

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Monday, 20 December 2021

Decision No: (CAB 21/22 32885)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Finance and Capital Assets
SUBJECT:	Update on budget forecast for 2022/23 onwards and savings plans
AUTHOR:	Steve Harrison

THE DECISION

General Fund

- i) Notes the update within this report and the assumptions it has been necessary to make at this stage.
- ii) Notes the new commitments which have been included in the forecast as noted in paragraphs 9 and 10 and appendix 1.
- iii) Notes the key headlines from the Autumn Budget and Spending Review 2021 announcement set out in appendix 2.
- iv) Notes the budget pressures which have been included in the forecast which are set out in paragraphs 55 and 56 and appendix 3.
- v) Notes the initial savings proposals set out in paragraphs 58 to 60 and appendix 4.
- vi) Notes that even with the proposals contained in this report, a budget shortfall of £9.01M is still currently forecast for 2022/23 and notes the options available to produce a balanced budget.
- vii) Is asked to determine whether, in line with the current policy of no increase in council tax, that this will apply to the Adult Social Care precept.

Housing Revenue Account

- viii) Notes the update and assumptions within this report set out in paragraphs 69 to 95.
- ix) Notes the proposal to freeze rents at the current level as set out in paragraph 76.
- x) Notes the proposals to freeze service charges set out in paragraph 79.
- xi) Notes the proposal to increase heating charges by 16.52 per cent as set out in paragraph 83.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

This report is submitted for consideration as part of good practice in establishing draft budget proposals in advance of the financial year.

The production of a financial forecast and an outline timetable are a requirement of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

In addition, it is standard practice for Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to consider the proposals and provide feedback to the Cabinet. Recommendations in this report have therefore been put forward to allow this process to formally begin.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The proposals presented in this report represent the Cabinet's initial proposals for the 2022/23 budget and medium term, which are being published for consultation. There are a number of variables and alternative options that could be implemented as part of the budget. The budget will be set by Full Council in February 2022.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

Representations were received from Sue Atkins, Parveen Ishfaq, Khalid Farook, Ismael Imran and Councillor Kataria on the proposals St. Marys Leisure Centre.

Cabinet also received recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee held on 16th December, 2021 requesting that the Committee was provided with details outlining how the proposed £300k increase in income to be generated by the Council's cultural venues in 2022/23 would be achieved.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 20th December 2021

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Judy Cordell

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*