

Horsham District Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Thursday, 26 January 2023

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

<p>A6</p>	<p>2023/24 Budget and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2026/27</p>	<p>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the level of Council Tax for 2023/24 increases from £162.09 by £4.85 (2.99%) to £166.94 at Band D. (ii) That the net revenue budget set out in Appendix A for 2023/24 of £13.513m is approved. (iii) That Special Expenses of £336,920 set out in Appendix C and a Band D charge of £27.53 are agreed in respect of the unparished area for 2023/24. (iv) That the capital programme for 2023/24 set out in Appendix D be approved and that the indicative capital budgets in the programme for future years be noted. (v) That the projected future budgets on the revenue account in 2024/25 to 2026/27 are noted and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy continues to be reviewed and refined to ensure that decisions are taken to set balanced budgets in these three years. (vi) That the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement set out in Appendix E is approved. (vii) That the Capital Strategy, Treasury Strategy, Investment Strategy and prudential indicators and limits for 2023/24 to 2026/27 set out in Appendix F are approved. (viii) To note the statement on the robustness of the level of reserves in Appendix H. (ix) That the increases to fees and charges set out in Appendix I to I(iii) are approved. (x) That the New Homes Bonus earmarked reserve is renamed to an Environment and Infrastructure earmarked reserve
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		<p>(xi) That the £2.9m Funding Guarantee grant received in 2023/24 is earmarked for £1m to help support residents in need through the cost of living, £1.6m food waste collection implementation, £0.3m for a new path around Horsham Park in the capital programme and £50,000 is used in 2023/24 to fund the painting of the street furniture in Horsham town centre in time for the Coronation on 6 May 2023.</p> <p>REASON</p> <p>To meet the Council’s statutory requirement to approve the budget and the prudential indicators before the start of a new financial year.</p>
A7	2023/24 Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Housing Benefit Modified Scheme	<p>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</p> <p>(i) That there are no changes in the Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2023/24, other than the updates prescribed by Government to reflect changes in the wider benefits system.</p> <p>(ii) That there are no changes to the modified schemes under Housing Benefit subsidy whereby the Council locally and voluntarily disregards war disablement pensions or war widow pensions in the housing benefit calculation.</p> <p>REASON</p> <p>The Council Tax Reduction and locally modified schemes are annual schemes requiring an annual review and approval, even when no changes to the scheme are being proposed. Review work on the scheme showed the schemes remains affordable for Horsham District Council and provides a good level of support to our less well-off residents.</p>
A8	Business Rates Discretionary	RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

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	Charitable Relief 2023/24	<p>That the Discretionary Rate Relief scheme for 2023/24 as detailed in the appendix to the report be approved.</p> <p>REASON</p> <p>Discretionary rate relief is an annual scheme and therefore requires an annual review and approval.</p>
A11 (a)	Local Authority Housing Fund 2022-23 and 2023-24	<p>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</p> <p>(i) To proceed with (i) the application for, and, (ii) receipt of the grant allocation for the Council to provide or facilitate the provision of 14 standard properties and 2 larger homes ("the Housing).</p> <p>(ii) To approve capital spend of up to £5.866m in the 2023/24 capital programme; the amount to be added being based on whether the Council decide to or is not able to proceed with the full amount and / or passporting to a Registered Provider/s.</p> <p>(iii) To delegate to the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Parking and Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Protection, the decision to provide the Housing through whichever means, or work with Registered Provider/s to provide the Housing and in both instances, to enable the use of the grant funding to be maximised.</p> <p>REASON</p> <p>(i) To use the grant to help purchase / provide more affordable homes for the district.</p> <p>(ii) Full Council must approve the capital budget.</p>

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		(iii) Further work is needed at this stage to establish whether the Council can source sufficient properties at the right price.