

Bolsover District Council

Executive

24th April 2017

Update on Efficiency Plan

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Commercial Development and Efficiencies

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- At its meeting on 3rd October 2016 Executive agreed an Efficiency Plan on behalf of Bolsover District Council. That Efficiency Plan now needs to be updated in the light of the revised budgets and financial forecasts provided in the Medium Term Financial Plan approved by the Council in February 2017.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The Efficiency Plan is concerned with identifying and delivering the financial savings that are required in order to balance the Council's budget over the period of the current MTFP ending in March 2021. While some progress has already been made in addressing the position set out within the MTFP the Council is required to identify underlying savings in its net revenue expenditure estimated to amount to some £1.8m by March 2021.
- 1.2 The Efficiency Plan itself is essentially a strategic document which will be supported by a range of more detailed plans and programmes designed to deliver against the Growth and the Transformation agenda. These more detailed packages of actual measures will be considered by Executive or full Council as appropriate as part of the ongoing development and delivery of the transformation programme.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The Efficiency Plan is a corporate document linked to the Medium Term Financial Plan. Accordingly it needs to be amended at least twice a year in order to ensure that the information – which is available on the website – remains up to date. The attached Appendix updates the current approved Efficiency Plan, while providing a strategic framework against which to progress the Growth and Transformation agenda which are central to the Council's Plans for addressing the ongoing reduction in the level of central government funding.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

- 3.1 There are no issues arising directly from this report.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 The Council accepted the Government’s offer of greater certainty over the level of resources for the period to 2020/21, in return for which it was required to publish an Efficiency Plan. Given that the Efficiency Plan is published on the Council’s website it is important that it is an up to date document and remains in line with the position set out in the MTFP. This helps promote public confidence that appropriate arrangements are in place for ensuring effective financial and wider management of the Council.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

These are covered throughout the report and the attached Appendix. The key issue for Executive to note is that the Council needs to address a forecast underlying financial deficit of £1.8m by March 2021. With regard to Risk one of the key issues identified on the Council’s Strategic Risk Register is that of ensuring that the Council is able to secure the financial savings necessary to balance its revenue budget. This report and the attached Efficiency Plan are key steps in ensuring that the Council delivers a balanced budget whilst mitigating the potential impact on the quality of services provided by the Council.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

There are no issues arising directly from this report.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

There are no issues arising directly from this report.

6 Recommendations

6.1 That Executive;

(i) note the report and agree that the updated Efficiency Plan (attached as Appendix 1 to this report), be published on the Council’s website and

(ii) request that a further update report concerning the detailed proposals underpinning the Efficiency Plan be brought back to a future meeting.

7 Decision Information

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? (A Key Decision is one which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)</p>	<p>No</p>
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District Wards Affected	Not Directly
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	Effective financial management underpins the effective operation of the Council and its ability to secure all of the Corporate Plan priorities.

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Bolsover District Council Efficiency Plan.
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	

Report Author	Contact Number
Executive Director Operations	2431
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