

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



*Municipal Building,
Kingsway,
Widnes.
WA8 7QF*

4 December 2018

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

You are hereby summoned to attend an Ordinary Meeting of the Halton Borough Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 commencing at 6.30 p.m. for the purpose of considering and passing such resolution(s) as may be deemed necessary or desirable in respect of the matters mentioned in the Agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W. R.', is centered on the page.

Chief Executive

-AGENDA-

Item No.		Page No.
1.	COUNCIL MINUTES	SEE MINUTE BOOK
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
3.	THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
4.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
5.	LEADER'S REPORT	
6.	MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD	SEE MINUTE BOOK
	a) 18 October 2018	
	b) 15 November 2018	
7.	MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD	SEE MINUTE BOOK
8.	QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 8	
9.	MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION OF THE COUNCIL	
	a) Initial Budget Proposals 2019/20 - KEY DECISION (EXB 52 Refers)	1 – 14
	Executive Board considered the attached report.	
	RECOMMENDED: That Council	
	1) approve the initial budget proposals for 2019/20, as set out in Appendix 1, attached to the report; and	
	2) determine the position of the Council on a proposal to continue the 4 days unpaid leave arrangement.	
	b) Determination of Council Tax Base 2019/20 - KEY DECISION (EXB 50 refers)	15 – 18

Executive Board considered the attached report.

RECOMMENDED: That Council approve

- 1) Setting the 2019/20 Council Tax Base at 34,950 for the Borough, and that the Cheshire Fire Authority, the Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the Environment Agency be so notified; and
- 2) The Council Tax Base for each of the Parishes be set as follows:

Parish	Tax Base
Hale	660
Halebank	526
Daresbury	173
Moore	329
Preston Brook	359
Sandymoor	1,216

- c) 2018/19 Revised Capital Programme (Minute EXB 53 refers) **19 – 26**

Executive Board considered the attached report.

RECOMMENDED: That Council approve the revised Capital Programme 2018/19, as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report.

- d) Treasury Management Half Year Report 2018/19 (Minute EXB 54 refers) **27 – 36**

Executive Board considered the attached report.

RECOMMENDED: That Council adopt the updated Operational Boundary and Authorised Limits as detailed in paragraph 3.18 of the report.

- e) Community Shop (Minute EXB 56 refers) **37 – 44**

Executive Board considered the attached report.

RECOMMENDED: That Council approve an amendment to the Capital Programme and a £50k capital allocation be approved to provide a contribution towards the costs involved in developing Community Shop in Halton.

10. MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARDS AND THE BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD

SEE MINUTE BOOK

- a) Children, Young People and Families
- b) Employment, Learning and Skills and Community

- c) Health
- d) Safer
- e) Environment and Urban Renewal
- f) Corporate Services
- g) Business Efficiency Board

11. COMMITTEE MINUTES

SEE MINUTE BOOK

- a) Development Control
- b) Regulatory

12. NOTICE OF MOTION - PERIOD POVERTY

45 – 46

13. NOTICE OF MOTION - FOOD INSECURITY

47 – 48

14. NOTICE OF MOTION - PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING

49 – 50

15. PART II

In this case Council has a discretion to exclude the press and public and, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it is **RECOMMENDED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

Please note that if this resolution is passed, members of the press and public will be asked to leave the room prior to the consideration of the following business.

16. MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION OF THE COUNCIL

- a) Acquisition of Orchard House (Minute EXB 60 refers)

51 – 54

Executive Board considered the attached report.

RECOMMENDED: That Council include an amount as stated in the report, in the Capital Programme, which will be fully funded by NHS England, to meet the cost of the Orchard House scheme.

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 15 November 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Finance

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Initial Budget Proposals 2019/20

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To recommend to Council initial revenue budget proposals for 2019/20.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That Council approve the initial budget proposals for 2019/20 set out in Appendix 1.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) elsewhere on the Agenda forecasts potential revenue budget funding gaps for the Council totalling £21m over the next three years, with a gap of £9.8m for 2019/20. The Forecast assumes that the Council will apply a general council tax increase of 2.9% in 2019/20.

3.2 Budget saving proposals for 2019/20 are currently being developed by the Budget Working Group.

3.3 The first set of these proposals totalling £4.7m is listed in Appendix 1. It is proposed to implement these immediately in order to also achieve a part-year saving wherever possible in 2018/19, which will assist in keeping the Council's overall spending in line with budget. In addition, a number of the proposals will take time to implement and therefore commencing the process as soon as possible will assist with ensuring they are fully implemented by 1st April 2019.

3.4 Appendix 1 includes an indication of whether each saving proposal is permanent or temporary (one-off). It also presents the impact in 2020/21 of certain of the savings proposals.

3.5 The Government will announce its Grant Settlement for Local Government on 6th December 2018. However, in announcing the 2018/19 Grant Settlement the Government provided indicative grant figures for 2019/20 upon which the MTFS has been based.

3.6 The Council also accepted the Government's four-year grant settlement offer, which should ensure that the Council will receive no less than the indicative grant figures for each year. Therefore, it is not expected that

the forecast budget gaps will change significantly for next year, however the position for 2020/21 is much less certain.

- 3.7 A second set of budget saving proposals is currently being developed by the Budget Working Group, which will be recommended to Council on 6th March 2019 to deliver a balanced budget for 2019/20.

4.0 POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The revenue budget supports the Council in achieving the aims and objectives set out in Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy and the Council's Corporate Plan.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

- 5.1 The revenue budget supports the delivery and achievement of all the Council's priorities. The budget proposals listed in Appendix 1 have been prepared in consideration of all the Council's priorities.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 6.1 Failure to set a balanced budget would put the Council in breach of statutory requirements. The budget is prepared in accordance with detailed guidance and a timetable, to ensure statutory requirements are met and a balanced budget is prepared which aligns resources with corporate objectives.
- 6.2 The Council has accepted the Government's four-year grant settlement offer, which should ensure that the Council will receive no less than the indicative grant figures for 2019/20.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 7.1 None.

8.0 REASON FOR THE DECISION

- 8.1 To seek approval for the initial set of revenue budget proposals for 2018/19.

9.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 9.1 There is no alternative option, as failure to set a balanced budget would put the Council in breach of statutory requirements.

10.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

- 10.1 The 2019/20 revenue budget will be implemented from 1st April 2019.

11.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1072

11.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX 1

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
PEOPLE DIRECTORATE							
INCOME GENERATION OPPORTUNITIES							
1	Children & Families Dept	To increase the contribution from the Health Service towards the cost of Children's Continuing Health Care and Children in Care.	100	150	0	P	M
2	Education, Inclusion & Provision	Increased funding generated from the performance reward grant in relation to Troubled Families.	246	50	0	P	M
PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES							
3	People Directorate	Target reduction in the cost of existing or re-procured contracts, across the Directorate.	N/A	590	0	P	M
EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES							
4	Education Inclusion & Provision	Following a restructuring of the Early Years team an initial saving of £70,000 was approved for 2018/19. A further £25,000 saving has been identified now that the new structure has been finalised and implemented.	373	25	0	P	D

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
5	Education Inclusion & Provision	Due to the reduction in the number of maintained secondary schools, the vacant Secondary School Advisor post has been deleted. A partial budget saving was approved in 2018/19 and this is the balance of the saving relating to that post.	38	38	0	P	D
6	Adult Social Care Department/ Commissioning Division	Restructuring within the Commissioning & Quality Assurance and Policy, Performance & Customer Care teams, resulting in the deletion of a vacant Representations & Information Officer post.	422	30	0	P	M
7	Adult Social Care Department/	Reductions in workload resulting from the implementation of the Transforming Domiciliary Care programme which will enable the deletion of a vacant Care Arranger post.	168	30	0	P	M
8	Adult Social Care Department/ Care Management Division	Various small budget savings within the Care Management Division.	1,671	20	0	P	M
9	Children & Families Dept/ Children's Locality Services Divisions	Review of Early Help and Intervention Services, to deliver rationalisation and management efficiencies.	1,686	350	0	P	M

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
10	Children & Families Dept/ Children in Care Division	Review of children-in-care placements, with a focus upon increasing in-house foster care provision and utilisation.	4,352	150	0	P	M
OTHER BUDGET SAVINGS							
11	Public Protection Department / Environmental Protection	Re-profiling of budget from Environmental Protection creating a one-off saving.	200	200	-200	T	M
12	Children & Families Dept	Review of short break respite provision, to achieve efficiencies without effecting service provision.	809	150	0	P	D
13	Children & Families Dept	Review of the level of targeted support provided by the Health Improvement Team for Early Help.	N/A	80	0	P	M
14	Adult Social Care Department	Re-profiling of budget from Adult Social Care creating a one-off saving.	1,000	1,000	-1,000	T	M/D
15	People Directorate	Review of transport arrangements across the Directorate.	1,000	375	0	P	M

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
16	People Directorate	Review of support costs and allowances relating to the Halton Safeguarding Childrens and Adults Boards with the introduction of Assurance Frameworks.	40	20	0	P	M
TOTAL PERMANENT SAVINGS				2,058	0		
TOTAL TEMPORARY (ONE-OFF) SAVINGS				1,200	-1,200		
GRAND TOTAL				3,258	-1,200		

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
ENTERPRISE, COMMUNITY & RESOURCES DIRECTORATE							
INCOME GENERATION OPPORTUNITIES							
17	Community & Environ Dept / Community Safety	Income generated from a new contract to provide CCTV monitoring services for Merseylink.	N/A	75	0	P	M
18	Community & Environ Dept / Waste Management Div	Additional income from increasing the charge for collection of garden waste by £5 per annum. Current charges are £27 pa online (90% of subscribers) and £32 pa via phone or HDL, which are lower than most North West councils.	420	85	0	P	D
19	PP&T Dept / Traffic Div	Increased income generated from; (i) Charges for pavement licences and skip permits. (ii) Streetworks permit charges to utility companies.	3 250	1 10	0 0	P P	D D
20	PP&T Dept / Planning Div	Additional income from increasing the pre-application planning charges.	36	10	0	P	D
21	PP&T Dept / Planning Div	Income generated from enhanced charges for large or complex planning proposals, through the introduction of Planning Performance Agreements.	0	10	0	P	D
22	EE&P Dept / Development & Investment Services	Income generated from the introduction of the external funding charging policy.	253	10	0	P	D

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
23	Finance Dept / Audit, Procuremt & Op Fin Div	Extra income from charging for additional financial processing services provided under a contract with the National Consortium for Examination Results.	10	5	0	P	D
24	Finance Dept / Audit, Procuremt & Op Fin Div	Increased income from supplier statement reconciliations, to recover credits owed by suppliers who are no longer used by the Council.	21	6	0	P	D
SHARED SERVICES / PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS							
25	Community & Environ Dept / Community Development	Development of opportunities for further efficiencies within Community Centre provision.	114	35	0	P	D
EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES							
26	Community & Environ Dept / Splash Fund	Reduce the Splash Fund budget.	61	34	0	P	D
27	Community & Environ Dept / Open Spaces Div	Efficiencies arising from delivery of the Halton Residents Funeral package.	105	15	0	P	M

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
28	Community & Environ Dept / Open Spaces Div	The bowling greens at Crow Wood Park, Hough Green Park, Leigh Recreation Ground and Rock Park to be closed or offered to bowling clubs to maintain and operate them. This would leave those in Victoria Park and Runcorn Hill Park operated by the Council.	40	40	0	P	D
29	PP&T Dept / Building Control	Deletion of the unused Structural Engineers contracted services budget, as now funded by the relevant schemes.	10	10	0	P	M
30	PP&T Dept / Traffic Div	Further reduction in the street lighting budget as a result of the ongoing LED replacement programme, which provides reduced energy and maintenance costs.	1,718	100	0	P	M
31	Finance Dept / Audit, Procuremt & Op Fin Div	Deletion of a vacant 0.6fte Purchase to Pay Officer post.	16	16	0	P	D
32	Finance Dept / Revenues & Financial Management Div	Deletion of two (1.6fte) vacant posts in the Financial Management team.	1,256	42	0	P	D
33	Finance Dept / Audit, Procuremt & Op Fin Div	Reduction in the vehicle insurance budget in order to realign the budget with the actual level of spend.	110	10	0	P	D

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
34	Community & Environ Dept / Area Forums	Reduction in the Area Forum budget with resulting allocations of; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AF1 Broadheath, Ditton, Hough Green, Hale £35k • AF2 Birchfield, Farnworth, Halton View £30k • AF3 Appleton, Kingsway, Riverside £35k • AF4 Grange, Heath, Halton Brook, Mersey £42k • AF5 Halton Castle, Norton Nth, Norton Sth, Windmill Hill £35k • AF6 Beechwood, Halton Lea £16k • AF7 Daresbury £7k Total Allocation £200,000	250	50	0	P	D
35	Legal & Dem Svcs Dept / Member Services	Reduction in the small functions budget.	22	5	0	P	D
36	Legal & Dem Svcs Dept / Licencing	Budget reduction arising from a reduction in hours already approved for a member of staff in the Licencing Team	40	12	0	P	M
37	EE&P Dept	Review of service provision within the Regeneration and Asset Management Divisions of the Economy, Enterprise and Property Department.	1,032	100	0	P	D
38	EE&P Dept / Property Operations	Reduction in the property maintenance budget, as a result of the rationalisation of premises in accordance with the accommodation strategy.	2,171	100	0	P	M
39	EE&P Dept / Operations Div	Saving (excluding utility costs) from the phased vacation of Kingsway House.	260	85	175	P	D

	DIVISION / SERVICE AREA	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL	TOTAL BUDGET £'000	ESTIMATED BUDGET SAVING		PERM TEMP (P/T)	MANDATORY OR DISCRETIONARY SERVICE AFFECTED (M / D)
				2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000		
40	Policy, Planning & Transport Dept	Estimated energy saving from implementation of the Solar Farm.	N/A	40	0	P	D
OTHER BUDGET SAVINGS							
41	Community & Environ Dept / Waste Mgt Div	Deletion of a vacant Refuse Collection Operative post.	597	25	0	P	D
42	PP&T Dept / Traffic Div	Deletion of vacant part-time posts within the Traffic Division.	131	14	0	P	D
43	EE&P Dept / External Funding	Review of arrangements for potential clawback on externally funded projects.	258	50	-50	T	D
44	Corporate	Reduction in those non-staffing budgets which are not bound by contractual commitments, across all Services.	4,350	400	0	P	D
TOTAL PERMANENT SAVINGS				1,345	175		
TOTAL TEMPORARY (ONE-OFF) SAVINGS				50	-50		
GRAND TOTAL				1,395	125		

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REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 15 November 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director, Finance

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Determination of Council Tax Base 2019/20

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Council is required to determine annually the Council Tax Base for its area and also the Council Tax Base for each of the Parishes.
- 1.2 The Council is required to notify the Council Tax Base figure to the Cheshire Fire Authority, the Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner and the Environment Agency by 31 January 2019. The Council is also required to calculate and advise if requested, the Parish Councils of their relevant Council Tax Bases.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) **Council set the 2019/20 Council Tax Base at 34,950 for the Borough, and that the Cheshire Fire Authority, the Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner, and the Environment Agency be so notified; and**
- (2) **Council set the Council Tax Base for each of the Parishes as follows:**

Parish	Tax Base
Hale	660
Halebank	526
Daresbury	173
Moore	329
Preston Brook	359
Sandymoor	1,216

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council Tax Base is the measure used for calculating Council Tax and is used by both the billing authority (the Council) and the major precepting authorities (Cheshire Fire Authority and Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner), in the calculation of their Council Tax requirements.
- 3.2 The Council Tax Base figure is arrived at in accordance with a prescribed formula, and represents the estimated full year number of chargeable dwellings in the Borough, expressed in terms of the equivalent of Band 'D' dwellings.
- 3.3 The Council Tax Base is calculated using the number of dwellings included in the Valuation List, as provided by the Valuation Office Agency, as at 15 October 2018. Adjustments are then made to take into account the estimated number of discounts, voids, additions and demolitions during the period 15 October 2018 to 31 March 2019.
- 3.4 From 2013/14 onwards, the tax base calculation has included an element for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (the replacement for Council Tax Benefit). The estimated amount of Council Tax Support payable for 2019/20 is converted into the equivalent number of whole properties which are deducted from the total.
- 3.5 An estimated percentage collection rate is then applied to the product of the above calculation to arrive at the Council Tax Base for the year.
- 3.6 From 2019/20 onwards, the tax base calculation will include an element for Care Leavers Discretionary Discount, as approved by Executive Board on 19th July 2018. The estimated amount of Care Leavers Discount payable for 2019/20 is converted into the equivalent number of whole properties which are deducted from the total.
- 3.7 An estimated percentage collection rate is then applied to the product of the above calculation to arrive at the Council Tax Base for the year.
- 3.8 Taking account of all the relevant information and applying a 97.0% collection rate, the calculation for 2019/20 provides a tax base figure of **34,950** for the Borough as a whole.

- 3.9 Taking account of all the relevant information and applying a 97.0% collection rate, the appropriate Council Tax Base figure for each of the Parishes is as follows

Parish	Tax Base
Hale	660
Halebank	526
Daresbury	173
Moore	329
Preston Brook	359
Sandymoor	1,216

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council Tax Base will enable the Council to set the level of Council Tax to be charged for 2019/20.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 There would be significant loss of income to the Council if the Council Tax Base were not agreed, as it would not be possible to set the level of Council Tax to be charged for 2019/20.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 8.1 None.

9.0 REASON FOR THE DECISION

9.1 To seek approval for the 2019/20 Council Tax Base for the Borough.

10.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

10.1 There is no alternative option, as unless the Council Tax Base is approved it would not be possible to set the level of Council Tax to be charged for 2019/20.

11.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

11.1 The 2019/20 Council Tax Base will be implemented from 1st April 2019.

12.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Working Papers	Kingsway House	Stephen Baker

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 12 December 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director, Finance

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: 2018/19 Revised Capital Programme

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval to a number of revisions to the Council's 2018/19 Capital Programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the revisions to the Council's 2018/19 Capital Programme set out in paragraph 3.2 below, be approved.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 On 15 November 2018, Executive Board received a report of spending against the Council's revenue budget and Capital Programme as at 30 September 2018. A number of revisions to the 2018/19 Capital Programme were recommended for approval by Council as outlined below.

3.2 It is proposed to revise the Council's 2018/19 Capital Programme, to reflect a number of changes in spending profiles and funding as schemes have developed. These are reflected in the revised Capital Programme presented in Appendix 1. The schemes which have been revised within the Programme are as follows

1. Murdishaw Regeneration
2. KRN – Earle Road Gyrotory

4.0 POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 There are no direct implications; however, the Capital Programme supports the delivery and achievement of all the Council's priorities.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 There are a number of financial risks within the Capital Programme. However, the Council has internal controls and processes in place to ensure that spending remains in line with budget.

6.2 In preparing the 2018/19 budget and Capital Programme, a register of significant financial risks was prepared which has been updated as at 30 September 2018.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1072

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

Capital Expenditure to 30 September 2018

Directorate/Department	Actual Expenditure to Date £'000	2018/19 Cumulative Capital Allocation			Capital Allocation 2019/20 £'000	Capital Allocation 2020/21 £'000
		Quarter 2 £'000	Quarter 3 £'000	Quarter 4 £'000		
Enterprise Community & Resources Directorate						
Community and Environment						
Stadium Minor Works	17	25	38	50	30	30
Stadium Pitch	0	0	0	300	0	0
Brindley Café Extension	6	30	55	80	0	0
Open Spaces Schemes	128	100	300	611	0	0
Children's Playground Equipment	-1	0	60	61	65	65
Upton Improvements	0	0	0	13	0	0
The Glen Play Area	0	0	0	41	0	0
Runcorn Hill Park	3	5	5	5	0	0
Crow Wood Play Area	5	5	458	478	5	0
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery	16	25	225	500	500	90
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery – Enabling Works	7	0	0	33	0	0
Pheonix Park	103	80	95	100	14	0
Victoria Park Glass House	0	0	50	170	73	0
Sandymoor Playing Fields	470	560	760	1,032	500	0
Widnes & Runcorn Cemeteries	0	0	10	190	20	0
Landfill Tax Credit Schemes	0	0	0	340	340	340
Litter Bins	0	0	0	20	20	20

Directorate/Department	Actual Expenditure to Date £'000	2018/19 Cumulative Capital Allocation			Capital Allocation 2019/20 £'000	Capital Allocation 2020/21 £'000
		Quarter 2 £'000	Quarter 3 £'000	Quarter 4 £'000		
ICT & Support Services						
ICT Rolling Programme	133	133	480	700	700	700
Economy, Enterprise & Property						
3MG	42	42	403	499	0	0
Widnes Waterfront	0	0	0	0	1,000	0
Decontamination of Land	0	0	0	50	0	0
SciTech Daresbury – EZ Grant	243	243	382	382	0	0
Venture Field	0	0	41	41	0	0
Linnets Clubhouse	22	22	207	287	0	0
The Croft	0	0	0	30	0	0
Murdishaw redevelopment	0	0	0	38	0	0
Former Crosville Site	83	83	200	440	0	0
Advertising Screen at The Hive	0	0	0	100	0	0
Widnes Market Refurbishment	813	813	1,125	1,191	29	0
Equality Act Improvement Works	0	0	55	150	300	300
Broseley House	711	711	711	1,190	0	0
Solar Farm	19	19	857	1,278	0	0
Stadium Alterations	0	0	100	200	0	0

Directorate/Department	Actual Expenditure to Date £'000	2018/19 Cumulative Capital Allocation			Capital Allocation 2019/20 £'000	Capital Allocation 2020/21 £'000
		Quarter 2 £'000	Quarter 3 £'000	Quarter 4 £'000		
Mersey Gateway						
Land Acquisitions	24	24	40	4,039	0	0
Development Costs	170	182	225	436	0	0
Other						
Risk Management	0	0	30	170	206	120
Fleet Replacements	434	434	1,154	1,513	1,015	1,260
Policy, Planning & Transportation						
Bridge & Highway Maintenance	640	640	2,108	3,639	0	0
Integrated Transport & Network Management	115	115	330	460	0	0
Street Lighting – Structural Maintenance & Upgrades	23	23	380	782	1,200	2,000
STEPS Programme	66	66	660	2,643	0	0
Silver Jubilee Bridge Major Maintenance	3,023	3,023	5,000	7,265	0	0
Silver Jubilee Bridge Decoupling	230	230	400	9,596	0	0
Widnes Loops	113	113	200	1,000	4,227	0
KRN – Earle Road Gyratory	129	129	575	1,150	0	0
Total Enterprise Community & Resources	7,787	7,875	17,719	43,293	10,244	4,925

Directorate/Department	Actual Expenditure to Date £'000	2018/19 Cumulative Capital Allocation			Capital Allocation 2019/20 £'000	Capital Allocation 2020/21 £'000
		Quarter 2 £'000	Quarter 3 £'000	Quarter 4 £'000		
People Directorate						
Adult Social Care						
ALD Bungalows	0	0	0	199	0	0
Vine Street Reconfiguration	1	0	10	10	0	0
Purchase of 2 adapted properties	0	0	0	520	0	0
Complex Pool						
Disabled Facilities Grant	221	270	780	1,109	0	0
Stairlifts (Adaptations Initiative)	108	150	225	300	0	0
RSL Adaptations (Joint Funding)	65	125	150	250	0	0
Madeline McKenna Residential Home	5	10	90	136	0	0
Millbrow Care Home	180	150	150	150	0	0

Directorate/Department	Actual Expenditure to Date £'000	2018/19 Cumulative Capital Allocation			Capital Allocation 2019/20 £'000	Capital Allocation 2020/21 £'000
		Quarter 2 £'000	Quarter 3 £'000	Quarter 4 £'000		
Schools Related						
Asset Management Data	1	2	3	5	0	0
Capital Repairs	565	613	753	893	0	0
Asbestos Management	2	5	10	19	0	0
Schools Access Initiative	42	40	65	77	0	0
Basic Need Projects	0	0	0	216	283	437
Lunts Heath Primary School	0	0	11	11	0	0
Fairfield Primary School	9	17	70	79	0	0
Weston Point Primary School	0	0	4	4	0	0
Kitchen Gas Safety	53	30	60	85	0	0
Small Capital Works	60	53	80	119	0	0
Bridge School Vocational Centre	306	300	380	380	21	0
Simms Cross remodelling	0	70	122	122	0	0
Ashley School remodelling 6 th form	8	50	70	70	0	0
SEND Capital allocation	1	0	0	30	304	166
Healthy Pupils Capital Fund	4	20	40	70	0	0
Total People Directorate	1,631	1,905	3,073	4,854	608	603
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME	9,418	9,780	20,792	48,147	10,852	5,528
Slippage (20%)				-9,629	-2,170	-1,106
					9,629	2,170
TOTAL	9,418	9,780	20,792	38,518	18,311	6,592

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REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 15 November 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Finance

PORTFOLIO: Resources

TITLE: Treasury Management Half Year Report 2018-19

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update regarding activities undertaken on the money market as required by the Treasury Management Policy.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That

1) Council be recommended to adopt the updated Operational Boundary and Authorised Limits as detailed in paragraph 3.18; and

2) the report be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Economic Outlook

3.1 The following analysis of the economic situation has been provided by Link Asset Services, the Council's treasury management advisors.

3.2 During the six months ended 30th September 2018:

- The economy showed signs of regaining momentum after the slowdown in the previous quarter
- A tight labour market put upward pressure on wage growth
- Consumer price inflation rose unexpectedly
- Base rate increased in August to 0.75%
- Brexit negotiations remained at an impasse

3.3 The first half of 2018/19 has seen UK economic growth post a modest performance, but sufficiently robust for the Monetary Policy Committee, (MPC), to unanimously (9-0) vote to increase Bank Rate on 02 August 2018 from 0.5% to 0.75%. Although growth looks as if it will only be modest at around 1.5% in 2018, the Bank of England's August Quarterly Inflation Report forecast that growth will pick up to 1.8% in 2019, albeit there were several

caveats – mainly related to whether or not the UK achieves an orderly withdrawal from the European Union in March 2019

- 3.4 Some Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) members have expressed concerns about a build-up of inflationary pressures, particularly with the pound falling in value again against both the US dollar and the Euro. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measure of inflation rose unexpectedly from 2.4% in June to 2.7% in August due to increases in volatile components, but is expected to fall back to the 2% inflation target over the next two years given a scenario of minimal increases in Bank Rate. The MPC has indicated Bank Rate would need to be in the region of 1.5% by March 2021 for inflation to stay on track. Financial markets are currently pricing in the next increase in Bank Rate for the second half of 2019.
- 3.5 As for the labour market, unemployment has continued at a 43 year low of 4% on the Independent Labour Organisation measure. A combination of job vacancies hitting an all-time high in July, together with negligible growth in total employment numbers, indicates that employers are now having major difficulties filling job vacancies with suitable staff. It was therefore unsurprising that wage inflation picked up to 2.9%, (3 month average regular pay, excluding bonuses) and to a one month figure in July of 3.1%. This meant that in real terms, (i.e. wage rates higher than CPI inflation), earnings grew by about 0.4%, near to the joint high of 0.5% since 2009. (The previous high point was in July 2015.) Given the UK economy is very much services sector driven, an increase in household spending power is likely to feed through into providing some support to the overall rate of economic growth in the coming months. This tends to confirm that the MPC were right to start on a cautious increase in Bank Rate in August as it views wage inflation in excess of 3% as increasing inflationary pressures within the UK economy. However, the MPC will need to tread cautiously before increasing Bank Rate again, especially given all the uncertainties around Brexit.
- 3.6 In the political arena, there is a risk that the current Conservative minority government may be unable to muster a majority in the Commons over Brexit. However, it appears the Government will endure, despite various setbacks, along the route to Brexit in March 2019. If, however, the UK faces a general election in the next 12 months, this could result in a potential loosening of monetary policy and therefore medium to longer dated gilt yields could rise on the expectation of a weak pound and concerns around inflation picking up.
- 3.7 In the USA President Trump's massive easing of fiscal policy is fuelling a (temporary) boost in consumption which has generated an upturn in the rate of

strong growth which rose from 2.2%, (annualised rate), in quarter 1 to 4.2% in quarter 2, but also an upturn in inflationary pressures. With inflation moving towards 3%, the Federal Bank increased rates another 0.25% in September to between 2.00% and 2.25%, this being four increases in 2018, and indicated they expected to increase rates four more times by the end of 2019. The dilemma, however, is what to do when the temporary boost to consumption wanes, particularly as the recent imposition of tariffs on a number of countries' exports to the US, (China in particular), could see a switch to US production of some of those goods, but at higher prices. Such a scenario would invariably make any easing of monetary policy harder for the Federal Bank in the second half of 2019

- 3.8 In the Eurozone growth was unchanged at 0.4% in quarter 2, but has undershot early forecasts for a stronger economic performance in 2018. In particular, data from Germany has been mixed and it could be negatively impacted by US tariffs on a significant part of manufacturing exports e.g. cars. For that reason, although growth is still expected to be in the region of 2% for 2018, the horizon is less clear than it seemed just a short while ago.

Interest Rate Forecast

- 3.9 The following forecast has been provided by Link Asset Services.

Link Asset Services Interest Rate View											
	Sep-18	Dec-18	Mar-19	Jun-19	Sep-19	Dec-19	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20	Mar-21
Bank Rate View	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.25%	1.25%	1.50%	1.50%
3 Month LIBID	0.75%	0.80%	0.80%	0.90%	1.10%	1.10%	1.20%	1.40%	1.50%	1.60%	1.60%
6 Month LIBID	0.85%	0.90%	0.90%	1.00%	1.20%	1.20%	1.30%	1.50%	1.60%	1.70%	1.70%
12 Month LIBID	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.10%	1.30%	1.30%	1.40%	1.60%	1.70%	1.80%	1.80%
5yr PWLB Rate	2.00%	2.00%	2.10%	2.20%	2.20%	2.30%	2.30%	2.40%	2.50%	2.50%	2.60%
10yr PWLB Rate	2.40%	2.50%	2.50%	2.60%	2.70%	2.70%	2.80%	2.90%	2.90%	3.00%	3.10%
25yr PWLB Rate	2.80%	2.90%	3.00%	3.10%	3.10%	3.20%	3.30%	3.30%	3.40%	3.50%	3.50%
50yr PWLB Rate	2.60%	2.70%	2.80%	2.90%	2.90%	3.00%	3.10%	3.10%	3.20%	3.30%	3.30%

Short Term Borrowing Rates

3.10 The bank base rate increased from 0.50% to 0.75% on the 2nd August 2018.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Call Money (Market)	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.46	0.71	0.70
1 Month (Market)	0.51	0.51	0.50	0.50	0.68	0.72	0.72
3 Month (Market)	0.72	0.71	0.61	0.67	0.80	0.80	0.80

Longer Term Borrowing Rates

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1 Year (Market)	1.01	0.97	0.89	0.96	1.05	1.05	1.06
10 Year (PWLB)	2.26	2.35	2.20	2.21	2.27	2.25	2.37
25 Year (PWLB)	2.57	2.69	2.56	2.57	2.63	2.63	2.74

3.11 Market rates are based on LIBOR rates and PWLB rates are for new loans based on principal repayable at maturity. The rates are shown for the end of each month.

Borrowing and InvestmentsTurnover During the Period

	No of deals	Turnover £m
Short Term Borrowing	-	-
Short Term Investments	18	200

Position at Month End

	Mar £m	Apr £m	May £m	Jun £m	Jul £m	Aug £m	Sep £m
Total Borrowing	172	153	153	153	143	143	143
Total Investments	(65)	(95)	(95)	(95)	(95)	(100)	(100)
Call Account Balance	(16)	(19)	(18)	(25)	(25)	(15)	(20)

Investment Benchmarking

Benchmark	Benchmark Return %	Performance Apr - Sep %	Investment Interest Earned £000
7 day	0.40	0.52	70
1 month	0.43	0.00	-
3 months	0.58	0.84	67
6 months	0.69	0.80	213
12 months	0.89	0.92	89
Over 12 months		1.30	65
Property Fund		4.07	102
Total			606

- 3.12 This shows the Council has over achieved on all benchmarks for the first 6 months of the year. There are no benchmarks available for the Council's investment in the CCLA property fund, or for investments held over 12 months.

Budget Monitoring

	Net Interest at 31st March 2018		
	Budget Year to Date £000	Actual Year to Date £000	Variance (o/spend) £000
Investment	(300)	(606)	306
Borrowing	1,099	1,099	-
Total	799	493	306

New Long Term Borrowing

- 3.13 No new long term borrowing has been taken in this period.

Policy Guidelines

- 3.14 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2018/19, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, was approved by the Council on 07 March 2018. It sets out the Council's investment priorities as being:
- Security of capital;
 - Liquidity; and
 - Yield
- 3.15 The Council will also aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. In the current economic climate and the heightened credit concerns it is considered appropriate to keep

the majority of investments short term and to ensure all investments are in line with Sector's credit rating methodology.

Change to the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary

- 3.16 One of the key Treasury Indicators set by the Council as part of the Treasury Management Strategy is the Operational Boundary (the limit beyond which external debt is normally expected to exceed) and the Authorised Limit (the limit beyond which external debt is prohibited).
- 3.17 Due to the valuation of the Mersey Gateway Bridge being required to be included during the preparation of the 2017/18 Statement of Accounts, an additional £644m was added to the Council's Capital Financing Requirement. This represents the capital element of the future Unitary Payments the Council are due to make over the next thirty years, funded from toll income. It should be noted that this is a purely accounting adjustment and doesn't reflect any additional borrowing over and above what is already taken.
- 3.18 It is therefore proposed that £644m is added to the Operation Boundary and Authorised Limit as shown below:

	Treasury Strategy £000	Updated Limits £000	Increase £000
Operational Boundary	212,500	856,312	643,812
Authorised Limit	282,500	926,312	643,812

Treasury Management Indicators

- 3.19 It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. The Council's approved Treasury and Prudential Indicators were set out in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and are reviewed in Appendix 1.

Debt Rescheduling

- 3.20 No debt rescheduling was undertaken during the quarter.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial implications are as set out in the report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 There are no direct implications, however, the revenue budget and capital programme support the delivery and achievement of all the Council's priorities.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The main risks with Treasury Management are security of investment and volatility of return. To combat this, the Authority operates within a clearly defined Treasury Management Policy and annual borrowing and investment strategy, which sets out the control framework

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 None.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

Treasury and Prudential Indicators – 2018/19 – Quarter 2

Prudential Indicators	2017/18	2018/19	
	Full Year Actual £000	Original Estimate £000	Quarter 2 Estimate £000
Capital Expenditure	104,663	36,253	48,146
Net Financing Need for the Year <i>(Borrowing Requirement)</i>	85,206	21,161	17,841
Increase / (Decrease) in CFR <i>(Capital Financing Requirement)</i>	79,134	18,274	15,575
Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream <i>(Proportion of cost of borrowing to Council's net revenue)</i>	2.5%	2.4%	2.0%
Incremental Impact on band D Council Tax (£) <i>(net cost of borrowing compared to tax base)</i>	17.30	2.50	27.63
External Debt	172,000	172,000	172,000
Operational Boundary <i>(Limit of which external debit is not expected to exceed)</i>	254,164	212,500	856,312
Authorised Limit <i>(Limit beyond which external debit is prohibited)</i>	270,000	282,500	926,312

Upper Limit for Interest Rate Exposure	Exposure Limit %	2017/18 Actual %	2018/19 Estimate %
Fixed Rate	100	100	100
Variable Rate	30	-	-

Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing	Exposure Limit %	2017/18 Actual %	2018/19 Estimate %
Under 12 months	40	0	0
12 months to 24 months	40	0	0
24 months to 5 years	40	0	0
5 years to 10 years	40	0	0
10 years and above	100	100	100

Maximum Principal invested > 365 days	Investment	2017/18	2018/19
	Limit £000	Actual £000	Estimate £000
Principal Sums Invested over 365 days	30,000	10,000	20,000

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REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 15 November 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Physical Environment

SUBJECT: Community Shop

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an update following the appraisal of options for the introduction of a Community Shop in Halton and to seek Members' approval to progress a preferred option.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

- 1) Executive Board approve that the Council progresses the option of working with Community Shop, and other partners, to deliver a Community Shop at the Onward Homes Priory House Office (“the Onward Homes Option”);**
- 2) Council be recommended to approve an amendment to the Capital Programme and a £50k capital allocation be approved to provide a contribution towards the costs involved in developing a Community Shop in Halton, and;**
- 3) the Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources be authorised, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Physical Environment, to take all such actions and to make any decisions necessary in order to progress “the Onward Homes Option”.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At their meeting of 20th September 2018, Executive Board received a report setting out a number of options to progress the potential delivery of a Community Shop in Halton. Members approved that, following the outcome of the appraisal of those options, a further report be presented to the Board for consideration to be given as to how best to proceed to deliver a Community Shop in Halton.
- 3.2 The potential options for delivering a Community Shop in Halton, as set out in the previous report to Members, were to;

- Develop an 'Integrated Hub' on Windmill Hill
- Introduce a Community Shop into a current Council asset, including the current Windmill Hill Children's Centre Building or Upton Community Centre
- Undertake a further site/buildings options appraisal to identify alternative premises

3.3 Since the previous report, there have been key developments with regards to two of the above options; the Integrated Hub and the identification of alternative premises, details of which are set out below.

4.0 POTENTIAL OPTIONS FOR A COMMUNITY SHOP IN HALTON

Integrated Hub

4.1 A feasibility study for an Integrated Health & Wellbeing Hub for Windmill Hill was commissioned by the Big Local Partnership and Well Halton in September 2017. In January 2018, Community Shop asked to be part of this feasibility study and this was agreed by the Big Local Partnership Steering Group.

4.2 The feasibility study is now complete and has been circulated to stakeholders for feedback. The recommendation arising from the study is to create a 'hub' development; providing a ground level extension to the Children's Centre building to allow the co-location of a Community Shop alongside the Children's Centre and to provide new multi-functional meeting room spaces. The proposal also includes extending St Berteline's Church Hall to accommodate flexible 'community space' and a larger café space. A new car park on the former GP Surgery site and public realm improvements to support fluid access to the site and traffic management are also proposed. This recommendation is estimated to cost £4.5 million and would require approximately 97 weeks for procurement and build. At this stage, there is no capital funding secured to deliver this project.

4.3 Feedback on the study recommendation has been received from a number of stakeholders. The Big Local Partnership Steering Group considered the stakeholder responses at a meeting on 19th October 2018 and, in summary, the feedback is as follows;

- Clinical Commissioning Group – The CCG's approach is based upon the 'One Halton' work and tackling thematic areas of health needs with general practice population sizes. There are therefore no plans to commission any specific services for Windmill Hill and, as such, the CCG cannot commit to the recommendations progressing.

- Public Health - support the study and feel a key anchor tenant is essential for long term sustainability. Whatever the outcome of the study, Public Health will consider an offer of outreach health improvement services to Windmill Hill as there are existing assets that could support this activity.
- Onward Homes – is supportive of the study however, they have concerns about the level of investment required and feel a Community Shop is pivotal to any development and if one is not realised then what would be on offer would largely be what is currently in place.
- St Berteline's Church – supportive however, anxious at the lack of 'buy in' from the local community to the proposals. Feel a staged approach to any development may begin to build community confidence and be more achievable.
- Big Local Partnership – In 2012, Windmill Hill was awarded £1m 'Big Local' funding to be spent over a 10 year period. Following the award of the funding the Windmill Hill Big Local Partnership was established. This is a resident led Partnership that has identified community infrastructure/facilities as a key priority in their strategic plan.

The Big Local Partnership is opposed to Community Shop being sited on Windmill Hill. The Partnership has stated that it will not invest any of its Big Local funds towards the development of a Community Shop or the Children's Centre site as they feel that Community Shop is a Borough-wide initiative and should be sited elsewhere.

The Partnership is keen to support the proposed development at St Berteline's Church, to enable broader access to community activity, and it will consider investment of Big Local funds to this element of the scheme.

- Residents – Windmill Hill has 1,003 households and a population of 2,364 residents. As part of the feasibility study, each household received information about the options for a Hub development and was invited to provide comment and feedback on their preferred option. 33 written responses were received.

The Big Local Partnership facilitated a session to allow residents to provide feedback on the study. Big Local have reported that those residents who attended the session were very concerned about the recommendation of the study as they felt that the local community had only asked for 'community space' to be developed and the other elements of the recommendation were too ambitious and not what the community desires.

In July, Officers held two open sessions to provide Windmill Hill residents with an update of the options contained within the feasibility study. A number of residents who lived in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site attended these sessions and provided feedback on the recommendations. These residents expressed concern about any change in use and perceived that the development would result in the 'saturation of the assets' and lead to traffic management issues.

Further Site/Building Options Appraisal

- 4.4 As a result of their ambition to introduce a shop into Halton, Community Shop has been actively seeking to identify potential sites or buildings. Community Shop recently approached the Council and advised that it had been in dialogue with Onward Homes and was exploring the potential to locate a shop at their Runcorn Office site, Priory House, which is located next to Shopping City.
- 4.5 Onward Homes have been progressing a transformational programme of re-organisation. Their new structure requires a small staff team being located at the Runcorn office and therefore surplus accommodation is available to be utilised for other purposes from January 2019. Some staff will remain at the site hence, it would become a shared space facility. Onward Homes are keen to develop this option and see Community Shop as an opportunity to provide access to the reduced cost retail offer and other support that can positively impact their tenants.
- 4.6 Community Shop are also keen to see this option developed, in partnership with the Council and Well North/Halton, to create a 'hub' approach where other initiatives could also be located alongside the shop. Well North/Halton are similarly keen to progress this option.
- 4.7 Community Shop have advised that the anticipated cost to remodel the accommodation they would occupy is £330k. This is significantly less than the anticipated £4.5m to develop the Integrated Hub option and the circa £800k that would be needed to develop the Windmill Hill Children's Centre option.
- 4.8 Community Shop will be seeking support towards the capital costs from financial contributions from project partners and support with grant applications. Where Community Shops exist elsewhere, Local Authorities have been very supportive by contributing either capital funding or buildings. It is being recommended that the Council makes a £50k contribution towards the capital costs which would provide a match funding source to help enable the remaining funds to be secured.

Recommendations

- 4.9 Officers have worked very closely with the local Ward Councillor to introduce a Community Shop in Windmill Hill. A model had been identified to help achieve this, through the development of an Integrated Health and Wellbeing Hub, however, after considering the feedback set out above it is now considered that it would not be possible to progress this option.
- 4.10 The most viable option to achieve a Community Shop in the Borough appears to be to progress of the option to introduce a shop into the Onward Homes Priory House Office. Community Shop have advised within their business plan for 2019 that they have commitment to two Community Shops opening in the Liverpool City Region, one by April and the second by October, and not only could the Onward Homes option allow the shop to be opened within desired timescales, the level of capital funding required to deliver the project is much reduced compared to other options and will provide increased opportunity for it to be secured.
- 4.11 Members are asked to approve a recommendation that the Council progresses the option of working with Community Shop, and other partners, to deliver a Community Shop at the Onward Homes Priory House Office. It is also recommended that the Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources be authorised, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Physical Environment, to take all such actions and to make any decisions necessary in order to progress the delivery of a Community Shop in Halton.
- 4.12 With regards to the options of delivering a Community Shop at the Windmill Hill Children's Centre building or Upton Community Centre, these can remain as potential future options that could be revisited in the event that the Onward Homes option is not realised.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial implications are set out within the report.

6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no new Policy implications as a result of this report.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

7.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Community Shop is targeted at households in need of support, and children & young people would benefit by virtue of the targeted approach.

7.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

The model provides permanent employment opportunities. There would be opportunities to support linkages to further employment across the retail and logistics partners linking into Halton Employment Partnership (HEP). The mentoring programme focusses on skills development and employability.

7.3 A Healthy Halton

Access to low cost food provision, including fresh produce, will improve the quality of food intake. The mentoring programme that goes alongside the shopping offer will increase knowledge and practice of healthy eating for the scheme participants and their households.

7.4 A Safer Halton

A sense of community and community connectedness reduces residents' fears of crime where they live. Residents are likely to feel a stronger sense of belonging and safety in an environment where the community members know each other, are active and there are established links to other stakeholders like police, housing associations, community wardens, etc. Community Shop can engender this approach in the Community Hub.

7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

A Community Shop would be an asset within the Borough and provide a targeted retail offer. A location is yet to be determined, but will be identified through exploration and further understanding of the Shop's impact.

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

Community Shop provides the opportunity to address food poverty, work intensely with individuals to support building skills and employability prospects, create employment opportunities and overall positively impact on health and wellbeing.

There is a risk that not securing the establishment of a Community Shop will result in the failure to realise these benefits in Halton.

9.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY ISSUES

This initiative targets the most financially disadvantaged residents in Halton's Community. Poverty and inequality are often elements of a complex set of circumstances which present exclusion. This initiative aims to tackle poverty and generate improved life chances for disadvantaged members of our local community.

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Employment, Learning & Skills and Community Policy & Performance Board Report 23 rd March 2015 - Community Shop	Municipal Building Kingsway Widnes	Angela Scott
Executive Board Report 15 th March 2018 Community Shop	Municipal Building Kingsway Widnes	Angela Scott
Executive Board Report 20 th September 2018 Community Shop	Municipal Building Kingsway Widnes	Angela Scott



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NOTICE OF MOTION

To be submitted to the meeting of Full Council to be held on:

Wednesday 12th December 2018

in accordance with Standing Order Number 6.

	Name (in capitals)	Signature
Proposer:	Cllr Lauren Cassidy	
Seconder:	Cllr Angela Teeling	

MOTION TO COUNCIL: PERIOD POVERTY

Halton Borough Council calls for women and girls to be shown the dignity they deserve when dealing with their periods.

The cost of sanitary products is unfair and exacerbates 'Period Poverty'. Council notes that VAT continues to be charged on sanitary products, yet they are not luxury products but essential to both women and girls.

This Council is committed to supporting women within our workplaces, ensuring our employees have the dignity they deserve.

This Council resolves:

- To seek to ensure women and girls in Halton gain better access to sanitary products and to receiving a more positive, supportive culture towards periods in the workplace and at schools in Halton.
- To write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, calling for an end to VAT on sanitary products.
- To support campaigns so that no women or young girls face 'Period Poverty'.

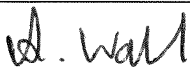
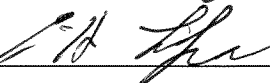
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NOTICE OF MOTION

To be submitted to the meeting of Full Council to be held on:

Wednesday 12th December 2018

in accordance with Standing Order Number 6.

	Name (in capitals)	Signature
Proposer:	Cllr Andrea Wall	
Seconder:	Cllr Chris Loftus	

MOTION TO COUNCIL: FOOD INSECURITY

Halton Borough Council calls for government to take urgent measures to end food insecurity and the growing reliance of families being dependent upon Food Banks.

Council supports the End Hunger UK campaign supported by Oxfam, Child Poverty Action Group, UK churches, and the Trussell Trust amongst many others. A report from the United Nations Food & Agricultural Organisation previously suggested that as many as 8.4 million people in the UK are 'food insecure' and struggle to put enough food on the table to sustain themselves and their families.

This Council commends the good work undertaken by the Runcorn and Widnes Food banks to help aid and support people in Halton.

Council further notes that, over the last six financial years due to the welfare reform changes brought in by Central Government, including a new sanctions regime, the spare room subsidy or bedroom tax and the roll out of full service Universal Credit, Halton has seen a 471% increase in the number of 3-day emergency food supplies distributed by foodbanks in Runcorn and Widnes.

This Council resolves:

- To write to the Prime Minister expressing grave concern at the UN findings on food insecurity, whilst the UK remains the sixth richest country in the world.
- Council asks her to note that there are now approximately 2,000 food banks and food bank centres in operation and we are seeing rising levels of hospital admissions due to malnutrition and record levels of in-work poverty.
- Council calls on the government to recognise that food insecurity is a worsening crisis in Halton and around the UK, making more people impoverished, impacting the NHS and worsening health deprivation.



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NOTICE OF MOTION

To be submitted to the meeting of Full Council to be held on:

Wednesday 12th December 2018

in accordance with Standing Order Number 6.

	Name (in capitals)	Signature
Proposer:	Cllr Sandra Baker	
Seconder:	Cllr Pauline Sinnott	

MOTION TO COUNCIL: PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING

Halton Borough Council calls on government to support an increase in public health funding and to ensuring a 'prevention first' approach in the health and social care system. In turn the Council will, for its part, continue to support and fund public health initiatives to the best of our abilities - to prevent ill-health, reduce inequalities and support a health and social care system that is fit for the future. Around four in ten cancer diagnosis are preventable, largely through avoidable risk factors, such as stopping smoking and healthy diets.

This Council believes that the impact of cuts to public health on our communities is becoming difficult to ignore. This case becomes more pressing given the Government's consideration of a 10-year plan for the NHS.

Council supports the view that:

- It is harmful to our residents that the Council will have less grant and support from government than in previous years.
- Without added investment in public health, people will needlessly suffer, families and community suffer and employers face a burden through staff sickness and lost productivity.

Council resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Health to call for an increase in public health funding and not to phase out the Public Health Grant by 2020/21 as is currently proposed.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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