

**Decisions taken at the Cabinet  
Meeting held on Thursday 11 February 2021**

Cabinet Members Present Councillors: I Courts, K Grinsell, K Hawkins, A Mackiewicz,  
K Meeson, T Richards OBE, A Rolf, R Sleigh OBE, J Tildesley

Opposition Group Leaders Present (Non-Voting) A Adeyemo and S Caudwell

| Title  | Decision Taken  |
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| Apologies  | Cllr Nash submitted her apologies.  |
| Declaration Of Interest  | Cllr Richards reminded Members in relation to the reports on Birmingham Airport he was a Non-Executive Director of BIA, appointed by the Council. Cllr Sleigh reminded Members in relation to item 15 on the agenda he was Chairman of Combined Authority Investment Board.   |
| Questions And Deputations  | None received.  |
| Minutes  | <b>RESOLVED:</b><br>That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2021 be received for information.  |
| Medium Term Financial Strategy update (incorporating the Period 9 position) as at 31st December 2020 | <b>RESOLVED:</b><br>(i) That the current financial position be noted and Members confirmed that no further action was required to address budget variances at this time;<br><br>(ii) That the creation of an Early Years Reserve in the Dedicated Schools Grant detailed in paragraph 3.18 be approved;<br><br>(iii) That the latest Red, Amber and Green (RAG) ratings for the delivery of the (MTFS) savings 2020/21 to 2022/23, as detailed in Appendix A be noted;<br><br>(iv) That the Covid-19 financial position and funding sources summarised in the report and further outlined in Appendix B be noted; and<br><br>(v) That the budget adjustments up to Period 9 of 2020/21 as summarised in Appendix C be approved. |
| Housing Revenue Account Estimates and Rent Increases 2021/22   | <b>RESOLVED:</b><br><br>(i) That an average rent increase (excluding service charges) of 1.5% (£1.25 per week on a 50-week basis) to £85.87 from 1 April 2021 for HRA stock be approved;<br><br>(ii) That an average rent increase of 1.5% (£1.66 per week on a 50-week basis) to £112.05 from 1 April 2021 for SMBC Affordable Homes be approved;  |

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|   | <p>(iii) That an average rent increase of 1.5% for Saxon Court (£1.52 per week on a 50-week basis) to £103.08 from 1 April 2021 be approved;</p> <p>(iv) That a rent increase of RPI (as at February 2021) + 0.5%, as per lease agreements, from 1 April 2021 for HRA shared ownership properties be approved;</p> <p>(v) That the different rent increases for SCH Part Ownership properties and SCH owned Affordable Homes be noted;</p> <p>(vi) That an increase in garage rents set out in Appendix D, from 1 April 2021 be approved;</p> <p>(vii) That the decrease in Leaseholder Management Fees from £157 to £133 per annum be approved;</p> <p>(viii) That the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2021/22 including the SCH Management Fee as set out in the HRA Business Plan Financial Forecast at Appendix A be approved;</p> <p>(ix) That the SCH Management Agreement for 2021/22 – 2025/26 be approved;</p> <p>(x) That the three year budget savings set out in Appendix C be approved; and</p> <p>(xi) That the fees and charges approved by the SCH Board on 30 November 2020 set out in Appendix D be noted.</p> |
| Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 – 2023/24 | <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>(i) That Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve a budget for 2021/22 of £151.372 million, including the forecast balances on the budget strategy reserve set out in paragraph 3.6 of the Leader’s report;</p> <p>(ii) That Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 – 2023/24, as updated by the Leader’s report, and the Corporate Capital Strategy, incorporating the Council’s strategy on the flexible use of capital receipts;</p> <p>(iii) That the creation of three new reserves and contributions (Environment Services, Covid-19 grant and business rates volatility), as outlined at paragraphs 3.11 to 3.16 of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive be approved;</p> <p>(iv) That the requests for £2.250 million of funding from the business</p>  |

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|                                 | <p>rates windfall income anticipated in 2020/21, as outlined at paragraph 3.15 of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive, and the recommendation to earmark the balance of the 2020/21 business rates windfall in a business rates volatility reserve, as outlined at paragraph 3.16 of the Director's report be noted;</p> <p>(v) That the contribution of the balance of the 2019/20 business rates windfall income (£5.289 million) to the budget strategy reserve, as outlined at paragraph 3.17 of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive be approved;</p> <p>(vi) That the prudential borrowing requirements for the period of the MTFS, as set out at paragraph 3.25 of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive be approved;</p> <p>(vii) That a further £1.000 million of prudential borrowing for the Material Recycling Facility project (taking the total from £8.000 million to £9.000 million) as outlined at paragraph 3.26 of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive be approved;</p> <p>(viii) That Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve the fees and charges proposed within each portfolio (Appendix D of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive);</p> <p>(ix) That the Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve the proposed carbon budget, as outlined at paragraph 3.30 and detailed in the report to the Budget Strategy Group attached at Appendix E of the report of the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive;</p> <p>(x) That Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve an increase in the level of the general council tax in 2021/22 of 1.99%;</p> <p>(xi) That Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve an increase in the adult social care precept in 2021/22 of 1.50%;</p> <p>(xii) That Council on 25 February 2021 be <b>Recommend</b> to approve a budget for the Council of £151.372 million for 2021/22, funded by Band D council tax of £1,460.24 (£1,313.60 for general council tax and £146.64 for adult social care); and</p> <p>(xiii) That it be noted that there is a requirement for a recorded vote to be taken on the budget and the level of council tax at the Full Council meeting on 25 February.</p> |
| Solihull's Net Zero Action Plan | <b>RESOLVED:</b>  |

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| Green Paper  | <p>(i) That the Net Zero Solihull Green Paper Executive Summary and Net Zero Solihull Green Paper contained in Appendix A and B to the report be noted;</p> <p>(ii) That the public consultation on the Net Zero Solihull Green Paper and Executive Summary be approved;</p> <p>(iii) That it be agreed that delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director of Highways &amp; Environment in conjunction with Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning &amp; Housing, to approve any final amendments to the Green Paper following Cabinet approval, prior to public consultation.</p>   |
| Update on Applications to Funding Bodies that Support the Council's Priorities | <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>(i) That the following four applications be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An application to the Department for Business, Energy &amp; Industrial Strategy's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme;</li> <li>• <b>Project A</b> –Upgrade of secondary heating systems at The Core and Tudor Grange Leisure Centre (application value of £1.31m);</li> <li>• An application to the Department for Business, Energy &amp; Industrial Strategy's Low Carbon Skills Fund;</li> <li>• <b>Project B</b> - Solihull Council Net Zero 2030 Heat Decarbonisation Plan (application value of £195k)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) That it be noted that the Council is a delivery partner in the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust application to Defra's Green Recovery Challenge Fund, (application value of £705k)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Project C</b> – 'Love your River Cole', carrying out river restoration work at Meriden Park;</li> </ul> <p>(iii) That it be noted that Midlands Energy Hub have asked for Expressions of Interest to the Green Homes Grant scheme. (Indicative capital allocation value of £875K)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Project D</b> – support for energy efficiency measures in homes (all tenures) - focusing on the least energy efficient (i.e. those with an Energy Performance Certificate of D, E, F or G).</li> </ul> <p>(iv) That it be agreed that delegated authority be given to the relevant Director to sign any contractual arrangements associated with the applications, set out above, in conjunction with the relevant Cabinet Member.</p> |

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| Birmingham Airport   | <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>(i) That Full Council be <b>Recommended</b> to approve a loan facility to BAHL on commercial market terms up to the value of £3.7 million, under Section 8.9 of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy; and</p> <p>(ii) That the Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources be authorised to take all necessary actions including entering into the relevant legal agreements, required to make the loan.</p> |  |  |
| Exclusion of the Public and Press  | Agreed  |  |  |
| Birmingham Airport   | Private report, public decision above   |  |  |
| Acquisition of a Property in Chelmsley Wood                                    | Private Report  |  |  |
| Update on Applications to Funding Bodies that Support the Council's Priorities | Private Report  |  |  |
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