Divisions: N/A

COUNCIL - 9 FEBRUARY 2021

BUDGET AND BUSINESS PLANNING 2021/22 – 2025/26 CORPORATE PLAN

Addendum

Report by the Director of Finance and Corporate Director Customers, Organisational Development & Resources

Executive Summary

1. This addendum sets out the changes to the Cabinet's proposed revenue budget for 2021/22 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to 2025/26 arising from information received after the publication of Council papers on 1 February 2021.

Updated Financial Information

Final Local Government Settlement 2021/22

- The Final Local Government Settlement 2021/22 was published on 4 February 2021. As expected, there are no changes from the Provisional Settlement published in December.
- The Ministerial Statement announcing the publication also confirmed that the Independent Living Fund grant will continue to be paid to local authorities in 2021/22. The total grant funding and allocation methodology will remain the same as 2020/21. This is consistent with the assumption included in Cabinet's proposed budget.

Business Rates

4. The final position for forecast Business Rate income for 2021/22 has now been received. Compared to the information published in Section 4 of the Budget and Business Planning Report, this has resulted in a reduction in Business Rate income of £0.3m. Overall there is a total reduction of £1.5m in Business Rate income compared to the original estimate of £2.0m. This reduces the budgeted contribution to the Business Rates Reserve from £0.8m to £0.5m.

Flood Defence Levy

5. The Council has not received notification of the Flood Defence Levy for 2021/22, however this is not expected to vary significantly from the 2020/21 value of £0.6m. Any change to the budget will be managed through the Budget and Business Planning Report for 2021/22.

Revisions to Sections 3 and 4 of Budget and Business Planning Report

- 6. The change in relation to business rates has required minor adjustments to the commentary within Section 3 Chief Finance Officer's Statutory Report and some tables within Section 4 Revenue Budget Strategy. Therefore, the updated sections have been published with this addendum.
- 7. There are no changes to the recommendations set out in the main report as a result of these revisions

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