



Council 23 February 2023

Decisions

Meeting recording available via: [Council - Thursday 23 February 2023 6pm - YouTube](#)

Agenda item 1. Minutes 20 October 2022

- i. Approved

Agenda item 3. Public Questions

- i. Please see the meeting recording, Council minutes will follow.

Agenda item 4. Recommendations of the Executive

Agenda item 4a. Executive Councillor for Housing: HRA Budget Setting Report (BSR) 2023/24

The Executive Councillor:

- i. Approved the Revised Budget identified in Section 4 and Appendix D (1) of the HRA Budget Setting Report, which reflects a net reduction in the use of HRA reserves for 2022/23 of £4,327,200.
- ii. Approved any Non-Cash Limit items identified in Section 4 of the HRA Budget Setting Report or shown in Appendix D (2) of the HRA Budget Setting Report.
- iii. Approved any Savings, Increased Income, Unavoidable Revenue Bids, Reduced Income Proposals and Bids, as shown in Appendix D (2) of the HRA Budget Setting Report.
- iv. Approved the resulting Housing Revenue Account revenue budget as summarised in the Housing Revenue Account Summary Forecast

2022/23 to 2027/28 shown in Appendix J of the HRA Budget Setting Report.

Council resolved to:

- i. Approve the revised need to borrow over the 30-year life of the business plan, with the first instance of this anticipated to be in 2023/24, to sustain the proposed level of investment, which includes ear-marking funding for delivery of the 10 Year New Homes Programme.
- ii. Recognise that the constitution delegates Treasury Management to the Head of Finance (Part 3, para 5.11), with Part 4F, C16 stating; 'All executive decisions on borrowing, investment or financing shall be delegated to the Head of Finance, who is required to act in accordance with CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management in Local Authorities.
- iii. Recognise that the decision to borrow significantly to build new homes impacts the authority's ability to set-aside resource to redeem the HRA Self-Financing debt at the point at which the loan portfolio matures, with the need to re-finance debt in the latter stages of the business plan.
- iv. Approve capital bids, as detailed in Appendix D (3) and Appendix E of the HRA Budget Setting Report.
- v. Approve the latest Decent Homes and Other HRA Stock Investment Programme, to include re-phasing of elements of the programme into later years, as detailed in Appendix E of the HRA Budget Setting Report.
- vi. Approve the latest budget sums, profiling and associated financing for all new build schemes, as detailed in Appendices E and H, and summarised in Appendix K, of the HRA Budget Setting Report.
- vii. Approve the allocation of £10,964,000 of funds from the budget ear-marked for the delivery of new homes into a scheme specific budget for East Road, in line with the scheme specific report presented as part of the committee cycle.
- viii. Approve the allocation of £11,387,366 000 of funds from the budget ear-marked for the delivery of new homes into a specific budget to allow the acquisition or development of a minimum of 30 homes for Ukrainian and Afghan refugees in 2023/24, subject to final award of DLUHC grant of £4,968,683, with the original funding for new homes replaced in later years of the programme.

- ix. Approve the allocation of £2,000,000 of funds from the budget ear-marked for the delivery of new homes into a specific budget for the acquisition of existing homes on potential future development sites.
- x. Approve the revised Housing Capital Investment Plan as shown in Appendix K of the HRA Budget Setting Report.
- xi. Approve inclusion of Disabled Facilities Grant expenditure and associated grant income from 2022/23 onwards, based upon 2022/23 net grant awarded, with approval of delegation to the Head of Finance, as Section 151 Officer, to approve an in year increase or decrease in the budget for disabled facilities grants in any year, in direct relation to any increase or decrease in the capital grant funding for this purpose, as received from the County Council through the Better Care Fund.
- xii. Approve delegation to the Head of Finance, as Section 151 Officer, to determine the most appropriate use of any additional Disabled Facilities Grant funding, for the wider benefit of the Shared Home Improvement Agency.
- xiii. Approve delegation to the relevant Director to review and amend the level of fees charged by the Shared Home Improvement Agency for disabled facilities grants and repair assistance grants, in line with any recommendations made by the Shared Home Improvement Agency Board.
- xiv. Approve delegation to the relevant Director, in consultation with the Head of Finance, as Section 151 Officer, to draw down resource from the ear-marked reserves for potential debt redemption or re-investment, for the purpose of open market land or property acquisition or new build housing development, should the need arise, in order to meet deadlines for the use of retained right to buy receipts or to facilitate future site redevelopment.
- xv. Approve delegation to the Head of Finance, as Section 151 Officer, to make any necessary technical amendments to detailed budgets in respect of recharges between the General Fund and the HRA, with any change in impact for the HRA to be reported and incorporated as part of the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy in September 2023.
- xvi. Note the result of the Homes England Compliance Audit in respect of rough sleeper property acquisitions at confidential Appendix M, recognising there is no corrective action to be taken.

Agenda item 4b. Executive Councillor for Finance, Resources and Transformation: Capital Strategy 2023/24

- i. Agreed the capital strategy as set out in the officer's report and noted the summary capital programme

Agenda item 4c. Executive Councillor for Finance, Resources and Transformation: Treasury Management Strategy Statement Report 2023/24 to 2025/26

- i. Approve the report, including the estimated Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2023/24 to 2026/27 (inclusive) as set out in Appendix C of the officer's report.

Agenda item 5. To consider Budget Recommendations of the Executive for adoption

Agenda item 5a. Budget Setting Report (General Fund) 2023/24 to 2027/28

Resolved to:

- i. Approve
 - Revenue Pressures and Bids shown in Appendix C(b) and Savings shown in Appendix C(c).
 - Non-Cash Limit items as shown in Appendix C(d).
 - Bids to be funded from External Funding sources as shown in Appendix C(e).
- ii. Confirm delegation to the Chief Financial Officer (Head of Finance) of the calculation and determination of the Council Tax taxbase (including submission of the National Non-Domestic Rates Forecast Form, NNDR1, for each financial year) which is set out in Appendix A(a).
- iii. Approve the level of Council Tax for 2023/24 as set out in Appendix A (b) (to follow for Council) and Section 2, page 2
- iv. Delegate to the Head of Finance authority to finalise changes relating to any further corporate and/or departmental restructuring and any reallocation of support service and central costs, in accordance with the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (SeRCOP).

- v. Approve proposals outlined in Appendix D(a) for inclusion in the Capital Plan.
- vi. Subject to (e) above, approve the revised Capital Plan for the General Fund as set out in Appendix D(c) and the Funding as set out in Section 5 of the BSR.
- vii. Note the impact of revenue budget approvals and the resulting contribution to reserves [Section 6 of the BSR].
- viii. Create an Energy Cost Earmarked Reserve as set out in Section 6 of the BSR.
- ix. Note the resulting level of reserves [Section 6 of the BSR].
- x. Note the Chief Finance Officer's Section 25 Report included in Section 8 of the BSR.
- xi. Note the schedule of proposed fees and charges for 2023/24 in Appendix F.

For more information please contact Democratic Services:

- democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
- Full meeting recording available on the Council's You Tube channel [Cambridge City Council - YouTube](#)

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