

**Corporate Overview and Scrutiny
Management Board**

7 September 2022



**Medium Term Financial Plan (13)
2023/24 to 2026/27 and Review of the
Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

Report of Corporate Management Team

Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide members of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) with an update on the proposed approach to scrutiny of the Budget 2023/24 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) (13) 2023/24 to 2026/27.
- 2 COSMB prioritise scrutiny of the MTFP and budget as part of its work programme.

Executive summary

- 3 The report to Cabinet sets out the plan for the MTFP (13) covering the four year period from 2023/24 to 2026/27.
- 4 It contains details of the process of scrutiny of the MTFP and budget.

Recommendation(s)

- 5 Members are asked to:
 - (a) Consider and comment upon the July Cabinet report on the MTFP (13) 2023/24 to 2026/27.
 - (b) Note the timetable for scrutiny discussions.

Background

- 6 The report highlights the period of significant financial uncertainty that local government is operating in. This is brought about by a combination of the ongoing impact of the pandemic, our inherent low tax raising capacity due to our low tax base and significant budget pressures in social care brought about by National Living Wage increases.
- 7 Enduring demographic pressures in children’s social care and in waste services alongside other unfunded pressures arising from the present high levels of inflation impacting on energy and fuel costs plus uncertainties surrounding the pay award to be agreed contribute to the extremely challenging outlook for the Council.
- 8 The Cabinet report includes information on:
- (a) An update on the development of the 2023/24 budget since the council agreed its MTFP (12) strategy on 23 February 2022
 - (b) An update on the MTFP (13) 2023/24 savings forecast for the period 2023/24 to 2026/27
 - (c) A draft MTFP (13) decision making timetable
 - (d) Proposed approach for consultation on the 2023/24 budget proposals and on MTFP (13)
 - (e) Workforce implications
 - (f) Equality considerations
 - (g) Consideration of the proposed Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) for 2023/24
- 9 COSMB has prioritised scrutiny of the MTFP and budget as part of the committee’s work programme. It is proposed that scrutiny of the MTFP and budget will be according to the MTFP process as below. The Board will be notified of any variations to the overall MTFP timetable which might occur.

Date	Action
13 July 2022	MTFP (13) update and LCTRS review report to Cabinet
7 September 2022	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board consider 13 July 2022 Cabinet report

Date	Action
12 October 2022	MTFP update report to Cabinet
24 October 2022	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board consider 12 October 2022 Cabinet report Consultation on 2023/24 Budget and MTFP (13)
14 December 2022	MTFP report to Cabinet – outcome of Budget Consultation
TBC	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board consider 14 December 2022 Cabinet report
18 January 2023	MTFP report to Cabinet – analysis of provisional local government settlement
21 January 2023	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board consider 18 January 2023 Cabinet report
8 February 2023	Budget report to Cabinet
10 February 2023	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board consider 8 February 2023 Cabinet report
22 February 2023	Council Budget and MTFP report

Background papers

- None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None.

Finance

The report sets out the arrangements to scrutinise MTFP (13) proposals.

Consultation

The report includes information on the consultation process.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Equality considerations are built into the approach to developing MTFP (13) as a key element of the process.

Climate Change

The impact of final budget decisions will take into account climate change impacts

Human Rights

Any human rights issues will be considered for any detailed MTFP (13) proposals as they are developed and decisions made to take these forward.

Crime and Disorder

None.

Staffing

The savings proposals in MTFP (13) will impact upon employees.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.

Appendix 2: Medium Term Financial Plan (13), 2023/24 - 2026/27

Attached as a separate document.