



Extract from the minutes of the Joint Governance Committee - 31 May 2022

JGC/010/22-23 Joint Governance Committee Appointments: Parish Councillors

The report advised Members of the Joint Governance Committee of the nominations from Lancing Parish Council and Sompting Parish Council for Parish representatives to be appointed to the Joint Governance Committee as co-opted Members in accordance with the Constitution.

Resolved

The Joint Governance Committee -

- noted the nomination from Lancing Parish Council of the appointment of Cllr Mike Mendoza as a Co-opted Member of the Joint Governance Committee for 2022/23 **and recommended the appointment to Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council.**
- noted the nomination from Sompting Parish Council of the appointment of Cllr John Salisbury as a Co-opted Member of the Joint Governance Committee for 2022/23 **and recommended the appointment to Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Governance Committee - 31 May 2022](#))



WORTHING BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Council
19 July 2022

Extract from the minutes of the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 9 June 2022

JOSC/007/22-23 Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2021/22

The report before members set out the draft Annual report for the Committee covering the 2021/22 Municipal year in accordance with the terms of the Councils' constitutions.

Members discussed the report and the 'closing of the loop' when it came to reports and the monitoring of recommendations from Scrutiny. Members were told that this could be included in the Work Programme for the future.

Resolved:

- a) That the committee approve the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for 2021/22;
- b) That the Annual report be submitted to the Adur and Worthing Council meetings in July 2022 for approval.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 9 June 2022](#))



Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 5 July 2022

JSC/013/22-23 Financial Performance 2021/22 - Revenue Outturn

The report outlined the revenue financial monitoring position for the end of the 2021/22 financial year for the Joint Strategic Committee, Adur District and Worthing Borough Councils. At the time of publication, the Statements of Accounts were in progress, due to be completed by the end of June with the audit scheduled to commence in August 2022. It was noted that any adjustments that emerged from the audit, would be reported to members later in the year.

The final position for operational services were overspends in Adur District Council of £208k and in Worthing Borough Council £2m. This was a variation to the projections reported at quarter 3 when operational outturns were predicted to be an overspend of £585k in Adur and £1.6m in Worthing.

Overall outturn positions were an underspend of £183k in Adur District Council and an overspend of £196k in Worthing Borough Council. This represented a 2% underspend against the budget for Adur and 1% overspend in Worthing.

The table at 4.6 of the report outlined the components contributing to the outturn positions in 2021/22. There were no proposed budget carry forward requests for 2021/22.

The outcome was an improvement overall for Adur District Council and a deterioration for Worthing Borough Council from that forecast in the quarter 3 monitoring report '3rd Revenue Budget Monitoring Report (Q3)' when net overspends of £47,000 and £14,000 were being projected in Adur and Worthing respectively. The main movements in the last quarter were set out in appendix 5b.

A Member asked questions in relation to Car Parking income (figures for June 2022, compared with June 2021 and benchmarked against June 2019) and Worthing Borough Council's debt position. Officers did not have figures for June 2022 to hand but observed that car parking income continued to be suppressed following the pandemic but had been improving. Benchmarking figures could be provided after the meeting. Officers also advised that when considering the amount of debt, consideration should be given to the value of the Council's assets. Members were informed that the value of the Council's assets far outweighed the value of the Council's debt and therefore the Council was not overborrowed.

Another Member asked a question in relation to support from the government and sought clarification in relation to the Adur Council General Fund being under-borrowed (para 7.10). Officers advised that the position in Adur was very different to that in Worthing as the Council was not carrying anywhere near as significant commercial risk as car park income had bounced back remarkably well.

The government's covid support had finished, so the Councils were not expecting any more funding for covid. The Councils were receiving more new burdens funding for some of the new measures the Council was implementing in respect of the energy cost crisis. For example, the Council was administering £150 payments to all council tax payers in bands A to D.

It was noted that the Councils borrowed to fund their Capital Investment Programmes, however, the Councils were able to use their cash flow to fund expenditure in lieu of borrowing as a short term measure. The Councils had been holding a lot of cash over the past few years, due to the administering of government grant programmes. The Councils had used their cash flow advantage to fund the capital programme in the interim, the benefit of which was reduced interest costs.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Angus Dunn, seconded by Councillor John Turley and unanimously supported.

Decision

The Joint Strategic Committee recommended that Adur District Council, at its meeting on 21st July 2022 and **Worthing Borough Council at its meeting on 19th July 2022:-**

- (a) NOTE the overall final outturn for 2021/22; and**
- (b) APPROVE the net appropriations from General Fund Reserves in the year, as detailed in section 6 of the report, totalling: Adur District Council £2,050,390 and Worthing Borough Council £4,971,169.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 5 July 2022](#))



Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 5 July 2022

JSC/014/22-23 Financial Performance 2021/22 - Capital & Projects Outturn

The report outlined the financial monitoring position for the end of the 2021/22 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.

Members welcomed the report and congratulated officers in progressing the programme of works in very difficult circumstances.

It was noted that the Worthing Cabinet was happy to support the recommendations in the report with the caveat that the new administration in Worthing were reassessing the Capital Programme to ensure that it followed their Economic Strategy.

Recommendations 2.1 (ii) (a) to (d) in the report were proposed by Councillor Angus Dunn, seconded by Councillor Kevin Boram and unanimously supported by the Adur Executive Members. All Worthing Cabinet Members abstained from the vote.

Recommendations 2.1 (iii) (a) to (d) in the report were proposed by Councillor John Turley, seconded by Councillor Vicki Wells and unanimously supported by the Worthing Cabinet Members. All Adur Executive Members abstained from the vote.

Recommendations 2.1 (i), (iv) and (v) were unanimously supported by the Committee.

Decision

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

- i) noted the outturn position for 2021/22;
- ii) recommended that Adur District Council at its Council meeting on 21st July 2022:

- (a) Note the overall capital final outturn for 2021/22;
- (b) Agree the net carry over of General Fund Capital underspends for Adur District Council as detailed in paragraphs 5.3 of the report;
- (c) Approve 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 of the report; and
- (d) Approve the carry forward of Council resources underspends to fund budget pressures as detailed in paragraph 4.2.2. and summarised in paragraph 5.6 of the report.

iii) recommended that Worthing Borough Council at its Council meeting on 19th July 2022:

- (a) Note the overall capital final outturn for 2021/22;**
 - (b) Agree the net carry over of General Fund Capital underspends for Worthing Borough Council as detailed in paragraph 5.10 of the report;**
 - (c) Approve the financing of the Worthing Borough Council 2021/22 Capital Investment Programme, including the use of capital receipts as set out in paragraphs 5.7 and 5.8 of the report; and**
 - (d) Approve the carry forward of Council resources underspends to fund budget pressures as detailed in paragraph 4.2.2. and summarised in paragraph 5.15 of the report.**
- iv) noted the additional external funding awarded by Homes England towards housing schemes as set out in paragraph 7.1 and delegated authority to the Head of Major Projects to enter into the associated funding agreement;
- v) noted the final projected benefit from completed invest to save schemes as outlined in Appendix 5 of the report.

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 5 July 2022](#))



Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 5 July 2022

JSC/015/22-23 Developing a revenue budget for 2023/24 against a backdrop of high inflation

The purpose of the report was to propose a budget strategy for the development of the 2023/24 budgets with the added challenge of high inflation. When the 2022/23 budget was set, the war in Ukraine had yet to start and it continued to affect global economies with a prolonged impact on the energy markets and the consequential cost of living challenges which confront our communities as well as ourselves.

The report aimed to set out how the Councils would address the challenges of the next few years, outlining the revenue forecast and setting out strategic responses to the challenges ahead. With the detailed budget proposals for 2023/24 coming forward to the Joint Strategic Committee in December, this report set out the broader context for the detailed work that would be undertaken over the intervening months.

As set out in the following pages, the Councils would be increasingly reliant on council tax income, business rate income, and their 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, so that there was capacity to continue to deliver the Councils aspirations. Innovation in funding, investment and commercial income would be ever more important, aligned to key goals such as housing provision, tackling the climate crisis and supporting the local economy.

The Councils' new corporate strategy was being developed which would influence the final shape of the budget when it was set for 2023/24.

Work had been underway for some time to address the financial challenges for 2023/24 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 2022 as part of the development of the 2023/24 budget.

A Member asked questions regarding additional funding and commercial risks referenced in the report. Officers advised that there were no new funding streams, although there were external funds for specific areas of work such as nature

restoration. Services would be reviewed in depth and findings taken to JOSOC in due course. The commercial risks related to car parking income and other commercial services such as trade waste and commercial waste.

Members welcomed the report and thanked officers for their innovative work over a sustained period of time.

An amendment to the recommendations was proposed by Councillor John Turley; that 'the budget strategy for Worthing Borough Council will be developed to fall in line with the new economic strategy which will be brought to the Joint Strategic Sub-Committee (Worthing) in September, and will have due regard to the joint arrangements with Adur District Council'. The proposed amendment was seconded by Councillor Emma Taylor and supported by all 6 Worthing Cabinet Members. The Adur Executive Members abstained from the vote.

The recommendations, as amended, were proposed by Councillor Angus Dunn, seconded by Councillor Carl Walker and unanimously supported by the Committee.

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 District Council approve the Budget Strategy for 2022/23 as outlined in Section 9 of the report;
- (d) **Recommended that Worthing Borough Council approve the Budget Strategy for 2022/23, as outlined in Section 9 of the report, noting that the budget strategy for Worthing Borough Council will be developed to fall in line with the new economic strategy which will be brought to the Joint Strategic Sub-Committee (Worthing) in September, and will have due regard to the joint arrangements with Adur District Council.**

(Link to the report on the website e.g. [Joint Strategic Committee - 5 July 2022](#))