

Name of meeting: Council

Date: 13 October 2021

Title of report: Council Budget Strategy Update; 2022/23 and future years

Purpose of report

To determine the Cabinet's approach to the annual update of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). This is reported to full Council each year, and sets a framework for the development of draft spending plans for future years by officers and Cabinet.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Yes
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by Strategic Director & name	Rachel Spencer Henshall 4 October 2021
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	Eamonn Croston 4 October 2021
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Julie Muscroft 4 October 2021
Cabinet member portfolio	Councillor Paul Davies

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public report

GDPR: This report contains no information that falls within the scope of General Data Protection Regulations.

1. **Summary**

The appended report is submitted to the meeting of Cabinet on 12 October 2021 for consideration, and for Cabinet to make a recommendation to Council.

2. **Information required to take a decision**

(see appended report)

3. **Implications for the Council**

(see appended report)

4. **Consultees and their opinions**

(see appended report)

5. **Next steps**

5.1 The Council's Chief Finance Officer (& Service Director, Finance) will co-ordinate the development of draft budget proposals and options and supporting budget documentation within the budget framework and planning totals along with the development of the budget consultation process.

5.2 Cabinet will bring forward detailed budget proposals in the new year, for consideration at Budget Council on 16 February 2022.

6. **Recommendations submitted to the Meeting of Cabinet on 12 October 2021**

6.1 note the funding and spend assumptions informing the updated budget forecasts as set out in section 2.3 to 2.12 of this report;

6.2 note current and forecast earmarked reserves and general balances as set out at Appendix B;

6.3 note the decision on preferred option for Business Rates Pool arrangements for 2022/23 to be delegated to the Chief Executive and Service Director – Finance, in consultation with the Leader and Corporate Portfolio holder, as per Section 2.4 of this report;

6.4 note the updated multi-year capital budget plans as set out at Appendix D;

6.5 approve the financial planning framework set out in Section 1.4 of the report;

6.8 note the corporate budget timetable and approach set out at Appendix F; and

6.9 delegate authority to the Strategic Director Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health to agree the approach to budget consultation and relevant timescales in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services.

6.10 note the following amended wording to paras 1.5.13; delete ...Huddersfield market high street fund bid at £18m... and at para 1.8.6, add in "...and consider options for the previously unsuccessful Huddersfield Market High Street fund bid at £18m...."

The above amended wording as set out at 6.10 will be reported verbally by the relevant portfolio-holder at Cabinet on 12 October.

The above approach allows the updated budget plans to be adjusted subsequently for major factors identified and sets the basis for officers to update draft service plans within a clear Council budget framework.

7. Contact officer

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8. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Cabinet Report – 12 October 2021 (attached)

9. Service Director responsible

Eamonn Croston, Service Director – Finance.