

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Wednesday, 17 February 2016	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/17.02.16/4a	Executive (Councillors Sean Anstee, L. Evans, Hyman, Lamb, Myers, John Reilly, Williams and M. Young)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

Executive's Revenue Budget Proposals 2016/17

It is recommended that Council approve:

- The net Revenue Budget for 2016/17 at £147.320m, a decrease of £(1.594)m, or (1.1)%, when compared to the 2015/16 base budget of £148.914m;
- The calculation of the Council Tax Requirement as summarised in Section 9 of the report and set out in the Formal Council Tax Resolution (Green Sheets to be circulated at Council);
- That the Council Tax level for Trafford related services in 2016/17 be increased by 2% in respect of the social care "precept" (valuation bands are detailed at Annex D to the report);
- No further increase in the general level of council tax over and above the social care precept;
- The Fees and Charges for 2016/17, as set out in the booklet available on the Council's website:-
- That approval be delegated jointly to each Corporate Director with the Chief Finance Officer to amend fees and charges during 2016/17 in the event of any change in the rate of VAT, as appropriate.
- That the minimum level of General Reserve for 2016/17 be set at £6.0m, the same as in 2015/16 (Section 6 of the report);
- The overall Capital Investment Programme level of £90.7m be approved (as detailed in the Capital Investment Programme 2016/19 report elsewhere on the agenda) of which £43.7m relates to 2016/17.
- The Prudential Borrowing Indicators as set out in Appendix 3, page 14, of the Treasury Management Strategy report elsewhere on the agenda.
- The distribution of Dedicated Schools Grant as recommended by the School Funding Forum and Executive as summarised in Section 7 of the report and detailed in Annex E.

and in approving the above, has taken into consideration :

- The objective assessment by the Director of Finance of the robustness of budget estimates and adequacy of the General Reserve (Section 5 of the report and Annex I).
- The Executive's response to the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations to the budget proposals, which can be found elsewhere on the agenda for the Executive's Budget Meeting.
- The detailed report on the outcomes of the Staff and Trade Union Consultation which can be found on the agenda for the Employment Committee on 18 January 2016.
- The Equality Impact Assessments in relation to the budget proposals and the Public Sector Equality duty.

- The comments of the Director of Finance in paras 5.4 to 5.7 of the report regarding Council Tax.

In addition, the Council notes the following :

- The approval on 19 January 2016 under delegated powers by the Director of Finance of the Council Tax Base for 2016/17 at 73,844 Band D equivalents. Along with the calculation of the estimated Council Tax surplus, sufficient to release £(300)k to support the Council's 2016/17 revenue budget and a distribution of £(41.3)k and £(15.6)k representing the respective shares of the GM Police & Crime Commissioner and GM Fire and Rescue Authority.
- That the Capital Investment Programme for 2017/18 and 2018/19 is to be set at an indicative £26.9m and £20.1m respectively.
- That the Council Tax figures included in the report for the GM Fire & Rescue and Police Authority are the recommended provisional amounts pending their formal approval.
- The Treasury Management Strategy 2016/19 detailed elsewhere on the agenda.
- The base budget assumptions as set out in the Medium Term Financial Outlook as detailed in Annex A to the report.
- That the final decisions with regard to some services will not be taken until March 2016. As a result, the allocation of resources set out on pages 65-70 of the report may vary including the use of reserves. The reports will be presented at the appropriate time.
- A report on the outcomes of the public consultation is included elsewhere on the agenda for the Executive's Budget Meeting.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To enable the Council to set a Budget Requirement and Council Tax level for 2016/17. The reason for these recommendations is to deliver a balanced budget 2016/17 in relation to the proposals set out in the report, whilst having due regard for equality impact and risk mitigation.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Executive is recommending an increase to the level of council tax of 2% for the social care 'precept' to be earmarked for adult social care expenditure. An alternative option is not to increase council tax but there would be insufficient funding to pay for adult care services, particularly in light of the financial settlement which was worse than anticipated. If this option were pursued then further savings would need to be identified over and above the significant level of savings already included for in the budget report. These would then need to be consulted on and therefore would yield only a part year benefit in 2016/17.

The Council could consider an increase in council tax of up to 3.99% in 2016/17 without it being deemed excessive and under the Localism Act 2011 the Council would be required to hold a council tax referendum if it wishes to increase its "Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax" by an amount equal to or exceeding this.

The use of reserves has been reviewed (See Section 6 of the report) and an appropriate amount has been assessed for release to support these budget proposals whilst still maintaining a minimum level of reserves to manage any unforeseen risks. Any further use of reserves is not recommended as it does not provide a sustainable means of balancing the budget.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None.

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

PUBLICATION DATE

Not applicable. This decision is to make a recommendation to Council, the substantive decision-maker, at its immediately-following Budget Meeting; so call-in is not appropriate.

18/2/16

RECORDED BY:

Director of Legal & Democratic Services

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Wednesday, 17 February 2016	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/17.02.16/4b	Executive (Councillors Sean Anstee, L. Evans, Hyman, Lamb, Myers, John Reilly, Williams and M. Young)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

Fees, Charges and Allowances 2016/17

It is recommended to Council that:

- The Fees and Charges for 2016/17, as set out in the booklet available on the Council's web site, be approved.
- Approval be given to Corporate Directors and the Chief Finance Officer with the joint delegation to amend fees and charges during 2016/17 in the event of any change in the rate of VAT, as appropriate.
- Approval be given to the Corporate Director, Economic Growth, Environment and Infrastructure, and the Chief Finance Officer with joint delegation to amend fees and charges in line with commercial negotiations with Amey under the One Trafford Partnership contract.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To fulfil the obligations outlined in the Council Constitution for the budget process.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

All options at an individual fee or charge basis would have been considered, where appropriate, during the budget process.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None.

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Not applicable. This decision is to make a recommendation to Council, the substantive decision-maker, at its immediately-following Budget Meeting; so call-in is not appropriate.

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<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>		
<u>Executive's Response to Scrutiny Committee's Recommendations on the Budget Proposals</u>		
That the response to Scrutiny be approved and that the Executive welcomes the opportunity to work with Scrutiny during the course of the coming year on their follow up work.		
<u>REASONS FOR THE DECISION</u>		
The report is in response to the consultation carried out by the Scrutiny Committee.		
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS</u>		
Not applicable; the Executive is required to respond to Scrutiny recommendations.		
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION</u>		
None.		

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Not applicable. This decision is explicitly to make a response to Scrutiny, and in the context of the budget decision by Council, the substantive decision-maker, at its immediately-following Budget Meeting; so call-in is not appropriate.

PUBLICATION DATE

18/2/16

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Director of Legal & Democratic Services

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

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<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>		
<p><u>Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators 2016-9</u></p> <p>That the Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. approves the Capital Programme as detailed in the report.2. recommends the Council to approve the Capital Programme in the sum of £90.7m for the period 2016/19.3. recommends the Council to approve the Prudential Indicators as set out at Appendix 3 to the report.		
<u>REASONS FOR THE DECISION</u>		
<p>The Authority is regularly assessed on the performance of its Capital Programme and how delivery matches corporate policies and proposed spending plans. To reflect budgets in line with revised expectations will assist in evidencing that compliance with the above is being met.</p>		
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS</u>		
<p>The Executive could decide to use capital receipts to repay debt which would generate revenue savings on the Medium Term Financial Plan. Based on the level of receipts available this could save approximately £0.2m in 2017/18 rising to £0.3m by 2019/20. However, the proposed application of the capital receipts are to schemes with mandatory requirements or schemes to protect the long-term viability of the Council's assets; enabling efficient and effective service delivery and avoiding potential increases in maintenance costs in future years, the benefits of which are greater than just using the receipts to repay debt.</p>		
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION</u>		
<p>None.</p>		

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Not applicable. This decision is to make a recommendation to Council, the substantive decision-maker, at its immediately-following Budget Meeting; so call-in is not appropriate.

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STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

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<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>		
Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17 - 2018/19		
That the Executive recommends to Council for approval the:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• policy on debt strategy for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in section 3 to the report and in the addendum report;• investment strategy for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in section 5 to the report and in the addendum report;• Prudential Indicators and limits including the Authorised Limit (as required by section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003), Operational Boundary, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and Investment criteria as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report and in the addendum report.		
<u>REASONS FOR THE DECISION</u>		
<p>The Financial Procedure Rules, incorporating the requirements of the revised CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code requires that the annual strategy report is an essential control over treasury management activities whereby Members approve the parameters under which officers will operate. In addition The Local Government Act 2003 requires that the Council approves an annual borrowing limit (the Authorised Limit) and DCLG Guidance an annual investment strategy (setting out the limits to investment activities) prior to the commencement of each financial year. In respect of the recommendations set out in the addendum report regarding the timing of the payments of pension contributions to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund, by paying contributions in advance, by up to three years, it will be possible to earn a discount from the Fund which would be significantly better than can be obtained in the money market.</p>		
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS</u>		
<p>The report has been produced in order to comply with Financial Procedure Rules and relevant legislation. It provides a plan of action for the period 2016/17 to 2018/19, which is flexible enough to take account of changes in financial markets.</p>		
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION</u>		
None.		

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Not applicable. This decision is to make a recommendation to Council, the substantive decision-maker, at its immediately-following Budget Meeting; so call-in is not appropriate.

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	2016	Executive (Councillors Sean Anstee, L. Evans, Hyman, Lamb, Myers, John Reilly, Williams and M. Young)
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/17.02.16/5	
<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>		
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16 PERIOD 9 (APRIL - DECEMBER)		
That the latest forecast and planned actions be noted and agreed.		
<u>REASONS FOR THE DECISION</u>		
To inform Members of current position regarding the monitoring of the current year's revenue budget.		
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS</u>		
None.		
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION</u>		
None.		

<u>Scrutiny Call in Deadline</u>
Thursday, 25 February 2016
<u>Implementation will be on the following working day</u>

<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>
18/2/16

<u>RECORDED BY:</u>
Director of Legal & Democratic Services

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<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/17.02.16/6	Executive (Councillors Sean Anstee, L. Evans, Hyman, Lamb, Myers, John Reilly, Williams and M. Young)
<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u>		
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME MONITORING 2015/16 3RD QUARTER (APRIL - DECEMBER)		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the amendments to the 2015/16 Capital Investment Programme be approved. 2. That the monitoring report be noted. 		
<u>REASONS FOR THE DECISION</u>		
Additional resources have been received by the Council and the projects upon which these monies will be spent need to be formally adopted into the Capital Investment Programme.		
<u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS</u>		
Not applicable. Decisions about any review of the Capital Investment Programme will be taken in February 2016.		
<u>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION</u>		
None.		

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Thursday, 25 February 2016

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