

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Date of Meeting | Monday, 24 th February 2025 |
| Report Subject | Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26 |
| Report Author | Corporate Finance Manager |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report presents for approval the Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26, which is included as Appendix 1.

The Governance and Audit Committee considered and reviewed the Strategy at their meeting on 22nd January 2025 and there were no specific matters required to be reported to Cabinet at their meeting this morning. The Cabinet report is attached as Appendix 2.

Following consideration by Cabinet a verbal update will be provided at the meeting on any specific comments or changes.

RECOMMENDATION

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Members approve the Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26. |
|---|---|

REPORT DETAILS

| 1.00 | BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT |
|------|---|
| 1.01 | <p>The Local Government Act 2003 requires all local authorities to have due regard to both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in Public Services: Code of Practice (The CIPFA Code of Practice) and Welsh Government guidance on Local Authority Investments.</p> |
| 1.02 | <p>In April 2023 the Council adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's <i>Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice, 2021 Edition</i> (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a Treasury Management Strategy before the start of each financial year.</p> <p>The CIPFA Code of Practice (2021 edition) requires: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Council to create and maintain a Treasury Management Policy Statement which states the Council's policies, objectives and approach to risk management of its treasury management activities.• The Council to create and maintain suitable Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) and accompanying schedules, stating how those policies and objectives will be achieved and prescribing how those activities will be managed and controlled.• The Council to create and maintain suitable investment management practices (IMPs) for investments that are not for treasury management purposes, within the TMP's.• The Council to receive reports on its treasury and investment management policies, practices and activities, including, as a minimum, an annual strategy and plan in advance of the year, a mid-year review and an annual report after its close, in the form prescribed in its TMPs.• Responsibility for treasury management to be clearly defined. The Council delegates responsibility for the implementation and regular monitoring of its treasury management policies and practices to the Cabinet, and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Corporate Finance Manager, who will act in accordance with the organisation's policy statement and TMPs and, CIPFA's <i>Standard of Professional Practice on Treasury Management</i>.• A body to be responsible for the scrutiny of Treasury Management Policy, Strategy and Practices. The Council has nominated the Governance and Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management function. The Governance and Audit Committee has previously agreed to include treasury management as a standing item on each quarterly agenda to receive an update. |
| 1.03 | <p>The Welsh Government issues guidance on local authority investments that requires the Council to prepare an investment strategy before the start</p> |

| | |
|------|---|
| | of each financial year. The guidance was updated in November 2019 and came into force from 1 st April 2020. |
| 1.04 | In preparation for approving the 2025/26 Treasury Management Strategy, training for all Members was held on 5 th December 2024. The workshop, presented by Arlingclose, the Council's treasury management advisors, covered: 1) the regulatory framework and the role of the elected Member in scrutinising the treasury management function; 2) an overview of the Council's treasury position and future; 3) a section on capital expenditure and financing, borrowing and debt restructuring; 4) a section on risk management and economic outlook, and 5) investment management. |
| 1.05 | As required by the Council's Financial Procedure Rules, the Strategy was reviewed by Governance and Audit Committee on 22 nd January and was considered by Cabinet earlier today. Cabinet's recommendations will be reported at this meeting. |

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2.00 | RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS |
| 2.01 | As per attached report (Appendix 2). |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 3.00 | IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT |
| 3.01 | As per attached report (Appendix 2). |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 4.00 | CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED AND UNDERTAKEN |
| 4.01 | As per attached report (Appendix 2). |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 5.00 | APPENDICES |
| 5.01 | Appendix 1 - Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26 Appendix 2 - Report to Cabinet 24 th February, 2025 |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 6.00 | LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS |
| 6.01 | Contact Officer: Chris Taylor – Strategic Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 703309 E-mail: Christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk |

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7.00 | GLOSSARY OF TERMS |
| 7.01 | As per attached report (Appendix 2). |