

Part A

Report to: Finance Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: Monday, 29 June 2020

Report author: Interim Head of Finance

Title: Council Finances - 2020/21 Budget Update

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report updates the Committee on the Councils Finances as a result of Covid 19.

2.0 Risks

2.1

Nature of Risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response (Treat, tolerate, terminate, transfer)	Risk Rating (combination of severity and likelihood)
Watford as a place and as a council does not recover from the impact of the incident	Serious impact on the economy and vibrancy of the town. Reduction in the ability of the council to deliver the requirements of residents and businesses and fulfil its statutory obligations. Impact on long term financial sustainability of the Council	Recovery cell established led by the Group Head of Commercial to ensure that plans are put in place as early as possible with action taken as early as possible and to ensure the decision-making during the incident is cognisant of Recovery. The recovery cell includes the Shared Director of Finance and will have a focus on financial as well as economic recovery. An updated Financial Strategy to be brought alongside Q1 Budget Monitoring	Treat	3 x 4 = 12

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 That the Finance Scrutiny Committee note and comment on the attached report.

Further information:

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Report approved by:

Alison Scott Shared Director of Finance

4.0 Implications

4.1 Financial

4.1.1 These are covered within the report.

4.2 Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)

4.2.1 The Group Head of Democracy and Governance comments that there are no specific legal implications in this report.

4.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection

4.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection

4.3.1 Under s149 (1) of the Equality Act the council must have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to –

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share them
- foster good relations between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share them.

4.3.2 Having had regard to the council's obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018, it is considered that officers are not required to undertake a Data Processing Impact Assessment (DPIA) for this report.

4.3.3 This report provides an over view of Budget proposals and equalities issues will need to be specifically considered before any changes to existing service levels are introduced.

4.4 Staffing

5.4.1 Where necessary some staff have been redeployed. To date no member of staff has been furloughed.

5.5 **Accommodation**

5.5.1 There are no accommodation implications arising from this report.

5.6 **Community Safety/Crime and Disorder**

5.6.1 There are no community safety/crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

5.7 **Sustainability**

5.7.1 There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

Appendices

Annexe 1 – Finance Digest

Background papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.