

Report to:	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee
Date:	3 November 2022
Title:	Interim Medium-term Financial Strategy 2023/24 - 2026/27
Report of:	Homira Javadi, Chief Finance Officer
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of Cabinet report:	To agree the updated General Fund budget and updated Medium Term Financial Strategy, together with the updated Capital Programme position.
Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:	<p>(1) note the updated MTFs forecasts and the requirement to identify additional savings of £2.2 million for the period 2023/24 to 2026/27, but also note that this forecast could change significantly based upon outcome of future government funding settlements, the ongoing impact of the pandemic, demand for services and inflationary pressures upon the Council;</p> <p>(2) note that at this stage a forecast £1.8 million of savings are required to balance the 2023/24 budget; and</p> <p>(3) note the planned review of earmarked reserves and reallocate in line with the emerging risks where possible.</p>
Recommendations to the Committee	The recommendations are detailed at 1.3 of this report
Reasons for recommendations to the Committee:	To provide a critical friend challenge to the Cabinet decision and policy making process.
Contact Officer(s):	Name: Nick Peeters Post title: Committee Officer E-mail: nick.peeters@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 01323 415272

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In its role as a provider of public scrutiny and as critical friend, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee has a duty to provide a challenge to the executive decision and policy makers.
- 1.2 The Policy and Performance Advisory Committee is able to provide this challenge through the inclusion of the Council's Forward Plan of Decisions as a standing item on each of the Committee's agendas, allowing the Committee to request the inclusion of reports due for consideration by the Cabinet on its

agenda and by asking that the relevant officers, heads of service or directors, attend the Committee meetings and discuss the content of the reports.

1.3 Following consideration of each item, where the Members will be able to ask questions of the relevant officers, heads of service, directors and other stakeholders, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee will provide one of the following three recommendations to the Cabinet:

- 1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; or
- 2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration by the Cabinet of any amendments agreed by Committee; or
- 3) To not support the recommendations in the report and give reasons.

1.4 The Cabinet will be provided with the recommendations from the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when it considers the main report.

2 Financial / Legal / Risk Management / Equality Analysis/ Environmental Sustainability Implications/ Background Papers

2.1 All implications are addressed in the Cabinet report attached at Appendix 1.

- Appendix 1 – **Interim Medium-term Financial Strategy 2023/24 - 2026/27**