



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 24th January 2023

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 23rd January 2023 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

Present: Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Furneaux, Harness, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

DN.86 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received for this meeting.

DN.87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

DN.88 BUDGET, FINANCE AND COMMISSIONING PLAN 2023/24 – 2025/26

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets outlining how the Council plans to deliver its agreed financial strategy over the coming three-year period

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the Draft Budget, Finance and Commissioning Plan for the period 2023/24 – 2025/26 (as detailed within Appendix 1 of the report now submitted) be approved for consultation purposes in accordance with the Constitution, including:**

- a proposed 2.98% increase in Council Tax in 2023/24**
- a proposed 2% Adult Social Care precept in 2023/24**

- **a proposed allocation of financial resources to deal with demand pressures, transformational activity and key priority areas.**
 - **as a matter of policy, that there be an annual organisation wide uplift in fees and charges (where permissible by law) in line with the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) or any official index replacing it.**
 - **in order to create additional capacity and to support transformation within the organisation, to realise an increased reliance on the utilisation of capital receipts through property rationalisation (disposal of property assets).**
- 2. That the Draft Budget, Finance and Commissioning Plan be referred to formal Scrutiny for consultation.**
 - 3. That, due to the uncertainty in relation to the Local Government Funding model and current funding gaps in 2024/25 and 2025/26, regular updates be provided to Cabinet through quarterly monitoring reports.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The Council must determine how it is to operate within the forecast financial resources over the medium term. To comply with its legal obligations, the Council must set a balanced budget for 2023/24 and provide a realistic financial forecast for the medium-term financial planning period.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

1. Option appraisals have been undertaken in setting the budget.
2. A range of options have been considered when considering service delivery within defined financial resources to support the delivery of the Council's outcomes.