
COUNTY COUNCIL (VIRTUAL MEETINGS FROM JULY 2020 DUE TO CORONAVIRUS) SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

17 February 2021

(Published on 18 February 2021)

Item No.	Title
3	Minutes from the meeting held on 18 November 2020
	The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2020 were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair of Council.
5	Chair's Announcements
	The Council received and noted the Chair's report. The Chair made a public apology for the inappropriate comments that he had made at the last meeting.
6	Report of the Leader and Cabinet
	<p>The Medium-Term Financial Plan 2021/22 (including the Revenue Budget, the Capital Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision etc as set out in Paper A and its appendices).</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to:</p> <p>Approve the General Fund net revenue budget for 2021/22 of £356,072,100 and the individual service budgets for 2021/22 as outlined in Appendix 1 including:</p> <p>a) The transformation, savings and income generation plans outlined in Appendix 2(i), in conjunction with the Equalities Impact Assessments where required in Appendix 2 (ii).</p> <p>b) The additional funding requirements set out in Appendix 3.</p>

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	<p>c) An increase in Council Tax of 1.99% in 2021/22 (an increase of £25.66 per Band D property).</p> <p>d) An increase of 3.00% to Council Tax for the Adult Social Care Precept is approved in recognition of the current demands and financial pressures on this service. This is equivalent to an increase of £38.67 on a Band D property.</p> <p>e) Agree to continue the Council Tax precept of £12.84 within the base budget for the shadow Somerset Rivers Authority (representing no increase). This results in a Council Tax Requirement of £2,560,700.</p> <p>f) Agree the precept requirement of £269,934,700 and set the County Council precept for Band D council tax charge at £1,353.53 for 2021/22.</p> <p>g) The use of reserves for once-off spend and the overall estimated position of Earmarked Reserves outlined in Appendix 4.</p> <p>h) Note the adequacy of General Reserves at £19.690m within a risk assessed range requirement of £18.70m - £20.67m.</p> <p>i) The Capital & Investment Strategy attached at Appendix 6.</p> <p>j) The Capital Programme for 2021/22 of £152.138m including new capital bids of £73.913m outlined in Appendix 7, planned sources of funding, and notes the overall programme of £231.711m for 2022/23 to 2023/24, outlined in Appendix 8.</p> <p>k) The Minimum Revenue Position Policy attached at Appendix 9.</p> <p>l) The Capital Prudential Indicators outlined in tables 12-18.</p> <p>m) Delegate any amendments within the final Government Financial Settlement and the final Business Rates amendments to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council.</p> <p>n) Approve a grant of up to £400,000 to Citizens Advice Somerset finance from Covid-19 funding with the allocation decisions delegated to the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources based upon suitable business plans.</p> <p>(NB – Recommendation (n) was agreed as an amendment at the meeting)</p> <p>Treasury Management Strategy 2021/22</p>

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	<p>The Council RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the Treasury Management Strategy (as shown in section 12 of the report). 2. Approve the Treasury Investment Strategy (as shown in Section 13 of the report) and proposed Lending Counterparty Criteria (attached at Appendix B to Paper B). 3. Adopt the Prudential Indicators (as set out in section 14 of the report).
7	<p>Report of the HR Policy Committee - Pay Policy Statement 2021/22</p>
	<p>The Council RESOLVED to approve the Pay Policy Statement (PPS) for the Council for 2021-22.</p>
8	<p>Report of the Monitoring Officer</p>
	<p>The Council RESOLVED to:</p> <p>Member Development Strategy 2021-2025</p> <p>Approve the Member Development Strategy 2021-25 (as set out in Appendix A to Annex A).</p> <p>Proposed appointment of Independent Person to the Audit Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorise the Monitoring Officer to proceed with the recruitment process regarding the appointment of an independent person to be a non-voting co-opted member of the Audit Committee for a period of two years. 2. Agree that the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer be given delegated authority to finalise a role description, skills and competencies and person specification for the independent person, advertise this role, complete interviews and agree the appointment of the successful candidate to the Audit Committee. 3. Authorise the Monitoring Officer to amend the Audit Committee functions and membership within the Council's Constitution to reflect the inclusion of an independent non-voting member of the Committee.

Item No.	Title
9	Report of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel
	The Council RESOLVED to defer consideration of the report until its next meeting on 19 May 2021.
10	Requisitioned Items
	<p>Universal Basic Income</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED <u>not</u> to adopt the item regarding Universal Basic Income.</p>
11	Report of the Leader and Cabinet
	The Council received and noted this report.
12	Annual Report of the Constitution and Standards Committee
	The Council received and noted this report.
13	Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing and Climate Change
	The Council received and noted this report.
14	Report of the Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee
	The Council received and noted this report.

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15	Report of the Scrutiny for Policies and Place Committee
	The Council received and noted this report.
16	Report of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee
	The Council received and noted this report.