



**Clackmannanshire
Council**

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Comhairle Siorrachd
Chlach Mhanann

Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB (Tel.01259-450000)

Meeting of Clackmannanshire Council

Thursday 4 March 2021 at 9.30 am

Via Video Conference (MS Teams)



Clackmannanshire Council

There are 32 Unitary Councils in Scotland. Clackmannanshire Council is the smallest mainland Council. Eighteen Councillors are elected to represent the views of the residents and businesses in Clackmannanshire. The Council has approved Standing Orders that detail the way the Council operates. Decisions are approved at meetings of the full Council and at Committee Meetings.

The Council is responsible for approving a staffing structure for the proper discharge of its functions, approving new policies or changes in policy, community planning and corporate governance including standards of conduct.

The Council has further responsibility for the approval of budgets for capital and revenue expenditure, it also has power to make, alter or cancel any scheme made under statute and to make, alter or cancel any orders, rules, regulations or bye-laws and to make compulsory purchase orders. The Council also determines the level of Council Tax and approves recommendations relating to strategic economic development.

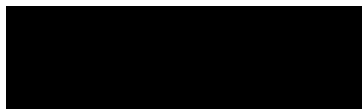
Members of the public are welcome to attend our Council and Committee meetings to see how decisions are made.

Details of all of our Council and Committee dates and agenda items are published on our website at www.clacks.gov.uk

If you require further information about Council or Committee meetings, please contact Committee Services by e-mail at committees@clacks.gov.uk or by telephone on 01259 452006 or 452004.

24 February 2021

A MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL will be held via VIDEO CONFERENCE (MS TEAMS), on THURSDAY 4 MARCH 2021 at 9.30 AM.



**NIKKI BRIDLE
Chief Executive**

B U S I N E S S

	Page No.
1. Apologies	--
2. Declaration of Interests Elected Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any financial or non-financial interest which they may have in any item on this agenda in accordance with the Councillors' Code of Conduct. A Declaration of Interest form should be completed and passed to the Committee Services Officer.	--
3. Confirm Minute of Meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on Thursday 11 February 2021 (Copy herewith)	05
4. Committee/Forum/Board Meetings Convened Since the Previous Council Meeting on 11 February 2021 - None	--
5. Committee Recommendations Referred to Council – report by Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive (Copy herewith)	09
6. Be the Future Update – report by Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive (Copy herewith)	13
7. Council Tax Setting 2021/22 – report by the Chief Finance Officer (Copy herewith)	21

Clackmannanshire Council – Councillors and Wards

Councillors

Wards

Provost	Tina Murphy	1	Clackmannanshire West	SNP
Councillor	Darren Lee	1	Clackmannanshire West	CONS
Councillor	George Matchett, QPM	1	Clackmannanshire West	LAB
Councillor	Les Sharp	1	Clackmannanshire West	SNP
Councillor	Donald Balsillie	2	Clackmannanshire North	SNP
Councillor	Martha Benny	2	Clackmannanshire North	CONS
Councillor	Dave Clark	2	Clackmannanshire North	LAB
Councillor	Helen Lewis	2	Clackmannanshire North	SNP
Councillor	Jane McTaggart	3	Clackmannanshire Central	SNP
Councillor	Derek Stewart	3	Clackmannanshire Central	LAB
Councillor	Mike Watson	3	Clackmannanshire Central	CONS
Councillor	Chris Dixon	4	Clackmannanshire South	IND
Councillor	Kenneth Earle	4	Clackmannanshire South	LAB
Councillor	Ellen Forson	4	Clackmannanshire South	SNP
Councillor	Craig Holden	4	Clackmannanshire South	SNP
Councillor	Graham Lindsay	5	Clackmannanshire East	SNP
Councillor	Kathleen Martin	5	Clackmannanshire East	LAB
Councillor	Dennis Coyne	5	Clackmannanshire East	CON



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held via MS Teams, on
THURSDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2021 at 9.30 am.**

PRESENT

Provost Tina Murphy (In the Chair)
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Dave Clark
Councillor Denis Coyne
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Ellen Forson
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor Darren Lee
Councillor Helen Lewis
Councillor Graham Lindsay
Councillor Kathleen Martin
Councillor George Matchett
Councillor Jane McTaggart
Councillor Les Sharp
Councillor Derek Stewart
Councillor Mike Watson

IN ATTENDANCE

Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive
Pete Leonard, Strategic Director (Place)
Stuart Crickmar, Strategic Director (Partnership & Performance)
Lorraine Sanda, Strategic Director (People)
Chris Alliston, Senior Manager (Partnership & Performance)
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer
Elizabeth Hutcheon, Team Leader, Management & Accountancy, (Partnership & Performance)
Michael Hilarion, Senior Manager - Property (Place)
Murray Sharp, Senior Manager - Housing (Place)
Lindsay Thomson, Senior Manager (Partnership & Performance) (Clerk to the Council)
Gillian White, Committee Services (Partnership and Performance)

CC.363 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Chris Dixon.

CC.364 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**CC.365 MINUTE OF MEETING OF CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL
10 DECEMBER 2020**

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 10 December 2020 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 10 December 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

CC.366 COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONVENED SINCE THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING ON 10 DECEMBER 2020

The Council agreed to note the Committee meetings that had taken place since the last ordinary meeting on 10 December 2020.

- (i) Appointments Committees 17 December 2020 and 15 January 2021
- (ii) Local Review Body 21 January 2021
- (iii) Planning Committee 21 January 2021
- (iv) Regulatory Committee 2 February 2021
- (v) Audit Committee 4 February 2021

CC.367 MEMBER APPOINTMENT

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager, Legal and Governance, proposed one change to an external appointment.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

Decision

The Council agreed that Councillor Les Sharp should be appointed as Clackmannanshire Council's representative on CoSLA's Community Wellbeing Board in place of Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Action

Senior Manager, Legal and Governance

CC.368 TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, presented an update of Treasury Management activity for the period to 30th September 2020.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Donald Balsillie.

Decision

Having commented on and challenged the report, the Council agreed to note the report.

CC.369 HOUSING RENT SETTING 2021/22

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place), asked the Council to consider the output from the recent housing rent consultation and sought approval the rent for 2021/22, taking into account the feedback received.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Decision

Having noted the outcome of the consultation, the Council agreed to a one year rent freeze for all council tenants.

Action

Strategic Director (Place)

CC.370 LEARNING ESTATE: PROGRESS REPORT

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Place) and the Strategic Director (People), provided an update on the progress of works on the Council's learning estate and set out immediate next steps for taking forward the strategy that was set out in the paper to Council on 19 December 2019.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Graham Lindsay. Seconded by Councillor Craig Holden.

Decision

The Council agreed to note the report.

The following item of business had been circulated as an exempt report and had been marked as "Not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 6 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973".

The Council resolved in terms of Section 50(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public would not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

CC.371 LEISURE PROVISION IN CLACKMANNANSHIRE

The report, submitted by the Strategic Director (Partnership and Performance), provided an update on the current position with the Alloa Leisure Bowl, including negotiations on the Management Agreement with Wasp Leisure Limited, and developments since the ongoing COVID pandemic outbreak. The report sought agreement to cease leisure provision at Alloa Leisure Bowl and terminate the current Management Agreement and Lease Agreement pending an options paper to be brought to Council.

Motion

That Council agrees the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Craig Holden. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

Procedural Motion

As set out in Standing Order 15.13, the item of business is carried over to the next meeting of Clackmannanshire Council.

Moved by Councillor Dave Clark. Seconded by Councillor Kenneth Earle.

Voting on the procedural motion

For the procedural motion	5 votes
Against the procedural motion	11 votes
Abstain from voting	1 vote

The procedural motion was defeated by 11 votes to 5 with 1 abstention.

Voting on the motion

For the motion	12 votes
Against the motion	5 votes
Abstain from voting	0 votes

The motion was carried by 12 votes to 5 with no abstentions.

Decision

On a division of 12 votes to 5, the Council agreed:

1. To note the progress of negotiations with Wasp Leisure Limited on a short term solution prior to the Covid pandemic, and support provided since March 2020;
2. To note that there are a number of significant Covid-19 and other property issues associated with the Alloa Leisure Bowl facility that need to be addressed in the context of a wider review of leisure provision in Clackmannanshire;
3. To note that the impact of the pandemic on the current operating environment, combined with escalating property costs means that the current leisure operating model and service provision are no longer considered financially sustainable;
4. That current leisure provision from Alloa Leisure Bowl should cease;
5. That officers enter into negotiations with Wasp Leisure Limited to effect termination of the current Management Agreement and Lease Agreement for the Alloa Leisure Bowl;
6. That officers continue to further develop a leisure provisions option appraisal as a matter of priority, with recommendations for sustainable future provision, including access to swimming pool provision for Clackmannanshire in the short and long term;
7. That officers bring an update report and options paper (referred to at 2.7 in the report) back to Council for consideration by 31 March 2021;
8. To note the intended options outlined Table 1 set out in the report; and
9. To note the indicative timetable outlined at Table 2 set out in the report.

Ends: 12:00 noon

Report to: Clackmannanshire Council

Date of Meeting: 4 March 2021

Subject: Committee Recommendations Referred to Council

Report by: Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of recommendations which have been made by the Audit Committees of 3 December, 2020 and 4 February, 2021.
- 1.2. Under the Council's decision-making framework, Council has delegated certain matters to committees and has reserved certain powers. Included in the latter are the approval of main policies and strategies (Scheme of Delegation 3.2), the approval of budgets (Scheme of Delegation 3.19) and the spending of money not budgeted for (Scheme of Delegation 3.20).
- 1.3. Standing Order 8.4 requires that where a Committee passes a report to Council, the full Committee report shall not be included again on the Council agenda and that officers should prepare a brief report that refers to the relevant Committee report and recommendation(s).

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council:
 1. from the **Audit Committee of 3 December, 2020** in relation to the report entitled "*Council Financial Performance 2020/21- August Outturn*"
 - a) Approves the additional capital budget of £0.100m to support the Bowmar Regeneration project as set out in para 6.4 and 6.5 of the report
 2. from the **Audit Committee of 4 February, 2021** in relation to the report entitled "*Council Financial Performance - October Outturn*"
 - (a) Approves a virement within the General Fund Capital budget for learning estate projects as set out in paragraph 6.4 of the report.

3. from the **Audit Committee of 4 February, 2021** in relation to the report entitled “*Audit Committee Forward Plan 2021/22*”

(a) Approves the forward plan as set out at Appendix 1 in the report.

2.2 The reports relating to Audit Committees are available on the Council's website.

3.0 Sustainability Implications

3.1. N/A

4.0 Resource Implications

4.1. *Financial Details*

4.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes

4.3. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes

4.4. *Staffing*

5.0 Exempt Reports

5.1. Is this report exempt? No

6.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and ensure fair opportunities for all

Our families; children and young people will have the best possible start in life

Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve their full potential

Our communities will be resilient and empowered so that they can thrive and flourish

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

7.0 Equalities Impact

7.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes No

8.0 Legality

8.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

9.0 Appendices

9.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None.

10.0 Background Papers

10.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes (please list the documents below) No

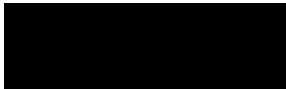
a) Agenda, together with Minute of the Audit Committee of 3 December, 2020

b) Agenda, together with Minute of the Audit Committee of 4 February, 2021

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Nikki Bridle	Chief Executive	452002

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Nikki Bridle	Chief Executive	

Report to: Clackmannanshire Council

Date of Meeting: 4 March 2021

Subject: Be the Future Update

Report by: Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress achieved in relation to key activities outlined in the Council's Be the Future Programme. This report has a specific focus in respect of ongoing activity and developments in relation to the Workforce Programme. Additional updates are also provided in respect of the immediate priorities for the Strategic Director (Transformation) and a recent Bid to the Scottish Government's Regional Recovery and Renewal Fund.

2.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that Council notes:

- 2.1 Progress in establishing the Project Management office under the leadership of the fixed term Strategic Director (Transformation) (paragraph 3.4)
- 2.2 Plans to review internal officer governance structures in support of the Be the Future Board (paragraph 3.3)
- 2.3 Recent Transformation project updates presented to the Be the Future Board (paragraph 3.5)
- 2.4 Progress with the Workforce Programme of transformation activity (section 4)
- 2.5 Specific workforce development initiative updates set out in paragraph 4.4
- 2.6 Bids totalling £152k submitted to the Regional Recovery and Renewal Fund (paragraph 5.3)
- 2.7 Discussions with Scottish Government to explore potential support to implement the Community Wealth Building action plan priorities agreed by Council in December 2020 (paragraph 5.4).

3.0 Be the Future Programme Capacity

3.1 The fixed term Strategic Director (Transformation) joined the Council on 1 March 2021. This post is being funded for an 18 month period following the decision of Council on the 22 October 2020. The post was requested to:

- provide greater corporate resilience across response and recovery work
- support the development of specific priority transformation proposals
- create additional resilience and cover in respect of deputising arrangements for both the Chief Executive (as nominated deputy) and Strategic Directors.

3.2 This role provides critical additional capacity which aims to sustain and accelerate momentum in respect of the Council's Transformation activity. The SD (Transformation) will work in partnership with peers to deliver priority activities. It is envisaged, operational demands permitting, that the SD (Transformation) will focus mainly on evaluating and progressing many current active strands of transformation work as well as ensuring that this is fully integrated within a systematic and coherent programme of activity which is supported by appropriate member and officer governance arrangements.

3.3 Governance arrangements will be reviewed and refreshed as the Be the Future Programme moves from the 'planning' to 'doing' phase. Member governance is already provided through the cross-party Be the Future Board. It is proposed that the SD (Transformation) provides proposals for a robust aligned internal governance arrangement for senior management to ensure the smooth review and flow of business to the cross-party Be the Future Board.

3.4 Recruitment processes are currently ongoing in respect of a number of key Project Management Office (PMO) posts previously approved by Council. These resources will embed the centrally managed PMO under the SD (Transformation) leadership. Resources include: Project Managers, Business analysts, Communications, Funding Officer and PMO Administrative Support. The SD (Transformation) will work in partnership with peer SDs to maximise the effectiveness of matrix managed arrangements with those services developing specific proposals.

3.5 On the 9 February 2020, at the most recent meeting of the Be the Future Board, a range of updates on priority projects were presented. This highlighted that good progress has continued to be made, notwithstanding the ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic. It also highlighted the potential and appetite for further innovation, which can be harnessed and expedited as a consequence of the additional leadership capacity and focus provided by the SD (Transformation). The following key updates were presented:

- Secondary Curriculum
- STRIVE
- Police co-location
- People and Place Collaborative

- Wellbeing Economy and Community Wealth Building
- Digital Transformation.

4.0 Workforce Programme Update

- 4.1 This section of the report provides an update on the Council's Workforce Programme, which has been progressing in support of embedding a shared understanding, and commitment to the Council's vision, values, and ongoing transformation. By way of reminder, the Workforce Programme consolidates and integrates recovery, support, and transformation activity previously set out in the Council's Strategic Workforce Plan, Organisational Redesign Plan, and COVID-19 Recovery Plan. It is a dynamic programme of work, which draws in aspects of priority workforce development requirements as they arise (such as with the outputs of recent work in relation to Community Wealth Building).
- 4.2 The Workforce Programme is governed via the Workforce Programme Board, which has met twice since the initial update on the programme to Council in October 2020. In support of progressing projects, scoping documents have been issued so as to provide clarity on intended outputs, and to assist with identifying project scope, stakeholders, risks, and resource requirements. Additionally, and as part of wider engagement processes, Trade Union representatives have been sought for individual project areas (so as to provide engagement on project detail, rather than programme level updates), for example with the Health Working Lives Group, and the revision of the corporate induction process.
- 4.3 The current status of projects within the Workforce Programme is summarised as follows:
- 17 of 34 projects have been completed.
 - 14 of 34 projects are ongoing.
 - 3 of 34 projects have been revised due to the COVID pandemic and are now overdue.
- 4.4 In progressing the programme, capacity of staff both to lead on, and undertake more detailed project work continues to be a challenge which the Workforce Programme Board seeks to monitor and manage. This challenge is mainly as a result of the level of work required in supporting the ongoing COVID recovery across all Council directorates. In order to assist with these challenges, the recruitment of an Assistant Learning and Development Advisor, as approved by Council on the 22 October 2020 has been progressed.
- 4.5 As part of recognising the valuable and positive workforce development initiatives which have been undertaken to date, Council are asked to note the following updates:

- **Virtual Wellbeing Week:** In January of this year the Council hosted its first virtual wellbeing week, aimed at supporting mental health and general wellbeing during what is recognised as one of the more challenging winter months, and as part of ongoing support due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Via a blend of internal and external events, staff had access to 15 separate sessions including mindfulness workshops, self-care masterclasses and fitness sessions.
- **Wellbeing Toolkit:** Allied to the Wellbeing Week, our Health and Safety, Communications, and Training staff members developed and launched a new staff wellbeing toolkit, designed as a quick reference guide to supporting mental health and wellbeing during the pandemic. Launched Council wide in January, the toolkit has also been printed so as to ensure access for those non-office based members of staff.
- **Leadership Development:** In light of the significant changes to our workplace, and the rapid and evolving shift in our workplace culture, Officers have undertaken work to develop our approach to leadership development in collaboration with the open market. By using a Prior Information Notice (PIN) approach as part of the procurement journey, over the course of February Officers hosted virtual meetings in order to discuss how potential suppliers may be able to offer innovative solutions to leadership development which are relevant to the Be the Future programme, and set the conditions for transformational change required within our organisation. Specifically, Council is asked to note that this collaborative approach to procurement prior to a formal tender process has not only allowed for a highly contextualised and relevant tender process to be undertaken in 2021, but has also been warmly welcomed by external suppliers, many of whom have commented positively both on the willingness of the Council to collaborate and engage at an early stage, and on the amount of relevant and timely information provided to assist with future tenders.
- **Promoting Good Conversations Programme:** As part of wider development for managers, Officers have worked in collaboration with Forth Valley College in order to utilise and realise best value from the Scottish Government's Flexible Workforce Development Fund. As a result, funding has been confirmed for five further cohorts of a bespoke management development programme (Promoting Good Conversations) within 2021/22, offering development opportunities for managers which seek to address some of the important workplace changes, and working styles which the pandemic has created.
- **Staff Survey:** As part of the Workforce Programme, and as a continuation to both the staff wide surveys of 2018, 2019, and COVID Wellbeing Survey of May 2020, Officers undertook a further Staff Wide Survey in December 2020. In addition to gauging wider staff engagement with the organisation, the survey also sought specific feedback around the themes of staff wellbeing, homeworking arrangements, and communication with staff. With tabular results

received in January, full reporting will be provided to Council once a comprehensive analysis has been undertaken by our independent survey providers.

- **Community Wealth Building:** As previously noted, the Workforce Programme is a dynamic programme of activity, whereby any priority workforce developments can be subsumed so as to provide oversight, governance, and to ensure that intended outputs or outcomes are achieved. As such, the workforce development requirements arising from the recent Community Wealth Building report for Clackmannanshire Council have been included within the Workforce Programme, with a scoping document being issued to the project lead for completion. At a high level, this will include the provision of community wealth building training, and through annual workshops which staff can take part in.

5.0 Regional Recovery and Renewal Fund

5.1 On the 12 February 2020, an offer of additional revenue funding for 2020/21 was received from the Scottish Government. This funding is being provided to every region in Scotland and is required to be spent during the current financial year.

5.2 The Regional Recovery and Renewal Fund aims to ensure that sustainable recovery progresses at pace. Forth Valley (Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Stirling Councils) has been allocated up to £155k from the Fund which can be used for any/all of the following purposes:

- accelerating delivery of City Region/Growth Deal investment
- Community Wealth Building
- Regional Recovery Planning.

There is also the potential to indicate additional qualifying expenditure that the Region could spend in excess of the £115k by 31 March 2021.

5.3 On 19 February 2021, the Council submitted bids, totalling £152k for the purpose of advancing key City Region Deal and Community Wealth Building activities whilst noting that this is of course subject to the evaluation of Forth Valley wide aggregated bids.

5.4 In parallel with these discussions, the Council Leader and Chief Executive are currently engaged in discussions with Scottish Government as part of the business of the newly developing (4 February 2020) Community Wealth Building Working Group. As part of these engagements, the Council Leader and Chief Executive are exploring with Scottish Government, the potential for support to advance a number of priority actions from the Community Wealth Building report agreed by Council in December 2020.

6.0 Sustainability Implications

6.1 N/A

7.0 Resource Implications

7.1 *Financial Details*

7.2 The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes

7.3 Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes X

7.4 *Staffing*

8.0 Exempt Reports

8.1 Is this report exempt? No

9.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and ensure fair opportunities for all

Our families; children and young people will have the best possible start in life

Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve their full potential

Our communities will be resilient and empowered so that they can thrive and flourish

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

10.0 Equalities Impact

10.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations? Yes No

11.0 Legality

- 11.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

12.0 Appendices

- 12.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None.

13.0 Background Papers

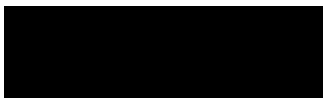
- 13.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes (please list the documents below) No

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Nikki Bridle	Chief Executive	452002

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Nikki Bridle	Chief Executive	

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Report to Clackmannanshire Council

Date of Meeting: 4 March 2021

Subject: Council Tax Setting 2021/22

Report by: Chief Finance Officer

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to agree the level of Council Tax for the 2021/22 financial year.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Council:
- 2.1.1 agrees to set the level of Council Tax for 2021/22 in advance of approving the General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget for 2021/22;
- 2.1.2 agrees the level of Council Tax for 2021/22 at the same level as 2020/21, resulting in Band D Council tax of £1,304.63, and
- 2.1.3 notes that a full General Fund Revenue and Capital budget will be presented to Council by 31 March 2021.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Council has a legal duty to set its Council Tax by 11th March each year. In doing so it must consider all relevant financial information available at that time.
- 3.2 On 28 January 2021, the Scottish Government released its draft budget containing the draft settlement for local authorities (Finance Circular 1/2021). This budget is then subject to a parliamentary process with the final local government settlement due to be approved on 10th March 2021.
- 3.3 Due to the level of information available at this time and in order to meet the statutory deadline for setting Council Tax, it is recommended that the Council set its Council Tax separately from the General Fund Revenue Budget.
- 3.4 By agreeing the council tax level ahead of the General Fund Revenue budget this allows Clackmannanshire residents to have certainty over their Council Tax bills for the coming year and for the Council to comply with the statutory deadline.

4.0 Council Tax Charges 2021/22

- 4.1 Within the draft Local Government Settlement, the Scottish Government have offered financial compensation to Councils who choose to freeze their Council Tax at 2020/21 levels.
- 4.2 This compensation amounts to £90m for all Councils across Scotland and equates to an approximate 3% increase in council tax income for individual Councils. For Clackmannanshire this means that the financial planning assumption of an increase in Council Tax of 3% will be fully funded.
- 4.3 It is therefore proposed that the Council agrees to set its Council Tax level at the same level as 2020/21. For Clackmannanshire Council residents, this results in a Band D Council Tax of £1,304.63 for 2021/22 (2020/21 £1,304.63). Full details of the Council Tax Band Charges are set out in the table below.

Table 1 – Council Tax charges for 2021/22

Valuation Band	Council Tax Charge 2021/22
A - Disabled	£724.79
A - upto £27,000	£869.75
B - £27,001 to £35,000	£1,014.71
C - £35,001 to £45,000	£1,159.67
D - £45,001 to £58,000	£1,304.63
E - £58,001 to £80,000	£1,714.14
F - £80,001 to £106,000	£2,120.02
G - £106,001 to £212,000	£2,554.89
H - over £212,000	£3,196.34

- 4.4 At present there is no confirmation that the additional £90m will be baselined. If this is not baselined then this would put pressure on the Councils funding gap in future years which may require higher increases in Council Tax.
- 4.5 The figures provided in Table 1 above set out the proposed Council Tax Charges. In addition to these charges included within the annual council tax bills, are charges for Water and Sewerage which are set by Scottish Water. These charges are set independently of the Council and will be subject to inflationary increases as set by Scottish Water.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 Council is asked to agree that Council Tax rates will remain at the same level as 2020/21 and that a full General Fund Revenue and Capital budget will be presented to Council prior to 31 March 2021.

6.0 Sustainability Implications

6.1. There are no sustainability implications from this report.

7.0 Resource Implications

7.1. *Financial Details*

7.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. **Yes**

7.3. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. **Yes**

7.4. *Staffing*

There are no Staffing implications arising fro this report.

8.0 Exempt Reports

8.1. Is this report exempt? **No**

9.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) Our Priorities

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and ensure fair opportunities for all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our families; children and young people will have the best possible start in life	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve their full potential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities will be resilient and empowered so that they can thrive and flourish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

Financial Regulations

Scheme of Delegation

10.0 Equalities Impact

10.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations? **Yes**

11.0 Legality

11.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. **Yes**

12.0 Appendices`

12.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None

13.0 Background Papers

13.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered) **Yes**

General Services Revenue Budget 2020/21


Budget Update reports to Council

Finance Circular No 1/2021, January 2021

Author(s)

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Approved by

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