

Strategy, Resources and Performance Committee Decision Statement

Meeting: 28 January 2025
Published: 29 January 2025

Constitutional Matters

1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Councillor Goldsack. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes – 17th December 2024 and Action Log

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of 17th December 2024 as a correct record. The action log was noted.

3. Petitions and Public Questions

No petitions or public questions were received.

Other Decisions

4. Integrated Finance Monitoring Report for Period 8 2024-25

It was resolved:

to note and comment on the report.

5. 2025-30 Financial Sustainability Assessment

It was resolved:

to scrutinise the Section 151 Officer's assessment and note the conclusions in consideration of the proposed Budget for 2025/26 to Full Council, and the proposed level of reserves set out at Appendix 1.

6. 2025-30 Business Plan and Budget

It was resolved to recommend the following to Full Council:

- a) To approve the Business Plan for 2025-30 including the supporting budget, consultation responses and other material, in light of all the planning activities undertaken to date. (Appendix 1 to the report)
- b) To approve the directorate budget allocations as set out in each directorate table in section 3 of the Business Plan
- c) To approve a total county budget requirement in respect of general expenses applicable to the whole county area of £1,206,290,000
- d) To approve a recommended county precept for council tax from district councils of £420,986,969.57 (to be received in equal instalments in accordance with the fall-back provisions of the Local Authorities (Funds) (Amendment) Regulations 1995)
- e) To approve a council tax increase for each band of property, based on the number of 'Band D' equivalent properties notified to the county council by the district councils (247,546.2), reflecting a 4.99% increase (2.99% in the basic council tax precept, and 2% in the adult social care precept):

| Band | Fraction | County council tax charge |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| A | 6/9 | £1,133.76 |
| B | 7/9 | £1,322.72 |
| C | 8/9 | £1,511.68 |
| D | 9/9 | £1,700.64 |
| E | 11/9 | £2,078.56 |
| F | 13/9 | £2,456.48 |
| G | 15/9 | £2,834.40 |
| H | 18/9 | £3,401.28 |

- f) To approve the Capital Strategy as set out in section 5 of the Business Plan including:
 - i. Commitments from schemes already approved
 - ii. Expenditure on new schemes in 2025-26
- g) To approve the Treasury Management Strategy as set out in section 6 of the business plan, including:
 - i. The council's policy on the making of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for the repayment of debt, as required by the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008
 - ii. The affordable borrowing limit for 2025-26 (as required by the Local Government Act 2003)

- iii. The investment strategy for 2025-26 and the prudential indicators as set out in appendix 1f - Section 6 of the Business Plan
 - iv. The delegation to the Executive Director of Finance and Resources contained in the Treasury Management Strategy to alter the council's counterparty and lending list in the conduct of the council's treasury management operations
- h) To authorise the Executive Director of Finance and Resources, as the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, to make technical revisions to the Business Plan, including the foregoing recommendations to the county council, so as to take into account any changes deemed appropriate, including but not limited to:
- i. The final tax base, forecast council tax and business rates receipts for 2024-25 from the billing authorities (due by 31 January 2025)
 - ii. The final Local Government Finance Settlement from the Government (expected early February 2025) alongside other grant announcements, outside of the settlement, primarily based on treatment proposed in this report
 - iii. Changes to the accounting code for the Treasury Management Strategy.
2. The Strategy, Resources and Performance Committee agrees to allocate funding from the Government through 'extended producer responsibility for packaging' in 2025-26 to an earmarked reserve, as per section 6.1.6 of this report.

7. Agenda Plan and Training Plan and Appointments to Outside Bodies and Internal Advisory Groups and Panels

It was resolved to note the agenda plan and training plan.

Statements in bold type indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting and strikethrough indicates deletions.

For more information contact:

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