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County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Wednesday, 22 February 2023

Notice of Extraordinary Meeting

County Council

Thursday, 2nd March, 2023 at 10.00 am,
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
3.	COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION and REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR 2023/24	1 - 16

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

**MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY**

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillor Laura Wright	Grofield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Tony Kear	Llanbadoc & Usk;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Catrin Maby	Drybridge;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jan Butler	Goetre Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Ian Chandler	Llantilio Crossenny;	Green Party
County Councillor Sara Burch	Cantref;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Alistair Neill	Gobion Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Su McConnel	Croesonen;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Mary Ann Brocklesby	Llanelly Hill;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Fay Bromfield	Llangybi Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jane Lucas	Osbaston;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Emma Bryn	Wyesham;	Independent Group
County Councillor Peter Strong	Rogiet;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Meirion Howells	Llanbadoc & Usk;	Independent Group
County Councillor Paul Griffiths	Chepstow Castle & Larkfield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jackie Strong	Caldicot Cross;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Rachel Catherine Garrick	Caldicot Castle;	Labour and Co-Operative Party
County Councillor Maria Stevens	Severn;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Steven Garratt	Overmonnow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Angela Sandles	Magor East with Undy;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Ben Callard	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor John Crook	Magor East with Undy;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Tomos Dafydd Davies	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Dale Rooke	Chepstow Castle & Larkfield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Catherine Fookes	Town;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Sue Riley	Bulwark and Thornwell;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jayne McKenna	Mitchel Troy and Trellech United;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jill Bond	West End;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Louise Brown	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Lisa Dymock	Portskewett;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Tony Easson	Dewstow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Christopher Edwards	St. Kingsmark;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Martyn Groucutt	Lansdown;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Simon Howarth	Llanelly Hill;	Independent Group
County Councillor Richard John	Mitchel Troy and Trellech United;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor David Jones	Crucorney;	Independent Group
County Councillor Penny Jones	Raglan;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Malcolm Lane	Mardy;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Phil Murphy	Caerwent;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Paul Pavia	Mount Pleasant;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Maureen Powell	Pen Y Fal;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Frances Taylor	Magor West;	Independent Group
County Councillor Tudor Thomas	Park;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Armand Watts	Bulwark and Thornwell;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru

Public Information

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Welsh Language

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu cyfraniadau gan aelodau'r cyhoedd trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Gofynnwn yn barchus i chi roi rhybudd digonol i ni er mwyn darparu ar gyfer eich anghenion. The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

Kindness: We will show kindness to all those we work with putting the importance of relationships and the connections we have with one another at the heart of all interactions.

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REPORT

SUBJECT: COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION and REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR 2023/24

DIRECTORATE: Resources

MEETING: Council

DATE: 2nd March 2023

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE

- Page 1
- 1.1 The Council is bound by Statute to specific timescales for Council Tax setting and is also required to make certain defined resolutions. The recommendations that form a major part of this report are designed to comply with those Statutory Provisions.
 - 1.2 The recommended resolutions also draw together the Council Tax implications of precepts proposed by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent and Town and Community Councils, thereby enabling the County Council to establish its headline Council Tax levels at the various property bands within each Town or Community area.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the outcome of the final Local Government Settlement from Welsh Government is noted.
- 2.2 That the revenue and capital budget estimates for the year 2023/24 as attached in Appendix 1 to 3 be approved.
- 2.3 It be noted that, at its meeting on 1st March 2023, Cabinet calculated the amounts set out below for the year 2023/24 in accordance with sections 32 and 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the Act").

For information, sections 32 and 33 of the 1992 Act have been extensively amended by Schedule 12 to the [Local Government \(Wales\) Act 1994](#). Both are further amended by the [Local Authorities \(Alteration of Requisite Calculations\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2002](#) (the

“2002 regulations”) and the [Local Authorities \(Alteration of Requisite Calculations\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2013](#). Section 33 is further amended by the [Local Government Reorganisation \(Calculation of Basic Amount of Council Tax\) \(Wales\) Order 1996](#).

The calculated amounts also take account of the conclusion of the boundary review for the county, which came into effect in 2022/23. Full details are contained within [The Monmouthshire \(Communities\) Order 2021 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#).

All necessary legislative and statutory amendments have been considered in calculating the following amounts: -

- (a) 47,778.09 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33 of the Act and The Regulations (as amended by Regulations 1999 no. 2935), as its Council Tax base for the year;
- (b) Part of the Council’s Area, being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 of the Act, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which one or more special items relate:

Community	Council Tax Base for 2023/24	Community	Council Tax Base for 2023/24
Abergavenny	5,219.46	Llantrissant Fawr	541.92
Caerwent	1,175.86	Magor with Undy	2,987.31
Caldicot	4,086.87	Mathern	599.12
Chepstow	5,762.54	Mitchell Troy	896.89
Crucorney	743.57	Monmouth	5,467.13
Devauden	730.64	Portskewett	1,253.81
Gobion Fawr	727.60	Raglan	1,164.36
Goetre Fawr	1,197.46	Rogiet	777.80
Grosmont	432.98	Shirenewton	753.21
Llanarth	510.49	St.Arvals	443.99
Llanbadoc	736.81	Skenfrith	414.59
Llanelly	2,025.20	Trellech	1,507.02
Llanfoist Fawr	1,979.87	Usk	1,405.13
Llangybi	866.76	Whitecastle	857.09
Llantillio Pertholey	1,838.69	Wye Valley	673.92
		Total	47,778.09

It is recommended that Council resolves:

2.4 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Act and sections 47 and 49 of the [Local Government Finance Act 1988](#) (as amended):

- (a) £200,802,586 being the aggregate of the amounts the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2) (a) to (d) of the Act less the aggregate of the amounts the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3) (a) and (c) of the Act calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year
- (b) £122,671,239 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant in accordance with Section 33 (3)
- (c) £6,000 being the cost to the authority of discretionary non-domestic rate relief anticipated to be granted (under sections 47 and 49 of the [Local Government Finance Act 1988](#) , as amended)
- (d) £1,635.42 being the amount at 2.4(a) and 2.4(c) above less the amount at 2.4(b) above, all divided by the amount at 2.3(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year
- (e) £3,380,881 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 of the Act (Town and Community Precepts)
- (f) £1,564.66 being the amount at 2.4(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.4(e) above by the amount at 2.3(a) above calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special item relates.
- (g) Part of the Council's Area, being the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amounts at 2.3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which one or more special items relate:

Community Council	Precept Band D Equivalent £'s	Community Council	Precept Band D Equivalent £'s
Abergavenny	102.90	Llantrissant Fawr	30.13
Caerwent	43.73	Magor with Undy	107.18
Caldicot	97.88	Mathern	38.77
Chepstow	114.10	Mitchell Troy	18.95
Crucorney	18.56	Monmouth	96.77
Devauden	33.29	Portskewett	36.77
Gobion Fawr	15.81	Raglan	34.30
Goetre Fawr	34.24	Rogiet	77.53
Grosmont	69.29	Shirenewton	44.59
Llanarth	15.67	St.Arvals	65.84
Llanbadoc	37.67	Skenfrith	0.00
Llanelly	49.87	Trellech	19.91
Llanfoist Fawr	30.31	Usk	117.89
Llangybi	17.31	Whitecastle	13.17
Llantillio Pertholey	27.87	Wye Valley	43.54

- (h) The County Council Area, being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 2.4(f) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

Council Tax Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Proportion	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18	21
Council Tax Charge	1,043.11	1,216.96	1,390.81	1,564.66	1,912.36	2,260.06	2,607.77	3,129.32	3,650.87

- (i) Part of the Council's Area, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.4(g) and 2.4(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the

number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands: -

County Council plus Town/Community Council

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Abergavenny	1,111.71	1,296.99	1,482.28	1,667.56	2,038.13	2,408.69	2,779.27	3,335.12	3,890.97
Caerwent	1,072.26	1,250.97	1,429.68	1,608.39	1,965.81	2,323.23	2,680.65	3,216.78	3,752.91
Caldicot	1,108.36	1,293.09	1,477.81	1,662.54	2,031.99	2,401.44	2,770.90	3,325.08	3,879.26
Chepstow	1,119.18	1,305.70	1,492.23	1,678.76	2,051.82	2,424.87	2,797.94	3,357.52	3,917.10
Crucorney	1,055.48	1,231.40	1,407.31	1,583.22	1,935.04	2,286.87	2,638.70	3,166.44	3,694.18
Devauden	1,065.30	1,242.85	1,420.40	1,597.95	1,953.05	2,308.15	2,663.25	3,195.90	3,728.55
Gobion Fawr	1,053.65	1,229.26	1,404.86	1,580.47	1,931.68	2,282.90	2,634.12	3,160.94	3,687.76
Goetre Fawr	1,065.94	1,243.59	1,421.25	1,598.90	1,954.21	2,309.52	2,664.84	3,197.80	3,730.76
Grosmont	1,089.30	1,270.85	1,452.40	1,633.95	1,997.05	2,360.15	2,723.25	3,267.90	3,812.55
Llanarth	1,053.56	1,229.15	1,404.74	1,580.33	1,931.51	2,282.69	2,633.89	3,160.66	3,687.43
Llanbadoc	1,068.22	1,246.26	1,424.29	1,602.33	1,958.40	2,314.47	2,670.55	3,204.66	3,738.77
Llanelly	1,076.36	1,255.75	1,435.14	1,614.53	1,973.31	2,332.09	2,690.89	3,229.06	3,767.23
Llanfoist Fawr	1,063.32	1,240.53	1,417.75	1,594.97	1,949.41	2,303.84	2,658.29	3,189.94	3,721.59
Llangybi	1,054.65	1,230.42	1,406.20	1,581.97	1,933.52	2,285.06	2,636.62	3,163.94	3,691.26
Llantillio Pertholey	1,061.69	1,238.64	1,415.58	1,592.53	1,946.42	2,300.32	2,654.22	3,185.06	3,715.90
Llantrissant Fawr	1,063.20	1,240.39	1,417.59	1,594.79	1,949.19	2,303.58	2,657.99	3,189.58	3,721.17
Magor with Undy	1,114.56	1,300.32	1,486.08	1,671.84	2,043.36	2,414.88	2,786.40	3,343.68	3,900.96
Mathern	1,068.96	1,247.11	1,425.27	1,603.43	1,959.75	2,316.06	2,672.39	3,206.86	3,741.33
Mitchell Troy	1,055.74	1,231.70	1,407.65	1,583.61	1,935.52	2,287.43	2,639.35	3,167.22	3,695.09
Monmouth	1,107.62	1,292.23	1,476.83	1,661.43	2,030.63	2,399.84	2,769.05	3,322.86	3,876.67
Portskewett	1,067.62	1,245.56	1,423.49	1,601.43	1,957.30	2,313.17	2,669.05	3,202.86	3,736.67
Raglan	1,065.98	1,243.64	1,421.30	1,598.96	1,954.28	2,309.60	2,664.94	3,197.92	3,730.90
Rogiet	1,094.80	1,277.26	1,459.73	1,642.19	2,007.12	2,372.05	2,736.99	3,284.38	3,831.77
Shirenewton	1,072.84	1,251.64	1,430.45	1,609.25	1,966.86	2,324.47	2,682.09	3,218.50	3,754.91
St. Arvans	1,087.00	1,268.17	1,449.33	1,630.50	1,992.83	2,355.16	2,717.50	3,261.00	3,804.50
Skenfrith	1,043.11	1,216.96	1,390.81	1,564.66	1,912.36	2,260.06	2,607.77	3,129.32	3,650.87

Trellech	1,056.38	1,232.45	1,408.51	1,584.57	1,936.69	2,288.82	2,640.95	3,169.14	3,697.33
Usk	1,121.70	1,308.65	1,495.60	1,682.55	2,056.45	2,430.35	2,804.25	3,365.10	3,925.95
Whitecastle	1,051.89	1,227.20	1,402.52	1,577.83	1,928.46	2,279.08	2,629.72	3,155.66	3,681.60
Wye Valley	1,072.14	1,250.82	1,429.51	1,608.20	1,965.58	2,322.95	2,680.34	3,216.40	3,752.46

2.5 That it be noted for the year 2023/24 that the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent has proposed, pending conclusion of the full scrutiny process, the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the dwellings shown above: -

Council Tax Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Proportion	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18	21
Council Tax Charge	216.35	252.40	288.46	324.52	396.64	468.75	540.87	649.04	757.21

2.6 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.4(i) and 2.5 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below: -

County Council plus Town/Community Council plus Police and Crime Commissioner

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Abergavenny	1,328.06	1,549.39	1,770.74	1,992.08	2,434.77	2,877.44	3,320.14	3,984.16	4,648.18
Caerwent	1,288.61	1,503.37	1,718.14	1,932.91	2,362.45	2,791.98	3,221.52	3,865.82	4,510.12
Caldicot	1,324.71	1,545.49	1,766.27	1,987.06	2,428.63	2,870.19	3,311.77	3,974.12	4,636.47
Chepstow	1,335.53	1,558.10	1,780.69	2,003.28	2,448.46	2,893.62	3,338.81	4,006.56	4,674.31
Crucorney	1,271.83	1,483.80	1,695.77	1,907.74	2,331.68	2,755.62	3,179.57	3,815.48	4,451.39
Devauden	1,281.65	1,495.25	1,708.86	1,922.47	2,349.69	2,776.90	3,204.12	3,844.94	4,485.76
Gobion Fawr	1,270.00	1,481.66	1,693.32	1,904.99	2,328.32	2,751.65	3,174.99	3,809.98	4,444.97
Goetre Fawr	1,282.29	1,495.99	1,709.71	1,923.42	2,350.85	2,778.27	3,205.71	3,846.84	4,487.97
Grosmont	1,305.65	1,523.25	1,740.86	1,958.47	2,393.69	2,828.90	3,264.12	3,916.94	4,569.76
Llanarth	1,269.91	1,481.55	1,693.20	1,904.85	2,328.15	2,751.44	3,174.76	3,809.70	4,444.64
Llanbadoc	1,284.57	1,498.66	1,712.75	1,926.85	2,355.04	2,783.22	3,211.42	3,853.70	4,495.98
Llanelly	1,292.71	1,508.15	1,723.60	1,939.05	2,369.95	2,800.84	3,231.76	3,878.10	4,524.44
Llanfoist Fawr	1,279.67	1,492.93	1,706.21	1,919.49	2,346.05	2,772.59	3,199.16	3,838.98	4,478.80
Llangybi	1,271.00	1,482.82	1,694.66	1,906.49	2,330.16	2,753.81	3,177.49	3,812.98	4,448.47
Llantillio Pertholey	1,278.04	1,491.04	1,704.04	1,917.05	2,343.06	2,769.07	3,195.09	3,834.10	4,473.11
Llantrissant Fawr	1,279.55	1,492.79	1,706.05	1,919.31	2,345.83	2,772.33	3,198.86	3,838.62	4,478.38
Magor with Undy	1,330.91	1,552.72	1,774.54	1,996.36	2,440.00	2,883.63	3,327.27	3,992.72	4,658.17
Mathern	1,285.31	1,499.51	1,713.73	1,927.95	2,356.39	2,784.81	3,213.26	3,855.90	4,498.54
Mitchell Troy	1,272.09	1,484.10	1,696.11	1,908.13	2,332.16	2,756.18	3,180.22	3,816.26	4,452.30
Monmouth	1,323.97	1,544.63	1,765.29	1,985.95	2,427.27	2,868.59	3,309.92	3,971.90	4,633.88
Portskewett	1,283.97	1,497.96	1,711.95	1,925.95	2,353.94	2,781.92	3,209.92	3,851.90	4,493.88
Raglan	1,282.33	1,496.04	1,709.76	1,923.48	2,350.92	2,778.35	3,205.81	3,846.96	4,488.11
Rogiet	1,311.15	1,529.66	1,748.19	1,966.71	2,403.76	2,840.80	3,277.86	3,933.42	4,588.98
Shirenewton	1,289.19	1,504.04	1,718.91	1,933.77	2,363.50	2,793.22	3,222.96	3,867.54	4,512.12
St. Arvans	1,303.35	1,520.57	1,737.79	1,955.02	2,389.47	2,823.91	3,258.37	3,910.04	4,561.71
Skenfrith	1,259.46	1,469.36	1,679.27	1,889.18	2,309.00	2,728.81	3,148.64	3,778.36	4,408.08
Trellech	1,272.73	1,484.85	1,696.97	1,909.09	2,333.33	2,757.57	3,181.82	3,818.18	4,454.54
Usk	1,338.05	1,561.05	1,784.06	2,007.07	2,453.09	2,899.10	3,345.12	4,014.14	4,683.16
Whitecastle	1,268.24	1,479.60	1,690.98	1,902.35	2,325.10	2,747.83	3,170.59	3,804.70	4,438.81
Wye Valley	1,288.49	1,503.22	1,717.97	1,932.72	2,362.22	2,791.70	3,221.21	3,865.44	4,509.67

2.7 That Mrs D Smith, Mr M Owen, Ms L Crump, Ms C. Morgan and Mrs S Knight of the Revenues Shared Service be authorised under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 to prosecute and appear on behalf of Monmouthshire County Council in proceedings before a Magistrates Court for the purpose of applying for Liability Orders in respect of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates.

3. KEY ISSUES

3.1 The final revenue and capital budgets for 2023/24 were considered by Cabinet on 1st March 2023. The final settlement will be announced ahead of this by Welsh Government on 28th February 2023. It is anticipated that the Minister will confirm that following consideration of consultation responses there is one change planned that concerns the intention to transfer funding for the increased employer costs related to Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) pensions from a grant to the FRAs into the final local government settlement. Councils have been kept informed and this will be accommodated as part of the final budget proposals. The late notification of the provisional settlement allowed all datasets to have been included at that stage.

3.2 Alongside this the ongoing financial challenges remain as always a dynamic situation. The approval of a Community and Corporate Plan will inform and influence a full update of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Plan in the summer and form part of the preparations leading into the 2024/25 budget process. This comprehensive update will include an ongoing assessment of pressures, risks and modelling assumptions. As well as savings proposals and options that together with a robust and updated capital receipts and reserves strategy enables the Council's finances to be put on a sustainable footing. Notably key risks remaining to be assessed and managed in 2023/24 and as yet unknown are:

- a) A residual financial risk relates to the pay awards for local government staff and teaching staff. The Minister has already made it clear when issuing the provisional settlement that provision had been made for pay awards in the settlement and that no further funding would be provided subsequently. The implications of pay awards in 2023/24 will therefore need to be accommodated within the Council's budget planning and beyond reserve cover already factored in as contingency. A risk remains regardless given inflation and the extent and success of any strike action. The Council awaits subsequent notification on pay from awarding bodies and that will now extend into 2023/24 and where pay awards are subject to consultation with trade unions.
- b) The volatility of Social care costs continues to present a significant ongoing risk both for the remainder of this financial year and 2023/24. Forecast costs for the year have increased at every reporting period for Children's Services and have been only partly mitigated by the late notification of substantial unbudgeted grants.
- c) Immediate arrangements have been put in place to closely manage and constrain cost wherever possible. In the short term, in Children's services this centres itself around reviewing and planning packages of care with a view to avoiding more costly emergency arrangements, whilst in Adults services the ability of our internal teams to reable clients will avoid the need for more costly care packages.

- d) Clarification is still being sought on levels of specific revenue and capital grant funding for next year. It is hoped that further detail will be provided when Welsh Government release the final settlement on 28th February. Whilst confirmation has been received around all-Wales grant allocation the Council is yet to receive confirmation of all of its specific allocations. This will be closely monitored in the coming weeks and any material impacts will be considered as part of in-year budget monitoring with recovery action being taken as required. Furthermore, and whilst the late and significant grant funding from Welsh Government is very much welcomed it does not aid financial planning over the medium term.
- e) One specific and significant concern relates to the recent announcement that the Business Emergency Support Fund will be coming to an end in the first three to six months of 2023/24 leaving uncertainty as to what type of bus service can be viably delivered across Monmouthshire. The Council will need to work with bus companies and other partners and stakeholders to understand the full consequence and implications for the Council.
- f) Demand-led pressures remain, notably within adult social care and homelessness, as evidenced by the extent and level of pressures needing to be accommodated within these budget proposals. Ongoing and strengthened budget monitoring arrangements will identify whether any further pressures need to be managed. As stated this is a dynamic situation to which the Authority will respond as any situation evolves.

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3.3 In terms of setting council tax for 2023/24 statute requires that Council makes appropriate recommendations to prescribed timescales for setting the Council Tax payable for the coming financial year. The Council must also account for precepts made upon it by the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent and by Town and Community Councils. Recommendation 2.6 discharges these obligations.

3.4 The Council is also required to authorise officers to undertake advance recovery action through the Courts where necessary. The authorising recommendation appears at 2.7 above.

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Not applicable as this is a statutory report.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Not applicable.

6. REASONS

6.1 To approve the summary revenue and capital budget for 2023/24.

6.2 To set the Council Tax for the 2023/24 financial year.

6.3 To discharge the Responsible Financial Officer's responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2003.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As identified in the report.

8. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

8.1 The equality and sustainability considerations on the budget proposals have been identified throughout the budget process and were taken into account by Cabinet when approving the budget on 1st March 2023. The relevant information is contained in the papers for the Final Budget proposals for the 2023/24 Revenue and Capital Budget.

8.2 There are no safeguarding and corporate parenting implications associated with this report.

9. CONSULTEES:

This report arises from Councils approval of the 2023/24 budget proposals and contains the statutory decisions in relation to setting council tax for 2023/24. The budget has undergone considerable consultation to arrive at the recommendations today.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 - Final proposals following public consultation: Cabinet 1st March 2023

11. AUTHORS:

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Revenue Budget summary 2022/23 to 2026/27

Appendix 2 – Reconciliation through the 2023/24 revenue budget process

Appendix 3 – Capital Budget summary 2023/24 to 2026/27

Appendix 1 - Revenue Budget Summary

Services	Adjusted Base 2022/23 £000's	Indicative Base 2023/24 £000's	Indicative Base 2024/25 £000s	Indicative Base 2025/26 £000's	Indicative Base 2026/27 £000s
Children & Young People	59,014	62,140	63,719	65,086	66,484
Social Care & Health	58,373	63,735	60,736	61,655	62,537
Communities & Place	24,067	26,500	26,562	27,363	28,250
MonLife	4,916	5,952	6,307	6,565	6,836
Resources	7,019	7,073	7,397	7,608	7,824
Chief Executive's Unit	3,180	3,074	3,207	3,294	3,384
People & Governance	4,788	4,862	4,739	4,869	5,003
Corporate Costs & Levies	24,268	29,344	38,073	46,770	55,699
Sub Total	185,624	202,680	210,740	223,210	236,016
Transfers to reserves	188	63	63	63	63
Transfers from reserves	(164)	(3,572)	(88)	(88)	(88)
Treasury	7,050	9,341	10,408	11,051	11,427
Appropriations Total	7,074	5,832	10,383	11,026	11,402
Total Expenditure Budget	192,699	208,512	221,123	234,237	247,419
Aggregate External Financing (AEF)	(112,278)	(122,671)	(126,351)	(127,236)	(128,126)
Council Tax (MCC)	(62,871)	(66,955)	(69,600)	(72,349)	(75,207)
Council Tax (Gwent Police)	(14,392)	(15,505)	(16,117)	(16,754)	(17,416)
Council Tax (Community Councils)	(3,158)	(3,381)	(3,381)	(3,381)	(3,381)
Contribution to/(from) Council Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total Financing	(192,699)	(208,512)	(215,449)	(219,720)	(224,130)
(Headroom)/Shortfall	0	0	5,674	14,517	23,289

Appendix 2 - Reconciliation through Budget process

	January 2023 Cabinet proposals							Final Settlement Changes		March 2023 Cabinet and Final budget recommendations to Council			
	Adjusted Base Budget 2022/23	Proposed savings	Identified Explicit Pressures	Budget Assumptions	Corporate Adjustments incl. reserves	Council Tax Income	Proposed Budget 2023/24	Adjustment to AEF	Settlement pressures / adjustments	Changes to Pressures	Changes to Savings	Final amendments	Final budget recommended
Net Expenditure Budgets													
Children and Young People	59,014	(1,918)	2,812	2,146	(8)		62,046			94	0		62,140
Social Care and Health	58,373	(4,349)	7,319	1,157	124		62,624			115	1,000	(4)	63,735
Communities & Place	24,067	(2,482)	3,710	814	350		26,459			(38)	79		26,500
Monlife	4,916	(648)	1,498	261	(12)		6,015			(83)	20		5,952
Resources	7,019	(1,143)	872	245	(3)		6,990			1	2	81	7,074
Chief Executive's unit	3,180	(341)	146	97	(4)		3,078			(4)	0		3,074
People & Governance	4,788	(86)	12	152	(5)		4,861			0	0		4,861
Corporate Costs & Levies	24,268	(433)	17	390	1,599	856	26,697			0	0	2,646	29,344
Sub Total	185,624	(11,400)	16,386	5,262	2,042	856	198,770	0	0	85	1,101	2,723	202,679
Appropriations	7,050				2,691		9,741			(400)			9,341
Contributions to Earmarked reserves	188				(125)		63						63
Contributions from Earmarked reserves	(164)				(329)		(493)					(3,079)	(3,572)
Total Net Proposed Budget	192,699	(11,400)	16,386	5,262	4,278	856	208,081	0	0	(315)	1,101	(356)	208,512
Funding Budgets													
Aggregate External Financing (AEF)	(112,278)			(10,213)			(122,491)					(181)	(122,672)
Council Tax (MCC)	(62,871)					(4,083)	(66,954)						(66,954)
Council Tax (Gwent Police)	(14,392)					(856)	(15,248)					(257)	(15,505)
Council Tax (Community Councils)	(3,158)						(3,158)					(223)	(3,381)
Council Fund Contribution	0						0						0
Total Funding	(192,699)	0	0	(10,213)	0	(4,939)	(207,851)	0	0	0	0	(661)	(208,512)
Headroom/(shortfall)	0	(11,400)	16,386	(4,951)	4,278	(4,083)	230	0	0	(315)	1,101	(1,017)	0
	Council Tax 2022/23						2023/24 tax base	Council Tax 2023/24	%age increase				
Council tax recommendations	1,476.79						47,778.09	1,564.66	5.95%				

Appendix 3 - Indicative Capital budget 2023/24 to 2026/27

CAPITAL SCHEME	Indicative Budget 2023/24	Indicative Budget 2024/25	Indicative Budget 2025/26	Indicative Budget 2026/27
Expenditure	£	£	£	£
Property Maintenance	1,653,357	1,653,357	1,653,357	1,653,357
Property Maintenance Fees	236,194	236,194	236,194	236,194
County Farms Maintenance	300,773	300,773	300,773	300,773
Upgrade School Kitchens	39,725	39,725	39,725	39,725
Asset Management Schemes	2,230,049	2,230,049	2,230,049	2,230,049
Abergavenny 3-19 school	29,324,638	19,456,606	4,151,797	0
School Development Schemes	29,324,638	19,456,606	4,151,797	0
Footway Reconstruction	190,453	190,453	190,453	190,453
Street Lighting Defect Column Programme	171,408	171,408	171,408	171,408
Reconstruction of bridges & retaining walls	449,041	449,041	449,041	449,041
Safety fence upgrades	76,181	76,181	76,181	76,181
Signing upgrades & disabled facilities	38,091	38,091	38,091	38,091
Flood Alleviation Schemes	386,427	386,427	386,427	386,427
Structural Repairs - PROW	38,091	38,091	38,091	38,091
PROW - Survey's and Closures	50,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Carriageway resurfacing	1,136,540	1,136,540	1,136,540	1,136,540
Carriageway improvements - additional investment	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Road safety & trafficman programme	129,508	129,508	129,508	129,508
Highways OPS: Minor improvements	812,000	812,000	812,000	812,000
Wye Bridge Chepstow works	375,000	0	0	0
Wye Bridge Monmouth works	2,170,000	0	0	0
Ash Dieback/Dangerous Trees works	300,000	200,000	100,000	100,000
Infrastructure & Transport Schemes	6,822,740	4,147,740	4,047,740	4,047,740
Capital Region City Deal	602,900	730,200	730,200	730,200
Regeneration Schemes	602,900	730,200	730,200	730,200
Disabled Facilities Grant	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000
Access for all - Schools	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Access For All	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Inclusion Schemes	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
ICT Desktop replacement	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000
Network Estate replacement	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
SRS capital reserve contribution	61,000	61,000	61,000	61,000
Ransomware & security software	42,000	42,000	42,000	42,000
ICT Schemes	413,000	413,000	413,000	413,000
Vehicle Leasing	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Vehicles Leasing	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Capitalisation Directive	3,007,500	507,500	507,500	507,500
Capitalisation Directive	3,007,500	507,500	507,500	507,500
Fixed Asset Disposal Costs	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Area Management	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Grant – Match Funding Support Allocation	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Other Schemes	570,000	570,000	570,000	570,000
Total Expenditure	45,670,828	30,755,096	15,350,287	11,198,490

Funding	£	£	£	£
Supported Borrowing	(2,430,000)	(2,430,000)	(2,430,000)	(2,430,000)
Unsupported Borrowing	(15,786,523)	(8,711,943)	(3,543,323)	(3,105,200)
Grants & Contributions	(21,556,015)	(16,344,863)	(6,208,674)	(2,495,000)
Reserve Funded	(103,000)	(103,000)	(103,000)	(103,000)
Capital Receipts	(4,295,290)	(1,665,290)	(1,565,290)	(1,565,290)
Vehicle Lease Financing	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
Total Funding	(45,670,828)	(30,755,096)	(15,350,287)	(11,198,490)
(Surplus) / Deficit	0	0	0	0

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