

The Proposal in the Budget Report under Agenda item 8 be amended as below:

Cllr Robson (Conservative Group)

Line	Directorate	Description	(Savings)/ Costs £000	Cumulative £000
Directorate Savings				
8,9 & 14	Economic Development	Reverse savings proposals in lines 8,9 & 14 to support tourism in the city	50	50
	Council Wide	Reduction in Agency & Consultancy Spend	(300)	(250)
	Council Wide	Removal of General Contingency Budget	(3,000)	(3,250)
	Council Wide	Drawdown from Reserves	(500)	(3,750)
	Council Wide	Adopt new working practices enabled by Covid to rationalise estate and bring in income	(250)	(4,000)
	Economic Development	Additional income from creating enterprise zones for new start-ups within existing estate	(128)	(4,128)
Net Position			(4,128)	(4,128)

Proposed by Cllr Gavin Hill-John

Seconded by Cllr Adrian Robson

Statutory Officers Commentary on the Conservative Budget Proposals 2021/22

In summary the proposal from the Conservative Group includes a number of new savings proposals as well as drawdowns from Reserves and the removal of the General Contingency Budget. No new financial pressures have been proposed and savings proposals 8, 9 and 14 have been rejected. No changes to the Capital Programme have been proposed. Overall, the proposal results in a reduction to the Cabinet's proposed increase to the rate of Council Tax from 3.5% to 0.8%.

The proposals have not been subject to detailed discussions with Directorates, nor have equality impact assessments been undertaken in respect of these. However, within this constraint, they have been reviewed as to their financial achievability and risk.

The value of existing savings proposals rejected stands at £50,000 and the new savings proposed total £4.178 million. It is proposed that £3.0 million will be provided by the removal of the General Contingency Budget from the 2021/22 budget and £500,000 drawdown from Reserves. The net effect on the overall budget position is to reduce resources required by £4.128 million. The net effect would facilitate a reduction in the proposed increase to the rate of Council Tax, with the amendment proposing an increase of 0.8%.

The most significant, in value, of the new savings proposals is the removal of the £3m General Contingency Budget in full. This would present a substantial risk to the Council as there remains significant uncertainty regarding the financial position over the medium term including the exposure to additional cost in relation to demand-led services, the uncertainty brought about by the pandemic and the difficulty in judging what the long tail effects of COVID19 may be on the economy, public finances and future demand on services. Should this proposal be taken forward, the risk that the Council may need to make unplanned use of reserves, in the event of an overspend, would increase. As reserves can only be utilised once, there is a risk that this could result in a weakening of the Council's balance sheet and overall financial resilience.

The same comments would also apply to the proposal for a drawdown from Reserves of £500,000 which would also negatively impact on the Council's financial resilience and its financial flexibility to respond to unforeseen future events.

Included within the suggested new savings are two that relate to opportunities to deliver additional income that amount to £378,000. For these two proposals it would be necessary to understand the details of these opportunities so the potential impact upon achievability can be understood. As this stage the proposal would be considered to be at the general planning stage and it would be appropriate to categorise this as a red risk in terms of achievability. In addition, to enable such proposals to proceed, it would be necessary to receive detailed business cases prior to the start of the new financial year. This would allow a fully informed view of the overall risk to be taken and allow implementation of new income streams as soon as possible, ensuring that as much of the saving is achieved in 2021/22 and reducing the amount that would carry forward as unachieved savings into 2022/23.

The other saving proposed –reduction in agency / consultants spend - would also have to be categorised as being in the general planning stage, due to its Council-wide nature, and, therefore, it would have to be assumed, at this point, that there is a red risk to its achievability.

Legal Implications

The legal context and implications set out in the main budget report also apply to these Proposals and regard should be had to the same.

As regards the proposals in respect of; Removal of General Contingency Budget and Drawdown from Reserves, attention is drawn to the requirement, when the Council is considering its budget, to have regard to the S151 Officer's advice as to the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the proposed reserves in the budget proposals. The body of the report and this addendum setting out such advice, including advice on financial resilience, reserves and contingencies.

Any specific plans which are developed in relation to these proposals will require appropriate consultation, equality impact assessment and evaluation in relation to the Council's wellbeing objectives. Where these alternative proposals require consultation and an equality impact assessment, any decision taken to incorporate the proposals into the Council's budget will be an in principle decision and the details of the implementation proposals will have to be subject to consultation and equality impact assessments, which must be taken into account in a final decision on whether to implement the proposals or not.

Budget Summary – Conservative Proposal 2020/21

Resources Available:	£000	£000
Welsh Government	(487,913)	
Use of Reserves	(1,250)	
Council Tax at 0.8% Increase	<u>(188,539)</u>	
		(677,702)
Resources Needed:		
2020/21 Base Budget b/f	656,186	
Commitments, Inflation & Realignments	32,322	
New Financial Pressures Accepted	3,066	
Less:		
Savings	(10,872)	
Removal of Contingency Budget	<u>(3,000)</u>	
		677,702

RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Recommendations to Council

The Conservative Group have examined the Cabinet budget proposals and considered the responses received to the Budget Consultation. Having taken account of the comments of the Section 151 Officer in respect of the robustness of its proposed amendments to the budget report (alternative budget proposals) and the adequacy of reserves as required under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, Conservative Group recommend that Council:

- 1.0 Approve the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account budgets including all proposals and increasing the Council Tax by 0.8% as set out in this report and that the Council resolve the following terms.
- 2.0 Note that at its meeting on 17 December 2020 Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2021/22 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
 - a) 147,794 being the amount calculated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.
 - b)

Lisvane	2,513
Pentyrch	3,369
Radyr	3,847
St. Fagans	1,746
Old St. Mellons	2,192
Tongwynlais	822

being the amounts calculated in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

2.1 Agree that the following amounts be now calculated by the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (d) (including Community Council precepts totalling £457,978). £1,109,288,978
- b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(3)(a) and (c). £432,779,000
- c) Amount by which the aggregate at 2.1(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.1(b) above calculated in accordance with Section 32(4) as the budget requirement for the year. £676,509,978
- d) Aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council Fund in respect of Revenue Support Grant, its council tax reduction scheme, redistributed Non-Domestic Rates. £487,912,796
- e) The amount at 2.1(c) above less the amount at 2.1(d) (net of the amount for discretionary relief of £400,000), all divided by the amount at 2.0(a) above, calculated in accordance with Section 33(1) as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year. £1,278.79
- f) Aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1). £457,978
- g) Amount at 2.1(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.1(f) above by the amount at 2.0(a) above, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special items relate. £1,275.69
- h) The amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.1(g) above the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned below, divided in each case by the amount at 2.0(b) above, calculated in accordance with Section 34(3) as the basic amounts of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which special items relate.

	£
Lisvane	1,295.98
Pentyrch	1,327.63
Radyr	1,308.56
St. Fagans	1,295.01

Old St. Mellons	1,297.95
Tongwynlais	1,303.67

- i) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.1(g) and 2.1(h) above by the number which in the proportion set out in the Council Tax (Valuation Bands) (Wales) Order 2003 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 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.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Area									
Lisvane	863.99	1,007.98	1,151.99	1,295.98	1,583.98	1,871.97	2,159.97	2,591.96	3,023.95
Pentyrch	885.09	1,032.60	1,180.12	1,327.63	1,622.66	1,917.68	2,212.72	2,655.26	3,097.80
Radyr	872.37	1,017.77	1,163.17	1,308.56	1,599.35	1,890.14	2,180.93	2,617.12	3,053.31
St. Fagans	863.34	1,007.23	1,151.12	1,295.01	1,582.79	1,870.57	2,158.35	2,590.02	3,021.69
Old St. Mellons	865.30	1,009.51	1,153.74	1,297.95	1,586.39	1,874.81	2,163.25	2,595.90	3,028.55
Tongwynlais	869.11	1,013.96	1,158.82	1,303.67	1,593.38	1,883.08	2,172.78	2,607.34	3,041.90
All other parts of the Council's Area	850.46	992.20	1,133.95	1,275.69	1,559.18	1,842.66	2,126.15	2,551.38	2,976.61

- 2.2 Note that for the year 2021/22, the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:-

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
191.81	223.78	255.75	287.72	351.66	415.60	479.53	575.44	671.35

- 2.3 Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.1(i) and 2.2 above, the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Part of Council's Area
VALUATION BANDS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Area									
Lisvane	1,055.80	1,231.77	1,407.74	1,583.70	1,935.63	2,287.57	2,639.50	3,167.40	3,695.30
Pentyrch	1,076.90	1,256.39	1,435.87	1,615.35	1,974.31	2,333.28	2,692.25	3,230.70	3,769.15
Radyr	1,064.18	1,241.56	1,418.92	1,596.28	1,951.00	2,305.74	2,660.46	3,192.56	3,724.66
St. Fagans	1,055.15	1,231.02	1,406.87	1,582.73	1,934.44	2,286.17	2,637.88	3,165.46	3,693.04
Old St. Mellons	1,057.11	1,233.30	1,409.49	1,585.67	1,938.04	2,290.41	2,642.78	3,171.34	3,699.90
Tongwynlais	1,060.92	1,237.75	1,414.57	1,591.39	1,945.03	2,298.68	2,652.31	3,182.78	3,713.25
All other parts of the Council's Area	1,042.27	1,215.99	1,389.70	1,563.41	1,910.83	2,258.26	2,605.68	3,126.82	3,647.96

2.4 Authorise the Corporate Director Resources to make payments under Section 38 of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 from the Council Fund by equal instalments on the last working day of each month from April 2021 to March 2022 in respect of the precept levied by the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales in the sum of £42,523,290.

2.5 Agree that the Common Seal be affixed to the said Council Tax.

2.6 Agree that the Common Seal be affixed to precepts for Port Health Expenses for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 namely

	£
County Council of the City and County of Cardiff	113,768
Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council	12,832

2.7 Agree that notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive be given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

3.0 In accordance with the Local Government Act 2003, the Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 and subsequent amendments and the CIPFA Prudential Code and Treasury Management Codes of Practice:

(a) Approve the Capital Strategy 2021/22.

(b) Approve the Treasury Management Strategy 2021/22 and authorise the Section 151 Officer to raise such funds as may be required to finance capital expenditure by temporary or long-term borrowing.

(c) Approve the Prudential Indicators for 2021/22 – 2025/26 including the affordable borrowing limit.

- (d) Delegate to the Section 151 Officer the ability to effect movement between the limits for borrowing and long-term liabilities, within the limit for any year, and to bring forward or delay schemes in the Capital Programme.
 - (e) Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2021/22
- 4.0 Subject to Council approving the Capital budget and further to the decision of Council in October 2020, headed “Securing the Future Sustainability and Viability of Cardiff City Transport Services limited”, authorise the issue and acquisition of additional equity in Cardiff City Transport Services Limited to allow the release of £6.6 million included in the 2021/22 capital programme with this payment being subject to Cardiff City Transport Services Limited agreeing to use the same solely to carry out interventions to support viability and strengthen the balance sheet through fleet acquisition.
- 5.0 To approve the Budgetary Framework outlined in this report.
- 6.0 To maintain the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme as set out in this report.

2 March 2021

Cllr Adrian Robson - The Conservative Group