

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
<b>Report Subject</b>	Council Fund Revenue Budget 2020/21 Stage Three Post-Settlement
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive and Corporate Finance Manager

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Council has received full reports on stages one and two of the budget setting process at its December and January meetings.

In December, Council noted the updated budget forecast for 2020/21 and the completed first stage of solutions to meet the budget requirement for the year prior to the receipt of the Provisional Local Government Settlement.

Council considered the Stage 2 report at its meeting on 28 January where it received an update on the latest local forecast for 2020/21, an assessment of the Provisional Local Government Settlement and an update of the completed work on the limited options to balance the budget alongside the open risks that the Council will need to consider for 2021/22 and beyond.

Cabinet received a report on the Council Fund Budget 2020/21 at its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 which sets out how the Council can achieve a legal and balanced budget for stage three of the budget setting process. The calculations are based on a maximum annual Council Tax rise of 5%. This report is attached as Appendix A.

Cabinet's resolution for balancing the budget will be provided to Members following the meeting in advance of the Council meeting.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1	That the Council approves the recommendations of Cabinet for balancing the budget for 2020/21.
2	That Council approves the level of Council Tax for 2020/21 as recommended by Cabinet.

## **REPORT DETAILS**

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE CURRENT POSITION – BALANCING THE BUDGET FOR 2020/21</b>
1.01	The Council has received full reports on stages one and two of the budget setting process at its December and January meetings.
1.02	Members will be aware that this budget process has been an inclusive one, which has built on the work carried out by the Cross-party Working Group on Local Government Finance which met between April and June 2019.
1.03	From the initial All Member workshop in the summer, Council has been updated on the financial forecast for 2020/21 throughout the year. An update on the latest forecast together with the outcome of the Provisional Settlement was submitted on 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2020.
1.04	The work in hand to balance the budget is complete and Cabinet considered the position needed to reach a balanced budget at its meeting on 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2020. The report is attached as Appendix A,
1.05	Cabinet’s resolution for balancing the budget will be provided to Members following the meeting in advance of the Council meeting and a presentation on the budget will be made to Council.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	As contained within the report to Cabinet of 18 February 2020 which is attached.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	As contained within the report to Cabinet of 18 February 2020 which is attached.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	As contained within the report to Cabinet of 18 February 2020 which is attached.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix A – Cabinet Report 18 February 2020

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	As included in the Cabinet Report 18 February 2020

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Colin Everett, Chief Executive Gary Ferguson, Corporate Finance Manager <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702271 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk">gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	As set out in the attached report.