HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

1 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Mr MR Lay - Chairman

Mrs R Camamile and Mr KWP Lynch – Vice-Chairman

Mr DC Bill MBE, Mr SL Bray, Mr WJ Crooks, Mr DW MacDonald, Mr BE Sutton, Mr R Ward, Mr HG Williams, Mr DS Cope, Mrs H Smith and Miss DM Taylor

Also in attendance: Councillor MA Cook, Councillor M Hall, Councillor J Kirby, Councillor K Morrell, Councillor M Nickerson and Councillor MJ Surtees

Officers in attendance: Rebecca Owen, Ilyas Bham, Bill Cullen, Julie Kenny, Caroline Roffey and Ashley Wilson

306 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

309 GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2018-2019

Members received the 2018/19 general fund revenue budget. Attention was drawn to the budget summary on page 44 of the agenda pack and the revised 2017/18 budget on page 46.

A member asked for clarification in relation to the discretionary business rate relief schemes as it has been suggested that the criteria used when they were agreed would limit the number of businesses eligible for them. In response it was noted that the criteria had been relaxed to enable more businesses to benefit and that a report would be produced to update members on this.

A member expressed concern about the recent news that the Chinese government was to ban importing of plastic waste and asked whether that would affect the value we receive for them. In response, it was explained that following Leicestershire County Council's direction of HBBC for dry recycling, from 1 April 2018 the county council would retain and recycle the materials collected so it would not affect HBBC.

In relation to the 'Homelessness prevention underspend due to capacity issues', it was explained that this was ring fenced grant funding intended for homelessness prevention work as agreed by Council on 7 December 2017 and the wording would be amended to more accurately reflect this.