



Decisions taken by the Executive on Wednesday 4 December 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
Part A – Items considered in public		
A3	Corporate Performance: Quarter Two 2024/25	<p>ORDERED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the proposed changes to the Executive actions, detailed at Appendix One of the report. 2. Agree the additional metrics to assess incremental impact of Council Plan outcomes, at Appendix Four of the report. <p>AGREED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the progress and position of the corporate performance disciplines, including the Transformation Portfolio. 2. Note delivery status of the Council Plan 2024-27 supporting workplan at Quarter Two, detailed at Appendix Two of the report. 3. Note the Strategic Risk Register, at Appendix Three of the report.
A4	Housing Supply	<p>ORDERED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the business case set out in Appendix one of the report aimed at delivering the savings identified within the Council's Transformation Programme as REG07;

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Approve the use of approved capital resources from the Towns Fund (£4m) and Levelling Up Partnership (£2.141m), as set out in the Business Case included, as Appendix one of the report, to acquire and refurbish properties to increase the supply of housing in order to reduce expenditure on temporary accommodation. 3. Delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration, following consultation with the Executive Member for Development, to utilise the three delivery proposals set out in paragraphs 4.11 to 4.13 of this report, within the approved funding envelope of £6.141m, to maximise potential cost reductions.
A5	Empty Properties Strategy - Domestic	<p>ORDERED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the Empty Property Strategy – Domestic. 2. Delegate any future minor revisions/modifications to the Director of Finance and the Director of Regeneration following consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and the Executive Member for Development. The purpose of which was to maintain effective service delivery and reflect revisions brought about by regulatory and/or statutory guidance changes.
A6	2024/25 Quarter Two Revenue and Capital Monitoring and Forecast Outturn	<p>ORDERED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the proposed revenue budget virements over £250,000 as detailed in Appendix three of the report. 2. Approve the inclusion of additional expenditure budgets to the Capital Programme totalling £0.523m for 2024/25 which were externally funded and detailed in Appendix Eight of the report. Subject to approval, this would increase the approved 2024/25 Capital Programme budget to £106.711m. 3. Approve the proposed virements over £250,000 between schemes in the 2024/25

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		<p>Capital Programme approved by Council in March 2024 which were funded from within existing Council resources which was detailed in Appendix Eight of the report.</p> <p>AGREED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the forecast 2024/25 revenue outturn as at Quarter Two of £144.572m against an approved budget of £143.190m. This was an overspend of £1.382m (0.97%) as summarised below and detailed in Table one in the report. This was an improvement of £2.360m from the £3.742m forecast year-end overspend reported at Quarter One. 2. Note the progress on savings delivery set out in Tables three and four and Appendix four of the report. 3. Note that the Council was dependent upon Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) in 2024/25 approved in principle by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) of up to £13.4m of one-off borrowing, the costs which were factored into the MTFP. Of this sum £4.7m had been utilised to achieve a balanced budget in 2024/25. The forecast use of EFS had been reduced to up to £8.2m, detailed in paragraph 4.5 of the report. 4. Note that it was essential that all available measures were taken by management to control revenue expenditure within the approved budget, given that the Quarter Two forecast overspend, if realised, would potentially require further £1.382m of EFS borrowing to fund slippage in savings delivery. If the overspend increased in the remainder of 2024/25 this would require further use of EFS or reserves. Both EFS and reserves could only be used once, and the financial pressure would remain in 2025/26 to be addressed. 5. Note that based upon the Quarter Two forecast outturn, the forecast revenue balances at 31 March 2025 would be at £18.914m which was in line with that

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		<p>recommended in the approved Reserves Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund Reserve of £11.1m (minimum recommended) • Council’s unrestricted usable earmarked reserves of £7.814m <p>6. Note the 2024/25 Capital Programme forecast year end outturn of £72.546m at Quarter Two was a reduction of £34.165m (32.02%) from the revised Quarter One budget of £106.711m comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An underspend on projects of £8.720m • Slippage on projects of £25.445m into 2025/26 and 2026/27 <p>7. Note the current forecast deficit of £5.935m for 2024/25 relating to the High Needs Block with the Dedicated Schools Grant which increased the forecast cumulative deficit to £20.228m at 31 March 2025. If the statutory override was removed by Government on 31 March 2026 without national funding solution in place for High Needs, then this presented a critical risk to the Council’s financial viability, given that it would wipe out the Council’s general fund reserves. The DSG recovery actions and risks to the Council’s financial resilience were set out in paragraph 4.39 and Appendix six of the report.</p> <p>8. Note The level of Middlesbrough’s share of Collection Fund and General Fund Debtors at 30 September 2024 was as follows and detailed in paragraphs 4.56 to 4.58 and Table 11 of the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Tax £34.713m • Business Rates £6.592m • Sundry Debt £14.299m • Housing Benefit Overpayments £6.196m
A7	Treasury Management Mid-Year Review - 2024/25	<p>AGREED that Executive:</p> <p>1. Note the mid-year Prudential Indicator results for 2024/25 as the Council’s current position in relation to capital finance activities and overall indebtedness which</p>

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		<p>was detailed in table one to five in the report.</p> <p>2. Note the performance of the treasury management function against the Council's approved strategy for the 2024/25 financial year to date detailed in paragraphs 4.33 to 4.38 in the report.</p>
A8	Calculation of Council Tax Base for 2025/26	<p>ORDERED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the council tax base for 2025/26 as 36,513.9. 2. Approve 2,447.3 and 1,504.8 as council tax bases for the parishes of Nunthorpe and Stainton & Thornton respectively for 2025/26. 3. Approve to notify the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Cleveland Fire Authority, and the Parish Councils of the 2025/26 council tax base. <p>AGREED that Executive note the content of the report.</p>
A9	2025/26 Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 and 2028/29	<p>AGREED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the update on the key budget assumptions upon which the 2025/26 budget and MTFP to 2028/29 was calculated and were detailed in paragraphs 4.62 to 4.67 in the report. 2. Note the proposed draft budgets for 2025/26 and 2026/27 were balanced, with a gap of £2.686m in 2027/28 and rising to £5.150m in 2028/29 and were detailed in paragraphs 4.124 and 4.125 in the report. 3. Note that further work was required to fully assess the Council's financial position once the detail of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement was published. 4. Note that Transformation Programme business cases must be robust, and adequately assured to enable their inclusion in the proposed 2025/26 budget and

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		<p>MTFP. Work was continuing to develop detailed business cases within the Recover, Reset, Deliver Transformation Programme in relation to the cross-cutting Programmes: Target Operating Model including Customer Services, Neighbourhoods, IT and Digital. These programmes would fundamentally modernise and redesign the Council’s service delivery models to achieve improved outcomes for the community from a lower cost base. It was intended that these would be brought forward to the 5 February 2025 Executive for incorporation into the overall budget to be considered by Council on 19 February 2025.</p> <p>AGREED that Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse total proposals for savings and income growth of £7.036m in 2025/26 rising to £8.686m in 2028/29, of which £0.249m were deemed to involve policy change and/or impact service delivery levels and would be subject to public consultation and were detailed in Appendices one and two in the report. 2. Endorse total budget growth for re-investment in services aligned to the Recover, Reset, Deliver plan of £2.361m in 2025/26 rising to £2.558m in 2028/29 detailed in Appendix three of the report. 3. Endorse the proposed total Council Tax increase of 4.99% for 2025/26 comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.99% increase in general Council Tax and • 2% Adult Social Care Precept. 4. Endorse the proposed arrangements to make financial provision against the risk of delivering the 2025/26 budget and MTFP which would enable the Council to set a robust budget without an application for reliance upon Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) from Government as detailed in paragraph 4.65 of the report. 5. Endorse that, where applicable, budget consultation would commence, on 5

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		<p align="center">December 2024 conclude on 8 January 2025 prior to finalising the proposed budget by Executive on 5 February 2025 for consideration and approval by Council on 19 February 2025</p>
A10	Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan	<p>ORDERED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan be amended to include references to motorcycles where appropriate. 2. Executive approve the updated Highway Infrastructure Delivery Plan and endorses seeking funding to expedite the requirements.
A11	Linthorpe Road Phase One Cycleway Design	<p>ORDERED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive accept the proposed design submitted by Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) for the Linthorpe Road Cycle Lane detailed at appendix one in the report. 2. Executive will receive a further report following a final funded proposal from TVCA.
A1		
A2		