

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting15th July 2021

1. Title of Item/Report

Medium Term Financial Plan - Outturn Report March 2021

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet were updated on the draft financial performance and position of the Council as at 31 March 2021. This followed previous reports to Cabinet outlining that the 2020/21 financial position had been significantly affected by the Covid pandemic.

The report outlined significant additional costs and pressures in the financial year and detailed the funding received from Government to support the Council in managing the financial situation.

Despite the Council incurring significant costs, there was an overall improvement in the draft outturn 2020/21 financial position compared to that projected at December of around £5.5m. The report set out the breakdown but the key reasons for this were:

- Additional grant and income being received;
- Some projected pressures were actually lower than anticipated and additional savings were achieved;
- Additional funding was received to support Outbreak Management late in the year and this was utilised to support the costs of staff working on this area, where previously it was anticipated there would be a call on core budget.

The Capital Programme had also been updated to incorporate new schemes and reflect those schemes completed as at the financial year end.

There was a continued national pressure in respect of Dedicated Schools Grant, specifically in relation to Special Education Needs and Disabilities. For Stockton this would result in a cumulative pressure of £6.05m. National guidance was clear that this should be held separately and not funded from the General Fund, and the Council were currently working on a plan to resolve this position over the medium term and would continue to lobby for additional funding.

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the draft outturn position for the year ended 31 March 2021 and the updated Capital Programme.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To update Cabinet on the Medium Term Financial Plan, including the draft outturn position for 2020/21.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight - Friday 23rd July 2021

Proper Officer
19 July 2021