



Treasury Management Committee

15:30 to 16:20

4 July 2023

Present: Councillors Kendrick (in the chair), Ackroyd, Driver (substitute for Councillor Jones) (from beginning of item 3), Price and Stonard

Apologies: Councillors Jones (other council business)

In attendance: Robert Mayes, Corporate Finance Business Partner
Caroline Knott, Senior Technical Accountant

1. Declarations of interest

There were none.

2. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2023.

3. Treasury Management Review and Outturn 2022/23

The Corporate Finance Business Partner presented the report and answered members' questions on the report. He confirmed there were no breaches of the prudential indicators during 2022/23 and referred to each table in the report. At table 11a Investment Activity 2022/23 he confirmed that the increase in interest income, arising from higher interest rates, had resulted in a net General Fund additional income of £3.752m.

Regarding Table 11b Balance Sheet Reserves, and in reply to a question, the Corporate Finance Business Partner said that grants unapplied was the remaining balance of a grant that was partially used in 2022/23 would be put in reserves to be used in future financial years. Members also noted that the council had repaid a debt of £51m to the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) and that there had been no new external borrowing. The Corporate Finance Business Partner said that using the Link Group forecast on interest rates, cost savings could be made by reducing debt where the interest rates are higher than the interest rates for investment.

In reply to a question, the Corporate Finance Business Partner said that the council's current contract for banking was due for renewal. The contract had been the result of a joint procurement process with the county council and the other district councils in the county. There have been initial discussions with the neighbouring councils about the joint tendering process. There were only a few banks that handle services for local authorities. The tendering process would explore ESG (environment, social

and governance), in line with the council's Procurement Procedures. Members were advised that the banking supplier would be required to manage the complexity of the council's banking needs and offer security. The selection of a banking services supplier for the council would likely be subject to approval by Cabinet given the value of the contract.

RESOLVED, having noted the report detailing the activity for the year to 31 March 2023, to recommend it to Cabinet and Council.

4. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items 5* (below) on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

5*London Borough of Croydon Briefing Paper (Paragraph 3)

The Corporate Finance Business Partner presented the report.

(The committee agreed to a request for a recorded vote on this item.)

RESOLVED, having considered the briefing report, with 4 members voting in favour (Councillors Kendrick, Stonard, Driver and Ackroyd) and 1 member abstaining from voting (Councillor Price) to give in principle approval to the proposal as set out in the report.

CHAIR