


**REPORT TO**

**BUDGET AND CORPORATE  
SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**7 July 2020**

<b>Subject:</b>	Council Budget Update
<b>Cabinet Portfolio:</b>	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Core Services and Inclusive Economic Growth
<b>Director:</b>	Rebecca Maher, Interim S151 Officer
<b>Contribution towards Vision 2030:</b>	
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b>	Alex Goddard <a href="mailto:alexander_goddard@sandwell.gov.uk">alexander_goddard@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

**DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Scrutiny Management Board:**

1. Consider the information presented to the meeting in relation to the Council's budget;
2. Identify any recommendations it wishes to make in relation to the information presented to it.

**1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 18 June 2020, the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board requested an update report on the Council's budget following the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.2 Government guidance around funding is currently awaited and an up to date position will be presented to the Board at the meeting.

## **2 IMPLICATIONS FOR VISION 2030**

- 2.1 The Council's sound financial management, which is strengthened through the Scrutiny Management Board's consideration of budget-related reports, underpins all of the ambitions within the Vision for the borough.

## **3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant financial impact on the current financial position of the council. This has been in the form of both additional expenditure and a loss of income from various sources.
- 3.2 The situation around COVID-19, and the Government's response to meet it, is changing frequently and guidance is awaited in relation to funding to meet the financial impact of the pandemic.

## **4 THE CURRENT POSITION**

- 4.1 An update based on the most up to date Government guidance and statements will be provided at the meeting.

## **5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)**

- 5.1 No consultation has been carried out in relation to this matter.

## **6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS.**

- 6.1 If the Scrutiny Management Board does not consider this matter then any potential recommendations and associated improvements may not be identified.

## **7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 These will be addressed in the presentation to the meeting.

## **8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 The Local Government Act 2003 places a requirement on local authorities to provide Members with regular financial monitoring. In Sandwell there is an established practice of budget monitoring and outturn reports to be reported to Scrutiny; this report is in addition to that regular reporting.

## **9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 9.1 An equality impact assessment is not required for this report.

**10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

10.1 A data protection impact assessment is not required for this report.

**11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

11.1 A crime and disorder and risk assessment is not required for this report.

**12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS**

12.1 The Council's budget is fundamental in providing sustainable services to the residents of the borough.

**13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)**

13.1 There are no specific health and wellbeing implications of this report.

**14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND**

14.1 There are no specific impacts on Council-managed property or land of this report.

**Rebecca Maher**  
**Interim S151 Officer**