

<p style="text-align: center;">RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL (THE LEADER – COUNCILLOR NIMMO-SMITH)</p>
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1. **GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL FINAL OUTTURN FOR 2003/04 AND BUDGET CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS** (*see also Record of Decision 04/STR/23 and Strategy Scrutiny Committee Minute*)

The Strategy Scrutiny Committee (19 July 2004) considered a report of the Director of Finance which gave the final revenue income and spend position for 2003/04 financial year and provided the carry forward requests into 2004/05 for the services under the Leader's portfolio and of other Executive Councillors. The Director of Finance amended the figure for the Regulatory Reform Order Initiative from £2,200 to £4,100 which in turn altered the reserves figure quoted in the report to £290,480. The net effect on outturn position is shown in Appendix A.

Accordingly, Council is RECOMMENDED

- 1) To approve the changes to carry forward requests, with a corresponding net reduction in use of reserves of £9,040, so that the final carry forward requests as shown in Appendix C are fully funded.
- 2) To fund capital scheme overspends in 2003/04 of £68,000 and to bring forward resources to fund rephased capital spending of £74,000 from 2004/05 into 2003/04, as detailed in Appendix B.

2. **MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY 2004/05-2008/09** (*see also Record of Decision 04/STR/24 and Strategy Scrutiny Committee Minute*)

<p><i>N.B. An updated copy of the Medium Term Strategy has been sent to Members of the Council with the Council Agenda.</i></p>

The Strategy Scrutiny Committee considered the Medium Term Strategy which sets out the Council's budgetary framework 2004-2009.

Accordingly, Council is RECOMMENDED:

A - Revenue (General Fund)

- 1) To agree the budget strategy and process for the 2005/06 budget cycle as outlined in section 13 [paragraphs 13.1 to 13.35 refer] and Appendix O of the MTS document.

In particular:-

- a) that the net General Fund budget (after use of reserves) be limited to £15,885,450 at this stage [paragraph 13.19 refers];

b) that the adjusted gross expenditure , for the purpose of calculating committee cash limits, should exclude in-term contractual / agreement obligations (IT and the Swimming Service contracts); as identified in paragraphs 13.12 to 13.17.

2) To agree the revised General Fund revenue, funding and reserves projections as shown in Appendix G, and the associated decisions in section 8, of the MTS document. Specifically:-

Priority Policy Fund

a) To agree to funding of £500,000 per annum commencing in 2005/06. [Paragraphs 8.31 to 8.34 refer].

New Revenue Approvals

a) To agree the inclusion of the unavoidable items identified in the MTS [paragraph 8.75 and Table 12 refers] and new bids [paragraph 8.76 and Table 13 refers]

3) To authorise the Director of Finance to calculate final cash limits for committees based on the decisions taken in this report, based on the method shown in Appendix P.

B - Revenue (HRA)

To express support for the HRA budget process and strategy as outlined in Section 13 and Appendix H.

C - Capital

To agree the revised Capital Plan as shown in Appendix K [paragraphs 12.9 to 12.11 also refer], and the funding as shown in Appendix J [paragraphs 12.5 to 12.8 also refer] of the MTS document.

To approve the inclusion of unavoidable items relating to additional domestic refuse and recycling rounds in 2005/06 [paragraph 11.7 and Table 16 refer].

D - Treasury Management

To approve the changes to the Counterparty List being recommended to Council [paragraph 6.10 and Appendix C refer].