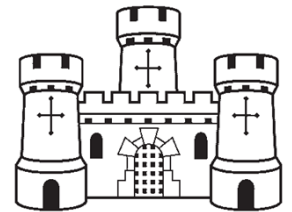


Public Document Pack

Date of meeting Wednesday, 6th February, 2019
Time 2.00 pm
Venue Astley Room - Castle House
Contact Geoff Durham 01782 742222



**NEWCASTLE
UNDER LYME**
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Castle House
Barracks Road
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1BL

Cabinet

AGENDA

PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive declarations of interest from Members on items included in the agenda.
- 3 MINUTES** (Pages 3 - 8)
To consider the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 4 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND COUNCIL TAX 2019/20** (Pages 9 - 22)
- 5 AIR QUALITY MINISTERIAL DIRECTION** (Pages 23 - 30)
- 6 URGENT BUSINESS**
To consider any business which is urgent within the meaning of Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 7 DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION**
To resolve that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following reports, because it is likely that there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 8 ATTENDANCE AT CABINET MEETINGS**

Councillor attendance at Cabinet meetings:

- (1) The Chair or spokesperson of the Council's scrutiny committees and the mover of any motion referred to Cabinet shall be entitled to attend any formal public meeting of Cabinet to speak.
- (2) Other persons including non-executive members of the Council may speak at such meetings with the permission of the Chair of the Cabinet.

Public attendance at Cabinet meetings:

- (1) If a member of the public wishes to ask a question(s) at a meeting of Cabinet, they should serve two clear days' notice in writing of any such question(s) to the appropriate committee officer.
- (2) The Council Leader as Chair of Cabinet is given the discretion to waive the above deadline and assess the permissibility if the question(s). The Chair's decision will be final.
- (3) The maximum limit is three public questions at any one Cabinet meeting.
- (4) A maximum limit of three minutes is provided for each person to ask an initial question or make an initial statement to the Cabinet.
- (5) Any questions deemed to be repetitious or vexatious will be disallowed at the discretion of the Chair.

Members: Councillors S Tagg (Chair), M. Holland, T. Johnson, P. Northcott, S. Sweeney and J Waring

Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.

Meeting Quorums :- 16+= 5 Members; 10-15=4 Members; 5-9=3 Members; 5 or less = 2 Members.

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

NOTE: THERE ARE NO FIRE DRILLS PLANNED FOR THIS EVENING SO IF THE FIRE ALARM DOES SOUND, PLEASE LEAVE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY THROUGH THE FIRE EXIT DOORS.

ON EXITING THE BUILDING, PLEASE ASSEMBLE AT THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING BY THE STATUE OF QUEEN VICTORIA. DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING UNTIL ADVISED TO DO SO.

CABINET

Wednesday, 16th January, 2019
Time of Commencement: 2.00 pm

Present:- Councillor Simon Tagg – Chair

Councillors M. Holland, T. Johnson, P. Northcott, S. Sweeney and J Waring

Officers Executive Director Operational Services- David Adams,
Geoff Durham - Mayor's Secretary / Member Support Officer,
Craig Turner - Principal Accountant,
John Tradewell - Acting Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service,
Interim Executive Director - Resources and Support Services - Jan Willis,
Janet Baddeley - Communications Manager,
Della Mobberley - Information Officer and
Sarah Wilkes - Finance Manager

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

2. **MINUTES**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December, 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest stated.

4. **REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS**

A report was submitted which reviewed progress on the completion of the revenue and capital budgets for 2019/20 following agreement of the 5 year Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency, Councillor Stephen Sweeney thanked everyone involved in the preparation of the budgets.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraphs 3.8 and 3.9 of the report showing factors giving rise to the budget gap for 2019/20 and consideration of ways to eliminate it.

The Leader, Councillor Simon Tagg supported everything that Councillor Sweeney had said, stating that this was the first full budget of this administration and that it was a forward-looking budget. Members' attention was drawn to Appendix 1 which outlined income and savings and alternative sources of finance.

Members were advised of the update to paragraph 3.14 which was tabled at the meeting, the paragraph would now read as follows:

The 'Borough Growth' fund will provisionally be used to enable investment in the following corporate priorities:

A Town Centre for All (£104,000)

- Developing and implementing a 10 year Parking Strategy aimed at supporting the local economy. Cabinet has set out a number of areas of focus for the new strategy, these were detailed at 2.14 to 2.17 of the October 16th 2018 Cabinet report 'Review of Town Centre Car Parks'.
- Revitalising the market, developing with traders a clear programme for improvement. At its November 7th 2018 meeting Cabinet agreed to review the management and operation of the market in Newcastle town centre in co-operation and consultation with local interested parties to revitalise our historic market.
- Facilitating bids for grants, including the Future High Street Fund (FHSF). FHSF is a government initiative announced in 2018 budget to help local areas regenerate high streets and town centres. Bids will be considered for both Kidsgrove and Newcastle town centres.

Council Transformation (£100,000)

- Digital Delivery Programme. The Council is committed to introducing more streamlined and speedy processes to improve service delivery to residents, particularly in recycling and waste, environmental services and planning. Residents will be able to customise, via 'My Account', how they get up to date information on particular Council services.
- Establishing capacity to develop commercial working practices to reduce costs and generate improved revenue streams. This includes creating a work force fit for the future by developing the skills of our staff and also investing in apprenticeship opportunities.

Building for the Future (£100,000)

- Enable Residential & Commercial development to generate improved revenue streams. We will use innovative models to ensure that when development opportunities arise the Council retains an income stream or reinvests the income into further opportunities.

As a result of the update, the Leader proposed an amendment to recommendation (vi):

- (vi) That the report be updated following the announcements at the Cabinet meeting and then the Finance, Assets and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee be asked to consider what comments it wishes to make on the draft Budget and Council Tax and be asked to consider and respond to the following questions before the final proposals are considered at Cabinet on 6th February 2019.

Does the Scrutiny Committee:

1. Support the inclusion of the income from the Charged Garden Waste Service in the revenue budget?
2. Support the use of the 75% Business Rates Retention Pilot income to accelerate the introduction of the Council's new recycling service?
3. Support the creation of the Borough Growth Fund as set out in the 'Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts'?
4. Have you any comments on the use of the Borough Growth Fund to support the Corporate Priorities as set out in 3.14?

The update was accepted and the revised recommendation was agreed by Members.

Members of the Cabinet thanked Councillor Sweeney and officers for their work and welcomed the report.

With regard to Council Tax, there would be a 2.99% increase which equated to approximately 8p per week for the Borough's element.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the progress on the completion of the Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2019/20 be received and noted.
 - (ii) That the strategy for addressing the provisional forecast outturn for the 2018/19 revenue budget be noted.
 - (iii) That the Council Tax levy to be proposed for 2019/20 be noted.
 - (iv) That the level of reserves provisionally required to be maintained in 2019/20 be noted.
 - (v) That the report be amended following the update tabled at the meeting and that the Finance, Assets and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee be asked to consider what comments it wishes to make on the draft Budget and Council Tax and be asked to consider and respond to the following questions before the final proposals are considered at Cabinet on 6th February 2019:

Does the Scrutiny Committee:

1. Support the inclusion of the income from the Charged Garden Waste Service in the revenue budget?
2. Support the use of the 75% Business Rates Retention Pilot income to accelerate the introduction of the Council's new recycling service?
3. Support the creation of the Borough Growth Fund as set out in the 'Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts'?
4. Have any comments on the use of the Borough Growth Fund to support the Corporate Priorities as set out in 3.14?

- (vi) That the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy be recommended for approval by Council on 20th February 2019.

5. **CAPITAL STRATEGY 2019/20**

A report was submitted seeking approval of the Capital Strategy 2019/29 for presentation to Full Council for final approval.

Members' attention was drawn to page 58 of the agenda – Annex B which listed Capital Projects and Funding.

The Leader advised that the Guildhall had been transferred to the Community on a twelve month lease and that there were other assets in the Borough which required attention.

Members welcomed the Capital strategy stating that it was difficult to look ahead ten years but there was confidence in the three year detailed strategy. In addition, the change to the elections cycle from election by thirds to all out elections would also give more confidence.

Resolved: That the Capital Strategy Report for 2019/29 be approved for submission to Full Council for final approval.

6. **INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2019/20**

A report was submitted seeking approval of the Investment Strategy 2019/20 for presentation to Full Council for final approval.

The Council need to have an approved Investment Strategy for 2019/20 in place before the start of the next financial year.

This was a new Strategy for 2019/20 which was why the document showed '£0' values (pages 64 and 65 of the agenda).

Members welcomed the Investment Strategy and thanked Councillor Sweeney and officers for the work that they had carried out.

Resolved: That the Investment Strategy Report for 2019/20 be approved for submission to Full Council for final approval.

7. **SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2019/20**

A report was submitted to Cabinet which sought approval to the proposed scale of fees and charges to apply from April 2019.

The biggest change this year was with the carparking which had introduced a £1 parking charge between 3pm and 8am. This had been introduced during the Christmas period and figures from the BID showed that this had generated an increase in footfall in the town centre.

Resolved: That the fees and charges proposed to apply from 1 April 2019, as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.

8. **MAER CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

A report was submitted seeking adoption of The Maer Conservation area Appraisal and Management Plan as a Supplementary Planning Document.

Members were advised that both the Planning Committee and Conservation Advisory Working Party had both resolved that the document be brought to the Cabinet for adoption.

Members supported the document.

Resolved: That the Supplementary Planning Document relating to Maer Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan be adopted.

9. **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no Urgent Business.

COUNCILLOR SIMON TAGG
Chair

Meeting concluded at 3.03 pm

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REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND COUNCIL TAX 2019/20

Submitted by: Executive Director (Resources and Support Services)

Portfolio: Finance and Resources

Ward(s) affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To enable the Cabinet to recommend the 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Budget and the 2019/20 Capital Programme to Full Council, meeting on 20th February 2019, following consideration of comments received from the Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee of 24 January 2019.

Recommendations

- a) That the 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Budget as detailed in this report and in the report to Cabinet dated 16th January 2019 be recommended to Full Council for approval.
- b) That the Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2021/22, as shown at Appendix 3, be recommended to Full Council for approval.
- c) That an increase in the Band D council tax levy of 2.99% be recommended to Full Council for approval.
- d) That a minimum level of un-earmarked reserves and contingencies of £1.548m, required to be maintained for 2019/20, is recommended to Full Council for approval.
- e) That the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20 be recommended to Full Council for approval and that the results of the consultation around de-minimus changes be considered by Full Council.

Reasons

To enable the Cabinet to recommend a robust and affordable budget for 2019/20 to the Council meeting on 20th February 2019.

1. Background

- 1.1 The 2019/20 Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme 2019/20 were considered by Cabinet on 16th January 2019, following which these were submitted to the Finance, Assets and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, on 24th January 2019, for consideration.
- 1.2 As reported to Cabinet on 16th January 2019, in July 2018, Government invited Local Authorities to bid for the opportunity to undertake a pilot of 75% Business Rates Retention for 2019/20 only. As part of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Business Rates pool, the Council has been successful in its application. The pilot scheme will enable 75% of future growth in Business Rates to be retained within Staffordshire. An estimated £200,000 of additional resources will be generated as a result of this for the Council in 2019/20, these resources will be retained to meet financing costs associated with the vehicle fleet renewals and replacement programme, including the acquisition of vehicles required for the new recycling service included in the capital programme. A full appraisal of financing options will be undertaken for these assets.
- 1.3 The savings and funding strategies considered by Cabinet on 16th January 2019, as included in Appendix 1, will result in £248,000 over and above the budget 'gap' being made available for investment in the Council's priorities as per the Council Plan 2018-2022. In addition to this it is also proposed that the

additional funding received from the distribution of the surplus on the national Business Rates Retention levy account (£56,000) be used for these purposes. This will result in a 'Borough Growth' fund of £304,000 being established, which will be used to invest in initiatives that are forecast to generate on-going revenue savings through reducing the costs of service delivery or through the generation of additional income.

1.4 It is proposed that the 'Borough Growth' fund be used to enable investment in the following corporate priorities:

A Town Centre for All (£104,000)

- Developing and implementing a 10 year Parking Strategy aimed at supporting the local economy. Cabinet has set out a number of areas of focus for the new strategy, these were detailed at 2.14 to 2.17 of the 16th October 2018 Cabinet report 'Review of Town Centre Car Parks'.
- Revitalising the market, developing with traders a clear programme for improvement. At its 7th November 2018 meeting Cabinet agreed to review the management and operation of the market in Newcastle town centre in co-operation and consultation with local interested parties to revitalise our historic market.
- Facilitating bids for grants, including the Future High Street Fund (FHSF). FHSF is a government initiative announced in 2018 budget to help local areas regenerate high streets and town centres. Bids will be considered for both Kidsgrove and Newcastle town centres.

Council Transformation (£100,000)

- Digital Delivery Programme. The Council is committed to introducing more streamlined and speedy processes to improve service delivery to residents, particularly in recycling and waste, environmental services and planning. Residents will be able to customise, via 'My Account', how they get up to date information on particular Council services.
- Establishing capacity to develop commercial working practices to reduce costs and generate improved revenue streams. This includes creating a work force fit for the future by developing the skills of our staff and also investing in apprenticeship opportunities.

Building for the Future (£100,000)

- Enable Residential & Commercial development to generate improved revenue streams. We will use innovative models to ensure that when development opportunities arise the Council retains an income stream or reinvests the income into further opportunities.

1.5 A summary of the overall Revenue Budget (estimated for 2019/20) is as follows:

	2019/20 (estimated) £'s	2018/19 £'s
Amount to be met from Government Grant and Local Tax Payers	13,050,020	13,335,420
Revenue Support Grant	-	(588,980)
Other Non-Specific Grants	(934,680)	(1,261,680)
Business Rates Retention Funding	(4,893,370)	(4,494,390)
Collection fund deficit/(surplus)	58,160	20,470
Borough Council Tax Requirement	7,280,130	7,010,840

1.6 The Borough's Band D council tax levy of £196.14 is an increase of £5.69 from the 2018/19 amount (an increase of 2.99 per cent), which is within the maximum increase permitted without triggering the requirement for a referendum in accordance with the excessive council tax legislation. This was the Cabinet's proposal that was considered at its meeting on 16th January 2019.

2. Finance, Assets and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

- 2.1 At its meeting on 16th January 2019 Cabinet noted the proposals for the Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2019/20, noting an increase in Band D Council Tax of 2.99%.
- 2.2 The report and the recommendations were referred to the Finance, Assets and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee for review on 24th January 2019. The Scrutiny Committee was specifically asked to consider what comments it wished to make on the draft Budget and Council Tax and was asked to consider and respond to 4 questions ahead of the Cabinet meeting on 6th February 2019. In response, the Scrutiny Committee:
1. Noted the inclusion of the income from the Charged Garden Waste Service in the revenue budget;
 2. Noted the use of the 75% Business Rates Retention Pilot income to accelerate the introduction of the Council's new recycling service;
 3. Noted the creation of the Borough Growth Fund as set out in the 'Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts'; and,
 4. Noted the use of the Borough Growth Fund to support the Corporate Priorities as set out in 3.14 (of the report to Cabinet on 16th January 2019).

3. Final Finance Settlement Notification

- 3.1 The Council has accepted the government's offer of a four year funding settlement, which provides it with provisional allocations for 2019/20 (the final year). The final funding allocation for 2019/20 should be announced in February 2019, and should not differ from the provisional amount which the Council has accepted under the four year offer.

4. Savings and Funding Strategies

- 4.1 There have been no changes to the savings and funding strategy since it was considered by Cabinet on 16th January 2019. The proposed savings, totalling £2.468m are outlined in the table below and set out in detail in Appendix 1:

Category	Amount £'000	Comments
Income	500	Additional sources of income generation and an increased demand for services that the Council charges for.
Staffing Related Efficiencies	410	No redundancies are anticipated to arise from these proposals. The proposals also allow for a review of organisational capacity – £125,000 is currently available for this purpose.
Good Housekeeping Efficiencies, General Other Savings, Changes in Base Budgets	442	Various savings arising from more efficient use of budgets.
Alternative Sources of Finance/ Other Savings	1,116	New Homes Bonus funding, savings from negotiated contribution rates and advanced payments of superannuation contributions, effect of forecast Council Tax Base increase, savings from Parish Council concurrent functions contributions. An assumed 2.99% (per band D equivalent) increase in Council Tax. Flexible use of capital receipts for the delivery of restructuring, digital and Council transformation efficiencies.
Total	2,468	

5. Capital Programme

- 5.1 The Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2021/22 considered by Cabinet on 16th January 2019 totalled £18.992m. Since this meeting a further review of vehicle requirements during this period has been undertaken resulting in a further £0.309m being required.
- 5.2 This gives a revised total of £19.301m required for the Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2021/22. This is shown as Appendix 3 to this report. In summary investment in the capital programme of £19.301m will be funded by:
- £6.165m External Funding;
 - £9.271m Capital Receipts;
 - £0.217m ICT Development Fund; and,
 - £3.647m Vehicle Leasing/Prudential Borrowing

6. Localised Council Tax Support Scheme 2019/20

- 6.1 Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, substituted by section 10 of the Local Government Finance Act 2012 requires each billing authority in England to make a Localised Council Tax Reduction scheme, specifying the reductions which are to apply to amounts of Council Tax payable by persons or classes of person whom the authority consider are in financial need.
- 6.2 Any scheme needs to be approved by the 11th March before the start of a new financial year or a default scheme prescribed by regulations will be imposed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.
- 6.3 The introduction of a de-minimus amount below which Council Tax bills will not be recalculated for Universal Credit claimants is the subject of a public consultation (closing date 10th February 2019), the results of this will be reported to Council on 20th February 2019. The remainder of the scheme (Appendix 5) is intended to remain as per the 2018/19 scheme, as reported to Council on 22nd November 2017

7. Balances and Reserves and Risk Assessment

- 7.1 A review of the Council's Balances and Reserves together with a risk assessment informing the levels of these has been undertaken. The Council's Balances and Reserves are set out in Appendix 2.
- 7.2 The Council's S151 Officer has recommended that a minimum level of un-earmarked reserves and contingencies of £1.548m be held to reflect the levels of revenue risk shown. Therefore, the Council's Balances and Reserves Strategy for 2019/20 is that there should be a minimum General Fund balance of £1.448m and a Contingency Reserve of £100,000.

8. Risk Statement

- 8.1 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 places a duty on the Section 151 Officer to report on the robustness of the budget. The main risks to the budget include:
- Spending in excess of the budget;
 - Income falling short of the budget; and,
 - Unforeseen elements e.g. changes to legislation or reductions in government grants
- 8.2 Such risks require regular and robust monitoring and it is essential that the Council has sufficient reserves to call on if required (see Section 7 above). The review and risk assessment indicates that overall reserves are required to be increased to £1.548m to reflect the levels of risk shown.
- 8.3 The assessment of the Section 151 Officer is that the proposals included in this report are robust and will ensure an adequate level of reserves.

9. Earlier Cabinet Resolutions

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2023/24 (Cabinet 17th October 2018);
Budget Report (Cabinet 16th January 2019)

10. Appendices

Appendix 1: Savings and Funding Strategies

Appendix 2: Actual and Estimated Reserves at 31 March 2018 to 2020

Appendix 3: Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2021/22

Appendix 4: Key Council Achievements in 2018/19

Appendix 5: Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20

Appendix 1 - 2019/20 Savings and Funding Strategies Being Considered

Page No	Service Area (Portfolio Holder)	Description	£000's	% of Budget Line	Detail
14	Income				
11	Communications (Councillor Tagg)	Advertising Income	20	44.4%	Additional income from advertising income project (i.e. billboards and car parks). Sites have been identified to be pursued further
12	Environmental Health (Councillor Johnson)	Licensing Income	80	20.0%	Increased demand in licensing requirements from customers, based on the number of licences forecast to be applied for during 2019/20
13	Operational Services (Councillor Johnson)	Bereavement Services Income	100	5.9%	Increased demand in Bereavement Services requirements from customers, based on the number of cremations forecast to be undertaken during 2019/20
14	Planning and Development (Councillor Northcott)	Development Control Income	100	20.7%	Increase in planning income as a result of the 20% national increase in fees chargeable
15	Recycling and Fleet (Councillor Johnson)	Green Waste Income	200	N/A	Introduction of a fee of £36 per initial bin for subscribing households for the collection of green waste, resulting from the withdrawal of green waste recycling credits payments received from Staffordshire County Council
			500		
	Staffing Related Efficiencies				
S1	All (Councillor Tagg)	Vacant Posts and Flexible Retirements	159	TBC	A review of vacant posts and service. A number of employees have been approved for flexible retirement within the Revenues and Benefits and Customer Services
S2	Finance (Councillor Sweeney)	Car Leasing Scheme	36	76.2%	Staff car leases to which the Council previously contributed not renewed following expiry
S3	Housing, Regeneration and Assets (Councillor Jill Waring)	Transfer of Disabled Facilities Function	72	29.9%	The transfer and retirement of Housing Officers following the transfer of the disabled facilities function to Millbrook Healthcare
S4	Housing, Regeneration and Assets (Councillor Northcott)	Restructure	26	6.0%	Minor restructure of the Facilities Management section and a reduction in hours of the Head of Housing, Regeneration and Assets
S5	Executive Management Team (Councillor Tagg)	Restructure	117	24.2%	A restructure of the Executive Management Team following a review of the Council's Senior Management structure
			410		

Good Housekeeping/General Other Savings/Changes in Base Budgets

G1	Central Services (Councillor Tagg)	Whole Council Elections	50	44.6%	Following the move to all out, 4 yearly Elections, an annual saving in the amount set aside for Elections can be made. A contribution will be made into a reserve from the remaining budget to allow for the required budget at the next all out Election (including printing costs)
G2	Finance (Councillor Sweeney)	External Audit Fees	13	20.6%	A reduction in the fees charged to the Council by Grant Thornton for the audit of the Council's statement of accounts
G3	Leisure and Cultural (Councillor Holland)	Community Centres	14	27.2%	As a result of the successful granting of full leases to Community Centre committees, agreed as part of the 2015/16 budget setting process
G4	Leisure and Cultural (Councillor Holland)	New Victoria Theatre Grant	10	17.5%	Phased reduction of grant given over a 5 year period agreed as part of the 2015/16 budget setting process
G5	Leisure and Cultural (Councillor Tagg)	Kidsgrove Sports Centre	100	100.0%	Reduction in base budgets required relating to the re-opening and running of the centre by a Community Interest Group. This is net of the borrowing costs associated with the initial contribution to the Community Interest Group from the Council
G6	Leisure and Cultural (Councillor Holland)	Castle Sport/Sports Council	19	100.0%	The reserves that are held on behalf of Castle Sport are sufficient to enable the organisation to work towards becoming self-sufficient in the medium term
G7	Housing, Regeneration and Assets (Councillor Northcott)	Public Toilets Business Rates	5	100.0%	Introduction of Government legislation to grant a 100% relief from business rates for all standalone public toilets
G8	All (All)	Good Housekeeping Savings	231	TBC	Reductions in budgetary requirements for supplies and services following a review of areas of underspend (e.g. printing, training, fuel, fees for services)
			442		

Alternative Sources of Finance/Other

A1	Corporate (Councillor Tagg)	Superannuation Lump Sum	140	7.7%	Negotiation of the contribution rate relating to pensions contributions and a discount for the advanced payment to the Pensions Actuary of superannuation lump sums
A2	Corporate (Councillor Tagg)	Council Tax Base	58	0.8%	An increase in the Council Tax Base resulting from new properties, an increase in collection rate and a reduction in residents eligible for Council Tax Reduction (increase of 305 residential properties)
A3	Corporate (Councillor Northcott)	New Homes Bonus contribution	192	15.2%	Further additional New Homes Bonus funding to be received in 2019/20 as a result of new properties and a reduction in the number of empty properties within the Borough.
A4	Corporate (Councillor Sweeney)	Council Tax Increase	211	2.99%	Assumed increase of 2.99% per Band D equivalent property, any increase above this amount would be subject to a referendum
A5	Corporate (Councillor Sweeney)	Parish Council Section 136 Contributions	15	25.0%	Following on from the previous administrations policy, regarding the payment made to Parish Councils for concurrent functions, as agreed as part of the 2017/18 budget setting process

Page 16	Corporate (Councillor Sweeney)	Flexible Use of Capital Receipts	500	N/A	The flexible use of capital receipts direction allows certain types of expenditure to be charged to capital rather than revenue, examples of these include, restructuring, digital delivery, generation of ongoing efficiencies and equipment
				1,116	
Grand Total			2,468		

Appendix 2 – Actual and Estimated Reserves at 31 March 2018 to 2020

Reserve	Actual Balance at 31/3/18 (£000's)	Estimated Change in 2018/19 (£000's)	Estimated Balance at 31/3/19 (£000's)	Estimated Change in 2019/20 (£000's)	Estimated Balance at 31/3/20 (£000's)	Purpose
General Fund Balance	1,200	248	1,448	-	1,448	Working balance to cover unforeseen adverse events affecting the budget. Approved minimum balance of £1.448m
Contingency Reserve	210	(110)	100	-	100	To meet cost of unforeseen contingencies or for any other purpose approved by Council. Approved minimum balance of £0.100m
Equipment Replacement Fund	552	61	613	141	754	To pay for the replacement of items of plant and equipment
Renewals & Repairs Fund	-	-	-	-	-	To meet the cost of repairs and maintenance of Council owned buildings and structures
ICT Development Fund	67	(42)	25	50	75	To meet the cost of new IT requirements, including capital expenditure
Budget Support Fund	355	(118)	237	(110)	127	To support the General Fund revenue budget or to meet costs approved by Council
Borough Growth Fund	-	-	-	304	304	To fund investment in corporate priorities
Conservation & Heritage Fund	45	(5)	40	(5)	35	To provide repair grants to owners of historic buildings
Museum Purchases Fund	61	-	61	-	61	To purchase, conserve and enhance exhibits
Maintenance Contributions	75	(15)	60	(15)	45	To fund maintenance costs in respect of land transferred to the Council from developers contributions to periodic maintenance costs
Standards Fund	6	-	6	-	6	To ensure the Council meets its responsibilities under the ethical and other standards frameworks
Business Reserve	1353	(552)	801	(287)	514	To hold surpluses of business rates received per the revenue account and to pay subsequent deficits on the collection fund
Keele Master Plan Reserve	82	(63)	19	(19)	-	To meet the costs of the Keele master planning exercise

Appendix 3 – Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2021/22

CAPITAL PROJECTS	Proposed Programme			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
PRIORITY - Local Services that work for Local People				
Service Area - Council Modernisation	195,000	320,000	486,000	1,001,000
Total	195,000	320,000	486,000	1,001,000
PRIORITY - Growing our People and Places				
Service Area - Housing Improvements	1,075,000	1,080,000	1,130,000	3,285,000
Service Area - Managing Property & Assets	437,456	82,359	101,500	621,315
Total	1,512,456	1,162,359	1,231,500	3,906,315
PRIORITY - A Healthy, Active and Safe Borough				
Service Area - Environmental Health	0	10,000	0	10,000
Service Area - Streetscene and Bereavement Services	355,000	470,600	945,600	1,771,200
Service Area - Recycling and Fleet	756,000	4,166,000	609,500	5,531,500
Service Area - Leisure	546,000	681,000	331,000	1,558,000
Service Area - Museum	30,000	140,000	240,000	410,000
Service Area - Managing Property & Assets	387,463	49,035	40,456	476,954
Service Area - Engineering	172,215	15,873	170,193	358,281
Total	2,246,678	5,532,508	2,336,749	10,115,935
PRIORITY - A Town Centre for All				
Service Area - Managing Property & Assets	652,165	1,519,428	1,106,383	3,277,975
Total	652,165	1,519,428	1,106,383	3,277,975
CONTINGENCY	1,000,000	0	0	1,000,000
TOTAL	5,606,298	8,534,295	5,160,631	19,301,225
FUNDING				
Capital Receipts	3,508,298	3,927,295	1,836,132	9,271,725
External Contributions	1,335,000	2,065,000	2,765,000	6,165,000
ICT Development Fund	117,000	50,000	50,000	217,000
Fleet Replacement - Leasing or Borrowing	646,000	2,492,000	509,500	3,338,500
TOTAL	5,606,298	8,534,295	5,160,632	19,301,225

Appendix 4 - Key Council Achievements in 2018/19

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018/19

Britain in Bloom -

Newcastle-under-Lyme has swept the board at the Heart of England in Bloom awards for the third year in a row. The borough's entry was announced the overall winner of the regional competition, with top spot also being achieved in the coveted small city category and a 17th consecutive gold award, at the National Brewery Centre in Burton recently. This year's campaign has been the most successful ever for the Borough, winning a gold award in the RHS Britain in Bloom national finals Champion of Champions category, the highest accolade in the campaign. The Borough also won the national Wild About Gardens award for the second year in a row, and a Community Champion award for one of our local volunteers. A total of 7 of the Borough's strategic parks and cemeteries received Green Flag status this year.

Move to Castle House

This year has seen the move to our new home at Castle House, and it is encouraging that early feedback about the new building and working arrangements has been positive. This move allows the Council to embrace a new way of working and new opportunities of joined-up service delivery both amongst our own teams but also with our partners who are sharing the building with us, in order to provide improved local services for the people of the borough.

Our Digital Council

The introduction of a customer portal and self-service tools for a basket of council services will be a major step forward in the digital delivery of services for residents in Newcastle-under-Lyme. Digital technologies have the potential to improve the way the majority of council customers interact with local authority services whilst at the same time generating significant efficiency savings. A customer portal will help the Council make progress with both of these considerations and over the next 12 months we will further embrace the digital delivery of other services of the Council to enhance the local services offered.

Added to this, officers in the Recycling and Waste service are delivering major successes in a drive to get the most out of the Bartec waste management system. The technology is used by more than 60 councils in the UK for scheduling all types of waste collection, monitoring performance and continuous service improvement. Bartec helps teams out on the road to record key service data such as missed bins, contamination, presentation rates and so on.

ICT Infrastructure

During 2018, ICT oversaw the biggest upgrade of the Council's ICT infrastructure for the past 20 years. ICT oversaw the relocation of both the Council's primary and secondary data centres, without incurring any significant disruption for services during operational hours. Agile working has been successfully rolled out to more than half of the Council's office based staff and was a significant contributor towards the move to Castle House. Improved, flexible technology has been introduced across Council sites that facilitate staff working from any location and ICT has developed its relationship with Staffordshire County Council, resulting in a fully shared network infrastructure across Castle House.

The Council's website

The Council's website has been awarded a four star status for the first time since 2012/13. In addition the Borough Council recently retained its Plain English Crystal Mark – a key factor in accessibility.

Kidsgrove Sports Centre

Plans to reopen part of Kidsgrove sports centre under a community management model have taken another positive step forward. Cabinet has agreed to make a one-off capital contribution of £300,000 towards opening the "dry side" facilities.

Use of Guildhall

The Council has worked with Support Staffordshire and a range of partners to establish a community and voluntary sector hub based at the Guildhall, which is now up and running. A wide range of organisations such as Staffordshire Adult Autistic Society, Shaw Trust-Work and Health Programme and Moneyline are providing their services for the people of the Borough. Friends of the Guildhall Group are providing cover for the reception area.

Supporting Retailers and Local Businesses

Working with partners the Council continues to support retailers and local business to remain and prosper in the town centres. The annual Business Boost competition, which provides business support and cash prizes is open to Newcastle based businesses some of which are based in our town centres. Working with Newcastle Business Improvement District and Appetite Creative People and Places Programme, we continue to celebrate our local cultural heritage by promoting events which encourage visitors, support local businesses and raise the profile of our towns. Newcastle town centre vacancy rate currently stands at less than 17% with NBC owned building having a vacancy rate of 8.9% and Kidsgrove town centre vacancy rate is one of the lowest in the County at 6.4%.

FUTURE PLANS

New Recycling Service Planned

Within two years a new kerbside recycling and residual waste collection service will be introduced for all households. A new recycling service is planned for launch / delivery in two years' time. This will be a twin stream system and is at the heart of a proposed new kerbside recycling service. Residents will place most recycling in one wheelie bin, using a separate container for paper and card, and this will be collected every fortnight. This is only the first strand to a complete overhaul of the Council's recycling and waste services.

Keele University Growth Corridor

Exciting plans have been announced for the long-term expansion of the area to the west of Newcastle as a result of a significant planning exercise by the Council and its partners.

The vision outlines aspirational plans for the former golf course at Keele, parts of Silverdale and land adjacent to Keele University. The Keele University Growth Corridor responds to the borough's housing needs and ambitious plans set out in the Keele Deal which identifies opportunities for significant investment at the university and includes the provision for new housing on the former golf course, a new primary school and a small convenience store. An important feature will be the creation of attractive walking routes within the campus and residential parts of the scheme. Land has also been set aside to help the university meet its sustainability aims with renewable energy provision on the campus.

Regeneration of the Ryecroft area

Given the national changes to town centre retail demand, plans for the regeneration of the Ryecroft are to be reviewed. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council will be working together to review options regarding the future development of the Ryecroft site. Both Councils are keen to ensure the successes of the Castle House development are mirrored within the Ryecroft scheme and provide an uplift to the townscape and the contribute to the development of a vibrant and successful town centre.

ICT Delivery

Over the next 12 months ICT will significantly improve the desktop services offered to users, with the roll out of Windows 10 and the latest version of Office. The team will also play a crucial role in supporting the Council's Digital ambitions from both the external customer perspective and for internal users. The technology and solutions that ICT deliver over the next 12 months will pave the way to fundamentally alter how services are delivered; allowing staff to be more productive and deliver better outcomes for the residents, visitors and businesses within Newcastle under Lyme.

Employment & Skills

The Council will continue to co-ordinate the Newcastle Employment and Skills Group, working with partners to address key issues around skills and employment across the borough, and work with the Stoke and Staffordshire LEP Education Trust to deliver the Skills Strategy to better meet employers' requirements. Our current claimant levels at 1.4% are lower than both the West Midlands (2.9%) and national levels (2.3%). This allows more focus and support to the long term unemployed, claiming Employment Support Allowance, to help them back into training and work.

Appendix 5 – Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20

Claim Type	Council Tax Support Scheme
Pensioner Claimants	
No scope for changes within LCTS	Up to 100% of Council Tax Bill
Working Age Claimants	
Claims will be based on a max of 80% Council Tax Liability (unless in a protected group)	Up to 80% of Council Tax Bill
Properties in bands higher than Band D will be based on 80% Band D Council Tax	Up to 80% of band D rate
Second Adult Rebate will not be retained in the Local Scheme	Nil
Capital Cut off at £6K (non-passported)	No Council Tax Support if capital exceeds £6k
Earnings Disregards	Flat rate of £25 if claimant working
Claimants who are eligible to Severe Disability Premium (SDP)	
May allow up to 100% LCTS as protected group	Up to 100% of Council Tax Bill
Claimants who are eligible to receive War Disablement Pensions, War Widow's Pensions and Armed Forces Compensation Scheme Payments	
May allow up to 100% LCTS as protected group	Up to 100% of Council Tax Bill

Discretionary Payments

The Council has discretion to award Council Tax Support, in excess of the accounts determined by this framework, where it is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE CABINET

Date 6TH FEBRUARY 2019

HEADING Air Quality Ministerial Direction

Submitted by: Head of Environmental Health

Portfolio: Operational

Wards Affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To seek Cabinets support and to update and advise of further works required by DEFRA in respect of Air Quality works on the A53 (Basford Bank area).

Recommendations

That Cabinet note the Ministerial Directions, the actions and statutory deadlines associated with them, and the arrangements proposed to involve Members in the development and assessment of potential options and the production of a preferred policy.

Reasons

DEFRA have served two further ministerial directions on the Borough Council under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995 to undertake a further feasibility study with Stoke-on-Trent City Council (SOTCC) to assess and determine further actions with regard to reducing nitrogen dioxide levels in the earliest possible time and to implement a bus engine retrofit scheme to busses travelling on the A53.

To advise of the process for evaluating and assessing potential measures to improve air quality under the Direction, and the sign-off required of a preferred policy by Cabinet by 31 October 2019.

To make the Cabinet aware of the financial support being provided by Government for the investigation work and their further commitment to support the implementation of the preferred policy subject to compliance with HM Treasury business case rules.

1. Background

- 1.1 In July 2017, Government produced a UK plan for Air Quality and required 28 Local Authorities (dubbed the first and second wave LAs) with the most severe exceedances for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) pollutants to develop local plans to bring forward compliance with limit values. The benchmark to assess whether local plans would achieve this objective was compliance before 2021, since national modelling predicted that a charging Clean Air Zone in these areas would produce compliance in that timeframe.
- 1.2 In March 2018, thirty three 'third wave authorities', Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke amongst them, also became subject to Government requirements as a result of a legal

challenge that not enough was being done to achieve UK compliance with air quality objectives 'in the shortest time possible'.

- 1.3 The third wave authorities were not required to produce local plans since national modelling suggested that their areas would be compliant by 2021. Instead they were asked to identify additional actions which could be taken to bring forward compliance for exceedances in particular areas. For Stoke and Newcastle the identified area was the A53 from Sandy Lane to where it crosses the A500 and travels alongside Festival Park.
- 1.4 The feasibility study prepared identified that bus retro fit was the only potentially cost effective measure that could have an impact before 2021.
- 1.5 The study report also highlighted that the road link in question and others, including some subject to investigation by Highways England, are likely to have persistent, long term exceedances of the NO₂ limit beyond 2021. As a result, Government has concluded that further work and a local plan identifying preferred options compared to the likely effects of a Clean Air Zone is required from the two Councils by 31 October 2019.
- 1.6 In October 2018, Ministers Coffey and Norman for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and Department for Transport (DOT) respectively, served two ministerial directions on the Council; these were served under the provisions of The Environment Act 1995 (Feasibility study for nitrogen dioxide compliance) (No 2) and (Implementation of measures for nitrogen dioxide compliance) Air Quality Direction 2018. This work is being co-ordinated by the Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU) which is part of DEFRA.
- 1.7 The Ministerial directions formally mandate several local authorities (including Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council) to undertake further work with the main objective being to explore options for reducing levels of nitrogen dioxide in the air.
- 1.8 The two directions require:

NULBC and STOCC to jointly further investigate EU exceedances of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) on roads within the Borough and identify measures that could bring forward compliance with NO₂ limits as soon as possible **or** review the implementation of a chargeable clean air zone.

And

NULBC to implement a bus engine retrofit programme to busses that operate on the A53 to be implemented as soon as possible in order to bring forward compliance of NO₂ levels.

2. Local Air Quality Development Plan

- 2.1 The Ministerial Direction obligates the Council to undertake a joint appraisal and feasibility study with Stoke-on-Trent City Council to propose options for reducing pollution or consider the feasibility of a Chargeable Clean Air Zone. You will have heard of recent examples where UK cities are proposing to introduce Chargeable Clean Air Zones, such as Leeds and Birmingham; these were considered in the first wave of Authorities. Members should be aware that SOTCC and NULBC are third wave Authorities.
- 2.2 Your officers attended a meeting with JAQU on 30th October 2018, where the details of the required work were outlined.

- 2.3 The primary critical success factor is to bring about compliance with NO₂ limits in the shortest possible time.
- 2.4 The starting assumption is that the benchmark option (against which other options will need to be measured) will be a charging CAZ (Clean Air Zone) of a high enough classification to bring about compliance in the shortest possible time.
- 2.5 The scope of the investigation and proposals for action required is to be wider than the initial consideration of the A53, and must address other areas of the City and Borough currently experiencing exceedance of the 40ug/m³ limit for NO₂. Appendix A details the results of NO₂ monitoring conducted in NULBC and SOTCC in 2017 to highlight these areas. The map shows that exceedances range from just on the limit to approaching 55ug/m³ at a number of major traffic junctions. In addition the area under consideration also needs to include any locally identified exceedances (this includes any other monitored exceedances throughout the Borough and in the Air Quality Management Areas) and any 'displacement routes' that may result from the measures.
- 2.6 It is currently considered by officers that the scope of the study area proposed at this time is the whole of the City and most of the urban area of the Borough, since that matches the area encompassed by the North Staffordshire Multi Modal Transport model used by transport officers at the City and County Council. As the study develops the area may be refined inwards to reflect study findings.
- 2.7 The work to be undertaken is more in-depth but of a similar process to that conducted for the A53 study. It will involve:
- a long list of possible options
 - analysis and modelling to determine the potential effect of each option
 - reduction to a short list of options with an analysis of cost, economic impact, health impact, and equality impact
- 2.8 The benchmark against which the effect of potential options is judged remains comparison with that of a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) which must also be modelled by the local study. While CAZs without a charging scheme are possible the expectation from JAQU is that, in the absence of effective alternative options, a CAZ will be required which includes an element of charging some road users.
- 2.9 A number of detailed investigations and a significant amount of local traffic and air quality modelling are required to comply with the current Direction, based on data which is not currently available, together with a significant amount of strategic and economic consideration. As with the first Direction, external assistance from specialists in air quality and traffic modelling will be required, and the process of procuring these resources is currently being investigated.
- 2.10 The timescales imposed by the Ministerial Direction are very challenging and the Council is legally obliged to develop a preferred policy and cost-benefit assessed options for action by the end of October 2019 or sooner.

Governance arrangements:

- 2.11 With the Direction requiring a joint investigation and jointly supported preferred policy report a governance structure is required which accommodates officer and member arrangements at both the City and Borough Councils and also involves the County Council as the highways authority for the Borough.

- 2.12 A joint officer working group was established to complete the initial proposal plan required by JAQU by 30/11/18. This group will continue, supported by external specialists, and undertake the investigation and evidence gathering against a long list of possible options. As the long list is refined to a short list, JAQU will require a number of assurance reports and undertake reviews against them to confirm that the methodology for the assessment and refining work being followed confirms to the Treasury Green Book model.
- 2.13 Regular progress reports and briefings are intended for Members and Portfolio Holders arising from a Joint Strategic Board led by Head of Environmental Health on behalf of the Council. An in-depth analysis of the final short list of options will be presented as part of the sign-off process for the business case report to be submitted to satisfy the Direction in late summer 2019.
- 2.14 To complete the actions required by the Direction a Final Business Case of the preferred action or actions from the assessment of shortlisted options must be jointly agreed and signed off by each Council's Cabinet. If no cost effective alternative measures to a Clean Air Zone have been identified and evidenced then a chargeable CAZ must be the agreed action and the business case submitted will be 'outline' in nature since a CAZ requires extensive public and partner consultation before consideration by Government.
- 2.15 An Outline or Final Business case must be submitted by 31/10/19.

3. Bus Retrofit

- 3.1 The ministerial direction in respect of bus retrofitting requires the Local Authority to implement the retrofitting works to upgrade the busses that operate on the A53 from euro 3 engines so they operate at euro 6 standards. This work is to be completed as soon as possible and by the end of 2019 at the latest, in order to bring forward compliance in NO₂ levels to 2021 to 2025.
- 3.2 It has since been established that this equates to 25 busses operated by First PMT, on bus routes 3, 4 and 4a that travel on the A53.
- 3.3 This requires NULBC (this direction has not been served on SOTCC) to undertake additional NO₂ monitoring along this route, to implement a bus retrofit scheme, to continue to monitor NO₂ following the works and provide reports to JAQU on air quality and traffic changes.
- 3.4 Again challenging deadlines have been proposed for the submission of project plans and reports relating to the implementation and updating of progress.
- 3.5 There are a number of conditions that the Borough Council and the bus company are required to meet in respect of this work, including a requirement for the busses to remain in service for 5 years or 150,000 miles or be replaced with a euro 6 engine bus.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 That Cabinet note the Ministerial Directions, the actions and statutory deadlines associated with them, and the arrangements proposed to involve Members in the development and assessment of potential options and the production of a preferred policy.

5 Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities

- 5.1 This work links to the following corporate priorities:
- Local Services that Work for Local People – There is a need to ensure that the transport systems are maintained and work for local people.
 - Healthy, Active and Safe Borough – Air quality impacts are significant, they account for reduced life expectancy and adverse impacts on health and the economy, therefore improving air quality for our residents will not only help save lives but will also improve life expectancy.
 - A Town Centre for All – The town centres are with designated air quality management areas, this work will assist in delivering wider improvements in air quality across the town centre.

6 Legal and Statutory Implications

- 6.1 Environment Act 1995 (Feasibility Study for Nitrogen Dioxide Compliance) (No.2) Air Quality Direction 2018. This requires the authority to undertake a feasibility study in accordance with HM Treasury's Green Book approach, to identify the option(s) which will deliver compliance with legal limits for nitrogen dioxide in the shortest time possible.
- 6.1 Environment Act 1995 (Implementation of measures for nitrogen dioxide compliance) Air Quality Direction 2018. This requires the authority to implement the bus retrofit scheme.
- 6.2 Failure to comply with the Direction may result in Judicial Review proceedings being brought against the Council. Any such proceedings may result in adverse costs awards being made against the Council.

7 Equality Impact Assessment

- 7.1 The development of the plan includes a requirement to produce an assessment of the strategic case, economic case, commercial case, financial case and management case, therefore all aspects will be reviewed as part of the proposed work.

8 Financial and Resource Implications

- 8.1 DEFRA have confirmed a commitment to cover the costs of the further study via grant. So far a grant commitment of £500,000 has been provided for the completion of the Local Plan study.
- 8.2 The bus retrofit will also be funded by DEFRA; they have initially detailed that this should be for no more than £425,000 (the indicative figure provided in initial feasibility study).
- 8.3 As Government propose to provide funding support for the preferred options for action, the final preferred policy report to be submitted to comply with the Direction is required to follow HM Treasury's 'Green Book' process of preparing and evidencing a series of analytical, strategic and economic business cases.
- 8.4 It is considered that the delivery (including project co-ordination and management) of these two projects cannot be met from existing resources, the reasons being twofold; firstly that the technical nature and extent of the work required cannot be delivered in house (air quality and traffic modelling) and will require consultants support and secondly,

this is work that had not been planned for and will require significant resource in the planning, project management, reporting and consultant support, which cannot be met from existing staff resources.

- 8.5 The Final (or Outline) Business case submitted by 31/10/19 will include preferred options for action which will be subject to assessment by Government to determine whether they will be required, and what funding will be provided to the authority to carry them out.

9 Major Risks

- 9.1 A full risk assessment has been undertaken for both these projects and is available to view on the Council's "Grace" system.

10. Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

- 10.1 Air pollution and climate change are intrinsically linked, therefore work to improve air quality will also support climate change improvements.

11. Key Decision Information

- 11.1 This item is a key decision as it affects all wards, this has been included on the forward plan.

12. Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions

- 12.1 None.

13. List of Appendices

- 13.1 Appendix A – Diffusion tube monitoring results

14. Background Papers

[UK Air Quality Plan](#)

[Newcastle under Lyme and Stoke on Trent Targeted Feasibility Study](#)

First Ministerial Direction – supplement to UK AQ plan re Stoke and Newcastle.

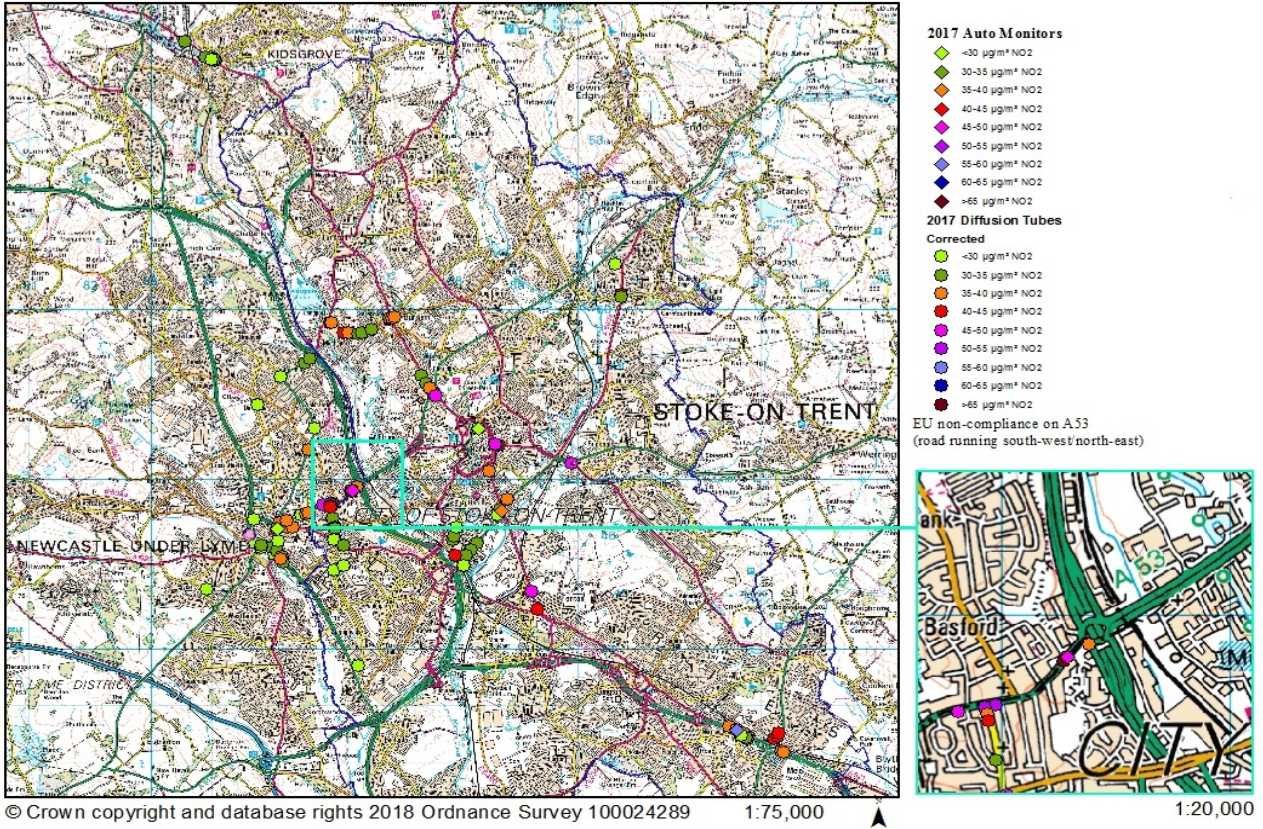
Second Ministerial Direction 4 October 2018

Third wave local authorities - guidance 16 October 2018

Funding support for third wave authorities 31 October 2018

Appendix A

Existing Automatic & Diffusion Tube Monitoring



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