FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Corporate Finance Manager, Chief Executive</u>

SUBJECT: COUNCIL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2021/22 -FINAL CLOSING STAGE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) That Cabinet notes and approves the revised budget requirement for 2021/22;

- (2) That Cabinet approves the final proposals for the corporate efficiencies which will contribute to the budget;
- (3) That Cabinet recommends to Council a legal and balanced budget based on the calculations as set out within the report;
- (4) That Cabinet notes the open risks which remain to be managed in the course of 2021/22;
- (5) That Cabinet recommends an annual increase of Council Tax for 2021/22 of 3.95%, and invites Council to pass the formal Council Tax resolution now that we have had notification of the precepts of the Police and Crime Commissioner and all Town and Community Councils within Flintshire; and
- (6) That Cabinet notes the mediumterm forecast as a basis for the next revision of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Overview and Scrutiny Committees in November 2020. Member Briefing in December 2020. Consultation with the principle NNDR payers has been undertaken.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As set out in the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

<u>SIGNED</u>

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)</u>

SUBJECT: HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) 30 YEAR FINANCIAL BUSINESS PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

 Cabinet to support and approve the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2021/22 as set out in the attached appendices;

 (2) Cabinet to support and approve the rent increase of up to 0.68% (plus up to £2);

- Cabinet to support and approve a garage rent increase of £0.20 per week and a garage plot increae of £0.03 per week;
- (4) Cabinet to support and approve the freezing for one year an increase in Service Charge recovery; and
- (5) Cabinet to support and approve the proposed HRA Capital Programme for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix C.

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

Detailed consultation has been undertaken with tenants and elected Members to inform the preparation of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard Investment Programme.

Full local consultation is carried out for each new build scheme.

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

Year Financial Business Plan was presented to Community Housing and Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20th January 2021 where the Committee supported the report.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The HRA is a ring fenced budget. This HRA budget and Business Plan demonstrates that the Council can achieve the WHQS by 2021, can meet service improvement plans and commitments and with prudential borrowing can continue its Council house building programme in 2021.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

SIGNED

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)</u>

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC HOUSING AND REGENERATION PROGRAMME (SHARP) UPDATE REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

To note progress with the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) to date;

- (2) To support the use of delivery routes for new social and affordable rent homes including the Housing Construction North and Mid-Wales Framework Agreement; and
- (3) To support the re-allocation of £121k budget for scheme investment and feasibility works to support new delivery routes.

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

None required as part of this report.

In the Spring Budget in 2020, the UK Government announced a new, discounted rate of Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) lending to support social housing in England, Scotland and Wales, this new rate is available to any local authority with an HRA for loans that will finance expenditure within that account. The value of this discount is 100 basis points (1.00%) below the rate at which the local authority currently borrows from PWLB. The Council is only able to access this rate if it ensures this borrowing is solely used as funding within

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

the HRA.

Given the above development and the imminent announcement of capital grant funding becoming available for social and affordable new build housing programmes, both the HRA Business Plan and NEW homes Growth Strategy will be reviewed to reflect the emerging financial position and funding arrangements.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

SIGNED

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING:	<u>16 FEBRUA</u>	RY 202	AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
REPORT OF:	Chief Execu	<u>itive</u>	
SUBJECT:	<u>STRATEGIC</u> 2019/20	EQU/	ALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT
RECOMMENDATIONS OF	<u>REPORT:</u>	(1)	Cabinet is assured that progress has been made during the year to meet our statutory duties; and
		(2)	Cabinet endorse the progress made against the Strategic Equality Plan 2019/20, prior to publication of the annual report on the Council website.
DECISION:		As de	tailed in the recommendations.
REASON FOR DECISION:		As in	the report.
<u>CONSULTATIONS</u> REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT	<u>:</u>	to upo	ant officers were consulted in order date the progress report and provide nation for the annual monitoring
RESOURCE IMPLICATION	<u>S:</u>	None	
DECLARATIONS OF INTER	REST:	None	
DISPENSATIONS		None	
DATE PUBLISHED:		17 th F	ebruary 2021
SIGNED Rober	<u>}</u>		(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)</u>

DEVELOPMENT OF SHOTTON MASTER PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) That Cabinet approves the development of a Master Plan for the Shotton area; and

(2) That a further report seeking approval of the Master Plan is presented to Cabinet for approval in July 2021.

DECISION:

SUBJECT:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

With the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council. With local Members.

A Chief Officer will represent the Council at Steering Group meetings, which will also be attended by local Members.

A Council Officer will each lead one of the four thematic Working Groups, with other Council Officers forming part of the Working Groups as appropriate.

A dedicated Project Manager to manage the process will be provided by the Council, as nominated by the Chief Executive.

Administrative support will also be provided by the Council, as required.

There is potential to integrate or align potential upcoming infrastructure projects with the Shotton Master Plan, to include the John Summers Site Total Vision, Deeside Leisure Centre and Shotton Care and Repair land and assets.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

SIGNED

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: ANNUAL AUDIT SUMMARY FOR FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 2019/20

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To be assured by the Auditor General for Wales' Annual Audit Summary Report for 2019/20.

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: As detailed in the recommendation.

As in the report.

Cabinet will receive this report for endorsement. They will continue to receive future reports relating to external regulatory work as part of their Forward Work programme.

Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive this report as part of their scrutiny role in February.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None.

None.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

DISPENSATIONS

17th February 2021

SIGNED

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING:	<u>16 FEBRUA</u>	RY 20	21 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10
REPORT OF:	Corporate F	inanc	e Manager
SUBJECT:	<u>REVENUE E</u> 9)	BUDGE	ET MONITORING 2020/21 (MONTH
RECOMMENDATIONS OF	_	(1)	To note the overall report and the projected Council Fund contingency sum as at 31 st March 2021;
		(2)	To note the projected final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA); and
		(3) reque	To approve the carry forward ests included in paragraph 1.22.
DECISION:		As de	etailed in the recommendations.
REASON FOR DECISION:		As in	the report.
CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT	. <u>.</u>	None	
RESOURCE IMPLICATION	IS:	As se	et out within the report.
DECLARATIONS OF INTER	REST:	None	
DISPENSATIONS		None	
DATE PUBLISHED:		17 th F	ebruary 2021
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<u>SIGNED</u>

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Corporate Finance Manager</u>

SUBJECT:CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2020/21(MONTH 9)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) Cabinet are requested to approve the overall report;

(2) Cabinet are requested to approve the carry forward adjustments set out at 1.17; and

(3) Cabinet are requested to approve the funding of schemes from the current 'headroom' as set out in 1.18.

As detailed in the recommendations.

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

As outlined in the report.

As in the report.

SIGNED

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 FEBRUARY 2021 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

REPORT OF: Corporate Finance Manager

SUBJECT: TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021/22

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: As in the report.

As outlined in the report.

Strategy 2021/22.

Arlingclose Ltd, being the Council's Treasury Management advisors.

Cabinet approves for recommendation to

Council the Treasury Management

As detailed in the recommendation.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

<u>SIGNED</u>

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: <u>16 FEBRUARY 2021</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Corporate Finance Manager</u>

SUBJECT: MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION - 2021/22 POLICY

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Members approve and recommend to County Council for Council Fund (CF) outstanding debt that:
 - Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in financial year 2021/22 for the balance of outstanding capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing fixed as at 31st March 2017. The calculation will be the 'annuity' method over 49 years.
 - Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in 2021/22 for all capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing from 1st April 2016 onwards. The calculation will be the 'annuity' method over and appropriate number of years, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits.
 - Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in 2021/22 for all capital expenditure funded from unsupported (prudential) borrowing or credit arrangements. The calculation will be the 'annuity' method over an appropriate number of yea

- rs, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits.
- (2) That Members approve and recommend to County Council for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) outstanding debt:
 - Option 2 (Capital Financing Requirement Method) be used for the calculation of the HRA's MRP in 2021/22 for all capital expenditure funded from debt.
- (3) Members approve and recommend to County Council that MRP on loans from the Council to NEW Homes to build affordable homes through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) (which quality as capital expenditure in accounting terms) be as follows:
 - No MRP is made during the construction period (of short duration) as the asset has not been brought into use and no benefit is being derived from its use.
 - Once the assets are brought ٠ into use, capital repayments will be made by NEW Homes. The Council's MRP will be equal to the repayments made by NEW Homes. The repayments made by NEW Homes will be classed, in accounting terms, as capital receipts, which can only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt. The capital repayment/capital receipt will be set aside to repay debt, and is the Council's MRP policy for repaying the

loan.

	IOall.	
DECISION:	As detailed in the recommendations.	
REASON FOR DECISION:	As in the report.	
CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:	In changing the Council's MRP policy during 2017/18 and 2016/17 detailed discussions took place with the Council's Treasury Management advisors, senior internal officers and key Cabinet Members.	
	Audit Wales was also consulted as external auditors.	
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:	The 2021/22 Council Fund and HRA budgets provide for the MRP charges in accordance with the calculations set out in the report.	
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:	None.	
DISPENSATIONS	None.	
DATE PUBLISHED:	17 th February 2021	
SIGNED Robert	(Proper Officer)	

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 FEBRUARY 2021 AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Chief Officer (Governance)</u>

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE COMPLAINTS POLICY POLICY

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

Cabinet approve the Concerns and Complaints Policy for implementation on 1st April 2021;

- (2) Cabinet approve the Managing Customer Contact Policy for implementation on 1st April 2021; and
- (3) Cabinet support the performance reporting timetable as outlined in paragraph 1.15.

As detailed in the recommendations.

As in the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

DECISION:

The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales undertook extensive consultation prior to issuing the model complaints handling procedure for listed authorities in Wales. Subsequently, the three document attached to this report have been developed based on an all Wales

model and key officers from the Council have had the opportunity to comment on them.

The Complaints Standards Authority has been consulted to seek approval for the minor changes to reflect local priorities.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

<u>SIGNED</u>

Robert

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 FEBRUARY 2021 AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

<u>REPORT OF:</u> <u>Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)</u>

SUBJECT: NORTH EAST WALES (NEW) HOMES BUSINESS PLAN 2020/2049 PLAN 2020/2049

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approve the NEW Homes Business Plan 2020/2049.

DECISION:

REASON FOR DECISION:

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As detailed in the recommendation.

As in the report.

Consultation and development through the NEW Homes Board.

The Business Plan attached at Appendix 1 details the financial implications of the company's Growth Strategy for the duration of the Business Plan 2020/2049.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th February 2021

SIGNED