



Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting
of the Executive held on Monday 3 February 2020**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 4 February 2020
2. Decisions (if any) taken as a matter of urgency under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in the Constitution (and not therefore subject to the call-in procedure): None
3. Date by which notice of call-in of any of the following decisions must be received in writing by the Chief Executive (see notes below):- Noon on Friday 7 February 2020
4. Notes:-
 - (a) For background documentation to the following decisions, please refer to the agenda and supporting papers (copies of which are available on the Council's website (www.cherwell.gov.uk) or from Democratic Services);
 - (b) Notice of call-in must be submitted in writing, by email or text to the Chief Executive by the deadline specified above, and must state the reason or reasons why "call-in" has been requested;
 - (c) Call-in can be requested by any six non-executive members of the Council.
However, if at any point during a municipal year the total number of opposition councillors is six or less the total number of non-executive members required to call-in a decision shall be the total number of opposition councillors less two.
 - (d) Decisions not called-in by the deadline specified above will become effective immediately the deadline has expired (unless they are recommendations to the Council).
 - (e) The Council has stipulated that the call-in procedure should not be used to challenge decisions as a matter of course and should be used only when fully justified.

**Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive**

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options	Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service
<p>Agenda Item 6 Budget Setting for 2020/21 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/24</p> <p>** Please note that appendices 5 and 7 will follow as they are currently being reviewed and finalised **</p> <p>Report of Executive Director – Finance (Interim)</p> <p>Purpose of report</p> <p>This report provides information on the Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2020/24 along with more detailed information on setting the Council's budget for 2020/21, which will be considered at full Council on 24 February 2020.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That, having given due consideration, the Business Plan (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be recommended to Council for approval.</p> <p>(2) That the Risk Register Plan (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be noted.</p> <p>(3) That, having given due consideration, Council be recommended to agree an increase in the level of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council of £5 for 2020/21 on a Band</p>	<p>It is a legal requirement to set a balanced budget and the recommendations as outlined set out a way to achieve this for 2020/2021.</p> <p>This report provides information around the various building blocks that make up the proposed budget for 2020/21 and beyond, allowing members to consider and scrutinise the elements of the budget and provide advice and guidance to the Executive to help them further shape both budget setting for 2020/21 and the MTFS for 2020/24.</p>	<p>Option 1: To reject the current proposals and make alternative recommendations. Members will not be aware of the medium-term financial forecast or implications of alternatives if they choose to take this option.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Recommendations</p> <p>1.1 To consider and recommend to Council approval of the Business Plan set out in Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.2 To note the Risk Register contained at Appendix 2.</p> <p>1.3 To consider and recommend to Council an increase in the level of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council of £5 for 2020/21 on a Band D property.</p> <p>1.4 To consider and recommend to Council approval of the MTFS, Revenue Budget 2020/21 and Capital</p>	<p>D property.</p> <p>(4) That, having given due consideration, Council be recommended to approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), Revenue Budget 2020/21 and Capital Programme including the growth and savings proposals included in the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book).</p> <p>(5) That, having given due consideration, Council be recommended to approve a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £2m.</p> <p>(6) That, having given due</p>			

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<p>Programme including recommending the growth and savings proposals included at Appendix 8.</p> <p>1.5 To consider and recommend to Council a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £2m as recommended by the Section 25 report from the Chief Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves.</p> <p>1.6 To consider and recommend to Council that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for</p>	<p>consideration, Council be recommended to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance & Governance, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Lead Member to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year • Update prudential Indicators in both the Prudential Indicators 			

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<p>Finance & Governance, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Lead Member to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year • Update prudential Indicators in both the Prudential Indicators Report and Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these <p>1.7 To consider the</p>	<p>Report and Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these</p> <p>(7) That, having given due consideration, the proposed Fees & Charges schedule (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be recommended to Council for approval.</p> <p>(8) That, having given due consideration, Council be recommended to approve the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators,</p>			

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<p>proposed Fees & Charges schedule as set out in Appendix 7.</p> <p>1.8 To consider and recommend to Council that the Treasury Management Strategy be approved, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2020/21 (Appendix 6).</p> <p>1.9 To consider and recommend to Council that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the full Council meeting of 24 February</p>	<p>Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2020/21 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book).</p> <p>(9) That, having given due consideration, Council be recommended to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the Council meeting of 24 February 2020, including changes related to the finalisation of the national Finance Settlement and any associated changes to Parish Precepts and</p>			

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<p>2020, including changes related to the finalisation of the national Finance Settlement and any associated changes to Parish Precepts and Council Tax resulting from those changes.</p>	<p>Council Tax resulting from those changes.</p>			
<p>Agenda Item 7 Monthly Performance, Finance and Risk Monitoring Report - December 2019</p> <p>Report of Executive Director: Finance (Interim) and Acting Assistant Director: Performance and Transformation</p> <p>Purpose of report</p> <p>This report summarises the Council's Performance, Risk and Finance monitoring</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report be noted.</p>	<p>The Council is committed to performance, risk and budget management and reviews progress against its corporate priorities on a monthly basis.</p> <p>This report provides an update on progress made so far in 2019-20 to deliver the Council's priorities through reporting on Performance, the Leadership Risk Register and providing an update on the financial position.</p>	<p>Option 1: This report illustrates the Council's performance against the 2019-20 business plan. As this is a monitoring report, no further options have been considered. However, members may wish to request that officers provide additional information.</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>position as at the end of each month.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report.</p>				
<p>Agenda Item 8</p> <p>Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme</p> <p>Report of the Executive Director Finance (Interim)</p> <p>Purpose of report</p> <p>For members to consider the proposed Local Discretionary Relief Policy and to seek approval of the local Discretionary Business Rate</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the contents of the report and any financial implications for the Council be noted.</p> <p>(2) That Full Council be recommended to approve the adoption of the Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2020-2021.</p>	<p>The Government expects billing authorities to use their discretionary powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act to deliver a Local Discretionary Relief scheme. Each authority is required to devise its own Discretionary Relief Scheme.</p>	<p>Option 1: Members could choose not to recommend the proposed schemes but in view of the fact that expenditure will be reimbursed the Government expects billing authorities to grant relief to all qualifying ratepayers</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Relief Scheme for 2020-2021.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of the report and any financial implications for the Council.</p> <p>1.2 To recommend that Full Council approve the adoption of the Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2020-2021.</p>				
<p>Agenda Item 9</p> <p>Broadband and Digital Infrastructure</p> <p>Report of Executive Director of Place and Growth (Interim)</p> <p>Purpose of report</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the success of the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire programme in exceeding the Government's delivery</p>	<p>CDC is invited to join the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Delivery Partnership to facilitate actions to achieve the goals to be created through the emerging Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy and</p>	<p>Option 1: To cease involvement in the partnership provision of digital infrastructure and accept that investment will be delayed (or not delivered at all) in Cherwell, especially in</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>This report reviews the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire Programme for Cherwell District Council to now consider extending its involvement in enabling further development locally through active involvement in the emerging Digital Infrastructure Delivery Partnership for Oxfordshire.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note the success of the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire programme in exceeding the Government’s delivery target for ‘Superfast’ broadband availability in Cherwell and the</p>	<p>target for ‘Superfast’ broadband availability in Cherwell and the continuing progress to extend full fibre and mobile coverage through existing resources be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the incorporation of the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan alongside the Memorandum of Understanding, recognising its important contribution to the delivery of the Housing and Growth Deal, the Cherwell Industrial Strategy and the Council’s other plans and policies, be supported.</p>	<p>Delivery Plan.</p> <p>The Partnership will meet and liaise regularly, involving a designated representative from each partner body. This is set-out in a non-legally binding Memorandum of Understanding.</p> <p>The adoption of the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure and Delivery Plan by the end of this financial year would ensure that the Council is prepared – alongside its partners - for the Government to announce significant further funding opportunities.</p>	<p>rural areas;</p> <p>Option 2: As proposed in this paper, to continue to work jointly with Oxfordshire County Council and partners, combining resources and bringing new resources to maximise the investment in digital infrastructure locally.</p>	

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<p>continuing progress to extend full fibre and mobile coverage through existing resources.</p> <p>1.2 To support the incorporation of the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan alongside the Memorandum of Understanding, recognising its important contribution to the delivery of the Housing and Growth Deal, the Cherwell Industrial Strategy and the Council's other plans and policies.</p> <p>1.3 To actively participate in the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure</p>	<p>(3) That it be agreed to actively participate in the Oxfordshire Digital Infrastructure Partnership, through its proposed Board, by appointing a Councillor (supported by a senior officer) to represent the interests of the Council, with the councillor appointment delegated to the Director Law and Governance, in consultation with the Leader.</p>			

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Partnership, through its proposed Board, by identifying a Councillor (supported by a senior officer) to represent the interests of the Council.				
<p>Agenda Item 12 Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government (MHCLG) Garden Town Capital Funding</p> <p>Exempt report of Assistant Director Growth and Economy</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(2) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(3) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(4) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p> <p>(5) As set out in the exempt decisions.</p>	As set out in the exempt decisions	As set out in the exempt decisions	None