

AGENDA

Meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Place: [Access the online meeting here](#)

Date: Thursday 15 July 2021

Time: 10.30 am

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Kieran Elliott, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line (01225) 718504 or email kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225) 713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Membership:

Cllr Ruth Hopkinson
Cllr Jon Hubbard
Cllr Tony Jackson
Cllr Bob Jones MBE
Cllr Johnny Kidney
Cllr Gordon King
Cllr Jerry Kunkler
Cllr Bill Parks

Cllr Tony Pickernell
Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall
Cllr Jo Trigg
Cllr Tony Trotman
Cllr Iain Wallis
Cllr Christopher Williams (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Graham Wright (Chairman)

Substitutes:

Cllr Steve Bucknell
Cllr Clare Cape
Cllr Ernie Clark
Cllr Brian Dalton
Cllr Gavin Grant

Cllr Dr Nick Murry
Cllr Pip Ridout
Cllr Tom Rounds
Cllr Ian Thorn

Recording and Broadcasting Information

Wiltshire Council may record this meeting for live and/or subsequent broadcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded. The images and sound recordings may also be used for training purposes within the Council.

By submitting a statement or question for an online meeting you are consenting that you will be recorded presenting this, or this may be presented by an officer during the meeting, and will be available on the public record. The meeting may also be recorded by the press or members of the public.

Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council, its Cabinet or committees is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them so doing and by choosing to film, record or broadcast proceedings they accept that they are required to indemnify the Council, its members and officers in relation to any such claims or liabilities.

Details of the Council's Guidance on the Recording and Webcasting of Meetings is available on request. Our privacy policy can be found [here](#).

Public Participation

Please see the agenda list on following pages for details of deadlines for submission of questions and statements for this meeting.

For extended details on meeting procedure, submission and scope of questions and other matters, please consult [Part 4 of the council's constitution](#).

The full constitution can be found at [this link](#).

For assistance on these and other matters please contact the officer named above for details

AGENDA

PART I

Items to be considered when the meeting is open to the public

1 **Apologies**

To receive details of any apologies or substitutions for the meeting.

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (*Pages 5 - 10*)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021

3 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of disclosable interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.

4 **Chairman's Announcements**

To receive any announcements through the Chair.

5 **Public Participation**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public.

Statements

If you would like to make a statement at this meeting on any item on this agenda, please register to do so by 5pm on 13 July 2021. Up to 3 speakers are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes each on any agenda item. Please contact the officer named on the front of the agenda for any further clarification.

Questions

To receive any questions from members of the public or members of the Council received in accordance with the constitution.

Those wishing to ask questions are required to give notice of any such questions in writing to the officer named on the front of this agenda no later than 5pm on 8 July 2021 in order to be guaranteed of a written response. In order to receive a verbal response questions must be submitted no later than 5pm on 12 July 2021. Please contact the officer named on the front of this agenda for further advice. Questions may be asked without notice if the Chairman decides that the matter is urgent.

Details of any questions received will be circulated to Committee members prior to the meeting and made available at the meeting and on the Council's website.

6 **Wiltshire Council Business Plan update**

To receive a verbal update on the development of the council's new Business Plan and the timescale for Overview and Scrutiny input prior to consideration by Full Council.

7 **Forward Work Programme** (*Pages 11 - 24*)

To receive updates from the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Select Committees in respect of the topics under scrutiny in their areas, including any recommendations for endorsement by the Management Committee.

8 **Financial Planning Task Group update** (*Pages 25 - 28*)

To receive an update on the work of the task group since the Committee's previous meeting.

9 **Management Committee Task Group updates** (*Pages 29 - 32*)

To receive updates on recent activity by Management Committee's task groups and other ad hoc exercises.

10 **Date of Next Meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting as 21 September 2021

11 **Urgent Items**

Any other items of business which the Chairman agrees to consider as a matter of urgency.

PART II

Items during consideration of which it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 MAY 2021 AT ONLINE MEETING.

Present:

Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Johnny Kidney, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Bill Parks, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Tony Pickernell, Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall, Cllr Jo Trigg, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr Iain Wallis, Cllr Graham Wright (Chairman) and Cllr Christopher Williams (Vice-Chairman)

Also Present:

Cllr Pip Ridout and Cllr Richard Clewer

1 Apologies

There were no apologies or substitutions for the meeting.

2 Election of Chairman 2021/22

Nominations were sought for a Chairman for the forthcoming year. On the nomination of Councillor Christopher Williams, seconded by Councillor Tony Pickernell, it was,

Resolved:

To elect Councillor Graham Wright as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for the forthcoming year.

3 Election of Vice-Chairman 2021/22

Nominations were sought for a Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. On the nomination of Councillor Graham Wright, seconded by Councillor Tony Trotman, it was,

Resolved:

To elect Councillor Christopher Williams as Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee for the forthcoming year.

4 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 were presented for consideration, and it was,

Resolved:

To approve and sign the minutes as a true and correct record.

5 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations.

6 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman welcomed new Members to the Committee and thanked previous Members for their service.

7 **Public Participation**

No questions or statements were submitted.

8 **Covid-19 Update**

A report was presented in Agenda Supplement 1 in relation to activity to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 in Wiltshire since the last update to Cabinet on 16 March 2021. The other Select Committees would receive the report to scrutinise the Covid-19 response and latest information as it related to their specific remits.

Councillor Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, introduced the report, which might be the final report ahead of the end of the current lockdown processes. He drew attention to the great work that had been undertaken by the council during the latest and previous lockdowns.

Terence Herbert, Chief Executive, supported by other officers of the Corporate Leadership Team, then provided further information. It was stated that the current focus relevant to the Committee was in relation to internal council organisational recovery, and that the Local Resilience Forum would be transferring remaining responsibility back to the Council in June 2021, while work with partners was ongoing.

Details were provided from the report on the internal recovery, including of a pilot scheme for staff to return to council offices which would run until September 2021, and the use of hybrid meetings and collaboration spaces.

Other workstreams included looking at customer experiences and continued alignment to the business plan objectives.

The Committee discussed the report and updates provided. Details were sought on the return of elected Members to council buildings for those meetings now once again legally required to meet in person, and it was confirmed lateral flow testing beforehand would not be a requirement, but other measures would be in place on the advice of Public Health. The level of engagement with staff on forthcoming measures was queried, and how it might address issues of team disengagement as a result of the physical separation of many teams from the wider organisation and within themselves.

Options for hybrid meetings were raised, along with service delivery and how some Covid-19 instigated measures might continue as still useful such as the Wellbeing Hub, but that some of the online engagement including with young people was becoming less effective over time.

It was confirmed grants were still being provided to businesses, and that long-term recovery was a key focus with reports able to be made to Overview and Scrutiny as various Covid-19 measures came to an end.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

To note the update on the council's ongoing response to Covid-19.

9 **Overview and Scrutiny work priorities and approach**

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee has overall responsibility for the Overview and Scrutiny work programme. A report was presented of the legacy report from the Committee at the end of the 2017-2021 council cycle, on key pieces of work that had been undertaken by all Select Committees, Task Groups and other bodies, work priorities to be recommended for inclusion on the initial work programme for 2021-25, as well as key strengths and improvement areas to be considered.

The Committee discussed the report, confirming that each Select Committee would consider the proposed work priorities and liaise with the relevant officers and Members of the Executive with an emphasis on ongoing dialogue, as well as the possibility of coordinated communication with Members of Parliament as related to Overview and Scrutiny activity.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

- 1) **To note this council's agreed core values for its Overview and Scrutiny function.**

- 2) To approve the legacy topics listed in Appendix A for inclusion in the new Overview and Scrutiny work programme – subject to further discussion at future meetings – and to advise the select committees accordingly.
- 3) To note this committee’s task group structure at the conclusion of the previous Management Committee as follows:

Financial Planning Task Group

Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Panel

- 4) To approve continuation of the above task groups and memberships, and to authorise the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to name Members to fill vacancies on task groups and other ad hoc activities following an opportunity for expressions of interest.
- 5) To authorise the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to appoint Overview and Scrutiny councillor representatives to the following council boards, with further appointments to be considered as appropriate once current programme board activity is confirmed:

Gigaclear Contract Project Board

Constitution Focus Group (if re-established by the Standards Committee on 3 June 2021)

- 6) To support early discussion between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with Cabinet members, portfolio-holders and directors to gain a more informed understanding about Executive priorities, with outcomes reported back to Committee.
- 7) To ask the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to undertake further work on the forward work programme presented, with outcomes reported back to Committee.
- 8) To note Overview and Scrutiny’s key strengths and development areas as highlighted by the previous council and to include these in any review of the function’s approach and effectiveness in the new council.

10 **Review of the Overview and Scrutiny Member Induction 2021**

Following the local elections in May 2021 the council provided several weeks of information and training sessions to help equip Members to undertake their various roles. Two sessions were provided specifically on Overview and Scrutiny, primarily aimed at non-executive Members. A survey had been

circulated to seek feedback from Members, and the Committee was invited to provide further comment to help assess the effectiveness of the post-election Member induction and development programme.

The Committee discussed the induction programme, with the Overview and Scrutiny training praised for its content as well the delivery of the overall induction programme. It was noted that primarily as a result of Covid-19 restrictions the entire programme had been delivered through online sessions, and whilst these were useful some considered that solely online training for an entire day could make holding attention and absorbing information difficult. The possibility of spacing out sessions, or in future when restrictions allowed a mixture of online and physical sessions, was proposed.

The Chairman also confirmed there would be exploration of further opportunities for specific training and development moving forward.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was,

Resolved:

- 1) To note the feedback provided on the Overview and Scrutiny induction sessions for Members and to use this to inform future inductions;**
- 2) To note the suggestions for further Overview and Scrutiny Member training sessions, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman bringing specific proposals back to Committee.**

11 Overview and Scrutiny Member Remuneration 2020/21

A report was presented with proposals for Overview and Scrutiny Remuneration for the year 2020/21. This was to allocate the £15,000 Overview and Scrutiny Fund provided within the Members' Allowances Scheme to recognise the significant additional responsibilities undertaken as part of Overview and Scrutiny activities. The Committee was required to annually approve a scheme for allocation of that fund.

The methodology for allocation had been agreed by the Committee in 2018, to recognise activities such as being Vice-Chairman of Select Committees, or chairing task groups. As detailed in the report, it was proposed that the share per meeting should be the same as 2019/20 plus 1% inflation, to avoid higher than normal amounts being paid as a result of the lower than average activity as a result of Covid-19 restrictions.

The Committee received the report, and it was then,

Resolved:

To approve the allocation of the Overview and Scrutiny Remuneration Fund for 2020/21 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

12 **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 15 July 2021.

13 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 2.30 - 3.40 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services,
direct line (01225) 718504, e-mail kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115

Overview and Scrutiny Management Select Forward Work Programme

Last updated 6 JULY 2021

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee – Current / Active Task Groups		
Task Group	Start Date	Final Report Expected
Financial Planning Task Group	October 2013	
Swindon and Wiltshire Joint LEP Panel	March 2014	

Overview and Scrutiny Management Select – Forward Work Programme			Last updated 6 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / Purpose of Report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
21 Sep 2021	Gigaclear Contract Board update	To receive an update on the Board's work from the Overview and Scrutiny councillor representative.	Andy Brown, Ian Robinson (Director - Digital, Data and Technology)	Cllr Pauline Church	Marie Nash
21 Sep 2021	Stone Circle company governance	To consider the governance arrangements for the council's wholly-owned Stone Circle companies. A review of these arrangements was agreed by Cabinet in January 2021.	Perry Holmes, Andy Brown	Cllr Richard Clewer	
25 Jan 2022	Wiltshire Council's Financial Plan Update and Medium Term Financial Strategy	To receive a report from the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance.	Terence Herbert, Andy Brown	Cllr Pauline Church	Lizzie Watkin
8 Feb 2022	Wiltshire Council Financial Plan: Amendments	To consider amendments from any political groups or individual Members on the initial draft of the executive proposed budget.	Terence Herbert, Andy Brown	Cllr Pauline Church	Lizzie Watkin

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021

Last Updated 7 JULY 2021

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / Purpose of Report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
Standing items (at all meetings)					
	DfE Changes - Update from Department for Education	A report presenting an update on developments relating to children's services arising from the Department for Education.	Lucy Townsend (Corporate Director - People)	Cllr Laura Mayes	Nicola McCann
	School Ofsted Judgements	A report which includes information regarding the most recent Ofsted Inspection reports. It will provide an ongoing view of the effectiveness of schools as seen by Ofsted Inspection.	Lucy Townsend (Corporate Director - People)	Cllr Laura Mayes	Louise Lewis

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
	Update from Wiltshire Youth Union Representative	An update including a summary of recent activities of the Wiltshire Youth Union (WYU), the Youth Safeguarding Board (YSB) and the Children in Care Council (CiCC).	Lucy Townsend (Corporate Director - People)	Cllr Laura Mayes	Gary Binstead
7 September 2021					
	Draft annual Corporate Parenting Panel Report	To consider the draft annual Corporate Parenting Panel before it is presented to Full Council on 20 October 2020.			Lisa Pullin
7 Sep 2021	Getting to outstanding (Ofsted)	To review the council's plan to achieve outstanding (Ofsted), including its self-assessment processes and ensuring that the voice of the child is embedded in Children's Services' work, including best practice from Outstanding authorities.			
7 Sep 2021	Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership	To receive annual report from the partnership presenting work in the past year and priorities / objectives for the year ahead.			
5 January 2022					

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
5 Jan 2022	Performance monitoring report	As approved at CSC on 12 November 2019 (OS/executive meeting outcome) - that the committee receives performance monitoring reports on the overall service (following on from the pre-meeting briefing at the November meeting on the council's self-assessment process), likely to be June (to consider the year-end data from the previous year) then January meetings.		Cllr Laura Mayes	
15 March 2022					
15 Mar 2022	Traded Services	Update following task group's work and executive response (CSC 10 March 2021): a. Progress and development for Traded Services b. Development of the Traded Services team c. The establishment of a project / governance board			
15 Mar 2022	Outdoor education	Update following task group's work and executive response (CSC 10 March 2021)			

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
	Corporate Parenting bi-annual report	To consider the mid-year annual report from Corporate Parenting	Lucy Townsend (Corporate Director - People)	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lisa Pullin
Meetings after March 2022					
Not before 1 Jun 2022	Performance monitoring report	As approved at CSC on 12 November 2019 (OS/executive meeting outcome) - that the committee receives performance monitoring reports on the overall service (following on from the pre-meeting briefing at the November meeting on the council's self-assessment process), likely to be June (to consider the year-end data from the previous year) then January meetings.		Cllr Laura Mayes	
Date to be set after OS/Executive meeting					
	Early Years & Childcare places across Wiltshire	To receive information on places available (and demand) in Early Years and Childcare settings across Wiltshire			

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
	Safeguarding (including Performance monitoring)	As approved at CSC on 12 November 2019 (OS/executive meeting outcome) - that a report be brought to the committee in about 6 months, to provide information on what the council does as a whole regarding safeguarding and what it is planning to do, including input from the Safeguarding Board. Due to Covid-19 priorities this may be a short report.		Cllr Laura Mayes	
	Elective Home Education (including for Children with SEND)	Item follows the resolution from the 5th March 2019 Children's Select Committee: "To receive further data and analysis in 12 months on children with SEND receiving Elective Home Education."	Helean Hughes (Director - Education and Skills)	Cllr Laura Mayes	Jen Salter

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
	Wiltshire School Improvement Programme - update	<p>As agreed at the 21 January 2020 meeting:</p> <p>To receive an update (after summer 2020), including specific measurable evidence of impact on pupil outcomes of the new way of working, as part of the School Performance report, where possible including direct feedback from schools (on receiving the support). If possible a diagram showing the new way of working / system.</p>			
	Update on the implementation of FACT (Families And Children's Transformation)	<p>As approved at CSC on 12 November 2019 (OS/executive meeting outcome).</p> <p>To received regular updates on the implementation of FACT (Families And Children's Transformation) during 2019-20.</p>			

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
	Youth Transport (including SEND)	<p>Update following task group's work and executive response - National Bus Strategy and any decision or progress regarding a single "Wiltshire Youth Card"</p> <p>.</p> <p>To include input from the council's review of transport services for children and young people with SEND (commissioning team).</p> <p>NB – may link to the proposed Access to Post-16 education task group</p>			
	Child Poverty	To receive a report presenting figures / data for child poverty in Wiltshire (compared to national figures) and the services / provision in place to address this in Wiltshire, either delivered / supported by the council or third sector (that the council is aware of).			

Children's Select Committee - FWP - July 2021			Last updated 7 JULY 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / purpose of report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
	Adoption	<p>Annual item.</p> <p>To receive information on adoption from the following sources:</p> <p>Local authority's performance report with regards to adoption (statutory requirement that regular assurance reports are provided regarding the Council's responsibility for the adoption of children); Adoption West joint scrutiny panel's annual report.</p>			
	Pupil Performance in Public Tests and Examinations	Provides an annual overview of pupil performance at the end of each key stage and compares Wiltshire's attainment with national, south west and statistical neighbours.			
	Children missing education / children missing out on education	<p>To receive dataset and policy on Children Missing Out on Education / Children Missing Education</p> <p>NB – may be timely to link to information briefing on Alternative Educational Provision</p>			

Environment_Select_Committee_FWP(July-2021)

Last Updated 6 July 2021

Details	Start date	Final report expected
Global Warming and Climate Emergency Task Group	May 2019	tbc

Environment_Select_Committee_FWP(July-2021)			Last updated 6 July 2021		
Meeting Date	Item	Details / Purpose of Report	Associate Director	Responsible Cabinet Member	Report Author / Lead Officer
14 Sept 2021	CATGs: 10 Years On	As discussed at 24 October 2019 ESC-Executive meeting on the 'highways and transport' portfolio, a report to be provided detailing the benefit that CATGs have brought to Wiltshire's communities, following the now 10 years plus since they were first implemented.	Parvis Khansari	Cllr Dr Mark McClelland	Dave Thomas
14 Sept 2021	'A Better Deal for Bus Users'	Following the Briefing Note circulated on 26 February 2020 on the Government's funding for 'a better deal for bus users', the committee will be updated on the outcomes of a further consultation process with members, town and parish council asking how Wiltshire should spend the £671,171 allocated to Wiltshire for improving bus services.	Jessica Gibbons (Director - Neighbourhood and Community Services)	Cllr Dr Mark McClelland	Jason Salter

Health Select Forward Work Programme

Last updated 7 JULY 2021

Health Select Committee – Current / Active Task Groups		
Task Group	Start Date	Final Report Expected
Housing Related Support Rapid Scrutiny Exercise	Formed July 2021	Oct 2021

Health Select Committee – Forward Work Programme			Last updated 7 July 2021	
Meeting Date	Item	Details/ purpose	Report Author/Lead Officer	Responsible Cabinet Member
8 Sept 2021	RUH – ‘Developing a new model of care for the future’	Report to outline the proposed transformation of RUH care services to underpin a potential bid to the ‘National new hospitals programme’	Simon Cook Geoff Underwood	

Wiltshire Council

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

15 July 2021

Financial Planning Task Group Update

Purpose

1. To update Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on the work of the Financial Planning Task Group since May 2021.

Background

2. The Financial Planning Task Group (FPTG) is a standing task group reporting to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Membership

3. The membership of the task group from June 2021 is as follows:

Cllr Gavin Grant
Cllr George Jeans
Cllr Gordon King
Cllr Charles McGrath
Cllr Pip Ridout (Chairman)
Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall
Cllr Derek Walters

4. Cllr Pip Ridout was elected Chairman by the task group at its meeting on 25 June 2021.

Terms of Reference:

- a) To understand and review the Medium Term Financial Strategy (4 year financial model)
- b) To understand and review the approach and robustness of the financial planning regime within the Council
- c) To understand and help develop the approach to the annual budget setting cycle
- d) To review the specific contribution of overview and scrutiny in the annual budget setting cycle with a focus on outcomes
- e) To undertake periodic budget monitoring including reviews of key midyear trends and developments and to ensure that these are taken into account when updating the Financial Plan

- f) To work under the direction and guidance of the Management Committee and report regularly to the Cabinet Member, Management Committee and select committees (as appropriate) on its work and findings and to make any necessary referrals
- g) To review the council's Performance and Risk monitoring reports and the Corporate Performance Framework.

Recent activity

25 June 2021

Financial Year 2020/21 – Provisional Outturn Position

- 5. The task group were updated on the underspends in Q3 and Q4 (£33m) and their transfer to reserves. The government has provided funding over the period of the pandemic (£34m) supporting the council. These funds were in addition to £260m of government funding passported out to external organisations via the council.
- 6. Reserves now stand at £94m and the task group was given more detail on why they were forecast to be £27m by 31 March 2022. Emerging from the pandemic, reserves are likely to be drawn upon considerably, particularly arising from latent demand, in 2021/22.
- 7. The task group was updated on the Collection Fund i.e. council tax and business rates. Government grants have covered shortfalls in business rates however, forecasts are pessimistic on future receipts. The task group will therefore be monitoring Collection Fund forecasts through 2021/22.
- 8. During 2021/22, the intention is for the budget to be flexed meaning revising the budget on a quarterly basis with the latest known data. This will recognise movements in the budget and redistribute funds to areas of actual need, not just estimates of need. The task group will in future be monitoring the use of flexing the budget.

7 July 2021

Financial Year 2020/21 – Final Outturn / Treasury Management Outturn 2020/21

- 9. The task group were updated on the borrowing for capital projects. Some projects, due to the pandemic, have been deferred or delayed. The appropriate profiling of that spend will be important. The task group would like to consider capital borrowing and spend in more detail in future.

Forward Work Plan

- 10. The Task Group is working with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Procurement, Commissioning, IT, Digital and Commercialisation and the Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive (S.151 Officer) to further develop the task group's forward work plan. Potential work future areas include the council's

Stone Circle wholly-owned companies (once a planned governance review has been completed) and creating a better understanding of strategic procurement and capital borrowing and spend.

Proposals

- 1. To note the update on Financial Planning Task Group activity provided.**
- 2. To note that the following councillors have been appointed to the Financial Planning Task Group:**
 - Cllr Gavin Grant**
 - Cllr George Jeans**
 - Cllr Gordon King**
 - Cllr Charles McGrath**
 - Cllr Pip Ridout (Chairman)**
 - Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall**
 - Cllr Derek Walters**

Report author: Simon Bennet, Senior Scrutiny Officer, T: 01225 718709,
E: simon.bennett@wiltshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Wiltshire Council

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

15 July 2021

Task Group Update

1. Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) Joint Scrutiny Panel

Membership

Wiltshire Councillors:

Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman)
Cllr George Jeans
Cllr Ian Thorn

Swindon Borough Councillors:

Cllr Junab Ali (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Burn-Howell
Cllr Russell Holland

Business Representative

Amanda Newbery
Craig Holmes
Andrew Hogben

Supporting officer: Marie Gondlach/Ceri Williams

Terms of Reference

The terms of reference for the Joint Scrutiny Panel are quite lengthy and therefore not included in full here, however an extract detailing the purpose of the panel is included below (*paragraph numbering from the terms of reference*):

(9.) This Panel will act as a critical friend, developing an overview of strategies and plans and providing independent scrutiny of the work of the LEP Board. It is an essential element of assuring democratic accountability for the use of public funds.

(10.) The objective is to make constructive recommendations for how future decisions of the LEP can be effectively implemented.

(11.) The Panel will not have the power to delay the SWLEP's decisions but it will be able to make recommendations for improvement to the SWLEP's decision making process and will be able to make its conclusions public.

Recent activity

The SWLEP scrutiny panel met for the first time, post-election, on 7 June 2021. Cllr Richard Britton was elected chair, with Cllrs George Jeans and Ian Thorn filling the two other Wiltshire Council vacancies. Cllr Junab Ali, Swindon Borough Council, was elected vice-chair with the two historic vacancies from industry now filled. The first meeting provided the panel with an overview of the work of the Local Economic Partnership (LEP). The panel also commissioned a final 'deep-dive' review of the LEP's 'Growth Hub', with a meeting scheduled for Friday 9 June. In addition, the chair and vice chair meet with the chief executive of the LEP on Wednesday 7 June to discuss/develop the forward work programme.

Proposals

1. **To note the update on task group and panel activity provided.**
2. **To note that the following councillors have been appointed to the Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Scrutiny Panel:**
 - Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman)**
 - Cllr George Jeans**
 - Cllr Ian Thorn**
3. **To note that the following councillors have been appointed to the Financial Planning Task Group:**
 - Cllr Gavin Grant**
 - Cllr George Jeans**
 - Cllr Gordon King**
 - Cllr Charles McGrath**
 - Cllr Pip Ridout (Chairman)**
 - Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall**
 - Cllr Derek Walters**
4. **To note that the following councillors have been appointed as Overview and Scrutiny representatives on the bodies listed:**
 - Cllr Jon Hubbard – Constitution Focus Group**
 - Cllr George Jeans – Gigaclear Contract Board**

Report authors:

Simon Bennet, Senior Scrutiny Officer, T: 01225 718 709,
E: simon.bennett@wiltshire.gov.uk

Ceri Williams, Senior Scrutiny Officer, T: 01225 713 704,
E: ceri.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk

Henry Powell, Democracy Manager (Scrutiny), T: 01225 718052, E.
henry.powell@wiltshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank