

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2340

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Housing
Subject:	Extension of Void Property Works and Component Improvement Package Works Contract 2019/2022
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Providing housing choices

Purpose:

This report considers the extension of the existing contract for Void Property Works and Component Improvement Package Works for the Council's building portfolio for a further two years.

The report provides the Executive with information on the existing contract with Mountjoy Ltd for Void Property Works and Component Improvement Package Works and its performance. Approval is sought to extend the existing contract for a further 2 years.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that the existing contract with Mountjoy Ltd be extended for a further 2 years from its existing expiry date of 30 April 2022.

Reason:

To comply with the Council's statutory duty to its tenants and to maintain the Council's assets to a good standard.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2341

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Health and Public Protection
Subject:	Renewal of Environmental Health Partnership Agreement
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

That the Executive delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to renew the Environmental Health Partnership Agreement with Gosport Borough Council on an open-ended basis with appropriate clauses to allow for future reviews and/or termination.

The latest agreement between the two Councils in respect of the Environmental Health Partnership was for a period of 5 years from 01 April 2014 until 31 March 2019. Prior to the pandemic, work was underway to renew the agreement, however progress has been hampered over the last couple of years or so. The current Partnership Agreement has technically expired and a new one needs to be put into place for the legal and financial security of both Councils.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees to delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, following consultation with the Executive Member for Health and Public Protection, to renew the Environmental Health Partnership Agreement with Gosport Borough Council on an open-ended basis with appropriate clauses to allow for future reviews and/or termination.

Reason:

The Environmental Health Partnership is continuing to offer good value for money, resilience and a good quality Service to Fareham Borough Council. The Agreement, which underpins it, has expired and it would be prudent to see a new partnership agreement put into place as detailed above.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2342

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Planning and Development
Subject:	Fareham Coastal Defence Study (Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cador Drive)
Report of:	Director of Planning and Regeneration
Corporate Priority:	Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

To seek approval to undertake coastal defence study to develop Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Scheme options for the Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cador Drive frontages, to reduce flood and erosion risk alongside the impacts of those risks on historic coastal landfill.

The project will also provide an opportunity to investigate additional broader outcome opportunities important to Fareham Borough Council (FBC) and the wider Fareham community relating not only to the environment, but also to the improvement of the public realm, regeneration, enhancement of amenities, improvement of recreation opportunities, access and community health and wellbeing.

Fareham Quay is situated at the end of Fareham Creek in the north corner of Portsmouth Harbour (Appendix A), the frontage is tidally dominated, relatively sheltered and subject to wind driven waves.

Located within three kilometres of Fareham Quay, the Alton Grove to Cador Drive frontage, north of Portsmouth Harbour, near Portchester (Appendix A), is fronted by a shallow intertidal foreshore. Given the exposure to the prevailing south and south westerly winds, the frontage is susceptible to wave overtopping when strong winds combine with high tidal conditions. Both coastal frontages and existing defences are owned and maintained by FBC and are now reaching the end of their serviceable life.

Across both frontages, a significant number of properties are at risk of an extreme tidal flood event during the next 100 years. Further to this, both coastal frontages are identified as historic coastal landfill sites. Continued erosion of defences in these locations could also risk exposing further landfill and potentially pollute the environmentally important Portsmouth Harbour.

The aim is to undertake a combined FCERM coastal defence study for the Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cadour Drive frontages. The Study will assess and develop longer-term coastal management options, reducing flood and erosion risk and addressing historic landfill issues, as recommended in the River Hamble to Portchester Strategy (RHPS) (2016) and the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan (2010).

The study will also put forward a proposal and outline design to try and secure further funding for detailed designs and to implement and construct the preferred option.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves commencement of the Fareham Coastal Defence Study; and
- (b) agrees that the Director of Planning and Regeneration is given delegated authority to procure and deliver the works, subject to the award of contract being made through an Individual Decision of the Executive Member for Planning and Development.

Reason:

If no coastal defences were in place, 49 properties across both areas are at tidal flood risk from a 1/100-year extreme tidal event today, substantially increasing to a total of 400 properties at risk during the same event in 100 years (Appendix B).

Further to this, both sites are former landfill sites, with historical operation of landfill activities from as early as 1932. The RHPS, identified the Fareham Quay frontage as a 'medium risk' landfill site. The area is currently defended by a poor condition block wall which has several recent failures requiring remediation. The Alton Grove to Cadour Drive frontage has been identified as a 'high-risk' site as most of the area is undefended and subject to erosion with areas of poor condition concrete sandbag walls. Continued erosion of defences in these locations could also risk exposing further landfill and potentially pollute the environmentally important Portsmouth Harbour.

Due to the apparent risks at both these sites and following adoption of the RHPS, both Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cadour Drive were identified as priority sites to progress coastal flood and erosion risk management schemes.

Sea defence damage and failures present an on-going and increasing risk to public safety. Since 2012, various maintenance activities have taken place at both sites. If no future planned maintenance is undertaken, sections of the frontage at both sites will continue to fail, as recently seen during Storm Barra (7th December 2021) at Salterns recreation ground.

The Fareham Coastal Defence Study and associated schemes are included in the Environment Agency's Capital Investment Programme, although it is likely that limited grants will be available for the delivery of the schemes. Funding for the study was approved by the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (SRFCC) in December 2020 along with funding from FBC.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2343

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2022/23
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Dynamic, prudent and progressive Council

Purpose:

This report seeks final confirmation of the recommendations to be made to Council, on 25 February 2022, in respect of the revenue budget, capital programme and council tax for 2022/23.

On 10 January 2022, the Executive reviewed the Council's overall finance strategy and considered proposals relating to the revenue budgets and the council tax for 2022/23. This report updates the Council's budgets to reflect the decisions taken and other known changes since 10 January 2022.

The capital programme for the years 2021/22 to 2025/26 will be £44,990,900.

The revenue budget for 2022/23 will be £10,788,000. With retained business rates and grants estimated to be £3,117,262 and a payment to the collection fund of £39,398, the total amount due from the Council taxpayers will be £7,710,136.

Taking these changes into consideration, the council tax for 2022/23 will be £175.22 per band D property. This represents an increase of £5 per year from the council tax set for 2021/22 but would be within the referendum limit set by the Government.

Options Considered:

A revised page 46 of the agenda pack was tabled at the meeting in respect of this item to provide the net rates payable from National Non-Domestic rates for 2022/23 (after Transitional arrangements and reliefs).

The comments of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves and recommends to the meeting of the Council to be held on 25 February 2022:

- (a) the capital programme and financing of £44,990,900;
- (b) an overall revised revenue budget for 2012/22 of £10,494,800;
- (c) a revenue budget for 2022/23 of £10,788,000;
- (d) a council tax for Fareham Borough Council for 2022/23 of £175.22 per band D property, which represents a £5.00 per year increase when compared to the current year and is within referendum limits; and
- (e) an unchanged Council Tax Support scheme for 2022/23

Reason:

To allow the Council to approve the Council Tax for 2022/23.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2344

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Housing Revenue Account 2022/23
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Providing housing choices

Purpose:

This report seeks Executive approval for the revised budget for the Housing Revenue Account for 2021/22, the base budgets and rent increases for 2022/23.

The Executive recommended, and the Council approved, in February 2021, the base budgets and rent increase for 2021/22, for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) services.

This report sets out some revisions to the Housing Revenue Account revised budget for 2021/22 and base budget for 2022/23 along with the capital programme and financing for the years 2021/22 to 2025/26. The report examines the issues affecting the Housing Revenue Account including rent changes with effect from 01 April 2022.

Council budgets are susceptible to change in the level of expenditure and income caused by factors inside and outside the Council's control. A risk assessment has been carried out to indicate the effect on housing balances of changes in the level of expenditure and income. This can be used to estimate the account balances needed to provide a prudent level of reserves and a working balance.

Options Considered:

The comments of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves and recommends to the meeting of the Council to be held on 25 February 2022 that:

- (a) rents be approved for Council Dwellings as set out in paragraph 23 with effect from 01 April 2022;
- (b) rents for Council garages be increased by 3.8% with effect from 01 April 2022;
- (c) the revised budget for 2021/22 be approved; and
- (d) The base budget for 2022/23 be approved.

Reason:

To allow the Council to approve the Housing Revenue Account budgets for 2022/23.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2345

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Gambling - Review of Statement of Principles
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Strong, safe, inclusive and healthy communities

Purpose:

This report sets out the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy) that details the Council's approach to the provision of Gambling in the Borough. The Policy is reviewed every three years and this review has taken account of any changes in legislation, regulations and guidance. The revised Policy is attached as Appendix A and is being presented to the Executive for recommendation to Council for adoption.

The Council has an existing Gambling Policy which, during this review, has been rewritten for ease of understanding. There have not been any substantive policy changes. The Policy sets out the standards and criteria for applications received according to the Gambling Act and how those applications will be determined, and the licensing objectives promoted.

Options Considered:

The comments of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee were taken into account in considering this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that having considered the revised Gambling Policy, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, the Executive recommends the policy to Council for adoption.

Reason:

Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 ('the Act') requires the licensing authority to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy every three years. This outlines the general approach of the licensing authority when making licensing decisions under the Act and can be reviewed and revised by the Authority at any time.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2346

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Dynamic, prudent and progressive Council

Purpose:

This report considers the draft Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy for 2022/23, prior to its submission to the Council for approval.

Regulations require the Council to prepare and formally approve both an annual Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy. The document for 2022/23 is attached as Appendix A to the report for consideration by the Executive before being submitted to Council for approval. There have been no significant changes proposed to the strategies.

CIPFA published revised versions of its Treasury Management Code of Practice and the Prudential Code in late December 2021. Due to the late publications, CIPFA recognises that changes may not be fully implemented until 2023/24 due to the lead-in time to produce the strategy. Therefore, this strategy is based on the 2017 version of both Codes.

In the past 12 months, the Council's investment balance has ranged between £16 million and £25 million and similar levels are expected to be maintained in the forthcoming year. The majority of the Council's investments is expected to be invested in short-term unsecured bank deposits and money market funds with approximately £16 million available for longer-term investment.

Borrowing levels are expected to increase to a projected £72.7 million at the end of 2022/23 to fund the capital programme. The Council has previously raised all of its long-term borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) but will consider long-term loans from other sources. PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield.

Recognising the Council's commitment to climate change mitigation, a new Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Policy identifying investment considerations has been added.

Options Considered:

The comments of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) endorses the draft Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy for 2022/23, attached as Appendix A to the report; and
- (b) agrees to submit the report to Council for approval.

Reason:

In accordance with the Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services and guidance from the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), the Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy have to be approved by full Council.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22
Decision No.
2347

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Capital Programme and Capital Strategy 2022/23
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Dynamic, prudent and progressive Council

Purpose:

This report considers the Capital Strategy for 2022/23, prior to its submission to the Council for approval.

Regulations require the Council to prepare and formally approve a Capital Strategy. The document for 2022/23 is attached as Appendix A to the report for consideration by the Executive before being submitted to Council for approval.

The Capital Strategy gives a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing, asset management and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability.

The main highlights in the Capital Strategy are:

- i. The level of capital expenditure estimate for 2022/23 is £19.9 million.
- ii. The current estimate is that £9.8 million of this will be met by new borrowing.
- iii. A new section about Environmental Sustainability has been added.
- iv. A high-level review of future funding requirements has identified a capital funding requirement of £229 million.
- v. The Council's commercial property portfolio has an estimate value of £61.5 million.

A separate report proposing the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2022/23 is also being presented at the February meeting of the Executive.

Options Considered:

The comments of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) endorses the draft Capital Strategy for 2022/23, attached as Appendix A to the report;
- (b) approves the capital programme for the period 2021/22 to 2025/26, amounting to £73.8million as set out in Annex 1 of the Capital Strategy; and
- (c) agrees to submit the Capital Strategy for 2022/23 to Council for approval.

Reason:

To allow the Council to approve the Capital Strategy in accordance with the Prudential Code.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 7 February 2022