

DECISION SHEET
COUNCIL BUDGET - 1 MARCH 2023

| | Item Title | Council Decision | Services Required to take action | Officer to Action |
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| 1.1 | <u>Notification of Urgent Business</u> | No urgent business | | |
| 2.1 | <u>Determination of exempt business</u> | No exempt business | | |
| 3.1 | <u>Declarations of interest and transparency statements</u> | None at that point | | |
| 4.1 | <u>Deputations</u> | No deputations | | |
| 5.1 | <u>Council Delivery Plan 2023/24 - COM/23/074</u> | <u>The Council resolved:-</u> (i) to note the content of the Council Delivery Plan 2023/24; (ii) to instruct the Chief Executive to realign any of the delivery commitments set out in the Plan that may be required, as a result of any potential Council budget decisions, to meet Council's instructions; and (iii) to note that Tier 1 Prevention on page 22 of the Delivery Plan should read 152 and 54% and this would be corrected prior to the Delivery Plan | Chief Executive Data and Insights | Angela Scott Martin Murchie |

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| | | being published. | | |
| 5.2 | <u>Prevention and Early Intervention - CUS/23/064</u> | <p><u>The Council resolved:-</u></p> <p>(i) to note the development to date of the Council's approach to resource allocation in aid of supporting the deliberate shift to prevention as advocated by the Council's Target Operating Model and agree to further develop it by instructing the following corporate wide developments:-</p> <p>a) instruct the Chief Officer - Finance in consultation with the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to develop a new financial reporting template to capture the Prevention and Early Intervention tiered resource allocation model, and to include this in the annual Budget process, with effect from the 2024/25 budget cycle, to demonstrate the proposed allocation of resources per tier;</p> <p>b) instruct the Chief Officer - Finance, in consultation with the Chief Officer - Governance and Chief Officer - Commercial and Procurement, to work with the Group entities and Tier 1 ALEOs to prepare a statement of tiered resource allocation across the Aberdeen City</p> | <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>Finance</p> | <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Jonathan Belford</p> <p>Jonathan Belford</p> |

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| | | <p>Council family group, and to include this in the annual Budget process with effect from the 2024/25 budget cycle;</p> <p>c) instruct the Chief Officer - People and Organisational Development in consultation with the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community and Empowerment and Chief Officer - Finance to develop a training programme for staff and elected members on early intervention and prevention and report on delivery progress to the Staff Governance Committee;</p> <p>d) instruct the Chief Officer - Governance to amend the committee reporting template to include commentary on tiered resource allocation on prevention, early intervention and response services;</p> <p>e) instruct the Chief Officer - Data & Insights to work through the Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative to ensure that the Council's approach to resource allocation and the continued shift to prevention is supported by appropriate evidence, research and evaluation;</p> <p>(ii) as part of the next stage of the</p> | <p>People and Organisational Development</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Data and Insights</p> | <p>Isla Newcombe</p> <p>Steph Dunsmuir (business planner)</p> <p>Jenni Lawson</p> <p>Martin Murchie</p> |

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| | | <p>development of the resource allocation approach to underpin the shift to prevention, to agree to instruct the following on-going spend analysis using the three tier intervention framework:-</p> <p>a) instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to include a tiered analysis of resource requirements in the refreshed Local Housing Strategy to be presented for approval to the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee noting the significance of housing as one of the key determinants of population health;</p> <p>b) instruct the Chief Education Officer and Chief Officer - Integrated Children's and Family Services to undertake tiered analysis of the resource requirements to support the refreshed Integrated Children's Services Plan (2023-2026) and present the Integrated Children's Services Plan to the Education and Children's Committee for approval noting the significance of early years interventions in population health;</p> <p>(iii) to note the approved IJB Strategic Plan (2022-2025) and request the</p> | <p>Strategic Place Planning</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Integrated Children's and Family Services</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Aberdeen Health and Social Care</p> | <p>David Dunne</p> <p>Lynsey McBain (business planner)</p> <p>Shona Milne</p> <p>Graeme Simpson</p> <p>Steph Dunsmuir (business planner)</p> <p>Sandra MacLeod</p> |

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| | | resource allocation. | | |
| 5.3 | <u>General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme - 2023/24 to 2027/28 - RES/23/085</u> | <p>The Council resolved:-</p> <p>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</p> <p>1. <u>Supporting People with the cost of living</u></p> <p>1.1 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to increase investment in the Financial Inclusion team to provide outreach money advice (benefits/debt) within community-based settings and upskill community workers to support communities in the longer term;</p> <p>1.2 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to provide through a grant funding arrangement £500,000 for the administration of and investment in food procurement, development of food pantries through increased membership and additional support through Support, Advice, Finance and Education (SAFE) team support;</p> <p>1.3 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to allocate £400,000 to the Scottish Welfare Fund provision for the 2023/24 financial year; and</p> <p>1.4 to allocate £50,000 to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee for the provision of Citizen Assemblies and</p> | <p>Finance</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> | <p>Jonathan Belford</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> |

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| | | <p>poverty mitigation measures.</p> <p>2. <u>A City of Opportunity</u></p> <p>2.1 to instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to progress the new Hazlehead/Countesswells Secondary School to an Outline Business Case and to report back to the Finance and Resources Committee by the end of the financial year 2023/24;</p> <p>2.2 to note that the ABZ Campus was officially launched with secondary school staff in November 2022 with a wider range of course available from June 2023;</p> <p>2.3 to note that the Aberdeen Computing Collaborative launched in September 2022 to help develop computer science skills in children, young people and staff to ensure our young people are well equipped for the world of work;</p> <p>2.4 to note the Partnership commitment to build on the success of the Summer of Play and have delivered nearly 5,000 activities and almost 2,500 free meals over the October break alone; and</p> <p>2.5 to note that the delivery of a mental health collaborative and young person taskforce has been established to oversee work on mental health and wellbeing.</p> | <p>Corporate Landlord Governance</p> | <p>Stephen Booth Mark Masson (business planner)</p> |

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| | | <p>3. <u>A Vibrant City</u></p> <p>3.1. to note that Aberdeen City Council's bid for Levelling Up Funding 2 was unsuccessful; to reaffirm our commitment to progress the Beach and City Centre Masterplan and note the £98 million investment within the capital programme to fund phase one of the beach and city centre transformation;</p> <p>3.2 to note the approval of a draft consultation Masterplan for George Street and the wider scope of the Beach Masterplan at Council in December 2022; and</p> <p>3.3. to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to bring a report to the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee, during financial year 2023/24, outlining options for, the design of a 21st library provision that can then be shared for consultation.</p> <p>4. <u>Building a Greener and Sustainable City</u></p> <p>4.1 to note and welcome the inclusion of a Carbon Budget alongside the Council's annual revenue budget for 2023/24, including a target reduction and the declaration of a Climate Emergency last week;</p> <p>4.2 to note the approval of climate governance arrangements to ensure the Council works with partners to</p> | <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Governance</p> | <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Lynsey McBain (business planner)</p> |

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| | | <p>4.3 make Aberdeen a net zero city; and recognising the developing policy and legal framework affecting domestic and commercial waste collection and disposal and the Council's commitments to both increase recycling rates and abolish the Garden Waste Permit charge, to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services to report to the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee on opportunities and options to improve recycling rates and domestic green waste composting levels in Aberdeen before the end of the financial year 2023/24.</p> <p>5. <u>Greener Transport, Safer Streets, Real Choices</u></p> <p>5.1 to agree the investment in Electric Vehicle charging points within the Capital Programme; and instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to progress the installation of charging points, in agreement with the Convener and Vice Convener of the Net Zero, Environment Transport Committee;</p> <p>5.2 in parallel to the approved EV Strategy, to instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning to progress a pilot project for on-street EV charging points in outer city centre areas, where demand is likely to be highest, in agreement with the Convener and</p> | <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Strategic Place Planning</p> <p>Strategic Place Planning</p> | <p>Mark Reilly</p> <p>Steph Dunsmuir (business planner)</p> <p>David Dunne</p> <p>David Dunne</p> |

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| | | <p>5.2 Vice Convener of the Net Zero, Environment Transport Committee; to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services to procure a peak time (Monday to Friday 07:00-10:00 and 16:00-19:00) only bus service for Kingswells within a funding envelope of up to £110,000; and</p> <p>5.3 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment, based on the revised national guidance issued by Transport Scotland on 17 February 2023, to increase the enforcement fee for Penalty Charge Notices to the 'Higher' level (£50/£100/£150) for Aberdeen, effective from 1 April 2023.</p> <p>6. <u>An Active City</u></p> <p>6.1 to instruct the Director of Commissioning in conjunction with the Director of Resources to begin discussions with Sport Aberdeen to review their assets and their business delivery model, with a view to Sport Aberdeen becoming financially independent from the Council and to report back to Council before the end of the financial year 2023/24; and</p> <p>6.2 to instruct the Chief Officer - City Growth, in consultation with partner organisations, such as Aberdeen Performing Arts (APA), to bring back a report on how best to allocate funding</p> | <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Commissioning</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>City Growth</p> <p>Governance</p> | <p>Mark Reilly</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Gale Beattie</p> <p>Steve Whyte</p> <p>Martyn Orchard (business planner)</p> <p>Richard Sweetnam</p> <p>Martyn Orchard (business planner)</p> |

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| | | <p>to cultural organisations from both the General Fund and Common Good budgets and to report back to Council before the end of the financial year 2023/24.</p> <p>7. <u>A Prosperous City</u> 7.1 to note the intention to provide £100,000 over the next 3 years to support the regeneration of Union Street; and instruct the Chief Officer - City Growth to utilise £33,333 in 2023/24.</p> <p>8. <u>Empowering Aberdeen's Communities</u> 8.1 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to increase the grant paid to Leased Community Centres by 30% for 2023/24; and 8.2 to instruct the Chief Officer - Capital, in consultation with the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord, to complete the business case process for the extension of Inchgarth Community Centre and complete the delivery thereof.</p> <p>9. <u>Caring for Each Other</u> 9.1 to instruct the Director of Commissioning to undertake a review of all grants awarded by the Council in order to ensure alignment to the 3 Tier Prevention Approach, which included</p> | <p>City Growth</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Capital</p> <p>Commissioning</p> <p>Governance</p> | <p>Richard Sweetnam</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>John Wilson</p> <p>Gale Beattie</p> <p>Mark Masson (business planner)</p> |

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| | | <p>the Family Support Model, as per the Prevention Report and to report back to the Finance and Resources Committee before the end of the financial year 2023/24.</p> <p>10. <u>A Safer Aberdeen</u> 10.1 to note the funding being provided by the Common Good to support the work of the Street Pastors; and note that funding for the taxi marshals continued in 2023/24; both of which made a positive contribution to retaining purple flag accreditation.</p> <p>11. <u>A Transparent, Accessible and Accountable City</u> 11.1 to instruct the Communications Manager to bring back a report to the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee outlining a scheme of public engagement, ahead of the 2024/25 budget setting process; and 11.2 to instruct the Chief Officer - City Growth to undertake a review of the Business Charter and report back to the Finance and Resources Committee before the end of the financial year 2023/24.</p> <p>1 <u>Balance Sheet Recommendations</u> 1.1 to approve the General Fund Capital Programme as attached at Appendix 1 to the motion;</p> | <p>Customer Experience</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>City Growth</p> <p>Governance</p> | <p>David Ewen</p> <p>Lynsey McBain (business planner)</p> <p>Richard Sweetnam</p> <p>Mark Masson (business planner)</p> |

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| | | <p>1.2 to approve the Prudential Indicators as attached at Appendix 2 of the motion;</p> <p>1.3 to approve the Revenue and Capital Reserves for 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 6 of the report;</p> <p>1.4 to approve the implementation of the guidance on Service Concessions flexibility detailed in Appendix 7 of the report;</p> <p>1.5 to agree as part of the implementation of the Service Concession flexibility that the costs accounted for in years beyond the contract term would be met from the 3Rs schools and Lochside unitary charge budgets released at the end of their respective contracts;</p> <p>1.6 to approve the use of the retrospective funds released by the Service Concession flexibility for voluntary severance/early retirement payments from 2022/23 onwards (c.£33m), based on the commitment to no compulsory redundancies and the approved Medium Term Financial Strategy and TOM1.2 setting out the need for recurring staff savings over the next five years of £40m; and note that the cost of accessing the retrospective reserve would incur financing costs of c.£2m, which would be incorporated into the Council's treasury management arrangements;</p> <p>1.7 to approve a capital grant for the</p> | | |

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| | | <p>OpenSpace Trust (Scottish Charity: SC036920) of £358,000 for the Mither Kirk Project, to be funded from the City Centre and Beach Masterplan Capital Budget; and</p> <p>1.8 to approve a capital grant in principle of £250,000 for the Great Western Community Trust SCIO to purchase and upgrade Holburn West Church, subject to funds not being paid until the Trust solicitors confirm the sufficient funds had been raised to purchase the Church and conditional missives had been concluded.</p> <p>2 <u>Medium-Term Financial Projections</u></p> <p>2.1 to instruct the Chief Officer - Finance to refresh the Medium Term Financial Strategy and report to the Council by the end of December 2023;</p> <p>2.2 to instruct the Chief Executive to review the existing organisational structure, in light of the approved budget and to report back to Council by December 2023 on any suggested amendments to ensure the sustainability of Council operations;</p> <p>2.3 to instruct the Chief Executive to engage with the workforce seeking their input and feedback on shaping any amendments to the structure; and</p> <p>2.4 to instruct the Chief Executive to align recommendation 2.2 and 2.3 above with the previous instruction given regarding Interim Organisational</p> | <p>Finance</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> | <p>Jonathan Belford</p> <p>Martyn Orchard (business planner)</p> <p>Angela Scott</p> <p>Martyn Orchard (business planner)</p> <p>Angela Scott</p> <p>Angela Scott</p> |

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| | | <p>Act 2010, to approve the use of various savings options to set at least a balanced budget for financial year 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix 3 of the motion and the schedule of fees and charges in Appendix 5 of the motion;</p> <p>4.2 to approve the Commissioning Intentions and Service Standards as described in Appendices 12 and 13 of the report, subject to any amendments approved, noting that the Chief Officer - Finance had confirmed, as far as possible, that the Commissioning Intentions and Service Standards being implemented were consistent with the draft budget for 2023/24 and Medium Term Financial Strategy;</p> <p>4.3 to instruct the Chief Officer - Customer Experience to embed the revised Service Standards in the handling of service requests, enquiries, and complaints;</p> <p>4.4 to approve the level of funding for the Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership IJB 2023/24 to meet the conditions of the Scottish Government Financial Settlement, described in paragraphs 3.124 and 3.129 to 3.134 of the report, and as shown in Appendix 4 of the motion noting that it would be for the IJB itself to determine how it would balance its budget;</p> <p>4.5 to approve the fees and charges for the Aberdeen City Health & Social</p> | Customer Experience | Jacqui McKenzie |

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| | | <p>Care Partnership IJB, as shown in Appendix 5 of the motion;</p> <p>4.6 to approve the level of funding for the Council's other group entities and Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs), in 2023/24 as shown in Appendix 4 of the motion;</p> <p>4.7 to approve the continued delegation of authority to the Chief Officer - Finance to approve the allocation of Covid19 related funding retained as an earmarked General Fund reserve at 31 March 2023, and any further sums distributed to the Council, to meet need and demand or to cover for lost income where it arises during 2023/24, reporting the use of funds to the Finance and Resources Committee in the quarterly financial performance reports;</p> <p>4.8 to instruct the Chief Officer - Finance to give notice to the Board of Directors of NYOP Education (Aberdeen) Ltd to disburse £663,000 to Sport Aberdeen and £221,934 to VSA, being nominated charities of NYOP;</p> <p>4.9 to instruct the Chief Officer - Finance to recover the full costs associated with being the Administering Authority of the North East Scotland Pension Fund from the Pension Fund;</p> <p>4.10 to instruct the Chief Officer - Education to report options to the Education and Children's Services Committee on rationalising ELC</p> | <p>Finance</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Governance</p> | <p>Jonathan Belford</p> <p>Jonathan Belford</p> <p>Shona Milne</p> <p>Steph Dunsmuir (business statement)</p> |

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| | | <p>settings to match the Scottish Government Grant;</p> <p>4.11 to instruct the Chief Officer - Education to deliver holiday programmes with a budget of £100,000;</p> <p>4.12 to instruct the Chief Officer - City Growth to inform the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions and the North Sea Commission of the decision to withdraw membership;</p> <p>4.13 to instruct the Chief Officer - Commercial and Procurement, in consultation with Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment, to terminate the agreement with SISTEMA Scotland to deliver the Big Noise Torry programme;</p> <p>4.14 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to cease revenue grant funding for the Workers Education Association from 31 March 2023;</p> <p>4.15 to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment in consultation with the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to decommission the following libraries in Quarter 1 2023/24 - Cornhill, Cults, Northfield, Ferryhill, Woodside and Kaimhill;</p> <p>4.16 to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services in consultation with the Chief Officer -</p> | <p>Education</p> <p>City Growth</p> <p>Commercial and Procurement</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> | <p>Shona Milne</p> <p>Richard Sweetnam</p> <p>Craig Innes</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Mark Reilly</p> |

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| | | <p>Corporate Landlord to decommission the following public toilets in Quarter 1 2023/24 - Spa Street and Peterculter;</p> <p>4.17 to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services to reduce the number of litter bins following a survey to establish the under used bins;</p> <p>4.18 to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services to apply a 10% reduction in cleaning input hours in all operational properties other than schools and other educational establishments;</p> <p>4.19 to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services to remove funding for discretionary school transport, supported bus services 21A (Cove) and 22A/B (Torry/Balnagask) to Lochside Academy, also supported bus services 52 Mannofield to Hazlehead Academy, via Springfield Road;</p> <p>4.20 to instruct the Chief Officer - Operations and Protective Services to remove funding for supported bus service 14, Kingswells - City Centre (Mon to Fri, all day service) and service 15a, Craigiebuckler/Airyhall - City Centre (Mon to Fri, evening service);</p> <p>4.21 to note that school meal charges would be limited to an increase of 15p per meal for primary school and 20p for secondary school meals;</p> | <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> <p>Operations and Protective Services</p> | <p>Mark Reilly</p> <p>Mark Reilly</p> <p>Mark Reilly</p> <p>Mark Reilly</p> |

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| | | <p>4.22 to instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to review the commercial estate with a view to disinvesting in assets where significant investment was required, management costs were high in relation to rental levels or there was low demand, to declare sites surplus to Council requirement and thereafter manage each through the asset disposal process, reporting any future sales above delegated levels to the Finance and Resources Committee; and</p> <p>4.23 to instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord to consider and implement options to reduce energy consumption across the asset estates, and with the support of the Chief Officer - Education consider ways to engage with young people within our school estate to achieve this.</p> <p>5 <u>Taxation Recommendations</u></p> <p>5.1 to approve a Band D equivalent Council Tax rate of £1,489.55 (5% increase), with effect from 1 April 2023;</p> <p>5.2 to impose and levy Council Tax assessments for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 on all chargeable dwellings in Aberdeen City to be paid by the persons liable therefor under the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the</p> | <p>Corporate Landlord</p> <p>Corporate Landlord</p> | <p>Stephen Booth</p> <p>Stephen Booth</p> |

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| | | <p>Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994;</p> <p>5.4 following the devolution of the NDR Empty Property Relief to Local Government, to approve the Empty Property Relief Scheme for Aberdeen City with effect from 1 April 2023, as set out in Appendix 3 of the motion; and</p> <p>5.5 to impose and levy Non-Domestic Rates assessments for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 on all occupiers in Aberdeen City to be paid by those liable.</p> <p>6 <u>Carbon Budget Recommendations</u></p> <p>6.1 to agree a Carbon Budget of 26,474 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) and an annual savings target of 2,482 tCO₂e for 2023/24 as per Table 2 in Appendix 14 of the report;</p> <p>6.2 to instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning, to implement Phase 2 actions, as set out in Appendix 14 of the report; and</p> <p>6.3 to instruct the Chief Officer - Strategic Place Planning, in consultation with the Chief Officer - Finance to submit provisional quarterly carbon budget monitoring reports to the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee.</p> <p><u>Further Recommendations</u></p> <p>7.1 to note the projected balance sheet</p> | <p>Strategic Place Planning</p> <p>Strategic Place Planning</p> | <p>David Dunne</p> <p>David Dunne</p> |

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| | | <p>position including the reserves as at 31 March 2023, shown at Appendix 1 of the report;</p> <p>7.2 to note the forecast medium-term financial projection for the period ending 31 March 2028 as shown in paragraph 3.36 of the report;</p> <p>7.3 to note that the Scottish Government published its Resource Spending Review in May 2022 that stated that Local Government should expect to receive a 'flat cash' settlement for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26, and that following the publication of the Local Government Financial Settlement for 2023/24, on a like for like basis, this position was borne out with a 0.2% increase to revenue funding being awarded for financial year 2023/24;</p> <p>7.4 to note that the Local Government financial settlement annually had to be supplemented by allocations from other Scottish Government portfolios, and Ministers had guaranteed £1bn out of the current £1.4bn received by Local Government;</p> <p>7.5 to note that pay negotiations for the current financial year, 2022/23, were not concluded creating risk of further financial exposure this and next year, pay being the largest single element of the Council budget even small changes to this could have material impact on Council finances;</p> <p>7.6 to note that the Scotland Excel Supply</p> | | |

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| | | <p>Chain Bulletin, January 2023, highlighted the exposure that the Local Government sector had to inflation, in particular the emphasis on 'very high' exposure applying to a large number of procurement frameworks on which the Council relied;</p> <p>7.7 to note that future borrowing costs were higher than they had been since 2011;</p> <p>7.8 to note that the Risk Appetite Statement stated that the Council was averse to risks associated with impairing financial stewardship, internal controls, and financial sustainability;</p> <p>7.9 to note that the conditions outlined by the Scottish Government within the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/24 were met by the proposals set out in the report;</p> <p>7.10 to note that the General Fund budget had £4m of in-year contingencies included to provide for the known and unknown risks that may arise during the year, this represented 0.7% of the net budget;</p> <p>7.11 to note the Council's approach towards meeting the target of 1% of revenue funding being available for Participatory Budgeting;</p> <p>7.12 to note that there were expected to be short term proposals forthcoming on Council Tax reliefs for long term</p> | | |

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| | | <p>empty properties and second homes and this was discussed by Cosla Leaders on 24 February and noted that any changes to powers would be for use from April 2024, and not before;</p> <p>7.13 to note that the Council would implement revisions to the national Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) scheme as defined by the Scottish Government within the relevant legislation and Finance Circulars, with effect from 1 April 2023;</p> <p>7.14 to note that the Council intended to review the NDR Empty Property Relief scheme on an annual basis, and this would be done in the context of work instructed on the Union Street Empty Shops Action Plan (COM/22/287); and</p> <p>7.15 to note the progress in implementing Phase one actions of the Council's agreed approach to carbon budgeting.</p> <p>8. <u>Common Good</u></p> <p>8.1 to approve the Common Good budget for 2023/24 as detailed in the Common Good budget report, modified as detailed in Appendix 6 of the motion; and</p> <p>8.2 to note that in making grant funding available to external organisations, all payments of such funding were subject to the Chief Officer - Finance being satisfied that any necessary planning or other consents had been</p> | Finance | Helen Sherrit |

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| | | <p>obtained and that such grant awards were managed in accordance with the Following the Public Pound guidance.</p> <p><u>Appendices to the Motion:</u> Appendix 1 - General Fund Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28 Appendix 2 - Prudential Indicators Appendix 3 - Budget Options to balance the 2023/24 Revenue Budget and NDR Empty Property Relief Scheme Appendix 4 - Schedule of Funding for ALEOs Appendix 5 - Schedule of Fees and Charges to apply to 2023/24 Appendix 6 - Common Good Decisions</p> | | |
| 5.4 | <u>Common Good Budget 2023/24 - RES/23/082</u> | Decision at item 5.3. | | |
| 5.5 | <u>Housing Revenue Account Budget 2023/24 - RES/23/081</u> | <p><u>The Council resolved:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to approve the budget as attached as Appendix 1; (ii) to approve the setting of the weekly unrebated rents for municipal houses taking account of proposals outlined for a fixed rent policy, as detailed in Appendix 1, pages 2 to 8, to take effect from 1 May 2023; (iii) to approve the level of revenue contribution to the Housing Capital budget for 2023/24 as well as to note the provisional contribution for the subsequent four financial years as | Finance | Helen Sherrit |

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| | | <p>detailed in Appendix 1, pages 11 to 13;</p> <p>(iv) to agree to maintain the working balances at 10% to meet future operational requirements and risks, noting that if the Housing Revenue Account recorded a deficit and had no reserves, then the Council's General Fund must make a contribution to balance the Account;</p> <p>(v) to approve the level of miscellaneous rents and service charges, including Heat with Rent as detailed in Appendix 1, pages 9 to 10, to take effect from 1 May 2023;</p> <p>(vi) to approve, based on a rental increase of 4%, the Base Capital Programme for the financial year 2023/24, Appendix 1, pages 11 to 13;</p> <p>(vii) to note the indicative level of the Base Capital Programme for the financial years 2024/25 to 2027/28, Appendix 1, pages 11 to 13;</p> <p>(viii) to delegate authority to the Chief Officer - Capital, following consultation with the Chief Officer - Commercial and Procurement, to procure the necessary professional services and construction works referred to in Appendix 1 entitled 'New Housing Capital Programme Budget' without the need for further approval from any other committee of the Council subject to due diligence, consistency with the financial model and affordability;</p> | Capital | John Wilson |

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| | | <p>(ix) to note that the delivery and programme management of the new build project was being delivered with the use of frameworks for professional services contracts which included programme and project management, technical support and quality assurance, all of which was being delivered with the normal fee scales for Housing Projects. These services would continue across the programme as new projects were identified;</p> <p>(x) to note that the current long term Council house rent policy ran out on 31 March 2024, and to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment to undertake a consultation on a further long term Council house rent policy for inclusion in the 2024/25 budget process;</p> <p>(xi) to note the recommendation in the Prevention and Early Intervention report also on the agenda, to undertake tiered analysis of resource requirements in the refreshed Local Housing Strategy to be presented for approval to the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee, noting the significance of housing as one of the key determinants of population health;</p> <p>(xii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment, in consultation with</p> | <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> <p>Early Intervention and Community Empowerment</p> | <p>Derek McGowan</p> <p>Derek McGowan</p> |

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| | | <p>the Chief Officer - Finance, to undertake a tiered trend analysis of the Housing Revenue Account budget for inclusion in the 2024/25 budget process, ensuring an appropriate focus is placed on prevention and early intervention when investing in tenant funds; and</p> <p>(xiii) in response to the instruction of the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee of 17 January 2023, (iv) to instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord, as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process, to consider the balance between proactive preventative maintenance and replacement works with a view to reporting a more robust planned maintenance programme as part of the HRA Capital and Revenue budgets, reflecting all other budget pressures; and to agree that 10% of the HRA repair and maintenance budget be ringfenced for planned maintenance works on the estate.</p> | | |
| 6.1 | <u>Exempt/confidential business</u> | No exempt/confidential business | | |

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Martyn Orchard - morchard@aberdeencity.gov.uk