

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 6th February 2017

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WARD(S): All

PORTFOLIO: Councillor Munawar, Commissioner for Finance & Strategy

PART I **KEY DECISION**

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2017/18

1 Purpose of Report

The Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) is a requirement of the Council's reporting procedures and recommended by both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) code of practice on treasury management and the CIPFA prudential code for capital finance in local authorities. The Council is required to comply with both codes through regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.

2 Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

The Cabinet is requested to recommend to Council on 23rd February 2017 that the Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18 be approved.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

The report indirectly supports all of the strategic priorities and cross cutting themes. The maintenance of good governance within the Council to ensure that it is efficient, effective and economic in everything it does achieve through the improvement of corporate governance and democracy by ensuring effective management practice is in place.

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

The report helps achieve the Five Year Plan outcomes by contributing to the Council's financial planning and particularly 'Outcome 7 – The Council's income and the value of its assets will be maximised', as evidenced in the Treasury management activity report.

4 Other Implications

(a) Financial

The Financial implications are contained within this report.

(b) Risk Management

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities
Legal	None	None
Property	None	None
Human Rights	None	None
Health and Safety	None	None
Employment Issues	None	None
Equalities Issues	None	None
Community Support	None	None
Communications	None	None
Community Safety	None	None
Financial: Detailed in the report and above	As Identified	Returns out perform the budgeted income
Timetable for delivery	None	None
Project Capacity	None	None
Other	None	None

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

None Identified

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

No identified need for the completion of an EIA

5 Supporting Information

5.1 The Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18 is required to set out how the Council intends to manage its Treasury Management Risk. The Council's Treasury Policy is set out in Appendix 1 of this report. The Treasury Management Strategy complies with the requirements set out in the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management, which includes the requirement for determining a Treasury Strategy on the likely financing and investment activity for the forthcoming financial year.

5.2 In addition to reporting on risk management related to treasury activities, the Treasury Management Code also requires the Authority to report on any financial instruments entered into to manage Treasury Risks.

6 Key Principles

6.1 The medium term capital finance budget is a key part of the council's budget strategy. When setting the Treasury Management Strategy the Council has considered

- The current Treasury position and debt portfolio position
- The prospects for interest rates
- The current approved capital programme
- Limits on treasury management activities and prudential indicators

6.2 It is a statutory requirement that the level of borrowing is kept under review and is affordable

7 Service Delivery and Performance Issues

7.1.1 The Council currently has £209m of borrowing and investments of around £72m to £82m on average throughout the year. The underlying need to borrow is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) while usable reserves are the underlying resources available for investment.

7.1.2 CIPFA's prudential code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities recommends that the Authority's total debt should be lower than its highest forecast CFR over the next three years. The Highest forecast of CFR during the next 3 years is £415m. The total debt for 2017/18 is expected to be £243m. The Council therefore will comply with this recommendation during 2017/18.

7.1.3 The Council uses Arlingclose as its external treasury advisor but responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with this Council at all times.

8 Comments of Other Committees

The draft Treasury Management Strategy 2017/18 is due to be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2nd February 2017. Any comments will be reported to Cabinet.

9 Conclusion

The Cabinet is requested to recommend approval of the Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18 to Council on 23rd February 2017.

10 Appendices Attached

'A' Treasury Management Strategy 2017/18

11 Background Papers

- '1' CIPFA – Treasury Management in the Public Services – Code of Practice and guide for Chief Financial Officers
- '2' CIPFA – Prudential Code for local authority capital finance
- '3' Arlingclose Ltd – UK economic forecasts
- '4' Local Government Act 2003