

Decision Notice (21 January 2021)

Published 25 January 2021

This document lists the decisions taken by Cabinet at a meeting held on Thursday, 21 January 2021. The list covers key and non-key decisions. A decision may be implemented with immediate effect, unless it is eligible for call-in as identified below, whereupon a decision will not be implemented until five working days have elapsed.

Agenda Item No	Decision	Reasons for Decision	Any Options Rejected?	Declared Conflict of Interest	Eligible for call in?
<p>A10</p>	<p><u>Corporate Plan</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet recommended to Full Council that:</p> <p>A The Corporate Plan 2020/21, attached as Appendix A to the report, is adopted.</p> <p>B Authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make minor and inconsequential amendments to the Corporate Plan.</p> <p>C The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, prepare the</p>	<p>The Corporate Plan provides the Council with important context for decision making and the allocation of its resources. Approval of the Corporate Plan is reserved to Full Council. There are suggested amendments to the approach to the format of the Corporate Plan to move towards alignment of annual planning cycles from 2021 and the intended earlier reporting of the Medium Term Financial Strategy in subsequent years.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No</p>

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	<p>proposed delivery programme for 2021-22 and therefore milestones to be monitored through regular Joint Finance and Performance Report quarterly reporting to members.</p> <p>D The review of the Corporate Plan achievements, in future, form part of an enlarged Year End Performance report monitored by Cabinet annually.</p>				
A11	<p><u>Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 - 2023/24</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet recommended to Full Council that:</p> <p>A The Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2021/22 to 2023/24 (attached as appendix B to the report) is adopted.</p> <p>B The planned Council Tax increase of 1.99 per cent for</p>	<p>To enable Cabinet to consider the current factors influencing the three year Medium Term Financial Plan and agree the financial strategy for the period 2021/22 to 2023/24 in support of the overall financial plans of the Council over that period and the delivery of its priorities.</p>	None	None	No

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	<p>2021/22 as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan be approved.</p> <p>C That an initial £155,000 is earmarked from the Governments 2021/22 Covid support funding to provide additional council tax hardship support and that up to £300,000 in total is made available should it be required in 2021/22.</p> <p>D That a new Budget Stabilisation Fund is created as set out in this report totalling £1.363 million by utilising £1 million of the existing Severance Reserve and the balance of the 2021/22 Covid-19 funding provided by the Government.</p> <p>E That the New Homes Bonus for 2021/22 totalling £1.079 million is contributed in full to the Discretionary Services Fund.</p>				

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A12	<p><u>General Fund Budget 2021/22</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet recommended to Full Council that:</p> <p>A The General Fund estimates for 2021/22, as set out in Appendix A to the report, are approved.</p> <p>B The proposed transfers between the General Fund and Earmarked Reserves, referred to in paragraph 27, Table 3 of this report and set out in Appendix C to the report, are approved.</p> <p>C The proposed Fees and Charges, as set out in Appendix E to the report, are approved.</p> <p>D The Pay Policy Statement, as set out in Appendix G to the report, is approved.</p>	<p>The Council must approve an annual budget and Council Tax charge for the forthcoming year under legislation.</p>	None	None	No

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	<p>E The Council's Band D Council Tax for 2021/22 is set at £288.90 representing an increase in Council Tax of 1.99 per cent for the forthcoming year.</p>				
<p>A13</p>	<p><u>Housing Revenue Account Budget 2021/22</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet recommended to Full Council that:</p> <p>A Approves the Housing Revenue Account estimates as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.</p> <p>B Approves that tenant rents are increased by CPI plus 1 per cent (1.5 per cent) with effect from 5 April 2021. This equates to an average weekly rent of £93.66 an increase of £1.38 (set out in paragraph 4 of the</p>	<p>The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) reflects the statutory requirement under Section 74 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 to account separately for the local authority housing services. It is a ring fenced account containing the costs of managing the Council's housing stock which is offset by tenant's rents, tenants and leaseholders service charges and other contributions. The Council has a statutory responsibility to set a balanced HRA budget and avoid any deficits.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No</p>

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	<p>report).</p> <p>C Approves that the rents and personal charges for temporary accommodation be increase by an average of 1.5 per cent with effect from 5 April 2021 (set out in paragraph 5 of the report).</p> <p>D Approves that garage rents within the 'retain and invest' category are increased by 5 per cent with effect from 1 April 2021. This equates to an average weekly rent of £11.20, an increase of £0.53. Also approves the proportionate increases for other garages, car ports and car spaces (set out in paragraph 6 of the report).</p> <p>E Approves that tenant service charges are increased by an average 1.5 per cent with effect from 5 April 2021 This equates to an average weekly service charge of £2.34 (see paragraphs 7 to 9 of the report</p>				

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	<p>and Appendix 1 attached to the report).</p> <p>F Approves that other housing related support charges for sheltered accommodation are increased to recover full cost with effect from 5 April 2021 (see paragraphs 10 to 14 of the report and Appendix 1 attached to the report).</p> <p>G Approves that tenant heating charges are increased by an average 2.9 per cent with effect from 5 April 2021. This equates to an average weekly heating charge of £9.50 an increase of £0.27. For tenants in sheltered accommodation this equates to an average weekly charge of £7.04 an increase £0.20 (see paragraphs 15 to 17 of the report and Appendix 1 attached to the report).</p> <p>H Approves that the leasehold service charges are increased with effect from 1 April 2021 to</p>				

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	<p>ensure that all leaseholder costs are recovered (see paragraphs 18 to 22 of the report and Appendix 1 attached to the report).</p> <p>I Approves that all other tenant charges are increased with effect from 5 April 2021 in order to recover cost (see Appendix 1 attached to the report).</p>				
A14	<p><u>Capital and Treasury Report 2021</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet recommended to Full Council that:</p> <p>A The following Capital and Treasury Reports be approved:</p> <p>i) The Capital Strategy Report (attached as Appendix A to the report).</p> <p>ii) The Capital Programme</p>	<p>A The Capital Strategy Report 2021/22 (attached as Appendix A to the report) covers the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Code 2017, including the prudential indicators. The report should be approved by Full Council before the start of the new financial year.</p> <p>B The Capital Programme Strategy Statement 2021/22</p>	None	None	No

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	<p>Strategy Statement 2021/22 (attached as Appendix B to the report).</p> <p>iii) The Investment Strategy Report 2021/22 (attached as Appendix D to the report).</p> <p>iv) The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2021/22 (attached as Appendix E to the report).</p> <p>B The proposed revised Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22 (attached as Appendix C to the report) be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2021.</p>	<p>(attached as Appendix B to the report) is provided within this report to provide context for capital investment explained elsewhere. Specifically, for 2021/21, it sets out the Council's programme for building council homes.</p> <p>C The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22 (attached as Appendix C to the report) covers the requirements of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2017, including the treasury management indicators.</p> <p>D The Investment Strategy Report 2021/22 (attached as Appendix D to the report) covers the requirements of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Investment Guidance 2018, including the investment</p>			

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		<p>indicators.</p> <p>E The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2021/22 (attached as Appendix E to the report) covers the requirements of the MHCLG Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision.</p>			
<p>A15</p>	<p><u>Capital Programmes 2020/21 - 2022/23</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet recommends to Full Council that:</p> <p>A The Housing Capital Programme (HCP) 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>B The inclusion in the Non Housing Capital Programme (NHCP) of an additional provision of £618,000 to</p>	<p>Approval of the Capital Programme is the responsibility reserved for the Full Council and reflects its investment priorities and health and safety obligations. This is necessary because the approved programme gives authority for the procurement and resourcing of individual projects so that the investment priorities can be delivered.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No</p>

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	<p>finance the Town Wide Paddling Pools and Staple Tye Splash Park improvements. Consequently the 2020/21 revised budget will increase by £152,000 and the 2021/22 estimates by £466,000.</p> <p>C The inclusion in the NHCP a provision of £3.56 million for additional capital expenditure at the Enterprise Zone funded by grant from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) Getting Building Fund. Consequently the 2020/21 revised budget will increase by £200,000 and the 2021/22 estimates by £3.36 million.</p> <p>D The NHCP bids for £5.57 million additional investment in 2021/22 as set out in Table 10 of the report.</p> <p>E The NHCP 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.</p>				