

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

8 JULY 2021

COUNCILLOR ANGIE DICKINSON - CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE

For the period 21 May to 8 July 2021

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Following on from the changes to the Administration at Annual Council on 20 May 2021 and the resulting changes to Cabinet Portfolios it has been necessary to spend some time assessing how those changes are going to pan out. My portfolio was created to demonstrate how highly we regard all matters pertaining to the Council's finances and to that end I have spent time evaluating how best to spend my time and establish a routine for monitoring basic issues, such as budget monitoring, whilst also getting to grips with some significant issues such as the Parkway project.

So far my activity has been mainly meeting with officers to get up to speed on the current situation.

The recent Cabinet meeting established the membership of the Major Projects Board, which is the cross party Council body that scrutinises all of the Council's activity on large value projects, mainly those in the capital programme but also some revenue or joint working projects. I'm currently undertaking a review of all projects that the Board will be presented with at its first meeting on 29 July.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Progress the work of the Major Projects Board and review its Terms of Reference to ensure members are engaged with the process. I will have particular regard for Parkway and the Towns Fund projects.

Review all current schemes to ensure that there are phased costings for each one and that the revenue implication has been assessed

Agree a new Procurement Strategy to govern the Council's purchase of goods and services to achieve best value

Review the Risk Register so that recently identified risks are incorporated with an appropriate risk level

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Cabinet 15 Jun

Cabinet/Management Team meeting 29 Jun

Cabinet briefings 23 Jun, 1 Jul, 7 Jul

Cabinet sifting 1 Jun

Meeting with the Leader to discuss portfolio priorities 24 Jun
Meeting with Assistant Director - Resources re budget monitoring 3 Jun and update on the finance team 24 Jun
Meeting with Assistant Director – Programme & Project Delivery re new Procurement Strategy and Parkway 24 Jun
Meeting with Assistant Director – Property & Projects re major projects and the Major Projects Board 25 Jun
Attendance at Corporate Performance Panel 2 Jun and Audit Committee 16 Jun
Planning training 10 Jun
Meeting with Leader 24 Jun