# NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

### 11 September 2012

Present: Councillor M Stanley in the Chair

Councillors Hayfield, Humphreys, Moore, Morson, Phillips, Simpson and Sweet and Watkins.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Smith (Councillor Watkins as substitute).

#### 20 **Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest.**

None were declared at the meeting.

#### 21 Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 25 June 2012.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 25 June 2012, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 22 Financial Statements 2011/12

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted the Annual Financial Statements for 2011/12 for approval.

#### **Resolved:**

- a That the transfer from the Housing Revenue Account to the General Fund be noted; and
- b That the 2011/12 Financial Statements shown in Appendix A be approved.

#### 23 External Auditors' Report

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report informing Members of changes to the 2011/12 Statement of Accounts following the audit and the External Auditors' report to those charged with governance.

Alison Breadon from PricewaterhouseCoopers was in attendance at the meeting and presented her report on which Members asked a number of questions.

## **Resolved:**

That the contents of the External Auditors' report be noted.

# 24 Corporate Plan 2013/14 – Key Corporate issues

The Chief Executive reported on the key corporate issues facing the Council over the next 18 months and sought agreement to addressing these issues during the formulation of the 2013/14 Budget and Corporate Plan.

## **Recommended:**

That the issues raised in the report of the Chief Executive are the main areas which should be considered for inclusion in the 2013/14 Corporate Plan.

## 25 Financial Strategy 2013–17

The Deputy Chief Executive reported on the Authority's Financial Strategy, projected forward the Authority's General Fund budgets to 2016/17, and suggested a detailed budget approach for the 2013/14 General Fund Budget.

## Recommended:

- a That the Financial Strategy shown as Appendix A to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive be approved;
- b That the General Fund budget projections for 2013/14 to 2016/17 be noted;
- c That the budget approach, set out in paragraph 12.1 to 12.2 of the report, be adopted; and
- d That growth bids be assessed according to the criteria set out in 9.2 of the report.

## 26 **Contract Standing Orders**

The Assistant Director (Corporate Services) sought approval for revisions to Contract Standing Orders. The revisions had previously been considered by the Resources Board.

#### Recommended:

That, subject to the insertion of a paragraph on Information Security, the Draft Contract Standing Orders provided as Appendix 1A to the report of the Assistant Director (Corporate Services) be approved.

# 27 Local Audit Bill

The Deputy Chief Executive reported that the Department of Communities Local Government had published a draft Local Audit Bill. The Board was asked to agree a suggested course of action.

## **Resolved:**

That the response be noted.

# 28 Business Rates Retention

The Deputy Chief Executive reported that the Department of Communities and Local Government had issued a further consultation paper on Business Rates Retention. The Board was asked to consider a suggested response which was circulated at the meeting.

# **Recommended:**

- a That the content of the report be noted; and
- b That in consultation with the two Group Leaders, the Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to agree the response to the consultation paper.

# 29 Budgetary Control Report 2012/13 Period Ended 31 August 2012

The Assistant Director (Finance and Human Resources) reported on the revenue expenditure and income for the period from 1 April 2012 to 31 August 2012. The 2012/2013 budget and the actual position for the period, compared with the estimate at that date, was given, together with an estimate of the out-turn position for services reporting to this Board.

# **Resolved:**

## That the report be noted.

## 30 **Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and** Performance Indicator Targets – April 2012 to June 2012

The Chief Executive informed Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Executive Board for April to June 2012.

# **Resolved:**

# That the report be noted.

# 31 Minutes of the meetings of the Special Sub-Group held on 2 July, 22 July and 15 August 2012

The minutes of the meetings of the Special Sub-Group held on 2 July, 22 July and 15 August 2012 were received and noted.

M Stanley Chairman