



Report to: Cabinet, 14th February 2017

Report of: Chairman of Performance Management and Budget Scrutiny Committee

Subject: CALL IN OF CABINET DECISION OF 17TH JANUARY 2017 RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A SMALL PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT FUND

1. Recommendation

1.1 That the Cabinet consider comments from the Performance Management and Budget Scrutiny Committee regarding the Creation of a Small Projects Development Fund.

2. Background

2.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, a request was received after the Cabinet meeting on 17th January 2017 for the decision to create a Small Projects Development Fund to be called in.

2.2 The following reasons were given for the call-in: "Insufficient detail was provided as to what the fund would do, what the selection criteria would be, who would adjudicate any proposals."

2.3 The matter was considered at the Performance Management and Budget Scrutiny Committee on 7th February 2017. The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources attended the meeting to answer questions from Members. More information about the Fund was provided in response to questions.

2.4 Having considered the responses, the Committee decided to refer the decision back to the Cabinet for reconsideration, and agreed to make the following comments:

The scope of the Fund and the process should be clarified, including the following:

- That bids are for one-off funding, not on-going budget commitments.
- That the deadline of 31st March is for the submission of outline suggestions, not fully worked-up proposals.
- That after the 31st March deadline, Officers will be able to work with Members to assist in completing project assessments.
- Additional clarity be given around the scope of the fund in terms of what is included and what is excluded.
- That projects will be considered by Policy and Resources Committee after May 2017 rather than Cabinet in April.

- That consideration be given to a Members' Seminar to provide more information about the scope of the scheme and the process for submitting and considering bids.
- The updated timetable for submitting and considering bids.

2.5 A copy of the previous Cabinet paper relating to this item is attached (**Appendix 1**). A copy of the report to the Committee, setting out additional information about the Fund, is also attached (**Appendix 2**).

Ward(s): All
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Background Papers: None