



**REPORT FOR: EMPLOYEES'
CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

Date of Meeting:	29 January 2020
Subject:	INFORMATION REPORT Draft Revenue Budget 2020/21 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21 to 2022/23
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Dawn Calvert – Director of Finance
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Adam Swersky – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	9 th January 2020 Cabinet Report and Appendices for Draft Budget report

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

The Forum is requested to note the report detailing Harrow Council's Draft Revenue Budget 2020/21 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21 to 2022/23, as reported to the Council's Cabinet on 9 January 2020.

The budget and MTFS will return to Cabinet on 13 February 2020 for final approval and recommendation to Council.

Section 2 – Report

The draft budget set out in the attached report shows a refreshed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) with a number of changes which Cabinet were asked to approve and note.

The report shows a balanced budget for 2020/21 and that further work is needed to achieve balanced budgets for 2021/22 and 2022/23.

The draft budget report submitted to Cabinet in January will be subject to further adjustments following the Local Government Financial Settlement, which was announced on 20 December 2019 and this will be reported to Cabinet in February 2020 as part of the Final Budget for 2020/21 and MTFS 2020/21 to 2022/23.

Whilst it is intended that Members will approve the final MTFS up to 2022/23 in February 2020, future year budgets from 2021/22 onwards will be subject to a number of significant changes in relation to the Spending Review 2020, the Fair Funding Review (which will reset the needs baseline for local government) and Business Rates Reform as well as assumptions on council tax income, legislation and demographics. Therefore, Council will still be required to review the Council's budget on a yearly basis.

All adjustments to the draft budget will be reported to Cabinet and Council in February 2020 as part of the setting of the final annual budget and council tax setting process.

Options considered

See attached report.

Further Information

See attached report.

Risk Management Implications

See attached report.

Legal Implications

See attached report.

Financial Implications

See attached report.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

See attached report

Council Priorities

See attached report.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Sharon Daniels



Chief Financial Officer

Date: 21/01/2020

Ward Councillors notified:

NO, as it impacts on all Wards

EqIA carried out:

To be reported on as Part of the Feb Budget report

EqIA cleared by:

n/a

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

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Background Papers: See attached report