

## **Comments to Cabinet from Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee – Wednesday 25 January 2017**

### **Revenue and Capital Budget 2017/18**

A number of members considered that the budget was not aspirational and they were disappointed that it failed to make best use of assets and to display a confidence to encourage investment into the Borough. There was particular concern about the fact that only £500k was being spent next year on the capital programme.

The Capital Asset Management Strategy - members asked the Cabinet to look again at the document which had been agreed and to move forward with the sale of these assets.

A specific area at Keele Golf course land was cited as an example of an asset that could be brought into play now.

Members suggested that in future it would be useful to see income figures over the last few years in respect of areas that were facing decreases e.g. car parks and Kidsgrove Leisure Centre.

Kidsgrove Leisure Centre – members asked for a comparison of costs with J2 per visit.

IT – was the Borough making full use of the open source software rather than use Microsoft?

### **Notable Achievements in 2016/17**

Members felt that this section should be renamed **Outcomes** and concentrated into a smaller number of points with a total of maybe 12 completed, demonstrable achievements with outcomes highlighted. Members recommended a focus on outputs rather than wishes and narrative of a process which should already be embedded into the council duties.

Members congratulated the Council for its awards in Heart of England in Bloom competition. They also felt it was noteworthy that Clayton Sports Centre had been refurbished at a cost of approx. £350, 000 which had been achieved with over 95% of external funding.

Members suggested that all efficiency measures be grouped under 1 heading.

There were a number of suggestions in relation to the narrative which will be communicated to the appropriate officer.

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