

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

CABINET

8 MARCH 2021

Cabinet Members:

Councillors: E.V.Latham (Chairperson), C.Clement-Williams, D.Jones, A.R.Lockyer, P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards, A.Wingrave and L.Jones

Officers in Attendance:

K.Jones, A.Evans, A.Jarrett, A.Thomas, H.Jenkins, N.Pearce, C.Griffiths, C.L.Davies and J.Woodman-Ralph

Invitees:

Councillors: M.Harvey, Scrutiny Chairperson
S.Rahaman, Scrutiny Vice Chairperson

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Agreed that Councillor E.V.Latham be appointed Chairperson for the meeting.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Member made a declaration of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

Cllr. M. Harvey	Re: Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2021/2022 to 2023/2024 as he works for South Wales Police and he is the Chair of Governors at Abbey Primary School.
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Re: Revenue Budget 2021/2022 as he works for South Wales Police.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

That the minutes of the 24 February 2021 be approved.

4. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22**

That the Forward Work Programme 2021/2022 be noted.

5. **EDUCATION THROUGH REGIONAL WORKING CONSORTIUM DEVELOPMENTS**

Members received clarity that an Integrated Impact Assessment was not required as the item was for information at today's meeting. In addition, decisions in regard to the working arrangements had been taken by previous meetings where an Integrated Impact Assessment would have been undertaken.

Decision:

That the report be noted.

6. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT 2020/2021**

Members received a verbal update that the implementation of decision should have stated for immediate implementation and not as stated in the report for the three day call in period.

Decisions:

1. That the Capital Programme 2020/2021 be commended to Council for approval;
2. That the 2020/2021 budget totalling £65.387m be approved;
3. That the £39.1m of expenditure as at 31st January 2021 be noted.

Reason for Decisions:

To update the Council's Capital Programme for 2020/2021.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be for immediate implementation.

7. BUDGET UPDATE AND MONITORING REPORT 2020/2021

Members noted that there was no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment.

Decisions

1. That the reserve movements as detailed in the circulated report be approved;
2. That the budget virements exceeding £500K be commended to Council for approval.
3. That the operational and financial issues as detailed in the circulated report be noted;
4. That the Council continues to work with Welsh Government and in line with legislation, regulations and directions to deliver services during these challenging times;
5. That the additional grants received be noted;
6. That the Council continues to seek additional funding from Welsh Government to cover COVID 19 consequences.

Reason for Decisions:

To monitor and update the Council's Budget projections for 2020/2021 and inform Members of the financial risks arising from COVID 19.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be for immediate implementation.

8. **CAPITAL STRATEGY AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/2022 TO 2023/2024**

Decisions:

Having given due regard to the Integrated Impact Assessment as detailed in the circulated report.

1. That the Capital Strategy and the Capital Programme for 2021/2022 to 2023/2024 as detailed in Appendix 2 to the circulated report be commended to Council for approval;
2. That the Capital Programme be kept under review and updated over the coming year.

Reason for Decisions:

To approve the Authority's Capital Programme in line with the Constitution.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be for immediate implementation.

9. **REVENUE BUDGET 2021/2022**

Members considered the comments made in the previous Cabinet Scrutiny Committee relating to the increase in Council Tax. As no alternative funding proposals had been submitted, Members were supportive of the recommendations contained within the circulated report.

Members thanked Officers for all the work they had undertaken in the current circumstances of the Covid 19 pandemic and asked that Members appreciation be cascaded to all staff involved.

Decisions:

Having given due regard to the Integrated Impact Assessment as detailed in the circulated report;

1. The following matters be delegated to the appropriate Corporate Director following consultation with the Council Leader, relevant Cabinet Member and Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee:-
 - Fees and Charges applicable for the financial year 2021/2022
 - Fees and Charges which are applicable in any subsequent financial year and which, in the opinion of the relevant Corporate Director, need to be set in advance of the financial year for operational reasons.
2. That the Latest budget position 2020/2021 be commended to Council for approval of the revised budget position and arrangements for 2020/2021.
3. That the following be commended to Council for approval:
 - a) Latest revised budget position 2020/2021 and arrangements for 2020/2021;
 - b) The Council's Revenue Budget 2021/2022. Taking into account the Integrated Impact Assessment and Crime and Disorder impacts in setting the budget for 2021/2022.
 - c) Council's Net Revenue Budget requirement for 2021/2022, and the service plans for the delivery of the budgets.
 - d) The budget/forward financial plan savings outlined in Appendix 4 to the circulated report.
 - e) To instruct Corporate Directors to progress the savings and improvement programme for the Authority.
4. That the following be commended to Council for approval:
 - a) Fees and Charges for non-executive functions be delegated to the appropriate Corporate Director following consultation with the Council Leader, Deputy Leader and Chair of the relevant Non-executive committee.
 - b) Fees and Charges applicable in 2021/2022
 - c) Fees and Charges applicable in any subsequent financial year and which, in the opinion of the Corporate Director, need to be set in advance of that financial year for operational reasons.

5. That Council Tax 2021/2022 , Band D equivalent for Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council will be £1,660.02 be commended to Council for approval.

Reasons for Decisions:

To enable the Council to fulfil its statutory requirement to determine the budget for 2021/2022.

To ensure support for the Council's Forward Financial Plan and to put in place arrangements for settling Fees and Charges.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be for immediate implementation.

Consultation:

Extensive consultation and engagement has taken place between the 13th January 2021 and the 12th February 2021 as detailed in the circulated report.

10. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021/2022**

Decisions:

That the Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy and Prudential Indicators as detailed in the circulated report be commended to Council for approval.

Reason for Decisions:

To enable the Authority to have approved Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy, Capital Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy as required by the Local Government Act 2003 and the C Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (2017).

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision will be for Immediate Implementation.

CHAIRPERSON