

Council

25 February 2021

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 - 2024/25 and Detailed Budget and Council Tax 2021-22

Report by Sarah Ireland, Executive Director of Corporate and Communities

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Andreas Kirsch, Finance & Commissioning

- A. At its meeting on 16 February 2021, the Response and Recovery (R&R) Committee considered the report which is attached to this report as **Annex 1**.
- B. The R&R Committee received late material which is attached to this report as **Annex 2**.
- C. The R&R Committee resolutions were as follows [References to 'the report'* are to the report at Annex 1 on this agenda, which was Appendix A in the R&R Committee's agenda. Other references are to the Budget Report Pack which has been previously circulated to all Members as a separate document]:
 1. The comments of the Culture, Housing, Environment & Planning Committee and the Children and Adults Care and Education Committee be noted;
 2. The Executive Director, Corporate and Communities be authorised to make any necessary changes to the GLA precept in the Council Tax Calculation in **Annex 3 of the Budget Report Pack** to this report prior to submission to Budget Council, once the final decisions have been confirmed by that body;
 3. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the budget proposals and Council Tax for 2021/22 as set out in the Budget Report Pack report and annexes.
 4. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to authorise the relevant officers to take necessary action to deliver the agreed budget and service changes, including increasing relevant fees and charges in line with inflation.
 5. Council be **RECOMMENDED**, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, to note the comments of the Executive Director, Corporate and Communities in regard to the robustness of estimates and the level of reserves and balances as set out in the section "Comments of the Executive Director, Corporate and Communities (S151 Officer) " in **paragraphs 24 to 33 of the Budget Report Pack**;
 6. Council be **RECOMMENDED** in accordance with sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Act 1992, to calculate the amounts in the statutory Council Tax calculation, **Annex 3** of the Budget Report pack) for the financial year 2021/22.
 7. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the Capital Strategy including the detailed capital programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 as set out in **Annex 11** to the Budget Report and the Treasury Strategy including the Annual Investment Strategy, prudential indicators and the Minimum Revenue

Provision (MRP) policy as set out in **Annex 12** to the Budget Report.

8. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the HRA 2021-22 base budget and proposal for growth and savings as set out in **Annex 10** of the Budget Report Pack.
9. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the pay policy at **Annex 13** to the budget report;
10. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the Schools Budget for 2021-22 in line with paragraph **16** and **Enclosure 1** of **Annex 14** to this report;
11. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposals outlined for the Central School Services Block (ref. paras **25-27**) of **Annex 14** to this report);
12. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposals outlined for the Early Years Block including the transfer of £162k to the High Needs Block (ref. paras. **28 - 33**) of **Annex 14** to this report);
13. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposals for the High Needs Block (outlined in **Annex 14** paras. **34-37**);
14. Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposals outlined for the Schools Block (ref. paras **19-24** of **Annex 14**) and the Schools Funding Formula outlined in **Enclosure 2** of **Annex 14** and the Schools Allocations in **Enclosure 3** of **Annex 14** be approved, including a Minimum Funding Guarantee of +0.5% per pupil (ref. paras **21-22** of **Annex 14**).

Background papers - None other than those referred to in this report

Author of report - Rachel Howard, Assistant Director, Finance (RBK), Telephone 020 8547 5709, email: rachel.howard@kingston.gov.uk