (2) – Summary of Revenue Budget Monitoring Returns Quarter One 2016/17

Appendix A (3) – Capital Summary Quarter One 2016/17

Appendix B – Equalities Impact Assessment

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Treasury Management Annual Report 2015/16

Committee considering report:	Executive
Date of Committee:	08 September 2016
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Anthony Chadley
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	28 July 2016
Report Author:	Gabrielle Esplin
Forward Plan Ref:	EX3160

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the treasury management activity and performance of the Council's investments for the financial year 2015/16.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** The Treasury function is responsible for the daily cash flow management of the Council. Investment income generated from the Treasury Management contributes to the Council's annual budget.
- 3.2 **Policy:** The Council's cash flow, borrowing and investments are carried out in accordance with the Annual Investment Strategy agreed by Council and are subject to cross party scrutiny during the course of the year.
- 3.3 **Personnel:** None.
- 3.4 **Legal:** None.
- 3.5 **Risk Management:** All investments are undertaken with a view to minimising risk and exposure to loss. The Treasury Management Strategy approved by the Council sets parameters to ensure this.
- 3.6 **Property:** None.

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 Not applicable – this report is a review of past performance.

5. Executive Summary

- 5.1 The aim of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy is to manage cash flow to ensure sufficient funds are available on a day to day basis for the Council's operations. Any surplus funds are invested to generate the most interest, while minimising the exposure of investments to risk. Investment and borrowing activities in 2015/16, were once again set against an economic context of slow growth and very low inflation and interest rates. The implementation of the strategy is regularly scrutinised by the cross party Treasury Management Group.
- 5.2 The average level of funds invested by the Council in 2015/16 (net of short term borrowing) was £12.3 million. Funds were invested in instant access deposit accounts with Natwest paying 0.25%, Bank of Scotland 0.40%, Santander UK 0.40% and the Goldman Sachs Global Liquidity money market fund, which paid a variable rate of interest averaging 0.44%. Funds were also in fixed term deposits with UK Building Societies for an average period of 173 days and an average rate of 0.8%. The maximum amount invested with any one institution was £5 million. A number of short term loans were also arranged from other Local Authorities to cover our short term cashflow needs. The average length of loan was 26 days and the average rate of interest paid was 0.45%.
- 5.3 The Council earned total interest on its investments (net of interest paid on short term borrowing) of £115,000 or 0.93% of the average fund value. We also received a discount of 3.10% or £293,000 on our contributions to the Berkshire Pension Fund, by paying the contributions in advance. Taking into account this saving, the total net amount earned through cashflow management was £408,000 (compared with the budget for interest on investments of £378,000). If we include the gain on early payment of pension contributions, this would represent a return of 2.3%.
- 5.4 £14.5 million new longer term loans were also taken from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) to fund capital expenditure in 2015/16 and earlier years. The loans were for between 5 years at 1.26% interest and 50 years at 3.14%, with the length of loan linked to the estimated useful life of the asset funded. £4.1 million repayments were made on existing capital financing loans, bringing the Council's total long term capital financing debt with the PWLB to £126.1 million.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The cross party Treasury Management Group (including the Portfolio Holder and Shadow Portfolio holders for Finance) will continue to scrutinise and review the Council's investments and borrowing during 2016/17, to ensure that treasury activities continue in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy in order to ensure the security and liquidity of and return on the Council's funds. The group will also aim to finance the Council's Capital Programme at the best available rates of interest.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A - Supporting Information
- 7.2 Appendix B – Equalities Impact Assessment

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