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NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

TUESDAY, 18TH APRIL, 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Please find attached supplementary papers relating to the above meeting, as follows:

Agenda No Item

6. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS (Pages 3 - 4)**

To consider any questions submitted by Members of the Council, in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.11 (b).

Contains Question and Response:

A) Council Financial Information

B) Breach of the Code of Conduct Investigation and Withdrawn Sub-Committee Costs

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COUNCIL
18 APRIL 2023

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

TITLE OF REPORT: QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

In accordance with Standing Order 4.8.11(b), two questions were submitted by Members by the deadline date for questions set out in the Council's Constitution.

(A) Council Financial Information

Councillor David Levett to Councillor Ian Albert (Executive Member for Finance and IT)

'Please could you supply Council the information detailed below for the financial years
2017-2018
2018-2019
2019- 2020
2020-2021
2021-2022

Total Income Received by NHDC from any source
Total Expenditure by NHDC
Capital Reserves at year end
Revenue Reserves at year end
Value of Investments at Year End
Cash at Bank at year end
Total Overdue Unpaid Income

A written reply is acceptable.'

Response to Question:

Amounts from Statement of Accounts- audited for years up to 2020/21, subject to audit for 2021/22. All amounts in £000.	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Total Income Received by NHDC from any source	-67,704	-65,064	-63,740	-65,970	-65,606
Total Expenditure by NHDC	77,253	68,858	65,507	66,788	69,455
Capital Reserves at year end	4,044	3,518	2,879	2,032	4,093
Revenue Reserves at year end	13,082	15,045	18,722	29,623	26,542
Value of Investments at Year End	47,308	47,454	47,056	66,315	83,908
Cash at Bank at year end	2,045	2,522	6,843	2,834	1,928
Total Overdue Unpaid Income at year end (sundry debt only)	468	350	288	1,056	589

(B) Breach of the Code of Conduct Investigation and Withdrawn Sub-Committee Costs

Councillor Ralph Muncer to Councillor Ian Albert (Executive Member for Finance and IT)

'To ask the Executive Member for Finance and IT to detail to Council how much was spent on the Investigation and subsequent cancelled Standards Sub-Committee Hearing preparations into the Breach of the Code of Conduct by the Leader of the Council'

Response to Question:

'As Members will be aware, under the Complaints Handling Procedure (paragraph 3.2.2 that applied at the time and still applies now) a complaint about a high-profile Councillor, such as Leader of the Council, should be referred to an external Investigator, if the Monitoring Officer consider that it would be inappropriate for them or their Deputy to investigate it.

In terms of costs, the external assessment of the complaint was £600 and the external Investigation £3600. These costs are external only and there would have also been some uncosted internal officer time.

Accepting the apology meant that the Council did not need to proceed with the further hearings and, therefore, the investigator did not charge for any abortive preparation or attendance costs or other expenses.'