

## MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2021 ONWARDS

### 1. Recommendations

Cabinet are asked to;

- a) note the contents of the report and the updates to the Medium Term Financial Plan;
- b) endorse the approach taken to set the Asset Maintenance and Replacement Programme Budget for 2022/23; and
- c) recommend to Council that the CANF request for a three-year funding agreement for the years 2023/24 and 2024/25 be approved as follows:
  - Year 1 commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022: £185,895
  - Year 2 commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023: £190,542
  - Year 3 commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024: £195,306
- d) recommend to Council that procurement of replacement vehicles and plant as included in the 2022/23 replacement schedule is commenced ahead of the formal setting of the 2022/23 budget.

### 2. Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To consider the ongoing development of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2021 onwards and consider the factors that will influence its delivery and that of the annual budget strategy 2022/23.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Council has a legal requirement to set an annual fully funded balanced budget and must plan its finances over a medium term period. The Council's Medium Term Financial security is underpinned by a sustainable efficiency agenda and the targeting of new and additional income generation. The Council has understood the need to consider its overall organisational business model in order to ensure the future protection of its services and seeks to align financial plans to support the delivery of key priorities as outlined in the Corporate Plan.
- 3.2 Actions need to commence on the development of future years' budgets. To support this work it is necessary that an assessment is made of the likely financial scenario based upon latest available information. The September MTFP set a baseline position and has now been updated for changes and reviews undertaken since, as well as being updated to take account of the key features of the October Spending Review (the Autumn budget). As explored further in section 4 however, several features of the spending review will not become clear until the release of the Provisional Finance Settlement, expected early-mid December.

- 3.3 The Business Rate Retention Scheme is still under review within the context of the wider Fair Funding Review but the exclusion of any reset was notable from the recent Spending Review. The September expectation was based on a hard reset with partial redistribution of the national surplus, and a revised retention scheme (currently a 50% retention scheme, with the District Council retaining 40% of Business Rate growth). It is now envisaged that the reset will be delayed by at least 1 year, which is of significant benefit to the Council.

#### **4. Autumn 2021 Spending Review**

- 4.1 The Chancellor's spending review announcement was certainly better for local government than had been expected. Local government will receive an additional £4.8bn in grant funding over the next three years, which represents real terms growth in funding. Unusually, the annual increase of £1.6bn will come in one tranche in an increase to 22/23 in comparison to 21/22. For the avoidance of doubt, £4.8bn is the 3 year figure, made up of £1.6bn x 3.
- 4.2 Overall Core Spending Power will increase by £8.5bn, but this includes specific social care reform (no direct impact to this Council) and Council Tax increases.
- 4.3 The budget statement delivered by the Chancellor is used to give the headline information, but we won't know the specific implications to NFDC in terms of the new funding announced until the release of the provisional finance settlement, usually released early-mid December. We also do not yet know whether the Local Government settlement will be a 1 year settlement, or multi-year (up to 3 years).
- 4.4 The items that we either know, or that have the potential to impact NFDC finances over the medium term are:
- 4.4.1 Business Rate Reset – The long-awaited reset is NOT going ahead in 2022/23. NFDC will retain its Business Rate growth in 2022/23 and as a result will see a net improvement compared to the September reported position of c£1.3m to 2022/23. There is no change to Medium Term Forecast as the reset is still expected at some stage between now and 25/26. More on this is included at section 5 of this report.
  - 4.4.2 Lower Tier Services Grant - £170k received in 21/22 anticipated as one-off. Potential that we'll get an award in 22/23 through the settlement funding assessment, but not clear yet.
  - 4.4.3 Council Tax Increase – Expected that the greater of £5 or 2% will still be allowable, but final decision on this not yet clear (referendum cap of simple 2% has been mentioned).
  - 4.4.4 New Homes Bonus – £276k received in 21/22 and £182k budgeted in 22/23. These are legacy payments, i.e. growth bonus from previous years. Not clear yet whether any new New Homes Bonus will be payable after 22/23.
  - 4.4.5 National Insurance Contributions Increase – The cost to the NFDC General Fund of the 1.25% rise is c£180k. In the proposals during September, the Treasury stated that authorities will receive compensation for the additional contributions in respect of their direct employees. It has been confirmed that

this additional funding is imbedded within the additional £1.6bn of funding as previously noted.

- 4.4.6 Extended Producer Responsibility scheme – there was mention of the additional income to be received as a result of the ‘Extended Producer Responsibility scheme’, but as this will likely contribute towards the additional costs of adhering to the new National Waste Strategy, there will be a nil net impact to NFDC.
- 4.4.7 Homelessness – Unlikely to see grants reduce during the period covered by the MTFP. NFDC currently receive c£1m PA.
- 4.5 There were also smaller awards towards family help (£200m) and cyber resilience (£37.8m). Although these will likely be immaterial to the Council’s MTFP once allocated across the Country, the family help funding will be particularly welcome and will be used to support New Forest residents in line with the funding parameters (not yet known).
- 4.6 There were also new Business Rate reliefs, discounts and cuts announced by the Chancellor worth £7bn over 3 years. The multiplier will be frozen for 22/23 (each hereditament has a rateable value and the multiplier is applied to that RV to result in the Business Rate liability. The multiplier is currently 49.9p in the £1). There will be a 50% discount for retail, hospitality and Leisure sectors (up to £110,000) in 2022/23. Local Authorities get fully compensated for the cost of this relief. NFDC will see minor savings on our own hereditaments liable to Business Rates as a result of the freezing of the multiplier, but the largest impact of note will be to the great many businesses located within the District who will receive a lower Business Rate bill as a result of these changes.

## 5. Updated Medium Term Financial Plan

- 5.1 The more significant known changes be to taken into account since the September reported position, **excluding the Autumn Statement funding items**, are as follows:
  - Confirmation from HCC that proposed changes to income share arrangements from recycling (£275,000) and contamination charges (£125,000) from recycling and waste disposal will be reviewed as part of the ongoing work going into the new Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, with proposals being revisited and delayed until April 2023.
  - National Insurance Contributions Increase – The cost to the NFDC General Fund of the 1.25% rise is c£180k
  - A rent review is underway at Dibden Golf Centre which is likely to result in a reduction in rent receivable
  - The recent Communications review requires £50,000 to be reflected in the MTFP
  - An operations management review has concluded resulting in a saving of £45,000
- 5.2 The resultant summary financial position (still excluding the Autumn Statement funding items) is as follows:

**Table 1**

	<b>Forecast 22/23</b>	<b>Forecast 23/24</b>	<b>Forecast 24/25</b>	<b>Forecast 25/26</b>
Available Funding (pre Council Tax increase)	18.092	18.090	18.274	18.458
Budget Requirement	19.604	19.739	20.214	20.864
(Deficit) / Surplus	(1.512)	(1.649)	(1.940)	(2.406)

5.3 Options identified to address the deficit as above, but not yet delivered, are shown below, (updated to take into account changes since September):

- **Commercial and Residential Income Generation:** **£585k**
- **Efficiency Programme (inc. F&C's Yield):** **£667k (£1m target)**
  - Identified to date: EMT Review £100k
  - Identified to date: Enforcement Team Review £38k
  - Identified to date: Operational Services Sen. Mgmt £45k
  - Identified to Date: F&C's Yield (from 23/24) £150k
- **Council Tax Increase (£5):** **£1.458M**
- TOTAL OF OPTIONS IDENTIFIED** **£2.710M**

#### 5.4 **Business Rate Reset**

The Business Rate Reset, that is whereby NFDC lose the retained Business Rate growth above the baseline, has been discussed since 2017/18. The reset would require a change to primary legislation and has been continually muted as being on the government's agenda in the context of a change to a 75% retention scheme but has been consistently pushed back. In preparation for the baseline reset occurring, as well as assisting in fluctuations on the Business Rates Collection Fund, a specific budget equalisation reserve was established, enabling the reserve to be called upon when required to help set a balanced budget. As at 31/3/21 the balance held in the reserve totalled £2.837M.

The latest expectation on the reset is that it may happen between 2023/24 and 2025/26, but the change to a 75% retention scheme has the potential to clash with the levelling up agenda. The Council's updated Medium Term Financial Plan needs to have regard of this reset being in the pipeline, but it is not sensible to continually plan for a reset that doesn't then happen. Instead, the value of the Budget Equalisation Reserve will be protected at a minimum level of £2M over the 3 year period 2022/23 and 2024/25 and the reset factored into the MTFP in 2025/26. By protecting the budget equalisation reserve balance at £2M during 2022/23 and 2024/25, the Council has a minimum window of at least 1 full budget cycle to address the properly quantified implications of the reset, including any redistribution that would have regard to the significant financial loss this council would suffer as a result, should it still occur ahead of 2025/26.

5.5 To take account of the Business Rate Reset deferral to 2025/26, a couple of the more significant budget changes that have taken effect to ensure the delivery of a balanced budget over the last couple few years can be temporarily reinstated into the General Fund when surplus funds allow. The items are listed below:

- **Investment in Asset Maintenance and Replacement Programme: +£200,000**
  - The budget was reduced in recent times, but it is clear from the project submissions that increased resource is required if the Council wishes to adequately protect, maintain and replace its buildings and assets for the purposes of service delivery.
- **Investment in Public Convenience Refurbishment Programme: +£300,000**
  - Until recently, the General Fund supported the delivery of the Capital refurbishment programme. To protect the Capital Reserves the Council has available for larger investment and infrastructure projects, it is beneficial for the General Fund to pay for this activity when it can support the spend.
- **ICT Strategy: +£500,000**
  - The current ICT strategy and so budget provision will expire at the end of 2021/22, but the Council cannot afford to stand still in terms of its ICT provision, including hardware and system updates and upgrades. Details will clearly be worked into a full strategy, but it is sensible to be prudent at this stage of the budget planning cycle and assume that the Council will require funding of £500,000 per annum for the next 3 years.

5.6 The updated MTFP position taking into account the deferral of the Business Rate Reset until 2025/26, and the temporary addition of the items into the General Fund as outlined above is as follows:

**Table 2**

	<b>Forecast 22/23</b>	<b>Forecast 23/24</b>	<b>Forecast 24/25</b>	<b>Forecast 25/26</b>
Available Funding (pre Council Tax increase)	19.792	19,790	19.974	18.458
Budget Requirement	20.304	20.739	21.214	21.064
(Deficit) / Surplus	(512)	(949)	(1.240)	(2.606)

5.7 The 'options identified' by the Council (see 5.3) were always designed to address the Medium Term budget deficit and give potential headroom to enable discussion on which options to bring forward and how to invest any potential surplus funds, however temporary, to further support the Council in achieving its objectives and Corporate Plan Priorities. The options identified however are not guaranteed and nor is the timing of their delivery. The income generation must meet the primary objective to support the local New Forest economy (above the generation of yield), there is a large amount outstanding to be identified from the efficiency plan and the Council will need to have regard to the central government expectations with respect to Council Tax increases over the period.

5.8 **At this stage in the budget planning cycle, with the positive outcome from the spending review in terms of business rate retention alone, the Council is well placed to provide a balanced budget for 2022/23 and has suitable plans to address the budget deficit over the Medium Term period.**

## 6. Asset Maintenance and Replacement Programme

- 6.1 The original General Fund includes a budget for Asset Maintenance and cyclical Asset Replacement totalling £1.7M:

	Original	With Top Up
Health & Leisure Centres (Landlord Maintenance)	£500,000	
Offices, Depots and Outlying Buildings	£100,000	
Other	£100,000	+£100,000
ICT Replacement Programme	£100,000	
Cyclical Replacement of V&P	£1,100,000	+£100,000
Proportion Chargeable to the HRA	(£200,000)	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,700,000</b>	<b>£1,900,000</b>

- 6.2 Service Managers were invited to submit their project requirements during the month of October, with the summary schedule collectively reviewed by EMT. The Corporate Affairs and Local Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel will review the schedule in January. From the proposals received from the outset, it was clear there will be some challenges ahead in terms of prioritising the necessary projects against the budget that the Council has available, hence the proposed reinstatement of funds, as outlined in paragraph 5.5.

### 6.3 Virtual Parking Clock Scheme

Replacing the NFDC parking clocks in 2023 with a new system which will replicate as closely as possible the functionality of the current parking clocks. The costs associated with the above plans are estimated at £150,000 and these costs will be covered by a change in the clock prices for 2022. The timetable is such that the new system will need to be ready for August 2022 at the latest to ensure that it is functioning correctly for 2023. The Council has already started working closely with hardware and software providers to ensure this project delivery timetable can be kept to.

- 6.4 The AMR project bids will be shared with the Corporate Affairs and Local Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting in January. At this stage via this report, the Cabinet is asked to endorse the approach taken to set the Asset Maintenance and Replacement Programme Budget for 2022/23, noting that £150,000 towards the Car Parking modernisation project can be offset though additional fees and charges yield from a parking clock price increase, and that a proportion of the programme will fall on the Housing Revenue Account. The additional funds as indicated within section 5 of this report provide the required financing of the programme.

### 6.5 Vehicle and Plant Replacement

A significant share of the programme cost is the write down of the replacement Vehicles and Plant acquired by the Council. Lead in times for particular vehicles can be extremely long, and so waiting for February for the formal budget approval is not conducive to ensuring the delivery of the programme in the 12 month fiscal window. The replacement of vehicles is essential to front line service delivery and plays a significant part in ensuring the Council's fleet contributes to the Council's green agenda as new engines are typically more efficient than older models. If a vehicle is running well with low maintenance costs, it is not replaced in line with the tabled cyclical replacement, but when the timing is right for that vehicle. It is highly unlikely that the overall budget will need to be amended to the extent that it cannot support the replacement programme for 2022/23, so a specific recommendation has been included within this report to allow the Fleet Manager to begin procurement for the vehicles and plant as included within the 2022/23 replacement programme. It is worth noting that vehicles are being specified to take account of

potential changes to waste collection services in line with the new national waste strategy.

## 7. Capital Programme

- 7.1 Service Managers were invited to submit their project requirements during the month of October, with the schedules initially reviewed by EMT, and will be presented to the Corporate Affairs and Local Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel in January. The final proposed programme will be included in the Budget setting paper to Cabinet and Council during February.
- 7.2 The Capital reserves held by the Council to support the direct financing of the Capital Programme totalled £29.636 million as at 31/03/21. These reserves are split across the various headings and General Fund / HRA as follows:

	General Fund	HRA
	£'000	£'000
<b>Capital Programme</b>	12,143	
<b>Capital Receipts</b>	2,344	1,226
<b>Acquisitions and Development</b>		13,089
<b>Leisure Development</b>	834	
	<b>15,321</b>	<b>14,315</b>

- 7.3 The proposed programme to 2024/25 and financing will be fully explored in the updated Capital Strategy for 2022/23.

## 8. Development of the HRA Budget

- 8.1 Plans are progressing with regards to the development of the HRA budget for 2022/23, which will include:
- The potential for additional income as a result of the new property developments and acquisitions
  - The potential for additional income yield as a result of being able to raise weekly rents by CPI + 1%
  - The additional costs of Pay Award and incremental progression
  - Cost pressures on external supplies and material associated with the Consumer Price Index
  - Costs as a result of necessary Fire Safety actions identified across the communal blocks and housing sites
  - Costs as a result of the necessary Asbestos Safety actions identified across the communal blocks and housing sites
- 8.2 The Capital programme will include a re-prioritised Major Repairs Programme, and the continuation of the strategy to increase NFDC Council stock numbers. The Programme will follow a similar route to the General Fund programme in terms of having an initial review through EMT, followed by presentation at the Housing and Homelessness Overview and Scrutiny Panel, and ultimately onto Cabinet and Council as part of the formal budget setting process. The projects and financing will be fully explored in the

updated Capital Strategy for 2022/23.

- 8.3 The Capital Strategy and Investment Strategy will further explore the relationship between the outstanding loan held by the HRA, which as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March totalled £126.3M, the current level of reserve balances, and the value of the proposed Capital Programme, to ensure the cost of debt strikes the right balance between the cost of carry Vs the potential investment returns currently available.

## **9. Financial Strategy Task and Finish Group**

- 9.1 The Financial Strategy Task & Finish Group has reviewed the Council's financial strategy, received an overview of the Council's budget, including the latest forecast Medium term Financial Position and recently adopted Corporate Plan priorities. The group formed generic and tailored questions which were then asked to each Portfolio Holder.

- 9.2 The actions to follow up, decided by the group are listed below, as are the Portfolio Holder responses:

- 1. Action to follow up: A follow up report be presented to the Corporate Affairs and Local Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel 12 months after the recruitment of the additional Communications resource, to provide feedback on the additional activities as a result of the increased investment in this area.**

Leader Portfolio Holder Response: I have no doubt that the additional investment the Council has opted to make in it's communications department will be of great benefit to the residents of the New Forest, and will report back to Overview and Scrutiny after 12 months as suggested.

- 2. Action to follow up: The group requested that the impending report due to February Cabinet to on the Nature and Climate Change next steps clearly laid out the intentions in terms of the ongoing monitoring of actions**

Leader Portfolio Holder Response: I will ensure a plan in terms of ongoing monitoring is included within the February report.

- 3. Action to follow up: the next iteration of ICT strategy to include improvements to ICT provision within the Council's meeting rooms**

Finance, Investment & Corporate Services Portfolio Holder Response: Members will note the inclusion within this report of an indicative sum set aside within the budget planning for the next iteration of the ICT strategy. As we draw towards concluding the new strategy to take us forward, I will ensure this includes suitable provision to enable enhancements to the facilities within the Council's key meeting rooms, including of course the Council Chamber.

- 4. Action to follow up: devise new KPI's to allow for a suitable review of ICT investment Vs improvement.**

Finance, Investment & Corporate Services Portfolio Holder Response: I agree that is vitally important to see a correlation between the investment made in ICT and the tangible benefits it realises to our residents and our staff. I will work with the Council's



new Service Manager on some suitable KPI's.

- 5. Action to follow up: That a report be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel covering how plans are evolving in respect of the Hardley Depot.**

Finance, Investment & Corporate Services Portfolio Holder Response: A report will be prepared on progress, including a summary narrative on the wider strategic depot review undertaken to give the appropriate level of assurance required before investing significantly in a new depot facility within the Hardley Industrial Estate.

- 6. Action to follow up: To provide an annual report through the Housing and Homelessness Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the use of external emergency temporary accommodation to enable appropriate monitoring against the strategy to reduce use.**

Housing & Homelessness Portfolio Holder Response: The panel receive regular updates in this area, and I would be more than happy to ensure these updates continue, with a specific focus annually on the strategy to reduce use of external temporary accommodation. To be clear and avoid unreasonable expectations however, I would envisage external temporary always playing a role in providing accommodation to individuals with specific needs.

- 7. Action to follow up: To ensure the resource implications of the impending estates management review were included within the budget proposals for 2022/23.**

Housing & Homelessness Portfolio Holder Response: The review will commence with a view to concluding ahead of the preparation of the final HRA budget for 2022/23.

- 8. Action to follow up: Coastal Investment Strategy to be prepared and shared with the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel during 2022/23.**

Environment & Coastal Services Portfolio Holder Response: Work on the strategy will commence and will be presented to the panel as suggested.

- 9. Action to follow up: A report on the 'more modern car parking service' be brought to Overview and Scrutiny Panel / Cabinet to tie in with the timeline of any proposed changes.**

Environment & Coastal Services Portfolio Holder Response: Work on a report will commence, and will be presented to the panel / Cabinet as suggested.

- 10. Action to follow up: Works be progressed on whether the Council would benefit from formally joining a Coastal Partnership, and to feedback to Overview and Scrutiny during 2022.**

Environment & Coastal Services Portfolio Holder Response: Options will be considered, including an initial appraisal of exactly what NFDC would look to seek from a partner. I will commit to providing a report to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel as soon as sufficient information is available.

- 11. Action to follow up: That a report be brought to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel setting out contingency plans to address the labour shortage, including**

**recruitment and retention aspects, and an indication of costs to protect the delivery of all front line operational services.**

Environment & Coastal Services Portfolio Holder Response: A report will be considered as suggested, although I will not overly focus on options which are simply unaffordable to the Council. The timeframe will also be determined by the need to prioritise service delivery first and foremost. Any financial implications to be addressed will be picked up either within the February MTFP and budget setting report, or within a financial monitoring report.

- 12. Action to follow up: Formalise and see through a mid-year and end of year reporting schedule to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panels to track progress against the Section 106 and CIL funded projects against sums available.**

Planning, Regeneration & Infrastructure Portfolio Holder Response: Agreed that regular monitoring of progress against programmed projects is important, and so I will see to it that mid-year and annual reports are added to the overview and scrutiny panel's work programme going forward.

- 13. Action to follow up: Prepare a paper during 2022 outlining plans for Town Centre Regeneration, including an overview of the proposed process, including consultation where appropriate and resource implications.**

Planning, Regeneration & Infrastructure Portfolio Holder Response: This has the potential to be transformational on a large scale to Town Centres within the District, and so I will see to it that an initial report is prepared and shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Panel as suggested.

- 14. Action to follow up: Portfolio Holder to feedback to the Corporate Affairs and Local Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel on his discussions with the Cabinet on the concept of corporate sponsorship on the NFDC website.**

Business, tourism & Highstreets Portfolio Holder Response: I will feedback to the panel in due course as suggested.

- 15. Action to follow up: To prepare a report on the activity of the Environmental Health Team and bring said report through to Overview and Scrutiny on an annual basis.**

Partnering & Wellbeing Portfolio Holder Response: The Environmental Health team provide a range of statutory services across the District, they report annually to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel on their Food safety plan and also provide update reports on key matters. I will regularly report to the panel via my Portfolio Briefing on their activities, and therefore do not feel it necessary to provide additional reports.

- 16. Action to follow up: Report on progress through to Overview and Scrutiny on the development of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy.**

Partnering & Wellbeing Portfolio Holder Response: A report will be produced as suggested, presented to the overview and scrutiny panel.

- 17. Action to follow up: The implications of being one of the Arts Council's 54**

**‘Priority Places’ to be reported through Overview and Scrutiny during 2022.**

People & Places Portfolio Holder Response: A report will be produced as suggested, presented to the overview and scrutiny panel.

**18. Action to follow up: That the review of the current Open Space Maintenance requirements and charging mechanism applied through the S106 process be followed up through the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.**

People & Places Portfolio Holder Response: Progress is being made in this area as part of the wider work around how the Council deliver open space through development. I am working with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Infrastructure and Regeneration and will happily report on this element of the review to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel as suggested.

**10. Ongoing Service Level Agreement with Citizens Advice New Forest**

- 10.1 In September, the Community, Partnership and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel received a paper confirming the activities undertaken by the Citizen's Advice New Forest charity, including background on the funding arrangements with the Council, which has reduced in recent times from £255,000 per annum, to the most recent £185,895 for 2021/22.
- 10.2 The CANF Board were requesting that the Council consider a further three-year funding agreement, commencing 1 April 2022, to enable CANF to budget and plan ahead.
- 10.3 The report commented on how the CANF have been instrumental in bringing together organisations across the district to form a New Forest partnership to ensure support for the most vulnerable members of our society is more coordinated and streamlined, and information and good practices are shared. The council has been active in this partnership. A number of projects have evolved from this partnership including:
  - The setting up of advice services alongside the Food Larders in 10 outreach locations across the New Forest, supporting over 660 households since January 2021.
  - The commissioning of a Cost of Living project with Southampton University to look at the causes and effects of poverty on low income households in the New Forest.
  - The Reaching More People Together project with Refernet (inter-agency referral platform) and Advice First Aid training
  - The delivery of support to over 125 households with people who are struggling with energy bills.
- 10.4 The recommendation of the panel was to agree to the 3 year funding agreement request from the CANF to maintain the level of funding awarded to support existing service provisions but is increased by inflation each year to reflect and account for increases in wages, utilities, over the three-year period, starting from 1 April 2022, which has already been agreed, as follows:
  - Year 1 commencing 1st April 2022: £185,895
  - Year 2 commencing 1st April 2023: £190,542
  - Year 3 commencing 1st April 2024: £195,306

## **11. Crime and Disorder / Equality and Diversity / Environmental Implications**

11.1 There are no direct implications as a result of this report.

## **12. Portfolio Holder Comments**

12.1 As a matter of good financial management we continue to review expenditure and are keen to adopt new more efficient working practice whilst looking to maximise income generation.

12.2 We are further subject to national changes outside of our control and the MTFP looks to make provision for them whilst awaiting confirmation from Central Government as to the detail of the financial impact. Fortunately, given our relatively strong financial position, we are in a position to adjust to changing circumstances without having to make radical changes to our short term expenditure plans.

### **For Further Information Please Contact:**

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### **Background Papers:**

Community, Partnership &  
Wellbeing Panel 14 Sept 2021  
Citizens Advice New Forest  
Funding for 2022 to 2025