

REPORT TO:	Scrutiny & Overview Committee 21 July 2022
SUBJECT:	OPENING THE BOOKS – RETURNING THE COUNCIL TO FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY
LEAD MEMBER:	Councillor Jason Cummings Cabinet Member for Finance
LEAD OFFICER	Jane West, Corporate Director of Resources (Section 151)
PUBLIC/EXEMPT:	Public

ORIGIN OF ITEM:	Scrutiny of the work to right size the Council’s budget is an ongoing priority for the Scrutiny & Overview Committee.
BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE:	The Scrutiny and Overview Committee is asked: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the Cabinet report considered by the Executive Mayor at the meeting on 6 July 2022. 2. To consider whether there are any concerns not highlighted in the report, that should be highlighted to the Executive Mayor and his Cabinet. 3. To consider whether there should be any changes required to the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2022-23 as a result of this item.

1. OPENING THE BOOKS – RETURNING THE COUNCIL TO FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- 1.1. At the Cabinet meeting held on 6 July 2022 the Executive Mayor, Jason Perry, agreed the recommendations set out in the Cabinet report, attached at Appendix A.
- 1.2. This report is presented to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee to provide an overview of the current challenges facing the 2022-23 budget and the work being undertaken to address these challenges.
- 1.3. The Committee is asked to consider whether the information provided gives reassurance that the delivery of the budget is being effectively managed and whether there are any further concerns that should be highlighted to the Administration.
- 1.4. At present, scrutiny of the Council’s Budget is one of the main areas of focus in the Scrutiny Work Programme. The Committee is asked to considered whether any changes are needed as a result of the information provided.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Cabinet Report – Opening the Books – Returning the Council to Financial Sustainability