



COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

26 NOVEMBER 2018

NOTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2018

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Members Present: Cllr A Batey (Chair)
Cllrs P Howell, J Shuttleworth, W Stelling, R Manchester and
S Richmond

Officers Present: T Hope and K Metcalfe

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr C Potts

Sickness Absence Performance Quarter 4

1. Members received an update on sickness absence performance at the end of the reporting year 2017-18. Overall sickness across all categories had improved with a 11% reduction in shifts lost in comparison with last year.

Moving forward sickness absence would be monitored by the Performance Committee.

The committee **noted** the report.

Revenue and Capital Outturn for the year ended 31 March 2018

2. Members were provided with information on the 2017/18 revenue and capital outturn compared with the original budget. The comparison with the original budget is a requirement for the published statement of accounts and differs from the information provided during the year which compared actual expenditure and income with the revised budget.

The committee **noted** the outturn position for the financial year ended 31 March 2018.

Short Term Investments Quarter 4 2017/18

3. Members received an update on the performance of the Authority's short term investments for the period ended 31 March 2018.

The committee **noted** the position regarding the Authority's short term investments at 31 March 2018.

Short Term Investments Quarter 2 2018/19

4. Members received an update on the performance of the Authority's short term investments for the period ended 30 September 2018.

The committee **noted** the current position regarding the Authority's short term investments.

Forecast of Outturn Quarter 2 2018/19

5. Members were provided an indication of the Service's revenue and capital financial outturn position based upon expenditure and income to the 30 September 2018. The forecast revenue underspend for the year is £0.469M. An underspend of £3.0M is currently forecast on the capital budget at the year end due to slippage in the Darlington fire station scheme.

The committee **noted** the forecast revenue and capital outturn position and **approved** the revisions to the capital budget.

2019/20 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan

6. Members were advised of the proposed timetable for the consideration and approval of the 2019/20 budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan.

The committee **agreed** that the 2019/20 revenue budget is prepared at a standstill position highlighting requirements for any inflationary contingencies and inescapable commitments.

The committee **agreed** that the Finance Committee give detailed consideration to budget matters as outlined in the report and makes appropriate recommendations to the Fire Authority.

2019 20 Local Government Finance Settlement Technical Consultation

7. Members received details of the Authority's response to a recent technical consultation on the Governments proposals for distributing government funding in 2019/20.

The committee **noted** the Authority's response to the consultation.