

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr McGarry

13 February 2018

Councillor Chris Weaver
Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation and Performance
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Chris,

**COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12 FEBRUARY 2018
DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS 2018/19**

As Chair of the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee, I wish to thank you and officers for attending Committee and providing Members with an opportunity to consider the corporate overview of the Draft Budget Proposals 2018/19 and Corporate Plan 2018 – 2020. Members of the Committee have requested that I feed back the following comments and observations to you:

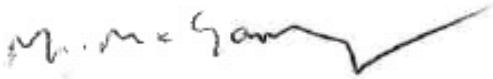
Members were pleased with the content of the presentation, given by Ian Allwood, and appreciated the work that has been done for 2018/19 to address continuing challenges in balancing finite resources with increasing demand pressures. More specifically;

- Members were satisfied that due diligence had been taken in relation to RAG ratings in the savings proposals; and support the ongoing commitment made by Directors and other Senior Officers across the authority in working together to achieve a balanced set of proposals.
- Members were content with responses from yourself and officers in relation to the amount of borrowing by the Council, and the affordability of borrowing.
- Members were happy with the balance of delivering capital programmes, and the effect that they have on the revenue budget, and appreciate and support the need to proactively undertake works (such as housing improvements, providing disabled adaptations etc) to bring stock and services to suitable standards.

In relation to the Corporate Plan, the Committee would be very grateful if you could take forward Members' thanks and appreciation to all involved in bringing together a Plan that not only addresses how the Council would deliver its services but also links with the commitments of the Capital Ambition and the wider commitments in relation to well-being objectives. Members felt that the layout of the Plan clearly set out how the Council will deliver its ambitions, with clear performance targets and measures, and linked to the budget, and thought that this should be commended.

Thank you again to you and officers for attending. I hope you find the Committee's comments useful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary McGarry', with a stylized flourish at the end.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M^CGARRY

Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Cc: Christine Salter, Corporate Director
Ian Allwood, Head of Finance
Allan Evans, OM Accountancy
Councillor David Walker, Chairperson Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee
Nicola Newton, Principal Scrutiny Officer
Cabinet Support Office