

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Date: Thursday, 7th January, 2021

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting

For anyone wishing to view the meeting live, please click the link below:

[Join live event](#)

Or dial in via telephone on 141 020 3321 5200 and input Conference ID: 523 795 371# when prompted.

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making and Overview and Scrutiny meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2020.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

For any apologies or requests for further information, or to give notice of a question to be asked by a member of the public

Contact: Joel Hammond-Gant

Tel: 01270 686468

E-Mail: joel.hammond-gant@cheshireeast.gov.uk

4. **Declaration of Party Whip**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

5. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Members of the public wishing to make a statement should provide notice in writing at least three clear working days before the meeting takes place.

6. **Pre-Budget Consultation 2021/22** (Pages 9 - 20)

To consider the Pre-Budget Consultation 2021/22 proposals from the Corporate Services Directorate.

7. **Amalgamation of the Council's Member Forum and Panels** (Pages 21 - 32)

To consider and comment on a proposed amalgamation of the council's three informal member panels; the Brighter Future Members' Forum, the Member Technology and Development Panel and the Members' Enquiries Service Panel, into one body.

8. **Forward Plan** (Pages 33 - 44)

To review the council's Forward Plan of key decisions.

9. **Work Programme** (Pages 45 - 54)

To review the committee's work programme.

Membership: Councillors Q Abel, C Bulman, JP Findlow, R Fletcher, M Hunter, A Moran, B Murphy (Vice-Chairman), J Saunders, M Simon, R Vernon, L Wardlaw and J Clowes (Chairman)

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 26th November, 2020 at Virtual Meeting

PRESENT

Councillor J Clowes (Chairman)
Councillor B Murphy (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Q Abel, C Bulman, JP Findlow, R Fletcher, M Hunter, A Moran,
J Saunders, M Simon, R Vernon and L Wardlaw

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor J Rhodes, Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Corporate
Services
Councillor A Stott, Portfolio Holder for Finance, ICT and Communication

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

David Brown, Director of Governance and Compliance
Jo Brown, Director of Transformation
Jane Burns, Executive Director of Corporate Services
Paul Goodwin, Head of Financial Services
Frank Jordan, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Place
Alex Thompson, Director of Financial and Customer Services

30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

31 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman reported that at the 6 October 2020 meeting of Cabinet, they had not received the same apportioned time as other speakers, and as a result had not been able to provide a full report of the considerations and feedback of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the Mid-Year Review (FINANCE) 2020/21 report.

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 October 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Moran declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 37, due to being a member of Mid Cheshire NHS Foundation Trust.

Officers noted that dispensation had been granted that ensured that this declaration of interest would not prevent Councillor A Moran from partaking in the debate on this item.

RESOLVED –

That Councillor A Moran's declaration of a non-pecuniary interest, and the dispensation for this, be noted.

33 DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of a party whip.

34 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

35 COVID-19 UPDATE

Consideration was given to the Cabinet (1 December 2020) that provided an update on the work undertaken by the council to respond to, and recover from, the Covid-19 pandemic.

Members asked questions and put comments in relation to;

- the up-to-date Covid-19 rate of infection in the borough;
- whether PPE could be recycled and/or re-purposed;
- the range of grants and financial support that the council had received to support its response to the pandemic;
- whether the council would be able to continue to fund and keep open the libraries and leisure centres in the borough; and
- the forthcoming Covid-19 mass vaccination programme and what plans had been made to ensure the council had the resources to support the programme.

It was noted that the 25 November 2020 release of the Government's Autumn Statement would potentially impact the budgetary proposals within the council's Pre-Budget 2021/22 Consultation.

RESOLVED –

That the update report be received and noted.

36 COUNCIL TAX BASE 2021/22

The committee considered the Council Tax Base 2021/22 report. The committee put questions and comments in relation to;

- whether there was intelligence that showed how successful the council's policy with regards to charging premiums had been, and

- the council's approach to managing the collection of council tax on empty properties.

RESOLVED –

That the report and its recommendations be received and noted.

37 PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATION 2021/22 - 2024/25

Consideration was given to the proposed Pre-Budget Consultation 2021/22 documentation, which was due to go out to public consultation following the 1 December 2020 meeting of Cabinet.

Members asked questions and commented in relation to;

- concern that, due to the unforeseen increase in the numbers of cared for children in the borough since the Covid-19 pandemic, it may not be possible for the council to achieve its proposed savings through a reduction in the number of cared for children
- the technical language within the documentation and whether it could have been worded in a simpler, more understandable way; and
- whether this was a suitable document to consult with the public on.

RESOLVED –

That the following recommendation, agreed unanimously, be forwarded to Cabinet to consider:

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee understands the difficulties currently faced by the Council due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, it has concerns that at this early stage of the Pre-Budget Consultation 2021/22 to 2024/25, there is insufficient detail about where specific budgetary actions are planned to take place, and that this does not enable objective and meaningful comments to be made. The committee understands that, in light of the Government's Spending Review presented to Parliament on 26 November 2020, further work will be done on this council's Pre-Budget Consultation documentation and it hopes that this will be brought forward as soon as possible during the consultation process so that it can be incorporated into the committee's reflection on it.

38 WORKPLACE RECOVERY

The committee gave consideration to an update on how the council had supported its workforce and ensured the safe management of its buildings, since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Members asked questions and put comments in relation to;

- how the council had ensured that managers had the support available to effectively transition to line managing in the new virtual working world;
- had consideration been given to how the council could increase its response rate to officer surveys; and
- that the virtual working arrangements had shown that in the long-term, there was a need to achieve an effective balance between homeworking and ensuring people achieve the social benefits of interacting with colleagues in person.

RESOLVED –

That the update be received and noted.

39 UPDATE FROM THE (BEST4BUSINESS) JOINT SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP

An update was provided to the committee by members of the Joint Scrutiny Working Group – jointly set up with Cheshire West and Chester Council – to monitor and scrutinise the progress of the Best4Business Programme.

The update provided members with information on where the project was, and what the planned next steps were. It was noted that, due to the pandemic, the two authorities had changed from the planned programme of ‘classroom training’ to virtual training.

RESOLVED –

That the update be received and noted.

40 FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the council’s Forward Plan of key decisions.

RESOLVED –

That the Forward Plan be noted.

41 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the committee’s work programme.

RESOLVED –

1. That the work programme be noted.
2. That the Members’ Facilities, Accommodation and Culture Task and Finish Group report be picked up and progressed, with the aim of finalising it by the end of the 2020/21 municipal year.

The meeting commenced at 12.30 pm and concluded at 3.40 pm

Councillor J Clowes (Chairman)

This page is intentionally left blank



Working for a brighter future together

Version
Number: 0.1

Key Decision Y/N
Date First
Published: 22/12/20

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 7 January 2021

Report Title: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020 to 2025 - Consultation

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Amanda Stott - Portfolio Holder for Finance, Communications and ICT

Senior Officer: Alex Thompson – Director of Finance & Customer Services

Jane Burns, Executive Director of Corporate Services

1. Report Summary

- 1.1 The Council is required to set a balanced budget each year. On 1st December 2020, Cabinet approved a balanced set of proposals for consultation, with a comprehensive programme to promote the proposals and seek responses from stakeholders.
- 1.2 Part of the annual process for setting the budget sees Scrutiny Committees review the proposals and provide feedback prior to Cabinet making its recommendations to Council.
- 1.3 Cabinet will review the feedback received from all sources, including the Local Government Settlement issued on 17th December 2021 and will aim to make recommendations to Council at it's meeting on 2nd February 2021. These recommendations will include proposals for a balanced budget based on robust estimates and supported by adequate reserves.

2. Recommendations

That Committee:

- 2.1 Review the consultation information approved by Cabinet on 1st December 2020 (appended to this report), focusing on the proposals relevant to this Committee.
- 2.2 Provide feedback on the proposals to Cabinet as necessary in advance of their meeting of 2nd February 2021.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committees provide an important element of the Council's governance arrangements. The Medium-Term Financial Strategy presents a set of key decisions for Members each year and it is important that Members are provided with opportunities to review the proposals being consulted upon and the Scrutiny Committees fulfil a significant element of this requirement.
- 3.2 To ensure that budget proposals are robust, it is appropriate to subject them to appropriate scrutiny throughout the consultation period. Appendix A provides the list of proposals subject to consultation and identifies those most relevant to each Committee.
- 3.3 Additionally some proposals will be subject to further consultation activity directly with services users. All feedback received during the consultation period will be provided as part of the reporting to Cabinet and Council in February 2021.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 The consultation process was discussed with Members in their various roles within political groups and as Members of committees. Options to support responses to the consultation were considered and a full suite of service scrutiny meetings was agreed as the most appropriate way to engage Members this year.

5. Background

- 5.1 The background and context to the process and development of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy are contained within the Cabinet Reports dates 10th November and 1st December.
- 5.2 Since publication of the Cabinet reports the Chancellor of the Exchequer has published the Spending Review 2020 and the Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement. The announcements relevant to local authorities focused on additional funding schemes related to COVID-19, and an overall increase in Local

Government Spending Power for 2021/22 of 4.5%. The increase in Spending Power reflects a net effect of new and continuing grants compared to grant reductions but is mostly based on an ability to increase Council Tax by including an additional 3% precept for Adult Social Care.

5.3 Cabinet will utilise the information provided during the consultation period in making their recommendations to Council in February 2021. However, to provide additional context to Scrutiny Committees, it is important to note the most significant impacts of the Spending Review for Cheshire East Council compared to the published consultation documents. Committee members should therefore note the following points from the Spending Review:

- Option to increase Council Tax by an additional 3% for Adult Social Care (1% = £2.3m for Cheshire East Council)
- Potential pay freeze across the public sector, apart from some key workers and those affected by minimum wage requirements (pay inflation of 2.5% assumed within the Cheshire East Council budget consultation)
- New Social Care Grant (equal to c.£0.4m for Cheshire East Council)
- Reduction in New Homes Bonus, by not continuing legacy payments for previous housebuilding (reduces grant to Cheshire East Council by c.£3.6m)
- Removal of access to the Public Works Loans Board for borrowing associated with yield. Cheshire East Council was forecasting c.£0.5m of income from activities associated with the approved Investment Strategy.

6. Implications of the Recommendations

6.1. Legal Implications

6.1.1 There are no legal implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

6.2. Finance Implications

6.2.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations of this report, however the consultation process may lead to amendments to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy which is a Key Decision for the Council.

6.3. Policy Implications

6.3.1 The MTFS will be considered alongside the new Corporate Plan, which sets out a new vision, aims and priorities for Cheshire East Council.

6.4. Equality Implications

6.4.1 Equality Impact Assessments have been drafted based on the consultation proposals and will be updated alongside final recommendations on the budget.

6.5. Human Resources Implications

6.5.1 There are a number of proposals which will impact on staff. These have been shared with staff and recognised Trade Unions as part of the consultation process.

6.6. Risk Management Implications

6.6.1 There are a number of risks associated in particular with the ongoing uncertainties around Covid response and recovery which are reflected in the MTFS.

6.7. Rural Communities Implications

6.7.1 Any implications will be considered in the final responses.

6.8. Implications for Children & Young People/Cared for Children

6.8.1 The implications are set out in the draft budget and will be considered by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

6.9. Public Health Implications

6.9.1 There are a number of implications, particularly related to the ongoing Covid pandemic.

6.10. Climate Change Implications

6.10.1 The implications are set out in the draft budget and will be considered by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. Ward Members Affected

7.1. All

8. Consultation & Engagement

- 8.1** This report is a part of the Council's consultation process to support the development and future implementation of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

9. Access to Information

- 9.1** There are several important supporting documents members may wish to review to support engagement with the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2020 to 2025:

9.1.1 [Cheshire East Council Medium-Term Financial Strategy](#)

9.1.2 Cabinet Reports to launch the MTFS Consultation:

9.1.3 [10th November 2020](#) – Item 51

9.1.4 [1st December 2020](#) – Item 63

9.1.5 [Cheshire East Council Budget Consultation \(Webpage\)](#)

9.1.6 [Spending Review 2020](#)

9.1.7 [Provisional Local Government Settlement 2021/22](#)

10. Contact Information

- 10.1** Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

Name: Alex Thompson

Job Title: Director of Finance & Customer Services

Email: alex.thompson@cheshireeast.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

*Important Note: Proposals marked **RED** / **AMBER** have been identified as those only being considered for consultation and any subsequent implementation if the Local Government Funding Settlement does not sufficiently increase the funding to Cheshire East Council. **RED** items would be removed first where possible.

Detailed List of Proposed Budget Changes	OSC	Note	Change from Previous Years Budget			
			2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m
Ensure that there is transparency in all aspects of Council decision making						
Local Election Costs	Corporate		0.150			
			0.150	0.000	0.000	0.000
Listen, learn and respond to our residents, promoting opportunities for a two-way conversation						
Census 2021	Corporate		-0.020			
			-0.020	0.000	0.000	0.000
Support and sustain a financial future for the Council, through service development, improvement and transformation						
Pay inflationary increase	Corporate		4.591	3.825	3.907	3.998
Housing Benefit – Supported Accommodation	Corporate		1.300			
Core Financial System	Corporate		0.764	-0.459		
Mitigation of reduction in the Dedicated Schools Grant (Corporate Services)	Corporate		0.117	0.042	0.033	0.027
B4B unachievable savings - HR & TSC Budget Shortfall - ADD TO CORE FINANCIAL SYSTEM			0.000			
Mitigation of the year-on-year reduction in the Dedicated Schools Grant (ICT) - ADD TO DSG	Corporate		0.033	0.065	0.089	0.109
Direct Payments	Health	A *	-1.000			
Continuing Healthcare Reviews	Health	A *	-1.000	-1.000		
Prevention and Early Help Service – Reduction of frontline workers in Prevention	Children	R *	-0.265	-0.697		
Reduce the numbers of Business Support Staff in line with the repurposing of Children & Family Centres	Children	R *	-0.200			
Reduce Base budget assigned to Community Grants	Health	A *	-0.150			
Efficiency savings and Restructures within Corporate Services	Corporate	A *	-0.300	-0.250		
Review Terms and Conditions	Corporate	A *	-0.300	-0.100	-0.100	
Shared services review	Corporate	A *			-0.200	
Improved Debt Recovery and correcting budgeted court costs income targets to reflect actual levels	Corporate	A *	-0.290	0.225	0.050	0.050
Capital Programme Review	Corporate		-1.000	1.000		
Member allowances and reduced mileage	Corporate		-0.030			
Reduced travel and supplies and services for Early Help services	Children		-0.026			
Reduce pensions budget to match latest forecasts	Corporate		-0.140			
Review of corporate subscriptions	Corporate		-0.035	-0.015		
Flexible Resourcing for Service Delivery for Regulatory Services	Environment		-0.050			
Urban Grass Cutting	Environment	A *	-0.100			
Improving customer experience – Highways correspondence	Environment	A *	-0.100			
Transfer of Congleton Visitor Information Centre	Environment		0.001	-0.020	-0.010	-0.020

Detailed List of Proposed Budget Changes	OSC			2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m
Regulatory Services and Environmental Health ICT procurement	Environment				-0.009		
CCTV migration to wireless networks	Environment				-0.085		
Constellation Partnership	Environment			-0.040			
				1.780	2.523	3.769	4.164
Maximise commercial opportunities for the Council							
Orbitas income and management fee	Environment			0.032	0.021		
Public Rights of Way Resources (Revenue implications of Capital)	Environment			0.010			
Everybody Sport and Recreation Annual Management Fee	Health	A	*	-0.043	-0.042	-0.041	-0.040
Commercial Workstream	Corporate	A	*	-0.100			
Commercialisation of the Highway Service Contract	Environment	A	*	-0.080			
Brighter Futures Together Programme Customer Experience	Corporate	A	*	-0.120	-0.133	-0.081	
Contract savings in the Peoples Directorate	Health			-0.500			
Client Income in the Peoples Directorate	Health			-0.100			
Establish an Education Psychologist traded service to enable a proactive early support and intervention offer	Children				-0.025	-0.075	
Establish a traded service for non statutory elements of Attendance Service	Health				-0.035	-0.035	
Review of governance of ASDVs and seeking increased opportunities for savings/ commercial opportunities	Environment			-0.315	-0.225	-0.100	
Increase income from hire of Children's Centres	Children			-0.010			
Ansa income generation and efficiencies - Food Waste Recycling	Environment			-0.259			
Strategic Leisure Review	Health			0.000	-0.250		
				-1.485	-0.689	-0.332	-0.040
Support and develop our workforce to be confident, motivated, innovative, resilient and empowered							
Infrastructure Investment Programme (Revenue implications of Capital)	Corporate			0.310	0.410	0.520	
Unified Communications (Revenue implications of Capital)	Corporate			0.251	0.283	0.296	
People Directorate - ICT Procurements 2020-24 (Revenue implications of Capital)	Health			0.060	0.063	0.066	0.019
Place Directorate - ICT Procurements 2020-24 (Revenue implications of Capital)	Corporate			0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011
Corporate Directorate - ICT Procurements 2020-24 (Revenue implications of Capital)	Corporate			0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002
Productivity and Efficiency in Adult Social Care	Health	A	*		-1.000		
Estates Transformation - Office Accommodation	Corporate			-0.044	-0.100	-0.460	
Prevention and Early Help Service – Locality working and changes to the management structure of the Family Service	Children	R	*		-0.140		
Neighbourhood Estate Review	Environment			-0.090	-0.260		
Increased Useage of Digital Technology	Corporate			-0.125			
To review of use of School Improvement Grant to provide capacity to support maintained schools	Children			-0.060			
Reduce central training budget	Corporate			-0.080			
				0.235	-0.731	0.435	0.032
Open				0.660	1.103	3.872	4.156

Detailed List of Proposed Budget Changes	OSC			2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m
Reduce health inequalities across the Borough							
Pathfinder Cheshire East - Cheshire Community Action	Health	A	*	-0.100			
Mental Health Floating Support	Health	A	*	-0.120			
				-0.220	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reduce the reliance on long term care by improving services closer to home and more extra care facilities, including those with dementia							
Investment in Adult Social Care	Health			4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000
Growth for Care Fees in Adult Social Care	Health			2.441			
Extra Care Housing – Catering / Restaurant Provision	Health			0.300			
Investment in Advocacy Service	Health			0.112			
Direction of travel for the Communities Team to focus more on the Intervention and Prevention Agenda to make cost savings, growth and future cost avoidance	Health	A	*	-0.750	-0.750		
Fund the Cygnet programme for cared for children from pupil premium	Children	A	*	-0.015			
Day Opportunities, Redesign, Strategy and Savings	Health	A	*	-0.030	-0.070	-0.150	
Mental Health Services Review	Health	A	*	-1.000			
Review agreements linked to intermediate care beds	Health	A	*	-0.268			
Reduced capacity in Family Information Service	Children			-0.050			
Electronic Call Monitoring Reclamation	Health			-0.245	-0.030		
Cheshire Care Record	Health			-0.138			
Review the use of the Cheshire East Lifelong Learning Service grant to reduce the requirement of Council funding	Children			-0.110			
To reduce costs of School Liaison and Governance service with less use of external support	Children			-0.010			
				4.237	3.150	3.850	4.000
Safeguarding our children from abuse, neglect and exploitation							
Increase capacity in SEND service to meet continuing demands on the service	Children			0.100			
Move to Integrated Early Help Locality Service model	Children	R	*	-0.167			
Learning Disabilities Future Service Development and Review	Health	A	*	-1.000	-1.000	-1.000	
Reduced travel and supplies and services for Early Help services	Children			-0.032			
Reduction in cost of external placements for cared for children	Children	A	*	-0.435	-1.571	-2.007	
				-1.534	-2.571	-3.007	0.000
Increase the life opportunities for young adults and adults with additional needs							
Development and Partnerships Service	Health	A	*			-0.300	
				0.000	0.000	-0.300	0.000
Be the best Corporate Parents and improve outcomes for vulnerable children and young people							
Investment in Cared for Children and Care Leavers	Children			1.300	1.300	1.300	
				1.300	1.300	1.300	0.000

Detailed List of Proposed Budget Changes	OSC		2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m
A collaborative way of working with partners and families to support children to achieve their full potential						
Reduction in contribution to Cheshire Youth Justice Service	Children		-0.045			
			-0.045	0.000	0.000	0.000
Fairer						
			3.738	1.879	1.843	4.000
A great place for people to live, work and visit						
Development of a Transit Site (Revenue implications of Capital)	Environment		0.027			
Tatton Park	Environment		0.000	-0.006	-0.028	-0.046
Asset / Service Transfer	Environment		-0.150	-0.030	-0.020	
			-0.123	-0.036	-0.048	-0.046
Welcoming, safe and clean neighbourhoods						
Fixed Penalty Income target	Environment		0.118			
Housing Services	Environment		-0.045			
			0.073	0.000	0.000	0.000
To reduce the impact on our environment						
Waste Contract Inflation and Tonnage Growth	Environment		0.810	0.644	0.657	0.613
Environment Strategy and Carbon Neutrality	Environment	A	*	0.020	-0.081	
Tree Risk Management	Environment			0.500		
Carbon Reduction - Replacement of existing illuminated signs and bollards with LED units	Environment	A	*	0.030	-0.004	-0.031
			0.810	1.194	0.572	0.582
A transport network that is safe and promotes active travel						
Parking Strategy (Revenue implications of Capital) - Subject to separate consultation	Environment	A	*	-0.327	-0.955	
Local Supported Buses - Subject to separate consultation	Environment	A	*	-0.117		
Community Transport	Environment			-0.025		
			-0.469	-0.955	0.000	0.000
Greener						
			0.292	0.203	0.524	0.536
Total Proposed Budget Change			4.689	3.185	6.239	8.692

Detailed List of Proposed Budget Changes	OSC		2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m
Increased Council Tax Base - % increase planned at 1.99%	Corporate		-4.567	-4.694	-4.835	-4.979
Increase Council Tax Base - New Homes	Corporate		-1.838	-2.365	-2.412	-2.461
Central Pension adjustment based on Actuary results	Corporate		-4.567	-1.900	1.500	
Use of Earmarked Reserve - Collection Fund deficit	Corporate		-2.000			2.000
Use of (-) / Contribution to (+) Earmarked Reserves - General	Corporate		2.237	-0.881	-0.820	
Deficit on Collection Fund due to COVID-19	Corporate		2.147			-2.000
Minimum Revenue Provision	Corporate		2.000	3.977	1.024	1.000
Capital Receipts Income removed from base budget	Corporate		1.000			
Reduced commercial growth in Business Rates Retention Scheme	Corporate		0.700			
Bad Debt Provision	Corporate		0.200			
Contribution to General Reserves	Corporate			1.000		-1.000
Change to New Homes Bonus funding estimate	Corporate			1.679	1.427	1.213
Central Budget Items			-4.689	-3.185	-4.116	-6.227
Funding Deficit			0.000	0.000	2.123	2.465
Funding Deficit - Cumulative Position			0.000	0.000	2.123	4.589
*Important Note: Proposals marked RED / AMBER have been identified as those only being considered for consultation and any subsequent implementation if the Local Government Funding Settlement does not sufficiently increase the funding to Cheshire East Council. RED items would be removed first where possible.						

This page is intentionally left blank



Working for a brighter future together

Version Number:

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 7 January 2021

Report Title: Amalgamation of the Council's Member Forum and Panels

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Jill Rhodes, Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Corporate Services

Senior Officer: Brian Reed, Head of Democratic Services and Governance

1. Report Summary

1.1. The Committee is invited to comment on a proposal to amalgamate the Council's three informal member Panels; Brighter Future Members' Forum, the Member Technology and Development Panel and the Members' Enquiries Service Panel, into one body.

2. Recommendations

2.1. That any recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be submitted to the next meeting of the Members' Forum for consideration.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1. To better inform the decision on the proposed merger of the Panels which may create efficiencies, avoid duplication and will promote a more holistic approach to the support provided to Members.

4. Other Options Considered

4.1. There is no change to the three Member Panels, and they remain as they are. This has been discussed with the Panels and their clear preference is to amalgamate for the reasons above.

5. Background

5.1. Cheshire East Council currently has three informal Member bodies; the Members' Forum, established to provide a political steer and joint advocacy of the Brighter Future Transformation Programme objectives; the Member

Technology and Development Panel which considers Councillors' needs in respect of their IT and personal development; and the Members' Enquiries Service Panel, which monitors the operational aspects of the Members' Enquiries Service (MES) and suggests improvements to the service.

5.2. Over the last twelve months, the work of the three bodies has begun to overlap and potentially overlaps with the role of committees post May 2021.

The Proposal

5.3. A proposal has come forward from the Chairman of the Members' Forum to amalgamate the Forum and the two Panels into a single body to create efficiencies, avoid duplication and promote a holistic approach to the delivery of its objectives.

5.4. The Brighter Future Members' Forum first discussed the proposal to amalgamate in May 2020 and, more recently, at its meeting on 18 November 2020. Members present indicated that they would support the merger, provided that the cultural role of the Forum was not diminished. The report and draft Terms of Reference discussed at those meetings are appended to this report.

5.5. The Forum was supportive of the proposals set out in paragraph 4.1 of the attached report (appendix A) but indicated that it wished to hear the views of the Chairman and Members of the other Panels and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, before reaching a conclusion.

5.6. A meeting between the three Chairmen took place on 17 December 2020, who were in support of the proposals and Terms of Reference.

5.7. Taking the views of the Forum into account, Terms of Reference have been drafted for the new body, using as its framework the workstreams set out in the Brighter Future Transformation Programme, albeit modified slightly to account for the Forum and the Panels' present responsibilities i.e.

Transformation workstreams

- Culture
- Estates and ICT
- Customer experience
- Commercial
- Governance

Proposed workstreams

- Culture
- ICT
- Members' enquiries
- Community engagement
- Governance

5.8 The inclusion of community engagement as a workstream reflects the current role of the Forum in respect of its interaction with internal and external stakeholders.

5.9 It has also been suggested that a sixth workstream of risk management be added, to enable the Group to identify, manage and mitigate those risks which may impact on the delivery of its objectives and outputs.

- 5.10 The Committee should note the workstreams and focus on how Councillors engage with the Council, and to help and advise the Council to support Councillors in the operational aspects of being a Councillor.

6. Implications of the Recommendations

6.1. Legal Implications

- 6.1.1. The new body will continue to be non-decision making, with recommendations submitted to the appropriate decision-making body.

6.2. Finance Implications

- 6.2.1. Efficiency savings can be achieved by reducing the number of meetings held.

6.3. Policy Implications

- 6.3.1. None identified.

6.4. Equality Implications

- 6.4.1. None identified.

6.5. Human Resources Implications

- 6.5.1. None identified.

6.6. Risk Management Implications

- 6.6.1. It is proposed that a sixth workstream be introduced to enable the body to identify, manage and mitigate those risks which may impact on the delivery of its own objectives and outputs.

6.7. Rural Communities Implications

- 6.7.1. There are no direct implications for rural communities.

6.8. Implications for Children & Young People/Cared for Children

- 6.8.1. There are no direct implications for children and young people.

6.9. Public Health Implications

- 6.9.1. There are no direct implications for public health.

6.10. Climate Change Implications

- 6.10.1. A reduction in the number of meetings will help the Council to reduce its carbon footprint and achieve environmental sustainability by reducing energy consumption.

7. Ward Members Affected

7.1. Implications are borough wide.

8. Consultation & Engagement

8.1. The report has been shared with the Chairmen and membership of the Member Technology and Development Panel and the Members' Enquiries Service Panel.

9. Access to Information

9.1. Terms of reference for the Brighter Future Members' Forum, the Member Technology and Development Panel and the Members' Enquiries Service Panel.

10. Contact Information

10.1. Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

Name: Diane Moulson

Job Title: Senior Member Development Officer

Email: diane.moulson@cheshireeast.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Date of meeting: 18 November 2020
 Report of: Head of Democratic Services and Governance
 Title: Amalgamation of Members Forum and Member Panels

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Cheshire East Council currently has three standing Member bodies; the Members' Forum, established to provide a political steer and joint advocacy of the Brighter Future Transformation Programme objectives; the Member Technology and Development Panel (MT&DP) which considers Councillors' needs in respect of their IT and personal development; and the Members' Enquiries Service (MES) Panel, which monitors the operational aspects of MES and suggests improvements to the service.
- 1.2 Over the last twelve months, the work of the three bodies has begun to cross over. A proposal has come forward from the Chairman of the Members' Forum to amalgamate the Forum and the two Panels into a single body to create efficiencies, avoid duplication and promote a holistic approach to the delivery of its objectives.

2. The Proposal

- 2.1 A proposal to merge the Forum and the Panels was initially considered at the Forum's meeting in May 2020; members present indicated that they would support the merger provided that the cultural role of the Forum was not diminished.
- 2.2 Taking the views of the Forum into account, terms of reference have been drafted for the new body, using as its framework the work streams set out in the Brighter Future Transformation Programme, albeit modified slightly to account for the Forum and the Panels' present responsibilities i.e.

Transformation workstreams

- Culture
- Estates and ICT
- Customer experience
- Commercial
- Governance

Proposed workstreams

- Culture
- ICT
- Members' enquiries
- Community engagement
- Governance

- 2.4 The inclusion of community engagement as a workstream reflects the current role of the Forum in respect of its interaction with internal and external stakeholders.

- 2.5 Having consulted with the (interim) Organisational Development Manager, Director of Transformation and Head of Audit and Risk Management on the draft terms, it was suggested that a sixth workstream of risk management be added, to enable the Group to identify, manage and mitigate those risks which may impact on the delivery of its objectives and outputs.

3. Proposed terms of reference – matters for consideration

- 3.1 The appendix attached to the report sets out draft terms of reference for the new body. To avoid any confusion with the current Forum or Panels, it is referred to throughout the document as ‘the Group’. If the proposal to merge is accepted, a more formal title representative of its role will need to be identified.

- 3.2 Where common to all, the principles applicable to the Forum/Panels have been retained i.e.

- Membership will be 14 on a politically proportionate basis
- The Group will not be a formal decision-making body
- The Group will provide a collective cross-party political steer on the matter set out in the terms of reference

- 3.3 In respect of the remaining principles listed below, their relevance depends on how the role of the Group is envisioned going forward. Having mind to the cross-cutting nature of the Group, it is proposed that:

- the Group’s recommendations should continue to be submitted for consideration to the appropriate decision-making body of the Council, as at present; and
- the frequency of its meetings should be set by the new Group.

- 3.4 Taken from the current Forum/Panels terms of reference, the following outputs are listed:

- The *Forum* will work with officer champions and will regularly attend the Brighter Future Community meetings
- The *Forum* will produce an annual report outlining key activity and outputs
- An activity and performance report from the *MT&DP/Forum* will be submitted to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 3.5 It is suggested that the outputs for the new Group should be drawn from its own terms of reference and agreed at its first meeting.

- 3.6 At present, notes and actions arising from each of the three bodies are circulated only to the Members who sit on the body concerned. A request has been made for the notes and action points from Forum meetings to be made available to all Councillors, so that Members are kept abreast of discussions taking place on matters which directly affect them.
- 3.7 Assuming that the request also applies to the amalgamated Group, the circulation of notes/actions may encourage feedback and open its discussions to a wider audience. However, this may not be appropriate if the Group was asked to consider a proposal informally.

4.0 Summary and Recommendations

- 4.1 The Forum is invited to indicate its support for:
- a) the merger of the Members' Forum, the Member Technology and Development Panel and the Members' Enquiries Service Panel into a single body;
 - b) the proposed terms of reference attached to the report;
 - c) the addition of a sixth workstream (risk management) to enable the Group to identify, manage and mitigate those risks to the delivery of its objectives and outputs;
 - d) the principles set out in paragraph 3.2 on the structure and status of the Group;
 - e) the principles set out in paragraph 3.3 regarding reporting lines and frequency of meetings; and
 - f) whether the notes/actions arising from meetings of new Group should be circulated either to those Members who sit on the Group or to Councillors generally.

Officer: Diane Moulson
Designation: Senior Member Development Officer
Tel No. 01270 686476
Email: diane.moulson@cheshireeast.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Draft terms of reference for an amalgamated Member Group
(Title to be determined)

Membership:	14 on a politically proportionate basis
Status of the Group:	Not a formal decision-making body
Purpose of the Group:	To provide a collective cross-party political steer and joint advocacy on the matters set out in the terms of reference
Reporting to:	The relevant decision-making committee will be invited to consider any recommendations of the Panel.
Frequency of meetings:	Ad hoc
Outputs:	To be confirmed

Objectives:

Culture

The Group will champion the organisation's culture by shaping and supporting the Brighter Future Culture Workstream, ensuring the council's vision, aspirations, objectives and outcomes are met.

Members of the Group will act as "change agents" within and across their political parties, recognising role models of the cultural vision and challenging behaviours which are not acceptable and taking necessary and appropriate action.

Members' ICT

The Group will represent the views of Members regarding their information technology and communication (ICT) requirements.

The Group will champion new ways of working using information technology and will assess, monitor and recommend appropriate training to enable Members to carry out their duties effectively and improve the overall standards of ICT literacy amongst Councillors.

Members' Enquiries

The Group will promote the Members' Enquiries Service as an equal service for all Members to submit enquiries.

The Group will monitor the effectiveness of the service by considering statistical reports on response times and feedback on performance. It may suggest

improvements as appropriate to maintain the high quality of service provided to Councillors.

Community Engagement

Subject to formal resolutions, the Group will engage and influence other internal and external stakeholders, providing assurance that they are role modelling positive behaviours and challenging inappropriate conduct.

The Group will advise officers of wider community connections, issues and opportunities that may need to be considered, as these may impact negatively or positively on the defined Brighter Future programme outcomes.

Governance

The Group will identify priorities for training and undertake delivery of the Member Development Framework and Training Programme, to ensure that Members appointed to the Council are fully equipped with the knowledge and skills required to discharge the duties and responsibilities placed upon them.

The Group will seek to ensure that member behaviours are embedded across the Council; to enhance the member/officer relations beginning with the Induction Programme for newly elected Members.

The Group will act as ambassadors for training and development; by reviewing the content of the Member Development Programme, supporting and encouraging colleagues to identify their own individual training needs and raising awareness of member development opportunities.

Risk Management

The Group will identify, manage and mitigate those risks which may impact on the delivery of the outcomes and outputs set out in the terms of reference above.



FORWARD PLAN FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

This Plan sets out the key decisions which the Executive expects to take over the period indicated above. The Plan is rolled forward every month. A key decision is defined in the Council's Constitution as:

“an executive decision which is likely –

- (a) to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.

For the purpose of the above, savings or expenditure are “significant” if they are equal to or greater than £1M.”

Reports relevant to key decisions, and any listed background documents, may be viewed at any of the Council's Offices/Information Centres 5 days before the decision is to be made. Copies of, or extracts from, these documents may be obtained on the payment of a reasonable fee from the following address:

Democratic Services Team
Cheshire East Council
c/o Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ
Telephone: 01270 686472

However, it is not possible to make available for viewing or to supply copies of reports or documents the publication of which is restricted due to confidentiality of the information contained.

A record of each key decision is published within 6 days of it having been made. This is open for public inspection on the Council's Website, at Council Information Centres and at Council Offices.

This Forward Plan also provides notice that the Cabinet, or a Portfolio Holder, may decide to take a decision in private, that is, with the public and press excluded from the meeting. In accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, 28 clear days' notice must be given of any decision to be taken in private by the Cabinet or a Portfolio Holder, with provision for the public to make representations as to why the decision should be taken in public. In such cases, Members of the Council and the public may make representations in writing to the Democratic Services Team Manager using the contact details below. A further notice of intention to hold the meeting in private must then be published 5 clear days before the

meeting, setting out any representations received about why the meeting should be held in public, together with a response from the Leader and the Cabinet.

The list of decisions in this Forward Plan indicates whether a decision is to be taken in private, with the reason category for the decision being taken in private being drawn from the list overleaf:

1. Information relating to an individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including to authority holding that information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under the authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal and professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If you would like to make representations about any decision to be conducted in private at a meeting, please email:

Paul Mountford, Executive Democratic Services Officer
paul.mountford@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Such representations must be received at least 10 clear working days before the date of the Cabinet or Portfolio Holder meeting concerned.

Where it has not been possible to meet the 28 clear day rule for publication of notice of a key decision or intention to meet in private, the relevant notices will be published as soon as possible in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

The law and the Council's Constitution provide for urgent key decisions to be made. Any decision made in this way will be published in the same way.

Forward Plan

Key Decision and Private Non-Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
--	------------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------	--	---

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-6 Development of a Gypsy and Traveller Transit Site	To approve the progression of the project, subject to planning approval, to enable the scheme to be developed in line with the capital budget outlined within the report; and to authorise the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Regeneration and the Portfolio Holder for Communities, to enter into a construction contract with the preferred bidder and make related decisions to deliver the Cledford Hall project.	Cabinet	1 Dec 2020		Karen Carsberg, Strategic Housing and Intelligence Manager	N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-7 Covid-19 - Update on Response and Recovery	<p>To receive an update report on the Council's response to Covid-19 and the Recovery Plan.</p> <p>To note the financial effects of Covid-19 on the Council, as regards additional expenditure and loss of income, and to consider the potential options for managing residual financial implications within the Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy.</p> <p>An update report will be presented to each successive Cabinet meeting up to and including 4th May 2021.</p>	Cabinet	1 Dec 2020		Jane Burns, Executive Director of Corporate Services	N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-14 Adult Social Care: Our Covid-19 Winter Plan 2020/21	To provide Cabinet with an overview of the Council's response to the Government's publication of the adult social care winter plan. Officers are to be authorised where necessary to implement the adult social care recommendations/actions.	Cabinet	1 Dec 2020		Nichola Thompson, Director of Commissioning	N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-15 Better Care Fund S75 Agreement	To enter into a new S75 Partnership Agreement with the local health partner (NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group) to cover the period from 1st April 2020 until 31st March 2021 with the option to extend the agreement for a further period of one year, subject to there being a national requirement to operate the Better Care Fund as a Section 75 pooled budget agreement until 2021/22.	Cabinet	1 Dec 2020		Nichola Thompson, Director of Commissioning	N/A
CE 19/20-49 Council Tax Base 2021-22	For Cabinet to consider the Council Tax Base for Cheshire East and identify any changes to the calculation of the tax base for 2021-22 with a view to recommending the amount calculated to Council.	Council	16 Dec 2020		Paul Manning	N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 19/20-42 Congleton Leisure Centre Redevelopment Project	To seek authority to enter into the construction contract with Rock Merchating (T/A Pulse Fitness) for the redevelopment of Congleton Leisure Centre.	Portfolio Holder for Communities	December 2020		Paul Bayley	Fully exempt - para 3
CE 20/21-11 Procurement of Facilities Management Service and the Council's Energy Supply	To approve the re-procurement of facilities management services, to include maintenance, statutory compliance and energy supply management and to authorise officers to take all necessary actions to implement the proposal.	Cabinet	12 Jan 2021		Denise Griffiths	N/A
CE 20/21-18 Vision for Children and Young People in Cheshire East	For Cabinet to endorse and adopt the Vision for Children and Young People in Cheshire East.	Cabinet	12 Jan 2021		Lauren Conway	N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-8 Carbon Action Plan Key Decisions	To authorise Officers to take all necessary actions relating to land allocation and procurements for initial projects contributing to sustainable energy generation and green sequestration.	Cabinet	2 Feb 2021		Ralph Kemp, Corporate Manager for Commissioning	N/A
CE 20/21-16 Third Quarter Review (Finance) 2020/21	To note and comment on the three quarter year finance and performance position, and to approve any supplementary estimates and virements.	Cabinet	2 Feb 2021			N/A
CE 20/21-19 Procurement of Occupational Health Contract	Decision to procure a contract for the provision of Occupational Health Services for the Council, Schools and ASDVs. Following the necessary procurement process, that the Executive Director of Corporate Services be authorised to award the contract to the successful bidder.	Cabinet	2 Feb 2021		Craig Hughes	N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-20 Orbitas Bereavement Services Contract Extension	Contract extension to Orbitas Bereavement Services to allow completion of contact review work paused due to Orbitas role as a key frontline provider as part of the Council.	Cabinet	2 Feb 2021		Ralph Kemp, Corporate Manager for Commissioning	Fully exempt - paras 3 and 5
CE 20/21-21 Policy on the Pre-purchase of Graves at Cheshire East Cemeteries	To approve a new policy with regard to advance purchase of graves in Council-managed cemeteries.	Cabinet	2 Feb 2021		Ralph Kemp, Corporate Manager for Commissioning	N/A
CE 19/20-50 Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-25	To approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-25 incorporating the Council's priorities, budget, policy proposals and capital programme. The report will include the capital, treasury management, investment and reserves strategies.	Council	17 Feb 2021	Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1 February 2021 Cabinet – 2 February 2021		N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-3 Flowerpot Junction Improvement Scheme	To approve procurement of works to improve Flowerpot Junction, utilising the NPIF allocation from DfT and local funding contributions from s106 contributions and council match funding. Authorise the preparation and making of a CPO relating to land required for the junction improvements where this cannot be acquired through negotiation, and delegate authority to the Director of Infrastructure and Highways, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Transport to finalise the scheme details and enter into an agreement with the Council's appointed Highways Term Services to deliver the scheme.	Cabinet	9 Mar 2021			N/A

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 20/21-22 Housing Repairs and Adaptations for Vulnerable People Financial Assistance Policy	To approve the Housing Repairs and Adaptations for Vulnerable People Financial Assistance Policy 2021-2026, and to authorise Officers to take all necessary actions to implement the proposal.	Cabinet	9 Mar 2021		Karen Whitehead	N/A
CE 18/19-60 The Minerals and Waste Development Plan	To seek approval to consult on the first draft of the Minerals and Waste Development Plan.	Cabinet	4 May 2021		David Malcolm	N/A



Working for a brighter future together

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 07 January 2021

Report Title: Work Programme

Senior Officer: Jane Burns, Executive Director of Corporate Services

1. Report Summary

- 1.1. To review items in the work programme listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by committee members.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That the work programme be reviewed and amended as required.

3. Reason for Recommendation

- 3.1. It is good practice to regularly review the work programme and update it as required.

4. Background

- 4.1. The committee has responsibility for updating and approving its own work programme. Scrutiny liaison meetings – held between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the committee, alongside the portfolio holders and key senior officers – ensure that there is continued awareness and discussion of upcoming policies, strategies and decisions within the committee's remit area.

5. Determining Which Items Should be Added to the Work Programme

- 5.1. When selecting potential topics, members should have regard to the Council's three year plan and to the criteria listed below, which should be considered to determine whether scrutiny activity is appropriate.
- 5.2. The following questions should be considered by the committee when determining whether to add new work programme items, or delete existing items:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority?
- Is the issue of key interest to the public?
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation?
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends or underspends?
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service?

5.3. The committee should not add any items to its work programme (and should delete any existing items) that fall under any one of the following:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere by another body (i.e. this committee would be duplicating work)
- The matter is sub-judice
- Scrutiny would not add value to the matter
- The committee is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within a specified or required timescale

6. Implications of the Recommendations

6.1. Legal Implications

6.1.1. There are no direct legal implications.

6.2. Finance Implications

6.2.1. There are no direct financial implications.

6.3. Policy Implications

6.3.1. There are no direct policy implications.

6.4. Equality Implications

6.4.1. There are no direct equalities implications.

6.5. Human Resources Implications

6.5.1. There are no direct human resources implications.

6.6. Risk Management Implications

6.6.1. There are no direct risk management implications..

6.7. Rural Communities Implications

6.7.1. There are no direct implications for rural communities.

6.8. Implications for Children & Young People/Cared for Children

6.8.1. There are no direct implications for children and young people.

6.9. Public Health Implications

6.9.1. There are no direct implications for public health.

6.10. Climate Change Implications

6.10.1. There are no direct implications for the environment and climate change.

7. Ward Members Affected

7.1. All members are potentially affected.

8. Access to Information

8.1. The background papers can be inspected by contacting the report author.

9. Contact Information

9.1. Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

Name: Joel Hammond-Gant

Job Title: Scrutiny Officer

Email: joel.hammond-gant@cheshireeast.go.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

07.01.21	28.01.21	08.02.21	08.04.21
2.00pm	10.00am	2.00pm	2.00pm
Virtual meeting	Virtual meeting	Virtual meeting	Virtual meeting

<u>Item</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Portfolios</u>	<u>Suggested by</u>	<u>Scrutiny role</u>	<u>Corporate priorities</u>	<u>Date</u>
Pre-Budget 2021/22 Consultation	To consider the 2021/22 budget proposals for the Corporate Services Directorate, Central Budgets and Funding.	Director of Finance and Customer Services	Finance, IT and Communications	Committee	Budget scrutiny	Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	07.01.21
Amalgamation of the Council's Three Member Panels	The Head of Democratic Services and Governance to advise as to how a report on the activity and performance of the Members' Enquiry Service, Member Technology and Development Panel and Members' Brighter Future Group will be disseminated to Members.	Head of Democratic Services and Governance	Public Health and Corporate Services	Chairman	Performance monitoring	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	07.01.21
Corporate Performance Scorecard – Quarter 2 (2020/21)	To consider the performance data relating to Corporate Services from Quarter 2 of 2020/21.	Executive Director of Corporate Services	Public Health and Corporate Services Finance, IT and Communications	Committee	Performance monitoring	Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy A responsible effective and efficient organisation	To be received via correspondence in Jan 21

<u>Item</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Portfolios</u>	<u>Suggested by</u>	<u>Scrutiny role</u>	<u>Corporate priorities</u>	<u>Date</u>
Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-25	<p>To consider the proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-25 prior to Cabinet (2nd February) and full Council (17th February).</p> <p>This item includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021/22 Budget • MTFS 2021-25 • Cheshire East Corporate Plan • Capital Strategy • Treasury Management Strategy • Investment Strategy • Reserves Strategy <p>The committee has an opportunity to provide feedback and comments on the above to Cabinet.</p>	Director of Finance and Customer Services	Finance, IT and Communications	Committee	<p>Budget scrutiny</p> <p>Pre-decision scrutiny</p>	<p>Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy</p> <p>A responsible effective and efficient organisation</p>	28.01.21
Third Quarter Review (Finance) 2020/21	To consider the Third Quarter (2020/21) Review from Finance, prior to Cabinet (2 February) and full Council (17 February).	Director of Finance and Customer Services	Finance, IT and Communications	Committee	Monitoring of financial performance	<p>Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy</p> <p>A responsible effective and efficient organisation</p>	28.01.21

<u>Item</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Portfolios</u>	<u>Suggested by</u>	<u>Scrutiny role</u>	<u>Corporate priorities</u>	<u>Date</u>
Update from the ASDV Shareholder Committee	To consider the update.	Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director of Place	Deputy Leader	Chairman	To monitor activity and progress in relation to ASDVs	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	08.02.21
ASDV Review	To consider the ASDV Review report (Part 2 – exempted), prior to it being present to Cabinet for a decision to be made.	Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director of Place	Deputy Leader	Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director of Place	Pre-decision scrutiny	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	08.02.21
Review of the Council’s Management and Governance Structure	To consider an update on the council’s management and governance structure.	Executive Director of Corporate Services	Public Health and Corporate Services	Committee	To contribute to matters of strategy, finance and governance, in respect of the committee system.	A responsible, effective and efficient organisation	TBD – April (after the meeting of Constitution Committee on 25.03.21)
Update on ORACLE (Best4Business) from the Joint Scrutiny Working Group	To receive an update on the Best4Business Programme from the Joint Scrutiny Working Group. <i>The next meeting is scheduled for mid-February 2021, therefore the update will be provided at the 8 April 2021 meeting.</i>	Executive Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive	Finance, IT and Communications	Portfolio Holder	Monitor the development and progress of the project	Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	08.04.21

<u>Item</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Portfolios</u>	<u>Suggested by</u>	<u>Scrutiny role</u>	<u>Corporate priorities</u>	<u>Date</u>
Corporate Performance Scorecard – Quarter 3 (2020/21)	To consider the performance data relating to Corporate Services from Quarter 3 of 2020/21.	Executive Director of Corporate Services	Public Health and Corporate Services Finance, IT and Communications	Committee	Performance monitoring	Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy A responsible effective and efficient organisation	08.04.21
Corporate Peer Challenge	To receive an update on progress of the Corporate Peer Challenge that took place in January 2020 and link this item with the item above on the Councils Political Management Structure.	Executive Director of Corporate Services	Public Health and Corporate Services	Chairman	Pre-Cabinet report consideration	A responsible effective and efficient organisation	08.04.21 (moved back from Jan 21)
Task and Finish Group – Members’ Facilities, Accommodation and Culture	To consider the final report of the task and finish group for approval.		Finance, IT and Communications	Committee	Adoption of scrutiny report	A responsible, effective and efficient organisation	08.04.21
Procurement Framework	To consider a report on the council’s procurement framework and processes; how it has worked, what difficulties have been encountered, and what areas have progressed well.	Director of Finance and Customer Services	Finance, IT and Communications	Chairman	Performance monitoring	A responsible, effective and efficient organisation Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	TBD – possible part of Member training for the new committee system
Briefing on Consultation Processes	To consider the consultation process undertaken by the council for the budget-setting process, and other consultations,	Director of Finance and	Finance, IT and Communications	Chairman	Strategy review/ development	A responsible, effective and	TBD – possible part of

<u>Item</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Portfolios</u>	<u>Suggested by</u>	<u>Scrutiny role</u>	<u>Corporate priorities</u>	<u>Date</u>
	and investigate whether any improvements could be made to ensure it is as user friendly and engaging as possible, to encourage as many members of the public and stakeholders to respond.	Customer Services				efficient organisation	Member training for the new committee system
Member Survey Results	To consider the results of the members' survey on the Members' Enquiry Service, Member Technology and Development Panel and Member Brighter Futures Group	Executive Director of Corporate Services	Public Health and Corporate Services	Chairman		A responsible effective and efficient organisation	To come off the work programme – has been taken through the Member Forum

This page is intentionally left blank