

Cabinet

Wednesday 17 November 2021

10:00

Oak Room, County Buildings, Stafford

The meeting will be webcast live which can be viewed at any time here:

<https://staffordshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

John Tradewell
Director of Corporate Services
9 November 2021

A G E N D A

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16**
3. **Decision notice of the meeting held on 20 October 2021** (Pages 1 - 14)
4. **Leader's Update**

Oral report of the Leader of the Council
5. **Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 3 November 2021** (Pages 15 - 16)
6. **Update from COVID-19 Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board** (Pages 17 - 18)
7. **Staffordshire Means Back to Business - Oral Update**

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills
8. **Half Yearly Treasury Management Report for the Period Ended 30 September 2021** (Pages 19 - 36)

Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources
9. **Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers** (Pages 37 - 38)
10. **Forward Plan of Key Decisions** (Pages 39 - 48)

11. **Exclusion of the Public**

The Chairman to move:-

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of Local Government Act 1972 indicated below”.

PART TWO

(All reports in this section are exempt)

12. **The Future of Replacement Care Services (Learning Disabilities)** (Pages 49 - 96)

(Exemption paragraph 3)

Cabinet Member for Health and Care

13. **Green Homes Grant (Sustainable Warmth Competition)** (Pages 97 - 108)

(Exemption paragraph 3)

Cabinet Member for Health and Care and Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change

14. **Winter Funding for Home Care** (Pages 109 - 118)

(Exemption paragraph 3)

Cabinet Member for Health and Care

Membership

Alan White (Chairman)	Johnny McMahon
Mark Deaville	Victoria Wilson
Mark Sutton	Julia Jessel
Philip White	David Williams
Jonathan Price	Ian Parry
Charlotte Atkins	Simon Tagg

Notes for Members of the Press and Public

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DECISION NOTICE

Cabinet Meeting - 20 October 2021

Present: Mark Deaville, Julia Jessel, Ian Parry, Jonathan Price, Mark Sutton, Simon Tagg, Philip White, Alan White (Chairman), David Williams and Victoria Wilson.

Cabinet Support Member in attendance - Johnny McMahon

PART ONE

46. Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16

The following Member declared an interest in accordance with Standing Order 16.5:-

Member	Minute Nos.	Interest	Reason
Mark Deaville	57	Personal	Director of Nexxus

47. Decision notice of the meeting held on 15 September 2021

Decision – That the notes of the meeting held on 15 September 2021 be approved.

48. Leader's Update

Decision – That the oral report of the Leader of the Council giving an update on a range of issues including the UN Climate Change Summit, COP26 and Council's pledge to become carbon neutral by 2050; how we can all do our bit to help make Staffordshire sustainable; national shortages in social care staff and the Council's new campaign to show the value and opportunities that come with a career in care; the need to do our bit to protect the most vulnerable this winter including the need for people to get their covid jab or booster and book a flu jab as soon as possible; the opening of the final section of the Lichfield Southern Bypass; and progress on other major schemes including the forthcoming opening of the Stafford Western Access Road and extensions of i54 South Staffordshire and Redhill business park in Stafford, be noted.

49. Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 6 October 2021

Decision – That the minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 6 October 2021 be received.

50. Update from COVID-19 Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board

Reasons for the Decision – To consider an update from the COVID-19 Member led Local Outbreak Control Board including:

- The number of new cases of Covid in Staffordshire remaining high, about 50% above the England average with nearly half of all new cases being in 5-18 year olds.
- Schools were experiencing large outbreaks which had been substantially disrupting education as large numbers of pupils and teachers were off sick. The Council was providing schools with advice about measures they could implement at their discretion to prevent and manage outbreaks and reduce the impact on education and the wider economy.
- Vaccination was limiting the number of hospitalisations and deaths from Covid. However, the NHS and social care were experiencing considerable pressure from Covid and other conditions.
- The need for people to exercise personal responsibility and continue to take sensible precautions to prevent the spread of infection.
- Progress with Covid vaccination had slowed. More than 1.3 million doses had now been administered. In adults over 50 more than 90% had received two doses and a booster vaccination programme had now commenced. In younger adults uptake of two doses was lower. A programme of vaccination of 12-15 year olds in schools had started, and vaccination of 16 and 17 year olds was ongoing.

Decision – That the report be received.

51. Staffordshire Means Back to Business - Oral Update

Decision – That the oral report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills giving an update on “Staffordshire Means Back to Business” activity including the following matters be noted:

- The challenges facing the economy in relation to supply chain, energy and labour shortages.
- The claimant count in Staffordshire saw a further decrease between August and September. This rate of decrease is a higher proportional decline than seen regionally and just below the decline seen nationally. Encouragingly for the sixth month in a row Staffordshire has seen a decrease in the youth claimant count with a decline of 80 over the last month.

- Staffordshire saw vacancies increase by 10% between August and September, equivalent to over 2,600 more job vacancies, this was higher than the increase of 6% seen nationally.
- Together with our District and Borough partners our Staffordshire Means Back to Business Programme continues to deliver:
 - We are now supporting 209 apprenticeships
 - We have approved grants to support 231 companies with free training enabling them to work in a post Covid competitive environment
 - Nearly 300 people have benefitted from our business start-up programme.

52. Adult Learning Disability 2022 Community Offer: Update on Learning Disability Residential Services Directly Provided by Staffordshire County Council

	<p>“We want to ensure that people who need care can access it, and that our services are fit for the future. By refurbishing Hawthorn House, we will make sure that adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities can be cared for in an environment that best suits their needs, and in line with the Care Quality Commission’s Right Support, Right Care, Right Culture ethos.</p> <p>These proposals have been welcomed by parents and carers of the current residents, and will allow them to continue to live together, whilst giving them the care their require.”</p> <p>Julia Jessel, Cabinet Member for Health and Care</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider proposals to extend and refurbish the Hawthorn House lower building to accommodate up to 15 residents, to ensure that adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities can be cared for in an environment that best suits their needs.

Decision – (a) That the extension and refurbishment of Hawthorn House lower building to accommodate up to 15 residents, as detailed in the report, be approved.

(b) That the disposal of the Hawthorn House upper building, once the new lower building development is complete, be approved.

(c) That authority be delegated to the Director for Health and Care to procure and award contracts for the construction works.

53. Climate Change Annual Report and Climate Change Action Plan 2

	<p>“We have made significant steps over the last year to set us in the right direction to achieve our net zero target.</p> <p>Now we are stepping up to advance this work by setting out a broad range of actions we are confident we can achieve over the next four years. It is crucial that this is a collective effort with our residents, schools, businesses and district and borough council partners.</p> <p>Since we declared a climate change emergency, we have demonstrated our commitment and drive to improve our environment. We understand that huge challenges lie ahead but are confident we can overcome these and deliver for our communities”.</p> <p>Simon Tagg, Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider feedback from the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee where Members commented on the Council’s first Climate Change Annual Report; and to seek approval of the Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2) which contains specific actions to be undertaken by the Council prior to 2025 which will assist in our journey to become net carbon zero by 2050.

Decision – (a) That the Council’s Climate Change 2021 Annual Report, which records the positive progress that has been made on our target to become net carbon zero by 2050, be noted.

(b) That the comments of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at paragraphs 13 to 16 of the report, when they considered both the 2021 Annual Report and the draft Climate Change Action Plan 2, be noted.

(c) That the Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2), which lists our key climate change mitigating actions over the next 4 years, be approved.

54. Formal Report of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

	<p>“We are committed to supporting post-16 students who are from low-income families and those with an Education, Health and Care Plan who require specialist assistance due to a learning difficulty or disability.</p> <p>Having worked with the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman on this case we have apologised to the family and put right our mistake and we have reviewed how we assess post-16 transport applications for students with Special Educational Needs”.</p> <p>Jonathan Price, Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider a Formal Report by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman in relation to Post 16 travel for a SEND child.

Decision – (a) That the contents of the Formal Report from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) in relation to Post -16 transport for a SEND child, be noted.

(b) That the finding of “Report issued: upheld; maladministration and injustice” be noted and the recommendations made as part of the investigation report be implemented.

55. Impact of COVID-19 on SCC Communities, Economy and Organisation and Recovery Progress - Update October 2021 and Way Forward

	<p>“Since the easing of restrictions, it has been fantastic to see our schools, our businesses and our hospitality and our leisure sectors once again fully reopening their doors.</p> <p>While Covid and its legacy will be with us for some time. we must look forward to rebuilding our economy, ensuring that our children get the schooling they need and that people can once again aspire to happy, healthier and rewarding lives.</p> <p>As a county council, we remain at the forefront of managing Covid and also managing the impact it</p>
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	<p>has had own our services and the communities we serve.</p> <p>The pandemic has shown Staffordshire’s strengths: Our resilience, our determination and our compassions. It is also opened up new ways of smarter working which will be invaluable as we go forward with our lives”.</p> <p>Alan White, Leader of the Council</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider the high-level priorities which have been identified for recovery from the impact of Covid-19 across the County Council and the continued progress against these; together with the on-going approach to the leadership, influencing and monitoring of the recovery process moving forwards.

Decision – (a) That the impact of Covid-19 on Staffordshire since October 2020 be noted.

(b) That the progress being made towards resetting the Corporate Strategy be noted.

(c) That the progress made towards delivering the high-level priorities and plans from each recovery area be noted.

(d) That the County Council’s approach to the leadership, influencing and monitoring of the Recovery process moving forward, be endorsed.

56. Integrated Performance Report - Quarter 2 2021/22

	<p>“Dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic remains our focus and we continue to do what is required to control the spread of the virus and keep people safe.</p> <p>COVID-19 is still very much with us and over Quarter 2 we have seen a steady increase in the number of cases. The impact that COVID-19 can have on lives and potentially on livelihoods is still very real. The vaccine has been a game changer and in Staffordshire 82% of adults have had both vaccines. Maximising vaccine uptake amongst those eligible, including booster doses and extending vaccine roll out to children aged 12 to 15, will all help to reduce the spread. As we approach autumn and then winter, we need to</p>
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continue to keep people safe, keep the economy moving and reduce the pressures on our hospitals.

We still face capacity issues and challenges in adult social care but in September, we had the long-awaited announcement from Government on how this will be funded. While many people will welcome the cap of £86,000 on people's contribution to their own care when they are elderly, the introduction of a 1.25% health and care levy on working people will be a difficult pill for many to swallow. In the short term the money will go into the NHS to clear the backlog of appointments and operations and will increase the county council's costs. So, we need to see more detail of how these proposals will work in practice.

We will continue to support those who need us most, including the care sector and vulnerable families, children and communities. We continue to provide advice and support for businesses, as we work to get our economy back on track. We have plans in place to ensure we bounce back stronger and generate new opportunities for better jobs, improved lives, and a greener county for everyone.”.

Alan White, Leader of the Council



“Coping with the COVID-19 pandemic continues to put extra pressures on our finances, but we continue to manage them effectively and are doing what is needed and spending what is required.

We have used the extra funding and grants from Government to help support the additional pressures of continuing to provide vital services while protecting our residents. All council departments continue to deliver against their recovery priorities, whilst progressing with activities in the organisation's Delivery Plan.

The latest revenue forecast outturn shows a forecast saving of £1.992m (0.4%). This is compared to the previous forecast of a saving of £8.119m (1.5%) at Quarter 1.

	<p>Like many local authorities, we still face financial challenges including in adult social care and in children’s social services. We have had the announcement from Government on the long-term funding of adult social care, which was good to see, but we do need to see more details of how this will work in practice.</p> <p>We will continue to keep our finances in as strong a position as possible and to ensure that we provide good value for money for local tax-payers. Well managed finances also mean we can invest in our future and grow our economy post pandemic”.</p> <p>Ian Parry, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider an overview of Staffordshire County Council’s progress, performance, and financial position in delivering against our Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan.

Decision – (a) That the report be received.

(b) That the use of up to £3.2m of the Exit and Transition Fund to support the cost of redundancies associated with the Children’s Transformation programme, be approved.

57. Nexus Trading Services Limited - Annual Report 2020/2021

	<p>“Nexus Care was established to provide care for Staffordshire people when no other provider is available. However, independent companies nationally are facing challenges with rising demand, increased costs and difficulties recruiting and retaining staff and the Council has struggled in some areas of the county to find care providers who offer good quality services at an affordable price.</p> <p>Nexus Care has also supported the Covid pandemic response by providing a lateral flow device testing service.”</p> <p>Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider an update on the activities and Performance of Nexxus during 2020/2021.

Decision – That the Nexxus Care Annual Report 2020/2021 be noted.

58. Supplementary Capital Programme for Schools 2021/2022

	<p>“It is essential that children and young people in the county have access to a good, local school.</p> <p>Our capital programme for the next year is designed to ensure we make the most of the funding we have, and work with schools to improve school infrastructure. This way, we can ensure the county’s children are learning in the best environment possible.</p> <p>Added to this, the extra funding from government means we can really make an impact in terms of making schools more sustainable and contribute to the reduction in our carbon footprint”.</p> <p>Jonathan Price, Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider the Capital Programme for Schools Phase 2 for 2021/22 which provides an increased amount of Central Government funding for the upkeep of the Council’s maintained schools.

Decision – That the Schools Capital Programme Phase 2 2021/22 investment proposal, as set out in the report and supporting Appendices, be approved

(b) That the Assistant Director for Commercial and Assets monitors progress and makes any necessary in-year alterations in agreement with the Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND).

59. Branston Locks Primary - Proposed 2FE and Associated S106 Contributions (Wave School)

	<p>“Staffordshire’s school building programme has successfully secured new school places for thousands of school children over the past few years and ensured our school landscape can cope with the increased demand for places brought about by new housing developments.</p> <p>This latest primary school at Branston Road will be built on behalf of the Department for Education and will eventually be able to accommodate more than 400 pupils. This will ensure there are plenty of school places to cope with increasing demand in the years to come, and parents will still have the opportunity to send their child to a good, local school”.</p> <p>Jonathan Price, Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider the acquisition of land and the development of a 2-form entry primary school at Branston Road, Burton on Trent to be known as Branston Locks Primary School under the Department for Education’s wave programme.

Decision – (a) That the completion of a Transfer of the school land at Branston Locks to Staffordshire County Council in accordance with the terms of the section 106 agreement dated the 14th April 2015 between Nurton Developments (Quintus) Limited (1) Staffordshire County Council (2) East Staffordshire Borough Council (3) Lloyds Bank PLC (4) (‘the Section 106 Agreement’), be approved.

(b) That the completion of a Capital Contribution Letter with the Secretary of State for Education, or such other party as they shall so direct, for the payment of £6,400,000 of the primary school contribution received by Staffordshire County Council under the terms of the Section 106 Agreement, be approved.

(c) That the completion of an Agreement for Lease and Lease with the Secretary of State for Education, or such other party as they shall so direct, to enable the construction of the 2 form entry primary school and thereafter the use of the primary school for up to 125 years, be approved.

(d) That permission be delegated to the Assistant Director for Commercial and Assets to agree the final terms of the Transfer, Capital Contribution Letter, Agreement for Lease and Heads of Terms.

60. Staffordshire Bus Strategy - Bus Service Improvement Plan

	<p>"This is an opportunity to bid for funding over a fixed period to support local bus operators in making their services more attractive.</p> <p>Working with operators, and listening to bus users, this is an opportunity to modernise bus fleets, improve stops and incorporate real-time information, as well as using technology to make tickets and payment so much easier.</p> <p>A reliable, comfortable bus service can support town centres, give students more choice and help people get to work".</p> <p>David Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider the approval of the key elements of the Staffordshire Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) which has been developed in partnership with the public bus providers operating in Staffordshire.

Decision – (a) That the comments and suggestions of the Prosperous Overview and Scrutiny Committee when they reviewed the emerging priorities of the BSIP at their meeting held on the 16 September 2021, be noted.

(b) That the key issues highlighted by the BSIP public engagement exercise be noted.

(c) That the key asks of Staffordshire Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) as outlined in the report be approved and that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport be authorised to finalise the required documentation and make any final minor changes prior to the 31 October 2021 deadline.

(d) That the Director of Economy, Infrastructure and Skills be authorised to submit the final BSIP to the Department of Transport by the deadline of the 31 October 2021.

61. Household Support Fund

Note by Clerk: The Chairman agreed to add this matter to the agenda as an urgent item of business. In addition, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000) (Regulation 16), the Leader of the Council has sought the approval of the Chairman of the Prosperous Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Key Decision to be taken.

	<p>“For the last 12 months we have been supporting thousands of children – and their families – though school holidays with either the distribution of eVouchers to parents and carers, or the provision of food and activities across the county.</p> <p>Now this new funding of approximately £5.5 million will help many more households most in need with food, energy and water bills, through the Christmas, Easter and February school holidays.”</p> <p>Mark Sutton, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider the proposed expenditure and delivery arrangements for the Household Support Fund in Staffordshire which is required to be fully spent by 31st March 2022.

Decision – (a) That the anticipated receipt of £5,506,547.99 from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), in relation to the Household Support Fund (HSF) be acknowledged.

(b) That the proposals for the usage of the HSF be approved.

(c) That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Families and Communities, to decide the eligibility criteria for distribution of the HSF in Staffordshire, and to take all other subsequent decisions to ensure that this support gets to those who need it as quickly as possible.

(d) That it be acknowledged that the delegation to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People includes authorising the County Council to enter required contractual arrangements with Partners and Providers where required to deliver the HSF in Staffordshire.

62. Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers

Decision – That the following decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers be noted:

Cabinet Member	Decision
Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture	In approving a variation to the agreement to manage and deliver Shenstone Community Managed Library, replacing the existing contracting term (5-year with an option to extend for a 5-year period) with a 10-year term commencing in March 2022.

63. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 17 November 2021 to 16 March 2022, which detailed the following issues, was approved:

Subject Matter	Contact
Treasury Management Half Yearly Report 2021/22	Name: Rob Salmon Tel: (01785) 276354
The Future of Replacement Care Services (Learning Disabilities)	Name: Andrew Jepps Tel: (01785) 278557
Grant Award Expenditure - Green Homes Grant	Name: Dr Richard Harling Tel: (01785) 278700
Burton Town Deal - River Trent Cycle / Footbridge Update	Name: Wayne Mortiboys Tel: (01785) 276578
VCSE Capacity Building Recommission	Name: Kerry Dove Tel: 07855 679112
Integrated Service Model for In-House Day Opportunities and Respite	Name: Kelly Gray Tel: 07815 999002
IA2609 Framework for Responsive Property Maintenance and Day Works	Name: Ian Turner Tel: (01785) 277228
Burton Town Deal - Proposed Library Move	Name: Wayne Mortiboys Tel: (01785) 276578
Diversity and Inclusion - Principles, Objectives and Action Plan	Name: Kerry Dove Tel: 07855 679112
Proposed Relocation and Expansion of St Leonard's Primary School, Stafford	Name: Tim Moss Tel: (01785) 277963
Chatterley Valley West - Project Update	Name: Anthony Hodge Tel: (01785) 277204
Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022 - 2027	Name: Rachel Spain Tel: (01785) 854455

Business Case for Care Home Developments	Name: Helen Trousdale Tel: (01785) 277008
Integrated Performance Report - Quarter 3 2021/22	Name: Kerry Dove/ Rob Salmon Tel: (01785) 276354
Entrust Service Delivery Agreement	Name: Ian Turner Tel: (01785) 277228

64. Exclusion of the Public

Decision – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of Local Government Act 1972 indicated below.

PART TWO

65. Dry Mixed Recycling Treatment - April 2022 (Exclusion paragraph 3)

Reasons for the Decision – To proposals for a change in the collection arrangements for Dry Mixed Recyclate post-April 2022.

Decision – That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed.

66. Highways Contract Award - Pets at Home, Redhill, Stafford (Exemption paragraph 3)

Reasons for the Decision – To consider the award of a Highways Construction Contract Award associated with the Pets at Home development at Redhill, Stafford.

Decision – That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed.

Alan White
Leader of the Council

Minutes of the Property Sub-Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2021

Present: Alan White (Chairman)

Attendance	
Ian Parry	Philip White (Vice-Chairman)
Jonathan Price	

Also in attendance: Samantha Thompson

Apologies: Mark Deaville

PART ONE

42. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest on this occasion.

43. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 October 2021

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

44. Hagley Park Sports College - Proposed Early Surrender of Lease

Details were submitted for the proposed lease of the former site of the Hagley Park Sports College to the Creative Education Trust.

RESOLVED – That (a) the recommendations of the Sub-Committee from 7 July 2021 to surrender the academy lease to Creative Education Trust for the whole site be noted.

(b) a new academy lease to Creative Education Trust for the playing field land shown on the Plan at appendix 3 in the report be granted on the terms indicated in the report; any actions to implement the decision be delegated to the Assistant Director for Commercial and Assets.

45. Cannock Household Waste Recycling Centre - Proposed Lease

Details were submitted for the proposed lease of part of Cannock Household Waste Recycling Centre, Lichfield Road, Cannock WS11 8QN.

RESOLVED – That part of Cannock Household Waste Recycling Centre, Lichfield Road Cannock be leased to Katherine House Hospice for a term commencing from 20 March 2020 and ending 31 March 2023 for £1 per annum on the terms indicated in the report.

46. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED - That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

47. Innovation Centre No.5 (IC5) - Proposed Lease - Exemption paragraph 3

Details were submitted for the proposed surrender of lease and new lease of the Innovation Centre No.5 (IC5) to Biocomposites Ltd for a 10-year period.

RESOLVED – That approval be given for the surrender of the existing lease and the granting of a new a 10-year lease of the Innovation Centre No.5 (IC5) on the terms indicated in the report to Biocomposites.

48. i54 Plot D - Proposed Lease - Exemption paragraph 3

Proposals were submitted for a 40 year lease of Plot D at i54 South Staffordshire Business Park to Gridserve UK Projects Ltd.

RESOLVED – That approval be given for a 40 year lease of Plot D at i54 South Staffordshire Business Park to Gridserve UK Projects Ltd on the terms indicated in the report; any actions to implement this decision be granted to the Head of Regeneration & Strategic Projects.

49. Lot 1, Holding No. 43 Canwell Estate, Oak Tree Farm, Drayton Lane, Drayton Bassett, Tamworth B78 3EF - Proposed sale - Exemption paragraph 3

Details were submitted for the proposed variations of sale of Lot 1, Holding No.43 Canwell Estate, Oak Tree Farm, Drayton Lane, Drayton Bassett, Tamworth B78 3EF comprising of 52.33 acres.

RESOLVED – That approval be given for the terms of the sale of Lot 1, Holding No.43 Canwell Estate, Oak Tree Farm, Drayton Lane, Drayton Bassett, Tamworth B78 3EF comprising of 52.33 acres be amended as indicated in the report.

Chairman

Local Members Interest
N/A

Cabinet – Wednesday 17 November 2021

Update from Covid Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board

Introduction

1. The number of new cases of Covid in Staffordshire remains high, and above the England average. Cases rates are highest in school age children, although these are falling due to schools adopting proportionate measures to limit transmission of infection, the 12-15 vaccination programme, and rising natural immunity in this age group.

Covid vaccination

2. Vaccination is the best way to reduce complications and deaths from Covid. The NHS plans to accelerate booster vaccinations for over 50s and first doses for 12-15 year olds. We urge everyone to take up the offer of vaccination as soon as possible. The NHS and social care are coping at the moment but continue to experience considerable pressure from Covid and other conditions.

Personal responsibility

3. We would like to thank residents for continuing to take sensible precautions to limit the spread of infection such as good hygiene, keeping a respectful distance, and wearing face coverings in crowded indoor places. Residents should continue to get a Covid test twice weekly - and tests are available at a range of locations across the county.

Covid Local Outbreak Management Plan

4. The Council will maintain Covid defences for the remainder of 2021/22. This includes testing and contact tracing, as well as managing outbreaks and supporting the most vulnerable. These will be reviewed in line with emerging Government policy.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

[Staffordshire Covid Local Outbreak Management Plan](#)

Contact Details

Report Author: Dr Richard Harling
Job Title: Director for Health and Care
Telephone No.: 01785 278700
E-Mail Address: richard.harling@staffordshire.gov.uk

Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday 17 November 2021

Half Yearly Treasury Management Report for the Period Ended 30 September 2021



Cllr Ian Parry, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources said,

“The UK economy continues to face an uncertain environment in 2021/22, with the on-going Covid-19 pandemic and an uncertain financial environment. The County Council continues to adhere to its Treasury Management Policy of using internal cash balances instead of borrowing money. We also continue to provide advice and support along with access to funding for local businesses, as we work to get our economy back on track. Like many other councils we continue to face financial pressures and uncertainty over long term funding of some services. We will continue to spend and invest where necessary, focusing our efforts and resources on where they are most needed.”

Report Summary:

1. This report provides a summary of the Council’s borrowing and investment activities during the first six months of the year.
2. An analysis of the first half-year activities is set out in the report, but the key points to note are that;
 - the Treasury Management Panel, chaired by the County Treasurer and comprising other senior finance officers, met regularly to consider treasury matters;
 - all transactions were undertaken by authorised officers and within the limits approved;
 - all investments were to counterparties on the approved counterparty list and fully met the requirements of the relevant regulations; and
 - the Council operated within the limits and Prudential Indicators set out in the Council’s Treasury Management Practices and Annual Treasury Management Strategy, with the exception of the Upper Limit for variable rate interest exposure and the External Loan limit, the reasons for which will be addressed in this report.
3. The Council maintained a cautious approach to investments. The policy of using cash instead of borrowing continues to generate

savings, helping reduce the average interest the Council pays on its debt.

4. Overall, the report demonstrates that the Council's borrowing and investment activities are being undertaken prudently and in line with agreed strategies in a very challenging environment.

Local Members Interest	
N/A	N/A

CABINET – 17 NOVEMBER 2021

Treasury Management Report for the half-year ended 30 September 2021

Recommendation of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Matters

1. That Cabinet note the treasury management activities for the half-year ended 30 September 2021.
2. That Cabinet note the Prudential Indicators detailed in **Appendix 2** and approve the increase to the Upper Limit of variable rate interest exposure as detailed in **paragraph 47** of this report.
3. That Cabinet note and approve the proposed revision to the Non-Standard Investment limits detailed in **paragraphs 40-43** and **Appendix 5** of this report.

Report of the County Treasurer

Reasons for Recommendations:

4. At their meeting on 18 January 2012, Cabinet adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice* (the CIPFA Code).
5. Treasury risk management at the County Council is conducted within the framework of the revised 2017 Edition of the CIPFA Code. This requires the County Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year and, as a minimum, provide a semi-annual and annual treasury outturn report. This report fulfils the Authority's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to the CIPFA Code.
6. This report provides a summary of the County Council's treasury management activities for the first half of 2021/22, in the context of the strategy for the year, which was agreed by Cabinet on 27 January 2021. It considers both the borrowing and investment decisions taken within the specified period in view of the interest rates and economic conditions prevailing at the time.

External Context

7. The coronavirus pandemic dominated news during the first half of 2021, as countries around the world tried to contain transmission of the virus whilst easing lockdown measures and getting their populations and economies working again. UK Government initiatives continued to support the economy, with furlough (Coronavirus Job

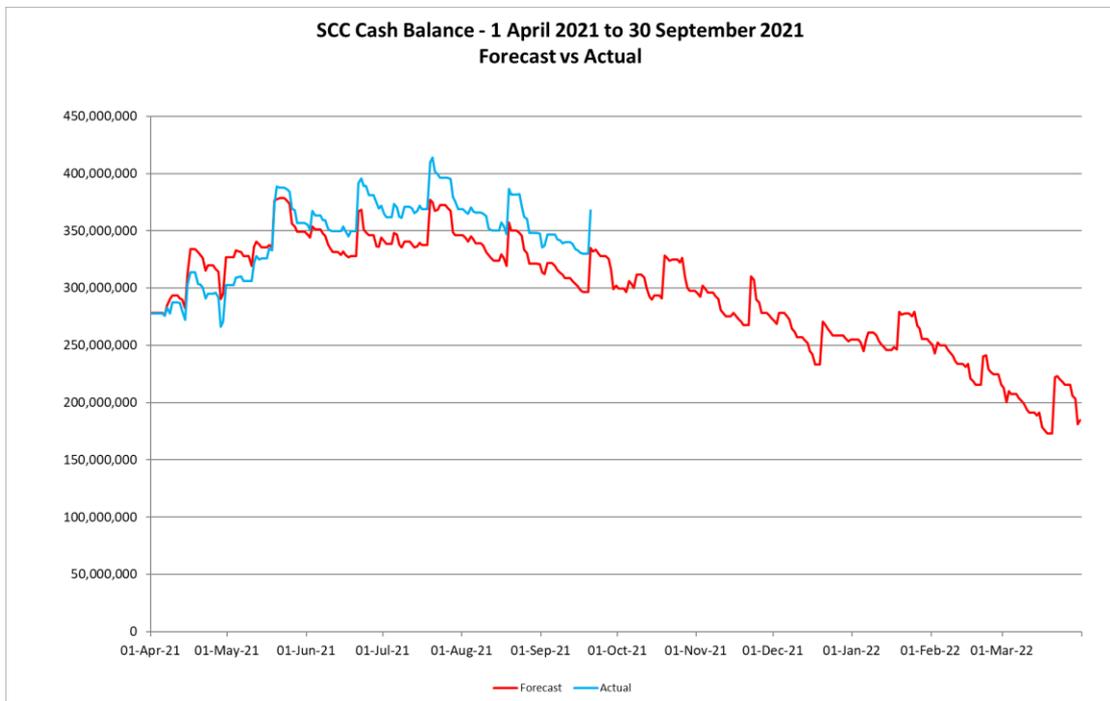
Retention) and other additional schemes. The UK's vaccination programme saw a greater opening of the economy as many areas returned to normal. This, coupled with other global factors, saw a strain on the supply chain, shortages of materials and increased inflation.

8. The Bank of England projects UK GDP to have risen by 4% in Q2 2021, leaving it around 4% below its pre-pandemic level. GDP is expected to grow by around 3% in Q3 and is projected to recover further over the remainder of the year, reaching its pre-pandemic level in Q4 2021, with demand growth boosted by a waning impact from Covid-19. Further out, the pace of GDP growth is expected to slow towards more normal rates, partly reflecting the gradual tightening in the stance of fiscal policy. The Labour Force Survey unemployment rate stood at 4.6% in the three months to July, while HMRC payroll data shows employee numbers (which include furloughed jobs) surpassed their Q4 2019 level in August. There have been few signs of increased redundancies, and the stock of vacancies has increased further, as have indicators of recruitment difficulties, although any effect from the ending of furlough is yet to be felt. The Bank of England estimate of underlying pay growth has also surpassed its pre-pandemic rate.
9. Twelve-month CPI inflation rose from 2.0% in July to 3.2% in August. CPI inflation is expected to rise further in the near term, to slightly above 4% in Q4 2021, owing largely to developments in energy and goods prices. The material rise in spot and forward wholesale gas prices since the August Inflation Report represents an upside risk to inflation. Most other indicators of cost pressures have also remained elevated. The Bank of England expects that current elevated global cost pressures will prove transitory but note that they are lasting longer than initially anticipated.
10. Globally, further progress on vaccine rollouts, continued policy support, and the re-opening of most major economies should mean that global GDP growth in 2021 will grow at its fastest rate since 1973. The spread of the Delta variant poses the greatest risk to this view, particularly in large parts of the emerging world where vaccination coverage is typically lower than in advanced economies. Continued strong recovery will be accompanied by higher inflation. While most of the principal reasons for the increases in inflation in recent months have receded except gas prices, goods shortages may last into 2022 as order backlogs are worked through. There is mounting evidence that the rapid re-opening of economies generates labour shortages, exerting further upward pressure on firms' costs. So, global inflation is unlikely to drop back until later next year.
11. The economic context in which the Council operates remains volatile and uncertain and the measured approach the Council takes with its treasury activity in the financial markets reflects this.

Borrowing strategy update

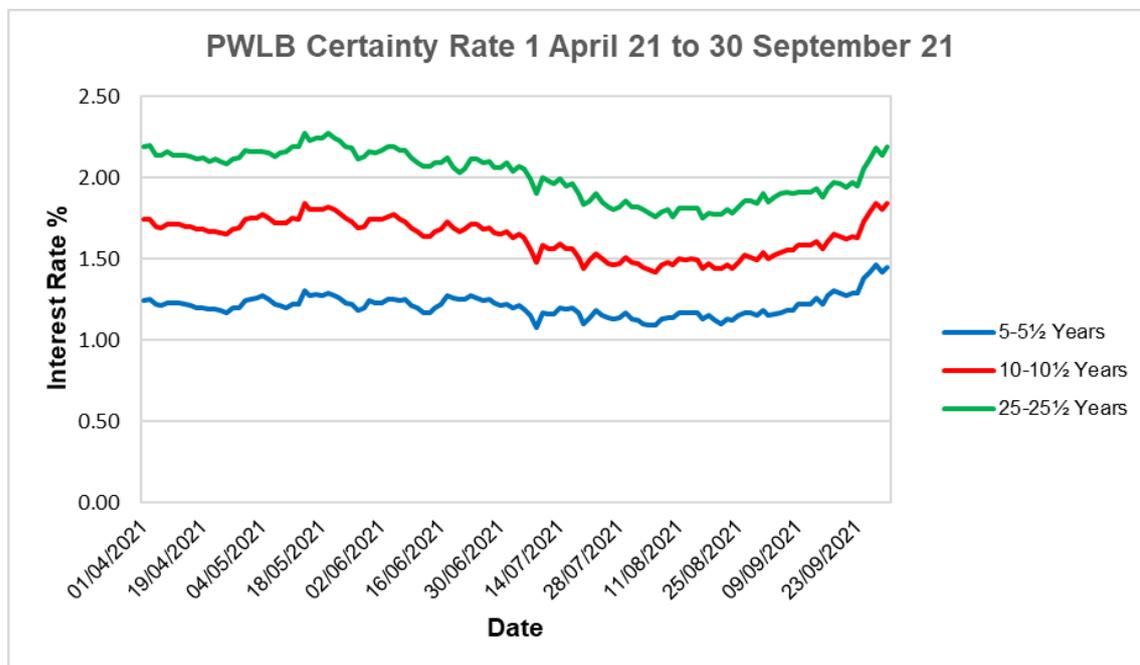
12. The Treasury Management Strategy Report for 2021/22 outlined the long-term borrowing strategy for the year stating that it was:

"more cost effective for the County Council to use its internal cash resources in lieu of borrowing"
13. In accordance with this, cash has continued to be used in lieu of borrowing and the Council did not require new, or replacement loans, to be taken out in the first half of the year.
14. The strategy of using cash instead of borrowing has relied on two main factors; the Bank Rate (set by the Bank of England) remaining low, and cash balances being sufficient to meet the Council's day to day requirements.
15. The Bank of England (BoE) has maintained Bank Rate at 0.1% since 19 March 2020 and held its Quantitative Easing (QE) programme at £895 billion. An increase interest rates has not been ruled in, or out, by BoE policymakers in the medium term.
16. In terms of the future, Link, the Council's treasury advisor, expects Bank Rate to remain at the current 0.1%, with three increases; one in Q2 2022 to 0.25%, then Q2 2023 to 0.50% and finally one in Q 1 2024 to 0.75%. It is believed that no further Quantitative Easing will occur to ease monetary policy.
17. Current low interest rates mean that the strategy of using cash remains important and represents a cheap way of financing the capital programme. Overall, the short-term interest rate environment now and for future forecasts both still support the borrowing strategy adopted in 2021/22.
18. Cash balances have been sufficient to allow day to day cash management in the first half of the year. The following graph shows total actual cash balances for the first half of the year (in blue) against those forecast for the full year (in red).



19. Whilst the actual cash balances the Council hold reflect the trendline of the forecast, the balance held is higher than forecast. This reflects the remaining balance of Covid-19 grant not yet spent by the council and slippage across the budgeted capital programme in the first half of the year.

20. Cashflow forecasts indicate the Council will have sufficient balances to fund its debt for 2021/22, without the need to take out further long-term loans. When loans are taken-up these are mainly sourced from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB), whose loan interest rates reflect changes in Gilt yields in the UK Government bond market. The following chart shows three typical loan periods where rates have been adjusted to reflect the "certainty-rate" reduction of 0.20% which is available to all local authorities who register with the Government.



21. Gilt yields are very sensitive to the risk appetite of international investors and the current low yields reflect the uncertain global financial environment. Ultra-low interest rates and the 'flight to quality' have continued, keeping gilts yields low, but volatile, over the period. Rates dipped in August but have started to rise, the main driver of the increases was investors becoming progressively more concerned at the way that inflation was expected to rise. Repeated assurances by the Fed in the US, and by other major world central banks, that inflation increases would only be transitory, have only partially allayed investor fears. As per the forecasts, at some point there is likely to be an unwinding of the currently depressed levels of PWLB rates and a steady rise of interest rates over the medium term. The Treasury Services team will monitor this and inform the Treasury Management Panel for discussion and action.

22. A consultation has been carried out by the government in respect Local Authorities using PWLB borrowing to fund commercial activity. The result of the consultation has strengthened governance and processes to prevent this behaviour in future.

23. The Council's current external loans portfolio includes £51 million Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loans. LOBO loans are long term loans where the lender has the option to increase the interest rate at pre-determined intervals; if the lender exercises its option to change the rate, the borrower's option is triggered. The borrower must either accept the revised rate or they can repay the loan without penalty. LOBO loans were initially taken out by the Council when their rates compared favourably to PWLB rates. It is unlikely that the holders of these loans will change rates in the current environment.

24. The following table shows the interest rates incurred on the Council's debt portfolio for 2020/21 and for this half year, including an adjustment reflecting the use of cash.

	2020/21 Full Year %	2021/22 Half Year %
Weighted average rate of interest for external loans	4.64	4.64
Adjusted for the use of cash	3.83	3.89

25. The average rate on external loans has remained the same as last year, as only a minimal amount of PWLB loans have been repaid. When the utilisation of cash reserves is taken into account, the rate falls considerably. This illustrates that the Council's policy of using cash instead of borrowing, while average borrowing rates are much higher than the interest rates paid on investments, is of real benefit and continues to generate significant savings. This policy is also helping to reduce the average interest paid on County Council debt and is estimated to have saved £0.842 million in interest payments in the first half of the financial year.
26. A graph illustrating the maturity profile of the long-term loans at 30 September 2021 is provided at **Appendix 3**.

Loan restructuring

27. Movements in interest rates over time may provide opportunities to restructure the loan portfolio in one of two ways:
- to replace existing loans with new loans at a lower rate (known as loan rescheduling); or
 - repay loans early, without replacing the loans. This would increase the use of cash.
28. The Treasury Strategy for 2021/22 approved loan rescheduling where this re-balances risk and approved repayment of loans with no replacement, where deemed appropriate.
29. A combination of factors has meant that PWLB loan restructuring has not been financially viable so far in 2021/22:
- Low gilt yields mean that a large penalty would be payable; and
 - Government policy, whereby a margin is applied to the early repayment of a PWLB loan, increases the penalty payable.

Investment Strategy update

30. The Council holds invested cash, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. As shown in the chart at **paragraph 18**, the Council's investment balances during the year have ranged between £277 million and £414 million, due to timing differences between income and expenditure. The increased level of cash reflects additional funding received by the County Council. This includes unspent Covid-19 grant, additional Local Enterprise Partnership funding for the 'Getting Building' scheme, Local Growth Fund grant for the 'Etruria Valley' project and all cash backed reserves.
31. The Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) forms part of the Treasury Management Strategy and sets out those parties the Council will lend its money to. The AIS details the requirements of government guidance and the CIPFA Code, with both documents requiring the Council to invest its funds prudently and to have regard to the following two prime risk issues over return:
- The security of capital.
 - The liquidity of investments.
32. The resulting strategy adopted is characterised by:
- the use of selected counterparties (high level of security);
 - the use of diversified sterling "AAA" money market funds (high level of security and liquidity);
 - a maximum duration of 12 months (high level of security);
 - the use of same day liquidity accounts (high level of liquidity); and
 - the use of a Collective Investment Scheme.
33. The Council has the ability to place unlimited funds with the UK Government, including Local Authorities (LAs) although investment in LAs have been limited to £5 million per counterparty to ensure investment diversification by the Treasury Management Panel.

Treasury Investments

34. Approved investments stood at £337.269 million on 30 September 2021 (£279.549 million on 31 March 2021), these are analysed by type and term below:

<i>Long-term local authority</i>	£m	Term
Derby City Council	7.500	28/11/2030
Derby City Council	7.500	28/11/2031
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	7.500	29/11/2032
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	7.500	29/11/2033
<i>Short-term UK Government</i>		
Debt Management Office	0.000	14/10/2020
<i>Banks and building societies</i>		
Lloyds Bank Plc	2.909	Instant Access

Money Market Funds

Aberdeen	96.000	Instant Access
Black Rock	96.000	Instant Access
Insight	62.800	Instant Access
Federated	20.550	Instant Access
State Street	9.010	Instant Access

Collective Investment Scheme

Royal London Cash Plus Fund	20.000	3-day notice
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TOTAL**337.269**

35. Both the CIPFA Code and government guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to its security and liquidity before seeking a rate of return. The Council's main objective when investing money is to minimise the risk of incurring losses from defaults. In the light of the pandemic, the likelihood of unexpected calls on cash flow, further possibility of austerity measures and settlement uncertainty, the Council has kept more cash available at very short notice. Liquid cash was diversified over several counterparties and Money Market Funds, to manage both credit and liquidity risks. With interest rates continuing to be ultra-low and many organisations holding onto cash there is currently very little value across the market for returns on investments. Rather than income returns from interest the Council has continued to utilise cash to realise savings on additional borrowing costs as reported in **paragraph 25**.
36. Given the current circumstances, the Council is principally utilising its MMF's (for daily liquidity) and Government held Debt Management Office Account (for periods longer than overnight).
37. The following table shows the Council's investment returns in 2020/21 and 2021/22 to date.

	2020/21 Full Year	2021/22 Half Year
Average return on investments	0.68%	0.37%
7-day LIBID * (benchmark)	(0.02%)	(0.08%)
Additional return generated	0.70%	0.45%
Adjusted without long-term local authority investments	0.15%	0.001%

* LIBID (London Interbank BID interest rate)

38. Returns on investments have benefited from the four long-term local authority investments detailed in **paragraph 34**, as these were entered into at an average rate of around 4.0%. The average return in

2021/22 has outperformed the benchmark, although this is lower than the return achieved in 2020/21 due to the extremely low interest environment.

39. A copy of the counterparty list as at 30 September 2021 is provided at **Appendix 4**. Subject to undertaking further due diligence, the Council can invest with more names than those listed in line with the Annual Investment Strategy.
40. The Council has approval to use non-standard investments, which was granted by Cabinet on the 27 January 2021 via the Treasury Management Strategy Statement. Non-standard investments are all other types of approved investment counterparties that are not included in **paragraph 34** excluding the Collective Investment Scheme i.e. those investments that are used less frequently and may require further approval from the Treasury Management Panel or Members.
41. The non-standard investments approved for use are listed below. These cover a range of potential options, which would need be considered on a case by case basis by the Treasury Management Panel as to whether they were suitable for the Council in terms of the risk / return metrics:
 - Covered Bonds
 - Repurchase Agreements
 - UK Government Gilts
 - Multilateral Development Bonds
 - Collective Schemes
 - Real Estate Investment Trusts
42. Collective Schemes can offer better risk adjusted returns than deposits in either Money Market Funds or term deposits with banks with similar risk levels. Examples of Collective Schemes also include property and equity funds, but these have very different risk and return profiles to a same day notice cash MMF and are not considered suitable for the Council at this time. Although similar to same day access MMF's, enhanced cash MMF's are also considered to be Collective Schemes; they typically have a 2-5-day liquidity notice period, as they invest further along the yield curve. The Council's only investment in a non-standard investment is in one of these funds, where the money is invested for a longer period to accrue greater yield benefit for slightly reduced liquidity.
43. Currently, non-standard investments have an individual investment cap amount per asset class of £20 million (up to 10 years duration) with an overall cap of £50 million for this group. These limits were set when the Council held around £100 million in cash balances and these limits were considered to be a relevant and sensible proportion of that amount. It is proposed, given the levels of cash the Council now holds, that the limits are revised to £50 million per asset class and

£150 million for this group in total. The revised investments authorised for use are shown at **Appendix 5**. Non-standard investments may then be considered more widely by the Treasury Management Panel for use where suitable.

Non-treasury investments

44. The definition of investments in CIPFA's revised Treasury Management Code now covers all the financial assets of the Council as well as other non-financial assets which the Council holds primarily for financial return. The revised Investment Guidance from MHCLG (now Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - DLUHC) broadened this definition further to include loans and investments for service purposes.
45. The Council currently has one non-treasury investment. This non-treasury investment, which was made for service purposes, is a 49% share in the company Entrust which provides education support services to schools. At 31 March 2021, the Council's share in Entrust had a nil value.

Compliance with Treasury Limits and Prudential Indicators

46. It can be certified that for the half year ended 30 September 2021:
 - (i) in accordance with Financial Regulations, the Treasury Management Panel chaired by the County Treasurer and comprising other senior finance officers, met regularly to consider treasury matters;
 - (ii) all treasury related transactions were undertaken by authorised officers and within the limits approved by the County Council;
 - (iii) all investments were to counterparties on the Lending List current at the time and fully met the requirements of relevant legislation, and
 - (iv) all work carried out in respect of treasury management is subject to independent review and is programmed into external and internal audit plans.
47. As previously discussed in this report the Council is holding larger than forecast cash balances for the financial year 2021/22. This has been regularly discussed by the Treasury Management Panel, to ensure the continued secure deposit of these cash balances, in line with the Annual Investment Strategy. The other impact of larger cash balances has been that the variable interest rate prudential limit was exceeded. This indicator is calculated based on the highest expected cash balance in the year which, because of additional grant and money received at the end of 2020/21 such as Covid-19 pandemic support, Local Enterprise Partnership funds and the Midland Engine , has been higher

than forecast. The result of this is that approval is required to revise the indicator from £259 million to £340 million.

48. The External Loans indicator, set at £464 million for the whole of 2021/22, represents a full year of activity and, therefore, the outturn estimate. Currently the actual loan figure is £468 million, exceeding the estimate by £4 million. A loan is due to be repaid on 21/02/22 which will bring the indicator in line for year end.
49. The latest position for Treasury Management Prudential Indicators is shown in **Appendix 2**.

Rob Salmon
County Treasurer

Background Documents

1. Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (CIPFA) (2017)
2. Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (CIPFA) (2017)
3. The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003
4. Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments – Issued under Section 15(1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2003 (2018)
5. Statutory Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision – Issued under section 21 (1A) of the Local Government Act 2003 (2018)
6. Localism Act 2011 – Guidance on the General Power of Competence in sections 1 to 6.

Contact Details

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Report Commissioner: Melanie Stokes
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Telephone No.: 01785 276330
E-Mail Address: melanie.stokes@staffordshire.gov.uk

Equalities Implications – There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications – There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Resource and Value for Money Implications – The resource and value for money implications are contained within the body of the report.

Risk Implications – Counterparty and interest rate risk arising as a result of Treasury Management activity have been considered in the body of this report.

Climate Change Implications – There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

Health Impact Assessment screening – There are no health impact assessment implications arising from this report.

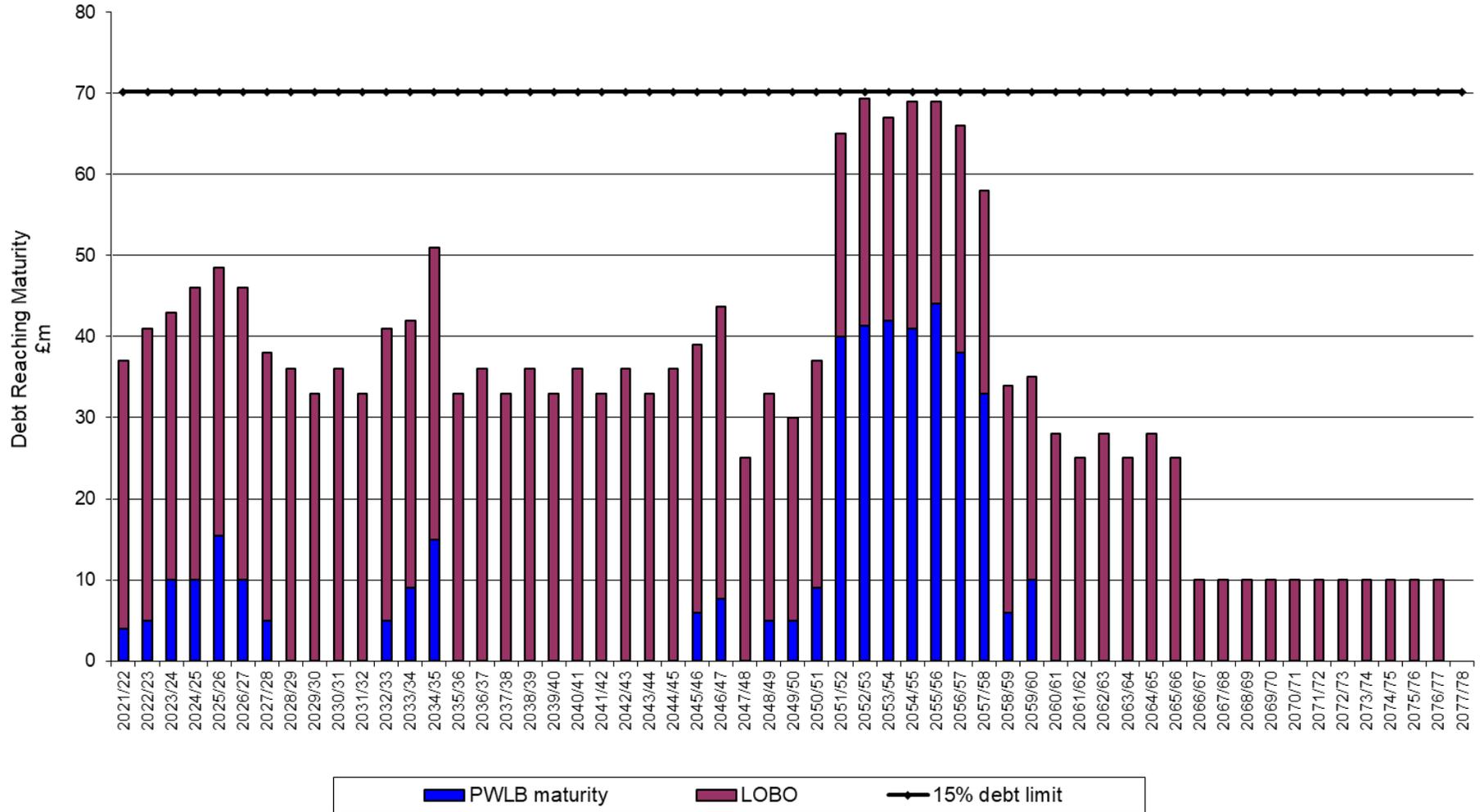
Staffordshire County Council

Cabinet
17 November 2021

Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management

Indicator	Estimated Limit 2021/22	Actual Position at 30/09/21
1. External Debt		
Authorised Limit for borrowing	£667m	£468m
Authorised Limit for other liabilities	£258m	£258m
TOTAL	£925m	£726m
Operational Boundary for borrowing	£522m	£468m
Operational Boundary for other liabilities	£258m	£258m
TOTAL	£780m	£726m
External Loans	£464m	£468m
<i>The Authorised Limit is the maximum level of external borrowing which should not be exceeded. It is linked to the estimated level of borrowing assumed in the Capital Programme.</i>		
<i>The Operational Boundary represents the County Treasurer's estimate of the day to day limit for treasury management activity based on the most likely i.e. prudent but not worst-case scenario.</i>		
<i>"Other liabilities" relate to PFI schemes which are recorded in the Council's accounts.</i>		
2. Interest Rate Exposures		
a. Upper Limit (Fixed)	£582m	£468m
b. Upper Limit (Variable)	(£340m)	(£337m)
<i>The Council sets upper limits of fixed and variable borrowing and investments. The effect of setting these upper limits is to provide ranges within which the Council will manage its exposure to fixed and variable rates of interest. Negative figures are shown in brackets; these relate to the "high-point" of investments at a variable rate which are not offset by variable borrowings. The exposure to variable rate movements has been reduced by the use of cash in lieu of borrowing.</i>		
3. Maturity Structure of Borrowing		
See Graph at Appendix 3		
<i>This indicator relates to the amount of loans maturing in specified periods. The overarching principle is that steps should be taken from a risk management point of view to limit exposure to significant refinancing risk in any short period of time. The Council currently applies the practice of ensuring that no more than 15% of its total gross fixed rate loans mature in any one financial year.</i>		
<i>Because this is a complex situation for the Council, involving PWLB loans, LOBO loans with uncertain call dates and the use of internal cash, specific indicators have not been set. Instead the Council will manage its exposures within the limits shown on the graph at Appendix 3. This graph shows all LOBO call options on a cumulative basis; in fact the actual pattern of repayment, although uncertain, will not be of this magnitude.</i>		
4. Total principal sums invested for periods longer than a year	£95m	£30m
<i>Any investments made for over longer than a year will be in accordance with the County Council's limits on non-standard investments.</i>		

County Council Loan Maturity Profile at 30 September 2021



Counterparty List - September 2021	
	Time Limit
<i>Regulation Investments</i>	
Debt Management Office	12 months
UK Government T-bills	6 months
UK Local Authority	12 months
<i>Banks and Building Societies</i>	
Barclays	35 days
Lloyds	35 days
HSBC	35 days
Nationwide	35 days
Santander	35 days
<i>MMFs</i>	
Black Rock	same day
Insight	same day
Federated	same day
Aberdeen	same day
State Street (SSGA)	same day
<i>Enhanced MMF</i>	
Royal London Cash Plus	3-day notice

Cabinet – 17 November 2021
Investment categories authorised for use 2021/22

Investment	Standard	Non-standard	Comments
UK Government - Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF) (regulation investment)	unlimited	x	6 months maximum available
UK Government - Treasury Bills (T-Bills) (regulation investment)	unlimited	x	6 months maximum available
UK local authorities term deposits (regulation investment)*	unlimited	£45m across these categories	Up to 40 years in duration (non-standard)
UK Government – Gilts	unlimited		
Money Market Funds	✓	x	100% of total investments in this category. Individual MMF - Lower of 0.50% of individual MMF size or 25% of total forecast cash balances per MMF
Term deposits with banks and building societies	✓	x	50% of total investments in this category. Lower of 5% (unsecured) or 10% (secured) of total forecast cash balances or £30m per counterparty
Certificates of deposit (banks / building societies)	x	Maximum £50m per investment category and £150m in total across all categories	Up to 10 years in duration (non-standard)
Bonds issued by Multilateral Development Banks	x		
Collective Investment Schemes	x		
Covered Bonds	x		
Real Estate Investment Trusts	x		
Repos (repurchase agreement)	x		

* Up to 12 months

Cabinet – 17 November 2021

Decisions Taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers

Recommendation of the Leader of the Council

1. That the decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers, as detailed in paragraph 3 below, be noted.

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

Reasons for Recommendations

2. To inform Cabinet of recent decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers.

Background

3. Cabinet are requested to note the following decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers:

Cabinet Member	Decision
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	In approving proposals for the usage of the additional income from the COVID-19 Local Support Grant
Cabinet Member for Health and Care	In approving the decision to award a contract for drug and alcohol services for inpatient detoxification following a competitive procurement process and to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the 14 Local Authorities of the West Midlands Consortium.
Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture	Approval to the decision to cease trading and decommission Staffordshire’s Schools’ Library Service (SLS) on 31 December 2021 and to provide a new offer from Staffordshire’s Libraries and Arts Service from 1 January 2022:

Report author:

Author’s Name: Mike Bradbury

Telephone No: (01785) 276133

List of Background Papers - Cabinet Members Delegated Decision Nos. 532 - 534.

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Period: 15 December 2021 - 20 April 2022

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions is prepared on a monthly basis and published at least 28 days before the start of the period covered. Key Decisions are defined as those Executive decisions which are likely:

- (a) to result in the County Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions in the County's area.

The Forward Plan will contain **ALL** matters which the Leader of the Council has reason to believe will be the subject of a Key Decision to be taken by the Cabinet. It may also include decisions that are not key decisions but are intended to be determined by the Cabinet. Part of the Cabinet meetings listed in this Forward Plan may be held in private where a report for the meeting contains exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. If you would like to make representations about any particular decision to be conducted in private then please email: michael.bradbury@staffordshire.gov.uk. Such representations must be received in advance 6 clear working days before the date on which the decision is scheduled to be taken.

The Membership of the Cabinet consists of:

Leader of the County Council – Alan White
 Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills – Philip White
 Cabinet Member for Health and Care – Julia Jessel
 Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change – Simon Tagg
 Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters – Mark Deaville
 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport – David Williams
 Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources – Ian Parry
 Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture – Victoria Wilson
 Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Mark Sutton
 Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) – Jonathan Price

A copy of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions may be inspected, free of charge, at the Member and Democratic Services office, County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford, during normal office hours Monday to Friday. A copy of the notice will also be available on Staffordshire County Council's Website at www.staffordshire.gov.uk.

Documents submitted for decision will be a formal report which will be available on the County Council's website at least 5 clear working days before the date the decision is to be made, unless that report is subject to any prohibition or restriction on its disclosure. Other relevant background documents used in compiling the report will also be made available in the same way unless they are subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure. Minutes of Cabinet meetings will be published within three working days and will be subject to call-in. The call-in period lasts for three working days. If the decision is not called-in it will be implemented on the fourth working day. Special urgency items are exempt from call-in.

John Tradewell
Director of Corporate Services

Forward Plan of Key Decisions
Period: 15 December 2021 - 20 April 2022

NOTE:

- (1) The Forward Plan of Key Decisions sets out all Key Decisions intended to be made by Cabinet during the above period.
- (2) The Cabinet date can be provisional and items may move/roll forward to another meeting date but this will be monitored.
- (3) Items should remain on the Notice until a decision is made by Cabinet or is formally removed.
- (4) Where there is an intention to make a decision in private the exemption paragraph relied upon will be included within this notice

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
December 2021	Public	<p>Burton Town Deal - River Trent Cycle / Footbridge Update (Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport)</p> <p>To report the key findings of the public consultation on the potential new cycle / footbridge over the River Trent. To seek Cabinet's approval to the submission of the associated Business Case.</p>		General Public, Landowners, Environment Agency	Wayne Mortiboys (Tel: 01785 27 6578) Service Area: Corporate Services
December 2021	Public	<p>VCSE Capacity Building Recommission (Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture (Victoria Wilson))</p> <p>This report will set out detail on proposals to recommission VCSE capacity building support, with a view to going out to market in January 2022.</p>		VCSE, Commissioners and Members	Kerry Dove (Tel: 07855 679112) Service Area: Corporate Services

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
December 2021	Public	<p>IA2609 Framework for Responsive Property Maintenance and Day Works (Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters (Mark Deaville))</p> <p>The objective of the report is to establish approval for the contract award to a framework for low value reactive property maintenance works/services for Staffordshire County Council buildings. For the period 01 June 2022 until 31st May 2025 with a 12 month extension to 31st May 2026 following a open tendering process. The reactive agreement shall both support and dovetail into the existing Planned Maintenance / Minor Works framework agreement (ref IA1750) which tends to operate at project values greater than £5,000. There is a constant need to deploy much smaller organisations to attend to the most basic of property maintenance for values of work much less than £5,000.</p>		N/A	<p>Ian Tumer (Tel: 01785 277228) Service Area: Finance and Resources</p>
December 2021	Public	<p>Burton Town Deal - Proposed Library Move (Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture (Victoria Wilson))</p> <p>To report the key findings of the public consultation on the potential relocation of Burton Library to the Market Hall. To</p>		General Public	<p>Wayne Mortiboys (Tel: 01785 27 6578) Service Area: Families & Communities</p>

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
		seek Cabinet's approval to the submission of the associated Business Case.			
December 2021	Public	Diversity and Inclusion - Principles, Objectives and Action Plan (Leader of the Council (Alan White)) This paper will propose the adoption of a set of corporate Diversity and Inclusion Principles and Objectives, alongside a supporting Action Plan.		TBC	Kerry Dove, Sarah Getley (Tel: 07855 679112, Tel: 01785 854265) Service Area: Corporate Services
December 2021	Public	Proposed Relocation and Expansion of St Leonard's Primary School, Stafford (Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) (Jonathan Price)) To provide a summary of the statutory stakeholder consultation and to consider whether to publish a statutory proposal/notice.	FINAL CIA St Leonards Relocation Project Oct 2021	None at this stage	Tim Moss (Tel: 01785 277963) Service Area: School Organisation
December 2021	Public	Families Health & Wellbeing (0-19) Service: Contract Extension (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People (Mark Sutton)) Authorisation to proceed with a contract extension to the Families Health & Wellbeing (0-19) service from April 2023 - March 2024.		None	Natasha Moody (Tel: 07976191079) Service Area: Families Health & Wellbeing (0-19) Service
December 2021	Public	Home to School Transport - Review of Temporary Vacant Seat Scheme		Public Engagement,	Clive Thomson (Tel: 01785 276522)

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
		<p>(Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) (Jonathan Price)) This report details the outcome of the public engagement exercise undertaken, provides a recommendation for consideration and asks Cabinet to make a decision on the future of the temporary vacant seat scheme.</p>		Cabinet Member, SLT	Service Area: Economy, Infrastructure and Skills
December 2021	Private	<p>Chatterley Valley West - Project Update (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills (Philip White)) To update Cabinet on the development of the Chatterley Valley West employment site and funding position.</p>		N/A	Anthony Hodge (Tel: 01785 277204) Service Area: Business and Enterprise - Economy, Infrastructure and Skills
December 2021	Exempt Decision	<p>Formal Report from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman regarding SEND (Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) (Jonathan Price)) The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman have issued a Formal Report to the Council in respect of SEND. There is a requirement that Elected Members are made aware of this and the recommendations within the Report discussed.</p>		None	Tim Moss (Tel: 01785 277963) Service Area: SEND

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
January 2022	Public	<p>Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022 - 2027 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Ian Parry))</p> <p>To update Cabinet with progress on the Strategic Plan and MTFS.</p>		Any specific consultation, if appropriate, will be determined by the nature of any issues raised in the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy.	Rachel Spain (Tel: 01785 854455) Service Area: Finance
January 2022	Public	<p>Potential Joint Coroners Service, Business Case (Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture (Victoria Wilson))</p> <p>To consider the business case for requesting a merger of the Staffordshire South Coronial jurisdiction with Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire, following the retirement of HM Senior Coroner.</p>		Some consultation will have taken place but further consultation will be carried out at the time that the business case is submitted to the Chief Coroners Office and MoJ.	Janene Cox OBE (Tel: (01785) 278368) Service Area: Regulatory Services
January 2022	Public	<p>Options Appraisal for the Future Commissioning Model for Supported Living Services in Staffordshire (Cabinet Member for Health and Care (Julia Jessel))</p> <p>Options Appraisal for the Future Commissioning Model for Supported Living Services in Staffordshire.</p>		N/A	Andrew Jepps (Tel: 01785 278557) Service Area: Health & Care

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
January 2022	Private	<p>Future Contracting Options for Supported Living from 1st October 2022 Onwards (Cabinet Member for Health and Care (Julia Jessel))</p> <p>To review the SLT recommendations for the future contracting options for Supported Living from 1st October 2022 onwards.</p>		Not a present stage	<p>Andy Marriott (Tel: 01785 277754)</p> <p>Service Area: Health and Care</p>
January 2022	Public	<p>Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022 - 2027 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Ian Parry))</p> <p>To present the Strategic Plan and MTFS to Cabinet, including the draft budget for 2022/23.</p>		Any specific consultation, if appropriate, will be determined by the nature of any issues raised in the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy	<p>Rachel Spain (Tel: 01785 854455)</p> <p>Service Area: Finance</p>
February 2022	Public	<p>Business Case for Care Home Developments (Cabinet Member for Health and Care (Julia Jessel))</p> <p>The Council previously presented to Cabinet the recommendation to build Council owned care homes with a commissioned provider to deliver the care. The purpose of the care homes was to increase affordable nursing care capacity for older people in our communities who can no longer live independently at home. This cabinet</p>		N/A	<p>Helen Trousdale (Tel: 01785 277008)</p> <p>Service Area: Health and Care</p>

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
		item is to re-visit these recommendations following the impact of the pandemic on the Staffordshire care home market. The item will evaluate the initial recommendations and conclude with a recommendation on whether to or not proceed with the build of Council owned care homes.			
February 2022	Public	<p>Integrated Performance Report - Quarter 3 2021/22 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Ian Parry), Leader of the Council (Alan White))</p> <p>The quarterly Integrated Performance Report provides an overview of Staffordshire County Council's progress, performance and financial position in delivering against our Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan.</p>		N/A	<p>Kerry Dove, Rob Salmon (Tel: 07855 679112, Tel: (01785) 27 6354)</p> <p>Service Area: Corporate Services</p>
February 2022	Private	<p>Entrust Service Delivery Agreement (Leader of the Council (Alan White))</p> <p>To consider changes to the Entrust Service Delivery Agreement.</p>		N/A	<p>Ian Turner (Tel: 01785 277228)</p> <p>Service Area: Education Support Services</p>
February 2022	Public	<p>Staffordshire Rural Economic Strategy (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills (Philip White))</p>		District Councils and Key Stakeholders	<p>Anthony Hodge (Tel: 01785 277204)</p>

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
		To seek adoption of a new strategy focusing on the County's rural economy as part of the County Council's economic policies and programmes.			Service Area: Business & Enterprise
March 2022	Public	2022/23 Schools Capital Programme (Jonathan Price) The Statement of Priorities for the LEA schools for Staffordshire exc. Stoke on Trent and the proposed programmes for 2022/ 23.		None	Ian Tumer (Tel: 01785 277228) Service Area: Corporate Services - Strategic Property
April 2022	Public	Integrated Performance Report - Quarter 4 2021/22 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Ian Parry), Leader of the Council (Alan White)) The quarterly Integrated Performance Report provides an overview of Staffordshire County Council's progress, performance and financial position in delivering against our Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan.		N/A	Kerry Dove, Rob Salmon (Tel: 07855 679112, Tel: (01785) 27 6354) Service Area: Corporate Services

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