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REPORT TO COUNCIL

Title: BUDGET - 2022/23

Report of: CLERK

Date: 18th November 2021

SUMMARY:

To set the budget and precept for the financial year 2022/23.

Budget 2022/23

The Council is required to set its budget and determine the precept by the end of November. The attached document gives the estimated out-turn for 2021/2022 and a proposed budget for 2022/2023, based on current outgoings.

Budget 2021/22 - Forecast Out turn

As you will see from the attached budget monitoring form, total projected outlay for financial year 2021/22 is anticipated to be £10,596.65 which is a predicted overspend of £3537.05. This overspend is due to placing an order for benches as part of the Restart Communities Scheme and the installation of a new path in Cargo. However it should be noted that a VAT reclaim for £460.66 (to date) will be submitted and an application for funding from Carlisle City Council's Restart Communities Grant will also be claimed back for £2202.32 which will reduce the anticipated overspend to £874.07

Budget 2022/23 - Proposed Budget

To maintain service levels as they are, the proposed budget for 2022/23 is £10,247.00 which is an increase of 4% for inflation (Bank of England forecast for inflation is 4% @ 01/04/2022).

Increasing the Precept by 4%

The council has the option of raising the precept to £10,247.00 to allow for the 4% increase in inflation or of drawing the additional £874.07 from reserves and keeping the precept at £9853.

Anticipated Financial Reserve Levels as of 1st April 2021

The Clerk estimates that on the 31st March 2022, the Council will hold reserves of approximately £11732.76 unless additional monies from reserve are spent on projects between November and the end of the financial year.

ACTIONS

The Council is asked to consider the attached budget and determine the following:-

- To accept the proposed budget for 2022/23;
- To approve the transfer of funds from reserve to cover any additional spend as and when required to ensure any shortfall is covered.
- To determine the level of precept to be set and if this is to be financed through an increase in precept or by drawing down on reserves.