

2018-2019 - Key areas and actions for implementation	Responsibility and expected implementation date	Update @ 30 November 2019
<p><i>Savings Targets</i></p> <p>Council approved a balanced budget for 2019-2020 without the use of general reserves. It is estimated that further savings of £27.3 million are required in 2020-2021 rising to £40 –50 million over the medium-term to 2023-2024.</p> <p>Council approved that work starts on developing budget reduction and income generation proposals for 2020-2021 onwards in line with the Five Year Financial Strategy, with progress reported back to Cabinet in July 2019. It is important to note that projected budget deficit assumes the achievement of budget reduction proposals amounting to £9.6 million over the five year period 2019-2020 to 2023-2024.</p> <p>It is also important to note that a number of assumptions have been made with regards to the level of resources that will be available to the Council, and that there continues to be a considerable amount of uncertainty with regards to future funding streams for local authorities over the forthcoming Comprehensive Spending Review period. At the point that further information is known it will be incorporated into future reports to Councillors. Any reduction in the Government's allocation of funding to the Council would have significant detrimental impact and further increase the budget deficit forecast of the medium-term.</p>	<p>Director of Finance</p> <p>31 March 2020</p>	<p>In October 2019, Cabinet received an update on the projected deficit and Medium Term Financial Plan.</p> <p>The report reflected the Spending Round 2019 announced on 4 September 2019 which set out the Government's spending plans for 2020-2021 only.</p> <p>Having taken into account the forecast changes to corporate resources and emerging pressures, it was anticipated that the projected remaining budget deficit for 2020-2021 will be in the region of £3.9 million, rising to £20 million over the medium term period to 2023-2024.</p> <p>It was noted that the Government announced that additional grant funding totalling £1 billion will be made available to local authorities in 2020-2021 for adults and children's social care, to support the rising demand on the social care system. The Local Government Finance Settlement 2020-2021 technical consultation, issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), provides the proposed formula for the distribution of the grant and indicative local authority allocations of the additional unringfenced grant funding. It was anticipated that the additional adult and children's social care grant will be sufficient to meet the projected remaining budget deficit in 2020-2021 and therefore enable the Council to set a balanced budget in that year.</p>

<p><i>Procurement, Contract Management and Monitoring</i></p> <p>This will remain ongoing due to the changes to regulation and legislation, particularly in the light of our exit from the EU.</p>	<p>Director of Finance 31 March 2020</p>	<p>A watching brief will be maintained on any changes to public contract regulations and any further new legislation, enacted through the Brexit negotiations.</p>
<p><i>Corporate Landlord (City Assets)</i></p> <p>The Asset Plan has been approved and the Council is in the process of ensuring the data is kept up to date. The transfer of all data is a significant undertaking and will need more time to fully implement.</p>	<p>Director of City Assets and Housing (since June 2019) Deputy Managing Director 31 March 2020</p>	<p>Our Assets Council Plan – First Review: The Asset Management Review commenced in June 2019 as part of the ‘Our Asset’ Council Plan programme. The initial findings from this Phase 1 Review were reported to SEB on 12 November 2019. The Our Assets programme will be reported to Our Council Scrutiny in 2019-2020 Q4 for review.</p> <p>Audits have been completed on Corporate Buildings with improvement plans now in place and being progressed. Where appropriate, these actions will be reported to the Audit and Risk Committee in Q4 of 2019-2020.</p> <p>Asset Management Plan: The Strategic Asset Plan (SAP) 2018-2023 continues to be reviewed on an annual basis. An updated Action Plan was submitted to Our Council Scrutiny in September 2019. The updated Action Plan is to be incorporated into the SAP and reported to SEB in February 2020 prior to being updated on the Council’s website.</p>
<p><i>Civic Halls</i></p> <p>This is one of the highest priority projects the Council is involved in and will be monitored regularly. Project management has improved and we are now part way through the project with the main refurbishment works due to commence in the near future. Liaison with Planning and Historic England needs to be finalised so that the final phase can be undertaken in the determined timeframe.</p>	<p>Director of Regeneration 31 March 2020</p>	<p>A new contractor has now been selected and the team are in the process of working through the early stages of engagement with them. Mobilisation works have begun and design work is ongoing.</p> <p>A new Operating Model has been proposed and the procurement process for a new operator has commenced.</p>

		The management of the Shaylor administration process is continuing with some activities being complete at the point at which Willmott Dixon take control of the site.
<p><i>General Data Protection Regulations</i></p> <p>Further compliance checks and audits will be scheduled throughout the year that follow on from the initial GDPR readiness audit and will be aligned to the statutory Data Protection Officer (DPO) reporting. This will ensure that compliance with the new Regulation and UK Data Protection laws will be monitored and reported on an ongoing basis once this work programme has formally ended.</p>	<p>Director of Governance</p> <p>31 March 2020</p>	<p>The Council continues to make progress in embedding the GDPR requirements, and this will be picked up by the new Director of Governance when they join the Council in February.</p>
<p><i>Combined Authority</i></p> <p>As one of the seven constituent authorities of the West Midlands Combined Authority, we need to continue to ensure that the city is benefitting from devolution deals to the region to meet key priorities. The Leader will also have responsibility for a specific portfolio within the Combined Authority working across the region.</p>	<p>Director of Strategy</p> <p>31 March 2020</p>	<p>The Council continues to play an active part in the West Midlands Combined Authority, including the dialogue with the new government on the future of devolution and opportunities to maximise the benefits of future policy and investment decisions for the city of Wolverhampton. The Leader continues to have responsibility for the Economic and Innovation portfolio at the Combined Authority, working across the region on matters such as the implementation of the Local Industrial Strategy.</p>
<p><i>Tenant Management Organisations</i></p> <p>We will need to monitor and help complete the implementation of the recommendations arising from the recent audit reviews and as included in the Improvement Plans for the four TMOs.</p>	<p>Director of City Assets and Housing</p> <p>31 March 2020</p>	<p>A programme of audits of each TMO was completed by internal audit during 2018-2019. These provided limited assurance that TMO's were operating in accordance with their management agreement(s) and identified non-implementation of recommendations made in previous audit reports.</p> <p>Since publication of the TMO audit reports in 2018 additional support has been provided to the four TMO's to assist with the implementation of outstanding issues, this</p>

		<p>work is being overseen by the Director for City Assets and Housing and a considerable number of recommendations made in the audit reports have now been actioned and completed.</p> <p>An enhanced programme to support TMOs during 2019-2020 was approved by SEB in May 2019. The programme covers 17 areas of support which includes; governance, financial management, health and safety, housing development support, provision of safeguarding training, access to legal services, information governance support, risk management, business continuity, audit and procurement support.</p> <p>TMO modular management agreements were reviewed and new management agreements were agreed and implemented for each TMO with effect from 1 April 2019. Resources within the Housing Strategy Team have been increased to provide support and focus on TMOs ensuring compliance with these agreements.</p> <p>New improved Key Performance Indicator's (KPI's) have been introduced. Performance is being reported to the Cabinet (Performance) Panel on a quarterly basis in a new report format. A Housing KPI dashboard was also developed.</p> <p>The Director for City Assets and Housing attended the Audit and Risk Committee meeting in July 2019 and presented a report detailing the considerable progress made in responding to the TMO Audits carried out in 2018. She also briefed the Committee on the resources deployed to deliver the enhanced workplan for 2019-2020, which is providing additional support for the TMO's from a number of departments. This programme is providing the Council with a greater level of assurance. A further update report will presented to Audit and Risk Committee in March 2020.</p>
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<p><i>Residential Site Management Agreement</i></p> <p>Consultation to take place with residents and Site Management Agent (Gypsy and Traveller Council) in order to finalise the service level agreement.</p>	<p>Director of City Assets and Housing</p> <p>31 March 2020</p>	<p>The Council has drafted heads of terms for the lease. As part of a scheduled maintenance visit, the Council made a number of recommendations to ensure the site is safe and well maintained. For the lease to be granted works need to be completed by both the Site Manager and the Council, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A legionella risk assessment • An asbestos management survey • A fire risk assessment • Fire safety improvement including action notices, points, means of raising alarm. • Electrical repairs maintenance and an electrical service certificate. <p>Works were due to be completed in December 2019. The District Valuer Service reviewed the fee that is paid to the Council to manage the site and has recommended a fee as part of the updated lease. Approval from Procurement is currently being considered. As such, the lease is due to signed before the end of the financial year.</p>
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