**GOVERNANCE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Governance Strategic Policy Committee Meeting**

**held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday**

**20th October 2020 at 3.00 p.m.**

**PRESIDING**: Councillor Mick Cahill, Chairperson.

**PRESENT**: Councillors – Seamus Butler, John Browne, Colin Dalton,

P.J. Reilly.

 Fulton Grant, Pamela Martin, Teresa Kearney, Brendan Murtagh Kerie Murray.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**  John McKeon, Director of Services/Head of Finance.

 Nora O’Farrell, Senior Executive Officer.

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR**: Anne Lee.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES – circulated.**

On the proposal of Councillor S. Butler seconded by Councillor C. Dalton, it was agreed to adopt minutes of Governance Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on the 29th July 2020.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

None.

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

None.

**PRESENTATION ON THE BUDGETARY PROCESS IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES.**

John McKeon gave a comprehensive presentation on the Budgetary Process in Local Authorities under the following headings -

* 7 Stage Budgetary Process in accordance with Local Government Act 2014.
* Prescribed Periods (Budgetary Timelines)
* Members Reserved Functions throughout the Budgetary Process.
* 3 Important Meetings
	+ Local Property Tax Variation Meeting.
		- Funding already secured as a result of the ‘Longford Model’.
		- Funding Applications currently in progress.
		- Return on Investment for Longford LPT Payers
		- Distribution of LPT by LPT Payer within Local Authorities.
		- Impact of current variation on Longford LPT Payers.
		- Overall Expenditure Acceleration – Last 5 Years
	+ General Municipal Allocation (Municipal District GMA Meetings)
	+ Statutory Budget Meeting.
* COVID 19 – Escalating Financial Implications for Longford County Council.
	+ Reduced Income – Increased Costs.
	+ Potential Impact National v Local.
	+ Supports to Rate Payers – Restart Grants.
	+ Monthly Lost Income.
	+ Increased Expenditure – Once Off and Ongoing.

John replied to queries raised by the members.

**NEXT MEETING.**

2nd February 2021.

Councillor S. Butler suggested that a presentation be given a the next SPC meeting regarding the Standards in Public Office Commission (SIPO) which oversees ethics, electoral, state finance and lobbying legislation.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Anne Lee,**

**Meetings Administrator.**

**Confirmed and adopted at Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the**

**2nd February 2021.**

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Chairperson.**