

From: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded Services, Peter Oakford
Corporate Director of Finance, Zena Cooke

To: Cabinet, 25 January 2021

Subject: Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report – November 2020-21

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary:

The attached report sets out the revenue and capital budget monitoring position as at November 2020-21 excluding and including the impact of Covid 19. The report sets out the position regarding the Council's main revenue budget and separately the position regarding Covid-19 related expenditure and funding. The impact of the further restrictions introduced since November in terms of the tiering system and the latest national lockdown, will need to be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 25th January 2021. A briefing on the latest position and the opportunities available to give further support to residents and businesses will be provided at the meeting.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet is asked to discuss the monitoring position attached, the briefing provided AND:

- a) NOTE the forecast Revenue and Capital monitoring positions.
- b) NOTE the way in which the financial impact of Covid-19 is monitored and the significant financial risks of future demand and in particular its full year effect in 2021-22, which is currently suppressed due to the national lockdown.
- c) NOTE and COMMENT on the use of COVID-19 grant funding to provide further support to residents and businesses impacted by the latest restrictions.
- d) NOTE and AGREE the Capital budget adjustments.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The attached report sets out the revenue and capital monitoring position as at November 2020-21 and includes the financial information related to the impact of responding to the Covid 19 pandemic.
- 1.2 The report highlights the overall financial position of the council and the financial impact of Covid-19 as at the end of November 2020. As the report sets out the financial position as at the end of November it cannot reflect the very latest information relating to Covid-19 and in particular the further restrictions introduced since November including the latest national lockdown. It is important therefore that Cabinet take account of the latest information when considering the Council's financial position and specifically the use of Covid grant funding to further support residents and businesses impacted by the pandemic.

2 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report – November 2020-21

- 2.1 The attached report sets out the overall forecast financial position as at 30 November 2020-21. The report also sets out the Covid-19 related financial position which takes account of estimated risks and future demand pressures, The County Council is experiencing financial pressures arising from the impact of Covid-19 across a range of services, and these are being offset through the use of one-off emergency grant funding in this year.
- 2.2 Since the end of November, the Government has introduced further restrictions in response to the rising infection rate and the new variant of the virus. It is therefore important that Cabinet consider the implications of the latest restrictions and how to respond to them.
- 2.3 The impact of these further restrictions is being felt across the county by both residents and businesses. Since the start of the pandemic last March, the County Council has been providing support to residents and businesses both directly and through partner organisations, such as district and borough councils and the voluntary and community sector. This support has been funded through the use of one-off Covid related government grant funding. Grant funding is monitored separately and as set out in the attached report, emergency grant funding is available to respond to the impact of the latest restrictions.

3. Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is asked to discuss the monitoring position attached, the briefing provided AND:

- a) NOTE the forecast Revenue and Capital monitoring positions.
- b) NOTE the way in which the financial impact of Covid-19 is monitored and the significant financial risks of future demand and in particular its full year effect in 2021-22, which is currently suppressed due to the national lockdown.
- c) NOTE and COMMENT on the use of COVID-19 grant funding to provide further support to residents and businesses impacted by the latest restrictions.
- d) NOTE and AGREE the Capital budget adjustments.

4. Contact details

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