



Worcester
CITY COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, 9th February, 2021

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Remote Meeting

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Information for Members of the Public

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic Worcester City Council will be holding this meeting in accordance with the relevant legislative arrangements for remote meetings of a local authority. For more information please refer to: Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Please note that this is a public meeting, conducting remotely by videoconferencing between invited participants and live streamed for general access by audio via the Council's website.

Part I of the Agenda includes items for discussion in public. You can listen to a live audio stream of the meeting via the City Council website www.worcester.gov.uk/councillors-democracy. You have the right to inspect electronic copies of Minutes and reports on this part of the Agenda as well as background documents used in the preparation of these reports. Details of the background papers appear at the foot of each report. Part II of the Agenda (if applicable) deals with items of 'Exempt Information' for which it is anticipated that the public may be excluded from the meeting and neither reports nor background papers are open to public inspection.

Members of the public and press are permitted to report on the proceedings. "Reporting" in the context of this remote meeting includes making an audio recording of the live streamed audio and providing commentary on proceedings. Any communicative method can be used to report on the proceedings, including the internet, to publish, post or share the proceedings.

At the start of the meeting under the item 'Public Participation' up to fifteen minutes in total is allowed for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question or comment on any matter on the Agenda. Participation in remote meetings will extend to video and/or audio participation or written submission read aloud at the appropriate point in the meeting by the Chairman. Participants need to indicate that they wish to take part in a remote meeting by 4.30 p.m. on the last working day before the meeting by telephoning or E-Mailing the officer mentioned below. A Democratic Services Officer will then contact to advise how to participate in the remote meeting, by invitation. Requests to participate received later than this cut-off time may not be accommodated.

If a member of the public chooses to speak at a meeting of the City Council, he/she will be deemed to have given their consent to being recorded and audio being published live to the Council's website. The Chairman of the meeting, can at their discretion, terminate or suspend recording, if in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice the proceedings of the meeting or if they consider that continued recording might infringe the rights of any individual, or breach any statutory provision.

If you have any queries about this Agenda, require any details of background papers, or wish to discuss the arrangements for public participation please contact Julian Pugh, Democratic Services Administrator, Democratic Services, Guildhall, Worcester WR1 2EY Telephone: 01905 722027 (direct line). E-Mail Address: committeeadministration@worcester.gov.uk

This agenda can be made available in large print, braille, on PC disk, tape or in a number of ethnic minority languages. Please contact the above-named officer for further information.

**Policy and Resources Committee
Tuesday, 9 February 2021**

Members of the Committee:-

Chairman: Councillor Louis Stephen (G)

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Marc Bayliss (C) and Councillor Adrian Gregson (L)

Councillor Patricia Agar (LCo)

Councillor Roger Berry (LCo)

Councillor Simon Geraghty (C)

Councillor Jo Hodges (L)

Councillor Mrs. Lucy Hodgson (C)

Councillor Steve Mackay (C)

Councillor Chris Mitchell (C)

Councillor Jabba Riaz (L)

Councillor Joy Squires (L)

Councillor James Stanley (C)

C = Conservative

G = Green

L = Labour

LCo = Labour and Co-operative

LD = Liberal Democrat

AGENDA

Part 1

(ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION IN PUBLIC)

**5. Draft Budget 2021/22 and Draft Medium-Term Financial Plan 2021-2026 -
Consultation With Policy Committees**

Page(s): 1 - 2

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Shane Flynn, Corporate Director, Finance and Resources
Tel: 01905 722536

That the Committee consider the proposed amendments to the draft budget for the Council for the financial year 2021/22 and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2020-2026.

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Report to: Policy and Resources Committee, 9th February 2021

**Report of: Chairs of the Place and Economic Development Sub-Committee,
Environment Committee and Communities Committee**

**Subject: DRAFT BUDGET 2021/22 AND DRAFT MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
2021-2026 – CONSULTATION WITH POLICY COMMITTEES**

1. Recommendation

1.1 That the Committee consider the proposed amendments to the draft budget for the Council for the financial year 2021/22 and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2020-2026.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting of 15 December 2020, the Committee referred the proposed Draft Budget and Council Tax for 2021/22 and the draft Medium-Term Financial Plan 2021-2026 or consultation with a request for feedback to its next meeting.
- 2.2 Under the Council's Budget and Policy Framework in Part 7 of the Council's Constitution, the development of the budget is based on the principle that the Policy and Resources Committee will agree the Budget in consultation with the relevant committees. The consultation period runs from 15 December 2020 until 9 February 2021. During the consultation period the Council's Policy Committees (namely the Place and Economic Development Sub-Committee, the Environment Committee and the Communities Committee) may respond to the draft budget.
- 2.3 The above committees have considered the draft budget as presented on 15 December and have forwarded the proposals in the attached schedule for consideration (Appendix 1). The Committee is asked to consider these and make recommendations accordingly to Full Council at its meeting of 23 February 2021.

3. Section 151 Officer Comments

- 3.1 The proposals cumulatively recommend an addition to budgets of £162,500 in 2021/22. All of these represent one-off charges. There are no proposed changes to revenue budgets that will have an ongoing impact on the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 3.2 The cumulative impact of each of the proposals is shown in the following table. The one-off items will be charged to the relevant reserve pending an agreed alternative source. In the absence of a specific reserve the charge will be funded by the Council's general non-earmarked risk reserves until a new reserve can be established from a year-end surplus.

Table 1: Committee funding proposals

Committee Proposal	Requested Allocation £000	Proposed Source	Total £000
Environment			
Gull control – additional activities	7.5	-	7.5
Communities			
Support to Citizens Advice Bureau	35.0	Hardship Fund	
Ward Councillors Funding to support Ward based responses to Covid 19	70.0	Covid Funding Tranche 5 (21/22)	
Child Poverty Task & Finish Group enabling budget	50.0	-	155.0
Place and Economic Development	0		
Total			162.5

3.3 Proposals in the above table that are not funded from currently existing reserves are chargeable to the 2021/22 budget as one-off items and will represent, in effect, additions to the transfer from reserves identified in the Budget Report. The impact of these proposals is set out in Table 2.

Table 2: MTFP impact of proposals not allocated to existing reserves

	£
Transfer to/from reserves as proposed	712,000
Gull control – additional activities	7,500
Ward Councillors Funding to support Ward based responses to Covid 19	70,000
Child Poverty Task & Finish Group enabling budget	50,000
Revised transfer to/from reserves	839,500

Ward(s): All wards
Contact Officer: Shane Flynn, tel: 01905 722536, email: shane.flynn@worcester.gov.uk
Background Papers: None