

## **Scrutiny Committee RPPR Boards**

### **Place Scrutiny Committee RPPR Board 17 December 2019**

Attendees: Councillors Richard Stogdon (Chair), Godfrey Daniel (Vice Chair), Martin Clarke, Chris Dowling, Claire Dowling, Nigel Enever, Pat Rodohan and Barry Taylor

The Place Scrutiny RPPR Board reviewed in detail the proposed savings and draft Portfolio Plans covering the Communities Economy and Transport (CET), Business Services and Governance Services Departments at its meeting on 17 December 2018.

The Board sought further information in relation to a number of the proposed savings and further clarification with regard to impact. In particular the Board examined how the savings, or additional income, are to be achieved and made comments about the timing of some of the proposed savings in year 3 of the MTFP. Set out below are the Board's agreed comments to Cabinet.

The Board highlighted two areas that it would wish to comment on to Cabinet:

- The Place Scrutiny Committee would like more detail of the proposed Orbis savings and their impact when they are available; and
- The timing of significant changes to CET services needs to be carefully considered.

The Board considered that it could not comment fully on the RPPR process without seeing the draft Council budget. The Board agreed that it would like to hold another RPPR Board meeting in January to discuss and comment on the draft budget when it is available.

### **Place Scrutiny Committee RPPR Board 15 January 2019**

Attendees: Councillors Godfrey Daniel (Chair), Martin Clarke, Chris Dowling, Simon Elford, Nigel Enever, Pat Rodohan, Stephen Shing and Barry Taylor.

The Place Scrutiny Committee RPPR Board met for a second time on 15 January 2019 to consider the Council's draft budget for 2019/20. The Board discussed the revised Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and the proposed savings for Communities, Economy and Transport (CET) and Business Services (Orbis).

The Board noted that the Council has made up the gap in savings by a variety of movements in the MTFP totalling round £11m, and is not looking at having to make additional savings affecting front line services. Some of the savings and additional funding are one-off amounts and therefore there may be a need for further savings if the Council's financial position does not change in the longer term following the Government's Fair Funding Review.

The Place Scrutiny Committee RPPR Board made the following additional comments to Cabinet on the proposed Council budget for 2019/20:

- The Board is relieved that the savings needed to close the budget gap and the impact on front line services, are not as severe as thought.
- It noted that some of the additional savings had been achieved through one-off measures or increases in specific areas of funding, which may not be repeated in future years.
- The Board remains concerned about the financial position in the longer term and the possibility of the need to make further savings from front line services in future years, for example, from the Library Service in 2021/22.