

**Summary of recommendations being presented to Council
19 July 2023**

(Minutes in full have been circulated and are available online)

| | |
|---|---|
| <u>Cabinet – 12th July 2023</u> | |
| Minute 24 - Revenue and Capital Outturn Report 2022 - 2023 | |
| RECOMMENDED | <p>RECOMMENDED to Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The outturn position for 2022/23 including the implications and proposals relating to the Balances and Reserves held by the Council. 2. The proposed reserve transfers contained within the report and give delegated authority to the Director Finance in consultation with the Finance Portfolio for any amendments to these transfers as additional year end data becomes available. <p>REASON: To accord with the Council’s financial regulations, the report presents the outturn position for the Council’s approved budgets for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Expenditure. The financial position would align to the Council’s Statement of Accounts but the position in the report was presented in a style that accorded to the budget setting and monitoring reports that members receive. Members were asked to note the variations from the budgets identified within the report and consider the final position. It was appropriate at this stage to reflect on the reserves and balances held by the Council and determine if these were the right reserves at the right levels going forward.</p> |
| Minute 25 - Place & Prosperity Team Resourcing | |
| RECOMMENDED | <p>RECOMMENDED to Council:</p> <p>that additional revenue budget is secured to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) make the 2 year fixed term Project Manager – Exmouth post permanent at Grade 6. Revenue cost including on-costs of an additional £74,000 per annum from 2024/25 with a pro-rata allowance for latter 3 months of 2023/24, and b) make the Project Officer post full time. Additional revenue cost including on-costs would be £21,000 per annum from 2024/25 with a pro-rata allowance for latter 6 months of 2023/24. |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>REASON: To provide an appropriate level of resource to fulfil Service Plan objectives, Council, business, residents and others expectations in Placemaking.</p> |
| <p>Minute 27- Delivering Environment Act 2021 new duties</p> | |
| <p>RECOMMENDED</p> | <p>RECOMMENDED to Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The appointment of an Ecology Officer and an Ecology Graduate Apprenticeship role to help enable the Council to meet its new duty for Biodiversity Net Gain; 2. To provide funding for an Ecology Officer role and an Ecology Graduate Apprenticeship role to enable the delivery of the new Environment Act 2021 duties for Biodiversity Net Gain, at a budget of £47,049 per annum for the Ecology officer role and £27,344 for the Graduate Apprenticeship role. To be funded initially from the Government's new burdens payments and the Council's General Fund Revenue budget, whilst this new burdens payment is made available and thereafter by the Council's General Fund Revenue; 3. That a letter is written to our MPs and ministers saying EDDC totally support the Biodiversity Net Gain policies within the Environment Act 2021, but are concerned on the cost implications associated in administering it. Therefore, can an urgent review and implementation of raising the fees for planning applications be carried out, to cover these extra costs, rather than the council looking at service reduction, or increased rate demands? <p>REASON: To be able to meet the Environment Act 2021 duty to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain from November 2023.</p> |
| <p>Minute 28 - New Council Plan Process</p> | |
| <p>RECOMMENDED</p> | <p>RECOMMENDED to Council:</p> <p>A budget of £10,000 for this work.</p> <p>REASON: To progress the development of the new council plan with member inclusion and SMT+ support.</p> |
| <p>Minute 30 - Zed Pods Housing Development</p> | |
| <p>RECOMMENDED</p> | <p>RECOMMENDED to Council:</p> <p>To approve a capital budget of £302k (to be funded from HRA) for the PCSA and the 'indicative' scheme costs to support the delivery of this scheme.</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>REASON: To meet the council's aspiration to build new, carbon neutral homes and increase its housing portfolio, following its district wide depletion due to extensive Right to Buy purchases. There had also been a change in Right to Buy legislation which now requires Local Authorities to build new homes with their receipts rather than acquire homes from the open market, as the council had historically done.</p> |
|--|--|