

## **ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND PROVISIONAL BUDGET OUTTURN 2021/22**

### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet:
- a) Note the Annual Performance Report for 2021/22;
  - b) Note the provisional outturn of the General Fund revenue and capital budgets for 2021/22; and
  - c) Note the provisional outturn of the Housing Revenue Account for 2021/22

### **2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 2.1 This report provides an overview of performance and delivery of the Corporate Plan for 2021/22 and sets out provisional outturn results for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.
- 2.2 The Council's statutory Statement of Accounts will be completed and signed by the Responsible Financial (S151) Officer and will be presented to Audit Committee following external audit. Should there be any significant variations from the figures presented in this report, they will be highlighted at that Committee. The Outturn now presented is in management format.

### **3. INTRODUCTION**

- 3.1 Community Matters, the Council's Corporate Plan for 2020-2024, sets out the overarching commitments and vision for the Council and focuses on the challenges faced and the plans to address them, including priorities for each Portfolio. It was originally approved in March 2020, and then revisited in May 2021 in order to align responsibilities with the new Cabinet structure that came into effect in April 2021. The Annual Performance Report (Appendix 1) reflects the progress in delivering the Corporate Plan.
- 3.2 Whilst some of the priorities of the Corporate Plan were overshadowed by the necessarily response to the pandemic during 2020/21, the focus this year has been on recovery and returning to our previous levels of delivery.
- 3.3 The Action Plan and Achievement Measures section of the Corporate Plan has been reviewed and updated to reflect this, and it provides a forward look at how each portfolio intends to contribute towards its key priorities over the coming year.
- 3.4 Performance for each Portfolio has also been presented to overview and scrutiny panels during the year in the form of Portfolio Dashboards, which reflect the progress of specific activities within the Corporate Plan.
- 3.5 The Council's financial planning process further supports the delivery of the corporate objectives and the annual budget, and its performance is an important element of the overall Corporate Plan.

- 3.6 The provisional outturn report was presented to Cabinet in May 2022. This followed financial monitoring reports presented to Cabinet in September 2021, November 2021 and February 2022.
- 3.7 The latest budgets for 2021/22 as reported to the Cabinet resulted in revised General Fund, Capital Programme and Housing Revenue Account budgets as follows:

	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Latest Budget May Cabinet</b>	<b>Reported Variations</b>
	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	19.291	17.580	-1.711
<b>Capital Programme</b>	36.197	25.486	-10.711
<b>Housing Revenue Account (Income)</b>	(29.073)	(28.770)	0.303
<b>Housing Revenue Account (Expend.)</b>	20.303	20.644	0.341

#### **4. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

- 4.1 The pandemic dominated the Council's delivery of services during 2020/21, and whilst the impact was still felt during 2021/22, the year also saw a return to normal for most service areas. It did, however, change the way council staff work, and these changes will continue as the Council looks at opportunities to further modernise the way it works and provides services to residents.
- 4.2 The Annual Performance Report (Appendix 1) illustrates the Council's achievements during 2021/22, identifies the many achievements during the year, and highlights each Portfolio's performance against the priorities set.
- 4.3 The revised Action Plan and Achievement Indicators make up the final section of the Annual Performance Report and provide a forward look at the activities of each portfolio for the coming year.

#### **5. BUDGET OUTTURN**

- 5.1 The Annual Budget is an important element of the delivery of the Council's financial strategy which supports the delivery of core services and provides value for money to local taxpayers. Financial Monitoring Reports and Medium-Term Financial Plan updates are presented to Cabinet throughout the year, providing up to date information on current performance and the budget outlook over a medium-term period.
- 5.2 The updated General Fund revenue outturn position confirms a spend of £17.724m against an original budget of £19.291m. Retained Business Rates income was originally budgeted at £5.707m, with the provisional outturn being £5.095m. When combined, these two variations result in a total positive variation for the year, as against the original budget, of £955,000, which will be transferred to reserves. The Financial Monitoring reports presented through Cabinet during the year confirm the reasoning for the significant variations and the summarised position is shown within Appendix 2.

- 5.3 The original Capital Programme budget was set at £36.197m. This was increased via financial monitoring to take into account the scheme rephasings from 2020/21 and updated for new requirements, including investment in economic regeneration and employment projects, as well works at the Health and Leisure Centres. The Capital Programme outturn position confirms a spend for the year of £25.646m. This is a year-end variation in comparison to the revised budget of £160,000, and results in a total variation for the year as against the original budget of -£10.551m.
- 5.4 The updated Housing Revenue Account position confirms income for the year of £28.778m (a reduction of £295,000 from the original budget) and revenue spend for the year of £20.572m (an increase of £269,000 from the original budget). After taking these variations into account, and after allowing for net transfers from earmarked reserves of £54,000 and contributions to capital of £8.701m, this results in an overall deficit for the year of £441,000, with this sum being transferred from the Acquisition and Development reserve.
- 5.5 The following table summarises the positions as explained above (although all stated positions are still subject to change during the course of External Audit):

	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Outturn Position</b>	<b>Total Variation</b>
	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>
<b>General Fund – Portfolio Budgets</b>	19.291	17.724	-1.567
<b>General Fund – Business Rate Retention</b>	(5.707)	(5.095)	0.612
<b>Capital Programme</b>	36.197	25.646	-10.551
<b>Housing Revenue Account (Income)</b>	(29.073)	(28.778)	0.295
<b>Housing Revenue Account (Expend.)</b>	20.303	20.572	0.269

## **6. CRIME & DISORDER / EQUALITY & DIVERSITY / ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

## **7. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL COMMENTS**

7.1 The Council's four Overview and Scrutiny Panels were supportive of the report.

## **8. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS**

8.1 2021/22 continued to present significant challenges, with continuing Covid restrictions and significant backlogs in some areas from staff having focused on supporting residents during the peak of the pandemic. I would like to express my gratitude to all staff and officers for their hard work and dedication over the 12 months covered by this report and beyond, which enabled the Council to continue to deliver on its key priorities despite the exceptional circumstances.

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**Background Papers**

The Corporate Plan 2020-2024  
*'Community Matters'*  
Cabinet 4 March 2020

The Corporate Plan 2020-2024  
*'Community Matters'* (Revised  
2021)  
Cabinet 6 October 2021

Financial Monitoring Report  
Cabinet 1 September 2021  
Cabinet 3 November 2021  
Cabinet 2 February 2022  
Cabinet 4 May 2022