

# **CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH OSC**

## **REPORTS TO THE CABINET**

**10 NOVEMBER 2020**

### **Budget 2021-22 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021-24**

Councillor Nick Oliver, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services presented this report to the Committee on 9 November 2020. Chris Hand, Executive Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) was also in attendance to respond to comments and queries from members.

The Committee sought clarification on issues across a number of service areas, with particular emphasis on the following:

- the Leader of the Council has led on extensive lobbying of the Government to ensure that the Council gets the best settlement possible when it is announced in December;
- financial Covid 19 pressures have been funded separately;
- due to Covid 19, there was an assumption that there would be a short-term reduction in the collection of business rates, but that this would increase as firms recover;
- Councillor Oliver agreed to provide the Committee with details of income generation streams over the previous three years;
- there have been areas of overspend in some budgets and, where appropriate, some budgets have been rebased for 2021/22;
- the Administration remain committed to providing resources to ensure economic recovery throughout the county, such as tourism and forestry; and by adopting a town by town approach to regeneration to meet specific needs where necessary, and
- although the Council has been keen to honour individual contracts throughout Covid 19 to assist partners where appropriate, there have been some savings such as free school transport provision.

**The Committee agreed to support the recommendations to Cabinet.**

**COUNCILLOR DAVID BAWN**

**CHAIRMAN**