

Dear Councillor

CABINET - THURSDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2021

I am now able to enclose for consideration at the above meeting the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Agenda Item
No.**

- 3. FINAL 2021/22 REVENUE BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2022/23 TO 2025/26) INCLUDING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME**(Pages 505 - 506)
To receive and recommend to Council the Final Budget 2021/22 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2025/26 and the Plan-on-a-Page.

Executive Councillor: J A Gray

- 4. 2021/22 TREASURY MANAGEMENT, CAPITAL AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**(Pages 507 - 508)
To consider and recommend to Council the approval of the 2021/22 Treasury Management, Capital and Investment Strategies and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement.

Executive Councillor: J A Gray.

- 5. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SPEND ALLOCATION**(Pages 509 - 510)
To receive a report from the Service Manager (Growth) seeking the Cabinet's agreement on infrastructure projects to be funded in whole or in part by an amount of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies received to date.

Executive Councillor: J Neish.

- 6. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT**(Pages 511 - 512)
To receive a report from the Head of Operations seeking amendments to the Council's Off Street Parking Strategy which in 2018 decided not to progress the civil enforcement of on-street parking offences in Huntingdonshire.

Executive Councillor: Mrs M Beuttell.

- 7. ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING**(Pages 513 - 514)

To receive a report from the Head of Operations to enhance Electric Vehicle charging in the Council's off street car parks.

Executive Councillor: Mrs M Beuttell.

8. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21, QUARTER 3(Pages 515 - 516)

To receive a report from the Business Intelligence & Performance Manager outlining the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2018/22 and project delivery.

Executive Councillor: J Neish.

9. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21, QUARTER 3(Pages 517 - 518)

To receive a report from the Chief Finance Officer presenting details of the Council's projected financial performance for 2020/21.

Executive Councillor: J Gray.

COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

FINAL 2021/22 REVENUE BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2022/23 TO 2025/26) INCLUDING CAPITAL PROGRAMME

- 6.1 The Panel discussed the Final 2021/22 Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (2022/23 to 2025/26) including Capital Programme at its meeting on 3rd February 2021.
- 6.2 Members welcomed the proposed freeze in Council Tax for the year 2021/22.
- 6.3 The collaborative approach by Opposition Groups towards the 2021/22 budget, particularly after the challenging year the Council has faced, was welcomed by the Panel.
- 6.4 Concerns were raised about the unpredictable nature of some aspects of the budget and about the reliance of the budget on revenue which might not materialise. It was understood though, that Officers have been conservative with their estimates when producing the budget.
- 6.5 Members commented that it is prudent to use reserves after the challenging year that the Council has experienced with its finances. The change in the level of reserves deemed necessary was welcomed by the Panel.
- 6.6 Members sought assurance that the level of provision within the budget is sufficient for the Council to continue the good work done in many areas, such as homelessness. This assurance has been provided.
- 6.7 In conclusion, the Panel welcomed the budget and commented that, considering the challenges that had faced the Council's finances in the last year, it is a sound budget.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

2021/22 TREASURY MANAGEMENT, CAPITAL AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

- 5.1 The Panel discussed the 2021/22 Treasury Management, Capital and Investment Strategies at its meeting on 3rd February 2021.
- 5.2 The Panel made no comments on this report.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SPEND ALLOCATION

- 4.1 The Panel discussed the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Spend Allocation at its meeting on 3rd February 2021.
- 4.2 In relation to the Buckden to Huntingdon Safe Cycling and Walking Route, Members commented that it was a beneficial scheme, however the percentage of funding to be obtained from CIL was higher than desirable. The Panel discussed if the proportion of funds obtained from CIL should not exceed 50% of the project cost. It was considered such a restriction might not be beneficial for all case consideration. It was suggested the County Council might make a greater contribution to the scheme.
- 4.3 Whilst discussing the Cricket Pavilion, King George V Playing Field scheme, Members commented that they were surprised that the scheme met the criteria. On a general point, it is suggested that the criteria used to determine whether projects are desirable or essential should be clarified because it is likely there will be considerable demand for CIL funds in the future. Members understood that the critical, essential and desirable definitions are linked to those used for the Local Plan and noted that the project will enable the facility to meet Sport England requirements.
- 4.4 In relation to the Special School project, having noted the information that is currently outstanding, the Panel has emphasised that if the school is to receive pupils from other local authority areas then those areas should contribute towards the project costs.
- 4.5 For projects where the recommendation is that the application for CIL funding should be declined, Members have accepted the reasons given.
- 4.6 The Panel welcomed the report and the transparency that it has given to the CIL application process. Members supported those schemes that are recommended for approval and would like to see them progress.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERSHIPS)

CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT

- 4.1 The Panel discussed the Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) report at its meeting on 4th February 2021.
- 4.2 Members have emphasised that once the Council begins to operate CPE, the Council must continue to work with the local constabulary to continue to enforce dangerous parking which cannot be addressed within CPE legislation.
- 4.3 The Panel is of the view that the various options for the operational configuration of the new service have different strengths. The Panel confirmed their support for an in-house service. When the initial implementation period is complete (two years after go live), the Panel agreed that the Council should re-consider the full range of options to ensure the most efficient and effective solution for Huntingdonshire. All options are subject to the same legislative controls. Any evaluation should include reputational considerations.
- 4.4 Members recommend that the new arrangements should include measures to ensure rural areas of the District receive an appropriate level of parking enforcement and recognised that these would be presented for consideration within the Enforcement Policies developed within the implementation project.
- 4.5 It was suggested that the Council should continue to make the best use of the experiences of other similar profiled local authorities in order to achieve the best service outcomes for the District.
- 4.6 The Panel commented that they understand the need for fair and consistent enforcement, as it is important for enforcement officers to be consistent, it is recognised that this would be reflected within the future Enforcement Policy and appeals procedures.
- 4.7 The Panel welcomes the initiative and encourages the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERSHIPS)

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

- 4.1 The Panel discussed the Electric Vehicle Charging report at its meeting on 4th February 2021.
- 4.2 Members recommend that the level of demand is subjected to a verification exercise after two years so that any future demand is considered and appropriate number of charging points is provided.
- 4.3 Members commented that they are satisfied that normal car parking charges are applied to those vehicles occupying the electric vehicle charging bays.
- 4.4 Regarding the tariff options for charging identified in section 3.4 of the report, the Panel recommends that Option 3 (£0.29 per kWh) is selected. This will ensure that charging fees are set at a level which will enable all capital and operational costs to be recovered in a suitable timescale.
- 4.5 The Panel fully support the scheme and encourage the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21, QUARTER 3

- 4.1 The Panel discussed the Corporate Performance Report 2020/21, Quarter 3 at its meeting on 3rd February 2021.
- 4.2 Members commented, in relation to Performance Indicator 27, that they expect an improved performance in quarter 4 in relation to payment of suppliers.
- 4.3 Although it was understood that due to the low numbers involved, an individual appeal decision could affect the figures, the Panel seeks confirmation that the performance in relation to Performance Indicator 14 is not symptomatic of a larger problem.
- 4.4 In relation to Key Action 3, the Panel has stressed of One Leisure being ready to reopen and receive customers safely when permitted to do so.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21, QUARTER 3

- 5.1 The Panel discussed the Financial Performance Report 2020/21, Quarter 3 at its meeting on 3rd February 2021.
- 5.2 Members commented on the £100k worth of savings in relation to unspent salaries and request confirmation that posts, especially those deemed necessary to priority areas of work, have not been left vacant solely for financial reasons.

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