

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Planning Committee

Date **22 January 2020**

Report of: **Deputy Chief Executive Officer**

Subject: **SPENDING PLANS 2020/21**

SUMMARY

This report sets out the overall level of revenue spending on this Committee's services and seeks agreement for the revised revenue budget for 2020/21 and the base budget for 2020/21 before being recommended to Full Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning Committee: -

- (i) agrees the revised budget for 2019/20;
- (ii) agrees the base budget for 2020/21; and
- (iii) recommends the budget to Full Council for approval.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Council has a co-ordinated strategic service and financial planning process and this report allows the committee to consider in detail these plans for the provision of the Planning Committee services during the next financial year.
2. This report and the revenue budgets have been prepared in accordance with the Medium Term Finance Strategy that was approved by the Executive on 6 January 2020 and will cover the fees and charges and the revenue budget.

FEES AND CHARGES

3. The Planning Committee charges that are shown in the budget figures are mainly statutory and therefore not under the control of the committee.
4. The current level of Planning fees were set by Central Government and came into force on 17 January 2018.

REVENUE BUDGET

5. Appendix A analyses the overall budget total for the individual Planning Committee services and by the different types of expenditure and income.

BASE BUDGET 2019/20

6. The base budgets for 2019/20 were considered by this committee in January 2019 and were confirmed by Full Council in February 2019. The base budget for 2019/20 amounted to £485,700

REVISED BUDGET 2020/21

7. The revised budget for 2020/21 is £666,900 which represents an increase of £181,200 or 37.3% from the base budget.
8. The main change to the revised budgets is as a result of higher legal and consultant payments due to high profile planning applications including Welborne. There has also been a large reduction in the budget for fee income from planning applications due to reductions in applications because of the ongoing nitrates issue.

BASE BUDGET 2020/21

9. The base budget for 2020/21 is £472,600 a decrease of £13,100 or 2.7% from the base budget.
10. Appendix A of this report shows the analysis of expenditure and income for individual services and the following paragraphs of this report set out issues affecting individual services that have arisen in the current year in order to explain the variations between base 2019/20 budgets and the 2020/21 base budget.

SERVICE ISSUES

11. In preparing the budget there have been changes to the way the employee budgets have been calculated which have reflected the national pay award. In addition to this there have been changes to the employer's costs of National Insurance and pensions.
12. These changes are reflected in the figures in this report and therefore have resulted in some variances across this committee.
13. Internal Recharges costs provided for this committee include ICT, HR, Finance and Audit, Customer Services and accommodation recharges.
14. In addition the recharges from various partnerships which support the committee include Southampton Legal Partnership, Environmental Health Partnership and Building Control Partnership are shown under Third Party Payments heading.
15. The changes to these two areas have been small when compared to the Base Budget for 2020/21.

PROCESSING APPLICATIONS

16. There has been an overall increase in the 2020/21 base budget for this service of £12,900. The majority of the increase is due to increases in employee costs along with increased legal costs and both have been offset by a reduction in internal recharges.

PLANNING ADVICE

17. There has been a reduction in the 2020/21 base budget for this service of £27,900. This is mainly due to reductions in employees budgets due to reduced pension costs and movement in time allocations.

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

18. There has been a small increase in the 2020/21 base budget for this service of £1,300. This is mainly due to a small increase in the internal recharges budget.

PLANNING APPEALS

19. There has been a small increase in the 2020/21 base budget for this service of £600.

RISK ASSESSMENT

20. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

CONCLUSION

21. A number of Planning Committee services are partly funded from fees and charges and other types of income. After taking service income into account investment income and the Council's share of business rate income reduce the remainder of the overall cost of services is met by council tax payers.
22. These sources of income are generally outside the Council's control and do not reflect the changes in the overall level of spending on local services.
23. With these sources of income effectively "fixed", members need to be aware that, unless it can be matched by increased service income, additional spending on services has to be fully funded by council tax payers.
24. It follows that Members must give full weight of the Council's overall position and future council tax levels when the revenue budgets for 2020/21 are considered.

Appendix A – Revenue Budget 2019/20 revised and 2020/21 Base Budget.

Background Papers:

Reference Papers:

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Neil Wood. (Ext 4506)

APPENDIX A

PLANNING COMMITTEE

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR THE COUNCIL TAX 2020/21

	Base Estimate 2019/20	Revised Estimate 2019/20	Base Estimate 2020/21
	£	£	£
PROCESSING APPLICATIONS	60,000	249,500	72,900
PLANNING ADVICE	243,300	235,700	215,400
PLANNING ENFORCEMENT	126,000	125,400	127,300
PLANNING APPEALS	56,400	56,400	57,000
	485,700	666,900	472,600

SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS

	Base Estimate 2019/20	Revised Estimate 2019/20	Base Estimate 2020/21
	£	£	£
EMPLOYEES	787,100	792,200	766,400
TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE	11,600	11,600	11,500
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	60,800	142,800	64,800
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	99,400	100,200	103,400
INTERNAL RECHARGES	172,800	166,100	172,500
GROSS EXPENDITURE	1,131,700	1,212,900	1,118,600
OTHER INCOME	-2,600	-2,600	-2,600
FEEES AND CHARGES	-643,400	-543,400	-643,400
GROSS INCOME	-646,000	-546,000	-646,000
NET EXPENDITURE	485,700	666,900	472,600

	Base Estimate 2019/20	Revised Estimate 2019/20	Base Estimate 2020/21
	£	£	£
<u>PROCESSING APPLICATIONS</u>			
EMPLOYEES	442,000	453,400	456,500
TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE	7,000	7,000	7,600
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	32,900	114,900	32,900
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	80,700	81,200	83,200
INTERNAL RECHARGES	113,700	109,300	109,000
GROSS EXPENDITURE	676,300	765,800	689,200
OTHER INCOME	-2,600	-2,600	-2,600
FEES AND CHARGES	-613,700	-513,700	-613,700
GROSS INCOME	-616,300	-516,300	-616,300
NET EXPENDITURE	60,000	249,500	72,900

	Base Estimate 2019/20	Revised Estimate 2019/20	Base Estimate 2020/21
	£	£	£
<u>PLANNING ADVICE</u>			
EMPLOYEES	218,500	212,200	183,900
TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE	2,100	2,100	1,500
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	2,000	2,000	6,000
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	13,000	13,200	13,900
INTERNAL RECHARGES	37,400	35,900	39,800
GROSS EXPENDITURE	273,000	265,400	245,100
FEES AND CHARGES	-29,700	-29,700	-29,700
GROSS INCOME	-29,700	-29,700	-29,700
NET EXPENDITURE	243,300	235,700	215,400

	Base Estimate 2019/20	Revised Estimate 2019/20	Base Estimate 2020/21
	£	£	£
<u>PLANNING ENFORCEMENT</u>			
EMPLOYEES	97,700	97,700	97,200
TRANSPORT EXPENDITURE	2,500	2,500	2,400
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	3,000	3,000	3,000
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	5,700	5,800	6,300
INTERNAL RECHARGES	17,100	16,400	18,400
GROSS EXPENDITURE	126,000	125,400	127,300
NET EXPENDITURE	126,000	125,400	127,300

	Base Estimate 2019/20	Revised Estimate 2019/20	Base Estimate 2020/21
	£	£	£
<u>PLANNING APPEALS</u>			
EMPLOYEES	28,900	28,900	28,800
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	22,900	22,900	22,900
INTERNAL RECHARGES	4,600	4,500	5,300
GROSS EXPENDITURE	56,400	56,400	57,000
NET EXPENDITURE	56,400	56,300	57,000

TOTAL PLANNING COMMITTEE	485,700	666,900	472,600
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