

Report to: **Audit Committee**
Date: **8th April 2021**
Title: **Budget Book 2021/22**
Portfolio Area: **Support Services – Cllr H Bastone**

Wards Affected: **ALL**

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

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Recommendations:

That the Audit Committee:

1. Notes the content of the Budget Book for 2021/22.

1. Executive summary

Attached is a copy of the Budget Book for 2021/22. This sets out the Council's Revenue Budget for the year into the four Directorates of Customer Service and Delivery, Place and Enterprise, Governance and Assurance and Strategic Finance.

2. Background

The Budget Book compares the Budget for 2020/21 against the Budget for 2021/22. Cost pressures and savings which were set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and agreed as part of the budget process are shown in the 'MTFS' column, with a note underneath. For example, the income target for Housing Benefit overpayment recoveries has been reduced by £145,000 for 2021/22, and this is shown in Cost Centre S1565 Housing Benefit Payments.

The Budget Book shows any 'virements' within 2020/21. A virement is where a budget is moved from one budget holder (and cost centre) to another, to better reflect where budget responsibility should be held. Virements always net to zero.

In addition various presentational changes have been made to the 2021/22 budget shown in the 'other adjustments' column in the Budget Book. This aligns budgets to reflect current income and expenditure arrangements. These adjustments net to zero overall, as they are purely presentational.

3. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Y	The Council is legally required to set a Balanced Budget each financial year.
Financial Implications to include reference to value for money	Y	There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. The annual budget setting process will ensure the Council has arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Council's auditors, Grant Thornton, provide an annual value for money opinion for the District Council, which is reported to Members with the Audited Accounts each year.
Risk	Y	The Council's budget book sets out the income and expenditure budgeted for each service area. A prudent level of reserves is held by the Council to mitigate against financial risk.
Supporting Corporate Strategy	Y	The budget book report supports all six of the Corporate Themes of Council, Homes, Enterprise, Communities, Environment and Wellbeing.

Climate Change – Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	N	None directly arising from this report.
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity	N	N/a
Safeguarding	N	N/a
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder	N	N/a
Health, Safety and Wellbeing	N	N/a
Other implications	N	None

Supporting Information

Appendix A – Budget Book summary 2021/22

Approval and clearance of report

Process Checklist	Completed
Portfolio Holder briefed	Yes
SLT Rep briefed	Yes
Relevant Exec Director sign off (draft)	Yes
Data protection issues considered	Yes
If exempt information, public (part 1) report also drafted. (Committee/Scrutiny)	N/A