



Author/Lead Officer of Report: Dave Phillips,
Head of Strategic Finance

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Report of: *Eugene Walker*

Report to: *Cabinet*

Date of Decision: *17th February 2021*

Subject: *Budget Report for 2021/22*

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Is this a Key Decision? If Yes, reason Key Decision:- | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Expenditure and/or savings over £500,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| - Affects 2 or more Wards | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Which Cabinet Member Portfolio does this relate to? <i>Finance and Resources</i> | | |
| Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? <i>Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee</i> | | |
| Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <i>(Insert reference number)</i> | | |
| Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:- | | |
| <i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i> | | |

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this Revenue report is to:

- approve the City Council's revenue budget for 2021/22, including the position on reserves and balances;
- approve a 2021/22 Council Tax for the City Council; and
- note the levies and precepts made on the City Council by other authorities.

The purpose of the Capital Strategy is to:

- Set out the Council's key priority areas for capital investment;
- Provide an overview of specific projects included in the years 2021 to 2026;
- Set out the overall shape of the current Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2026 (at **Appendix 2**). Block allocations are included within the programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate approval as part of the monthly approval cycle;
- Set out our principles for how we invest in non-cash assets; and
- Provide background to our Corporate Investment Fund Policy at **Appendix 1**.

Recommendations:

As regards the Revenue Budget, Members are recommended:

- a) To approve a net Revenue Budget for 2021/22 amounting to £365.812m;
- b) To approve a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,702.31 for City Council services, i.e. an increase of 4.99% (1.99% City Council increase and 3% national arrangement for the social care precept);
- c) To approve the proposed amendments to the Long Term Empty premium which applies to Council Tax charges in respect of Long Term Empty Dwellings, as set out in paragraph 47, with effect from 1 April 2021;
- d) To note that the section 151 officer has reviewed the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves, in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003. Further details can be found in **Appendix 4** and within the Section 25 Statutory Statement on Sustainability of Budget and Level of Reserves from paragraph 17;
- e) To approve the savings as set out in **Appendix 2**;
- f) To approve the revenue budget allocations for each of the services, as set out in **Appendices 3a to 3d**;
- g) To note that, based on the estimated expenditure level set out in **Appendix 3** to this report, the amounts shown in part B of **Appendix 6** would be calculated by the City Council for the year 2021/22, in accordance with sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;

- h) To note the information on the precepts issued by the South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner and of South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority, together with the impact of these on the overall amount of Council Tax to be charged in the City Council's area;
 - i) notes the precepts issued by local parish councils which add £637,944 to the calculation of the budget requirement in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
 - j) To approve the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategies set out in **Appendix 7** and the recommendations contained therein;
 - k) To approve the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy set out in **Appendix 7**; which takes into account the revisions proposed for 2021/22 onwards;
 - l) To agree that authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Resources to undertake Treasury Management activity, to create and amend appropriate Treasury Management Practice Statements and to report on the operation of Treasury Management activity on the terms set out in these documents;
 - m) To approve a Pay Policy for 2021/22 as set out in **Appendix 8**; and
 - n) To agree that the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2017/18 and onwards, approved on 3 March 2017, and implemented for 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 be also implemented for 2021/22.
2. As regards the Capital Strategy, Cabinet is recommended:
- to approve the contents of the Capital Strategy and the specific projects included in the years 2021/22 to 2025/26; that block allocations are included within the programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate Member approval as part of the monthly monitoring procedures; and
 - to approve the proposed Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2025/26 as per **Appendix 2** of the capital report.

Background Papers:

| Lead Officer to complete:- | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms | Finance: <i>Dave Phillips</i> |
| | | Legal: <i>David Hollis</i> |

| | | |
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| | completed / EIA completed, where required. | Equalities: No |
| | <i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i> | |
| 2 | EMT member who approved submission: | <i>Eugene Walker</i> |
| 3 | Cabinet Member consulted: | <i>Councillor Terry Fox Cabinet member for Finance and Resources</i> |
| 4 | I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the EMT member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1. | |
| | Lead Officer Name: <i>Dave Phillips</i>  | Job Title: <i>Head of Strategic Finance</i> |
| | Date: 9 th February 2021 | |

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 The City Council on 3 March 2021 meets to consider the Revenue Budget for 2021/22 and to determine the Council Tax for that year.

The report provides information to enable the Council to set a budget and determine the Council Tax.

The proposals set out in this report provide for a balanced budget to be recommended to Council.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- approve the City Council's revenue budget for 2021/22, including the position on reserves and balances;
- approve a 2021/22 Council Tax for the City Council; and
- note the levies and precepts made on the City Council by other authorities.

Please refer to paragraph 181 of the main report for the recommendations.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 *Yes – see Paras 116-142 for further details.*

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

- 4.1.1 *Paras 143-180 describe the Equality impact of the Budget Report in greater detail.*

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 *Yes – cleared by Dave Phillips*

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 *Yes – see Legal section of the report (Paras 87-97)*

4.4 Other Implications

4.4.1 No

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 *A number of alternative courses of action are considered as part of the process undertaken by Officers before decisions are recommended to Members. The recommendations made to Members represent what Officers believe to be the best options available to the Council, in line with Council priorities, given the constraints on funding and the use to which funding is put within the Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme.*

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 *The City Council on 3 March 2021 meets to consider the Revenue Budget for 2021/22 and to determine the Council Tax for that year. The report provides information to enable the Council to set a budget and determine the Council Tax. The proposals set out in this report provide for a balanced budget to be recommended to Council.*