



Leicester  
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH INTEGRATION SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: TUESDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2024 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Whittle (Chair)  
Councillor Bonham (Vice-Chair)

Councillor March                      Councillor Sahu  
Councillor Singh Sangha

In Attendance:

Councillor Sarah Russell              Deputy City Mayor – Social Care, Health and  
Community Safety

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**33. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Modhwadia and Zaman.

**34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**43. DRAFT GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2024/25**

The Director of Finance submitted a draft report proposing the general fund revenue budget for 2024/25.

The Head of Finance introduced the report and made the following points:

- The medium-term financial outlook was the most severe ever experienced by the City Council.

- Ongoing expenditure is forecast to exceed ongoing income by at least £50million in 2024/5. Further budget savings would need to be identified in the future.
- The City Council's managed reserves policy had been utilised in previous years, though without new money from the Government, the proposed budget would exhaust these reserves.
- Should the City Council be unable to balance its budget in 2025/26, a formal report under section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 would be required.
- Areas of significant budget growth included adult social care, the implementation of the real living wage, children's social care and homelessness services. These were issues which commonly impacted severely on most local authority's spending.
- In relation to Public Health, the commission was reminded that the division was funded from the public health grant, which had recently increased by 2% to £29.8million. No significant budget adjustments were being proposed for 2024/25.

In response to a question in relation to budget saving associated with the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme, the Director of Finance agreed to provide confirmation of the level of this saving and whether it was proposed to be made from this proposed budget or had been taken previously.

**AGREED:**

- (1) That the draft General Revenue Fund Budget 2024/25, and particularly the elements in respect of Public Health, be noted; and
- (2) That clarity in relation to budget savings associated with the 0-19 Health Child Programme be provide to members.