

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 25 JANUARY 2021

PART I - NOT DELEGATED

12. The purpose of this report is to enable the Policy and Resources Committee to recommend to the Council its capital strategy and treasury management policy over the medium term (2021-24)

(DoF)

1. Summary

1.1 This report enables the Committee to make its recommendations on the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets and Treasury Management Policy for the period 2020-24 (medium term) to Council on 23 February 2021

2. Details

Context

2.1 The Committee is reminded that each report on this agenda needs to be considered before the recommendations on this report are agreed.

Revenue Budget

2.2 The Committee should agree the revenue budget as amended for any growth or additional savings it proposes to add.

Capital Strategy and Investment Programme

2.3 The Committee should agree the level of capital investment for 2021/22 to 2023/24 having regard to any balances it wishes to see carried forward.

3. Options/Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 The recommendation below enables the Committee to make recommendations to the Council on 23 February 2021 concerning the Council's corporate framework, service and financial plans.

4. Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

4.1 The recommendations in this report contribute to the process whereby the Council will approve and adopt its strategic, service and financial plans under Article 4 of the Council's Constitution.

5. Equal Opportunities, Staffing, Environmental, Community Safety, Customer Services Centre, Communications, Health & Safety & Website Implications

5.1 Dependant on budget decisions.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 The key financial implications for the Council are:-

- Officers recommend a minimum prudent revenue balance of **£2,000,000** in the light of the financial and budgetary risks.
- The general fund balance at 31 March 2024 is **£2,969,040**

- A **£5 increase** in its Council Tax charge for 2021/22 and beyond.
- Capital balance is estimated to be **£871,628** at 31 March 2024.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 The Policy and Resources Committee must forward its recommendations on the budget to Council. The Council must set its 2021/22 budget by 11 March 2021.

8. Risk Management Implications

8.1 The Committee should recommend that the financial and budgetary risks identified be incorporated into service plans as appropriate.

9. Recommendations

Either

9.1 To Council:-

- (a) That the 2020/21 revised estimates for the revenue account be agreed giving a balance at 31 March 2021 of **£4,482,894**. (*Agenda Item 9 Appendix 1 refers*).
- (b) That the draft revenue estimates in respect of the revenue account for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2024, subject to the changes agreed, be approved (*Agenda Item 9 refers*).
- (c) That it be noted that **£2.0 million** be considered as a prudent minimum balance for the general fund.
- (d) That the financial and budgetary risks be agreed and their management monitored by the Audit Committee. (*Agenda Item 9 refers*).
- (e) That the total capital strategy and investment programme for 2020/21 be agreed at **£8,959,256**. (*Agenda Item 10 Appendix 1 refers*).
- (f) That the arrangements for funding the 2020/21 capital strategy and investment programme resulting in an estimated balance of capital resources at 31 March 2024 of **£871,628** be agreed. (*Agenda Item 10 Appendix 4 refers*).
- (g) That the Council notes the capital funding available and approves the Policy and Resources Committee's allocation of funds for the period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2024 (*Agenda Item 10 refers*).
- (h) That the Treasury Management Policy 2021/22 be approved. (*Agenda Item 10 Appendix 6 refers*) and
- (i) That the Council notes the Director of Finance's advice on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the financial reserves.

Or

9.2 That the Policy and Resources Committee notes that the Administration will publish its final recommendations on Financial Planning 2021-2024 five working days prior to the Council meeting on 23 February 2021 and present them at this meeting.

Report prepared by:

Temí Opeyemi- Finance Manager

Tina Stankley–Interim Head of Finance

Alison Scott – Director of Finance

Background Papers:

2020/21 Budget Monitoring Reports

Fees & Charges Reports to Committees

2020-24 Financial Planning Report