

2021/22 Financial and Treasury Management Outturn Reports

Date: 15 June 2022

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Strategy & Resources)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- Executive Functions that fall within the remit of the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) include:
 - Ensuring and administering effective financial management and controls
 - Setting, supporting and monitoring the Council's policies and procedures for budgets
- For this reason, the Scrutiny Board has a standing commitment to monitor financial health and performance throughout the financial year, to identify emerging issues and to bring forward any appropriate recommendations to the Executive in this regard.
- As part of this function, at the start of the new municipal year, the Scrutiny Board receives the annual Financial Outturn and Treasury Management Outturn reports, as provided to the Executive Board.
- The 2021/22 outturn reports will be published as part of the agenda for the Executive Board meeting taking place on 22 June 2022. Members should be aware that the Executive Board's agenda for June 2022 is published after that of the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources). The 2021/22 outturn reports will therefore be published as supplementary information to this report once available.
- Members have previously identified the robustness and long-term sustainability of the Council's revenue budget as key priorities for the Council's Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board. The Financial Outturn and Treasury Management Outturn reports are examples of several items of business, scheduled throughout the municipal year, that provide clear opportunities to examine these themes with senior officers and Executive members. The draft 2022/23 work schedule, which appears elsewhere on this agenda, reflects the 2021/22 recommendation that the successor Scrutiny Board should once again consider such items of business including the Medium-Term Financial Strategy update.
- In recent years, the role of scrutiny as a 'critical friend' on financial performance and management has supported the Best Council ambition to be an efficient and enterprising organisation. Looking to the future, the Scrutiny Board will consider these issues in the context of the priorities set out in the recently adopted Best City Ambition.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- a) Note the content of the Financial and Treasury Management Outturn reports for 2021/22.
- b) Consider how the priorities highlighted in the Scrutiny Board's discussion might inform decisions about future work programming.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) has several key financial functions within its remit. These include: ensuring effective financial management and controls; setting, supporting and monitoring the Council's policies and procedures for budgets; administering effective financial management and controls; and setting, supporting and monitoring the Council's financial strategy.
- 2 To inform the Board's initial discussions on these themes the 2021/22 Financial and Treasury Management Outturn reports will be published as supplementary information following publication of the agenda for the Executive Board meeting on 22 June 2022.
- 3 The Financial Outturn report provides the financial outturn position for 2021/22 for the revenue budget, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), schools budgets and the Capital Programme.
- 4 The Treasury Management Outturn Report provides a final update on loans undertaken to fund the capital programme requirements for both General Fund and HRA.
- 5 It is anticipated that the Board will closely monitor other aspects of financial performance in 2022/23 through updates on matters including the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, Financial Health and any associated issues that support the delivery of a balanced budget in 2022/23.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected: Please state the specific wards affected here. If city-wide, state "All" for clarity.

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 6 The Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) has a clear interest in the financial performance of the authority. Ongoing scrutiny of such issues will assist the Council in providing assurance as to the robustness and long-term sustainability of the budget. Scrutiny activity in this area has previously supported the Best Council Ambition to be an efficient and enterprising organisation and will in future support the priorities identified in the recently adopted Best City Ambition.
- 7 In line with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules, all Scrutiny Boards also continue to ensure that equality and diversity/cohesion and integration are considered in decision making and policy formulation.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 8 Through its work programme the Scrutiny Board maintains regular dialogue with both senior officers and the Executive in relation to matters of financial health and performance.

What are the resource implications?

- 9 All such implications are detailed in the appended reports.

What are the legal implications?

- 10 This report has no specific legal implications.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 11 This report has no specific risk management implications.

Does this proposal support the council's 3 Key Pillars?

- Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 12 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards continue to promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the Best Council Plan.
- 13 Having a robust and sustainable budgetary position will enable the Council to deliver against its priorities including the three key pillars set out above.

Appendices

- 14 Appendix 1 – Financial Outturn Report 2021/22: This provides the financial outturn position for 2021/22 for the revenue budget, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), schools budgets and the Capital Programme as will be considered by Executive Board on 22 June 2022
- 15 Appendix 2 – Treasury Management Outturn Report 2021/22: This provides a final update on loans undertaken to fund the capital programme requirements for both General Fund and HRA.

Appendices to follow

Background papers

- 16 None