From: Derek Murphy, Cabinet Member for Economic

Development

Clair Bell, Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory

Services

Peter Oakford, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for

Finance, Corporate & Traded Services

To: Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet

Committee – 18 January 2024

Subject: Revised Draft Revenue Budget 2024-25 and 2024-27

MTFP, Draft Capital Programme 2024-34 and Treasury

Management Strategy

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary:

The attached report sets out the updated and balanced draft revenue budget 2024-25 and MTFP 2024-27, proposed capital programme 2024-34, and draft Treasury Management Strategy, for further Member consideration ahead of Cabinet on 25th January 2024 and Full Council on 19th February. The purpose of the report is to enable the Scrutiny and Cabinet Committees to focus on the proposed changes from the initial draft revenue budget 2024-25 and 2024-27 MTFP published on 1st November for the November Scrutiny and Cabinet Committee meetings, and new additions in relation to the Capital Strategy and 10 year capital programme and the Treasury Management Strategy. The report includes fuller details of funding, spending, savings, income and reserves estimates that were set out in the initial draft revenue budget together with an analysis of risks.

The same budget report is being presented to each Cabinet Committee as it is a standard report for the whole council, focussing on the key strategic considerations underpinning the decisions necessary for County Council to agree the budget at the Budget Meeting in February.

The relevant Cabinet Member(s) will outline the key 2024-25 revenue budget changes from the initial draft, the further detail included in this draft for 2025-26 and 2026-27 plans, and capital programme proposals, relating to their portfolio as part of the Cabinet Committee consideration. This is to clarify the budget areas within the scope of the Committee and to seek feedback on the relevant proposals, following on from the November 2023 considerations and note the Member engagement and committee contributions to the budget development process so far.

To support ongoing budget consideration by Members, in addition to the Cabinet Committee stages of the budget development process, a separate interrogatable dashboard has been made available to Members, setting out key information about individual elements of the draft revenue budget and now incorporating medium term revenue plans.

Recommendations

The Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee is asked to:

- a) NOTE the updated revenue budget and MTFP, draft capital strategy and programme, and draft Treasury Management Strategy
- b) PROPOSE, to the Executive, any changes which should be made to the relevant sections of the budget related to the Committee's portfolio area before the draft is finalised by Cabinet on 25th January 2024 and presented to Full County Council on 19th February 2024 for decision.

Contact details

Report Author(s)

- Dave Shipton (Head of Finance Policy, Planning and Strategy)
- 03000 419418
- dave.shipton@kent.gov.uk

Relevant Corporate Director:

- Zena Cooke
- 03000 416854
- zena.cooke@kent.gov.uk