

Executive Cabinet
Thursday, 19 January 2023

Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on Thursday, 19 January 2023. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

4 Draft 2023/24 Budget Update

To agree the contents of the report in order to start the budget consultation process as follows;

- A proposed 1.99% increase in council tax in 2023/24 with no proposed cuts to services;
- A forecast balanced budget for 2023/24, based on a 1.99% increase in council tax as noted above;
- A forecast budget shortfall for 2024/25 which will continue into 2025/26, to be addressed through the development and delivery of the council's Transformation Strategy and savings programme;
- To note the proposals in the report for investment in the Labour Administration's priority areas.

5 Fees and Charges 2023-24

1. To note the current levels of budgeted fees and charges and the issues specific to these;
2. To approve an uplift in the Strawberry Fields service charge of £1 per square foot to better reflect the current costs incurred at the site, as detailed at point 21.
3. To approve an uplift in the rents of all Council owned housing (including Extra Care) of 7%. (This is lower than the agreed approach of increasing them by CPI plus 1% [based on CPI at September each year] as agreed at Cabinet in July 2022, which would result in an increase of 9.8%, but is consistent with the recent government consultation on rents as detailed at points 18 and 19).
4. To approve the increase to the gas charges at Primrose Gardens to £21 per week and set a new charge for Tatton at £32 per week for electricity as detailed at point 20.
5. To approve a general increase of 5% in the fees (limited to the services listed in Table 3 of Appendix 1) for 2023/24. Given that the rate of CPI is currently running at 9.6%, and RPI at 14.2%, the recommended uplift is less than inflation.
6. To approve the full list of fees and charges for upload onto the Council website

6 Select Move Policy Review 2022

1. To approve the policy enabling the Select Move partnership to consult on the policy.
2. To agree that any changes following the consultation are delegated for approval to the Executive Member for Homes and Housing.

7 Customer Access Policy

To approve the Customer Access Charter including:

- a) Customer access standards
- b) Feedback policy
- c) Improvements to general online contact and customer processes
- d) Uniforms
- e) Performance measures

8 Exclusion of the Public and Press

To exclude the public and press.

9 Shared Services Review - Property and Assets

To approve the shared services review for Property and Assets including proposals for the shared service structure and service development plan.

10 2023-25 Community Commissioning Procurement - Approval to Tender

1. To approve the tendering approach and evaluation criteria as outlined in the report
2. To agree to award the contracts via executive member decision following the procurement process
3. To approve not to apply social value weighting using TOM's methodology and submission through the social value portal for Advice Services commission due to the nature of services to be delivered via SME's / VCFSE organisations and embedded social value that will be within service specifications.

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