

Full Council Budget Meeting 23rd Feb 2021

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Opening Session

1. The Mayor will introduce the report, summarise, and move it.
2. The Cabinet Member - Finance, Governance and Performance will second the report.
3. Each party group will be given the opportunity to respond to the budget proposals in order of size of group
4. The Chair of OSMB and/or the Chair of Resources Scrutiny Commission will then be given an opportunity to present comments on behalf of the Board.

Amendments

Amendments have been accepted on the following basis:

- *The amendment is technically possible.*
 - *The net financial impact of the amendment on the budget in any financial year must be zero.*
 - *The amendment cannot use capital budgets in place of revenue.*
 - *All amendments have been subject to an overview of the potential impact with the assessment outlined alongside the specific amendment.*
5. Each amendment will be moved, seconded, debated and voted on in the order shown in the agenda papers. Reasons for the proposed amendment will be clearly stated. The Mayor or relevant Cabinet member will respond to each amendment and sum up, before it is voted on. The vote on each amendment is carried on a simple majority of those voting.
 6. As the amendments are voted on, the Lord Mayor will be advised as necessary if certain amendments effectively “fall by default” due to an earlier amendment(s) being carried.
 7. Once all amendments have been voted on, after consultation with the Section 151 officer (the Director: Finance) the Lord Mayor will confirm the position as necessary in terms of which budget amendments were carried. The Lord Mayor (seconded by Deputy Lord Mayor) will then move that Full Council note the Section 151 Officer’s statement as required under the Local Government Act 2003.



General Debate on budget proposals

8. The Lord Mayor will then invite general debate on the budget proposals as they stand (i.e. the revenue and capital budget).
9. The Mayor to sum up at the end of the debate.

Following the debate

If budget amendments were carried, proceed to point '10' below.

In the event that no budget amendments were carried and the budget is proposed as set out in the agenda, proceed straight to point '11' below.

10. If the budget is amended, the Mayor has until 3 March 2020 to consider any amendments and his response. He may:
 - a. accept the budget as now amended; or
 - b. he may resubmit his original (unchanged) proposals, stating his reasons; or
 - c. he may submit alternative proposals, stating his reasons

If the Mayor decides to accept the amended budget, then he will indicate to the meeting and the Monitoring Officer accordingly.

When the budget recommendations (amended or not) are to be put to the vote

11. The Lord Mayor will propose the recommendations (as amended or not) and these will be seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor.

The Mayor's Budget Proposals

That the Mayor's budget proposals in respect of 2021/22 be approved as set out in this report, subject to any amendments agreed at this meeting:

To note:

- a) The report from the Scrutiny Budget Task and Finish Group.
- b) The budget consultation process that was followed and feedback as outlined in Section 17 and Appendix 6.
- c) The categorisation of earmarked reserves and provisions set out in Section 16.
- d) That the consultation feedback and equality impact assessments relevance checks have been taken into consideration and have informed the final budget proposals.
- e) The feedback provided by the Schools Forum at Cabinet and Council, for their consideration in making final decisions on the Schools Budget for 2021/22.



- f) The uncertainty around COVID response spend, COVID income loss and central government COVID funding levels for the full impact 2021/22 and beyond, and that the estimates provided could be subject to significant change over the medium term.
- g) The comments of the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) on the robustness of the Budget and adequacy of reserves as set out in Section 15.
- h) The Council's Ethical Investment Policy and Strategy is due for revision during 2021/22, which will be expanded to incorporate Equitable Policy for Investment in addressing racial and other economic inequalities in the city.
- i) The delegation of authority to the Director of Finance after consultation with the Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Member for Finance, Governance and Performance and the Mayor, to make any necessary technical adjustments or adjustments to the figures upon receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement, West of England Combined Authority Budget and Department for Education funding clarifications; with transfers to and or from reserves as appropriate.

To agree: (Vote 1)

- j) The Bristol City Council levels of Council Tax increase of 4.99%; which includes 3% precept to support Adult Social Care, noting the precepts of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset and the Avon Fire Authority,
- k) The Council's General Fund net revenue budget for the year 2021/22 as £424.1 million and expenditure allocations as set out in Appendix 1; subject to any budget amendments properly notified to and approved by the Council in line with the Constitution.
- l) The temporary movement in general reserves of up to £3.9 million to mitigate the forecasted year end emergent pressures in the People directorate as outlined in Section 5 Current Revenue Budget.
- m) Agree the Council's capital budget for the years 2021/22 - 2025/26, totalling £890.1 million as set out in paragraph 13 and detailed in Appendix 2.
- n) The proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22 in Appendix 4, incorporating the Minimum Revenue Provision policy and the prudential indicators and limits.
- o) To approve the Strategy for the Flexible use of Capital Receipts as set out in Appendix 5.
- p) Delegation of authority to Cabinet, via a subsequent report to agree the detailed Public Health Budget and movement in the ring-fenced Public Health reserve upon receipt of the final grant allocation for 2021/22 and budget proposals from the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet member for Communities, Equalities & Public Health and Director of Finance.
- q) the calculations for determining the Council Tax requirement for the year 2021/22 as outlined in Appendix 8 and in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992.



To agree: (Vote 2)

- r) The distribution of the 2021/22 Dedicated Schools Grant of £404.7 million as recommended by Cabinet and the Schools Forum and set out in section 9

To agree: (Vote 3)

- s) No increase to dwelling rents for 2021/22 for existing tenants
- t) The 1-year Revenue budget for 2021/22 and 5-year Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2025/26, as detailed in Appendix 2, noting there is no additional borrowing requirement before 2024/25.
- u) An in-year draw-down from the HRA General Reserve to fund planned HIP works carried forward from 2020/21 due to Covid restrictions.
- v) Approve the delayed draw-down in 2021/22 from general fund reserve, of an agreed 2020/21 budget amendment (£100k) which was previously approved by Full Council Feb 2020, due to delays during the pandemic. This reserve was set aside to finance training for Housing and Landlord Services that would provide in-house skills to retrofit energy efficiency measures to council homes.
- w) Authorise the Executive Director of Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Governance and Performance, to set service charges in line with the anticipated and actual cost of delivery.

