

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER – FINANCE AND RESOURCES

RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW COMMITTEE’S CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET UPDATE AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY PROPOSALS

Purpose of the Report

1. To share any issues raised by Overview Committee in its consideration of the Budget 2024-25 Update and the draft Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2024-25 to 2027-28 and the subsequent response to those issues from the Cabinet Member – Finance and Resources.

Information

2. In accordance with the Council’s revised Constitution and updated Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, Overview Committee has an important part to play in the scrutiny and development of the Council’s Budget each year.
3. Overview Committee, at its meeting on 22 January 2024, considered the Budget Update report that set out the financial context for the Council together with the implications for the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-28.
4. That meeting was attended by the Cabinet Member- Finance and Resources and the Service Director for Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement (Section 151 Officer) who gave an introductory presentation and responded to any initial queries at the meeting.
5. The specific issues raised by Overview Committee were captured by the Senior Scrutiny Officer and shared with the Cabinet Member - Finance and Resources who has produced a response to these (see **Appendix 1**).

Other Options Considered

6. None – the process followed to enable prior scrutiny of the budget proposals is in line with best practice and

Reasons for Recommendations

7. To enable the views of Overview Committee on the Budget Update and Medium Term Financial Strategy to be given due consideration by Cabinet.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

That the issues raised by Overview Committee and the subsequent response of the Cabinet Member - Finance and Resources, as detailed in the **Appendix 1**, be noted and given due consideration by Cabinet.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD JACKSON CABINET MEMBER – FINANCE AND RESOURCES

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Constitutional Comments (HD – 30/1/24)

9. In accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, Cabinet is the appropriate body of Council to consider the views of Overview Committee before finalising its budget proposals in a report to Council for its consideration, showing how the Cabinet has taken into account any recommendations from the Overview Committee.

Financial Comments (NS – 31/1/24)

10. The report indicates that due consideration should be taken by Cabinet of the specific issues raised by Overview Committee at the time of finalising the Budget proposals for 2024/25.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Budget Update Report and Consultation - report to Overview Committee – 1 December 2022 and minutes of that meeting (published)
- Budget Report 2023-24

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All