

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
02/Feb/2023**



Elaine Waugh
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

City Hall
Sunderland

2 February 2023

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 02/Feb/2023

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

10 February 2023

Date of decision:

2 February 2023

Title and author(s) of written report:

Capital Programme 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2023/2024, including Prudential Indicators for 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 – Report of the Director of Finance

Full description of decision:

To recommend to Council to approve:

- i. the proposed Capital Programme for 2023/2024;
- ii. the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2023/2024 (including specifically the Annual Borrowing and Investment Strategies);
- iii. the Prudential Indicators for 2023/2024 to 2026/2027; and
- iv. the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2023/2024.

Reasons for decision:

To comply with Statutory requirements to approve an affordable Capital Programme, Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

No alternative options are submitted for Cabinet's consideration.

Contact Officer: Paul Wilson

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

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Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

10 February 2023

Date of decision:

2 February 2023

Title and author(s) of written report:

Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2023/2024 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 - Report of the Director of Finance

Full description of decision:

To:

- recommend to Council the proposals set out in the report including the proposed Revenue Budget for 2023/2024 set out at Appendix J;
- recommend to Council the Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 including Efficiency Strategy as set out in Appendix G and the potential use of Capital Receipts Flexibility set out at section 9 of the report;
- recommend to Council the proposed council tax for 2023/2024 and more detailed recommendations set out at Appendix F alongside agreeing the other recommendations within Appendix F to;
 - 1) delegate the finalisation of the council tax supplementary information, that will be published on the Council website, to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
 - 2) recommend to Council the council tax levels for 2023/2024 and additional associated matters in accordance with the statutory requirements, including the detailed information set out in section 3.2 of the report, as follows:
 - a) To note the council tax base applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council;
 - b) To approve the estimated amount of the Council's aggregate gross revenue expenditure;
 - c) To approve the estimated amount of the Council's aggregate gross revenue income;
 - d) To approve the estimated amount of the Council's council tax requirement;
 - e) To note the precept of the Parish of Hetton Town Council;
 - f) To note the council tax bands applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council based on the above financial information;
 - g) To note the provisional precept of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria;
 - h) To note the provisional precept of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority;
 - i) To approve the draft total council tax levels for 2023/2024 applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council including all relevant precepts; and
 - j) To determine that the Council's relevant basic amount of council tax for 2023/2024 is not excessive in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local

Government Finance Act 1992, which means a 5% increase to the council tax for 2023/2024.

- note the views, if any, expressed by residents, the local Business Sector, Trade Unions and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee; and
- recommend to Council the adoption of the updated City Plan 2023-35 including the indicative timeline.

Reasons for decision:

To comply with statutory requirements to approve a balanced budget for the coming financial year.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options recommended for approval as the budget has been developed on the basis of an agreed framework with consultation carried out at appropriate times during the process.

Contact Officer: Paul Wilson

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

Councillor P. Walker made an open declaration as the Chair of Washington Millenium Trust and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the report.

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Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

10 February 2023

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2 February 2023

Title and author(s) of written report:

Collection Fund (Council Tax) 2022/2023 – Report of the Director of Finance

Full description of decision:

To note the overall position in relation to the Collection Fund (Council Tax) for 2022/2023 and the Council's share of the surplus.

Reasons for decision:

Estimating the Collection Fund balance available at 31 March 2023 for use in setting the Council Tax for 2023/2024 is a legal requirement, which the Council must fulfil, based on information available to it as at 15th January, each year.

The Council also has an obligation to notify its major precepting authorities of the estimated surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund within 7 working days of when this calculation has been made.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options, the Council must comply with its legal requirements.

Contact Officer: Paul Wilson

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 02/Feb/2023

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

10 February 2023

Date of decision:

2 February 2023

Title and author(s) of written report:

Tree Planting and Maintenance Framework – Joint report of the Executive Director of City Development and the Director of Environmental Services

Full description of decision:

To approve the award of a framework agreement for Tree Planting and Maintenance.

Reasons for decision:

The Council will be undertaking a significant amount of tree planting over the coming years as part of scheduled replacement activity, in line with our commitments as part of the North East Community Forest, and through other external funding opportunities which arise. The Council is currently conducting a procurement to establish a multiple provider Framework Agreement for the provision of tree planting and associated maintenance within the city.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Consideration was given to not having a tree planting and maintenance framework agreement in place. Taking into account the increase in the scale of tree planting and associated maintenance which is proposed within the city, it is considered that external resources are required in addition to the Council's own resources within Environmental Services.

Consideration was also given to procuring tree planting and maintenance on a scheme by scheme basis, however, this was not considered appropriate as each individual procurement exercise would require significant investment of staff time and could also result in delays to work being undertaken.

Contact Officer: Catherine Auld

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

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Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

10 February 2023

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Title and author(s) of written report:

Consideration of the Bus Enhancement Partnership and Scheme – Report of the Executive Director of City Development

Full description of decision:

To note and endorse the EP Plan and Scheme as described in the report, and:

- Authorise the Executive Director of City Development in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Director of Finance:
 - (i) agree the Enhanced Bus Partnership's Plan and any Scheme(s) relevant to the Council's highway and traffic authority functions, including any associated Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs);
 - (ii) agree on behalf of the Council any amendments to the Enhanced Bus Partnership's Plan and Scheme(s) arising from consultation; and
 - (iii) agree the final terms of the Enhanced Partnership and any Scheme(s) on behalf of the Council and to take all other steps associated with that to implement these proposals.

Reasons for decision:

To enable the submission of a Full EP through the North East JTC to deliver aspects of the Council's and the region's transport objectives whilst meeting the Government's timescales for submission of a proposal in order to secure ongoing Government funding for bus services.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option would be to not develop a Full EP and if this is not done, the Council would not only stand to miss out on funding for improving bus services, it would also mean that the recovery from COVID was at greater risk of being car-led, rather than one that favoured active and sustainable ways of getting around, including by bus.

Contact Officer: Craig Mordue

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None