

# Decisions

# Cabinet

**Meeting Date:** 12 February 2018

**Publication Date:** 13 February 2018

Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 15 February 2018

Item	Recommendations Considered	Decisions
9	<p><b>Budget Scrutiny Report</b></p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>1. That all Business Units across the Council should switch to timely monthly management accounting on an accruals basis including meaningful variance analysis/reporting.</p> <p>2. That there should be improved level of visibility in individual budget lines across all portfolios for future Budget Scrutiny Inquiries. The financial data submitted should clearly identify the major costs of running the Council e.g. Home to School Transport, the EfW plant income and costs, on street parking revenue, Skills budget, number of Full Time Equivalent( FTEs) staff, costs of agency staff/interims, key drivers of demand in Social Care and associated unit costs. A high level Budget Book to enable more transparency for Members and the Public is proposed.</p> <p>3. That where there are figures in the County Council budget which will also be reflected in a District Council's budget, there should be liaison between financial colleagues to ensure that the relevant figures agree e.g. recycling credits, S106 funding.</p> <p>4. That mandatory face to face exit</p>	<p><b>RESOLVED: Cabinet responded to the recommendations as follows:</b></p> <p><b>1 - AGREED IN PART</b></p> <p><b>2 - AGREED IN PART</b></p> <p><b>3 - AGREED</b></p> <p><b>4 - AGREED</b></p> <p><b>5 - AGREED</b></p> <p><b>6 - AGREED</b></p> <p><b>7 - AGREED IN PART</b></p> <p><b>8 - AGREED IN PART</b></p> <p><b>9 - AGREED IN PART</b></p> <p><b>10 - AGREED</b></p> <p><b>11 -AGREED</b></p> <p><b>12 - AGREED</b></p>

interviews should be undertaken for all staff on Range 10 or above, and where deemed appropriate, staff below that range and that the online exit interview process should be promoted more effectively to capture feedback from staff at other levels.

5. That Cabinet ensures that there is clear and effective leadership and programme management in the area of ICT and Digital to ensure that the Council's systems are robust, fit for purpose and can share data, where appropriate. This should include a centralised approval system for ICT procurement to ensure value for money and an improved customer experience.

6. That a realistic figure is included in the final Children's Services budget for legal fees.

7. That the Fostering Service undertakes a benchmarking exercise on foster carers allowances and a best practice review of independent fostering agencies to better inform the Council's approach to recruiting additional in-house foster carers.

8. That there should be a detailed independent review of the assumptions and cost drivers used to develop the Children's Services and Health and Wellbeing budgets, as well as a comprehensive review of processes and financial modelling to ensure more accurate forecasting of spend.

9. That the provision of Home to School Transport, both mainstream and Children with EHC Plans, by the Council meets national statutory guidelines only, that discretionary transport should be phased out and that parents/guardians are provided with reasonable notice for any policy changes.

	<p>10. That as part of the Strategic Options Appraisal for redelivering Library Services, an e-book pilot study should be undertaken.</p> <p>11. That, within existing resources, a comprehensive gully survey is undertaken throughout the County to identify accurately the number of gullies and locations and use this to inform the creation of an effective maintenance programme.</p> <p>12. That sufficient budget is set aside to enable the introduction of a programme of weed management on footways across the County.</p>	
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Final Budget</b></p> <p>Recommendation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cabinet are asked to recommend to Council the Revenue and Capital budgets as set out in Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 5 to this report.</li> <li>2. Cabinet are asked to agree the schedule of Fees &amp; Charges as set out in Appendix 6 to this report.</li> </ol>	<p><b>RESOLVED: Cabinet AGREED the below recommendations and SUPPORTED the recommendation to County Council.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. To restore the proposed savings relating to the planned reduction in Library opening hours (£105k in 2018/19 rising to £140k in 2019/20) and reduce the level of corporate contingencies to compensate for this</b></li> <li><b>2. To note the increase of total Council Tax to 5.99%, 2.99% general Council Tax and 3% to help to address Adult Social Care pressures</b></li> <li><b>3. Incorporation of the additional £1.045m adults grant (18/19 only) to fund the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme.</b></li> </ol>

11	<b>Q3 2017/18 Finance Monitoring Report</b>  Recommendation Cabinet are asked to note the report.	<b>RESOLVED</b>  <b>Cabinet NOTED the current financial position.</b>
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