

RECORD OF OPEN DECISIONS**FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

At the Meeting of the Finance and Management Committee held on Thursday, 15 February 2024, the following decisions were taken.

Urgent decisions or those exempt from call-in are indicated in the third column of the table. These decisions cannot be called in and are effective immediately.

All other decisions may be called in until 5.00pm on Tuesday 27 February 2024.

A request to call in a decision must be made by at least three Members, including at least one Member of the controlling group. The request must be made in writing to the Chief Executive¹.

If no request to call in a decision is received within this time limit then the decision becomes effective immediately.

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>OPEN REPORTS</u>	<u>Urgent/ Call-in Exempt</u>
7.	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u> PROPOSED CONTINUATION OF BANDED COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME FOR 2024 -2025	
	DECISION: <i>1.1 The Committee supported the continuation of a banded Council Tax Reduction Scheme for working age recipients for 2024/2025, as well as other changes proposed, including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Uprating to the applicable amounts in line with the prescribed scheme but with the exception of non-dependent deduction for working age which was to remain at £5.00 for 2024/2025 year for all cases.</i> • <i>Adopt any other changes within the prescribed scheme in accordance with the statutory instrument due to be published in January 2024.</i> • <i>Undertake a review of the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme in 2024 to allow time to implement any potential changes for the 2025/2026 scheme following consultation.</i> • <i>Continue current funding of £20,000 for hardship cases.</i> 	

8.	<p><u>AGENDA ITEM</u> COMMENTS, COMPLIMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS 01 APRIL 2023 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2023</p>	
	<p>DECISION:</p> <p><i>1.1 The Committee considered and noted the comments, compliments, complaints, and FOI requests, as detailed in the report.</i></p>	
9	<p><u>AGENDA ITEM</u> CONSOLIDATED BUDGET REPORT 2024/25 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN TO 2028/29</p>	
	<p>DECISION:</p> <p><i>1.1 That the Committee:</i></p> <p><i>1.1.1 Noted the Section 151 Officer's statement on the robustness of budgetary estimates and the adequacy of reserves as set out in section 14 of the report.</i></p> <p><i>1.1.2 Recommended to Council an increase in Council Tax by the maximum referendum limit of 2.99% from the options set out in section 6 of the report.</i></p> <p><i>1.1.3 Following approval of 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 recommended to Council the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2024/25, subject to any final adjustments as may be required for Council, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.</i></p> <p><i>1.1.4 Recommended that Council approves the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2024/25 as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report, and following resolution of the Housing and Community Services Committee at its meeting on 1 February 2024 in respect of the council housing rent increase for 2024/25 of 7.7%.</i></p> <p><i>1.1.5 Recommended that Council approves the proposed fees and charges as detailed in Appendix 5 to the report.</i></p> <p><i>1.1.6 Recommended that Council approves the Capital Programme of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account for 2024/25, as set out in Appendix 6 to the report.</i></p> <p><i>1.1.7 Noted the indicative Capital Programme for 2025/26 – 2028/29 and recommended that Council approves the Fleet Replacement budget for 2025/26 to allow</i></p>	

	<i>for the effective ordering of replacement fleet due to long lead-in times.</i>	
10	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u> CAPITAL STRATEGY, TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2024/25	
	DECISION: 1.1 The Committee recommended to Council the approval of the: 1.2.1 Treasury Management Strategy (as per Appendix 1 to the report) 1.2.2 Prudential Indicators (as per Appendix 2 to the report) 1.2.3 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy (as per Appendix 3 to the report) 1.2.4 Capital Strategy (as per Appendix 4 to the report) 1.2.5 Non-Treasury Investment Strategy (as per Appendix 5 to the report)	
11	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u> COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME	
	DECISION: 1.1 The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.	

DATED: Tuesday, 20 February 2024

Chief Executive

- 1 Although it is not necessary to use a prescribed form, copies are available from the Chief Executive.
- 2 NOTE – this gives an outline of the committee decision for call-in purposes but it does not necessarily reflect the final wording for minute purposes.
- 3 Insert both the agenda item number and its heading.