

# **STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **CABINET DECISIONS**

**TUESDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2021**

PRESENT: Councillor S E Ralphs MBE (Chair)

Councillors M Bowen, M Deaville, T Hall, A Hart and J Porter

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors G Bentley, B Cawley, N Hawkins, T Holmes, K Hoptroff, I Plant and P Roberts,

APOLOGIES: Councillor S Scalise

33 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED)**

**DECISION:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 5 October 2021 be approved as a correct record.

34 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY**

There were no declarations of interest made.

35 **FORWARD PLAN**

**DECISION:**

That the Forward Plan be approved for publication.

36 **SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2021/22**

The purpose of the report was to inform members of the Council's overall performance and financial position for the period ended 30th September ("Second Quarter 2021/22"). The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 17 November 2021. The position was summarised as follows:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Headline</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Finance	<p><b>The Finance headlines for the Second Quarter were:</b></p> <p><i>Performance against Budget</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At the Second Quarter stage the General Fund projected outturn for 2021/22 was an underspend of £1,719,820 including £1.5m in Section 31 grants, which would need to be placed into reserves at year-end for distribution via the Collection Fund in future years.</li></ul> <p><i>Efficiency Programme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At Quarter Two £633,000 in savings had been taken against the 2021/22 general fund efficiency target of £830,430. It was</li></ul>	Appendix A

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	<p>anticipated that there would be a £167,000 shortfall in the year.</p> <p><i>Capital Programme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The revised Capital Programme budget for 2021/22 was £4.83 million including the carry forward of capital underspends from 2020/21. The projected outturn for the year at Quarter Two was £4.71million; an underspend of £0.12million.</li> </ul> <p><i>Treasury Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cash investments held at 30 September 2021 totalled £21.7 million. The Ascent loan and debenture currently stood at £19 million.</li> <li>Council borrowing at 30 September 2021 totalled £12 million (relating to the Ascent loan)</li> <li>The Council's net interest income receipts for the year was forecast to exceed the budget by £4,000 at the Quarter Two stage.</li> </ul> <p><i>Revenue Collection</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>55.88% of Council Tax was collected by 30 September 2021 compared to 55.60% for the same period last year (56.34% in 2019/20)</li> <li>44.95% of Business Rates was collected by 30 September 2021 compared to 50.32% for the same period last year (55.57% in 2019/20)</li> <li>At the end of the Second Quarter debt that was over 60 days old was £53,157 which compared with £101,700 at 30 September 2020.</li> </ul>	
Procurement	<p><b>The Procurement headlines for the Second Quarter were:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 procurement activities were completed</li> <li>The Procurement forward plan included 36 procurement activities for completion in 2021/22 (either SMDC only or joint)</li> <li>At the 30 September 2021, 51% of procurement activity undertaken was on the forward plan.</li> </ul>	Appendix B
Performance	<p><b>The Performance headlines for the Second Quarter were:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80% of the key performance indicators were on track (34% are better than the previous year)</li> <li>The Council received 36 complaints, 102 comments and 28 compliments</li> <li>Priority Actions - 15 green, 2 amber, 1 completed, 15 grey</li> </ul>	Appendix C

Options considered:

Detailed Analysis is contained within the main body of the Report.

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### **DECISION:**

1. That the Second Quarter 2021/22 financial, procurement and performance position detailed in Appendices A, B and C and summarised at 3.3 of the covering report be noted.
2. That the write offs set out in Appendix D of the report be approved.

### **37 ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

The report presented the Council's Annual Report for 2020/21, this was a core document which compared Staffordshire Moorlands' performance and costs with councils in the West Midlands region and nationally; and highlighted further action where needed.

The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 17 November 2021.

Options considered:

The report was for information.

### **DECISION:**

That the findings of the benchmarking exercises and the additional Priority Actions of the Corporate Plan suggested for the following 12 months be noted.

### **38 SMDC DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE PART 2 PLAN**

The report presented the Council's approach to tackling the climate change emergency and incorporated a number of updates following consideration by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 15 November 2021 (to include further reference to social prescribing, rural transport, use of solid fuel, the importance of our peatland, and targets for vehicle emissions and waste).

Options considered:

None were identified.

### **DECISION:**

That the Climate Change Strategy 2021 – 2030 be approved.

### **39 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

### **RESOLVED:**

That, pursuant to Section 100A(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings whereby it is likely that confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act would be disclosed to the public in breach of the obligation of confidence or exempt information as defined in Section

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100 I (1) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed to the public by virtue of the Paragraphs indicated.

40 **SECOND QUARTER 2021/22 FINANCE, PROCUREMENT & PERFORMANCE REVIEW - APPENDIX D**

The Cabinet approved a report that sought to write off balances which were deemed non recoverable.

41 **PURCHASE OF CHEADLE MARKET HALL**

The Cabinet approved a report with regards to the possible purchase of Cheadle Market Hall.

The meeting closed at 3.17 pm

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Chairman