

Recommendation to Full Council

11 February 2025

From Cabinet of 28 January 2025

Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan Strategy Report (MTFP)

For Recommendation to Council

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:

Cllr S Clifford, Finance & Capital Strategy

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director:

A Dunn, Executive Director, Corporate Development

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

- (a) That the revenue budget summarised in Appendix 1, be agreed.
- (b) That the increase in general Council Tax of 2.9953% and 1.9969% in the Social Care Precept, providing a Band D Council Tax figure for Dorset Council of £2,101.05; an overall increase of 4.9921%, be agreed
- (c) That the Council Tax base of 160,793 Band D equivalents (186,917 households in total) agreed by the S151 Officer earlier in this budget setting process, be noted.
- (d) That the continuation of the unchanged scheme of Local Council Tax Support, and the revised income tables following the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) uplift of benefits by 1.7%, be noted.

- (e) That the Capital Strategy set out in Appendix 3 and the changes to the programme contained within the appendix, be approved.
- (f) That the Treasury Management Strategy set out in Appendix 4 be agreed.
- (g) That the assumptions used to develop the Budget Strategy and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP), as set out throughout, the report be noted.
- (h) That the recommended balances on earmarked reserves and on general funds, including the minimum level of the general fund, be agreed.
- (i) That the responses to the recommendations and comments made as part of the budget scrutiny process, as set out in Appendix 6, be agreed.
- (j) That the recommendations 1 – 5 from 4 December 2024 Harbour Advisory Committee meeting regarding fees and charges, budget and asset management plans, as set out at Appendix 7, be agreed.
- (k) That a transfer of £5.1m reserves to a ring-fenced reserve to support the Dedicated Schools Grant Safety Value program as reported in section 13.42, be approved.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Report to Cabinet of 28 January 2025 – Budget Strategy and Medium-term Financial Plan (MTFP). The appendices included within the Cabinet report are referred to in the recommendations above and detailed below.

1. High-level consolidated revenue budget summary and directorate budget summaries
2. Council Tax resolution (to follow)
3. Capital Strategy 2025-2030
4. Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26
5. Climate Wheel
6. Response to the issues raised by the scrutiny committees
7. Harbours Advisory Committee budget proposals for 2025/26
8. Proposed fees and charges for 2025/26 (*including appendix 8b addendum as agreed by Cabinet of 28 January 2025*)

Background papers

[Medium term financial plan and budget update to Cabinet 19 November 2024](#)