

Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 12 February 2020

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options
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Part A – Items considered in public

A7	Medium Term Financial Strategy, Budget and Council Tax 2020/21	<p>A) That the actions and feedback from The Scrutiny Committee as set out in Appendix 1 to report CAB3228 be noted.</p> <p>B) <u>That Cabinet recommend that Council:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the medium term financial strategy as set out in report CAB3211. 2. Agree the General Fund Budget for 2020/21, updated forecast for 2019/20, and the summary as shown in Appendix A of report CAB3211. 	<p>The Council has experienced significant reductions in government funding allocations and is facing significant future shortfalls. This report sets out the current challenge, the budget for 2020/21 and recommends changes to the Medium Term Financial Strategy to address future shortfalls. The budget allows for further reductions and includes proposals, which, if approved will ensure a balanced budget at least until March 2022 whilst supporting additional investment in key Council Plan priorities.</p> <p>The general fund budget is consolidated to take into account the latest known</p>	<p>A number of options set out in CAB3178 (Outcome Based Budgeting Challenge – 23 October 2019) have not been brought forward at this stage, including changes to the CCTV service and community transport.</p> <p>The option to not implement the savings proposals set out in paragraph 18 of report CAB3211 and to rely on reserves to meet projected shortfalls has been considered. The uncertainty regarding future funding makes it essential to retain a reasonable level of operational reserves. This is particularly important when the existing commitments</p>
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		<p>3. Support the investment proposals set out in section 17 of report CAB3211, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. £50,000 per annum to fund additional parking enforcement officers; b. An annual provision of £350,000 to the parking reserve to fund additional park and ride initiatives and support investment in other transport and public transport related services; c. £247,000 to implement a full survey of all council trees and 	<p>funding allocations through central government as well as from locally raised council tax, business rates (after government levies and tariffs) and fees and charges. Members are requested to consider the financial assumptions and the implication of financial changes to the overall Council Plan.</p> <p>Members are asked to consider these proposals and also the level of Council Tax to be set for next year. The current tax is £138.92 at Band D for City Council services, and £69.19 for Winchester Town. It is proposed to increase the district tax for 2020/21 by three percent to £143.09 and the town forum have proposed a three percent increase to £71.27 (Band D</p>	<p>from these reserves are recognised and their importance in supporting the capital programme.</p>

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		<p>fund associated remedial works (net impact of £84,000 on the general fund, with the remaining costs met from Winchester Town Account and the Housing Revenue Account for trees within the control of those budgets);</p> <p>d. One off provision of £105,000 to support feasibility studies and building survey work for the central Winchester regeneration project;</p> <p>e. That £750,000, funded from the transitional reserve, be approved to fund</p>	<p>equivalent).</p> <p>The General Fund Budget has been widely consulted on with local stakeholders and the general public. The business community and parish and town councils have been involved and before finalising these proposals consideration has been given to all comments received.</p>	

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		<p>the implementation of the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan with further details of specific proposals to be reported to Cabinet in June 2020;</p> <p>f. That one-off provision of £500,000, funded from the transitional reserve be made to support the transformation proposals set out in the medium term financial strategy, with specific proposals to be reported to cabinet later in 2020.</p> <p>4. Approve the savings proposals set out in section 18 of report</p>		

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		<p>CAB3211, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The implementation of an enhanced garden waste service from February 2021, with further details on the proposal including the charging arrangements being reported to Cabinet in June 2020; b. The closure of public conveniences at Middlebrook St and Worthy Lane, Winchester. <p>5. Approve the proposals for changes to parking charges, as set out in section 19 of report CAB3211:</p>		

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		<p>a. Parking charges (with the exception of (Park and Ride charges) be increased by 3% (rounded to the nearest 10p);</p> <p>b. That a “flat rate” charge of £2 be introduced on Sundays in all “central” car parks, the access to which all fall within the City’s Air Quality Management Area. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Brooks ii. Middlebrook St iii. Colebrook St iv. Friarsgate v. Guildhall Yard vi. Jewry St vii. Cossack Lane viii. Upper Brook St ix. St Peters St 		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> x. Tower St xi. Gladstone St c. That weekday charging period for the “central” Air Quality Management Area car parks be extended to 7pm for a pilot 6 month period; d. That daily Park and Ride charges be increased by 50p; e. That discounted parking charges for weekly and monthly season tickets at Cattle market and Worthy lane car parks be removed; f. That a revised Parking Investment programme be brought back to 		

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		<p>Cabinet by September 2020 with detailed proposals for additional investment in transport related services;</p> <p>g. That all parking related changes set out above, be implemented with effect from July or as soon as practicable thereafter;</p> <p>h. That, subject to contract, park and ride bus services be extended in the evenings and introduced on Sundays from the St Catherines Park and Ride site.</p> <p>6. Confirm the policy as</p>		

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		<p>previously agreed by the Council on 14 July 1999 (min 186 refers) to treat all expenses of the Council as General Expenses other than those specifically identified and itemised in the Winchester Town Account. In consequence of which the sum of £1,006,776 be treated as Special Expenses under Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 in respect of the Winchester Town area, Appendix D.</p> <p>7. Approve the Council Tax for the Special Expenses in the Winchester Town area at Band D for 2020/21</p>		

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		<p>be increased in line with the Town Forum recommendation.</p> <p>8. Approve the total deficit balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund calculated in January 2020 of £144,278, £18,676 for this Council</p> <p>9. Approve that the level of Council Tax at Band D for City Council services for 2020/21 be increased by 3% to £143.09.</p>		
A8	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2020/21 & Business Plan	1. That delegated authority be given to the Corporate Head of Housing, in consultation with the Strategic Director (Services) and the Cabinet Member for	<p>To request approval for the proposed HRA revenue budget for 2020/21, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of report CAB3214.</p> <p>To request approval for the capital programme forecast</p>	The proposed 2020/21 budget and financial plan incorporates all the budget options identified in CAB 3216 (HRA 2020/21 Budget options) and the impact of the housing services & new build capital expenditure

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		<p>Housing and Asset Management, to make adjustments to the overall Maintenance, Improvement and Renewal programme as set out in Appendix 3 to the report CAB3214.</p> <p>That Cabinet recommend that Council;</p> <p>2. Approve the 2020/21 Housing Revenue Account budget and final forecast for 2019/20, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 to report CAB3214.</p> <p>3. Approve a rent increase in 2020/21 in accordance with the Government’s national rent standard (September CPI +</p>	<p>for 2019/20, budget proposal for 2020/21 and 10 year plan to 2029/30. These figures are detailed in Appendices 3 and 4, taking account of the funding shown in Appendix 5 of report CAB3214.</p> <p>The 2020/21 budget proposal and 10 year plan maintains a long term sustainable HRA Financial Plan accommodating the future maintenance requirements from the latest stock condition survey. The survey maintains the policy of keeping existing stock at above decent homes standards and provides for substantial investment in new housing.</p>	<p>requirements on the operational revenue budget.</p> <p>In preparing the business plan and budget, options regarding the balance of investment between maintenance and new build have been assessed and the risk of investing more on a range of services has been tested thoroughly. The proposed budget and business plan is considered to present a positive balance between investment priorities and has been supported by TACT.</p>

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		<p>1%) resulting in an average rent increase of 2.7%.</p> <p>4. Approve capital expenditure in 2020/21 of £9.1m for the Maintenance, Improvement and Renewal programme as detailed in Appendix 3 of report CAB3214, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 6.4</p> <p>5. Approve capital expenditure in 2020/21 of £26.91m for the New Build programme as detailed in Appendix 4 of report CAB3214, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 6.4.</p>		

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		<p>6. Approve funding for the HRA Capital Programme, as detailed in Appendix 5 of report CAB3214, including the additional borrowing requirement.</p> <p>7. Approve the HRA Financial Plan operating account extract, including annual working balances, as detailed in Appendix 6 of report CAB3214.</p>		
A9	Capital Investment Strategy 2020-2030	<p><u>That Cabinet recommends to Council:</u></p> <p>1. The Capital Programme and Capital Programme Financing (Appendices A and B</p>	The Capital Investment Strategy sets out the Council's capital spending programme and the principles which underpin this in order to deliver the desired outcomes as set out in the Council Plan.	None.

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		<p>to report CAB3209) be approved.</p> <p>2. The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement (Appendix E of report CAB3209) be approved.</p> <p>3. The Prudential indicators detailed in the report CAB3209 and its appendices be approved.</p> <p>4. To note that the Council may need to increase its external borrowing in 2020/21 subject to delivery of the proposed capital programme.</p> <p><u>That Cabinet</u></p> <p>5. Approves IMT</p>	<p>It details the overall programme for the next 10 years, how this will be financed, and the impact of the programme on the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p> <p>It includes several prudential indicators as required by the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) Statutory Investment Guidance and, in addition to outlining how the Council ensures it has access to the right knowledge and skills (internal and external), it details how it ensures elected Members have sufficient knowledge and skills to undertake their governance role.</p>	

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		<p>equipment and software expenditure (£125,000 in 2020/21) under Financial Procedure Rule 7.4 as detailed in paragraph 11.8.6 of report CAB3209.</p> <p>6. Notes the requirement to ensure Members have the right knowledge and skills to undertake their governance role.</p>		
A10	Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21	<p><u>That Cabinet recommends to Council:</u></p> <p>1. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement which includes the Annual Treasury Investment Strategy for 2020/21 (and the remainder of 2019/20) is approved.</p>	Sets out the proposed Treasury Management Strategy Statement, including the Annual Investment Strategy for the Council for 2020/21. Following Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in June 2019 the Investment Strategy (section 17) now includes a commitment not to make	The Council could elect to bring all treasury management activity back in-house. This option has been rejected as the arrangement with Hampshire County Council's Investments and Borrowing team provides significant resilience and economies of scale.

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		<p>2. Authority is delegated to the Section 151 Officer to manage the Council's high yielding investments portfolio and long term borrowing according to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement as appropriate.</p> <p>3. Authority is delegated to the Section 151 Officer, who in turn delegates to Hampshire County Council's Director of Corporate Resources, as agreed in the Service Level Agreement, to manage all Council investments (other than the high yield portfolio) and short</p>	<p>equity investments either directly or indirectly (via pooled funds) in companies directly involved in the fossil fuel industry.</p>	<p>The Council could make more risky investments than those proposed in the Strategy to increase its yield. This has been rejected as priority is given to ensuring security and liquidity in line with the key principles of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code.</p>

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		term borrowing according to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement as appropriate.		
A11	Options appraisal for the delivery and operation of an electric vehicle charging network	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That capital expenditure of £120,000 utilising the capital budget allocated in the Capital Programme (CAB3209) be approved for the installation of an electric vehicle charging network in accordance with option 3 set out in report CAB3206. 2. That authority be delegated to the Service Lead: Legal to award and enter into a contract with JoJu Charging, a subsidiary 	<p>CAB3120 paper from the Cabinet meeting on 23rd January 2019, recommended a detailed options appraisal for the delivery and operation of an electric vehicle charging network be completed for consideration at a future Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>Report CAB3206 considers the options available for the delivery of the Council's electric vehicle charging strategy and seeks to inform Cabinet on its recommendation.</p>	<p>Option 1 The Council fully funds the entire EVCP Infrastructure as proposed by JoJu. The costs cited for this option are the capital expenditure and management costs for year 1 only. From Year 2 onwards the Council would have to fully fund the year on year electricity, infrastructural and maintenance costs going forward.</p> <p>Option 2a The Council Co</p>

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		<p>of JoJu Ltd, using the Hampshire County Council (HCC) 'Framework Agreement for the Provision of Electric Vehicle Charging Points' and associated legal agreements such as a lease.</p> <p>3. That proposals to extend the network of electric vehicle charging points to serve the Park and Ride sites, the new leisure centre, tenants living in the Council's own property portfolio over the next year be supported (subject to financial appraisal), and to work with Hampshire County Council in delivering an on street charging</p>		<p>funds <u>all</u> the 'fully fundable' and the 'co fundable only' sites to a achieve a 60% and 50% profit share;</p> <p>The costs cited for this option, are the equivalent of 65% of the installation costs for a 60% profit share. The reason for this is because this contribution includes all the ongoing maintenance costs which are otherwise covered by JoJu/Vattenfall during the whole of the 'Term'.</p> <p>Option 2b The Council Co funds all the sites</p>

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		<p>infrastructure by 2021/22 as part of the Winchester Movement Strategy.</p>		<p>as per Option 2a, with the exception of the 2 rapid charger sites.</p> <p>The two rapid chargers have significantly higher capital investment and year on year maintenance costs and therefore present a much higher risk and longer ROI period. Both these rapid chargers have been assessed as being 'fully fundable' by JoJu/Vattenfall and it is proposed that they and not the Council fully fund these two sites.</p> <p>Option 3 Recommended option as stated in</p>

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				<p>11.8 of report CAB3206.</p> <p>Option 4 That JoJu/Vattenfall fully funds the delivery of the 14 ‘fully fundable’ sites at zero cost to the Council. This option takes into account that the Council will receive a 10% rebate on the electricity costs used at each EVCP during the Term.</p> <p>However this option would only deliver 16 EVCPs compared to the 30 EVCPs to be delivered in the previous option.</p>

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A12	Quarter 3 Finance and Performance Monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the actions and feedback from The Scrutiny Committee as set out in Appendix 1 to report CAB3228 be noted. 2. That the progress achieved during the third quarter of 2019/20 be noted and the contents of the report CAB3222 be noted. 	<p>To provide a summary of the Council's performance and financial position during the third quarter of 2019/20.</p> <p>This third report of 2019/20 includes progress updates against project delivery, the previous Council Strategy outcomes and key performance measures covering the period October to December 2019.</p> <p>A financial summary for the nine month period to 31 December 2019 is also included for the General Fund revenue and capital budgets as well as the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).</p>	None.
A13	Actions & Feedback from Scrutiny Committee held 5 February 2020 on Cabinet reports	That Cabinet note the agreed actions attached at Appendix	Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 5 th February 2020 was requested to comment on the proposals	None.

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		1 of report CAB3228.	within the following Cabinet reports: 1. Medium Term Financial Strategy, Budget and Council Tax 2020/21. (Reports SC016 & CAB3211) 2. Capital Investment Strategy 2020-2030 (SC017 & CAB3209) 3. Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21 (SC019 & CAB3218) 4. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2020/21 & Business Plan (SC018 & CAB3214) 5. Q3 Financial and Performance Monitoring (SC020 &	

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			<p align="center">CAB3222)</p> <p>The purpose of report CAB3228 is to provide Cabinet with the actions and feedback agreed by the Scrutiny Committee in time for its meeting of the 12th February 2020.</p>	
A14	Minute extract from Winchester Town Forum held 23 January 2020	<p>That the contents of the minute extract from Winchester Town Forum held 23 January 2020 be noted and the recommendations for Cabinet therein be agreed as set out below:</p> <p>a) The North Walls Pavilion Project be included within the Capital Programme for 2020/21 and that Council procures the construction of the replacement pavilion</p>	To consider the contents of the minute extract from Winchester Town Forum held on the 23 rd January 2020.	None.

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		<p>at North Walls Recreation Ground in accordance with the design and specification brought forward by the Pavilion Project Group and approve expenditure up to £800,000.</p> <p>b) The proposal to release Town CIL funding to support the £295,000 contribution to the project costs be approved.</p> <p>c) The Corporate Head of Asset Management be authorised to seek tenders for the construction of the North Walls Pavilion in accordance with the specification</p>		

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		<p>prepared by the Pavilion Project group and the Council's Contract Procedure rules.</p>		