

## **S151 Officer Commentary on Green Group Amendment to Proposed 2021/22 Budget**

This note reviews the Green Group amendment. The amendment is made to the proposals set out in the final recommendations of the Executive to the Council in Document DL.

It is important to note the following:

- The proposal produces a balanced revenue budget for 2021/22.
- The proposal includes proposals for recurring and one-off investments, the funding of these has been considered and reflected within the proposal.
- All proposals have been specifically costed and are therefore deemed to be sufficiently robust estimates to be included in the budget.
- The proposal includes new capital schemes, requiring an additional £8.4m of corporate borrowing. These schemes have been costed and include additional funding, redirection of existing capital resources, and invest to save aspects, with the balance proposed to be funded by Corporate Borrowing.
- The proposals include the planned introduction of a Workplace Car Parking Levy to fund investment in sustainable transport from 2023/24. The proposed timescale will enable the business case to be produced and fully assessed.
- The proposal is balanced in 2021/22 only by the use of £6.845m of reserves.
- The use of reserves is broadly comparable to the Executive's proposals and is considered appropriate from s151 perspective.
- There are no proposed uses of the General Fund or Corporate Unallocated Reserves which are the prime focus of my S151 report.
- Inevitably, the proposals have not been subject to the level of consultation that has been available to the Executive's proposals.

On this basis, the amendment is sufficiently robust for consideration in setting the Council's budget for 2021/22, and the judgement on the adequacy of reserves, as set out in the s151 report (Document DI) to this Council, remains unchanged.

The revised Appendix A of Document DL consistent with this amendment has been provided, along with additional tables quantifying the amendments.

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