



Council  
20 July 2021  
Agenda Item 7D(i)

**WORTHING BOROUGH  
COUNCIL**

**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021**

**JSC/013/21-22      Financial Performance 2020/21 - Revenue outturn**

The report outlined the revenue financial monitoring position for the end of the 2020/21 financial year for the Joint Strategic Committee, Adur District and Worthing Borough Councils. At the time of publication, the Statements of Accounts were completed and with the audit scheduled to commence in August 2021. Any adjustments that emerge would be reported to members later in the year.

The final position for operational services were overspends in Adur District Council £876k and in Worthing Borough Council £3.7m. This was a variation to the projections reported at quarter 3 when operational outturns were predicted to be an overspend of £1.1m in Adur and £3.9m in Worthing.

Overall outturn positions were underspends of £641k in Adur District Council and £1.1m in Worthing Borough Council which were due largely to the level of government support received for the impact of Covid 19. After allowance for proposed carry forward of budgets in 2020/21, this represented a 5% underspend against the budget for Adur and 6.7% for Worthing. Significant variations in the last quarter of the year included lower than estimated expenditure on reactive maintenance and the receipt of additional emergency government funding.

The outturn figures included proposed carry forward requests, detailed in appendix 6, that would need to be met from those underspends. The budgets related to committed spend that was planned for delivery in 2021/22: Adur District Council £189,000 and Worthing Borough Council £242,000.

The outcome was an improvement overall from what was forecasted in the quarter 3 monitoring report '3rd Revenue Budget Monitoring Report(Q3)' when net underspends of £223,000 and £13,000 were being projected in Adur and Worthing respectively. The main movements in the last quarter were set out in appendix 5b, with additional emergency funding and lower maintenance expenditure being the significant factors. The outturn position did help to assist the Councils in managing a difficult financial position in 2021/22 particularly in light of the budget pressures identified elsewhere on the agenda.

The recommendations were proposed by Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes, seconded by Councillor Angus Dunn and unanimously supported.

## **Decision**

The Joint Strategic Committee:

- 2.1 recommended that Adur District Council, at its meeting on 22nd July 2021 and Worthing Borough Council at its meeting on 20th July 2021:-**
  - (a) NOTED the overall final outturn for 2020/21;**
  - (b) APPROVED the net appropriations to General Fund Reserves in the year as detailed in section 6 of the report totalling: Adur District Council £5,326,227, Worthing Borough Council £8,700,773;**
  - (c) AGREED the net carry over of revenue budget to 2021/22 funded from reserves as detailed in appendix 6: Adur District Council £189,000 Worthing Borough Council £242,000.**
- 2.2 delegated authority to the Executive Members for Resources in consultation with the Leaders and the Chief Executive the ability to release up to £250k from the Capacity Issues Reserve and the Building Maintenance Reserve to fund post pandemic recovery measures for the Councils' communities and businesses as well as supporting preparations for important national events such as the Platinum Jubilee.**
- 2.3 Asked the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee to note:**
  - (i) the contents of the report and consider whether it needs to scrutinise any budget area in detail.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021](#))



Council  
20 July 2021  
Agenda Item 7D(ii)

**WORTHING BOROUGH  
COUNCIL**

**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021**

**JSC/014/21-22      Financial Performance 2020/21 - Capital and Projects  
Outturn**

The report outlined the financial monitoring position for the end of the 2020/21 financial year for capital schemes included in the capital programmes of the Joint Strategic Committee, Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council.

Information was also provided in respect of capital receipts for the 2 constituent authorities.

A member asked questions in relation to the use of 'right to buy' receipts and the publication of the capital works programme. Officers advised that receipts could be kept for up to 5 years and were used to finance up to 40% of the cost of a new home. The capital programme was due to be considered in December.

The recommendations set out in the report were proposed by Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes seconded by Councillor Angus Dunn and unanimously supported.

**Decision**

The Joint Strategic Committee:

- i)        noted the outturn position for 2020/21;
- ii)        recommended that Adur District Council at its Council meeting on 22nd July 2021:
  - (a)        Noted the overall capital final outturn for 2020/21.
  - (b)        Agreed the net carry over of General Fund Capital underspends for Adur District Council as detailed in paragraphs 5.3.
  - (c)        Approved the financing of the Adur District Council 2020/21 Capital Investment Programme, including the use of capital receipts as set out in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2.

- (d) Approved the carry forward of Council resources underspends to fund budget pressures as detailed in paragraph 4.2.2. and summarised in paragraph 5.6.
- iii) **recommended that Worthing Borough Council at its Council meeting on 20th July 2021:**
  - (a) **Noted the overall capital final outturn for 2020/21.**
  - (b) **Agreed the net carry over of General Fund Capital underspends for Worthing Borough Council as detailed in paragraph 5.10.**
  - (c) **Approved the financing of the Worthing Borough Council 2020/21 Capital Investment Programme, including the use of capital receipts as set out in paragraphs 5.7 and 5.8.**
  - (d) **Approved the carry forward of Council resources underspends to fund budget pressures as detailed in paragraph 4.2.2. and summarised in paragraph 5.15.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021](#))



**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021**

**JSC/015/21-22      Developing a revenue budget for 2022/23 at the time of a pandemic**

The report proposed a budget strategy for the development of the 2022/23 budgets against the background of the pandemic.

It had been a long time since the Council had any certainty during budget setting and 2021/22 looked set to continue this tradition. At present the Councils had no clear idea of how long the pandemic would continue to affect its communities and its economy. The impact of any fairer funding review was likely to be deferred for a further year, but the councils did not know what would replace it for 2022/23; homelessness was on the rise, but forecasting this trend forward remained difficult; and inevitably the difficult economic climate would continue to influence a number of budget lines, from Council Tax revenues to income for services such as car parks.

The Council had had a clear strategy for facing the challenges of rapidly changing local government finance. It was now important to build on that strategy to meet the new and emerging challenges but within the context of supporting its local communities and economies.

Now more than ever, careful financial management was required to ensure that the Council managed both the emerging in-year pressures and the implications for the future, whilst driving forward with Platforms for Our Places to help regenerate and renew its places. The Councils' strategy would need to include managed and prudent increases in council tax, and a clear focus on driving efficiency and productivity.

The report set out how the Councils would address the challenges of the next few years, outlining the revenue forecast and setting out its strategic response to the challenges ahead. With the detailed budget proposals for 2022/23 coming forward to the Joint Strategic Committee in December, the report set out the broader context for the detailed work that would be undertaken over the intervening months.

The Councils would be increasingly reliant on council tax income, business rate income, and its own income generating services. The Councils had a good track record in innovation, working creatively in partnership, transforming their digital

capabilities and putting the customer at the heart of their services, in order to continue to deliver their aspirations for their Places.

Work had been underway for some time to address the financial challenge for 2022/23 and beyond. This would continue over the summer and autumn, and the Organisational Leadership Team would be working to produce new financial plans designed to deliver a balanced budget over the next 3 years. The outcome of the service planning process would be presented to the Joint Strategic Committee for approval in December 2021 as part of the development of the 2022/23 budget.

The recommendations set out in the report were proposed by Councillor Daniel Humphreys seconded by Councillor Carson Albury and unanimously supported.

## **Decision**

The Joint Strategic Committee

- (a) Noted the report and the outline 5-year forecasts in Appendix 3;
- (b) Approved the proposed budget process as set out in section 6 of the report;
- (c) **Recommended that Adur and Worthing Councils approve the Budget Strategy for 2021/22 outlined in Section 9 of the report;**
- (d) asked that the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the content of the report.

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021](#))



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**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021**

**JSC/016/21-22      Investing for our future - Capital Strategy 2022/25**

The report sought the approval of the Council's Capital Strategy for 2022/25. The Strategy outlined the Councils' approach to capital investment and how the Council ensured that capital investment was directed to the Councils' Priorities. It also set out the basis for prioritisation of capital bids included in the 3 Year Capital Investment Programme and the monitoring of the programme.

The recommendations set out in the report were proposed by Councillor Angus Dunn seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes and unanimously supported.

**Decision**

**The Joint Strategic Committee recommended to Adur and Worthing Councils that the Capital Strategy 2022/25 be approved.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021](#))





Council  
20 July 2021  
Agenda Item 7D(v)

**WORTHING BOROUGH  
COUNCIL**

**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021**

**JSC/028/21-22      Securing the regeneration of Teville Gate through  
acquisition of the site**

The report sought the acquisition of the Teville Gate site by the Borough Council for the purpose of redevelopment to deliver new homes and employment opportunities.

The Committee gave consideration to the volatile construction market, in particular, how this was being profiled; the reasons for taking this course of action at this time and the speed in which the proposals could be taken forwards.

The recommendations set out in the report were proposed by Councillor Kevin Jenkins seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes and unanimously supported.

**Decision**

The Joint Strategic Committee :

- i. Approved the acquisition of the Teville Gate development site at Teville Road, Worthing for a residual land price of up to £7,725,000 subject to approval of a budget by full Council;
- ii. Delegated authority to the Head of Major Projects & Investment to agree detailed terms of the transaction as set out in the Heads of Terms (appendix A) and enter the contract for the purchase subject to satisfactory legal and technical due diligence;
- iii. Delegated authority to the Head of Major Projects & Investment to make all necessary consultancy appointments and contracts necessary to implement the proposed development strategy set out in the Strategic Outline Business Case;
- iv. Agreed to create a budget of £50,000 to support meanwhile and/or pop-up uses on the site as proposed at paragraph 5.4 while the full scheme was being brought forward through the planning and

development process funded from the resources previously released from reserves; and

**v. Recommended to Worthing Borough Council to:**

- a. approve an overall budget of £8.12m to meet the costs of acquisition funded from prudential borrowing.**
- b. amend the minimum revenue provision policy as set out in paragraph 7.4.**
- c. to increase the operational and authorised borrowing limits by £8.12m.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 13 July 2021](#))