

Executive

Statement of decisions

28 January 2021

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ITEM

4. BUDGET & CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/2022

RECOMMENDED to Council:

1. The latest Medium-Term Financial Plan forecast at Annex 1
2. A Revenue budget requirement of £17.395 million for 2021/22, as set out in the report and at Annex 2 of the report, which reflects:
 - a. Service budget growth of £0.695 million (net); plus
 - b. Central budget savings of (£1.554) million (net)
3. An increase in Reigate & Banstead's Band D Council Tax of £5.00 (2.15%) and a final taxbase of 60,720 Band D equivalents;
4. The forecast for Revenue Reserves (Annex 3) and the recommended use of £0.477 million from Reserves in 2021/22 comprising:
 - a. Drawing £0.104 million from the Government Funding Risks Reserve to fund reduced housing benefit subsidy; and
 - b. Drawing £0.138 million from the Commercial Risks Reserve to fund reduced income from rents and trading activities; and
 - c. Drawing £0.235 million from the General Fund Balance to support the 2020/21 Revenue Budget;
5. A Capital Programme of £81.555 million for 2021/22 to 2025/26 as set out in this report and at Annexes 4.1 and 4.2, including Capital Programme Growth Proposals of £1.326 million.
6. The Chief Finance Officer's report on the robustness of the Budget estimates and adequacy of Reserves.

RESOLVED that:

7. The Chief Finance Officer be authorised to make any necessary final technical adjustments to the Budget and Council Tax arising from final budget refinements or changes to Government funding.

Reason for decision:

To ensure that the Council continues to plan and manage its resources well, deliver high standards of service and meet the aims and objectives of its Five-Year Plan for 2020- 2025 and supporting Strategies.

Alternative options:

The Executive can accept, amend or reject any or all of the budget proposals. Changes could affect the level of Council Tax to be levied in 2021/22 which in turn would require changes to the formal resolutions to full Council in February.

Lead officer:

Interim Head of Finance

5. COUNCIL TAX 2021/2022

RECOMMENDED to Council:

1. It be noted that on 16 January 2021 the Council calculated:
 - a. the Council Tax base 2020/21 for the whole Council as 60,720.0 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)] and,
 - b. for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates: Horley Town Council 10,313.3 Salfords & Sidlow Parish Council 1,413.3

The ‘tax base’ is the number of Band D equivalent dwellings in a local authority area.

Detailed calculations of the Council Tax are set out in Annexes 1, 2 & 3 of the report.

2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirements for the Council’s own purposes for 2021/22 (excluding Parish precepts) is £14,418,580.
3. The following amounts be calculated for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - a. £70,229,263 – being the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils
 - b. £55,105,575 – being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3) of the Act.
 - c. £14,888,688 – being the amount which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (item R in the formula in Section 32(4) of the Act).
 - d. £245.20 – being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
 - e. £470,108 - being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix).
 - f. £237.46 - being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.
 - g. Horley Town Council £278.97 Salfords & Sidlow Parish Council £267.18 Being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council’s area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

4. It be noted that the figures in the attached Appendix being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 3(g) above by the number which, in the proportions set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.
5. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts 1 to 5, above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Annex 3.
6. It be noted that for the year 2021/22 Surrey County Council and Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner have not yet stated amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Appendix 2.
7. The Chief Finance Officer be authorised to make any amendments to the Council Tax demands as might prove necessary as the result of changes to the estimated demands issued by preceptors on the Council's Collection Fund.

Reason for decision:

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 sets out the requirement for local authorities to set a budget for the next financial year. This report provides the information to fulfil that requirement. Under the Constitution the Executive considers a proposed budget and Council Tax, before then making a recommendation on the appropriate level of Council Tax to full Council. Following consideration, Council may then authorise the budget and Council Tax.

Alternative options:

The budget is based on a recommended Council Tax rise of £5.00 (2.15%) increase in 2021/22.

Lead officer:

Interim Head of Finance

6. LOCAL CHARACTER & DISTINCTIVENESS DESIGN GUIDE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT FOR CONSULTATION

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the revised draft Local Character and Distinctiveness Design Guide for public consultation.
2. That the Head of Planning in consultation with the Executive Member for Planning Policy be authorised to make any necessary minor factual or typographic amendments to the draft revised Supplementary Planning Document prior to consultation.

Reason for decision:

Following the adoption of the Development Management Plan in September 2019, the Local Distinctiveness Design Guide Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2004) has been updated to reflect changes in national and local planning policy.

Regulation 12(b) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 require public consultation on draft supplementary planning documents for at least 4 weeks prior to adoption.

Alternative options:

Recommendation 1: That the Executive approve the draft revised Local Character and Distinctiveness Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document for public consultation.

- a. Approve the draft revised Local Character and Distinctiveness Design Guide for public consultation. This option is recommended as it would enable the Council to move towards the adoption of up-to-date guidance to provide clarity and certainty for developers, development management and others.
- b. Do not approve the draft Local Character and Distinctiveness Design Guide for public consultation. This option is not recommended as legislation¹ requires that supplementary planning document policy does not conflict with the adopted development plan.

Recommendation 2: That the Executive authorise the Head of Planning in consultation with the Executive Member for Planning Policy to make any necessary minor factual or typographic amendments to the draft Local Character and Distinctiveness Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document prior to consultation.

- a. Agree to the suggested authorisation for making any necessary minor factual or typographic amendments prior to consultation. This option is recommended.
- b. Do not agree to necessary minor factual or typographic amendments being made prior to consultation. This option is not recommended.

Lead officer:

Head of Planning

7. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021/22

RECOMMENDED to Council:

That the draft Calendar of Meetings for the 2021/22 Municipal Year, incorporating the changes proposed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and revising the date of the Audit Committee from 8 September to 28 September, be approved.

Note: for certainty, the Calendar of meetings for 2021/22, incorporating the changes agreed by the Executive, will be appended to the minutes of the meeting.

Reason for decision:

To establish a timetable to ensure the efficient and effective conduct of Council business for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

Alternative options:

See report.

Lead officer:

Head of Legal and Governance