

To receive minutes and, where necessary, adopt reports of Committees

(Some reports may involve the disclosure of exempt information. If the Council wishes to debate them, for each individual case the Council will need to adopt a suitable motion).

7.1 To receive the minutes of the following meetings:

- 7.1.1 [Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) – 11 October 2023
- 7.1.2 [Northern Area Planning Committee](#) – 12 October 2023
- 7.1.3 [General Purposes](#) – 16 October 2023
- 7.1.4 [Southern Area Planning Committee](#) – 17 October 2023
- 7.1.5 [Southern Area Planning Committee](#) – 7 November 2023
- 7.1.6 [Licensing Committee](#) – 9 November 2023
- 7.1.7 [Cabinet](#) – 15 November 2023
- 7.1.8 [Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) – 22 November 2023
- 7.1.9 [Northern Area Planning Committee](#) – 23 November 2023
- 7.1.10 [Southern Area Planning Committee](#) – 28 November 2023
- 7.1.11 [Audit Committee](#) – 12 December 2023
- 7.1.12 [Northern Area Planning Committee](#) – 14 December 2023
- 7.1.13 [Southern Area Planning Committee](#) – 19 December 2023
- 7.1.14 [Cabinet](#) – 20 December 2023

7.2 To adopt recommendations from the following:

- 7.2.1 [Cabinet – 15 November 2023](#)
- 7.2.1.1 [Asset Management Plan \(Annex 1\)](#)

Consideration was given to a report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder which provided an update on the approved 2023/24 Asset Management Plan (AMP) and recommended projects to be included in the 2024/25 budget.

The report provided an update on the financing of AMP projects, including a forecast of the balance on the Asset Management Reserve at 31 March 2025.

Having considered the options and for the reasons set out in the report, the recommendations were proposed by Councillor Flood, seconded by Councillor P North and Cabinet agreed to the following:

Recommended to Council:

- 1. That the revised 2023/24 and original 2024/25 Asset Management Plan, as shown in Annexes 1 and 2 to the report, be approved.**
- 2. That the Head of Finance and Revenues, after consultation with the Finance and Resources Portfolio holder and Head of Service responsible for any project, be authorised to amend the Asset Management Plan during the year, as discussed in paragraph 7.3 to the report.**

7.2.1.2 Capital Programme Update 2023/24 to 2025/26 (Annex 2)

Consideration was given to a report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder which provided an update on the Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2025/26.

The update included a summary of progress of the existing 2023/24 Capital Programme and included forecast changes to its timescale and total cost.

Proposals for new capital schemes recommended to be added to the Capital Programme over the period 2023/24 to 2024/25 were also included. The total cost of new projects recommended for inclusion in the Capital Programme was £2.009M. After taking into account external funding and contributions from reserves, the net cost of these bids is £259,000.

Having considered the options and for the reasons set out in the report, the recommendations were proposed by Councillor Flood, seconded by Councillor P North and Cabinet agreed to the following:

Recommended to Council:

- 1. That the new capital schemes with a total cost of £2,009,000, as shown in Annex 2 to the report, be added to the 2023/24 to 2025/26 Capital Programme.**
- 2. That the revised estimates and financing for the 2023/24 to 2025/26 Capital Programme, as shown in Annex 1 to the report, be approved.**

7.2.2 Cabinet – 20 December 2023

7.2.2.1 Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25 (Annex 3)

Consideration was given to a report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder which set out the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme for the forthcoming 2024/25 financial year.

The cost-of-living crisis has affected households throughout the borough. CTS is one way that the Council can offer support in the form of a discount from the full impact of Council Tax.

Due to the volatility in the wider economy at this time, it is recommended that a continuation of the current CTS scheme, updated to take account of latest regulations, be approved.

Having considered the options and for the reasons set out in the report, the recommendations were proposed by Councillor Flood, seconded by Councillor P North and Cabinet agreed to the following:

Recommended to Council:

- 1. That the Council Tax Support scheme for 2024/25, as shown in the Annex to the report, be approved.**
- 2. That the Head of Finance and Revenues, in consultation with the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder, be authorised to make any necessary changes to the Scheme that are required by the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) Regulations 2024 when they are confirmed by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.**
- 3. In the event that any new government initiatives are introduced that result in receipt of a grant or an increase in Universal Credit or other government benefits, that the Head of Finance and Revenues, in consultation with the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder, be authorised to disregard these awards as income in accordance with government guidelines.**

7.2.2.2 Authority to Spend for New Theatre/Cultural Hub Architectural Services (Annex 4)

Consideration was given to the report of the Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships (North) Portfolio Holder and the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder which sought approval of the funding which would enable the Council to commit up to £3.74M of expenditure on architectural and technical services relating to the delivery of a new theatre and cultural hub in Andover Town Centre.

In November 2023 the Council was notified that it had been successful in being awarded funding of £18.3M from the Government's Levelling Up Fund (LUF), the majority of which would be used to deliver the new theatre and cultural hub. It was expected that the full costs of the works would be rechargeable to the LUF funding.

Having considered the options and for the reasons set out in the report, the recommendations were proposed by Councillor Flood, seconded by Councillor P North and Cabinet agreed to the following:

Recommended to Council:

- 1. That £3.74M be added to the Capital Programme to deliver the project outlined in the report, to be funded from the Capital Receipts Reserve.**
- 2. That the transfer of £1M to the Capital Receipts Reserve for the reasons set out in paragraphs 7.4 and 7.5 of the report, be approved.**