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| RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL (The Executive) |
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General Fund Budget-Setting Report (BSR) 2023/24

The Head of Finance introduced the General Fund Budget Setting Report (BSR) 2023/24. It was noted that a public consultation on the draft BSR had been carried out following approval of the draft BSR at the 8 December 2022 Executive meeting. A summary of the public consultation responses was included as Appendix B to the BSR covering report.

Following scrutiny of the draft budget at the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, the BSR had been updated for the Executive meeting to reflect:

- the provisional and final financial settlements which provided an additional £2 million funding;
- business rate collection surplus, although these numbers are still provisional and subject to further work;
- changes to budget proposals;
 - o S5110 Bus Subsidises saving had been removed
 - o URP5012 Increase in Member allowances
 - o S5118 Closing some Public Conveniences – Quayside toilets had been removed from the budget saving proposal.
 - o B5144 Contribution to Energy Costs Earmarked Reserve added
- A change from a use of reserves of £2.9 million to a contribution to reserves of £2.5 million and accompanying narrative;
- inclusion of Head of Finance's section 25 report.

Recommendations of the Executive, which met on 9 February 2023, are set out in the Budget Setting Report.

Unless otherwise specified, all references in the recommendations to Appendices, pages and sections relate to the Budget-Setting Report found via the Executive agenda page:

[Agenda for The Executive on Thursday, 9th February, 2023, 5.30 pm - Cambridge Council](#)

Accordingly, Council is recommended to:

General Fund Revenue Budgets:

a) 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).

b) 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).

c) 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

Note that the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel will meet on 1 February 2023 to consider the precept proposed by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority met on 25 January 2023, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority will meet on 10 February 2023 and Cambridgeshire County Council will meet on 7 or 10 February 2023 to consider the amounts in precepts to be issued to the City Council for the year 2023/24.

Other Revenue:

d) 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).

Capital Plan:

e) Approve proposals outlined in Appendix D(a) for inclusion in the Capital Plan.

f) 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.

General Fund Reserves:

g) Note the impact of revenue budget approvals and the resulting contribution to reserves [Section 6 of the BSR].

h) Create an Energy Cost Earmarked Reserve as set out in Section 6 of the BSR.

i) Note the resulting level of reserves [Section 6 of the BSR].

Section 25 Report:

j) Note the Chief Finance Officer's Section 25 Report included in Section 8 of the BSR.

Review of Charges

k) Note the schedule of proposed fees and charges for 2023/24 in Appendix F.