

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
3	Minutes	RESOLVED:
		To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024 as an accurate record.
7	Response to report of the Health	RESOLVED:
	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Rural Proofing in Health and Care	That Cabinet endorsed the next steps as out lined in the report.
8	Estimated Collection Fund Outturn For 2023/2024	RESOLVED:
		<ul> <li>i) Noted the overall Collection Fund estimated deficit of £6.285m for the year ending 31st March 2024, comprised of an estimated deficit of £1.016m for Council Tax and an estimated deficit of £5.269m for Non-Domestic Rates (NDR), and the reasons for this.</li> <li>ii) Noted the distribution of the Collection Fund estimated deficit for Council Tax and NDR to the major/relevant precepting authorities and the Secretary of State.</li> </ul>
		iii) Noted Shropshire Council's share of the overall estimated deficit of £3.612m, comprised of an estimated deficit of £0.835m for Council Tax and an estimated deficit of £2.777m for NDR.
		iv) Noted the inclusion of Shropshire Council's share of the overall estimated deficit for Council Tax and NDR in the 2024/25 budget



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9	Treasury Management Update Quarter 3 2023/24	RESOLVED:  That Cabinet reviewed the position as set out in the report:  a) Reducing cash balances, the result of the Council's long term financial management approach, indicates a need to take out external borrowing during 2024/25, as reflected in the Treasury Management Strategy 2024/25. This brings to an end a period of strong cash balances which have enabled reduced capital finance costs over the last 10 years.  b) Noting the summary of the wider economic environment and the Council's borrowings and investments set out in Appendix A
		c) Noting the performance within prudential indicators for quarter 3, 2023/24 (Appendix B)



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10	Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2023/24	<ol> <li>That Cabinet noted the following:         <ul> <li>That at the end of Quarter 3 (31 December 2023), the current expected level of savings delivery is £39.798m. That savings not yet confirmed amount to £11.593m.</li> <li>That demand-led services are forecasting significant overall budget pressures of £28.495m in the year, which are likely to continue into the coming year. These are pressures are included within the budget for next year. After planned application of £20.5m of reserves set out in the reports for Q1 and Q2, the net budget pressure in People directorate is reduced to £7.995m.</li> <li>Net service pressures across all areas amount to £14.632m (see table1).</li> <li>The result of A-C above with no further actions and including changes to corporate budget forecasts and anticipated grant income is a forecast overall overspend of £14.533m.</li> </ul> </li> <li>That Cabinet approved the following, in line with the Q1 and Q2 monitoring reports:         <ul> <li>The reallocation of £9.7m of earmarked reserves to the General Fund Balance</li> <li>The application of £20.5m of funds from the General Fund Balance to mitigate pressures in social care</li> </ul> </li> <li>That Cabinet approved that Shropshire Council acts as accountable body for the Innovation Regions Programme.</li> </ol>



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11	Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2023/24	RESOLVED:
		That Cabinet:
		Reviewed and considered performance dashboard information alongside this exception report
		Noted progress to date in achieving the outcomes of The Shropshire Plan (TSP) and commented as appropriate.



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12	Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29	RESOLVED:  1. That Cabinet noted:  i) The alignment of this report with other reports on this agenda, including the Fees and Charges proposals, the proposed Capital Strategy, and the proposed Treasury Strategy; also the alignment to the position reported for the current financial year, set out in the Q3 Financial report and the Q3 Treasury Management report.  ii) The analysis of the financial position of the council set out in this report and confirms
		the alignment of the new proposals to the outline of the necessary actions for 2024/25 already set out in the December update to the MTFS.  iii) The levels of reserves in recent years, the forecast levels of reserves at the end of the current year, and the plans set out to ensure the adequacy of the reserves in future years.  iv) The proposed capital investment programme including the commentary on priority schemes.
		v) The proposed spending reductions for 2024/25.  vi) The approach of combined spending reductions and replenishment of general reserves.
		2. That Cabinet recommended to Council:  vii) Approval of the budget proposals, including revenue and capital budgets, and the associated strategies, subject to further amendments required by Cabinet, or identified as necessary by the Chief Finance Officer ("CFO").
		viii) to approve a delegation to the CFO in consultation with the Portfolio Holder - Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities to enable specific work to be commission from PwC in line with the conditions set out in paragraph 4.8.



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13	Treasury Strategy 2024/25	RESOLVED:
		That Cabinet recommended that Council:-
		a) Approve, with any comments, the Treasury Strategy for 2024/25
		b) Approve, with any comments, the Prudential Indicators, set out in Appendix 1, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003.
		c) Approve, with any comments, the Investment Strategy, set out in Appendix 2 in accordance with the DLUHC Guidance on Local Government Investments.
		d) Approve, with any comments, the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement, set out in Appendix 3.
		<ul> <li>e) Authorise the Section 151 Officer to exercise the borrowing powers contained in Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 and to manage the Council's debt portfolio in accordance with the Treasury Strategy.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>f) Authorise the Section 151 Officer to use other Foreign Banks which meet Link's creditworthiness policy as required.</li> </ul>
		g) Authorise the Section 151 Officer to progress and finalise the restatement and amendment of Cornovii Development Ltd loan agreements.



Topic	Decision
Fees and Charges 2024/25	<ol> <li>RESOLVED:         <ol> <li>Cabinet members agreed and recommended to full Council the recommendations below: To note the breakdown of the total income for 2023/24 and 2024/25 and in particular that the proposed 2024/25 charges for discretionary services represent £52.822m of the £98.525m of income derived from Fees and Charges.</li> <li>To approve the charges for 2024/25 as detailed in Appendix 3 to be implemented from 1 April 2024.</li> <li>To note that as previously agreed, any changes to fees and charges proposed by Shropshire Community Leisure Trust Ltd. in relation to the outsourced leisure facilities will only be referred to Cabinet and Council for approval if the proposed increases exceed Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding November.</li> </ol> </li> <li>To note that the proposals to increase car parking fees and charges (arising from the traffic management policies and strategies of the Council) further to the recent decision of Cabinet has been called in for further scrutiny by Councillors. This report does not supersede the call in process; rather, the outcome of the call in process will determine the eventual charges to be levied in 2024/25.</li> <li>To note that proposals in adult social care services for applying charges for telecare services and appointeeships are new proposals and will require further discussion and consultation. Proposed charges will be set on a 'cost recovery' basis, in line with best practice in other councils.</li> <li>To revise housing rents as follows (subject to restrictions or exemptions identified in the Welfare Reform and Work Bill):         <ol> <li>Social Housing rents for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.</li> <li>Affordable rents for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.</li> <li>Shared Ownership rents continue to be set at 2.75% of the outstanding capital</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	value of the home at the time of sale and thereafter increased each April Page 7 of 8 accordance with the terms specified in the lease agreements.



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15	Draft Independent Living and Specialist Accommodation Strategy	RESOLVED:  That Cabinet approved the draft Independent Living and Specialist Accommodation Strategy, outlined in Appendix 1 for an 8-week public and stakeholder consultation following which the updated strategy will be presented to Cabinet for approval.
16	Determination of Admission Arrangements 2025/26	RESOLVED:  That Cabinet determined the proposed admission arrangements 2025- 2026 for Shropshire's community and voluntary controlled schools and further approved the publication of the arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2021 and to the notification of this to parties specified in the Code.
17	Shropshire Schools Funding Formula 2024-25	RESOLVED:  That Cabinet accepted the recommendation of Shropshire Schools Forum on the funding formula for Shropshire schools for the financial year 2024-25 for maintained schools, and the academic year 2024-25 for academies.
18	Severn Valley Water Management Scheme Update	<ol> <li>RESOLVED:         <ul> <li>That Cabinet agreed to:</li> <li>Approve the Council's role as part of a Joint Project Board with the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales and Powys County Council to take forward work on the SVWM project.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Approve the Council's role in supporting public consultation for the SVWM scheme and undertaking this jointly through the Joint Project Board.</li> <li>Delegate to the Executive Director of Place, responsibility for progressing work under the Joint Project Board and agree to host the local authority input into the project under the newly formed Marches Forward Partnership.</li> </ol>