

Date of despatch: Thursday, 14 April 2022

To the Members of Slough Borough Council

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of the Council of this Borough which will be held in the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on **Tuesday, 26th April, 2022 at 7.00 pm**, when the business in the Agenda below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours faithfully



GAVIN JONES
Chief Executive

PRAYERS

AGENDA

Apologies for Absence

	<u>PAGE</u>
1. Declarations of Interest	-
<i>All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary or other Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 9 and Appendix B of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed.</i>	
2. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 27th January, 10th March and 11th April 2022	1 - 20
3. To receive the Mayor's Communications.	-

Public Questions

4. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.	-
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Recommendations of Cabinet and Committees

[Notification of Amendments required by 10 a.m. on Monday 25th April]

- | | | |
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| 5. | Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 7th April 2022 | 21 - 40 |
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- Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/2022

Officer Reports

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| 6. | Calendar of Meetings 2022/23 | 41 - 56 |
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Motions

- | | | |
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| 7. | To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14. | 57 - 58 |
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Member Questions

- | | | |
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| 8. | To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 | - |
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Vote of Thanks

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 9. | Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor | - |
| 10. | Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Deputy Mayor | - |

Press and Public

Attendance and accessibility: You are welcome to attend this meeting which is open to the press and public, as an observer. You will however be asked to leave before any items in the Part II agenda are considered. For those hard of hearing an Induction Loop System is available in the Council Chamber.

Webcasting and recording: The public part of the meeting will be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The footage will remain on our website for 12 months. A copy of the recording will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

In addition, the law allows members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record or tweet the proceedings at public meetings. Anyone proposing to do so is requested to advise the Democratic Services Officer before the start of the meeting. Filming or recording must be overt and persons filming should not move around the meeting room whilst filming nor should they obstruct proceedings or the public from viewing the meeting. The use of flash photography, additional lighting or any non hand held devices, including tripods, will not be allowed unless this has been discussed with the Democratic Services Officer.

Emergency procedures: The fire alarm is a continuous siren. If the alarm sounds Immediately vacate the premises by the nearest available exit at either the front or rear of the Chamber and proceed to the assembly point: The pavement of the service road outside of Westminster House, 31 Windsor Road.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Herschel Grammar School, Northampton Avenue, Slough on Thursday, 27th January, 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Nazir), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bal, Bains, Basra, Bedi, Begum, Carter, A Cheema, H Cheema, J Davis, R Davis, Dar, Dhaliwal, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Kelly, Mann, Matloob, Mohammad, Muvvala, D Parmar, S Parmar, Sabah, Sandhu, Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Brooker, Hussain, Malik, Minhas, Pantelic and Qaseem

53. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bal declared that his daughters worked for the Council.

54. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 23rd November 2021 and 18th January 2022

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2021 and extraordinary meetings held on 18th January 2022 be approved as a correct record.

55. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

Members were informed that Maureen Atkinson, former councillor and Mayor of Slough passed away in December. Maureen was a councillor in Kedermister Ward and held the role as the Mayor and first citizen of Slough in 1996/1997.

The Mayor stated that it was Holocaust Memorial Day - which marked 77 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the Council observed a minute silence in memory of former Mayor, Maureen Atkinson and in commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day.

Following the Council's decision at its extraordinary meeting of 18th January to postpone the May 2022 local elections, the Mayor updated the meeting with the response received from the Minister of State for Equalities and Levelling Up Communities. The Council's request was not supported and consequently the local elections would go ahead as planned.

56. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

None received.

57. Recovery Plan Update

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the current position on the Finance Recovery Plan be noted.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and unanimously agreed.

Resolved - That the current position on the Finance Recovery Plan be noted.”

58. Review of the Council's Constitution

It was moved by Councillor Sabah,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- (a) “To adopt a new Article 9 in the form attached at Appendix A
- (b) To adopt Article 9A in the form attached at Appendix B
- (c) To establish a Standards Committee with immediate effect.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and unanimously agreed.

Resolved -

- (a) To adopt a new Article 9 in the form attached at Appendix A
- (b) To adopt Article 9A in the form attached at Appendix B
- (c) To establish a Standards Committee with immediate effect.

59. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

It was moved by Councillor Sabah,
Seconded by Councillor Akram,

“This council believes that more needs to be done to improve the safety of women and girls on our streets. We therefore agree to the following;

- Recommend that the SSP (Safer Slough Partnership) expand their work programme to include community engagement, to pro-actively communicate with women and girls to better understand their needs, challenges and fears within their neighbourhoods and create safe spaces where crime is designed out;
- Engage with our partners, council companies and contractors to establish what more can be done to improve the safety of women and girls in Slough;
- Write to TVP to ask that they review their community engagement/development policies to ensure that they are responsive and incorporate/reflect “real time” community sentiments and feelings, e.g. resistance to a Slough Women’s Vigil following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard;

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- Write to Tan Dhesi MP to request that he speaks on behalf of Slough residents in support of on the 2nd reading of the Hate Crime Misogyny Bill, which seeks to make the motivation by misogyny as an aggravating factor in criminal sentencing. The bill also seeks to require police forces to record hate crimes motivated by misogyny, and for connected purposes;
- Write to the Minister for Equalities, Kemi Badenoch, requesting that the government acknowledges Misogyny as a specific hate crime.
- That Slough Borough Council works toward becoming a White Ribbon Accredited Organisation.”

The motion was put to the vote and unanimously agreed.

Resolved –

This council believes that more needs to be done to improve the safety of women and girls on our streets. We therefore agree to the following;

- Recommend that the SSP (Safer Slough Partnership) expand their work programme to include community engagement, to pro-actively communicate with women and girls to better understand their needs, challenges and fears within their neighbourhoods and create safe spaces where crime is designed out;
- Engage with our partners, council companies and contractors to establish what more can be done to improve the safety of women and girls in Slough;
- Write to TVP to ask that they review their community engagement/development policies to ensure that they are responsive and incorporate/reflect “real time” community sentiments and feelings, e.g. resistance to a Slough Women’s Vigil following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard;
- Write to Tan Dhesi MP to request that he speaks on behalf of Slough residents in support of on the 2nd reading of the Hate Crime Misogyny Bill, which seeks to make the motivation by misogyny as an aggravating factor in criminal sentencing. The bill also seeks to require police forces to record hate crimes motivated by misogyny, and for connected purposes;
- Write to the Minister for Equalities, Kemi Badenoch, requesting that the government acknowledges Misogyny as a specific hate crime.
- That Slough Borough Council works toward becoming a White Ribbon Accredited Organisation.

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60. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10

None received.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7pm and closed at 7.56pm)

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on Thursday, 10th March, 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Nazir), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Anderson, Bal, Bains, Bedi (until 7.30pm), Begum, Brooker, Carter, A Cheema, H Cheema, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Kelly, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Mohammad, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Ali, Basra, J Davis, R Davis, Dar, Dhaliwal, Hussain and Muvvala

61. Mayor's Statement on Ukraine

Referring to recent events in Ukraine, the Mayor expressed that the Council's thoughts were with the Ukrainian people, their family, and friends. Slough had a long and proud history of welcoming people from across the world and supported all the efforts at home and abroad to help those affected by the situation in Ukraine.

The Leader of the Council informed the meeting that following discussions with the Leader of the Conservative Group, it was agreed that the Council would formally concur with the Council of European Municipalities and Regions Statement on Ukraine, as tabled at the meeting.

The Council held a minute's applause in a show of support and solidarity with Ukraine and all other communities affected and displaced by war.

62. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Anderson declared he was a member of Britwell Parish Council

Councillor Bal declared that his daughters worked for the Council.

Councillor Brooker declared that he was Vice-Chair of Britwell Parish Council.

Councillor Avtar Cheema declared she was a member of Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council and Council appointed representative on Berkshire Fire Authority.

Councillor Hulme declared she was a Council appointed representative on Slough Children First Board.

Councillor Kaur declared she was a member of Wexham Court Parish Council.

Councillor Kelly declared he was a member of Buckinghamshire CC and that they had provided SBC with a loan.

Councillor Mann declared she was Chair of Britwell Parish Council.

Councillor Minhas declared she was a Council appointed representative on Berkshire Fire Authority.

Councillor Smith declared he was a member of Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council and a Council appointed representative on Berkshire Fire Authority.

63. Recommendation of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee from its meeting held on 9th December 2021

It was moved by Councillor Sabah,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Council accepts the Public Sector Audit Appointments’ (PSAA) invitation to opt into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors for the five-year period from 2023/24.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved - That the Council accepts the Public Sector Audit Appointments’ (PSAA) invitation to opt into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors for the five-year period from 2023/24.

64. Recommendation of the Employment and Appeals Committee from its meeting held on 16th February 2022

It was moved by Councillor Brooker,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved – That the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved.

65. Meeting Procedure

A suggested procedure for the budget debate had been circulated to Members in the supplementary agenda.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

“That in accordance with procedure rule 27.1, Rule 16.5 on rules of debate be suspended insofar as is necessary to enable the procedure as circulated to be adopted and that the Council consent to:

- Members of the Leadership speaking for up to 45 minutes in total on the budget agenda items;
- Members of the Opposition speaking for up to 20 minutes in total on the same items;
- Independent Member speaking for up to 5 minutes in total, and
- To vary the agenda items, to enable consideration of the Capital Programme first, followed by the Treasury Management Strategy and then the Revenue Budget.”

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The procedural motion, including variation of order of agenda items, was put and carried.

Resolved – That the proposed procedure for the budget debate and variation of order of agenda items be approved and adopted.

The Leader of the Council and Lead Members for Transport, Planning & Place; Leisure, Culture & Communities; Financial Oversight, Council Assets & Performance; Regulation and Public Protection; Housing & Environment; Children’s Services, Lifelong Learning & Skills and Social Care and Public Health; provided details on the budget overview, savings, growth and pressures relating to each of their portfolios.

(Councillor Bedi left the meeting)

Members of the Conservative Group spoke on the budget agenda items, highlighting the seriousness of the financial challenge facing the Council.

66. Section 25 Report

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“On the basis of the risks and issues raised in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 and the rest of the report, in the opinion of the Director of Finance, Council approved the budget on the basis that:

- a) the proposed level of Council reserves are adequate to support the budget for 2022/23 having regard to an assessment of current financial and other risks set out extensively in this report and assuming these risks do not increase beyond those that can be contained by the Council. It should also be noted that matters will continue to be identified and will change throughout the coming financial year and beyond
- b) the estimates are robust for the calculation of the budget within the confines of the many risks noted throughout this report. Particular attention is drawn to the following specific conditions and risks:
 - (i) the recommended level of general balances, for 2022/23 is £20m, although this is the bare minimum as a percentage of Net Revenue Expenditure, and places the Council in the lowest quartile in comparison to similar authorities
 - (ii) the budget which has levels of contingency and conditions built in to reflect the considerable risks the Council is facing and is predicated on continuing support from DLUHC ;
 - (iii) agreement of the Capitalisation Directive for 2022/23 and future years as proposed to DLUHC in February 2022 at estimated figures of £223m to 31/3/22 and £84m for 2022/23

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- (iv) agreement by DLUHC that they will agree to capitalisation directions or other support to equal the actual figures for the outstanding, current and forthcoming years as the accounts for the years are closed
- (v) agreement by DLUHC that they will agree to capitalisation directions or other support to equal the estimated figures for future years as the budgets are prepared for these future years
- (vi) agreement by DLUHC that they will agree to capitalisation directions or other support or agreed mechanisms to supplement the level of revenue budget savings that the Council can achieve as discussed and as will be reviewed. Further that they will agree to finance/support on a recurrent basis any recurrent gap that would arise if the £20m annual level of savings was not achieved in a sustainable manner
- (vii) the current level of Council general reserves outside of the support from DLUHC relating to specific risks and specific initiatives is currently nil. These reserves will be established and built up over time once a more stable finance base has been created.
- (viii) as at the end of December 2021, the Council has a small amount of earmarked reserves of £14m. The majority of these funds were accumulated during 2020/21 and 2021/22 as part of the Government's covid response measures to be used for specific purposes such as helping local business and managing the outbreak of covid and cannot be used for general purposes

	£m
Better Care Fund	1.3
Grants for closed businesses	5.3
Business Support Grant	4.3
Outbreak Management Fund	1.4
Other	2.1
Total	14.4

- (ix) as the Council has no complete and fully accurate accounts since 2015/16 and will not have these complete up to 31/3/22 until well into the financial year 2022/23 the financial position is subject to considerable potential change which may impact on the robustness of the budget
- (x) the Council embeds the good practise now being designed but notes that this will take time to fully develop and thus as with the accounts the various estimates will be subject to change
- (xi) the Council has a major dependency on asset sales which will significantly impact on the budget for 2022/23 and beyond and which will thus again affect the level of robustness of the budget"

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 27 votes for and 6 abstentions.

Resolved – On the basis of the risks and issues raised in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 and the rest of the report, in the opinion of the Director of Finance, Council approved the budget on the basis that:

- a) the proposed level of Council reserves are adequate to support the budget for 2022/23 having regard to an assessment of current financial and other risks set out extensively in this report and assuming these risks do not increase beyond those that can be contained by the Council. It should also be noted that matters will continue to be identified and will change throughout the coming financial year and beyond
- b) the estimates are robust for the calculation of the budget within the confines of the many risks noted throughout this report. Particular attention is drawn to the following specific conditions and risks:
 - (i) the recommended level of general balances, for 2022/23 is £20m, although this is the bare minimum as a percentage of Net Revenue Expenditure, and places the Council in the lowest quartile in comparison to similar authorities
 - (ii) the budget which has levels of contingency and conditions built in to reflect the considerable risks the Council is facing and is predicated on continuing support from DLUHC ;
 - (iii) agreement of the Capitalisation Directive for 2022/23 and future years as proposed to DLUHC in February 2022 at estimated figures of £223m to 31/3/22 and £84m for 2022/23
 - (iv) agreement by DLUHC that they will agree to capitalisation directions or other support to equal the actual figures for the outstanding, current and forthcoming years as the accounts for the years are closed
 - (v) agreement by DLUHC that they will agree to capitalisation directions or other support to equal the estimated figures for future years as the budgets are prepared for these future years
 - (vi) agreement by DLUHC that they will agree to capitalisation directions or other support or agreed mechanisms to supplement the level of revenue budget savings that the Council can achieve as discussed and as will be reviewed. Further that they will agree to finance/support on a recurrent basis any recurrent gap that would arise if the £20m annual level of savings was not achieved in a sustainable manner
 - (vii) the current level of Council general reserves outside of the support from DLUHC relating to specific risks and specific initiatives is currently nil. These reserves will be established and built up over time once a more stable finance base has been created.
 - (viii) as at the end of December 2021, the Council has a small amount of earmarked reserves of £14m. The majority of these funds were

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accumulated during 2020/21 and 2021/22 as part of the Government's covid response measures to be used for specific purposes such as helping local business and managing the outbreak of covid and cannot be used for general purposes

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Better Care Fund	1.3
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(ix) as the Council has no complete and fully accurate accounts since 2015/16 and will not have these complete up to 31/3/22 until well into the financial year 2022/23 the financial position is subject to considerable potential change which may impact on the robustness of the budget

(x) the Council embeds the good practise now being designed but notes that this will take time to fully develop and thus as with the accounts the various estimates will be subject to change

(xi) the Council has a major dependency on asset sales which will significantly impact on the budget for 2022/23 and beyond and which will thus again affect the level of robustness of the budget.

67. Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix A to the report, for 2022/23 to 2026/27 be approved.”

The recommendation was put and carried and, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendation:-

Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Begum, Brooker, Carter, A.Cheema, H.Cheema, Dar, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Mohammad, Pantelic, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sharif and Swindlehurst 27

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Kelly, D.Parmar, Smith, Strutton, Wright and The Worshipful, The Mayor Councillor Nazir 6

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Resolved - That the Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix A to the report, for 2022/23 to 2026/27 be approved.

68. Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- a. "That the Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) for 2022/23 be approved including:
 - i. the Annual Investment Strategy for 2022/23 (Appendix 2)
 - ii. Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2022/23 (Appendix 1)
 - iii. the Prudential Indicators for the period 2022/23 to 2024/25 (Section 4)

- b. That the MRP policy as set out in the TMS for 2022/23 shall also apply for the financial year 2021/22."

The recommendations were put and carried and, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Begum, Brooker, Carter, A.Cheema, H.Cheema, Dar, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Mohammad, Pantelic, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sharif and Swindlehurst 27

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Kelly, D.Parmar, Smith, Strutton, Wright and The Worshipful, The Mayor Councillor Nazir 6

Resolved -

- a) That the Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) for 2022/23 be approved including:
 - i. the Annual Investment Strategy for 2022/23 (Appendix 2)
 - ii. Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2022/23 (Appendix 1)
 - iii. the Prudential Indicators for the period 2022/23 to 2024/25 (Section 4)

- b) That the MRP policy as set out in the TMS for 2022/23 shall also apply for the financial year 2021/22.

69. 2022/23 Revenue Budget

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

1. "Approval of the 2022/23 budget to enable the Council Tax for 2022/23 to be set;
2. Approval of the Model Council Tax Resolution 2022/23 as set out in the revised Appendix B issued in the supplementary agenda;
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Finance, to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 2 within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision;
4. Approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as based on the estimated financial deficit in the Capitalisation Direction and to be funded by capitalisation of:
 - a. £223.1m up to 2021/22
 - b. £84.1m for 2022/23
 - c. £171.1m for beyond 2022/23
5. Approve the Capital Receipts Flexibility Strategy as agreed in 2021/22.
6. Approve the overall General Fund revenue budget of £191.7m, to include:
 - a. growth for pressures for contract inflation and pay inflation of £8.178m
 - b. proposed savings by directorate of £19.959m

To note the following:

7. The balanced budget position for 2022/23 requiring savings of £19.959m and the projected financial deficit between 2023/24 to 2028/29
8. The inclusion within the Capitalisation Direction of £1m per year from 2022/23 onwards as a means to rebuild the General Fund and Earmarked Reserves balance
9. The intention to increase Council Tax by 1.99% in 2022/23
10. The intention to increase Council Tax by a further 1% in 2022/23 in respect of the Adult Social Care Precept
11. The assumed funding for the protection of social care 2022/23 through the Better Care Fund
12. that due regard has been had to the s.25 report by the Director of Finance at Appendix H

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To agree the following -

13. Note the Cabinet’s approval of the Fees and Charges Policy Framework, and that Council approve this for non-executive functions

14. Approval of the Members Allowances Scheme for 2022-23 at Appendix I

Acceptance of Indicative Capitalisation Directions for 2016/17 to 2022/23 -

- i. Acceptance of the capitalisation direction of £223m up to 31.03.22
- ii. Acceptance of the capitalisation direction of £84.1m for the 2022/23 financial year
- iii. Acceptance of the accompanying conditions set out in the report.

To Note -

- i. The capitalisation direction is not a grant. The Council needs to fund the revenue expenditure capitalised from disposing of assets to repay the resulting debt.
- ii. The Council is in a precarious state and will be required to request future capitalisation directions to balance future years budgets, estimated at an additional £172m, £479m in total
- iii. The minded to directions will be converted into actual directions on an annual basis as the accounts for each year are closed and audited.”

The recommendations were put and carried and, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a record of the vote was taken as follows:-

There voted for the recommendations:-

Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Begum, Brooker, Carter, A.Cheema, H.Cheema, Dar, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Mohammad, Pantelic, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sharif and Swindlehurst 27

There abstained from voting:

Councillors Kelly, D.Parmar, Smith, Strutton, Wright and The Worshipful, The Mayor Councillor Nazir 6

Resolved -

- 1. Approval of the 2022/23 budget to enable the Council Tax for 2022/23 to be set;
- 2. Approval of the Model Council Tax Resolution 2022/23 as set out in the revised Appendix B issued in the supplementary agenda;

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3. Delegate authority to the Director of Finance, to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 2 within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision;
4. Approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as based on the estimated financial deficit in the Capitalisation Direction and to be funded by capitalisation of:
 - a. £223.1m up to 2021/22
 - b. £84.1m for 2022/23
 - c. £171.1m for beyond 2022/23
5. Approve the Capital Receipts Flexibility Strategy as agreed in 2021/22.
6. Approve the overall General Fund revenue budget of £191.7m, to include:
 - a. growth for pressures for contract inflation and pay inflation of £8.178m
 - b. proposed savings by directorate of £19.959m

To note the following:

7. The balanced budget position for 2022/23 requiring savings of £19.959m and the projected financial deficit between 2023/24 to 2028/29
8. The inclusion within the Capitalisation Direction of £1m per year from 2022/23 onwards as a means to rebuild the General Fund and Earmarked Reserves balance
9. The intention to increase Council Tax by 1.99% in 2022/23
10. The intention to increase Council Tax by a further 1% in 2022/23 in respect of the Adult Social Care Precept
11. The assumed funding for the protection of social care 2022/23 through the Better Care Fund
12. That due regard has been had to the s.25 report by the Director of Finance at Appendix H

To agree the following -

13. Note the Cabinet's approval of the Fees and Charges Policy Framework, and that Council approve this for non-executive functions
14. Approval of the Members Allowances Scheme for 2022-23 at Appendix I

Acceptance of Indicative Capitalisation Directions for 2016/17 to 2022/23 -

- i. Acceptance of the capitalisation direction of £223m up to 31.03.22

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- ii. Acceptance of the capitalisation direction of £84.1m for the 2022/23 financial year
- iii. Acceptance of the accompanying conditions set out in the report.

To Note -

- i. The capitalisation direction is not a grant. The Council needs to fund the revenue expenditure capitalised from disposing of assets to repay the resulting debt.
- ii. The Council is in a precarious state and will be required to request future capitalisation directions to balance future years budgets, estimated at an additional £172m, £479m in total
- iii. The minded to directions will be converted into actual directions on an annual basis as the accounts for each year are closed and audited.

70. Update on the Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Council note

- a) the forecast position for DSG spend in 2021/22 to 2024/25
- b) the overarching issues that have resulted in the DSG deficit and the actions taken to date to address these
- c) the Council has been invited to take part in the ‘safety valve’ intervention programme with the DfE which is expected to commence in April/May 2022.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried with 27 votes for and 6 abstentions.

Resolved - That the Council note

- d) the forecast position for DSG spend in 2021/22 to 2024/25
- e) the overarching issues that have resulted in the DSG deficit and the actions taken to date to address these
- f) the Council has been invited to take part in the ‘safety valve’ intervention programme with the DfE which is expected to commence in April/May 2022.

71. Council Tax Support Scheme 2022/23

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the Council Tax Support Scheme remain unchanged for 2022-23 and that as allowed within the scheme the income bands are updated once more in line with inflation (3.1%) to protect the most vulnerable from the ongoing and significant cost of living rises.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved – That the Council Tax Support Scheme remain unchanged for 2022-23 and that as allowed within the scheme the income bands are updated once more in line with inflation (3.1%) to protect the most vulnerable from the ongoing and significant cost of living rises.

72. To receive updates from the Best Value Commissioners

The Lead Commissioner, Mr Caller, outlined details of decisions taken by Commissioners at a meeting held on 9th March 2022. Members were reminded that the Commissioners were acting under powers given to them by the Secretary of State in the Directions under Section 15(5) and (6) of the Local Government Act 1999, in relation to the appointment and dismissal of statutory officers.

At the meeting held on 9th March, the Best Value Commissioners decided that Josie Wragg be summarily dismissed for gross misconduct and that Gavin Jones be appointed as the Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service. Mr Caller placed on record his thanks to all Members of the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee for their due diligence in consideration of the matter.

Resolved -

- (a) That the Council note the Best Value Commissioners decision that Josie Wragg be summarily dismissed for gross misconduct as Slough Borough Council's Chief Executive, Head of Paid Service and Returning Officer, with effect from 9th March 2022, without notice or pay in lieu of notice but be paid for accrued leave, as set out in section 3 of the report.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

- (b) "That Gavin Jones be appointed as Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service with effect from 9th March 2022, and that Council confirms that it concurs with this appointment."

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved - That Gavin Jones be appointed as Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service with effect from 9th March 2022, and that Council confirms that it concurs with this appointment.

73. Elections - Interim Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer and Review of Polling Place Changes 2022

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

- a) "That the appointment of Angela Wakefield as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer be approved.
- b) That the designated polling stations, set out at Appendix 1 of the report, be approved."

Council - 10.03.22

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved –

- c) That the appointment of Angela Wakefield as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer be approved.
- d) That the designated polling stations, set out at Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 9.42 pm)

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MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At an extraordinary Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on Monday, 11th April, 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Nazir), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Ali, Bal, Bains, Basra, Bedi, Begum, Brooker, Carter, A Cheema, H Cheema, J Davis, Dar, Dhaliwal, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Hussain, Kaur, Kelly, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Mohammad, Muvvala, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu, Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Anderson, R Davis and Minhas.

74. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bal declared that his daughters worked for the Council.
Councillor Brooker declared that he was Vice-Chair of Britwell Parish Council.
Councillor Kaur declared she was a member of Wexham Court Parish Council.
Councillor Mann declared she was Chair of Britwell Parish Council.
Councillor Smith declared he was a member of Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council.

75. Response to Local Government Boundary Commission for England's Consultation on the Electoral Review of Slough Borough Council's Warding Arrangements

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

“That delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer to submit a Council response to the LGBCs first consultation on its electoral review of Slough as set out in section 5 of the report and which specifically proposes:

- (a) That the number of wards of Slough Borough Council be proposed to be 21.
- (b) That the boundaries between the wards be proposed to be those set out in Appendix B, noting that the LGBC will conduct a second round of consultation following publication of its draft proposals for Slough on 5th July 2022.
- (c) That the names of each new ward be those proposed in paragraph 5.9.
- (d) That the number of councillors elected to each ward be 2.

It was moved by Councillor Smith, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“That the proposed revised Haymill ward boundary, as tabled, be agreed.”

Council - 11.04.22

The amendment was put to the vote and agreed unanimously and became the substantive recommendation.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst, as an amendment
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

“That the proposed revised ward boundaries for Manor Park & Stoke Ward, Baylis & Salt Hill Ward and Chalvey Ward, as tabled, be agreed.”

The amendment was put to the vote and agreed unanimously and became the substantive recommendation.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Strutton,

“That recommendation (c) as set out in the report, be amended to read that “the names of each new ward be those proposed in paragraph 5.9 but the Council recognises that these are subject to the second round of consultation in July 2022.”

The amendment was put to the vote and agreed unanimously and became the substantive recommendation.

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved - That delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer to submit a Council response to the LGBCEs first consultation on its electoral review of Slough as set out in section 5 of the report and which specifically proposes:

- (a) That the number of wards of Slough Borough Council be proposed to be 21.
- (b) That the boundaries between the wards be proposed to be those as set out in Appendix B for all wards except Haymill, Manor Park & Stoke, Baylis & Salt Hill Ward and Chalvey; and that the proposed ward boundaries for these wards are as set out in the appendices tabled at the meeting; noting that the LGBCE will conduct a second round of consultation following publication of its draft proposals for Slough on 5th July 2022.
- (c) That the names of each new ward be those proposed in paragraph 5.9 but the Council recognises that these are subject to the second round of consultation in July 2022.
- d) That the number of councillors elected to each ward be 2.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 7.23 pm)

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 26 April 2022

CONTACT OFFICER: Nick Pontone, Democratic Services Lead
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 875120

WARDS: All

PART I
FOR ENDORSEMENT**RECOMMENDATION OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FROM ITS MEETING HELD ON 7th APRIL 2022****DRAFT ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2021/22**1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 That Council is asked to receive and endorse the Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22, which the Overview & Committee agreed to recommend at its meeting on 7th April 2022 (attached at Appendix A).

2. **Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Council is requested to resolve that the Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22 be endorsed.

Commissioners Review:

“Commissioners note that the annual report recognises that the Improvement and Recovery Plan required by the Directions will include specific proposals to improve the scrutiny function

The budget agreed by the Council for the current financial year will ensure that early action can be taken to support this vital component of a well-run Council.”

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment**

- 3.1 Overview & Scrutiny plays an important role in scrutinising the progress made in the delivery of all aspects of the SJWS.
- 3.2 Overview & Scrutiny is central to ensuring accountability in the delivery of strategic priorities, including those in the emerging Recovery Plan.

4. Other Implications

(a) Financial

The work of the scrutiny function is included within existing SBC budgets.

(b) Risk Management

Recommendation	Risk/Threat/Opportunity	Mitigation(s)
Endorse the Annual Report	The opportunity is to use the Annual Report process to drive forward the improvements that are recognised to be needed to the scrutiny process in Slough.	The report was reviewed by the Committee on 7 th April and presenting the report to Council fulfils the Constitutional requirement.

(c) Legal Implications

The Council has a leader and executive model of governance under the Local Government Act 2000. Under this model, there is a requirement for the executive arrangements of the Council to include provision for the appointment of one or more committees known as overview and scrutiny committees. The arrangements must ensure that this committee has the power to do the following under s.9F(2) of the aforementioned Act:

- (a) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (b) to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (c) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (d) to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (e) to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area

The power of an overview and scrutiny committee under (a) above relates to a power to review or scrutinise a decision made but not implemented and provides the power to recommend reconsideration or to arrange for its function to be exercised by the Council. This power is referred to as call in and the procedure is covered by the terms of reference governing overview and scrutiny.

The overview and scrutiny committee may require members of the executive and officers of the authority to attend to answer questions and may invite other persons to attend meetings of the committee.

The statutory guidance on the role and function of overview and scrutiny committees emphasises the importance of the scrutiny process being led and owned by elected members, as part of their role in creating an organisational culture, behaviour and attitudes that can ensure the scrutiny function succeeds.

Effective scrutiny can and should lead to improved policy-making and the efficient delivery of public services. Low level of support for and engagement with the scrutiny function can lead to poor quality and ill-focused work that serves to reinforce the perception that it is of little worth or relevance. The guidance emphasises the importance of the following in creating a strong organisational culture for effective scrutiny:

- a) Recognising scrutiny's legal and democratic legitimacy.
- b) Identifying a clear role and focus - this should include clear prioritisation to ensure that work is of genuine value and relevance and a clear division of responsibility between the scrutiny function and the audit function.
- c) Ensuring early and regular engagement between the executive and scrutiny.
- d) Managing disagreement - whilst scrutiny has the power to "call in" decisions, this should not be a substitute for early involvement in the decision-making process.
- e) Providing the necessary support.
- f) Ensuring impartial advice from officers - the statutory governance officers and scrutiny officer have a particular role in ensuring that timely, relevant and high-quality advice is provided to scrutiny.
- g) Communicating scrutiny's role and purpose to the wider authority.
- h) Maintaining the interest of full Council in the work of the scrutiny committee - the annual report being presented to full Council is a requirement, but consideration should be given to regular reports that supplement this annual report.
- i) Communicating scrutiny's role to the public.
- j) Ensuring scrutiny members are supported in having an independent mindset.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There are no Equality Impact Assessments required as a result of this report.

5. **Supporting Information**

- 5.1 At the last meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee for each municipal year the committee receives the draft Annual Scrutiny Report.
- 5.2 Annual reports are an opportunity to review the scrutiny work programme for the past year and assess the impact scrutiny has had on influencing policy. Looking at an annual report can help us to understand the nature of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny and to assess its effectiveness. It also gives an opportunity to reflect on any lessons learned during the year to help guide future work.
- 5.3 The production of an annual report is a constitutional requirement and in addition the committee "must report annually to the full council on future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate." The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is provided with a draft of the Annual Scrutiny Report which highlights some key achievements from the year where scrutiny has made a difference.
- 5.4 This year the structure of the report has been altered to try to focus on particular examples of effective scrutiny by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the three scrutiny panels, specifically the comprehensive scrutiny of budget savings across 8 dedicated meetings of scrutiny over the year.

5.5 As part of its review of the draft Annual Report, the Committee discussed the improvements councillors wished to make in the next year, which will be included in the Scrutiny Improvement Plan to be produced in accordance with the Directions to the Council.

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

6.1 The Annual Scrutiny Report was considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 7th April 2022 and it was agreed to recommend that Council endorse the document as at Appendix A to the report.

7. **Conclusion**

7.1 The Local Authority, through its Overview and Scrutiny Function, has an influential, as well as statutory, role in scrutinising the activities and performance of the Cabinet and External Bodies (e.g. Thames Valley Police). The Annual Scrutiny Report provides an opportunity to communicate the work the committee and its panels have undertaken, challenges faced and the improvements made as a result of scrutiny.

8. **Appendices Attached**

A Draft Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22

Draft Annual Scrutiny Report

2021/22

Chairs



Cllr Harjinder Gahir
Overview & Scrutiny
Committee



Cllr Ruqayah Begum
Customer &
Community Scrutiny
Panel



Cllr Naveeda Qaseem
People Scrutiny
Panel



Cllr Maroof Mohammad
Place Scrutiny Panel

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4. Chair's Introduction



Cllr Harjinder Gahir
Chair

Overview & Scrutiny
Committee 2021/22

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I am pleased to present the Annual Scrutiny Report for the 2021/22 municipal year which summarises the work of my committee and its panels over the past year. It outlines our work, particularly on budget scrutiny.

It has been a very challenging year for the Council and for scrutiny itself with the removal of dedicated scrutiny resource in Our Futures, which has limited the scope of work we were able to carry out. Scrutiny needs to be properly valued and resourced to be effective and I hope this issue will be addressed for 2022/23.

Our focus this year has been to carry out the most extensive scrutiny of budget and savings proposals Slough has ever undertaken. This was achieved by dedicating eight of our eighteen meetings through the year to reviewing every directorate savings proposal to ensure they were deliverable and proportionate.

Other highlights included our constructive meeting with Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable and extensive pre-decision scrutiny of key issues such as the A4 bus lane, closure of day centres and library services, as well as prioritising performance reviews of services such as revenues and benefits and housing repairs.

I have sought to ensure our meetings are positive and forward looking which give Members the opportunity to ask the key questions and hopefully contribute to better decision making. By regularly attended Cabinet meetings I've sought to strengthen the links between scrutiny and the Executive to make sure our voice has been heard.

I would like to thank all the members of the Committee and scrutiny panels for their work. There is much still to do and I hope we have laid a platform during this transitional year to build the much needed effective scrutiny function this Council needs in the future.

5. 2021/22 Scrutiny Summary and Highlights

May 2021

- Council agrees a new scrutiny panel structure to reflect the new directorates of People, Place and Customer & Community.
- New chairs were elected for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and all three scrutiny panels.

June/July 2021

- Scrutiny training and chairing skills training was held.
- First scheduled scrutiny meetings of the year were cancelled in the run up to and during the issuing of the Section 114 notice.

September 2021

- Scrutiny meetings return to business as usual with a busy programme of meetings. In the period to the end of the year pre-decision scrutiny was carried out on the Adult Social Care provider services review, housing repairs contract, library service review and A4 bus lane.

October/ December 2021

- The O&S Committee and all panels were refocused on the most detailed scrutiny of the budget and directorate savings proposals ever carried out by Slough Borough Council.

January 2022

- Annual meeting to scrutinise the work of the Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable was held in January 2021.
- Further round of budget scrutiny of directorate savings proposals.
- Centre for Governance and Scrutiny commence Scrutiny Improvement Review.

March 2022

- Overview & Scrutiny scrutinise the final budget reports.
- Annual scrutiny survey and review commences.

April 2022

- Total of 18 formal and panel meetings held through the year, plus a series of pre-meetings, training and workshops.

6. Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Highlight – budget consultation

Meeting: Thursday 4th November 2021:

- The early opportunity to scrutinise the budget position and savings proposals was welcomed. There were a total of 8 meetings dedicated to scrutinising the budget proposals across the Council and individual directorates.
- The Committee reviewed corporate services and raised concerns about issues including: the contract procedures and costs of the externalised procurement function; the weaknesses in subsidiary company governance; and the robustness of plans for debt recovery.

- The Committee generally agreed the corporate savings proposed for 2022/23, but also emphasised the importance of ensuring adequate resources to bring key corporate services, including finance, IT and HR to the required standard to support the Council to deliver its services and wider strategic plans.

Meeting: Tuesday 8th March 2022

- The Committee scrutinised all the budget reports prior to Cabinet and Council approval. The Lead Member and Director of Finance were questioned on the overall budget strategy and robustness of the savings plans.

7. Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Areas scrutinised in 2021/22 by the committee:

- Joint scrutiny with Customer & Community Panel on the housing repairs contract
- Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring
- The work of the Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner & Chief Constable
- The Revenue Budget, Capital Programme, and Treasury Management Strategy
- ICT Improvement Programme
- Nova House Update
- Petitions received and the annual petitions report

8. People Scrutiny Panel

Highlight – budget scrutiny

Meeting: Thursday 11th November 2021

- The Panel reviewed the People directorate savings proposals and large parts of the discussion focused on the risk of the Council not meeting its statutory duties with respect to some adults and children’s services.

The SEND inspection was raised and Members emphasised the importance of ensuring robust action was taken to address the weaknesses identified.

- Members highlighted the risk that some service reductions, e.g. children’s centres, could lead to pressures elsewhere in the system. A comprehensive plan was needed to manage these risks so that sustainable savings could be delivered.

Meeting: Monday 31st January 2022

- An update was provided on the Provider Services Review and Members were assured that the service users had all been reassessed and the planned savings had been achieved.
- The response to the SEND inspection report would require adequate resources to be put in place and this was supported by the Panel.
- The Panel also discussed demand pressures, placement costs and the work taking place on the permanent recruitment of social workers to seek to reduce agency spend.

9. People Scrutiny Panel

Areas scrutinised in 2021/22 by the panel:

- Adult Social Care provider services review including the closure of day centres
- Draft Health and Care Plan for Slough
- Directorate budget proposals from the adults and children's People directorates and Slough Children First
- Slough Children First in year performance update
- Annual safeguarding report
- SEND written statement of action
- Procurement of ASC domiciliary care contracts

10. Place Scrutiny Panel

Highlight – budget scrutiny

Meeting: Wednesday 1st December 2021

- The savings proposals in the former Place directorate were reviewed and Members focused on two key themes – generating additional income and service reductions in some areas.
- The Panel considered how savings to street cleansing and grass/hedge cutting could be achieved whilst maintaining acceptable service levels.
- Members agreed with the proposal to generate income through renting space in buildings and broadly accepted the increased waste charges on the basis it was not expected this would increase fly-tipping.

Meeting: Wednesday 12th January 2022

- Consideration was given to the emerging Place directorate restructure and the Panel requested a further update report to a future meeting.
- The Panel raised some concern about the proposed changes to bulky waste discount charges, although it was recognised that this would bring Slough more into line with other nearby local authorities. The Panel requested that the Director give further consideration to the eligibility criteria for discounted collections prior to any final charging structure being adopted.

11. Place Scrutiny Panel

Further areas scrutinised in 2021/22 by the panel:

- Air quality and health
- Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report
- The Adult Social Care Local Account
- The implementation of the recommendations of the Disability Task and Finish Group
- The future plans for the East Berkshire CCG
- GP provision
- Immunisations and screening
- Mental health
- The Frimley Health and Care System Annual Plan
- The Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Annual Plan
- The Adult Social Care Strategy & Budget
- The Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service

12. Customer & Community Services Scrutiny Panel

Highlight – Budget scrutiny

Meeting: Tuesday 9th November 2021

- The Panel reviewed the initial savings proposals in what was the former Customer & Community Directorate, particularly the details of the proposed £400,000 library savings. A full report on the public consultation results was considered by the Panel.
- Members expressed significant concern about the proposal to stop the community development and youth work services and asked that the alternative funding be vigorously pursued to seek to continue these services.
- Members also raised concern about the proposal to cease free leisure passes for looked after children in 2021/22 and swimming for over 65s.

Meeting: Tuesday 25th January 2022

- The Panel was updated on the proposed savings for community development services and welcomed the £90,000 funding secured for health related community development work but was concerned that funding had not been identified for the youth work team and youth voice. Members asked that continued efforts be made to try to seek alternative funding sources.
- Members commented on a number of other specific savings proposals including the leisure contract management fee, addressing problems in customer services and rough sleepers.

13. Customer & Community Services Scrutiny Panel

Areas scrutinised in 2021/22 by the panel:

- Library Service consultation results and service plan
- Repairs, Maintenance & Investment contract, jointly with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Performance update of the Revenues & Benefits Service
- Budget proposals for the Customer & Community Directorate
- HRA Rents and Service Charges
- Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods progress report
- Learning, Skills and Employment Ofsted report
- Council call centre performance

14. 2021/22 Attendance and Training Summary

Members attendance record

Overview & Scrutiny		
Councillor	Expected	Attended
Gahir	6	6
Matloob	6	6
Bal	1	1
Basra	6	2
Dhaliwal	6	4
Hussain	6	0
Kaur	6	6
Malik	6	6
Sharif	5	5
Smith	6	6

People		
Councillor	Expected	Attended
Qaseem	5	5
Kelly	5	5
Ajaib	5	4
Basra	5	5
Begum	5	5
Brooker	5	3
Matloob	5	4
Mohammad	5	4
Sandhu	5	4

Place		
Councillor	Expected	Attended
Mohammad	3	3
Strutton	3	3
Bal	3	2
A Cheema	3	2
H Cheema	3	2
R Davis	3	2
Gill	3	3
Grewal	3	2
Minhas	3	2

Customer & Community		
Councillor	Expected	Attended
Begum	5	4
Muvvala	5	5
Ajaib	5	5
Ali	5	4
Hussain	5	0
Kaur	5	4
Minhas	5	4
Mohammad	5	5
Sandhu	5	4

15. 2021/22 Attendance and Training Summary

Training Record

- **Annual scrutiny training held on 17th June 2021.** The session was delivered by an industry recognised external provider and 16 councillors from the Committee and Panels attended.
- **Committee chairing skills training was held on 14th June 2021.** All 4 scrutiny chairs were present and 3 of the 4 vice-chairs attended the training.

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Scrutiny chairs training session was held in January 2022. This session was facilitated by the LGA.

- Individual support has included an LGA mentor for the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

16. Priorities for 2022/23

The Council recognises the importance of developing an effective scrutiny function and will be producing an action plan in accordance with Directions to the Authority. This will draw upon the recommendations of the Centre for Governance & Scrutiny review expected shortly.

This work, and the annual members scrutiny survey, highlight a number of areas for improvement:

- Improved work programming which is aligned to the Council's recovery and improvement plans and the Cabinet forward plan.
- Building on the enhanced scrutiny training delivered in 2021/22.
- Continuing the good practice of full and detailed budget scrutiny including monitoring the delivery of 2022/23 savings and proposals for 2023/24.
- More pre-meetings and preparation by restoring dedicated officer support for the scrutiny function.

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**REPORT TO:** Council **DATE:** 26th April 2022**CONTACT OFFICER:** Nick Pontone
(For all enquiries) Democratic Services Lead
(01753) 875120**WARD(S):** All**PART I**
FOR DECISION**CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2022/2023****1. Purpose of Report**

To seek approval of the Calendar of Meetings for 2022/23.

2. Recommendations

The Council is requested to resolve:-

- (a) That the Calendar of Meetings for the period May 2022 to May 2023, as set out in Appendix A of this report, be approved.
- (b) That the Democratic Services Lead be authorised to make amendments to the Calendar throughout the year, including from those resulting from any constitutional changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

Commissioners Review

Commissioners reviewed this report and decided not to make any specific observations.

3. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities and Other Implications

None arising from this report which is administrative in nature.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 A draft programme of meetings has been drawn up and is appended to this report.
- 4.2 If alterations to the Calendar are required as a result of any changes to the Constitution, it is proposed that the Democratic Services Lead be authorised to make changes following appropriate consultation in accordance with the Constitution.

4.3 Members are specifically asked to note that at this stage the Calendar:

- Reflects the current structure of scrutiny panels. These are subject to change pending the Scrutiny Improvement Plan that will be produced in line with the Directions to the Council, and informed by the Centre for Governance & Scrutiny review.
- Lead Members & Directors (LMD) meetings are being reviewed so provisional dates are included to increase the number of meetings from 1 per month to 2 per month. The pre-Cabinet LMD dates are fixed around the Cabinet reporting timetable, but the dates, times and format of the additional meetings per month are subject to change.
- Group meetings will be added to the calendar after the election once groups have formed and advised Democratic Services of their meeting frequency and cycles.
- In accordance with the agreement of the Slough Outbreak Engagement Board in March 2022, no dates for the Board have been scheduled for future meetings. However, if there was to be a significant change in the Covid position the Board may recommence its meetings.
- Mandatory and key training is included in the Calendar (welcome/induction, planning, licensing and scrutiny), with a view to further dates being added during the year once the committee meeting dates are fixed.

5. **Appendices**

Appendix A – Draft Calendar of Meetings 2022/23

Background Papers

None

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

May 2022

Date of Meeting	Time	Meeting	Notes
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Mon	2 nd	May			BANK HOLIDAY	
Tues	3 rd	May				
Wed	4 th	May				
Thurs	5 th	May			BOROUGH ELECTION	
Fri	6 th	May				

Mon	9 th	May	6.30pm		Labour Group	
Tues	10 th	May				
Wed	11 th	May				
Thurs	12 th	May	6.00pm		<i>Newly elected Members' induction</i>	
Fri	13 th	May				

Mon	16 th	May				
Tues	17 th	May	6.30pm		Cabinet (Ext)	
Wed	18 th	May				Britwell Parish
Thurs	19 th	May	7.00pm		Annual Council (Ext)	
Fri	20 th	May				

Mon	23 rd	May	6.30pm		Labour Group	
Tues	24 th	May				
Wed	25 th	May	6.30pm		Planning Committee	
Thurs	26 th	May				
Fri	27 th	May				

Mon	30 th	May				
Tues	31 st	May	5.00pm		Slough Wellbeing Board	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

June 2022

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Wed	1 st	June	6.30pm	Licensing Committee	(and training)
Thurs	2 nd	June		BANK HOLIDAY	
Fri	3 rd	June		BANK HOLIDAY	

Mon	6 th	June	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	7 th	June	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	CwP Parish
Wed	8 th	June			
Thurs	9 th	June			
Fri	10 th	June			

Mon	13 th	June			
Tues	14 th	June	6.30pm	Employment & Appeals Committee	Wexham Court Parish
Wed	15 th	June			Britwell Parish
Thurs	16 th	June	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny	(and training)
Fri	17 th	June			

Mon	20 th	June	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	21 st	June			
Wed	22 nd	June	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	23 rd	June			
Fri	24 th	June			

Mon	27 th	June	6.30pm	People Scrutiny Panel	
Tues	28 th	June	6.30pm	Place Scrutiny Panel	
Wed	29 th	June	6.30pm	Planning Committee	
Thurs	30 th	June			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

July 2022

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Fri	1 st	July			
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Mon	4 th	July	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	5 th	July	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	CwP Parish
Wed	6 th	July	6.30pm	Customer & Community Scrutiny Panel	
Thurs	7 th	July			
Fri	8 th	July			

Mon	11 th	July	6.00pm	Corporate Parenting Panel	
Tues	12 th	July			Wexham Court Parish
Wed	13 th	July	4.30pm	SACRE	
			6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	14 th	July	4.00pm	Berkshire Local Transport Body	
			6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	15 th	July			

Mon	18 th	July	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	19 th	July	6.30pm	Standards Committee	
Wed	20 th	July	5.00pm	Slough Wellbeing Board	Britwell Parish
Thurs	21 st	July	7.00pm	Council	
Fri	22 nd	July			

Mon	25 th	July			
Tues	26 th	July	6.30pm	Planning Committee	
Wed	27 th	July	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	28 th	July	6.30pm	Audit & Corporate Governance Committee	
Fri	29 th	July			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

August 2022

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Mon	1 st	August			
Tues	2 nd	August			
Wed	3 rd	August			
Thurs	4 th	August			
Fri	5 th	August			

Mon	8 th	August			
Tues	9 th	August			
Wed	10 th	August			
Thurs	11 th	August			
Fri	12 th	August			

Mon	15 th	August			
Tues	16 th	August			
Wed	17 th	August			
Thurs	18 th	August			
Fri	19 th	August			

Mon	22 nd	August			
Tues	23 rd	August			
Wed	24 th	August			
Thurs	25 th	August			
Fri	26 th	August			

Mon	29 th	August		BANK HOLIDAY	
Tues	30 th	August			
Wed	31 st	August			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

September 2022

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Thurs	1 st	September			
Fri	2 nd	September			

Mon	5 th	September	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	6 th	September	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	CwP Parish
Wed	7 th	September	6.30pm	Customer & Community Scrutiny Panel	
Thurs	8 th	September	6.30pm	Place Scrutiny Panel	
Fri	9 th	September			

Mon	12 th	September	6.30pm	People Scrutiny Panel	
Tues	13 th	September			Wexham Court Parish
Wed	14 th	September			
Thurs	15 th	September	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	16 th	September			

Mon	19 th	September	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	20 th	September	5.00pm	Slough Wellbeing Board	
Wed	21 st	September			Britwell Parish
Thurs	22 nd	September	7.00pm	Council	
Fri	23 rd	September			

Mon	26 th	September			
Tues	27 th	September	6.30pm	Planning Committee	
Wed	28 th	September	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	29 th	September	6.30pm	Audit & Corporate Governance Committee	
Fri	30 th	September			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

October 2022

Date of Meeting		Time	Meeting	Notes
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Mon	3 rd	October	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	4 th	October	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	CwP Parish
Wed	5 th	October			
Thurs	6 th	October	6.00pm	Corporate Parenting Panel	
Fri	7 th	October			

Mon	10 th	October	6.30pm	Licensing Committee	
Tues	11 th	October	6.30pm	Trustee Committee	Wexham Court Parish
Wed	12 th	October	6.30pm	Employment & Appeals Committee	
Thurs	13 th	October	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	14 th	October			

Mon	17 th	October	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	18 th	October			
Wed	19 th	October			Britwell Parish
Thurs	20 th	October	6.30pm	Customer & Community Scrutiny Panel	
Fri	21 st	October			

Mon	24 th	October	6.30pm		People Scrutiny Panel	
Tues	25 th	October	6.30pm		Planning Committee	
Wed	26 th	October	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	27 th	October				
Fri	28 th	October				

Mon	31 st	October				
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Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

November 2022

Date of Meeting		Time	Meeting	Notes
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Tues	1 st	November			CwP Parish
Wed	2 nd	November			
Thurs	3 rd	November	4.30pm	SACRE	
			6.30pm	Place Scrutiny Panel	
Fri	4 th	November			

Mon	7 th	November	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	8 th	November	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	Wexham Court Parish
Wed	9 th	November			
Thurs	10 th	November	4.00pm	Berkshire Local Transport Body	
Fri	11 th	November			

Mon	14 th	November			
Tues	15 th	November			
Wed	16 th	November			Britwell Parish
Thurs	17 th	November	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	18 th	November			

Mon	21 st	November	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	22 nd	November	7.00pm	Council	
Wed	23 rd	November	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	24 th	November	5.00pm	Slough Wellbeing Board	
Fri	25 th	November			

Mon	28 th	November	6.30pm	People Scrutiny Panel	
Tues	29 th	November			
Wed	30 th	November	6.30pm	Planning Committee	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

December 2022

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Thurs	1 st	December			
Fri	2 nd	December			

Mon	5 th	December	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	6 th	December	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Wed	7 th	December	6.30pm	Customer & Community Scrutiny Panel	
Thurs	8 th	December			
Fri	9 th	December			

Mon	12 th	December			
Tues	13 th	December	6.30pm	Place Scrutiny Panel	
Wed	14 th	December	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	15 th	December	6.30pm	Audit & Corporate Governance Committee	
Fri	16 th	December			

Mon	19 th	December	6.30pm		Cabinet
Tues	20 th	December	6.00pm		Corporate Parenting Panel
Wed	21 st	December	6.30pm		Planning Committee
Thurs	22 nd	December	6.30pm		Employment & Appeals Committee
Fri	23 rd	December			

Mon	26 th	December			BANK HOLIDAY
Tues	27 th	December			BANK HOLIDAY
Wed	28 th	December			
Thurs	29 th	December			
Fri	30 th	December			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

January 2023

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Mon	2 nd	January		BANK HOLIDAY	
Tues	3 rd	January	6.30pm	Lead Members	CwP Parish
Wed	4 th	January	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	5 th	January			
Fri	6 th	January			

Mon	9 th	January			
Tues	10 th	January			Wexham Court Parish
Wed	11 th	January	6.30pm	Customer & Community Scrutiny Panel	
Thurs	12 th	January	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	13 th	January			

Mon	16 th	January	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	17 th	January			
Wed	18 th	January	5.00pm	Slough Wellbeing Board	Britwell Parish
Thurs	19 th	January	6.30pm	Place Scrutiny Panel	
Fri	20 th	January			

Mon	23 rd	January			
Tues	24 th	January	6.30pm	Planning Committee	
Wed	25 th	January	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	26 th	January	7.00pm	Council	
Fri	27 th	January			

Mon	30 th	January	6.30pm	People Scrutiny Panel	
Tues	31 st	January	6.30pm	Trustee Committee	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

February 2023

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Wed	1 st	February			
Thurs	2 nd	February	6.30pm	Standards Committee	
Fri	3 rd	February			

Mon	6 th	February	6.30pm	Licensing Committee	
Tues	7 th	February			CwP Parish
Wed	8 th	February			
Thurs	9 th	February			
Fri	10 th	February			

Mon	13 th	February	6.30pm		Lead Members
Tues	14 th	February	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors Wexham Court Parish
Wed	15 th	February			Britwell Parish
Thurs	16 th	February			
Fri	17 th	February			

Mon	20 th	February			
Tues	21 st	February	6.30pm	Planning Committee	
Wed	22 nd	February	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	23 rd	February	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	24 th	February			

Mon	27 th	February	6.30pm	Cabinet (Budget)	
Tues	28 th	February			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

March 2023

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Wed	1 st	March	6.30pm	Customer & Community Scrutiny Panel	
Thurs	2 nd	March	6.30pm	People Scrutiny Panel	
Fri	3 rd	March			

Mon	6 th	March	6.30pm	Lead Members	
Tues	7 th	March	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	CwP Parish
Wed	8 th	March	6.30pm	Place Scrutiny Panel	
Thurs	9 th	March	4.00pm	Berkshire Local Transport Body	
			7.00pm	Council (Ext. - Budget)	
Fri	10 th	March			

Mon	13 th	March			
Tues	14 th	March	6.30pm	Audit & Corporate Governance Committee	Wexham Court Parish
Wed	15 th	March	4.30pm	SACRE	Britwell Parish
			5.00pm	Slough Wellbeing Board	
Thurs	16 th	March	6.30pm	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Fri	17 th	March			

Mon	20 th	March	6.30pm	Cabinet	
Tues	21 st	March	6.30pm	Employment & Appeals Committee	
Wed	22 nd	March	6.30pm	Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	23 rd	March	6.30pm	Trustee Committee	
Fri	24 th	March			

Mon	27 th	March			
Tues	28 th	March	7.00pm	Council	
Wed	29 th	March	6.30pm	Planning Committee	
Thurs	30 th	March	6.30pm	Licensing Committee	
Fri	31 st	March			

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

Slough Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2022-23

April 2023

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Notes
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Mon	3 rd	April	6.30pm		Lead Members	
Tues	4 th	April	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors	CwP Parish
Wed	5 th	April	6.00pm		Corporate Parenting Panel	
Thurs	6 th	April				
Fri	7 th	April			BANK HOLIDAY	

Mon	10 th	April			BANK HOLIDAY	
Tues	11 th	April				Wexham Court Parish
Wed	12 th	April				
Thurs	13 th	April				
Fri	14 th	April				

Mon	17 th	April	6.30pm		Cabinet	
Tues	18 th	April				
Wed	19 th	April				Britwell Parish
Thurs	20 th	April				
Fri	21 st	April				

Mon	24 th	April				
Tues	25 th	April	6.30pm		Planning Committee	
Wed	26 th	April	6.30pm		Lead Members & Directors	
Thurs	27 th	April				
Fri	28 th	April				

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

**Slough Borough Council
Calendar of Meetings 2022-23**

May 2023

Date of Meeting			Time	Meeting	Agenda Published
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Mon	1 st	May		BANK HOLIDAY	
Tues	2 nd	May			
Wed	3 rd	May			
Thurs	4 th	May		BOROUGH ELECTIONS	
Fri	5 th	May			

Mon	8 th	May			
Tues	9 th	May			
Wed	10 th	May			
Thurs	11 th	May	6.00pm	<i>Newly elected Members' induction</i>	
Fri	12 th	May			

Mon	15 th	May			
Tues	16 th	May			
Wed	17 th	May			Britwell Parish
Thurs	18 th	May	7.00pm	Annual Council	
Fri	19 th	May			

Mon	22 nd	May			
Tues	23 rd	May			
Wed	24 th	May			
Thurs	25 th	May			
Fri	26 th	May			

Mon	29 th	May			
Tues	30 th	May			
Wed	31 st	May	6.30pm	Planning Committee	

Notes:

1. Grey shading denotes school holidays.

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Council **DATE:** 26th April, 2022

CONTACT OFFICER: Shabana Kauser
(For all enquiries) Principal Democratic Services Officer
07821 811 259

WARD(S): All

PART I
FOR DECISION

MOTIONS SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 14

The following motion has been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14:-

A) Cost of Living Increases

(Moved by Councillor Hulme, seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst)

“This Council notes that cost of living increases are becoming a crisis for families across the country. With households in Slough paying an extra £36.9m from this month following the raising of the energy price cap; while food prices have risen by 27% and childcare costs by 50% since 2010.

The Council resolves to write to the government to press for further help for residents, including:

- Expanding and increasing cold weather payments in time for the coming winter and extending the eligibility for winter fuel payments, to cover lower income working aged households;
- Restoring the £20 uplift to Universal Credit, introduced temporarily to help UC recipients during the covid pandemic but then subsequently removed;
- Revising the usual annual uplift to other benefit payments and the state pension to reflect current rates of inflation, given the steep rise in inflation over recent months and the continued predictions of its elevated trajectory;

with the above measures to be funded by a windfall tax on the recent bumper profits of companies in the oil and gas production and distribution chain.”

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