

BUDGET 2021-22

Overview & Scrutiny Panel 19 January 2021

Report Author	Tim Willis, Deputy Chief Executive & S151 Officer
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Rob Yates, Cabinet member for Finance, Administration & Community Wealth Building
Status	For Recommendation
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No
Previously Considered by	Cabinet 14 January 2021
Ward:	All

Executive Summary:

This is a covering report to present the Budget report which was considered by Cabinet on 14 January 2021.

Recommendation:

Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to comment on the attached report.

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

The financial implications have been reflected within the body of the report. However, were members to decide to make recommendations that reduced income or increased expenditure, then additional savings of the same value would be required to deliver a balanced budget.

Legal

Section 151 of the 1972 Local Government Act requires a suitably qualified named officer to keep control of the council's finances. For this council, it is the Deputy Chief Executive (S151 Officer), and this report is helping to carry out that function.

The power to charge for discretionary services is not available to local authorities if there is a statutory duty to provide the service or if there is a specific power to charge for it or if there is a prohibition on charging.

The Localism Act 2011 provides local authorities with a general power of competence that confers on them the power to charge for services but again subject to conditions/limitations similar to those noted above.

Any decision made by the council must give due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

Corporate

Corporate priorities can only be delivered with robust finances and this report gives Members the opportunity to review the council's proposed budget for 2020-21.

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, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Growth
- Environment
- Communities

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 This is a covering report to present the 2021-22 Budget which was considered by Cabinet on 14 January 2021. Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to comment on the attached report. If need be, the Cabinet meeting on 28 January 2021 can consider any views from the Panel.

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Annex List

Annex 1: Cabinet report on the 2021-22 Budget