

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Monday, 12 October 2020	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/12.10.20/3	Executive (Virtual Meeting) (Councillors Participating: A. Western, Adshead, Freeman, Harding, Hynes, Patel, Ross, Slater, Whitham and Wright)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

EXECUTIVE'S DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2021/22 & MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) 2022-24

1. That the 2021/22 to 2023/24 proposed budget strategy, draft revenue budget and MTFS including the income and savings proposals be approved for the purposes of consultation only (where necessary) and that these proposals be referred to the Scrutiny Committee for their consideration.
2. That the proposal be noted to increase Council Tax by 3.99% in 2021/22 (comprising 2% adult social care precept and 1.99% general increase) and by similar levels for 2022/23 and 2023/24.
3. That the remaining budget gap for the years 2021/22 to 2023/24 be noted.
4. That the updated Asset Investment Strategy included at Annex G to the report be adopted and that it be recommended that Council approve the updated Strategy in November 2020.
5. That it be noted that the draft proposals are subject to various consultation exercises, analysis and impact assessments, movements in core funding, specific grants, costing and robustness assessments.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To enable consultation with the public, businesses (s65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992), stakeholders, staff and Scrutiny Committee to take place.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The budget proposals included in the report assume an overall increase to the level of council tax of 3.99% in 2021/22 comprising an increase of 2% for the 'adult social care precept' to be earmarked for adult social care expenditure and 1.99% general increase in the 'relevant basic amount'. An alternative option could be made to increase its 'relevant basic amount of council tax' above these levels, however this would exceed the referendum limits, which would mean a local referendum would be required to be held before any such increase could be implemented. Alternatively not increasing council tax by the level recommended in this report, subject to the final referendum level being notified in December, would increase the overall funding gap by up to £4.17m in 2021/22 which would mean further reductions to expenditure on council services would be necessary.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None.

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

PUBLICATION DATE

Thursday, 22 October 2020

(Decision can be implemented on the next working day, unless called in).

Thursday, 15 October 2020

RECORDED BY:

Corporate Director, Governance & Community
Strategy