

Report to Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2022/23 Quarter 2 – September 2022

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Abdul Jabbar MBE, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Low Carbon

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Purpose of Report

The report provides the Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to review the second budget monitoring report for the financial year 2022/23. It is therefore able to consider the key information relating to the forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the capital programme at 30 September 2022 (Quarter 2), together with the revised capital programme covering the period 2022/23 to 2026/27. The report (Attachment 1) has been issued with the agenda papers for the meeting of Cabinet on 12 December 2022.

Executive Summary

The Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee is presented with the report: Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2022/23 Quarter 2 – September 2022 (Attachment 1), enabling the Select Committee to review the financial position of the Council. The report was also included within the agenda papers for the 12 December 2022 Cabinet meeting.

The report presents the current forecast revenue outturn position for 2022/23 at Quarter 2 together with the forecast outturn for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Collection Fund. The report also outlines the most up to date capital spending forecasts for 2022/23 to 2026/27 for approved schemes.

There remains in 2022/23 a high degree of estimation with regard to the lasting impact of COVID-19 and also with the emerging cost pressures in relation to utilities and fuel, the impact of cost of living pressures and also interest rates. The forecasting of the likely impact of all these factors on the Council's budget is based on both the actual expenditure and the income loss recorded to date but also relies on a series of assumptions which are subject to change in line with national economic/policy developments as well as local issues. Future reports will advise of the progress of mitigating factors and management actions to control and reduce the forecast deficit.

Recommendation

That the Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the financial position of the Council as presented in the attached report.