

REPORT OF THE  
**Cabinet**  
PART I

**1. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE AND SAVINGS PROGRAMME TO 2023 SAVINGS PROPOSALS**

- 1.1. At its meeting on 12 October 2021 the Cabinet considered the overall financial strategy for dealing with the budget gap to 2023/24 in light of the various options available to the County Council and the high level outcomes from the public consultation exercise on balancing the budget.
- 1.2. The full report considered by Cabinet, incorporating non-consequential updates for accuracy, is attached as Annex 1 to this Council report.
- 1.3. In addition to a number of recommendations to Council, set out below, Cabinet resolved to:
  - i. Note the latest position in respect of the financial resilience monitoring for the current financial year.
  - ii. Confirm the current planning assumption that council tax and the social care precept will increase by the maximum permissible without a referendum, in line with government policy, will continue.
  - iii. Approve the recommended approach to dealing with the anticipated £80m budget deficit, as set out in paragraphs 185 to 187.
  - iv. Approve, subject to further consultation and executive decision making where necessary, the savings proposals in Appendix 3; after taking due regard of the consultation feedback and Equality Impact Assessments.
  - v. Approve further service specific consultations, where necessary, on the savings proposals set out in Appendix 3, prior to final decisions being made by Executive Members.
  - vi. Restate and reinforce the requirement that should any savings proposal be rejected that alternative options to the same value will need to be developed by the appropriate department.
  - vii. Note the requirement for further essential health and safety and maintenance works within the older persons residential portfolio and the initial plan to prioritise a programme of full asset management plan surveys at a cost of £120,000 to be funded from the AHC cost of change reserve.

- viii. Notes the revised Commercial Strategy at Appendix 10 which includes an analysis of the Council's income generation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

With reference to the report annexed to this Council report, Council is recommended to approve:

- a. The mid-year report on treasury management activity at Appendix 2.
- b. The savings proposals in Appendix 3, subject to further consultation and executive decision making where necessary.
- c. Recurring funding of £7m from 2022/23 to provide additional resources for the overall Highways Maintenance budget, with the flexibility for the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to allocate this between Operation Resilience and the reactive maintenance budget as required.
- d. Investment of £1.7m in 2021/22, £2.4m in 2022/23 and £3.2m per year from 2023/24 onwards in Children's Intensive Workers, to be met from existing corporate growth funding allocations for Children Looked After
- e. The addition of capital investment of up to £22m to the capital programme in respect of younger adults extra care and the Woodcot Lodge discharge to assess facility to be funded by prudential borrowing with repayments accounted for within the proposed saving.
- f. The addition of capital investment of £786,000 to the capital programme in respect of improvement works to the Formal Meeting Chamber, to be funded from cost of change reserves.