

Subject:	DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL RECOVERY PROGRAMME
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet – 6 July 2020
Report of:	Nadeem Aziz, Chief Executive
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Trevor Bartlett, Leader of the Council
Decision Type:	Executive Non-Key
Classification:	Unrestricted
Purpose of the report:	To agree a number of workstreams to take forward actions agreed by Cabinet on 2 June 2020.
Recommendation:	Cabinet is asked to agree the workstreams included in this report and the nominated Member and Officer Leads.

1. **Summary**

The attached report proposes a way forward for the Council as a result of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. **Introduction and Background**

2.1 On 1 June 2020, Cabinet considered the report 'Review of Capital and Revenue Budgets in response to COVID-19 pandemic'.

2.2 A review of the Council's budget was undertaken in order to appraise Cabinet of the situation and seek agreement in developing a strategic financial response.

2.3 A number of areas were considered in order to take this work forward. The attached report proposed the following workstreams are established to meet the decisions taken by Cabinet on 1 June.

2.4 The workstreams identified are:

Finance Recovery Group

Business and Economic Recovery Group

Community Recovery Group

Organisational Recovery Group

Future Operating Model/State of the Council Group

It is proposed each Lead Member and Officer (including other officers where appropriate) complete a Project Plan and Brief, template documents attached at Appendix 2, for information. These Project Plans will be signed off by the Leader and Chief Executive at the end of June 2020, to ensure the projects are in line with the Cabinet report of 1 June, and also to agree timescales for each piece of work. Updates will be received by Leadership Forum with a full report to Cabinet in September 2020, in line with the requirements of the budget setting process.

3. **Identification of Options**

3.1 Do nothing and continue with the Council's agreed Corporate Plan and Budget, as agreed by Council in February 2020.

- 3.2 Agree to the workstreams and programme outlined in Appendix 1, as per the decision of Cabinet on 1 June.
4. **Evaluation of Options**
- 4.1 Due to the impact of the pandemic option 3.1 is not recommended. As with many other Councils, COVID-19 has resulted in, amongst other things, a reduction in income for the Council and reduced service demand during the lockdown period. This impact was reflected and agreed in the Cabinet report of 1 June. Option 3.2 is recommended to deliver the actions agreed.
5. **Resource Implications**
- 5.1 Please refer to the Cabinet report of 1 June - 'Review of Capital and Revenue Budgets in response to COVID-19 pandemic'.
6. **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**
- 6.1 Each of the projects will need to demonstrate they have considered 'a green, sustainable' recovery in plans and discussions, in line with the Council's commitment to reduce its environmental impact as set out in Climate Change Emergency Declaration. The COVID-19 pandemic presents an opportunity to advance some climate change goals for the council and this should be taken into account to ensure the short, medium and longer term responses to the pandemic are complementary to the Council's overall climate change agenda.
7. **Corporate Implications**
- 7.1 Comment from the Director of Finance (linked to the MTFP): The Head of Finance and Housing has been consulted on this report and has no further comments to add.
- 7.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Head of Governance has been consulted during the preparation of this report and has no further comment to make.
- 7.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer:
This report does not specifically highlight any equality implications, however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>
- 7.4 Other Officers (as appropriate): None.
8. **Appendices**
- Appendix 1 – DDC Recovery Plan
- Appendix 2 – Project Management Guide and Brief template
9. **Background Papers**
- 9.1 Review of Capital and Revenue Budgets in response to COVID-19 pandemic, Cabinet report.

Contact Officer: Michelle Farrow, Head of Leadership Support, email: michelle.farrow@dover.gov.uk , ext.2311