

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 16 June 2021**

<b>Item 5</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Budget Outturn 2020-2021
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the write-off of three non-domestic rates totalling £40,561.68 and three sundry debts totalling £24,289.91 as detailed in Appendices 4 and 5 respectively to the report be approved.</li> <li>2. That six virements totalling £39.3 million, for transfer within directorates, as detailed in Appendix 6 to the report be approved.</li> <li>3. That it be noted that the Council has once again managed its money well and delivered within budget - despite hugely challenging circumstances. Overall, the revenue outturn position for 2020-2021 is a net contribution to the General Fund balance of £651,000, after meeting the net cost of redundancy and pension strain and contributions to essential earmarked reserves.</li> <li>4. That it be noted that the Housing Revenue Account revenue outturn position for the year was a surplus before allocations of £11.9 million, compared to a budgeted surplus of £10.8 million.</li> <li>5. That it be noted that the capital programme has achieved an outturn position of £72.7 million for the General Fund and £46.8 million for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). A summary of the outturn is detailed in section 10 of the report. A full detailed report on the Capital Outturn 2020-2021 including Quarter One Capital Monitoring 2021-2022 would be reported to Cabinet on 7 July 2021.</li> <li>6. That it be noted that 28 non-domestic rates accounts totalling £172,842.85 have been approved for write off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.</li> <li>7. That it be noted that 807 council tax accounts totalling £166,958.14 have been approved for write off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.</li> </ol>

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	<p>8. That it be noted that 48 sundry debt accounts totalling £28,170.43 have been approved for write off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules.</p> <p>9. That it be noted that 15 housing benefit debt accounts totalling £5,769.48 have been approved for write off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules.</p>
<b>Options Considered</b>	The write-offs, virements and use of reserve requests requiring the approval of Cabinet are all considered to be prudent in the opinion of the Director of Finance and the Leader of the Council.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	In accordance with the Council’s financial procedures rules, all virements in excess of £50,000, or those that result in a transfer between Employees and Other Controllable Expenditure headings, require the approval of the Cabinet. Contribution to and from reserves also requires the approval from the Cabinet. The write-offs, virements and use of reserve requests detailed in this report which seek the approval of the Cabinet are all considered to be prudent in the opinion of the Director of Finance and the Leader of the Council. The Council’s financial procedure rules also require that the Section 151 Officer shall submit a report setting out the Outturn within four months of the financial year end.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	22 June 2021

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<b>Item 6</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Reserves, Provisions and Balances 2020-2021
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the transfers (to)/from earmarked reserves, provisions and general balances as detailed in tables 2, 3 and 4 of the report be approved.</li> <li>2. That expenditure from provisions for their purposes as set out in Appendix 3 and 4 to the report, up to the value held in each provision as at 31 March 2021 be approved.</li> <li>3. That the delegation of authority to the Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to allocate funds from the Budget Contingency Reserve, the Recovery Reserve, the Regeneration Reserve, the Efficiency Reserve, the Transformation Reserve, the Development Reserve, the Regional Work Reserve, the Enterprise Zone Business Rates Reserve, the Business Rates Equalisation Reserve, the Treasury Management Equalisation Reserve, the Pension Deficit Recovery Reserve, the Budget Strategy Reserve, the Highways Management Reserve and Community Initiatives and Crowdfund Wolves Reserve be approved.</li> <li>4. That the delegation of authority to the Cabinet Member for Adults, in consultation with the Directors of Children’s and Adult Services and Finance, to allocate funds from the Adults Reserve be approved.</li> <li>5. That the level of the Council’s earmarked reserves, provisions and general balances as at 31 March 2021 and the purposes for which they are being held, as detailed in Appendix 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the report be noted.</li> <li>6. That it be noted that relevance and adequacy of earmarked reserves and general balances would be reviewed as required by the Constitution during the 2022-2023 budget setting process.</li> </ol>

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	<p>7. That it be noted that allocation of funding from all earmarked reserves would be reported to Cabinet (Resources) Panel in the scheduled quarterly budget monitoring reports.</p> <p>8. That it be noted that Our Council Scrutiny Panel would scrutinise the use of reserves as part of the budget setting process as in previous years.</p> <p>9. That it be noted that the Director of Finance considers that the overall level of all reserves, provisions and balances is sufficient to meet the likely level of obligations to be met from reserves, provisions and general balances in the short term.</p> <p>10. That it be noted that whilst the positive General Fund outturn position during 2020-2021, and the resulting adjustments to reserves, would help to support the Council’s short term financial position, it does not address the challenging financial position that the Council finds itself in over the medium term; namely identifying further projected budget reductions which were estimated at £25.4 million in 2022-2023, rising to £29.6 million over the medium term to 2023-2024 when reported to Full Council in March 2021.</p> <p>11. That it be noted that the Covid-19 pandemic has significantly distorted the Council’s financial position and medium-term financial strategy (MTFS). Whilst the Government has made good on its commitment to fund councils to “to do whatever it takes” to address the emergency the economy and social effects of the pandemic will be felt for years to come. We have no information from Government as to how they will fund councils to be able to manage this.</p> <p>12. That it be noted that the figures quoted in the report are still subject to statutory audit by Grant Thornton UK LLP as part of the 2020-2021 accounts closedown process.</p>
<p><b>Options Considered</b></p>	<p>The reserve, provision and balance adjustments are all considered to be prudent in the opinion of the Director of Finance and the Leader of the Council.</p>

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<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	Contribution to and from reserves requires the approval from Cabinet. The reserve amendments detailed in this report are all considered to be prudent in the opinion of the Director of Finance and the Leader of the Council.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	22 June 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 16 June 2021**

<b>Item 7</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Single Persons Accommodation Project
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Single Persons Accommodation Project be approved.</li> <li>2. That the Director of City Housing and Environment, as the Senior Responsible Officer, be authorised to take all necessary steps to implement the Single Persons Accommodation Project.</li> <li>3. That a virement of £2.5 million to increase the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme budget Bond House Conversion to Residential to £4.5 million to implement the Single Persons Accommodation Project be approved, subject to the approval of the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme funding bid.</li> <li>4. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing, in consultation with the Director of City Housing and Environment, to enter into a contract with the preferred contractor in line with Council Constitution and The Public Contracts Regulations (PCR) 2015.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	<p>An alternative option would be to not implement the Single Persons Accommodation Project in Wolverhampton. This would mean that the learning from the emergency provision provided during the Covid-19 pandemic would not be taken forward in this way.</p> <p>Another alternative option would be to purchase a different building to develop into the Assessment Centre and accommodation units. This option is not deemed to be financially viable when the Council has a suitable asset in its existing portfolio.</p> <p>A third option would be to lease a building to utilise as the Assessment Centre and accommodation units. If the project was implemented in this way, the Council would not be able to use the HRA to develop the property.</p>

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<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	The implementation of the Single Persons Accommodation Project would ensure better outcomes for rough sleepers and single, vulnerable people experiencing homelessness in the City. The project would strengthen successful partnership working practices and ensure that any barriers to pathways into support are removed in a timely manner. This would mean that Wolverhampton can continue to ensure the best possible outcome for the vulnerable individual concerned.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	22 June 2021

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<b>Item 8</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Better Care Fund Section 75 Agreement (Pooled Budget 2020-2021 and 2021-2022)
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Section 75 Agreement (Pooled Budget) with the NHS Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) continue for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.</li> <li>2. That the Council enter into the Better Care Fund Section 75 Agreement along with any necessary ancillary agreements arising from the main agreement.</li> <li>3. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Members for Adults, Public Health and Well Being and the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Director of Children’s and Adult Services and Director of Finance to agree any amendments to the Section 75 Agreement (Pooled Budget) for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	<p>There are no alternative options to consider.</p> <p>Section 75 of the National Health Service 2006 Act gives powers to local authorities and health bodies to establish and maintain pooled funds out of which payments may be made towards expenditure incurred in the exercise of prescribed Local Authority functions and prescribed National Health Service functions. In order to operate a pooled budget, the partners are required to have in place a Section 75 Agreement.</p>
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	A Section 75 Agreement is a fundamental requirement of the Better Care Fund and must be finalised and signed by both organisations for the pooled fund to be set up and the relevant funding to be received
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None

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<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	22 June 2021

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<b>Item 9</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Transportation Capital Programme 2021 – 2022
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the list of projects for development and implementation as part of the Transportation Capital Programme 2021-2022 and future years, as set out in Appendices 3, 4, 5 and 6 to the report be approved.</li> <li>2. That the Head of City Transport be authorised to proceed with development work for each project detailed in Appendices 3, 4, 5 and 6 to the report, including surveying, site investigation, options appraisal, feasibility analysis, traffic modelling, detailed design, statutory advertising and public consultation, as appropriate.</li> <li>3. That the creation of supplementary budgets for 2021-2022 for the projects marked ‘Approve’ in the ‘Decision’ column of Appendices 3 and 4 to the report be approved for implementation, subject to the availability of funding.</li> <li>4. That the virement of existing approved budgets for 2021-2022 totalling £1.07 million within the Transport Capital programme to other projects as shown in Table 3.4 of the report be approved.</li> <li>5. That the Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change, in consultation with the Director of City Housing and Environment be authorised to approve, through an Individual Executive Decision Notice (IEDN), implementation of the projects on the list marked ‘IEDN’ in the ‘Decision’ column of Appendices 3 and 4 to the report, subject to the satisfactory outcome of public consultation, availability of funding and any other relevant considerations.</li> <li>6. That the Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change, in consultation with the Director of City Housing and Environment be authorised to approve, through an Individual Executive Decision Notice, the bringing forward of projects from Appendix 5 to Appendix 3 or</li> </ol>

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	<p>4 of the report and thereafter to approve them for implementation during 2021-2022 subject to the satisfactory outcome of public consultation, availability of funding and any other relevant considerations.</p> <p>7. That the Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change, and the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Director of City Housing and Environment and the Director of Finance be authorised to approve, through an Individual Executive Decision Notice, appropriate virements between existing approved budgets within the transport capital programme maximising use of resources.</p> <p>8. That the Chief Legal Officer be authorised to serve all necessary notices in respect of the projects listed in Appendices 3 and 4 to the report and, subject to there being no unresolved objections, make traffic regulation orders as required.</p> <p>9. That the Head of City Transport be authorised to make applications and bids for additional external funding noting that agreement ahead of submission will be obtained from the Director of Finance and appropriate governance will be followed to amend budgets on receipt of such funding.</p> <p>10. That the Director of Finance be authorised to approve the Council entering into funding agreements with the various funding bodies to receive grant funding in respect of the projects included in the report.</p> <p>11. That the expenditure and progress made in delivering £40.3 million worth of projects in the Transportation Capital Programme during 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 as set out in Appendix 2 top the report be noted.</p> <p>12. That the Council’s continuing success in bidding for additional funding and delivering new projects through the Active Travel Funding, Local Growth Fund, Access to Growth, and the West Midlands Combined Authority be noted.</p>
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<b>Options Considered</b>	Options appraisals form part of each individual project development and prioritisation and are not discussed in detail in this report. As this is a comprehensive programme of improvements to manage and maintain the essential highway network, a do-nothing option is not viable.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	The decision to approve the recommendations of this report is necessary to enable delivery of the Capital programme in 2021-2022.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	22 June 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 16 June 2021**

<b>Item 10</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Exclusion of press and public
<b>Status</b>	Recommendation Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
<b>Options Considered</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	Not applicable.

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 16 June 2021**

<b>Item 11</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Citywide Non-traditional Property Investment and Regeneration Programme
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the proposals for the non-traditional properties identified as being suitable for continued long-term investment as detailed in paragraph 3.3 of the report be approved, subject to a further detailed report.</li> <li>2. That the phased regeneration approach for the non-traditional properties where investment is no longer viable as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report be approved.</li> <li>3. That the commencement of consultation with those residents within phase one of the regeneration programme as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report be agreed.</li> <li>4. That it be agreed to cease letting properties within the phase one of the regeneration programme.</li> <li>5. That the rehousing of tenants within phase one following a consultation period and housing needs assessment be approved.</li> <li>6. That Home Loss payments and Disturbance allowances to be paid to tenants affected by phase one of the regeneration programme be approved.</li> <li>7. That the Right to Buy for properties within phase one initially be suspended, in conjunction with the serving of an 'initial demolition notice'.</li> <li>8. That it be agreed to purchase any former Council Tarran non-traditional properties, within the designated regeneration area, if available to purchase, to assist with the regeneration programme.</li> </ol>

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	<p>9. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing in consultation with the Director of City Housing and Environment to agree expenditure on individual property purchases within phase one areas.</p> <p>10. That the £2.0 million project budget for phase one of the regeneration programme be approved with further reports to be presented prior to the commencement of each phase.</p> <p>11. That the different archetypes and numbers of non-traditional properties owned by the Council throughout the City be noted.</p> <p>12. That the results of the impressionistic (visual) survey on all non-traditional properties owned by the Council to assess their superficial condition and the results of the explorative (intrusive) survey carried out to a sample of each archetype be noted.</p>
<b>Options Considered</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	22 June 2021