

BUDGET 2020-21

Cabinet	28 January 2020
Report Author	Tim Willis, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Rob Yates, Cabinet Member for Financial Services and Estates
Status	For Decision
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	Non-key
Reasons for Key	Budget and Policy Framework
Ward:	All wards

Executive Summary:

This report highlights the recommendation from the Overview & Scrutiny Panel of 21 January in respect of the 2020-21 budget and 2020-24 capital programme for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account, as previously approved by Cabinet on 14 January 2020.

Recommendation(s):

- 1. Cabinet considers the recommendation from Overview & Scrutiny Panel of 21 January and recommends to Council the following:**
 - 1.1 That the General Fund revenue budget estimates for 2020-21 are approved, assuming a £4.95 increase in Council Tax for a Band D.
 - 1.2 That the HRA budget estimates for 2020-21 are approved, assuming a CPI+1% (i.e. a 2.7%) increase in social rents and a freeze in affordable rents for relevant council properties.
 - 1.3 That the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account capital programmes (Annexes 1&2) for 2020-24 are approved.
 - 1.5 That the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy for 2020-21 as shown in Annex 3 is approved.
 - 1.6 That the Section 151 Officer's Assurance Statement as set out in section 14 of this report is approved.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS	
Financial and Value for Money	The financial implications of the budget are laid out within the body of the report.
Legal	Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a suitably qualified named officer to keep control of the council's finances. For this council, this is the Deputy Chief Executive and this report is helping to carry out this function. The requirements of other relevant statute have been referenced within the body of this report, where relevant.
Corporate	Corporate priorities can only be delivered with robust finances. Both the draft budget and the level of reserves recommended in this report are believed to be sufficient to contribute towards meeting those priorities and to deliver services.
Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership. There are no equity and equalities implications arising directly from this report, but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant) ✓	
Growth	✓
Environment	✓
Communities	✓

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Cabinet on 14 January 2020 approved the 2020-21 budget as set out in the attachments. Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 21 January considered the proposals and discussed a number of aspects of the papers. The Panel made one recommendation to Cabinet, as follows: "That Cabinet considers identifying a resource to support coastal projects".

- 1.2 When considering the proposal, Cabinet will need to bear in mind the fact that no funding source has been included in the recommendation from OSP, and that it is late in the budget-setting process to identify such a source. As a way forward, Cabinet could choose to investigate other possible funding streams to support the work in question.

Contact Officer:	Tim Willis, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer
Reporting to:	Madeline Homer, Chief Executive

Background Papers

Title	Held in Financial Services
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Corporate Consultation

Finance	N/A
Legal	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance