

**CABINET  
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

**DECISION DETERMINED ON: Wednesday, 16 October 2024**

**DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

*Decisions made by full cabinet and individual cabinet members are subject to "Call-in" by the appropriate Select Committee. Should a decision be subject to call-in it will not take effect as stated above and will be presented again at a later date.*

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors Mary Ann Brocklesby, Paul Griffiths, Martyn Groucutt, Catrin Maby, Angela Sandles, Ian Chandler and Ben Callard

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors Richard John

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Jonathan Davies, Peter Davies, Nicola Perry, Frances O'Brien and Geraint Edwards

Item Number	Title	Purpose, Consultation & Author	Declaration of Interests	Decision
3	2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINANCIAL UPDATE	As set out in the report		<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet note the overall revenue budget deficit forecast of £3,388,000.</p> <p>That Cabinet endorse the budget recovery action as outlined within the report to mitigate the forecast deficit and bring the budget back to at least a balanced position by the financial year end.</p> <p>That Cabinet note the budgetary risks that are inbuilt into the forecast, namely;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The volatility of demand for high-cost services, particularly in Adults &amp; Children's Social Care and Additional learning needs.</li> <li>• Continuing negotiation around national pay agreements which will further impact forecasts if it results in an award over and above the current offer and no consequential funding is received.</li> <li>• The risk of the increase in the rate of the employer's contribution to the teacher's pension scheme not being fully funded.</li> <li>• The potential impact upon the Council's financial resilience from the forecast increase in the cumulative schools' reserves deficit that is being carried on the Council's balance sheet.</li> <li>• The risk of further non-delivery of the £10.9m of budgeted savings targets, with services currently forecasting 81.2% delivery.</li> <li>• The trend of reducing debt recovery, particularly within Council tax where there is a significant increase in the number of discounts and exemptions awarded, and slowing down in collection rates.</li> <li>• The severely limited reserve cover available to the Council.</li> </ul> <p>That Cabinet note the forecast increase in the deficit on cumulative schools reserves as outlined in Appendix 3 of this report of £4,929,000. This would result in school balances ending the financial year in a deficit of £5,832,000, with nineteen of thirty-four schools forecast to be in a</p>

				<p>deficit balance.</p> <p>That Cabinet note that schools which are budgeting to end the 2024/25 financial year in a deficit balance are required to bring forward recovery plans by October half term to ensure that the proposed actions to address their budget shortfalls are instigated.</p>
<b>Additional Information:</b>				
4	MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATE AND BUDGET SETTING PROCESS FOR 2025/26	As set out in the report		<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That Cabinet notes a modelled initial budget shortfall of £11.4 million to be addressed.</p> <p>That Cabinet sets an expectation that the budget build for 2025/26 will recognise priorities set within the Community and Corporate Plan with reducing the impact of inequality on citizens and climate change on communities being central to all considerations.</p> <p>That Cabinet adopts the budget planning framework and timetable outlined in Appendix 1 and 2.</p> <p>That Cabinet note the current progress indicated against the Medium Term Financial Strategy delivery plan as outlined in Section 13 of Appendix 1.</p>
<b>Additional Information:</b>				
5	Performance and Overview Scrutiny Committee ~ Feedback to Cabinet of Meeting held on 7th October 2024	As set out in the report		<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Noted.</p>
<b>Additional Information:</b>				