

**Shetland Islands Council – 22 February 2023**  
[Shetland Islands Council Committee Information - Meetings](#)

Item	Subject	Decision
1	Approval of Band D Council Tax and Housing Rents and Charges for 2023/24	<p>The Council NOTED the advice received from the Executive Manager – Finance regarding setting Council Tax in advance of confirmation of the 2023/24 Revenue Budget, as set out in Section 4 of the report.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOTE the terms of the Local Government Finance Settlement with regard to Council Tax;</li> <li>• APPROVE an increase to Council Tax rates for the forthcoming financial year of 4.5%, increasing income by £463,788;</li> <li>• ADOPT the formal resolution confirming the Band D Council Tax for the year beginning 1 April 2023 of £1,260.61 as agreed at 1.2.2 (Appendix 3); and</li> <li>• APPROVE an increase of 4.5% to housing rents and charges for both Housing Revenue Account and General Fund (Appendix 5).</li> </ul>
2	Non Domestic Rates Empty Property Relief	<p>The Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOTED the devolution from the Scottish Government to local authorities of responsibility for Non-Domestic Rates Empty Property Relief and the requirement to have a policy from 1 April 2023, to suit local needs;</li> <li>• RESOLVED that, due to the short timescale and the need to consult and communicate any changes to rate payers, the SIC Non-Domestic Rates Empty Property Relief Scheme be APPROVED as identical to the current national arrangements for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024, as outlined in section 4.6; and</li> <li>• NOTED that following consultation with stakeholders, a further report will be presented to Council by the end of December 2023, with potential options for change.</li> </ul>

3	SIC Performance Management Arrangements	The Council RESOLVED to APPROVE the progress made on the SIC Performance Management Arrangements at Appendix 1 and the suite of performance indicators, set out in Appendix 2, to address issues raised in the recent Best Value Assurance Report (BVAR), and for the updated report to be presented at a later date.
4	Free School Meals and School Clothing Grant Criteria	<p>The Council RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to align the criteria for Free School Meals and School Clothing Grants;</li> <li>• to increase School Clothing Grant payments by 50% in 2023/24;</li> <li>• the funding for 2023/24 to be drawn from the Cost of Living Fund set up by the Council in 2022, and that there should be annual reviews.</li> </ul>
5	Asset Investment Plan - Business Cases: Retaining walls; Access Arrangements at Hamnavoe School - Storage at Employability Team Workshop; and Large Scale Fender repairs	The Council RESOLVED to approve the proposals described in Section 4.3 and included as Appendices A, B, C, D and E to the report.
6	Asset Investment Plan - Strategic Outline Case - A971 West Burraferth Junction to Walls	The Council RESOLVED to approve the project to proceed to the Outline Business Case stage.
7	Information Governance Policy	<p>The Council RESOLVED to approve the new Information Governance Policy; and</p> <p>The Council further RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APPROVE the inclusion of the Information Governance Policy in the Council's Policy Framework (Constitution Part A) to be managed by the Policy and Resources Committee; and</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DELEGATE AUTHORITY to the Council's Director of Corporate Services to agree updates to the Information Governance Policy where these are required to give effect to legislative requirements, council decisions or changes in operational procedure, and to note that any such changes will be notified in the document version control and, where considered necessary, by a briefing note to Councillors and/or officers.</li> </ul>
8	Data Protection Policy	<p>The Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RESOLVED to approve the Data Protection Policy; and</li> <li>• RESOLVED to DELEGATE AUTHORITY to the Council's Director of Corporate Services to agree updates to the Data Protection Policy where these are required to give effect to legislative requirements, council decisions or changes in operational procedure, and to note that any such changes will be notified in the document version control and, where considered necessary, by a briefing note to Councillors and/or officers.</li> </ul>

END