

**Report for:** Overview & Scrutiny Committee 04 July 2019

**Title:** **Budget Report & MTFS Update including Children's Invest to Save Programme**

**Report authorised by :** Jon Warlow – Director of Finance

**Lead Officer:** Frances Palopoli - Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:**

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

1.1 The report attached as Appendix 1 provides:

- An update on the impact of the provisional General Fund (GF) 2018/19 outturn on Council finances (section 7)
- A summary of the 2019/20 budget position at period 2 (May) including delivery of agreed savings (section 8)
- An update on local changes to the MTFS assumptions outlined in the February report including an update on the National economic picture and local authority funding (section 9)
- An update on progress with the “live budgeting” agenda, the business planning process to deliver a balanced 2020/21 budget and refreshed MTFS. It provides detail of the proposed Invest to Save Programme in Children's Services and also sets out further budget changes now proposed to be incorporated into the future MTFS (2020-2025) (section 10).

1.2. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are charged with reviewing the proposed Invest to Save Programme in Children's Services included in Section 10 and Appendix 3 of the report (Appendix 1) in particular.

**2. Cabinet Member Introduction**  
N/A

**3. Recommendations**

Overview & Scrutiny are recommended to review and scrutinise, in particular, the proposed Children's Services Invest to Save Programme and the recommendations associated with it and provide any resulting feedback or recommendation(s) to Cabinet for their consideration.

**4. Reasons for decision**

This report enables the Committee to carry out its role to review and scrutinise decisions made by, and performance of, the Cabinet and council offices both in relation to individual decisions and over time.

**5. Alternative options considered**

N/A

**6. Background information**

One of the critical roles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and their panels is in reviewing and scrutinising the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas. It should then be able to question members of the Cabinet and chief officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects. Also the Committee can assist the Council and the Cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues.

The scrutiny of the proposed Invest to Save Programme within Children's Services included in Section 10 and Appendix 3 of the report attached as Appendix 1 provides the Committee with an important opportunity to discharge their responsibilities in relation to reviewing a proposed strategy, improve the transparency of decision making and help to ensure local public services are delivered effectively, efficiently and in the best interests of residents.

**7. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 7.1 Adherence to strong and effective financial management will enable the Council to deliver all of its stated objectives and priorities.

**8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**

**Finance**

There are no additional financial implications not already included in the Budget Report & MTFS Update report attached as Appendix 1.

**Procurement**

There are no additional procurement implications not already included in the Budget Report & MTFS Update report attached as Appendix 1.

**Legal - contained in the attached report**

**Equality**

There are no additional equalities implications not already included in the Budget Report & MTFS Update report attached as Appendix 1.

**9. Use of Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Budget Report & MTFS Update to be presented to Cabinet  
07/07/2019

**10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**