

PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CORPORATE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

9 NOVEMBER 2022

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FINANCE & IT

A.1 CONSIDERATION / APPROVAL OF CARRY FORWARDS FROM 2021/22

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To agree the final carry forward amounts requested by Departments at the end of 2021/22.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- As part of the 2021/22 Outturn Report considered by Cabinet on 15 July 2022, carry forwards totalling **£17,890,790** were requested by Departments.
- In light of the challenging financial position faced by the Council in 2022/23 and beyond, all of the requested carry forwards were reviewed in consultation with Departments.
- Following this review, carry forwards totalling **£336,980** have either been withdrawn by Departments or are not recommended for approval.
- The total of **£336,980** highlighted above is therefore available to support the Council's financial position in 2022/23.
- Carry forwards totalling **£17,553,810** are therefore proposed to be approved as set out in the recommendations below.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Carry Forwards from 2021/22 totalling £17,553,810 as set out in this report and appendices are approved.

REASON(S) FOR THE RECOMMENDATION(S)

To finalise the budget amounts carried forward at the end of 2021/22 as part of the wider financial outturn process.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The consideration of carry forward amounts form part of the wider financial outturn process and so a final determination is required.

PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The various carry forward amounts support a range of priorities across the Council and if approved enable the associated projects and activities to continue in 2022/23.

OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable, however the review of the carry forwards was undertaken in consultation with Departments.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS (including legislation & constitutional powers)

Is the recommendation a Key Decision (see the criteria stated here)	No	If Yes, indicate which by which criteria it is a Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Significant effect on two or more wards <input type="checkbox"/> Involves £100,000 expenditure/income <input type="checkbox"/> Is otherwise significant for the service budget
		And when was the proposed decision published in the Notice of forthcoming decisions for the Council (must be 28 days at the latest prior to the meeting date)	The more general item that this report relates to (Outturn Report 2021/22) was a key decision reflected in the forward plan, with the associated delegation set out in that report.

Yes The Monitoring Officer confirms they have been made aware of the above and any additional comments from them are below:

There are no additional comments over and above those set out elsewhere in this report.

FINANCE AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Please see comments set out elsewhere in this report.

Yes The Section 151 Officer confirms they have been made aware of the above and any additional comments from them are below:

The S151 Officer is the author of this report.

USE OF RESOURCES AND VALUE FOR MONEY

The following are submitted in respect of the indicated use of resources and value for money indicators:

A) Financial sustainability: how the body plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services;	The associated review undertaken has enabled budgets to be refocused to support the Council's overall financial position in 2022/23 There are no other direct implications, although any separate decisions relating to the proposed carryforwards will need to address these issues as necessary.
B) Governance: how the body ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks, including; and	
C) Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness: how the body uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services.	

MILESTONES AND DELIVERY

Once approved, the associated budgets will be available to Departments to deliver projects and activities in 2022/23.

ASSOCIATED RISKS AND MITIGATION

There are no direct risks, although such issues will need to be considered as part of any associated reports / decisions needed to deliver schemes and projects that the carry forwards support.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct implications, although such issues will need to be considered as part of any associated reports / decisions needed to deliver schemes and projects that the carry forwards support.

SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

There are no direct implications, although such issues will need to be considered as part of any associated reports / decisions needed to deliver schemes and projects that the carry forwards support.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S AIM TO BE NET ZERO BY 2030

There are no direct implications, although such issues will need to be considered as part of any associated reports / decisions needed to deliver schemes and projects that the carry forwards support.

OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS OR IMPLICATIONS

Consideration has been given to the implications of the proposed decision in respect of the following and any significant issues are set out below.

Crime and Disorder	Please see comments above
Health Inequalities	
Area or Ward affected	

PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION**BACKGROUND AND PROPOSED CARRYFORWARDS FROM 2021/22**

On the 15 July 2022, Cabinet considered the Outturn Report for 2021/22, which included carry forwards totalling £17,890,790, with a high level summary set out within the table below:

Area of the Budget	Total Carry Forwards Requested
General Fund Revenue – General (Excl. COVID 19 Grant Funding)	£12,948,570
General Fund Revenue – NET COVID 19 Grant Funding	£1,076,640
General Fund Capital Schemes (Contributions from Earmarked Reserves and Direct Revenue Contributions)	£3,865,580

TOTAL**£17,890,790**

All carry forwards requested by services (as set out in the table above) were reflected in the year end position for 2021/22 that was considered by Cabinet on 15 July 2022, and included 'qualifying' and 'non-qualifying' items.

In terms of 'qualifying' items, these reflect the following broad principles:

- There is a 'contractual commitment';
- There is a related long term project which is expected to span a number of financial years;
- There is non-recurring item for which no budget provision exists in the following year;

In terms of 'non-qualifying' carry forwards, these relate to items that may support initiatives and projects that although not strictly complying with the above criteria, it could be advantageous for them to be agreed as they further the delivery of priorities etc.

As set out in the report to Cabinet on 15 July 2022, in light of the challenging financial position faced by the Council in 2022/23 and beyond, all of the requested carry forwards were reviewed in consultation with Departments. The review was in the context of where items could be 'avoided', where there were only limited consequences or where they could be considered in future as part of the Corporate Investment Plan approach.

The report to Cabinet on 15 July 2022 also delegated the approval of the carry forwards to the S151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Finance and Governance.

Following a review of the carry forwards highlighted above, a summary of the proposed position is as follows:

Area of the Budget	Total Carry Forwards Requested	Carry Forwards Proposed to be Approved	Carry Forwards Withdrawn by Department or not approved
General Fund Revenue – General (Excl. COVID 19 Grant Funding) Appendix A sets out the full schedule of the amounts requested and outcome of the review)	£12,948,570	£12,611,590	£336,980
General Fund Revenue – NET	£1,076,640	All items proposed to be approved as set out in the Outturn Report to	

COVID 19 Grant Funding		Cabinet on 15 July 2022 (Appendix K of that report)	
General Fund Capital Schemes (Contributions from Earmarked Reserves and Direct Revenue Contributions)	£3,865,580	All items proposed to be approved as set out in the Outturn Report to Cabinet on 15 July 2022 (Appendix D of that report)	
TOTAL	£17,890,790		

In respect of the carry forwards not approved or withdrawn by the relevant Department, these total **£336,980**, which has been used to support the Council's overall financial position in 2022/23 (which was reported to Cabinet on 4 November 2022 as part of the general finance update report at the end of September 2022).

The above position was agreed with Departments set against the context that any associated consequences can be managed within existing arrangements or will be considered as part of the on-going financial forecasting / budget setting processes.

Subject to the recommendations above, the approval of carry forwards will support the on-going delivery of the associated schemes and project in 2022/23.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT DECISIONS

Outturn Report 2021/22 that was considered by Cabinet on 15 July 2022

BACKGROUND PAPERS AND PUBLISHED REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

APPENDICES

Appendix A – General Fund Revenue Carry Forward Requests 2021/22

REPORT CONTACT OFFICER(S)

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