

BUDGET & POLICY FRAMEWORK REPORTS: DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FROM CABINET 20 JANUARY 2009

119 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE - CORPORATE PLAN

Resolved:

- (1) That Cabinet approves the draft 2009/10 Corporate Plan attached as Appendix A to the report, as a basis for consultation in accordance with the agreed timetable and as the basis for determining its budget proposals, subject to
 - the reference to Street Pride under “Safe and Healthy Communities” (page 6) being rewritten into “Clean and Green” (page 4);
 - and that the narrative part of the report contains references to the current global economic recession.”

120 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE - GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET

Resolved:

- (1) That Cabinet recommend a Council Tax increase of 4% to Council for 2009/10.
- (2) That the 2008/09 Revised Budget of £23.782M be referred on to Council for approval, with the net overspending of £571K being met from Balances.
- (3) That Cabinet notes the position regarding the Local Government Finance Settlement and capping.
- (4) That Cabinet recommends to Council that the minimum level of General Fund Balances be retained at £1M from 01 April 2009.
- (5) That Cabinet approves the reassessment of other earmarked reserves and provisions as set out in section 4 of the report.
- (6) That Cabinet notes the Council Tax Base of 43,200 Band D properties for 2009/10.
- (7) That subject to all the above, Cabinet notes the resulting draft 2009/10 General Fund Revenue Budget of £25.701M, and the indicative spending projections of £27.040M for 2010/11 and £27.987M for 2011/12.
- (8) That Cabinet supports in principle the savings items set out in Appendix F to the report, and the growth items also included, but that the growth items be subject to further consideration, depending on sufficient progress being made to achieve the budget savings required to meet any approved Council Tax increase.
- (9) That further consideration of budget proposals be undertaken by Star Chamber, including the use of other earmarked reserves as set out in 4.5 of the report, in order that a fully balanced set of revenue budget proposals can be developed for formal consideration by Cabinet at its February meeting.

- (10) That Council considers the General Fund revenue budget proposals to date, for initial consideration, subject to the decisions made at Cabinet today.

121 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE - GENERAL FUND, CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Resolved:

- (1) That Cabinet notes the latest position regarding the General Fund Capital Programme and supports in principle the funding assumptions from 2008/9 onwards as set out, but that these be reviewed in light of the further work underway.
- (2) That the outcome of the work ongoing as set out in the report, including the capital receipts review and updates on the issues outlined in sections 2 and 3 of the report, be fed into Star Chamber for initial consideration, in order that a fully balanced programme can be developed for formal consideration by Cabinet at its February meeting.
- (3) That the current capital position be referred on to Council for consideration.

122 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Resolved:

- (1) That the Housing Revenue Account Revised Budget for 2008/09, as set out at Appendix A to the report, be recommended to Council for approval.
- (2) That the revenue growth bids as set out at Appendix B be supported, to be funded by reductions in the contributions into the Major Repairs Reserve.
- (3) That the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2009/10 as set out at Appendix A to the report, as amended for growth above, be recommended to Council for approval.
- (4) That Cabinet recommend to Council that the minimum level of HRA unallocated balances be retained at £350,000 from 01 April 2009, and that the Statement on Reserves and Balances be noted and referred to Council for information.
- (5) That average council housing rents for the year commencing 01 April 2009 be set at £59.56, representing an increase of 5%.
- (6) That future year budget projections continue to assume a 5% year on year increase in average rents.
- (7) That the Capital Programme as set out at Appendix E of the report be referred on to Council for approval.
- (8) That Cabinet notes that the proposed revenue budgets and capital programme will be referred to the District Wide Tenants Forum on 28 January 2009, and that any issues arising will be fed directly into Council.