

Flintshire County Council – Decisions taken by the Flintshire County Council on Tuesday, 16 February 2021

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
A1	Attendance and Apologies	<p>Membership: Councillors: Marion Bateman (Chair), Mike Allport, Bernie Attridge, Janet Axworthy, Glyn Banks, Haydn Bateman, Sean Bibby, Chris Bithell, Helen Brown, Derek Butler, Clive Carver, Geoff Collett, Bob Connah, David Cox, Paul Cunningham, Jean Davies, Rob Davies, Ron Davies, Adele Davies-Cooke, Chris Dolphin, Rosetta Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, Andy Dunbobbin, Mared Eastwood, Carol Ellis, David Evans, Veronica Gay, George Hardcastle, David Healey, Gladys Healey, Patrick Heesom, Cindy Hinds, Dave Hughes, Ray Hughes, Dennis Hutchinson, Joe Johnson, Paul Johnson, Rita Johnson, Christine Jones, Richard Jones, Tudor Jones, Colin Legg, Brian Lloyd, Richard Lloyd, Mike Lowe, Dave Mackie, Hilary McGuill, Billy Mullin, Mike Peers, Michelle Perfect, Vicky Perfect, Neville Phillips, Ian Roberts, Tim Roberts, Kevin Rush, Tony Sharps, Aaron Shotton, Paul Shotton, Ralph Small, Ian Smith, Carolyn Thomas, Owen Thomas, Martin White, Andy Williams, David Williams, David Wisinger and Arnold Woolley.</p> <p>Apology: Councillor Ted Palmer</p> <p>In attendance: Chief Executive, Senior Solicitor, Chief Officer (Housing and Assets), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation), Chief Officer (Social Services), Corporate Finance Manager, Senior Manager for Human Resources & Organisational Development, Revenues Manager, Strategic Finance Manager (Corporate Finance), Strategic Finance Manager (Corporate Services), Interim Technical Finance Manager, Head of Democratic Services, Overview & Scrutiny Facilitators, Democratic Services Team Leader and Democratic Services Officers</p>
A2	Declarations of Interest	<p>Councillors Janet Axworthy, Sean Bibby and Hilary McGuill declared a personal interest on the Minimum Revenue Provision (agenda item 8) as board members of NEW Homes.</p> <p>Councillors Dennis Hutchinson and Andy Williams both declared a personal interest on the Council Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 (agenda item 4) as transport providers for the Council.</p> <p>Councillor Martin White declared a personal interest on the Housing Revenue Account 30 year Financial Business Plan (agenda item 6) as a Council house tenant.</p>

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		The following Members declared a personal interest on the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 (agenda item 9) due to closely associated people employed by the Council: Councillors Bernie Attridge, Chris Bithell, Andy Dunbobbin, Billy Mullin, Hilary McGuill, Michelle Perfect, Vicky Perfect, Neville Phillips, Kevin Rush, Aaron Shotton, Paul Shotton, Ralph Small, Ian Smith, Carolyn Thomas and Andy Williams.
A2	Petitions	None were received.
A3	Council Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 - Final Closing Stage	<p>(1) That Council notes and approves the revised budget requirement for 2021/22;</p> <p>(2) That Council approves the final proposals for the corporate efficiencies which will contribute to the budget;</p> <p>(3) That Council approves a legal and balanced budget based on the calculations as set out in the report;</p> <p>(4) That Council notes the open risks which remain to be managed in the course of 2021/22;</p> <p>(5) That Council approves an annual increase in Council Tax for 2021/22 of 3.95%; and</p> <p>(6) That Council notes the medium-term forecast as a basis for the next revision of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>(a) That the recommendations of Cabinet, as detailed above, for balancing the budget for 2021/22 be approved; and</p> <p>(b) That the level of Council Tax for 2021/22 as recommended by Cabinet be approved.</p>

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A4	Council Tax setting for 2021/22	<p>(a) That the 2021-22 Council Tax be set as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;</p> <p>(b) That the continuation of the policy of not providing a discount in the level of 2021/22 Council Tax charges for second homes and long-term empty homes be endorsed. Also, where exceptions do not apply, to charge the Council Tax Premium rate of 50% above the standard rate of Council Tax for second homes and long-term empty dwellings; and</p> <p>(c) That approval be given for designated officers to issue legal proceedings and appear on behalf of the Council in the Magistrates' Court for unpaid taxes.</p>
A5	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30 Year Financial Business Plan	<p>That the recommendations from Cabinet on 16 February 2021 be approved:</p> <p>(a) That Council supports the HRA Budget for 2021/22 as set out in the appendices to the report;</p> <p>(b) That Council supports and approves the rent increase of up to 0.68% (plus up to £2);</p> <p>(c) That Council supports and approves a garage rent increase of £0.20 per week and a garage plot increase of £0.03 per week;</p> <p>(d) That Council supports and approves freezing for one year an increase in Service Charge recovery; and</p> <p>(e) That Council supports and approves the proposed HRA Capital programme for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix C to the report.</p>
A6	Treasury Management Strategy 2021/22	That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22 be approved.
A7	Minimum Revenue Provision - 2021/22 Policy	<p>(a) That the following be approved for Council Fund (CF):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 31 March 2017. The calculation will be the 'annuity' method over

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		<p>49 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 1 April 2016 onwards. The calculation will be the ‘annuity’ method over an 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; <p>(b) That the following be approved for Housing Revenue Account (HRA):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 2 (Capital Financing Requirement Method) be used for the calculation of the HRA’s MRP in 2021/22 for all capital expenditure funded by debt; and <p>(c) That MRP on loans from the Council to NEW Homes to build affordable homes through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) (which qualify as capital expenditure in accounting terms) be as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 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.
A8	Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22	(a) That the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 be approved;

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		<p>(b) That County Council notes the national position on the Exit Cap Regulations and potential changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which may require changes to the Pay Policy and Pensions Discretions Statements 2021;</p> <p>(c) That County Council delegates authority to the Senior Manager, Human Resources and Organisational Development to update the Pay Policy Statement 2021/22 during the course of the year to reflect any changes required by legislation, Government policy or national negotiations so that it remains accurate and current; and</p> <p>(d) That the policy include the wording 'in other exceptional circumstances' to reflect situations where Honoraria payments may apply.</p>
A9	Public Question Time	None were received.
A10	Questions	None were received.
A12	Notice of Motion	None were received.