

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday 23 February 2023
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interests

To receive any declarations of interest of a pecuniary or non-pecuniary nature from Members in respect of the items on this agenda.

2. Suspension of Standing Orders

To consider suspending Standing Order No 13 (5) in respect of the consideration of items 3 and 4 insofar as it relates to restrictions on Members speaking more than once.

Recommendations to Council

Note: In accordance with the requirements of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulation 2014, a recorded vote will be required to be taken in relation to items 4 (1) and (2) below.

All reports detailed below are subject to Cabinet recommendation and are available to download from the Council's website. The Cabinet Spokesperson for the Service in question will respond to any comments or amendments concerning these minutes.

3. Housing Revenue Account - 2023/24 Budget and Investment Proposals 2023-28 (Cab.8.2.2023/7) (Pages 7 - 26)

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-

- a) To note the cost pressures on the HRA and efficiencies being proposed to mitigate these to support the longer-term investment needs of the housing stock;
- b) To approve the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as set out in paragraphs 2.20;
- c) To approve the Housing Revenue Account Draft Budget for 2023/24, as outlined in paragraph 2.22 and detailed in Appendix 1, including the proposed revenue investments totalling £1.1M, [Appendix 2, paragraph 2B refers], with any final amendments being delegated to the Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration & Culture and the Executive Director for Growth & Sustainability in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services and the Service Director - Finance (S151);
- d) To note the acceleration of EPC and stock condition survey works to complete fully during 2023/24;
- e) To approve a rent increase of 6.5%, which is under the Government's Rent

Cap of 7%;

- f) To approve a non-dwelling rent increase in line with CPI;
- g) To note that both service charges and district heating charges will be subject to a separate review during 2023/24;
- h) To approve the 2023/24 Berneslai Homes Management Fee totalling £15.453M [Appendix 2, paragraph 2C refers], with any final amendments delegated to the Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration & Culture and the Service Director, Regeneration & Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services and the Service Director - Finance (S151);
- i) To approve the 2023/24 Berneslai Homes Management Fee for both Gypsy Sites, and the European Social Fund (ESF) Grant totalling £0.216M, both of which are charged to the Authority's General Fund [Appendix 2, paragraph 2D refers];
- j) To approve the Core Housing Capital Investment programme for 2023/24 totalling £20.394M [£14.849M to maintain decency and £5.545M supplementary works] and note the indicative programme for 2024/25 through 2027/28, outlined in paragraphs 2.24 – 2.25;
- k) To approve in principle, the proposed capital schemes totalling £42.330M, subject to individual reports as appropriate, in line with the Council's governance arrangements [paragraphs 2.26 – 2.29 refer].

4. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023-26 (Cab.8.2.2023/6) (Pages 27 - 178)

1. 2023/24 Budget Proposals

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-

- a) that the report of the Service Director Finance (S151 Officer), under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 at **Section 1** be noted, that the 2023/24 budget proposals be agreed and that the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team (SMT), in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, submit, for early consideration, detailed plans that ensure the Council's ongoing financial sustainability in 23/24 and beyond.
- b) that the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget Forecast for 23/24 to 25/26 contained in the budget pack attached at **Section 2** (supported by the suite of background papers in **Sections 2a – 2d**) be noted and that these are monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS.
- c) that provision of **£35.4M** to cover anticipated demographic and other cost pressures in 23/24:
 - Pay (£9.0M),
 - Energy (£5.3M),

- Children's Social Care including the development plan costs (£7.0M),
- Adult Social Care including hospital discharges (£6.5M),
- Homes to School Transport (£1.2M),
- Waste Services (£0.9M),
- Inflation on major contracts e.g., PFI (£3.1M),
- Funding borrowing costs (£0.6M),
- Investment in legal resource (£0.5M),
- Investment in car parking (£0.5M),
- Youth zone running costs (£0.8M).

be approved for inclusion in the budget as identified at **Section 2**.

- d) that the budgetary provisions previously set aside in the 22/23 budget for demography, demand and energy costs totalling **£9.2M** be approved to be released to mitigate the above pressures.
- e) that the specific Adult Social Care grant of **£2.1M** received in the 2022 Local Government Finance Settlement be used to contribute to the funding of inflationary pressures in the care sector.
- f) that the increase in the Better Care Fund of **£1.9M** received in the 2022 Local Government Finance Settlement be used to fund the cost of hospital discharges.
- g) that **£7.5M** of additional general social care funding received in the 2022 Local Government Finance Settlement be set aside pending further assessment of the emerging financial risks relating to Childrens and Adults Social Care.
- h) that reserves totalling **£5.5M** be used to further mitigate the pressures above, strictly on the basis of this being a temporary bridging strategy to permanently aligning ongoing spend and income over the MTFs planning period.
- i) that the proposed efficiency savings in 23/24 highlighted in **Section 2** and detailed at **Section 4a – 4e** be approved for implementation and that Members also note the development of a transformation programe to help deliver balanced budget positions over the medium term (24/25 – 25/26).
- j) that the Council's reserves strategy and updated reserves position at **Section 2b** be noted.
- k) that the proposed changes to the 23/24 fees and charges policy and accompanying schedule of charges set out at **Section 2d** be approved.
- l) to submit to Council for approval the cash limited budgets for each Service with overall net expenditure for 23/24 of **£230.4M** as highlighted in

Section 5a.

- m) to consider the budgets for all services and approve, for submission into Council, the 23/24 – 25/26 budget proposals presented at **Sections 5a – 5c**, subject to Cabinet receiving detailed implementation reports where appropriate.
- n) to consider and approve the changes to the schools funding formula including the transfer of funding from the schools' block to the high needs block and approve the proposed 23/24 schools block budget as set out at **Section 5d**.
- o) that the capital investment schemes totalling £12.4M (**Section 6 Appendix 1**), be included within the capital programme and released subject to receiving further detailed business cases where appropriate.
- p) that £2M is provisionally set aside for additional investment in repairing the borough's highways (principal roads / side streets) and released subject to receiving a further detailed report on plans for its use.
- q) that the Chief Executive and SMT, in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, be required to submit reports into Cabinet, as a matter of urgency, in relation to the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget for 23/24 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above.
- r) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of all approved saving proposals.
- s) that the Authority's SMT be charged with ensuring that the budget remains in balance and report regularly into Cabinet on budget / savings monitoring including any action required.
- t) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 23/24 budget.
- u) that appropriate consultation on the budget proposals takes place with the Trade Unions and representatives of Non-Domestic Ratepayers and that the views of consultees be considered by Cabinet and the Council.

2. Council Tax 2023/24

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-

That Council note the contents of **Section 2a** (23/24 Council Tax options) and approves that:

- a) the Council Tax Collection Fund net surplus as at 31st March 2022 relating to BMBC of £3.6M be used to reduce the 23/24 Council Tax requirement, in line with statute.

- b) the 23/24 Band D Council Tax increase for Barnsley MBC services be set at 3.9% (1.9% for Core Council Services and an additional 2.0% for the Adult Social Care precept).
- c) the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley MBC's areas be determined following confirmation of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and South Yorkshire Fire Authority precepts for 23/24.
- d) the Band D Council Tax for areas of the Borough with Parish / Town Councils be determined following confirmation of individual parish precepts for 23/24.
- e) additional one off cost of living support be provided to all eligible working age local council tax support claimants in Band 1 of the scheme, equivalent to an amount that reduces those claimant's council tax bills to zero for the 23/24 financial year.
- f) additional one off cost of living support be provided to all eligible working age local council tax support claimants in Bands 2,3 & 4 of the scheme, equivalent to mitigating the full impact of the proposed 3.9% increase for 23/24 plus an additional £50 discount to further reduce the bills for all those eligible claimants.
- g) additional one off cost of living support equivalent to the 3.9% increase be provided to all eligible pensioners in receipt of council tax support, for the 23/24 financial year.

Note: with regard to recommendations (c) and (d) of item 2 above, the precepts for the Police and Crime Commissioner for the South Yorkshire Police area, the South Yorkshire Fire Authority, and for Parish/Town councils will be circulated as soon as they are received.

3. Treasury Management Strategy & Policy Statement 2023/24

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-

That Council approve the 23/24 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement (included in the main papers at **Section 2c**) and specifically:

- a) approve the 23/24 Treasury Management Policy Statement (**Section 2c Appendix A**).
- b) approve the 23/24 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement (**Section 2c Appendix B**).
- c) approve the 23/24 Borrowing Strategy at **Section 2c** including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (**Section 2c Appendix C**).
- d) approve the 23/24 Annual Investment Strategy at **Section 2c**.

Substantive Items

5. Distinguished Service Award for Elected Members (Pages 179 - 184)

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-

1. The introduction of an elected Member Distinguished Service Award;
2. The proposed criteria for receipt, namely:-
 - a) a currently serving Councillor with 35 years or more continuous service as an elected Member of Barnsley Metropolitan Council; and
 - b) who has made a notable contribution to the Borough over a sustained period of time; and
3. The proposed recognition of a presentation gift at a meeting of Full Council and invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting as an honorary attendee upon standing down as an elected Member.



Sarah Norman
Chief Executive

Wednesday 15 February 2023