

**SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER FINANCIAL SAVINGS MONITORING REPORT 2019/20**

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| <b>Relevant Portfolio Holder</b>       | Councillor Geoff Denaro                               |
| <b>Portfolio Holder Consulted</b>      | -   |
| <b>Relevant Head of Service</b>        | Jayne Pickering – Exec Director Finance and Resources |
| <b>Ward(s) Affected</b>                | All Wards   |
| <b>Ward Councillor(s) Consulted</b>    | No  |
| <b>Key Decision / Non-Key Decision</b> | Non–Key Decision                                      |

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

To report to the Committee the monitoring of the savings for September - December 2019/20. This report presents the savings delivered for the third quarter against those identified in the medium term financial plan (MTFP)

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee note the final financial position for savings as presented in the report and at Appendix 1.

**3. KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 This report provides a statement to show the savings the period September – December 2019/20 as detailed in the MTFP and approved by Council in February 2019.
- 3.2 The medium term financial plan included £332k of savings identified to be delivered during 2019/20 the breakdown of these savings is attached at appendix 1. £166k of these identified savings are in relation to estimated vacancies.
- 3.3 To quarter 3 £272k of the savings have been realised against the budgeted April 2019 to December 2019 savings of £249k.

In addition to the above officers have been required to find further savings throughout the financial year 2019/20. At quarter 1 and 2 savings were found of £558k, £166k of these were allocated to the vacancy factor target. The remainder £392k have therefore been returned to balances. At quarter 3 officers have found another £4k these will be also be vired off the relevant services to be returned to working balances by the end of the financial year.

- 3.3 The External Auditors, Grant Thornton, have recommended that the delivery of savings be monitored more closely to ensure that the Council is meeting savings in the way that was expected when the budget was set. This monitoring was recommended to be undertaken by this Committee and Grant Thornton further advised that the savings monitoring should be against the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 3.4 As members may be aware during the budget process, heads of service propose savings that are to be delivered during future financial years. The budget allocation is then reduced to reflect the proposed saving and officers meet on a monthly basis to ensure that all estimated reductions to budget are being delivered.

3.5 **Legal Implications**

None as a direct result of this report.

3.6 **Service/Operational Implications**

Timely and accurate financial monitoring ensures that services can be delivered as agreed within the financial budgets of the Council

4. **Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

None, as a direct result of this report.

5. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Effective financial management is included in the Corporate Risk Register.

6. **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Saving monitoring September – December 2019/20

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Available from Financial Services

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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