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## **AGENDA FOR THE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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Members of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee are summoned to the meeting which will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on **26 January 2023 at 7.30 pm.**

Enquiries to : Jonathan Moore  
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Despatched : 18 January 2023

### Membership

#### **Councillors:**

Councillor Jenny Kay (Chair)	Councillor Hannah McHugh
Councillor Gulcin Ozdemir (Vice-Chair)	Councillor Praful Nargund
Councillor Jilani Chowdhury	Councillor Saiqa Pandor
Councillor Jason Jackson	Councillor Matt Nathan
Councillor Tricia Clarke	Councillor Angelo Weekes
Councillor Sheila Chapman	Councillor Bashir Ibrahim
Councillor Gary Heather	Councillor Phil Graham
Councillor Heather Staff	Councillor Caroline Russell

#### **Substitutes:**

Councillor Janet Burgess MBE	Councillor Troy Gallagher
Councillor Dave Poyser	Councillor Benali Hamdache
Councillor Nick Wayne	

**Quorum is 4 Councillors**

**A. Formal Matters**

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1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of Substitute Members
3. Declarations of Interest

If you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest\*** in an item of business:

- if it is not yet on the council's register, you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;
- you may **choose** to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.

In both the above cases, you **must** leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If you have a **personal** interest in an item of business **and** you intend to speak or vote on the item you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you **may** participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

**\*(a) Employment, etc** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

**(b) Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.

**(c) Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.

**(d) Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.

**(e) Licences**- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.

**(f) Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.

**(g) Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to all members present at the meeting.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting
5. Chair's Report

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6. Public Questions

For members of the public to ask questions relating to any subject on the meeting agenda under Procedure Rule 70.5. Alternatively, the Chair may opt to accept questions from the public during the discussion on each agenda item.

7. External Attendees (if any)

**B. Items for Call-In (if any)**

**C. Scrutiny and Monitoring Reports**

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1. Presentation from the Borough Commander: Annual Crime & Disorder Report

2. Cost of Living Crisis Scrutiny Review: Witness Evidence 9 - 22

- Evidence from the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Review of Council Tax Support Proposals (report attached)

3. Scrutiny of Budget Proposals for 2023/24 23 - 118

4. Budget Monitoring Report 119 - 176

5. Monitoring Item 177 - 198

- Council Forward Plan
- Scrutiny Review Tracker
- Outstanding responses from previous meetings *(to follow)*
- Updates from Committee Chairs
- Work Programme

**D. Urgent Non-Exempt Matters**

Any non-exempt items which the chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reason for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

**E. Exclusion of Public and Press**

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business in the remaining items on the agenda any of them are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt or confidential information within the terms of the access to information procedure rules in the constitution and if so, whether to exclude the press and public during discussion thereof.

**F. Exempt Items for Call-In (if any)**

**G. Exempt Items**

The public may be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that exempt information would be disclosed.

**H. Other Business**

The next meeting of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee will be on  
21 February 2023

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London Borough of Islington

## Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee - 5 December 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee held at Council Chamber, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 5 December 2022 at 7.30 pm.

**Present:**           **Councillors:**   Kay (Chair), Chowdhury, Jackson, Clarke, Chapman, Heather, Staff, McHugh, Nargund, Weekes, Ibrahim and Russell

**Also Present:**       **Councillors:**   Khondoker and Ward

### Councillor Jenny Kay in the Chair

**48       APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ibrahim, Pandor, Ozdemir, Nathan and Graham.

**49       DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)**

None.

**50       DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)**

None.

**51       MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)**

The following amendments to the minutes were proposed:

Minute 43 to be reworded to read: The Committee requested an update on when the response to the Net Zero Carbon 2030 strategy (including Waste Management) scrutiny review would be going to the Executive; and when the Executive response to the Performance Management and Development scrutiny review recommendations would be available.

Addition to minute 46: A Member made the point that in the Annual Workforce report on page 145 there is insufficient detail provided to effectively scrutinise sickness absence and agency workers in the council. The member noted the last reports to the Committee on these subjects were on 2 December 2021 and 4 November 2021 respectively. The Member asked that time be made available in the Committee workplan to receive reports on these two subjects.

In relation to the appended letter from Thames Water, it was noted that there had been a further burst pipe on Holloway Road since the previous meeting that took approximately one week to be repaired. A member suggested that the reasons for

this should be investigated by Thames Water. The Chair advised that she would contact Thames Water in relation to this.

**RESOLVED:**

That subject to the amendments listed above, the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

**ACTIONS:**

- Democratic Services to follow up on scrutiny response reports.
- The scheduling of an update on sickness absence and agency workers be discussed between the Chair and HR officers.
- The Chair to write to Thames Water in relation to the leak on Holloway Road.

**52** **CHAIR'S REPORT (Item A5)**

The Chair brought the Committee's attention to the actions from the previous meeting and responses provided in the meeting papers.

In relation to point 13 on transfer of the apprenticeship levy, a member commented that it would be very helpful to have more specific information on what percentage of the apprenticeship levy is spent internally and externally, and the types of apprenticeship courses being funded externally.

In relation to point 16, on destinations and career progression of those on apprenticeships, a member expressed surprise that the council did not track the outcomes of those it supported into apprenticeships. It was noted that Ofsted rated one third of apprenticeship courses nationally as "requiring improvement" or "inadequate" and the member considered that it was important for the Council to track this data in light of this context. It was requested that officers consider how the effective tracking of apprenticeship outcomes may be enabled in the future, as mentioned at previous meetings.

In relation to point 7, on the status of previously agreed savings now considered undeliverable, the papers noted that the detail would be included in future budget monitoring reports. A member expressed disappointment that this detail was not yet available and suggested that the information would help to inform the scrutiny of the budget setting process. The Committee asked if it was possible for this detail to be provided in a standalone document and the officers present advised that this would be prepared and circulated in December.

In relation to point 6, on the employment of agency workers, a member requested data on how many agency workers and consultants were recruited in each financial year, how spend on this compared to previous years, which specific teams were employing agency workers, and why this was considered necessary. It was requested that data on agency workers and high-value interim workers be reported separately.

A member raised the career progression of BAME staff and queried the plans, targets and timescales to recruit more diverse staff to senior levels. It was noted that

the committee had previously asked about this topic. The Chair advised that this was a matter for Human Resources and the relevant Executive Member was the Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance. The Chair reiterated that the Committee wished to review the findings of the previous equalities working group held on BAME staff progression at a future committee meeting.

In relation to point 17, on staff sickness absence where mental health was recorded as a factor, it was commented that the data provided was helpful, but did not specify if work-related factors had contributed to the sickness absence. It was asked if any data was held in relation to this, including qualitative data. It was suggested that discussions with those on long-term sickness absence may be helpful to understand if work-related factors had contributed to their absence.

In relation to point 4, on the Islington Lettings scheme ending, it was suggested that the Housing Scrutiny Committee could consider lessons learned from the scheme, why it had not succeeded, and what the implications were for the council's relationships with private sector landlords, particularly in the context of rising rents.

**ACTIONS:**

That updates be requested on the above matters.

**53 PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Item A6)**

None.

**54 EXTERNAL ATTENDEES (IF ANY) (Item A7)**

None.

**55 EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EQUALITIES, CULTURE AND INCLUSION - ANNUAL PRESENTATION (Item C2)**

Councillor Khondoker, the Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion, presented to the committee. The presentation included detail of the Challenging Inequality Programme and its workstreams, and the work of the Equalities Team to support, facilitate and empower other council services to consider equalities issues in their work.

The following main points were raised in the discussion:

- A member noted that much of the council's equalities work focused on race, with some reference to LGBT+ issues and disabilities. It was queried if a similar approach would be taken for all protected characteristics, and also equalities issues such as disparities in income and wealth, and disparities in access to housing. In response, it was advised that the starting point of the Challenging Inequality programme was racial equality, and the next phase would focus on disability, however it was accepted that marginalised groups faced a range of challenges and the council wished to address all forms of inequality where it was able to do so.
- In response to a question, the Executive Member advised that it was important to understand intersectionality when considering the inequalities experienced by particular groups.

- It was noted that the Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance had Executive responsibility for Human Resources, including equalities matters related to Islington Council as an employer.
- In response to a question on how key performance indicators were measured, it was explained that action plans were being developed and this would include how actions would be monitored and evaluated. A member asked if any timescales had been set for key outcomes to be identified. In response, it was advised that tangible targets and timescales were currently being identified, and an update would be reported to the committee when this was available to allow for further scrutiny. It was recognised that there may be difficulties in identifying quantitative performance measures in this area. Officers advised that it was hoped to identify five or six key target outcomes by the end of January; this focus on a limited number of outcomes would then help to drive change in those areas.
- The Chair noted that all Corporate Directors had responsibility for promoting equalities matters in their directorate and this was important to achieve improved outcomes for residents. It was queried if residents had been engaged in the development of the programme. The council's Principal Risk Report identified failure to address social inequalities as a key risk, and identified that clear prioritisation, governance, and programme management would be crucial to the programme's success. In this context, it was asked how the Committee could help to establish a rigorous approach to the monitoring of progress against priorities. In response, it was advised that the discussions were ongoing to ensure that equality objectives were included in the council's performance framework, and scrutiny played an important role in reviewing performance data. Officers recognised that Challenging Inequality was a broad topic and there was a need for a sharp focus and prioritisation of this work to ensure that it had the desired impact.
- Officers advised that a 'Wellbeing Index' was being considered as an approach to monitoring progress and outcomes.
- It was noted by members that staff from across the council had made fantastic contributions to the Challenging Inequality programme, sometimes in addition to their substantive roles. It was asked if the staff contributing to this work had received formal recognition for their work, and if it was possible to provide additional support to further develop these initiatives. In response, it was recognised that staff-led initiatives, such as the Black History 365 programme, had been successful in raising awareness and understanding of equality issues throughout the council. It was important to capture the impact of such sessions, and discussions were underway to consider how staff could be supported and recognised for their part in this.
- In response to a question, it was advised that translation services were available for non-english speaking residents. It was particularly important for information relating to cost-of-living support to be available in multiple languages. An example was given of signs in parks being written in different languages to ensure that all of the borough's communities feel welcome.
- A member asked about the digital divide, noting that some communities struggle to access the internet and cannot access key public services, utilities and banking services as a result. It was asked if more could be done to signpost residents to services that would support them to get online. For example, signposting to social tariffs offered by internet service providers for



those on lower incomes. In response, it was advised that this was currently being considered between the Executive Members with responsibility for Digital Services and Communities. It was thought that Libraries could have a key role in supporting and signposting residents to these services.

- A member asked about the council's role in ensuring that activities at older people's day centres and community settings were culturally appropriate. In response, it was advised that the council engaged with mosques and other local organisations on how best to provide services for their communities.
- The Chair summarised the discussion, commenting on the need for a rigorous approach to assessing outcomes and performance on equalities matters. The Committee would welcome the inclusion of equalities-related performance data in the quarterly corporate performance reports to allow for regular monitoring. It was noted that a new strategic plan was in development and key performance indicators would be reviewed in light of this. The Executive Member advised that this would be considered further outside of the meeting. It was requested that officers provide a written update on the development of these performance measures in January.

#### **ACTIONS:**

A written update be provided to the Committee on the development of equalities-related performance measures, and how these will be monitored and scrutinised, in January.

#### **56 SCRUTINY REVIEW: COST OF LIVING CRISIS - WITNESS EVIDENCE (Item C1)**

##### **(i) Fuel Poverty and the work of SHINE**

The Committee received a presentation from Jobe Bryer, Energy Advice Manager, on the role of the Seasonal Health Interventions Network and the support available to residents experiencing hardship due to increased energy costs. The presentation also summarised the energy efficiency of the council's housing stock.

The following main points were noted in the discussion:

- It was noted that the caseload of the SHINE service had increased due to the energy crisis.
- The Committee expressed concern about the impact of rising energy costs, not only for residents, but also for public services. The increased cost of energy was having an impact on schools and leisure centres, and their ability to offer services in a financially sustainable way. Some leisure centres had reduced operating hours as a result, and this would have an impact on the health and wellbeing of residents.
- It was asked if government cuts were hampering efforts to install energy efficiency measures in housing. In response, it was advised that the government had ceased the Green Homes Grant which primarily supported owner occupiers, and other schemes such as the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) had also been significantly reduced over recent years. In 2014 the council fully insulated the Holly Park Estate and primarily financed this through ECO funding. The council had been unable to finance energy

efficiency improvements through this scheme since as the scheme had been significantly reduced.

- Concern was expressed about residents on pre-payment meters in the current energy crisis, particularly as those residents had to be proactive in claiming government energy support measures, in comparison to those who received credit on Direct Debit payments. In relation to concerns about energy companies using debt collectors, officers advised that they were encouraging as many people as possible to join the priority services register, as those on the register could not legally be switched to a pre-payment meter.
- There were reports in the press about government vouchers for pre-payment meters going unclaimed, and it was thought that a proportion of these had been lost or delayed. Officers advised that they were aware of cases where residents had not received these vouchers, and in some instances they had liaised with energy companies on behalf of residents to resolve the issue. It was also noted that pre-payment meters only accepted a maximum credit of £250, which was being used significantly faster due to the high cost of energy.
- A member asked if officers were aware of any hurdles to residents accessing the services that SHINE refer to. In response, it was advised that due to significant demand there were some delays from the point of referral to residents receiving support. For example, it was known that there had been some recent delays to payments made from the GLA Warmer Homes scheme.
- A member asked if the Energy Advice service liaised with community and faith groups about the support available and suggested that further engagement may be helpful to promote the schemes available. In response, it was advised that there were regular communications with such organisations, although there was always scope to do more. The service was also promoted through social media and newsletters. Members considered that the most vulnerable residents may not engage with these channels and may not be aware of the advice and support available, and a possible recommendation may relate to how the availability of support is communicated.
- A member noted the work being carried out to improve the energy efficiency of the council's housing stock included internal wall insulation, new window, loft and roof insulation and the installation of LED lights. It was queried why the specification did not also include improvements in ventilation. It was advised that this would be taken up with the relevant officers.

The Committee thanked officers for their attendance.

(ii) Evidence from Cally Energy

The Committee was joined remotely by Elaine Trimble of Cally Energy, who presented on the work of the organisation in crowdsourcing funding for solar energy panels in the local area.

The organisation was currently engaging with GLL about the possibility of installing PV panels on Cally Pool.

The Committee asked how the council could help to support organisations like Cally Energy. In response, it was advised that there had been occasions where the council's response had been slow and this had resulted in delays to the organisation's work. It would also be helpful for the council to clearly detail what matters it would and would not accept in contracts in advance, as this would accelerate contractual negotiations. There was a suggestion that the council required the organisation to hold significant financial reserves for potential future maintenance and this affected the viability of small-scale community energy schemes. It was suggested that it would also be helpful if the council had an agreed position on ownership options for PV panels, as a variety of different models were possible.

Councillors thanked Elaine for her presentation. Cllr Clarke invited the organisation to present to members of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee at a later date.

(iii) Evidence on the resident experience of retrofitting

The Committee was joined remotely by a local resident who shared their experience of seeking to retrofit their property with energy saving measures. The resident had sought to install external insulation on their home, however had been advised against this by the council's planning department, who indicated that a planning application was unlikely to be successful. Overall, the installation of energy efficiency measures had been a costly and complex process.

In response, officers, advised that a new supplementary planning guidance document was currently being prepared that would provide a framework for residents, businesses and others to seek planning permission for such improvements.

(iv) Question from a Member of the Public

Rev Steven Cooper, Minister at Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission in Bunhill Ward, asked a question about the council's recent decision to reduce the hours that heating is operational in properties with communal heating systems, commenting that this had a detrimental impact on vulnerable people living in those properties. It was advised that his concerns would be raised with the Acting Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods and the Executive Member for Homes and Communities for a written response.

(v) Update from the Chair on the Council Tax Support Scheme

As the report was not available, this was deferred to the next meeting.

**ACTIONS:**

- Housing Officers to respond to the query on improved ventilation in council properties;

- Officers and the Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport to consider how the SHINE service can be best promoted to vulnerable residents.
- The Committee was keen for the council to consider the experiences of organisations like Cally Energy and for these to help shape the council's response in future.

**57 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT - MONTH 6 2022/23 (Item C3)**

Paul Clarke, Director of Finance, and Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance, introduced the budget monitoring report.

The Committee noted the £4 million overspend in Adult Social Care, and that the Adult Social Care In-House Transformation Programme had been delayed to December 2022/23, causing a cost pressure of £500,000. This issue was referred to the Health and Care Scrutiny Committee to explore further.

A member expressed concern about the increase of schools in financial deficit. This was primarily due to an increase in energy costs, combined with a decrease in school roll numbers. Officers were working closely with schools to help them with their financial planning. Members also expressed concern about the increase in the cost of residential care services for children and young people. In response, it was advised that this was a national issue, the priority was ensuring that children were looked after safely and this was becoming increasingly expensive in the current financial climate.

The Chair thanked officers for circulating a briefing note on energy purchasing, which highlighted differences between Islington's approach in comparison to other local authorities. The Chair asked, where the council had different arrangements to other local authorities, how the council would factor in that level of risk into decision-making processes, and how should that inform the work of scrutiny in holding decision-makers to account. Councillor Ward indicated that this would be considered further in advance of the January meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

That the budget monitoring report be noted.

**ACTION:**

Councillor Ward and relevant officers to consider the question of risk management and report back to the next meeting.

**58 MONITORING ITEM (Item C4)**

Noted.

The meeting ended at 10.30 pm

**CHAIR**

Community Wealth Building Department  
7 Newington Barrow Way,  
London,  
N7 7EP

Report of: Corporate Director of Community Wealth Building

Meeting of: Policy & Performance Scrutiny Committee

Date: 26 January 2023

Ward(s): All

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## Subject: The Council Tax Support Scheme for 2024/25

### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1. This report provides an update on options explored thus far, for potential changes to our Council Tax Support Scheme (CTSS) in 2024/25. We are looking at banded schemes, with five schemes modelled to date that are summarised in this report. There are three models that cost more than our current scheme cost in 2024/25 and two models that are a lower cost. This is the initial modelling completed, further analysis will be conducted to bring forward proposals.
- 1.2. Islington's CTSS is an important part of the safety net we offer to help support and protect low-income households. The CTSS reduces the amount of council tax a person has to pay based on an assessment made by Islington Council

- 1.3. The Council's current CTSS protects pensioners in order that their Council Tax Support is broadly the same as they would have received in council tax benefit, being a 100% scheme. In 2022/23, for working age households, the Council reduced the cap from 8.5% to 5%. This increased from 91.5% to 95% the level of support they would have been entitled to under the old council tax benefit rules.
- 1.4. The Council is conducting this review at a time when we know many of our households are struggling with the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. Although many of these households have faced financial challenges for many years. It is our intention to review the CTSS, aiming to ensure resources are targeted at those most in need. This will include updating to a 100% scheme for working age households that will be a banded scheme offering different levels of support based on financial need.
- 1.5. Any forthcoming proposals will be subject to public consultation and agreement at Full council in December 2023.
- 1.6. Subject to agreement, we expect a banded scheme to be simpler to administer and a related savings proposal has been agreed. The proposed saving would have no impact on the sums available for the core scheme.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To note the banded schemes modelled to date and provide any feedback on these current models to help inform the Council's recommended way forward.

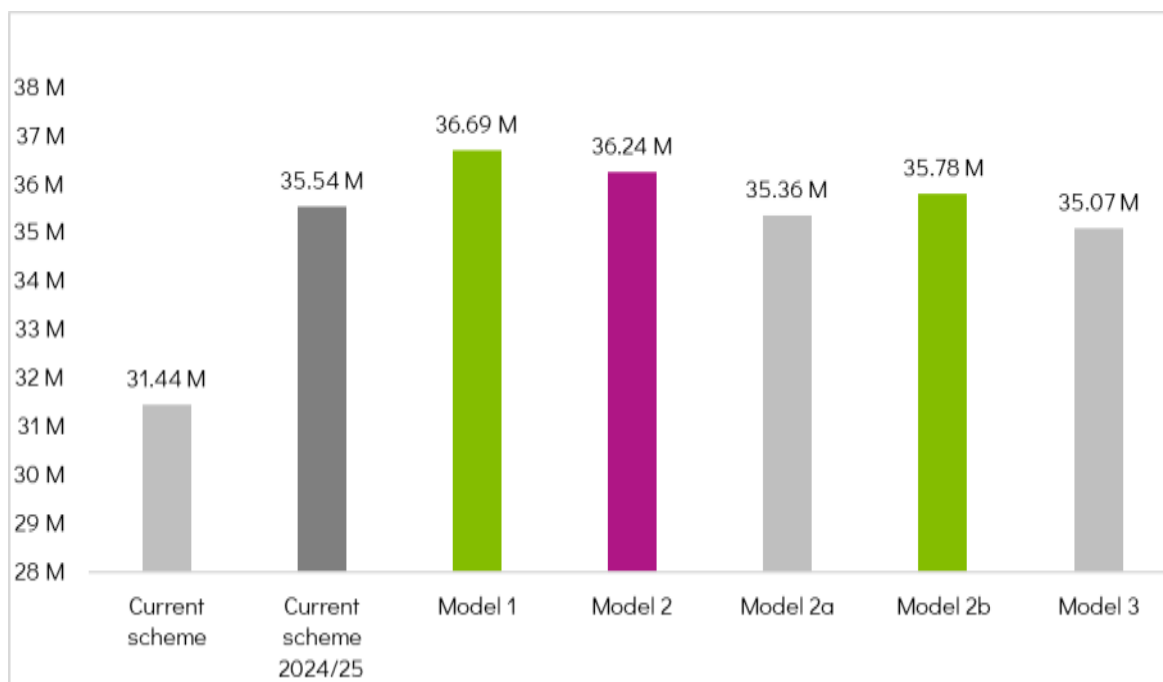
## 3. Background

- 3.1. Modelling of alternative CTSS options has assumed a 4.99% increase in council tax liability in 2023/24 and 2024/25, along with benefit uprating of 10.1% for 2023/24 and 5.4% for 2024/25 (based on projected CPI inflation figures).
- 3.2. Maintaining the current scheme into 2024/25 would increase costs from the current £31.44m to £35.54m, an increase of £4.10m or 13.04%. The large increase in costs is driven by the increase in council tax liability and the benefit uprating through to 2024/25.

- 3.3. The graph below in 3.4, illustrates the increase in cost for the current scheme for 2024/25. The current new options modelled are shown as model 1, model 2, model 2a, model 2b and model 3. The overall cost of each model scheme is shown as at 2024/25.
- 3.4. In summary the five models work in the same way as our current scheme for pensioners as they already have a 100% scheme. For working age there is a banded scheme with variations for each model.
- Model 1 – Moves those on passported benefits as per our current policy or earning less than £40 per week into a 100% discount band, with earnings additions for couples and children of £40 per week. There are seven earnings bands in total. In this model, all housing tenures receive a higher average CTS award compared to our current policy in 2022/23 and compared to our current policy projected to 2024/25. This scheme would cost £1.15m per year more than the current scheme in 2024/25, so additional funding would be required.
  - Model 2 – Passports those on benefits with disability premiums and single parents with a child under five into a 100% discount band. Jobseekers are placed in band 2 with a 95% discount. There are six bands in total, with additions of £40 per week for couples and children. In this model, all housing tenures receive a higher average CTS award compared to our current policy in 2022/23 and compared to our current policy projected to 2024/25. This scheme would cost £700k per year more than the current scheme in 2024/25, so additional funding would be required.
  - Model 2a – Passports households on legacy benefits receiving PIP/DLA, households on Universal Credit with limited capability for work and single parents with a child under five into a 100% discount band. Jobseekers are placed in band 2 with a 95% discount. There are seven bands in total, with additions of £25 per week for couples and children in band 3, with additions of £40 per week for bands 4 to 7. In this model, all housing tenures receive a higher average CTS award compared to our current policy in 2022/23. Compared to our current policy projected to 2024/25, council tenants, supported housing and temporary accommodation tenants receive a higher average award. Tenants in the private sector and housing association tenants receive a slightly reduced award on average. This scheme would cost £180k per year less than the current scheme in 2024/25, so no additional funding would be required.

- Model 2b – Passports those on benefits with disability premiums and single parents with a child under five into a 100% discount band. Jobseekers are placed in band 2 with a 95% discount. There are six bands in total, with additions of £20 per week for couples and children. In this model, all housing tenures receive a higher average CTS award compared to our current policy in 2022/23 and compared to our current policy projected to 2024/25, except housing association tenants who see an average reduction of £0.01p per week compared to our current policy projected to 2024/25. This scheme would cost £250k per year more than the current scheme in 2024/25, so additional funding would be required.
- Model 3 – Passports households on legacy benefits receiving PIP/DLA, households on Universal Credit with limited capability for work and single parents with a child under five into a 100% discount band. Jobseekers are placed in band 2 with a 95% discount. Earnings override passported status. There are seven bands in total, with additions of £25 per week for couples and children in band 3, with additions of £40 per week for bands 4 to 7. In this model, all housing tenures receive a higher average CTS award compared to our current policy in 2022/23. Compared to our current policy projected to 2024/25, council tenants, supported housing and temporary accommodation tenants receive a higher average award. Tenants in the private sector and housing association tenants receive a slightly reduced award on average. This scheme would cost £470k per year less than the current scheme in 2024/25, so no additional funding would be required.





3.5. Model 1 is a banded scheme (see table below), taking into account net earnings, with earnings bands set loosely based on the Universal Credit work allowance. Flat rate non-dependent deductions are introduced at £7.50 per week. The bandings for model 1 are shown below. Those on passported benefits will be placed in band 1. Net earnings will dictate the band you are placed in with additions for couples and those with children. The discount applied to the council tax liability ranges from 100% to 20% dependant on the band.

	Weekly earnings				
Band	Single	Couple addition	1 child addition	2+ children addition	Discount
1	£0-£40 + passported	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	100%
2	£40-£80	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	90%
3	£80-£120	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	80%
4	£120-£160	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	65%
5	£160-£200	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	50%
6	£200-£240	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	35%
7	£240-£280	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	20%

3.6. The number of households that fall into each band in model 1 is illustrated in the table below.

Band	No. households	% households	% discount	Average weekly CTS
1	15078	84.2	100	£29.46
2	644	3.6	90	£27.21
3	739	4.1	80	£24.71
4	560	3.1	65	£19.35
5	345	1.9	50	£15.00
6	230	1.3	35	£11.01
7	117	0.7	20	£6.99
Losing support	187	1.0	0	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>17900</b>			

3.7. Model 1 increases total scheme costs by £1.15m in comparison to costs if the current scheme were to be retained into 2024/25. Average Council Tax Support for working age households under Model 1 increases by 4.65% compared to the current scheme maintained into 2024/25. The increase in costs is driven by the increase in the maximum amount of support from 95% to 100% of council tax liability, plus the increase in council tax liability by 4.99% each year.

3.8. Model 2 is a banded scheme (see table below), taking into account net earnings. Flat rate non-dependent deductions are introduced at £7.50 per week. Compared to Model 1, model 2 moves non-passported earning households from the 100% discount band into a 95% discount band. It also removes band 7 entirely and reduces the band 6 discount from 35% to 20%. Passported households are those with limited capability to work and single parents with a child under 5.

Band	Weekly earnings				Discount
	Single	Couple addition	1 child addition	2+ children addition	
1	Passported	Passported	Passported	Passported	100%
2	£0-£40	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	95%
3	£40-£80	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	90%
4	£80-£120	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	75%
5	£120-£160	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	60%
6	£160-£200	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	20%

3.9. The number of households that fall into each band in model 2 is illustrated in the table below.

Band	No. households	% households	% discount	Average weekly CTS
1	10225	57.1	100	£30.16
2	5296	29.6	95	£26.95
3	534	3.0	90	£27.08
4	627	3.5	75	£22.99
5	500	2.8	60	£17.68
6	299	1.7	25	£5.93
Losing support	419	1.2	0	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>17900</b>			

3.10. Model 2 increases total scheme costs by £0.70m in comparison to costs if the current scheme were to be retained into 2024/25. Average Council Tax Support for working age households under Model 2 increases by 2.81% compared to the current scheme maintained into 2024/25. The increase in costs is driven by the increase in the maximum amount of support from 95% to 100% of council tax liability, plus the increase in council tax liability by 4.99% each year. Savings are made from Model 1 as 4,823 households move from band 1 to band 2, the band 6 discount is reduced from 35% to 20%, and band 7 is dropped.

3.11. Model 2a is a banded scheme (see table below), taking into account net earnings. Flat rate non-dependent deductions are introduced at £7.50 per week. Compared to Model 2, model 2a keeps the band discounts but moves each earnings threshold down one band, leaving band 2 for those non-passported with zero earnings only. The earnings threshold for band 3 is reduced from £40 per person to £25. A 40% band is introduced at band 6 to soften the cliff edge in support as people move up the earnings spectrum.

	Weekly earnings				
Band	Single	Couple addition	1 child addition	2+ children addition	Discount
1	Passported	Passported	Passported	Passported	100%
2	£0 earnings	£0 earnings	£0 earnings	£0 earnings	95%
3	£1-£25	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	90%
4	£25-£80	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	75%
5	£80-£120	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	60%
6	£120-£160	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	40%
7	£160-£200	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	20%

3.12. The number of households that fall into each band in model 2a is illustrated in the table below.

Band	No. households	% households	% discount	Average weekly CTS
1	8,827	49.3	100	£29.86
2	5,677	31.7	95	£27.29
3	463	2.6	90	£27.86
4	965	5.4	75	£23.10
5	651	3.6	60	£18.53
6	515	2.9	40	£11.77
7	329	1.8	25	£5.96
Losing support	473	2.6	0	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>17900</b>			

3.13. Model 2a decreases total scheme costs by £0.18m in comparison to costs if the current scheme were to be retained into 2024/25. Average Council Tax Support for working age households under Model 2a decreases by 0.72% compared to the current scheme maintained into 2024/25. The increase in costs is driven by the increase in the maximum amount of support from 95% to 100% of council tax liability. Savings are made from Model 2 as there are fewer households in bands 2 and 3, and the earnings threshold for the 90% band is narrower.

3.14. Model 2b is a banded scheme (see table below), taking into account net earnings. Flat rate non-dependent deductions are introduced at £7.50 per week. Model 2b has the same bands and discounts as Model 2 but with the couple and child additions to each threshold reduced from £40 to £20 for each additional person.

	Weekly earnings				
Band	Single	Couple addition	1 child addition	2+ children addition	Discount
1	Passported	Passported	Passported	Passported	100%
2	£0-£40	£20.00	£20.00	£40.00	95%
3	£40-£80	£20.00	£20.00	£40.00	90%
4	£80-£120	£20.00	£20.00	£40.00	75%
5	£120-£160	£20.00	£20.00	£40.00	60%
6	£160-£200	£20.00	£20.00	£40.00	20%

3.15. The number of households that fall into each band in model 2b is illustrated in the table below.

Band	No. households	% households	% discount	Average weekly CTS
1	10225	57.1	100	£30.16
2	5043	28.2	95	£26.73
3	428	2.4	90	£25.97
4	596	3.3	75	£23.14
5	632	3.5	40	£17.46
6	439	2.5	20	£6.34
Losing support	537	3.0	0	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>17900</b>			

3.16. Model 2b increases total scheme costs by £0.25m in comparison to costs if the current scheme were to be retained into 2024/25. Average Council Tax Support for working age households under Model 2b increases by 1.12% compared to the current scheme maintained into 2024/25. The increase in costs is driven by the increase in the maximum amount of support from 95% to 100% of CT liability. Savings are made from Model 2 due to the narrower earnings thresholds for larger households.

3.17. Model 3 is a banded scheme (see table below), taking into account net earnings. Flat rate non-dependent deductions are introduced at £7.50 per week. Model 3 is the same as Model 2a but earnings override passported status, so households that were passported in Model 2a but are in work are placed into the relevant band for their earnings level.

	Weekly earnings				
Band	Single	Couple addition	1 child addition	2+ children addition	Discount
1	Passported and £0 earnings	Passported	Passported	Passported	100%
2	£0 earnings	£0 earnings	£0 earnings	£0 earnings	95%
3	£1-£25	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	90%
4	£25-£80	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	75%
5	£80-£120	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	60%
6	£120-£160	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	40%
7	£160-£200	£40.00	£40.00	£80.00	20%

3.18. The number of households that fall into each band in model 3 is illustrated in the table below.

Band	No. households	% households	% discount	Average weekly CTS
1	8,311	46.4	100	£29.79
2	5,677	31.7	95	£27.29
3	642	3.6	90	£27.56
4	1,136	6.4	75	£23.04
5	717	4.0	60	£18.60
6	544	3.0	40	£11.88
7	357	2.0	25	£6.02
Losing support	516	2.9	0	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>17900</b>			

3.19. Model 3 decreases total scheme costs by £0.47m in comparison to costs if the current scheme were to be retained into 2024/25. Average Council Tax Support for working age households under Model 3 decreases by 2.11% compared to the current scheme maintained into 2024/25. The cost of the increase in the maximum amount of support from 95% to 100% of council tax liability is offset by decreases in support for households in other bands. Savings are made from model 2a as there are fewer households in band 1, as earnings override passporting in this model.

## 4. Implications

### 4.1. Financial Implications

The council currently provides 95% CTS to low income working aged households. The total cost of CTS is currently £31.4m, of which £9.5m relates to pension age recipients who receive 100% support.

The table below summarises the cost to the council under each option based on the current (2022/23) share of costs between the council (76.9%) and Greater London Authority (GLA) (23.1%). The modelling assumes a 4.99% council tax increase in 2023/24 (based on the budget proposals considered by the Executive on 12 January 2023) and a further 4.99% increase in 2024/25 (based solely on current government assumptions for that financial year). The actual cost to the council in a given financial year would depend on the actual level of council tax and working aged caseload.

**Summary of CTSS Alternative Modelling Options for 2024/25 (Contained within Main Report)**

	<b>Current Scheme</b>	<b>Model 1</b>	<b>Model 2</b>	<b>Model 2a</b>	<b>Model 2b</b>	<b>Model 3</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Total CTS Costs</b>	35.54	36.69	36.24	35.36	35.78	35.70
Additional Costs/(Savings)	-	1.15	0.70	(0.18)	0.25	(0.47)
<b>LBI Share</b>	-	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>(0.14)</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>(0.36)</b>

Any foregone/additional income as a result of increases/decreases in the cost of CTS impacts the council's annual budget via the Collection Fund for council tax income.

There is a £250k saving assumed for 2024/25 as set out in the draft budget report to Executive on 12 January 2023. This was calculated on the basis that a banded scheme is introduced and is simpler to administer with the saving relating to reduced staffing.

Once the final banded scheme is agreed, any additional cost/benefit arising directly from the new scheme would increase/decrease the council's budget gap for 2024/25 and over the medium term.

**4.2. Legal Implications**

The Council Tax Support Scheme is considered to be lawful. The requirement now is for full Council to agree the scheme for its continuing adoption from 1 April 2024 for the full 2024/25 council tax year.

The Council must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, which is integral to the Council's functions, and which is set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 as follows:

- 1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to —
  - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it...
  
- 2) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to-
  - (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;

(b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

(c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

3) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

4) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –

(a) tackle prejudice, and

(b) promote understanding.

5) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.

6) The relevant protected characteristics are-

(a) age;

(b) disability;

(c) gender reassignment;

(d) pregnancy and maternity;

(e) race;

(f) religion or belief;

(g) sex;

(h) sexual orientation.

The equality implications of the proposed scheme for 2024/25 are detailed in section 4.4. and a full equality impact assessment must be completed as noted.

#### 4.3. **Environmental implications and contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030**

4.3.1 Not applicable

#### 4.4 **Equalities Impact Assessment**

4.4.1 The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of



opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A full Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed on any new proposal for the CTSS. There will be public consultation on any new proposal, the outcome of which will form part of the information that goes forward to Full council in December 2023 for a decision on the CTSS for 2024/25.

## 5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 This report updates the Committee on the CTSS banded scheme options for 2024/25 modelled to date.
- 5.2 The report recommends that the Committee note the CTSS banded scheme options and provide any feedback on these.

### Appendices:

### Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Stephen Biggs, Corporate Director, Community Wealth Building

Date: 18 Jan 2023

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Report of: Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance

Meeting of: Executive

Dates: 12 January 2023

Ward(s): All

**The Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee is invited to review the Budget Proposals 2023/24, as presented to the 12 January meeting of the Executive.**

# Budget Proposals 2023/24 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy

## 1. Synopsis

- 1.1. The principal purpose of this report is for the Executive to agree proposals in respect of the council's 2023/24 budget, the level of council tax and the latest assumed medium-term financial position.
- 1.2. The budget setting process for the 2023/24 financial year has been particularly challenging due to the national cost-of-living and energy crisis, and great economic and political uncertainty. The long-term economic impact of COVID-19 and the Ukraine War, has contributed towards the current cost-of-living crisis with inflation, as measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI), at 11.1% in October 2022, a level not seen for around 40 years.
- 1.3. The cost-of-living crisis is already having a significant impact on Islington residents and businesses, and the council. High inflation has resulted in significant budget pressures in respect of energy and fuel costs, pay inflation and high contract inflation for key service areas.
- 1.4. Significant demand pressures have been evident in the 2022/23 budget monitoring reports, including demographic pressures within key services such as Adult Social Care and Children's Services. These pressures are expected to continue over the medium term.
- 1.5. Inflationary and demand pressures alongside real-terms cuts to our central government funding meant that the 2023/24 and medium-term budget setting process started with a very significant funding gap to close. To set a balanced budget in 2023/24, the council is proposing savings of £10.995m in 2023/24. A further £8m of savings are planned over 2024/25 to 2025/26 towards the medium-term gap.
- 1.6. Investment continues in the frontline services that residents and businesses rely on, and in the council's key priorities for a more equal borough. This includes protection of free school meals for every primary school pupil, keeping our libraries open, maintaining weekly recycling and rubbish collections and a regular street sweeping programme.
- 1.7. Alongside continuing to protect vital council services, the 2023/24 budget enables the delivery of the principles and priorities set out in the council's Strategic Plan – [Islington Together for a More Equal Future](#). Budget proposals include growth to support manifesto commitments and continued transformation funding to put strategic principles into practice.

- 1.8. The government has assumed in its local government funding calculations that in 2023/24 the council will increase core council tax by the maximum amount (2.99%) and will apply a further 2% Adult Social Care (ASC) precept. This is reflected in the draft 2023/24 budget proposals.
- 1.9. For the average (Band D) property, the proposed 4.99% increase in the basic 2023/24 Islington council tax (excluding the GLA precept) equates to an increase of around £1.26 per week for full council tax payers. Working aged recipients of full council tax support living in a Band D property will pay an increase of around 6 pence per week.
- 1.10. The Mayor of London is due to publish the final GLA consolidated budget, capital spending plan and provisional council tax precept for 2023/24 on 26 January 2023, following a budget consultation period.
- 1.11. The Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee will review the budget proposals on 26 January 2023 and its comments will be considered in finalising the budget proposals and proposed level of council tax for recommendation by the Executive on 9 February 2023 and agreement by Full Council on 2 March 2023.
- 1.12. The council will also be inviting comments from business rates payers (and representatives) in Islington on the draft 2023/24 budget proposals set out in this report. The consultation period will run from 5 January 2023 (upon the publication of this report and related communication to business rates payers and representatives of business rates payers) to 25 January 2023. Any comments received will be considered by the council before the final budget proposals for consideration by the Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023.
- 1.13. The contents of the report are summarised below:
  - **Section 2** sets out the recommendations.
  - **Section 3** summarises the assumptions within the General Fund (GF) Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and sets out the 2023/24 net revenue budget, fees and charges and estimated reserves.
  - **Section 4** covers the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and includes HRA savings, rents, service charges and other fees and charges.
  - **Section 5** summarises the 2023/24 to 2025/26 capital programme and funding, and the latest indicative programme up until 2032/33. In the final version of the budget report, which goes to the Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023, the Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement and Investment Strategy will also be included here.
  - **Section 6** will include the detailed, statutory council tax calculations and any matters relating to retained business rates in the final version of the budget report which goes to the Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023.
  - **Section 7** details the matters to formally consider in setting the final budget, namely the comments of the Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer, a cumulative Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) of the budget proposals and budget consultation requirements.

## **2. Recommendations**

### **The General Fund Budget 2023/24 and MTF5 (Section 3)**

- 2.1. To agree and recommend to Full Council the latest assumed MTF5 and balanced 2023/24 budget, including the underlying MTF5 principles, in-year monitoring position (to date) and the budget assumptions. **(Paragraphs 3.1-3.41, Table 1, and Appendix A)**
- 2.2. To agree and recommend to Full Council the proposed 2023/24 net budgets by directorate. **(Paragraph 3.3, Table 2, and Appendix A)**
- 2.3. To agree and recommend to Full Council that centrally held demographic growth be allocated to service budgets once a more evidenced assessment is available and has been approved by the Section 151 Officer. **(Paragraph 3.18)**
- 2.4. To note that the 2023/24 budget incorporates budget provision for manifesto commitments and provide additional support to residents in the current cost-of-living crisis. **(Paragraph 3.26-3.37)**
- 2.5. To agree a one-off £1m Hardship Fund to support residents focussing on working households, with low incomes, who are facing large rent rises, for launch in advance of the 2023/24 financial year. **(Paragraph 3.28-3.32)**
- 2.6. To agree the annual budget for the London Councils Grants Committee, following consideration by the London Councils Leaders' Committee on 13 December 2022, and to note that this will be reported to the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Committee on 26 January 2023 for information. **(Paragraph 3.39-3.41)**
- 2.7. To agree and recommend to Full Council the 2023/24 savings and note that individual savings may be subject to individual consultation before they can be implemented. Further, to note the draft savings proposals for 2024/25 and 2025/26. **(Paragraphs 3.43-3.47, Table 4, and Appendix B)**
- 2.8. To note the funding assumptions following the announcement of the Provisional Local Government Settlement on 19 December 2022. **(Paragraphs 3.48-3.73)**
- 2.9. To note that the fees and charges policy and the General Fund fees and charges for 2023/24 have been agreed by Executive on 24 November 2022. **(Paragraphs 3.74-3.77)**
- 2.10. To agree and recommend to Full Council the policy on General Fund contingency and reserves and agree the movements to/from earmarked reserves assumed as part of the 2023/24 revenue budget. **(Paragraphs 3.78-3.88 and Table 7)**
- 2.11. To agree and recommend to Full Council that the Section 151 Officer is delegated responsibility for any technical adjustments required for the 2023/24 budget (in line with the council's financial regulations).

### **The HRA Budget and MTF5 (Section 4)**

- 2.12. To agree and recommend to Full Council, the balanced HRA 2023/24 budget and note the latest estimates over the 3-year MTF5 period. **(Paragraphs 4.1-4.3, Table 8, and Appendix C1)**
- 2.13. To agree and recommend to Full Council the 2023/24 savings and note that individual savings may be subject to individual consultation before they can be implemented. **(Table 9, and Appendix C3)**

2.14. To agree the HRA rents and other HRA fees and charges for 2023/24. (**Paragraphs 4.4-4.39, Tables 10-12, and Appendix C2**)

2.15. To note that the HRA 30-year business plan is currently being updated to reflect latest government policy (**Paragraph 4.2**)

#### **Capital Investment and Treasury and Investment Management (Section 5)**

2.16. To agree and recommend to Full Council, the proposed 2023/24 to 2025/26 capital programme and note the latest indicative capital programme for 2026/27 to 2032/33. (**Paragraphs 5.3-5.6, Table 13, and Appendix D1**)

2.17. To note the estimated funding of the 2023/24 to 2025/26 capital programme and to delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer, where necessary, to apply capital resources to fund the capital programme in the most cost-effective way for the council. (**Paragraph 5.10 and Table 14**)

2.18. To note the estimated borrowing levels for the General Fund and HRA in relation to the 2023/24 to 2025/26 capital programme (**Paragraph 5.13 and Tables 15-16**)

2.19. To note that the final version of the budget report to the Executive on 9 February 2023 and to Full Council on 2 March 2023 will include the Capital Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement, Treasury Management Strategy, and Investment Strategy. (**Paragraph 5.14**)

#### **Council Tax and Retained Business Rates (Section 6)**

2.20. To note that the detailed, statutory council tax calculation and the recommendations for the final 2023/24 council tax, including the GLA precept, will be included for agreement in the final budget report to the Executive on 9 February 2023, and Full Council on 2 March 2023. (**Paragraph 6.1-6.2**)

2.21. To agree that authority be delegated to the Section 151 Officer to finalise the council's 2023/24 NNDR1 (detailed business rates) estimate ahead of the 31 January 2023 statutory deadline. (**Paragraph 6.3**)

#### **Matter to Consider in Setting the Budget (Section 7)**

2.22. To have regard to the Section 151 Officer's report on the robustness of the estimates included in the budget and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves when making decisions about the budget and the level of council tax, as required under Section 25(2) of the Local Government Act 2003. (**Paragraphs 7.1-7.6**)

2.23. To note the Monitoring Officer comments. (**Paragraphs 7.7-7.11**)

2.24. To note the Equality Impact Assessment (**Paragraphs 7.12-7.14 and Appendix E**) and to take fully account of it in approving the overall budget and related proposals.

2.25. To note the assessment of compliance against the CIPFA Financial Management Code and that this will be re-visited at least annually as part of the budget process, with any actions or recommendations implemented on an ongoing basis. (**Paragraphs 7.15-7.16 and Appendix F**)

2.26. To note that the council is inviting business rate payers or representatives of business rate payers in Islington to comment on the draft 2023/24 budget proposals in this report, as required under Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. (**Paragraphs 7.17-7.19**)

### 3. General Fund MTFS and 2023/24 Revenue Budget

#### Summary of MTFS 2023/24 to 2025/26

3.1. The latest assumed budget position in 2023/24 and over the medium term is summarised in Table 1 and detailed at Appendix A. There was an estimated gross budget gap of £25m in 2023/24 (balanced in full by the proposals in this report) and £59m over the medium term. There is a remaining estimated 3-year gap of £24m after the proposals and underlying assumptions in this report. This is before any decisions around council tax in respect of the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26.

**Table 1 – Summary Budget Gap 2023/24 to 2025/26\***

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	Total £m
Pay and pension inflation	15.758	5.450	5.450	<b>26.658</b>
Non-pay/contract inflation	14.129	4.350	3.879	<b>22.358</b>
Demographic growth	8.315	8.000	8.000	<b>24.315</b>
Base budget adjustments/growth	(7.124)	(2.802)	(1.650)	<b>(11.576)</b>
Corporate items (e.g., levies/contingency)	8.077	5.611	6.257	<b>19.945</b>
Government funding	(13.591)	(9.172)	0.000	<b>(22.763)</b>
<b>Gross Budget Gap</b>	<b>25.564</b>	<b>11.437</b>	<b>21.936</b>	<b>58.937</b>
Proposed savings	(10.995)	(5.069)	(2.818)	<b>(18.882)</b>
Business rates inflation funding	(6.956)	(0.443)	0.000	<b>(7.399)</b>
Assumed council tax base increase	(2.241)	(0.565)	(0.596)	<b>(3.402)</b>
<b>Budget Gap (Before Council Tax Increases)</b>	<b>5.372</b>	<b>5.360</b>	<b>18.522</b>	<b>29.254</b>
Assumed Council Tax Increase 2023/24 (2.99%)	(3.219)			
Assumed ASC precept increase 2023/24 (2%)	(2.153)			
<b>Remaining Budget Gap to Close</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>5.360</b>	<b>18.522</b>	<b>23.882</b>

#### MTFS Principles

3.2. The proposed 2023/24 budget is under-pinned by the following key principles.

- Compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code.
- Setting a balanced budget for the year ahead and working up robust estimates and funding scenarios over a 3-year period, as well as longer-term horizon scanning.
- Fully budgeting for ongoing budget pressures, and not applying one-off funding to bridge ongoing funding gaps.
- Reflecting the ongoing revenue cost of the capital programme (both the cost of interest and prudently setting aside enough to repay debt principal) in the revenue budget and considering the potential for interest rate volatility.
- Not assuming additional funding from central government until it is confirmed and developing exit plans for specific funding streams ending at short notice.
- Increasing the level of council tax in line with the government's expectations in local government finance settlements to avoid an ongoing shortfall in the base budget.
- Setting a sufficient contingency budget for in-year budget risks and using available one-off funding to strengthen financial resilience in reserves for hardening budget risks over the medium term.

- Maintaining a minimum balance in the Core Funding Reserve to mitigate against a potential fall in retained business rates funding to the government safety net level.

### Summary Net Revenue Budget 2023/24

- 3.3. **Table 2** summarises the 2023/24 net revenue budget by directorate (cash-limited budgets). A breakdown of the movement between the 2022/23 and 2023/24 budget is shown in **Appendix A**.

**Table 2 – Net Revenue Budget 2023/24\***

	2022/23 Net Budget £m	Changes £m	2023/24 Net Budget £m
Adult Social Services	56.769	(6.157)	50.612
Chief Executive's Directorate	1.228	(0.106)	1.123
Children's Services	84.966	(2.084)	82.883
Community Wealth Building	16.627	0.511	17.138
Environment	5.389	(9.378)	(3.988)
Fairer Together	7.112	0.280	7.392
Homes and Neighbourhoods	6.354	0.981	7.335
Public Health (net nil as wholly grant funded)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Resources Directorate	28.258	4.580	32.838
Central Costs	20.956	22.149	43.105
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>227.659</b>	<b>10.777</b>	<b>238.437</b>
General Contingency	5.000	0.000	5.000
Inflation, Energy and Demand Contingency	0.000	5.000	5.000
Transfer to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(15.913)	27.694	11.781
Unringfenced Grants	(8.298)	4.904	(3.394)
<b>Net Budget Requirement</b>	<b>208.448</b>	<b>48.375</b>	<b>256.824</b>
Settlement Funding Assessment	(110.601)	(6.366)	(116.967)
Business Rates Growth	(15.183)	(6.956)	(22.139)
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	22.761	(27.440)	(4.679)
<b>Council Tax Requirement</b>	<b>105.425</b>	<b>7.613</b>	<b>113.039</b>

\*Subject to change based on January 2023 Collection Fund Forecast (NNDR1).

### Budget Monitoring Position 2022/23

- 3.4. The estimated outturn position for the current financial year (2022/23) is reported through the Council's Executive at regular intervals throughout the financial year and to the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee. The estimated financial position for the current financial year incorporates known and emerging budget variances and details any known residual risks, both at directorate level and corporately. The financial position reports on the council's General Fund, HRA and the capital programme, analysing financial data and the performance monitoring context within which the financial data sits. Where there are significant variances to the financial position, management actions are identified and detailed within the report, with the intention of bringing the anticipated year-end position back to target. Any ongoing impact on budgets beyond the current financial year, that would remain even after management actions have been implemented, is considered within the budget planning process for the forthcoming financial year and over the medium term.



- 3.5. The financial context of high inflation (with a significant knock-on impact in terms of higher than estimated service costs) and the continued recovery from the pandemic has created a very uncertain backdrop to the 2022/23 financial year. When combined with significant demand pressures within services and the ongoing effect of a decade of central government under-funding of council services, the 2022/23 financial position presents a challenge to keep in balance.
- 3.6. At the time of writing, the most recent budget monitoring reported to the Council's Executive and the Policy, Performance and Scrutiny Committee was the report for the financial period to the end of month 6 (30 September 2022). Key variances reported in the month 6 monitoring position included the following:
- Adult Social Care: Demographic pressures of c£2.3m at month 6 2022/23. The ongoing budget impact of demographic pressures is incorporated in the MTFS for 2023/24.
  - Children's Services: Significant pressures in relation to the placements budget of c£2.5m at month 6 2022/23. The 2023/24 budget incorporates the ongoing impact of additional demand for services.
  - Corporate: The agreed local government pay award equates to an approximate 6% increase in the council's pay bill and a significant pressure on the council's GF budget for 2022/23 and the base pay budget over the medium term. The ongoing, additional cost is reflected in the 2023/24 base budget position going forward
  - Energy: Rising energy prices, driven particularly by the war in Ukraine, have had an impact across the council's budgets in 2022/23. This has been most keenly felt across corporate landlord services, leisure, street lighting, housing-related landlord supplies/community centres and housing-related electricity/heating supplies. The 2023/24 budget includes an additional £4.805m of energy contingency provision to offset anticipated 2023/24 energy pressures.
- 3.7. Maintaining sufficient reserves for future budgetary pressures and risks is a key component of a council's overall financial resilience. Reserves can only be used once. They cannot sustainably be used to fund recurrent expenditure. The council has experienced significant budget pressures since the approval of the balanced 2022/23 budget, as detailed above. For the first time in several years, we are unexpectedly having to draw upon our reserves to help balance the in-year position. This is only possible because of the prudent contributions we have made to reserves in previous years. Overall, the GF financial position at month 6 2022/23 assumed the application of the following corporate resources:
- Corporate Energy Provision/Energy and Inflation Smoothing Reserve
  - Social Care Reserve
  - General Contingency
- 3.8. Taking forward the strategic implications of the in-year budget monitoring position into the medium-term budget planning process is a crucial aspect of the overall budget monitoring process. This can take the form of:
- Ensuring that ongoing budget implications are fully reflected in base budgets.
  - Reviewing base savings proposals for deliverability in-year and over the medium term.
  - Working up new savings proposals in the context of financial and performance monitoring data analysed within the in-year budget monitoring process.

- Reviewing reserve positions in light of any drawdown in-year to ensure that there are sufficient reserves to provide financial resilience going forward.

## **Economic Forecasts**

- 3.9. The Office for Budget Responsibility's (OBR) published economic forecasts alongside the Autumn Statement 2022. The OBR has stated that the UK economy is expected to enter a recession from the third quarter of 2022, and it is expected to last just over a year. The OBR flagged the combined impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on food and energy supply, the ongoing recovery from the pandemic, high inflation, and interest rates as contributing factors.
- 3.10. Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to grow by 4.2% in 2022 (0.4% higher than forecast in March 2022). GDP is expected to fall by 1.4% in 2023 and to rise again by 1.3% in 2024. Output is expected to return to pre-pandemic levels by end of 2024.
- 3.11. Inflation (CPI) is forecast to peak in the current quarter at a 40-year high of 11.1%. Inflation is expected to fall slightly in 2023 then sharply over 2024-2026 before returning to its 2% target in 2027. Unemployment is likely to rise from 3.5% to a peak of 4.9% in 2024, then down to 4.1% in 2025.
- 3.12. Borrowing is forecast at £177bn (7.1% of GDP) in the current year (a sharp rise from £133bn) and is expected to fall to £69bn (2.4% of GDP) in 2027/28. Interest rate rises have increased the cost of servicing debt, leaving public finances vulnerable to market shocks. Higher borrowing pushes public sector net debt up sharply, from 84.3% of GDP last year to a 63-year high of 97.6% in 2025/26. Public sector net debt is expected to stabilise in 2026/27 and fall by 0.3% in 2027/28.
- 3.13. The OBR has flagged the economic and fiscal risks of cliff-edges in energy related support, the planned increase to the fuel duty rate in March 2023, the use of repeated one-off support measures and inflationary pressures on departmental budgets.
- 3.14. The Real Household Disposable Income (RHDI) measure of living standards is estimated to fall by 4.3% in 2022/23 and by 2.8% in 2023/24. This would be the largest fall on record, taking the measure of living standards per person to its lowest level since 2013/14.

## **Key Revenue Budget Cost Pressures**

- 3.15. The MTFS assumes a 6% per annum pay award in 2023/24 and then 3% over the remainder of the medium term. As the 2022/23 budget assumed a 2% pay award (in line with government expectations at the time), the 2023/24 budget effectively must make additional provision for the 2022/23 pay award (equating to an additional £6.5m). Every 1% increase in pay equates to approximately £1.75m for the General Fund. There is a risk that pay settlements could be higher than the MTFS forecasts from 2023/24 onwards.
- 3.16. Following the 2022 triennial pension fund valuation, adjustments have been made in respect of employer pension contributions. The future service rate is expected to increase from 14.6% to 18.3%.
- 3.17. The MTFS provides for contract and non-pay inflation that cannot be managed within existing budgets:
- This includes the significant impact on Adult Social Care contracts of the National Living Wage (from £9.50 to £10.42 per hour), London Living Wage (from £11.05 to £11.95 per hour).
  - It also includes provision for the estimated impact of rising energy costs.

## Demography

- 3.18. A further, significant cost pressure for the council is the increasing quantum and complexity of demand for council services. Based on latest estimates, the MTFs assumes demographic budget growth of £8.315m in 2023/24 and then £8m in 2024/25, and a further £8m in 2025/26. This is the net growth requirement after planned management actions to mitigate cost increases. There is considerable uncertainty around these estimates, due to the unknown lasting impact of the pandemic on demand. It is recommended that demographic growth is held centrally and allocated to service budgets in-year once a more evidenced assessment is available and has been approved by the Section 151 Officer.
- 3.19. The number of residents requiring adult social care has risen over the past number of years. This demand is driven by:
- An ageing population with people living longer with multiple of complex needs requiring social care.
  - Increased prevalence of learning disabilities or physical or mental illness among working-age adults over recent years.
  - Significant backlogs and longer waits in the NHS have exacerbated demand.
- 3.20. The demographic growth for Adult Social Services is split into the following client groups:
- Memory, Cognition, and Physical Support – It is estimated that approximately 9% of Islington’s population is aged over 65. Between 2022 and 2031 the Islington population aged over 65 is projected to rise by 27%.
  - Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities - People are living longer but are developing long-term conditions earlier in life. There are also a growing number of frail older family carers. Planning is necessary to meet the needs of an increasing number of people with profound and multiple disabilities and manage the resulting pressure on resources.
- 3.21. The demographic growth for Children’s Services relates to the following service areas:
- Demand pressures in relation to Children’s Social Care – Bed night activity has continued to increase during 2022/23 and is projected to increase further in-line with the increasing 13-17 population (the age range at which most children come into care) and increasing levels of family poverty in the borough. Alongside this we are seeing increased numbers of care leavers as increasing numbers of children in care turn 18.
  - Increased provision of short breaks and home to school transport as the numbers of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities continues to increase.
  - An increase in provision of school uniform grants and Post-16 bursaries as the eligibility for free school meals continues to increase.

## Energy

- 3.22. Energy prices are likely to continue to be a significant and highly volatile cost pressure in 2023/24. The rise in energy prices is largely driven by global supply chain issues and the economic consequences of the continued war in Ukraine.
- 3.23. Energy costs in 2022/23 have been mitigated by the Government’s Energy Bill Relief Scheme (EBRS). A review of the EBRS for non-domestic energy consumers, excluding public sector organisations, will determine support beyond 31 March 2023. The overall

scale of support will be much lower and targeted at those consumers that are most impacted.

- 3.24. Work has been undertaken to reduce the council's energy usage (including schools) which has reduced demand across the council by around 5% in 2022/23. In addition, the council has introduced a new energy purchasing strategy which has procured 70-80% of the energy for 2023/24. This strategy has reduced the level of risk in the 2023/24 position and provided security for energy costs. However, this still leaves 20-30% of energy demand at risk of volatile markets. The 20-30% risk element is within the allocated 2023/24 budget.
- 3.25. The 2023/24 budget includes an additional £4.805m of energy provision to offset anticipated 2023/24 energy pressures.

### **Additional Support for Residents**

- 3.26. The 2023/24 budget provides funding for manifesto commitments such as ensuring every Islington child has access to a laptop or tablet as they move into secondary school and providing free swimming lessons for families in some school breaks, building on the current summer offer by 2026.
- 3.27. Residents and businesses are being impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. The 2023/24 budget makes provision to provide support to those most vulnerable and to ensure services can continue effectively, including:

#### Creation of a Hardship Fund

- 3.28. Considerable support will remain in place for low income and financial vulnerable households into 2023/24, helping mitigate the impact of raising rents to the 7% cap and a proposed 4.99% overall Islington council tax increase.
- 3.29. Islington Council already has in place a generous council tax support scheme that provides extra support for disabled people and families. There is also additional relief for pensioners, foster carers, shared lives, and care leavers. Lowest income pensioners on pension credit will receive 100% council tax support so will not be impacted by the council tax increase and working age households on lowest incomes receive 95% support.
- 3.30. The Resident Support Scheme (including discretionary housing payments) will continue to assist with cases of hardship. The Autumn Statement confirmed ongoing cost of living payments in 2023/24 of £900 for low-income benefits, £300 for pensioners, and £150 for disability benefits. The Household Support fund will continue into 2023/24, likely to provide £4.4m across the full year.
- 3.31. However, even with all this support, it is recognised that raising rents by 7% will add to the financial pressures of the council's tenants, with residents in the private rented sector also facing rising rents. The 2023/24 budget includes a one-off Hardship Fund of £1m focusing on working households, with low incomes, who are facing large rent rises, for launch in advance of the 2023/24 financial year.
- 3.32. More details of the one-off Hardship Fund will be shared in the coming months. It will start accepting applications from those in need before the end of March 2023.

Enhanced Access Islington Capacity

- 3.34. The Access Islington Service continues to see significant demand from our residents as an initial gateway for help including for key initiatives such as the energy rebate scheme, additional grant payments and other crisis support services. We expect the pressures on the service to grow as residents continue to struggle with the cost-of-living crisis.
- 3.35. With reduced capacity and increasingly complexity, call waiting times have increased, making the contact experience for residents more challenging. Following a detailed assessment of the data on call volumes, the 2023/24 budget adds nine additional members of staff at a cost of £0.337m. Once these staff are trained, they will be allocated to work on the phones in the council’s main call centre.
- 3.36. This additional staffing resource will have a number of positive benefits for both residents and staff. With more staff available when residents phone to speak to the council, wait times will significantly reduce. There will also be an anticipated reduction in abandonment, with this expected to return to pre-pandemic levels as more calls are able to be answered by our staff.
- 3.37. Alongside this immediate investment, we will:
  - Continue to ensure tight performance management and quality assurance within the service at a team and individual level.
  - Explore necessary improvements to our digital offer.
  - Enable those residents who want to complete more transactions online to do so.

**Levies**

- 3.38. The council is required to pay levies to various external organisations, estimated to total £17.025m in 2023/24. The most significant levies are the council’s contribution to Transport for London (TfL) for the cost of concessionary fares (London Freedom Pass) and the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) levy towards the disposal of household waste in partnership with six other north London boroughs.
- 3.39. The estimated levies for 2023/24 are shown in **Table 3**.

**Table 3 – Levies 2023/24**

	<b>2022/23 Budget £m</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate £m</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease) £m</b>
Concessionary Fares	7.471	8.341	0.870
NLWA Household Levy	6.801	6.107	(0.694)
London Pensions Fund Authority	1.139	1.162	0.023
Inner North London Coroner's Court	0.367	0.374	0.007
Traffic and Control Liaison Committee	0.290	0.296	0.006
Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	0.190	0.194	0.004
Environment Agency (Thames Region)	0.189	0.193	0.004
London Boroughs Grants Scheme	0.184	0.184	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.631</b>	<b>16.851</b>	<b>0.219</b>

- 3.40. The London Boroughs Grants Committee contributes towards the funding of many London-wide organisations providing a wide range of services. These services are accessible by Islington residents and contribute towards the council’s priorities including tackling homelessness, dealing with violence against women and girls and support people with no recourse to public funds.

3.41. The London Councils Grants Committee considered proposals for expenditure in 2023/24 at its meeting on 1 December 2022. The London Councils Grant Committee report was considered by the Leaders' Committee on 13 December 2022. Two-thirds of boroughs need to agree the grants budget by the end of January each year. The VCS Committee will consider the London Councils Grants Committee report on 26 January 2023. The London Councils Leaders' Committee is expected to make the following recommendation for constituent councils (including Islington) for the overall level of expenditure of £6,686,000 comprising:

**Expenditure:**

- Payments to Commissions – £6,173,000
- Administrative Expenditure – £453,000
- London Funders Membership Fees – £60,000

**Funded By:**

- Borough contributions – £6,668,000 (Islington contribution £183,779)
- Use of reserves – £18,000

**Transformation Project Funding**

3.42. To help protect much-needed reserves, the MTFs continues to provide £1.5m per annum for one-off corporate transformation projects.

**Revenue Savings**

3.43. The 2023/24 revenue budget assumes the delivery of savings totalling £10.995m in 2023/24 (**Appendix B**), with draft savings set out for the period 2024/25 to 2025/26. This is summarised by directorate in **Table 4**.

**Table 4 – General Fund Budget Savings Proposals by Directorate**

Directorate	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	Total £m
Adult Social Services	2.090	1.540	0.876	4.506
Children's Services	1.407	0.377	0.247	2.031
Cross-Cutting	2.940	0.000	0.000	2.940
Community Wealth Building	0.991	1.123	0.069	2.183
Environment	1.793	1.472	0.505	3.770
Fairer Together	0.300	0.000	0.150	0.450
Homes and Neighbourhoods	0.374	0.407	0.511	1.292
Public Health	0.500	0.000	0.060	0.560
Resources	0.600	0.150	0.400	1.150
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.995</b>	<b>5.069</b>	<b>2.818</b>	<b>18.882</b>

3.44. It should be noted that individual savings may be subject to individual consultation before they can be implemented. If any savings do not proceed as planned following consultation, any in-year pressure would need to be funded from the corporate contingency budget and the ongoing implications considered as part of the next budget process.

3.45. The identification and delivery of savings gets more challenging every year. This is particularly the case for cross-cutting savings that are still to be worked up in more detail.

3.46. To support the review of street cleaning and enforcement operations proposed saving, it is proposed that £0.100m one-off budget will be provided in 2023/24 to allow the service to respond to any short-term operational issues, such as during the leafing period. The

service will also commission specialist technical analysis of litter monitoring data to map levels of deterioration and inform the operational changes. This will minimise the impact on performance and visual appearance of the borough's streets.

- 3.47. Updates on the delivery of the 2023/24 budget savings will be provided as part of the 2023/24 budget monitoring process, reported up through the Executive and scrutinised by the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee.

### **Funding Announcements (Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement)**

- 3.48. The Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/24 was announced on 19 December 2022. The final settlement is due to be announced in early February 2023.
- 3.49. The settlement is in line with expectations following the Autumn Statement 2022 and the balanced draft budget position for 2023/24.
- 3.50. Whilst it was a one-year settlement for 2023/24 only, the government policy statement released earlier in December suggested that the same principles will also apply in 2024/25.
- 3.51. The MTFs does not currently assume any additional government grant funding beyond 2024/25 as this is beyond the current Government Spending Review Period.
- 3.52. Based on the government's methodology, Islington's Core Spending Power will increase by 9.8% in 2023/24 in cash terms. Within this, it is assumed that the council will raise council tax by the maximum amount (2.99% referendum limit and 2% ASC precept). This represents a real-terms funding cut that does not address historical funding shortfalls and requires a significant proportion of additional funding to be raised locally through council tax.
- 3.53. Any funding reforms or changes in funding distribution (e.g., the Fair Funding Review and business rates baseline reset) will not be implemented until 2025/26 at the earliest.

### **Settlement Funding Assessment**

- 3.54. Islington's Settlement Funding Assessment, or core government funding, is made up of a Baseline Funding Level under the partial (30%) business rates retention system (comprising a business rates baseline amount and a 'top-up' grant) and Revenue Support Grant. This is summarised in **Table 5** below.

**Table 5 – Settlement Funding Assessment\***

	<b>2022/23 £m</b>	<b>2023/24 £m</b>	<b>Change £m</b>	<b>Change %</b>
Business Rates Baseline	82.456	79.160	(3.296)	(4.00%)
Top-Up Grant	2.798	9.284	6.486	231.81%
<b>Baseline Funding Level</b>	<b>85.254</b>	<b>88.444</b>	<b>3.190</b>	<b>3.74%</b>
Revenue Support Grant	25.347	28.523	3.176	12.53%
<b>Settlement Funding Assessment</b>	<b>110.601</b>	<b>116.967</b>	<b>6.366</b>	<b>5.76%</b>

\*The composition of Baseline Funding Level between Business Rates Baseline and Top-Up Grant has been updated to reflect Business Rates Revaluation 2023 that will take effect on 1 April 2023. The decrease in Business Rates Baseline is due to an overall decrease in rateable value in Islington following the revaluation. The revaluation is neutral overall for the council's funding as there is an offsetting increase in Top-Up Grant.

- 3.55. Revenue Support Grant will increase in 2023/24 in line with the September 2021 to September 2022 change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI, 10.1%). Other small changes to Revenue Support Grant include the rolling in of the following specific grants:

- Local Council Tax Support Administration Subsidy grants
- Additional funding for food safety and standards enforcement (Natasha's Law)

3.56. All business rates retention related income, including retained growth above the funding baseline, will be uplifted by 10.1% in 2023/24. Of this, 3.7% will be received through the Baseline Funding Level with the remaining 6.4% received separately as Section 31 grant.

3.57. It is expected that business rates retention income and Revenue Support Grant will increase in 2024/25 in line with the September 2022 to September 2023 change in the Consumer Price Index.

### **Council Tax**

3.58. The settlement confirmed the council tax referendum threshold at 4.99% (2.99% core threshold and 2% Adult Social Care Precept) as expected following Autumn Statement 2022. The government have clarified that the same referendum principles as in 2023/24 will apply in 2024/25.

### **Business Rates**

3.59. In the Autumn Statement 2022, the Chancellor made the following key announcements around business rates, now confirmed in the settlement:

- Although the business rates multiplier (the rate in the pound annual increase) is 'frozen' (49.9p in the pound), the settlement funding includes an offset to reflect overall increases in rateable values of the 2023 national revaluation and a balancing uplift for inflation (3.74%).
- Transitional Relief – bill increases capped at 5-15% (depending on the size of the business) to support properties impacted by the 2023 business rates revaluation.
- Support for eligible retail, hospitality and leisure businesses is extended and increased from 50% to 75% business rates relief in 2023/24, up to £110,000 per business.
- The council will be fully compensated for the impact of these changes on its retained business rates income and will receive new burdens funding for administrative and IT costs.

3.60. The impact of the announcements and business rates revaluation on businesses in borough will vary between sectors and individual businesses.

### **Other Grants**

#### **Social Care Funding**

3.61. Autumn Statement 2022 announced additional social care funding at a national level. The council's social care funding allocations for 2023/24 are summarised at **Table 6**. The additional funding is fully committed towards funding the significant inflation and demand pressures on the council's social care budgets.



**Table 6 – Social Care Funding**

	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	Change £m
Improved Better Care Fund	14.502	14.502	0.000
Social Care Grant	14.558	23.690	9.132
Independent Living Fund	1.182	0.000	(1.182)*
Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	0.000	2.033	2.033
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund	0.868	3.011	2.143
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.110</b>	<b>43.236</b>	<b>12.126</b>
*The Independent Living Fund grant has been rolled into the Social Care Grant in 2023/24.			

- 3.62. The Improved Better Care Fund will remain at the same level in 2023/24 as in 2022/23. The grant will continue to be required to be pooled as part of the Better Care Fund.
- 3.63. The Social Care Grant (ring-fenced for both Children’s and Adults Social Care purposes) has been increased by £1.506bn nationally in 2023/24. This due to £1.265bn repurposed funding previously allocated for the now delayed adult social care charging reforms, £162m ‘rolling-in’ of the Independent Living Fund grant and £81m funding repurposed from elsewhere in the settlement. It is expected to increase by a further £612m nationally in 2024/25.
- 3.64. The Autumn Statement announced £600m of new grant funding for 2023/24 to support hospital discharges. Local authorities will receive £300m of this funding (increasing to £500m in 2024/25), of which Islington will receive £2.033m in 2023/24. This funding will be required to be pooled as part of the Better Care Fund.
- 3.65. The 2022/23 Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care grant (£162m nationally) has been re-purposed as the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund and increased by £400m. It is expected to increase by a further £282m in 2024/25.

### Services Grant 2023/24

- 3.66. The services grant will continue in 2023/24 (and 2024/25) using the same methodology for distribution as in 2022/23. Funding previously provided for the increased (now reversed) National Insurance Contributions has been clawed back. Some funding will go to increasing the funding for the supporting families programme and to pay for other parts of the settlement including increasing Revenue Support Grant. The total funding distributed will be £464m nationally, of which Islington will provisionally receive £3.312m (a decrease of £2.565m from 2022/23). This is reflected in the net revenue budget at **Table 2**.
- 3.67. The government has held a small proportion of the grant back as contingency. The government will review whether this contingency is necessary for the final local government finance settlement, and any contingency left unused at that point will go back into the Services Grant.

### Lower Tier Services Grant / Minimum Funding Guarantee

- 3.68. This grant has been abolished and repurposed to provide a 3% minimum funding guarantee increase in Core Spending Power to all councils. Islington does not benefit from the minimum funding guarantee because the council’s Core Spending Power increase is already higher than 3%.

### New Homes Bonus

- 3.69. The settlement confirmed that the New Homes Bonus grant will continue for an additional year in 2023/24. This is the fourth one-off NHB allocation, none of which have resulted in

legacy payments. Islington's allocation, based on housing growth in the borough over the past year, is £0.082m. The government have stated that they will set out the future position of New Homes Bonus ahead of the 2024/25 local government finance settlement.

### **Public Health Grant**

3.70. Public health grant is outwith the Core Spending Power calculation and is announced separately from the settlement itself. Spending Review 2021 had announced that the grant would increase in line with inflation.

### **Homelessness Prevention Grant**

3.71. The Homelessness Prevention Grant allocations for 2023/24 are currently unknown. A technical consultation has been carried out seeking views on the approach to funding arrangements for 2023/24 onwards. The feedback from this consultation is currently being considered by the government.

### **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Funding**

3.72. In the Autumn Statement 2022, an additional £2.3bn per annum in 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the core schools' budget in England was announced, broadly equivalent to a cash increase of over £1,000 per pupil by 2024/25 compared to 2021/22. This additional funding will be for both schools and high needs. The additional funding initially provided by the government for the impact of the health and social care levy (now withdrawn) will be netted out of the overall settlement.

3.73. An Education Funding Update was issued on 19 December 2022. The implications of this will be incorporated in the final version of the 2023/24 budget report, following further analysis.

### **Fees and Charges**

3.74. Some fees and charges are prescribed by statute and are not within the council's power to vary locally, others are discretionary and set as part of the annual budget suite of papers, including the fees and charges report. The fees and charges policy considers the current level of inflation in the economy as well as the level of inflation expected to prevail over the forthcoming financial year. The most widely used measure of inflation is the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

3.75. The 2022/23 budget report agreed that discretionary fees be uplifted by 2% unless a variation was stated - this was the government's target inflation rate at that time and was considered a prudent assumption. Due to the high levels of inflation during 2022/23, the charges for discretionary services and the cost of providing those services were not aligned and so the cost of provision was not being fully recovered. It was agreed by Executive on 24 November 2022 that all discretionary fees and charges be increased by an average 10% (based on CPI) from 1 January 2023, unless a variation was otherwise stated.

3.76. Any increase in fees and charges income that has not already been included separately as part of the budget savings proposals is fully factored into the overall budget planning assumptions for the relevant services to cover corresponding inflation in costs incurred by the council.

3.77. HRA fees and charges are considered later in this report.

## General Fund Contingency, Reserves and Balances

- 3.78. A fundamental element of the robustness of the council's annual budget and MTFS is the level of contingency budget, earmarked reserves, and General Fund balance, as determined by the Section 151 Officer.
- 3.79. Even prior to the pandemic, the 2020/21 budget report had noted the need for the council to strengthen its financial resilience for budget risks over the medium term.
- 3.80. In recent years external auditors have highlighted the comparatively low levels of the council's non-schools reserves and emphasised the importance of maintaining sufficient reserves. Furthermore, the significant expenditure pressures and income shortfalls incurred as a result of COVID-19 have highlighted the underlying level of risk in the council's budget.
- 3.81. The 2023/24 budget includes an ongoing corporate contingency budget of £5m per annum, unchanged from 2022/23. The contingency budget is available as a last resort for in-year contingency pressures that cannot be funded from compensating underspends elsewhere and subject to approval in line with the council's Financial Regulations. Directorates agree cash limited budget allocations and take responsibility for delivering a balanced budget unless a business case, presenting an exceptional circumstance, for contingency funding is agreed.
- 3.82. A £5m inflation, energy and demand contingency is assumed within the MTFS from 2023/24. This provides further financial resilience for these heightened risks going forward.
- 3.83. Islington's current General Fund balance (£21.7m, excluding balances held on behalf of schools) equates to just over one week of gross expenditure. It is proposed that any underspend on the General Fund and contingency budget at the end of each financial year is used to increase the General Fund balance (excluding schools balances) from the current level towards a target level of £40m over the medium to longer term. This £40m target level of General Fund balance (excluding schools balances) would be achievable by delivering a balanced budget over the next 5 years and transferring the unused contingency budget to general reserves. It is the view of the Section 151 Officer that this remains a reasonable proxy, subject to annual review, for the level of unquantifiable risk in the council's budget, and therefore the target balance needed to deal with economic shocks and insulate the council from potential compensating cuts to key services in the short term.
- 3.84. The estimated level of General Fund reserves, reflecting current known movements, over the 3-year MTFS period is shown in **Table 7** followed by a brief description of each reserve. This reflects known reserves movements and assumes that the estimated budget gap for 2024/25 and 2025/26 will be fully closed without drawing down on reserves.
- 3.85. The 2022/23 budget established a £4m per annum recurrent transfer to earmarked reserves as part of the council's efforts to strengthen financial resilience for hardening budget risks. It is prudently assumed that this £4m annual budgeted transfer to earmarked reserves will be fully offset by drawdowns against reserves commitments. However, if the MTFS can fund pressures within the annual base budget position, the budgeted transfer to reserves will help towards further strengthening the overall reserves position.
- 3.86. It is expected that additional movements to/from reserves will be brought forward for agreement once there is greater clarity on their timing and amount. This includes reserves movements related to the finalisation of the 2022/23 financial outturn after the end of the current financial year.

**Table 7 – Estimated General Fund Reserves**

	<b>31.3.22 Actual £m</b>	<b>31.3.23 Estimate £m</b>	<b>31.3.24 Estimate £m</b>	<b>31.3.25 Estimate £m</b>	<b>31.3.26 Estimate £m</b>
<b>Earmarked Reserves</b>					
BSF PFI Smoothing	5.769	6.299	6.803	7.293	7.293
Budget Risk and Insurance	25.675	24.266	28.266	32.266	36.266
Budget Strategy	19.586	10.648	12.213	9.648	9.648
Business Continuity	10.000	10.000	10.000	10.000	10.000
Capital Financing	3.120	3.120	3.120	3.120	3.120
Care Experience	16.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000
CIL Admin	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.196
Core Funding*	33.580	10.819	15.498	15.498	15.498
Dedicated Schools Grant	5.218	5.317	4.004	2.953	-
Energy and Inflation	5.509	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000
IAH Restoration Levy	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018
Joint Cemeteries Trading Account	1.731	1.731	1.731	1.731	1.731
Levies	2.726	2.983	4.020	4.020	4.020
Net Zero Carbon	2.481	2.481	2.481	2.481	2.481
Pooled Schools Budgets	0.828	0.828	-	-	-
Public Health	1.712	1.712	1.712	1.712	1.712
Social Care	8.999	0.958	0.958	0.958	0.958
Street Markets	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138
<b>Total</b>	<b>143.286</b>	<b>105.514</b>	<b>115.158</b>	<b>116.032</b>	<b>117.079</b>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>					
Non Schools	21.704	21.704	21.704	21.704	21.704
Schools**	8.314	3.200	(1.800)	(8.800)	(8.800)
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.018</b>	<b>24.904</b>	<b>19.904</b>	<b>12.904</b>	<b>12.904</b>

\*Core Funding Reserve movements are subject to change significantly following completion of the NNDR1 and Council Tax Forecast in January 2023. This will be updated in the final version of the budget report to Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023.

\*\*Schools balances include the estimated impact of the additional £2.3bn announced by the government for the core school's budget in England. This will be confirmed and updated in the final version of the budget report.

3.87. The reduction in school balances is a national issue as schools face increasing cost pressures. The main pressure on school balances is as a result of falling pupil numbers an increasing cost pressures such as energy and unfunded pay pressures. On average a primary school receives £5,500 per pupil and a secondary school £7,500 per pupil. There was a reduction in pupil numbers of 404 at primary and 44 at secondary between October 2021 and October 2022, which equates to a loss in funding of around £2.5m for schools next year. Schools that are in deficit or are set to go into deficit are required to complete deficit recovery plans to bring their budget back into balance within three years.

3.88. Reserve narratives:

- Building Schools for the Future (BSF) PFI Smoothing reserve – The annual costs of PFI schemes fluctuate over the lifecycle of the schemes. This reserve helps to smooth the budgetary impact of PFI costs across financial years.
- Budget Risk and Insurance reserve – This reserve is set aside to mitigate budget risks, particularly the impact of delayed savings delivery, and for one-off expenditure commitments that span more than one financial year.
- Budget Strategy reserve – This reserve provides one-off funding for expenditure related to the delivery of the medium-term financial strategy (examples include transformation projects, the revenue costs of capital projects and redundancy costs).
- Business Continuity – This reserve mitigates the risk of disruption to key council services and systems, including cyber security risks.
- Capital Financing – This reserve helps to smooth the potential budgetary impact in future financial years of an increased revenue cost of financing the capital programme, in the context of rising interest rates and a very uncertain interest rate outlook.
- Care Experience – This reserve provides for the potential direct and indirect costs of the non-recent child abuse support payment scheme.
- Cemeteries reserve – The council operates a shared cemeteries service with the London Borough of Camden, and any surplus at the end of each financial year is carried forward through this reserve.
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) reserve – This reserve is the balance of CIL funding earmarked for administration costs in future financial years.
- Dedicated Schools Grant – This reserve is the balance of Dedicated Schools Grant held by the council that will be spent in future financial years.
- Energy and Inflation – This reserve is earmarked to smooth the budgetary impact of dramatically increasing energy prices and record high levels of inflation.
- Islington Assembly Hall Restoration Levy – This reserve earmarks income from the Islington Assembly Hall Restoration Levy on events ticket sales towards funding restoration works in future financial years.
- Levies – This reserve mitigates the significant uncertainty around levies estimates over the medium term, particularly concessionary fares, and the North London Waste Authority levy.
- Net Zero Carbon - This reserve supports the delivery of the council's Net Zero Carbon programme.
- Core Funding – This reserve comprises the one-off financial gain from the former London Business Rates Retention Pilot Pool, and up-front government grant income that will fund Collection Fund losses that will come out of future year budgets (due to Collection Fund accounting timing differences). The remaining balance not relating to Collection Fund losses has been set aside for risks around taxation income and government funding streams.
- Pooled Schools Budgets – This reserve holds the unspent balance of pooled schools' budgets that will be spent in future financial years.
- Public Health – This reserve is the balance of ring-fenced public health grant funding carried forward to spend in future financial years.

- Social Care - This reserve mitigates significant uncertainty in social care demographic growth estimates and earmarks funding for one-off social care expenditure.
- Street Markets – The council operates three street markets at Chapel Market, Whitecross Street and Exmouth Market. Under laws governing the operation of these markets, any surplus at the end of each financial year is carried forward through this reserve for the future costs of operating the markets.

#### 4. Housing Revenue Account

##### Overview

- 4.1. The HRA is a ringfenced account covering the cost of managing and maintaining council-owned housing stock, servicing both existing debts taken on as part of self-financing and new debt taken on to support the delivery of the new build programme, the funding of which comes primarily from rents and tenants' and leaseholders' service charges.
- 4.2. The HRA's indicative 30-year business plan is currently balanced over the long term and includes the agreed package of savings totalling £3.775m to 2025/26 (detailed at **Table 9** and **Appendix C3**). However, work is ongoing to update the business plan to finalise the impact of the Chancellor's recent Autumn Statement which caps the 2023/24 social housing rent increase to +7%. The underlying government rent policy as compared to the full inflationary increase of September 2022 CPI (10.1%) + 1%, the rent cap gives rise to a loss of rental income over the life of the business plan of in the region of £213m. This loss of income reduces the council's capacity within the business plan to invest in improving the condition of Council owned housing and Net Zero Carbon (NZC) technologies whilst at the same time meeting its new statutory requirements in relation to building safety.
- 4.3. The proposed HRA budget for 2023/24 and latest estimates for the medium term, including HRA reserves estimates, is set out at **Appendix C1**. The movement between the approved 2022/23 budget and the proposed 2023/24 budget is summarised in **Table 8**.

**Table 8 – Summary of HRA Budget Changes 2022/23 to 2023/24**

<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	<b>£m</b>
Pay and pensions inflation	4.8
HRA savings proposals (See <b>Table 7</b> )	(1.4)
Reduction in contributions to HRA reserves	(4.7)
Contractual inflationary increases and other budgetary changes	5.6
Increase in the cost of communal gas and electricity	4.7
Increase in bad debt provision	1.0
Capital related items (borrowing, RCCO and depreciation charges)	11.3
<b>Total Expenditure Increase</b>	<b>21.3</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
Rent and Tenant charges	16.9
Heating charges (Tenants and Leaseholders)	2.7
Leaseholder annual service charges	1.9
Other income net increases	0.1
Change in interest receivable on HRA balances	(0.3)
<b>Total Income Increase</b>	<b>21.3</b>

**Table 9 – Summary of HRA Savings 2023/24 to 2025/26**

<b>Savings type</b>	<b>2023/24 £m</b>	<b>2024/25 £m</b>	<b>2025/26 £m</b>	<b>Total £m</b>
Efficiency	0.300	0.530	0.150	<b>0.980</b>
Service reconfiguration	0.485	0.853	0.500	<b>1.838</b>
Income generation	0.000	0.000	0.295	<b>0.295</b>
Technical budget adjustments	0.602	0.060	0.000	<b>0.662</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.387</b>	<b>1.443</b>	<b>0.945</b>	<b>3.775</b>

**Rental Income and Other HRA Fees and Charges**

- 4.4. The Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 required local authorities to reduce the rents, in respect of all properties (excluding PFI managed properties) held in the HRA, by 1% each year for 4 consecutive years between 2016/17 and 2019/20.
- 4.5. In February 2019 the government issued a policy statement on rents for social housing effective from April 2020.
- 4.6. Compliance with this policy is effectively mandatory, for the first time the government has included local authority social housing within the remit of the Social Housing Regulator (previously the Regulator’s remit was limited to private registered providers of social housing only (i.e., housing associations). The Regulator is required by direction from the secretary of state DLUHC to have regard to the government’s policy statement referred to above and as such, the Regulator’s rent standard, first published in May 2019 and updated in December 2020, reflects the government’s policy statement.
- 4.7. The Autumn Statement 2022 limits 2023/24 rent increases for existing tenants to a maximum of plus 7%. The Autumn Statement does not specifically address target rent and rent cap increases however, the government’s 2023/24 Rent Setting Consultation and the draft 2023/24 Rents Policy Statement suggest that both will increase by Sept. 22 CPI (in full) 10.1% plus a further 1.00% for target rents and plus a further 1.5% for rent caps. The HRA budgets for 2023/24 have been set on the basis that this is the case.
- 4.8. It should be noted that, at this stage, initial new build rents in respect of first lets and general needs stock re-lets will be set at the lower of target rent or rent cap inflated in line with the government’s draft 2023/24 Rents Policy Statement.
- 4.9. Should the government’s final 2023/24 Rent Policy Statement not reflect the full September 2022 CPI increase in respect of target rents and rent caps then general needs re-let rents and initial new build lets will be set with effect from April 2023 in compliance with government policy.
- 4.10. The Social Housing Regulator has advised that all properties that are currently or that were previously managed under a private finance initiative (PFI) arrangement are exempt from the rent standard.

**Islington Council Managed General Needs Properties (excluding New Build and current plus ex PFI properties)**

- 4.11. **Table 10** sets out the average rent in 2023/24 for existing tenancies. The maximum 2023/24 permitted rent is the prior year 2022/23 actual rent plus 7%.
- 4.12. However, if the maximum rent exceeds the lower of the 2023/24 national rent cap (for the relevant bed size) or the property’s 2023/24 national target rent then the 2023/24 rent will be the higher of A or B:

A. The lower of 2023/24 national target rent (inflated by 11.1%) or the 2023/24 national rent cap (inflated by 11.6%) or

B. The 2022/23 actual rent plus 7%

- 4.13. All the council's general needs properties will be subject to the maximum rent increase in 2023/24 of plus 7% as their maximum rents in 2023/24 do not exceed the lower of the 2023/24 national target rents or the 2023/24 national rent caps.
- 4.14. 1% (216) of the council's general needs properties have a national target rent greater than the national rent cap.

**Table 10 – Existing Tenancies Average Weekly Rent 2023/24**

Average Weekly Rent 2022/23	£117.71
Increase (£)	£8.24
Increase (%)	7.00%
Average Weekly Rent 2023/24	£125.95

- 4.15. General needs properties will be re-let at the lower of the 2023-24 national rent cap (for the relevant bed size) or their 2023-24 national target rent. As 99% of Islington Council general needs properties have a national target rent below the national rent cap, it is likely that re-lets will be at national target rent.
- 4.16. In accordance with the government's 2023/24 Rents Consultation and draft 2023/24 Policy Statement 2023/24 national target rents will reflect an increase of CPI 10.1% (September 2022) plus 1% and the 2023/24 national rent caps will reflect an increase of CPI 10.1% (September 2022) plus 1.5%.
- 4.17. **Table 11** sets out the likely average rent in 2023/24 for re-let properties.

**Table 11 – Re-Let Properties Likely Average Weekly Rent 2023/24**

Average Weekly National Target Rent 2022/23	£123.13
Increase (£)	£13.67
Increase (%)	11.1%
Average Weekly National Target Rent 2023/24	£136.80

**Islington Council Managed General Needs New Build Properties**

- 4.18. 2023/24 new build existing tenants' rents will reflect an increase of 7%.
- 4.19. 2023/24 re-let and first-let new build rents will, like the LBI managed general needs stock, be based on the lower of the 2023-24 national rent cap or the 2023-24 national target rent.
- 4.20. 50% of existing new build national target rents are greater than the national rent cap (for the relevant bed size), hence these re-let rents will be set at the national rent cap.

**LBI Managed Property Acquisitions used for Temporary Accommodation (TA)**

**(including reception centres and general needs properties assigned to TA clients)**

- 4.21. Existing tenancies and re-let rents in 2023/24 will be set on the same basis as general needs properties referred to above, with the exception that for reception centres the plus 5% flexibility has been applied to the national target rent calculation.



**LBI Managed Property Acquisitions - purchased using right to buy 141 receipts**

- 4.22. Existing Tenancies – 2023/24 rents will be set at the lower of:
  - A. The 2022/23 rent plus 7% or
  - B. The lower of the relevant 2023/24 local housing allowance rate (frozen at 2022/23 rates per the Chancellor’s 2022 Autumn Statement) or 80% of the relevant market rent.
- 4.23. Re-lets and first-lets in 2023/24 will be set at the lower of:
  - A. The relevant 2023/24 local housing allowance rate (frozen at 2022/23 rates per the Chancellor’s 2022 Autumn Statement) or
  - B. 80% of the relevant market rent

**LBI Managed Property Acquisitions - purchased using GLA grant**

- 4.24. Existing Tenancies – 2023/24 rents will be set at the lower of:
  - A. The 2022/23 rent plus 7% or
  - B. The relevant 2023/24 local housing allowance rate (frozen at 2022/23 rates per the Chancellor’s 2022 Autumn Statement)
- 4.25. Re-lets and first-lets in 2023/24 will be set at:
  - A. The relevant 2023/24 local housing allowance rate (frozen at 2022/23 rates per the Chancellor’s 2022 Autumn Statement)

**Properties Currently Managed (PF1) and Properties Previously (Until April 2022) Managed (PF12) under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Contract by Partners for Islington**

- 4.26. Properties that were previously or are currently managed under a PFI contract are exempt from the government rent setting policy and as such the 1% rent reduction relating to the period 2016-17 to 2019-20 was not applied to these property rents. The council is now seeking to align PFI rents, over time, with standard social rents as they apply to the rest of the housing stock.
- 4.27. To move towards achieving this alignment, existing tenants 2023/24 rents for properties that continue to be managed by Partners for Islington under the PFI (1) contract and properties that returned to Council management from 4th April 2022, that were previously managed by Partners for Islington under the PFI (2) contract will be based upon the prior year 2022/23 rent plus 7% minus 50p per week towards convergence with standard social rents.
- 4.28. Re-Lets will be based on the outgoing tenants’ rent as set out above.
- 4.29. **Table 12** sets out the average rent in 2023/24 for existing tenancies and likely average rent in 2023/24 for re-lets for current PFI (1) properties and ex PFI (2) properties.

**Table 12 – Existing Tenancies + Re-Lets – PFI (1) current contract and PFI (2) returned to Council management - Average Weekly Rent 2023/24**

Average Weekly Rent 2022/23	£166.17
Increase (£)	£11.12
Increase (%)	6.69%
Average Weekly Rent 2023/24	£177.29

## **Shared Ownership Rents**

4.30. Rent charged with effect from 1 April 2023 in respect of the unsold equity in relation to shared ownership properties will be capped at a maximum of the prior year rent plus 7%.

## **Other HRA Fees and Charges**

4.31. Other HRA fees and charges are set out at **Appendix C2** and summarised below.

4.32. Caretaking/Cleaning and Estate Services - Caretaking and Estate Service Charges will increase by £1.03 (+5.4%) per week as compared to the Revised 2022/23 Charges (increased to reflect the 54% increase in electricity costs that arose during 2022/23) this £1.03 increase per week primarily reflects the net impact of; the reduction in the weekly charge for communal electricity that has come down because the recovery of costs in 2023/24 is spread over a longer time frame and the increase in staffing related costs covering the increase in the 2022/23 pay award, the estimated 2023/24 pay award and the increase in the employers pension contribution rate all off total.

4.33. Digital TV Maintenance - Charges have increased by 1p per week in 2023/24 to reflect the cost of the provision of this service.

4.34. Heating and Hot Water - Gas prices are forecast to increase by a further 14% in 2023/24 over and above the revised 2022/23 costs which increased by 106% during 2022/23. in 2022/23. Spreading the costs over a longer time frame in 2023/24 and using the remaining balance in the tenants' heat reserve limits the increase in charges to +9%. The average weekly heating and Hot Water charge in 2023/24 will be £19.33 per week. Unlike, Caretaking, Estate Service and Concierge charges, Heating and Hot Water charges are not covered by housing benefit or universal credit.

4.35. Concierge Service Charges - These have increased by 11.4% this increase relates primarily to the increase in staffing costs.

4.36. Estate based Parking and Storage Charges - Charges in respect of facilities used for vehicles i.e., Garages, parking spaces and car cages increase by 5% to reflect inflationary cost pressures whilst also acknowledging the cost-of-living pressures facing tenants and leaseholders.

4.37. Diesel Surcharge (Off Street) - This charge has increased by £31 per year or (+24%) in 2023/24 to align with the on-street parking surcharge.

4.38. Home Ownership Administration costs - Increase by 5% to reflect inflationary cost pressures whilst also acknowledging the cost-of-living pressures facing leaseholders.

4.39. Carpet Charges - Increase by 2% to reflect the recently re-negotiated contract price.

## **5. Capital Programme**

5.1. The council takes a strategic, long-term approach to managing and enhancing our community asset base.

5.2. The proposed capital programme delivers the assets required to achieve this strategy and its corporate objectives. Specific factors about the Capital Programme recommended for approval are:

- Providing significant investment to support key council priorities on affordable housing and net zero carbon.
- Expanding the non-housing capital programme to support much-needed modernisation and enhancement of a wide range of community assets.

- Forecasting indicative capital investment needs over a longer time frame.
- 5.3. The proposed 2023/24 to 2025/26 capital programme as well as indicative estimates for 2026/27 to 2032/33 are summarised by council priority in **Table 13** and detailed at **Appendix D1**. This is estimated to deliver up to £1.1bn of capital investment in the borough over the next 10 years.
- 5.4. Profiling of capital expenditure is extremely important as it affects our expected borrowing (and revenue implications) together with an impact on the services provided from those assets. In recent years there has been significant in-year reprofiling of the capital programme to later in the MTFS period. This has been due to various internal and external factors such as COVID-19 restrictions, capacity constraints, the global supply chain and more recently economic uncertainty affecting project viability assessments.
- 5.5. The council has continued to increase project manager capacity as the programme grows ever larger however it is still necessary to apply a central reprofiling adjustment to consider the macro impact of the delivery risks and broadly reflecting prior performance. This has been applied recognising the further into the future, the greater the risk to delivery timing. As such, expenditure in Year 1 is assumed to slip by 35%, Year 2 by 45% and Year 3 by 55%. These adjustments are made to the bottom line of the capital programme and not a scheme-by-scheme basis. Some schemes will spend to accelerated timescales whereas others will slip.
- 5.6. There are also a series of proposed capital schemes which strategically align to the council's aims, but which require either further work on its business case, separate funding decisions or confirmation of external funding to progress to delivery. As such, in line with the Financial Regulations, these schemes are included within a 'Reserve List'. This list can be found at **Appendix D2**.

**Table 13 – Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2025/26 and Indicative Programme 2026/27 to 2032/33**

Area of Programme	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2023/24 to 2025/26 Total £m	2026/27 to 2032/33 £m	Total 10 Year £m
CWB	32.286	39.383	8.779	80.448	20.207	100.655
Environment	27.084	20.759	9.123	56.966	81.844	138.810
<b>Total Non-Housing</b>	<b>59.370</b>	<b>60.142</b>	<b>17.902</b>	<b>137.414</b>	<b>102.051</b>	<b>239.465</b>
Housing - GF	19.713	43.857	56.526	120.096	371.850	491.946
Housing - HRA	130.838	142.856	139.507	413.201	751.970	1,165.171
<b>Total Housing</b>	<b>150.551</b>	<b>186.713</b>	<b>196.033</b>	<b>533.297</b>	<b>1,123.820</b>	<b>1,657.117</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>209.921</b>	<b>246.855</b>	<b>213.935</b>	<b>670.711</b>	<b>1,225.871</b>	<b>1,896.582</b>
Slippage in	0.000	73.472	144.147	0.000	196.945	0.000
Slippage Out (35%, 45%, 55%)	(73.472)	(144.147)	(196.945)	(196.945)	(782.549)	(782.549)
<b>Revised Budget</b>	<b>136.449</b>	<b>176.180</b>	<b>161.137</b>	<b>473.766</b>	<b>640.267</b>	<b>1,114.033</b>

- 5.7. The capital programme over the next three years will support the council's objectives by providing funding for the following projects:

### **Decent and Genuinely Affordable Homes for All:**

- Housing New Build Programme – the continuation of our major programme of investment in new social housing in Islington.
- Housing major works and improvements programme - ongoing investment in council homes and estates, including cyclical improvements, mechanical and electrical works, fire safety and energy efficiency improvements.
- New investment to support the redevelopment of Finsbury Leisure Centre, delivering new affordable housing, a new leisure centre and medical centre, and other significant community benefits.

### **Children and Young People:**

- Investments in Adventure Playgrounds.
- Improving our early years, schools, youth and play provision.

### **A Safer Borough for All:**

- Upgrade to the council's core CCTV network and investment in CCTV-enabled vehicles to increase coverage for hot spots.

### **A Greener and Cleaner Islington:**

- Continuing investment to support the council's Net Zero Carbon strategy.
- Vehicle electrification charging infrastructure and replacement of vehicles.
- People Friendly Streets and School Streets – borough-wide programmes to reduce car trips and improve neighbourhoods for walking, cycling, and living.
- Investment in the borough's public toilets, parks, open spaces, and leisure facilities.

5.8. In addition to these programmes, the capital programme will support the effective management of Islington's infrastructure and estate. This includes:

- Structural maintenance of the highway infrastructure including carriageways, footways, and drainage.
- Compliance and modernisation improvements to deal with urgent property compliance issues.
- Use of Community Infrastructure Levy and S106 payments to make targeted investment across the borough spending decisions led and managed by local ward councillors.

5.9. The capital programme also includes the council's £10m investment in its Thriving Neighbourhoods Programme. This is a capital investment programme of improvement works over a three-year period. The programme supports the council's drive to empower communities to make decisions about their local area and allows local people to put forward their ideas for improving shared spaces on estates, with the council funding and implementing the approved projects. These might include:

- Cycle storage facilities
- Improved play facilities, such as equipment for children with disabilities.
- New and improved recycling bins, with disabled access
- Outdoor gyms

- New outdoor seating areas where communities can come together
- Improved landscaping to make estates more attractive and environmentally friendly
- Improved security
- Community centre (estate based) improvements

5.10. The estimated funding of the 2022/23 to 2024/25 capital programme is summarised in **Table 14**. At the end of each financial year, the Section 151 Officer will apply resources to finance capital expenditure in the most cost-effective way for the council.

**Table 14 – Estimated Funding of Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2025/26**

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2023/24 to 2025/26 Total £m
<b>General Fund</b>				
Capital Grant	7.254	1.515	0.000	8.769
S106/ CIL	12.069	11.971	2.209	26.249
Capital Receipts	12.608	22.914	5.076	40.598
General Fund Borrowing	46.247	66.099	67.143	179.489
Revenue Contribution	0.905	1.500	0.000	2.405
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>79.083</b>	<b>103.999</b>	<b>74.428</b>	<b>257.510</b>
<b>HRA</b>				
Revenue Contribution	13.590	6.862	10.000	30.452
Capital Receipts	46.314	35.648	41.897	123.859
S106/CIL	6.718	4.090	2.880	13.688
Grants	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Housing Revenue Account Reserves	38.872	35.593	31.959	106.424
Housing Revenue Account Borrowing	25.345	60.663	52.771	138.779
<b>Total HRA</b>	<b>130.838</b>	<b>142.856</b>	<b>139.507</b>	<b>413.201</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>209.921</b>	<b>246.855</b>	<b>213.935</b>	<b>670.711</b>
Slippage in	0.000	73.472	144.147	0.000
Slippage Out (35%, 45%, 55%)	(73.472)	(144.147)	(196.945)	(196.945)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>209.921</b>	<b>320.328</b>	<b>358.082</b>	<b>670.711</b>
<b>Revised Budget</b>	<b>136.449</b>	<b>176.180</b>	<b>161.137</b>	<b>473.766</b>

5.11. It should be noted that the projected capital receipts financing is intrinsically linked with the housing new build capital programme, and that there is uncertainty around the timing and value of these receipts. To mitigate these risks the council maintains a regular review of the property market and has been prudent in its financial assumptions. Timing delays can largely be managed using HRA reserves. In the event of a decrease in projected capital receipts, the new build programme would need to be re-assessed in line with the overall available funding.

5.12. Because the slippage factor applies to all schemes the table above just shows an adjustment to the bottom line. Slippage also then affects Capital Financing. As financing decisions will be made in the most efficient way based on actual capital outlay it would not be representative to show a 'slipped' version of the capital financing summary.

- 5.13. It is, however, important to specifically estimate the level of borrowing which will be incurred in each year as this drives out revenue forecasts and key Treasury Management indicators. As such, separate estimates of borrowing, taking into account slippage are displayed in the following tables.

**Table 15 – Estimated General Fund Borrowing 2023/24 to 2025/26**

Area of Programme	2023/24 Net Budget £m	2024/25 Net Budget £m	2025/26 Net Budget £m	2023/24 to 2025/26 Total £m
CWB	19.888	20.690	6.570	47.148
Environment	19.254	17.659	9.123	46.036
Housing GF	7.105	27.750	51.450	86.305
<b>Estimated General Fund Borrowing</b>	<b>46.247</b>	<b>66.099</b>	<b>67.143</b>	<b>179.489</b>
Slippage in	0.000	16.186	37.029	
Slippage out	(16.186)	(37.029)	(57.294)	(57.294)
<b>Revised Estimated General Fund Borrowing</b>	<b>30.060</b>	<b>45.257</b>	<b>46.877</b>	<b>122.195</b>

**Table 16 – Estimated Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Borrowing 2023/24 to 2025/26**

Area of Programme	2023/24 Net Budget £m	2024/25 Net Budget £m	2025/26 Net Budget £m	2023/24 to 2025/26 Total £m
<b>HRA Borrowing</b>	<b>25.345</b>	<b>60.663</b>	<b>52.771</b>	<b>138.779</b>
Slippage in	0.000	8.871	31.290	
Slippage out	(8.871)	(31.290)	(46.234)	(46.234)
<b>Revised HRA Borrowing</b>	<b>16.474</b>	<b>38.244</b>	<b>37.828</b>	<b>92.545</b>

- 5.14. The final version of the budget report to the Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023 will include for agreement the capital strategy that underpins the capital programme, as well as the inter-linked, Treasury Management Strategy, MRP Statement and Investment Strategy.

## **6. Council Tax and Retained Business Rates**

### **Council Tax Forecast 2023/24**

- 6.1. The detailed, statutory council tax calculation and the recommendations on 2023/24 council tax, including the GLA precept, will form part of the final budget report to the Executive on 9 February 2023, for onward recommendation to Full Council on 2 March 2023. This will also incorporate the level of the council taxbase due to be set by Audit Committee on 30 January 2023 and the statutory forecast of the surplus/deficit on the Collection Fund as at 15 January 2023 (the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the council as the Billing Authority to calculate a Collection Fund estimate by 15 January each year for council tax).
- 6.2. The GLA final draft budget is schedule to be considered at the London Assembly on 24 February 2023. Following this, the Mayor will confirm formally the final precept and GLA group budget for 2023/24.
- 6.3. The council's 2023/24 NNDR1 (detailed business rates) estimate is currently being worked up ahead of the 31 January 2023 statutory submission deadline to central government.

This will be reflected in the final version of the budget report to the Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023. In line with previous years, it is recommended that authority be delegated to the Section 151 Officer to finalise the council's 2023/24 NNDR 1 (detailed business rates) estimate ahead of the statutory deadline.

- 6.4. Since the implementation of the business rates retention system in 2013/14, the council retains 30% of business rates collected. This will continue to be the case in 2023/24.
- 6.5. The business rates retention system includes a safety net to protect local authorities from significant negative shocks to their income by guaranteeing that no authority will see its income from business rates fall beyond a set percentage (7.5%) of its spending baseline. Islington's retained business rates funding is approximately £15m above the safety net level in the current financial year. This is the maximum (worst-case scenario) loss of business rates funding that the council could incur before being entitled to safety net funding from the government. As a mitigation, the council maintains a Core Funding reserve to cover at least one year of business rates losses to the government safety net level. In the event of such losses, this one-off funding in reserves would cover the immediate budgetary impact and provide sufficient time for any ongoing implications to be factored into the MTFs and future annual budget setting processes.
- 6.6. The rateable value of properties (which is used to calculate business rates bills) will be revised in April 2023 to reflect the current property market. The last such revaluation was in 2017. The draft revised list has been published which suggests a 2.3% reduction in rateable value across Islington properties. This can be compared to an average increase of 0.5% for Inner London Boroughs and 11.3% for Outer London Boroughs. Islington is one of four London councils to see an overall decrease. These figures are subject to change prior to the revaluation list going live in April and subject to the appeals process.

## **7. Matters to Consider in Setting the Budget**

### **Comments of the Section 151 Officer**

- 7.1. This section contains the Section 151 Officer's comments on the robustness of the estimates included in the budget and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves, as required under Section 25(1) of the Local Government Act 2003. Section 25(2) of the same Act requires the authority to have regard to this report of the Section 151 Officer when making decisions about the budget and the level of council tax.
- 7.2. The final assessment on the robustness of the 2023/24 budget proposals and adequacy of financial reserves will be made in the budget report to the Executive on 9 February 2023 and 2 March 2023.
- 7.3. Developing the budget estimates for a given financial year is an ongoing, iterative process within the medium-term financial planning cycle. This is a council-wide process involving all spending departments whereby estimates are work up, challenged, and refined as further information becomes available. It considers the most recently available budget monitoring information and the latest assumptions for the forthcoming financial year. In particular, the proposed savings have been reviewed and signed off as deliverable by key stakeholders across the organisation. The thoroughness of this process is a key source of assurance in determining that overall estimates in the budget (including contingency) are robust and that financial reserves, whilst needing to be further strengthened, are adequate.
- 7.4. The estimates for the 2023/24 financial year have been compiled in the context of huge budget risks and uncertainties, on a scale not encountered in recent years. As such, the council's financial sustainability mechanisms such as contingency budgets, reserves and

balances are more important than ever. Whilst higher than in previous years, the enhanced provision for contingency budgets is needed to mitigate risks of rising demand, inflation remaining higher for longer and an uncertain energy market.

- 7.5. The medium-term local government funding outlook continues to be highly uncertain, with potential government funding reforms on the horizon that could have a significant impact on funding levels towards the end of the current MTFs period.
- 7.6. The robustness of all assumptions, including delivery of savings, will next be reviewed in early spring 2023 to shape the new medium-term budget setting process from 2024/25 and estimated additional savings requirement. Given the unprecedented uncertainty and the lead-time in identifying and delivering savings, it is crucial that assumptions remain prudent in line with MTFs principles set out in this report.

### **Comments of the Monitoring Officer**

- 7.7. This report sets out the basis upon which a recommendation will be made for the adoption of a lawful budget and the basis for the level of the council tax for 2023/24. It also outlines the council's current and anticipated financial circumstances, including matters relating to the General Fund budget and MTFs, the HRA, the capital programme and borrowing and expenditure control.
- 7.8. The setting of the budget and council tax by Members involves their consideration of choices. No genuine and reasonable options should be dismissed out-of-hand and Members must bear in mind their fiduciary duty to the council taxpayers of Islington.
- 7.9. Members must have adequate evidence on which to base their decisions on the level and quality at which services should be provided. Where a service is provided pursuant to a statutory duty, it would not be lawful to fail to discharge it properly or abandon it, and where there is discretion as to how it is to be discharged, that discretion should be exercised reasonably.
- 7.10. The report sets out the relevant considerations for Members to consider during their deliberations and Members are reminded of the need to ignore irrelevant considerations. Members have a duty to seek to ensure that the council acts lawfully. They are under an obligation to produce a balanced budget and must not knowingly budget for a deficit. Members must not come to a decision which no reasonable authority could come to; balancing the nature, quality, and level of services which they consider should be provided against the costs of providing such services.
- 7.11. Under the constitutional arrangements, the setting of the council budget is a matter for the council, having considered recommendations made by the Executive. Before the final recommendations are made to the council, the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee must have been given the opportunity to scrutinise these proposals and the Executive should consider its comments when making those recommendations.

### **Equalities Impact Assessment**

- 7.12. The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (Section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.



- 7.13. After more than a decade of significant budget savings, it is difficult to make new savings without any impact on residents. There will inevitably be some impact on particular groups, including those with protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act. The council is not legally obligated to reject savings with negative impacts on any particular groups but must consider carefully and with rigour the impact of its proposals on the Public Sector Equality Duty, take a reasonable and proportionate view about the overall impact on particular groups and seek to mitigate negative impacts where possible.
- 7.14. The cumulative EQIA assessment of the budget proposals is set out at **Appendix E**. It is supplemented at a departmental level by detailed EQIAs of major proposals. These demonstrate that the council has met its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and has taken account of its duties under the Child Poverty Act 2010.

### **CIPFA Financial Management Code**

- 7.15. An initial compliance analysis against the CIPFA Financial Management Code has been undertaken as part of the 2023/24 budget assurance work. The CIPFA Financial Management Code applies a principle-based approach. It does not prescribe the financial management processes that local authorities should adopt. Instead, the CIPFA Financial Management Code requires that a local authority demonstrates that its processes satisfy the principles of good financial management for an authority of its size, responsibilities, and circumstances. Each local authority should demonstrate that the requirements of the CIPFA Financial Management Code are being satisfied. Demonstrating this compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code is a collective responsibility of elected members, the Section 151 Officer, and professional colleagues in the leadership team
- 7.16. The annual compliance analysis is included at **Appendix F** and shows that the council achieves a high level of compliance against the vast majority of the CIPFA Financial Management Code statements of standard (or best) practice. Where there is only a medium level of compliance, actions are suggested that would take the council to high level. The compliance analysis should be seen as an organic piece of work, re-visited at least annually as part of the budget process, with any actions or recommendations implemented on an ongoing basis.

### **Budget Consultation**

- 7.17. Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the council each financial year to consult persons or bodies representative of business ratepayers about expenditure proposals.
- 7.18. The council must make available the information described in the Non-Domestic Ratepayers (Consultation) Regulations 1992/3171, including:
- Details of proposals for expenditure in the financial year to which the consultation relates.
  - Estimates of expenditure in the preceding financing year.
  - Particulars of significant changes in the level of proposed expenditure between the two years.
- 7.19. The council will be inviting comments from business rates payers and representatives of business rates payers in Islington on the draft 2023/24 budget proposals set out in this report. The consultation period will run for 21 days from 5 January 2023 (upon the publication of this report and related communication to business rates payers and representatives of business rates payers) to 25 January 2023. Any comments

received will be considered by the council before the final budget proposals for consideration by the Executive on 9 February 2023 and Full Council on 2 March 2023.

**Appendices**

Appendix A: General Fund Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2025/26

Appendix B: General Fund Proposed Savings 2023/24

Appendix C1: HRA MTFS 2023/24 to 2025/26

Appendix C2: HRA Fees and Charges 2023/24

Appendix C3: HRA Savings 2023/24 to 2025/26

Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26

Appendix D2: Reserve List Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26

Appendix E: Budget Cumulative Equality Impact Assessment 2023/24

Appendix F: CIPFA Financial Management Code Compliance Assessment

Background papers: None

<b>Signed by:</b>		
	Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance	Date

**Responsible Officers:**

Dave Hodgkinson, Corporate Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

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**Legal Implications:**

Marie Rosenthal, Interim Director of Law and Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer

**Appendix A: Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2025/26**

	2022/23	2023/24					2024/25					2025/26			
	Budget	Virements	Inflation/ Demography	Adjustments /Growth	Savings	Budget	Inflation/ Demography	Adjustments /Growth	Savings	Estimate	Inflation/ Demography	Adjustments /Growth	Savings	Estimate	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Adult Social Services	56.769	4.894	4.287	(13.248)	(2.090)	50.612	(0.650)	(8.415)	(1.540)	40.007	0.000	(1.650)	(0.876)	37.481	
Chief Executive's Directorate	1.228	(0.106)	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.123		(0.377)	0.746			0.000	0.746		
Children's Services	84.966	(2.676)	1.572	0.427	(1.407)	82.883		0.000	82.883			(0.247)	82.636		
Community Wealth Building	16.627	1.502	0.000	0.000	(0.991)	17.138		(1.123)	16.015			(0.069)	15.946		
Environment	5.389	(0.730)	1.641	(8.496)	(1.793)	(3.988)		(0.302)	(5.762)			(0.505)	(6.267)		
Fairer Together	7.112	0.243	0.000	0.337	(0.300)	7.392		0.000	7.392			(0.150)	7.242		
Homes & Neighbourhoods	6.354	0.366	1.024	(0.035)	(0.374)	7.335		(0.407)	6.928			(0.511)	6.417		
Public Health (net nil as wholly grant funded)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500	(0.500)	0.000		0.000	0.000			(0.060)	(0.060)		
Resources Directorate	28.258	3.032	0.759	1.389	(0.600)	32.838		(0.150)	32.688			(0.400)	32.288		
Central Costs (e.g. levies)	20.956	(6.526)	31.739	(0.124)	(2.940)	43.105	27.163	(1.000)	69.268	23.586	0.000	0.000	92.854		
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>227.659</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>41.022</b>	<b>(19.250)</b>	<b>(10.995)</b>	<b>238.437</b>	<b>26.513</b>	<b>(9.717)</b>	<b>(5.069)</b>	<b>250.164</b>	<b>23.586</b>	<b>(1.650)</b>	<b>(2.818)</b>	<b>269.282</b>	
General Contingency	5.000					5.000			5.000				5.000		
Inflation, Energy and Demand Contingency	0.000			5.000		5.000			5.000				5.000		
Transfer to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(15.913)			27.694		11.781		(7.781)	4.000				4.000		
Transfer to/(from) General Balances	0.000					0.000			0.000				0.000		
New Homes Bonus Grant	(0.861)			0.779		(0.082)		0.082	(0.000)				(0.000)		
Local Council Tax Support Grant	0.000					0.000			0.000				0.000		
Local Tier Service Grant	(0.990)			0.990		0.000			0.000				0.000		
2022/23 Services Grant	(5.877)			2.565		(3.312)			(3.312)				(3.312)		
Council Tax Administration Grant	(0.570)			0.570		0.000			0.000				0.000		
<b>NET BUDGET REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>208.448</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>41.022</b>	<b>18.348</b>	<b>(10.995)</b>	<b>256.824</b>	<b>26.513</b>	<b>(17.416)</b>	<b>(5.069)</b>	<b>260.852</b>	<b>23.586</b>	<b>(1.650)</b>	<b>(2.818)</b>	<b>279.970</b>	
Revenue Support Grant	(25.347)			(3.176)		(28.523)		(0.570)	(29.093)				(29.093)		
Business Rates Baseline	(82.456)			3.296		(79.160)		(1.583)	(80.743)				(80.743)		
(Top-up) Tariff	(2.798)			(6.486)		(9.284)		(0.186)	(9.470)				(9.470)		
<b>SETTLEMENT FUNDING ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>(110.601)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(6.366)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(116.967)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(2.339)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(119.306)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(119.306)</b>	
Additional business rates related income	(15.183)			(6.956)		(22.139)		(0.443)	(22.582)				(22.582)		
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit:															
- Business Rates	23.849			(27.027)		(3.178)		3.178	0.000				0.000		
- Council Tax	(1.088)			(0.413)		(1.501)		1.501	0.000				0.000		
<b>COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>105.425</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>41.022</b>	<b>(22.414)</b>	<b>(10.995)</b>	<b>113.039</b>	<b>26.513</b>	<b>(15.519)</b>	<b>(5.069)</b>	<b>118.964</b>	<b>23.586</b>	<b>(1.650)</b>	<b>(2.818)</b>	<b>138.082</b>	

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**Appendix B - General Fund Proposed Savings 2023/24**

Directorate	Proposal Title	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	Total £m
Adults	The introduction of a 7 day 'Recovery Model' of home care to reduce the demand for ongoing care services.	0.855	0.939	0.563	<b>2.357</b>
Adults	The introduction of the new in-house re-ablement service will increase available capacity, increase face to face resident contact, increase the potential to maximise more peoples independence through a greater emphasis on strength based practise, reduce care packages and therefore reduce the demand for ongoing care services.	0.862	0.356	0.213	<b>1.431</b>
Adults	Review of Mental Health contracted services to deliver good outcomes for residents and value for money.	0.040	0.125	-	<b>0.165</b>
Adults	Review housing related floating support contract to reduce inefficiencies such as duplication of provision and deliver value for money.	-	0.120	-	<b>0.120</b>
Adults	Refresh of older people's day services to provide more choice to residents and therefore reducing the need for homecare during the day.	0.183	-	0.100	<b>0.283</b>
Adults	Improved price negotiations with providers to enable better value for money care packages and placements.	0.100	-	-	<b>0.100</b>
Adults	Increase the take-up of Shared Lives which allows a more cost-effective way of delivering support compared to traditional support solutions.	0.050	-	-	<b>0.050</b>
Children's Services	Pupil Services: 1) Elective Home Education - charging of general fund post to the DSG. 2) SEND transport Increase the use of flexible personal budgets and greater choice, including independent travel training for older children. Review the cost of the commissioned routes such as taxi / minibus runs, existing contracts and eligibility criteria.	0.080	0.080	-	<b>0.160</b>
Children's Services	Funding swaps from the general fund to the Family Hub and Start For Programme funding - for services such as advice for parents, perinatal mental health and home learning environment training.	0.210	-	-	<b>0.210</b>
Children's Services	Lunch Bunch - Activity for 5-16s to be funded through the Holiday Activities and Food grant instead of using the Lunch Bunch budget.	0.140	-	-	<b>0.140</b>
Children's Services	Bright Start - Streamlining the budgets allocated to each locality.	0.051	-	-	<b>0.051</b>
Children's Services	Bright Start - Removal of hosting budgets from the 5 Council maintained children's centre nurseries	0.106	-	-	<b>0.106</b>
Children's Services	Review of operating model in Children's Services to make efficiency savings by realigning the service to meet service needs at lower cost	0.199	0.077	0.027	<b>0.303</b>
Children's Services	Adopt London North (Regional Adoption Arrangements) - review of partnership arrangement to develop new cost sharing arrangements with partners	0.102	-	-	<b>0.102</b>
Children's Services	Reduction in scale of the motivational practice model in line with reduction in demand and budget and realignment of model to better reflect need and meet the requirements of the Children's Social Care Review once in force. Phase 1 saving of £0.500m in 2022/23. Phase 2 will deliver further savings of £0.220m in 2024/25 and 2025/26 based on remodelling of provision across localities	0.500	0.220	0.220	<b>0.940</b>
Children's Services	Investment in the House Project as a permanent service in Islington	0.019	-	-	<b>0.019</b>
Community Wealth Building	Council Tax Support (CTS) - banded scheme. CTS is currently based on a discount of up to 95% for working age households. The Council proposing moving to a banded scheme for working age households, offering varying levels of discount linked to financial need. This will allow the CTS scheme to be better targeted on households most in need. A banded scheme would also be simpler to administer, generating a cost saving. All changes to CTS require public consultation and Full Council approval, so the saving is targeted from 2024/25.	-	0.250	-	<b>0.250</b>
Community Wealth Building	New administrative fee for adult social care self-funders who secure social care via the council. Introducing a new charge would require public consultation, so the full year income target would be achieved by 2024/25	0.040	0.040	-	<b>0.080</b>
Community Wealth Building	New administrative charge for Appointeeships, where the council manages benefits income on behalf of adult social care users. Introducing a new charge would require public consultation, so the full year income target would be achieved by 2024/25	0.040	0.040	-	<b>0.080</b>
Community Wealth Building	The Council is developing its long term approach to flexible and hybrid working - the FutureWork Programme. This work has identified excess office space which will be released to generate both cost savings and additional income, as well as creating opportunities to build new Council homes.	0.836	0.793	0.069	<b>1.698</b>
Community Wealth Building	Corporate Landlord Services - deliver resourcing and purchasing efficiencies through the consolidation and rationalisation of services.	0.075	-	-	<b>0.075</b>
Cross-Cutting	Making the organisation more efficient by restructuring back office services to reduce costs and improve services.	0.500	-	-	<b>0.500</b>
Cross-Cutting	Reduction in departmental senior management costs across the council.	0.440	-	-	<b>0.440</b>
Cross-Cutting	Voluntary Enhanced Business Efficiency and Redundancy Scheme across the council.	2.000	-	-	<b>2.000</b>
Environment	Align the operations of the out of hours Anti-Social Behaviour service and the commissioned Patrolling and ASB Enforcement service (currently operated by Parkguard) to achieve efficiency savings	-	0.030	0.040	<b>0.070</b>
Environment	Increase in statutory Pavement License Fees in line with central government legislation.	-	0.015	-	<b>0.015</b>
Environment	Reconfigure and target the Out of Hours, Anti-Social Behaviour and Noise Service, changing the service timings.	0.050	0.100	-	<b>0.150</b>
Environment	Secure additional compliance funding for Town Centre Management arrangements in Nags Head and Archway town centres.	-	0.050	0.050	<b>0.100</b>
Environment	Improving night-time waste crime enforcement.	0.050	0.050	-	<b>0.100</b>
Environment	Non-sports Park keepers' winter provision re-purposed to grounds maintenance and other front-line service activities.	0.073	-	-	<b>0.073</b>
Environment	Revise Street Cleansing and Enforcement operations to meet the needs of the borough.	-	0.379	-	<b>0.379</b>
Environment	Additional enforcement operations to increase the level of littering enforcement and other environmental enforcement.	-	0.478	-	<b>0.478</b>

**Appendix B - General Fund Proposed Savings 2023/24**

Directorate	Proposal Title	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	Total £m
Environment	Improve debt recovery of Penalty Charge Notices. This will be achieved by strengthening the debt management function, enabling the council to review debt cases more effectively and efficiently before they are passed to the council's specialist parking debt recovery contractors, reducing council costs.	0.150	0.025	0.025	0.200
Environment	Improve process workflows and data metrics through the use of a 'hosted' parking system, giving access to greater functionality not available in the current system. This will enable intelligence-led enforcement and increased productivity.	0.200	-	-	0.200
Environment	Integration of the appeals processing and correspondence staff into the parking services contract, with the saving generated from improved productivity as part of a larger 'back-office' operation and reduced accommodation costs.	0.075	0.075	-	0.150
Environment	Accelerated vehicle purchases funded from the existing capital programme to reduce hire/leasing costs charged to the revenue account.	0.120	0.140	0.140	0.400
Environment	Restructuring Street Trading to support a more streamlined and efficient service.	0.030	-	-	0.030
Environment	Increase in net Fixed Penalty Notice income following the proposed recruitment of an additional Streetworks Inspector to support highways enforcement.	0.030	-	-	0.030
Environment	Additional filming income via the Filmfixer contract.	0.050	-	-	0.050
Environment	Implementation of a commercial waste and recycling strategy to increase commercial customers and recycling.	-	-	0.250	0.250
Environment	Increasing Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) controllable hours on a Saturday in 11 CPZ areas.	0.280	0.120	-	0.400
Environment	Reducing energy consumption and costs in Street lighting by replacement of older technology street lights.	0.030	0.010	-	0.040
Environment	Bunhill Heat and Power Network - income generated from the sale of heat and electricity.	0.031	-	-	0.031
Environment	Review of measures to reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality.	0.303	-	-	0.303
Environment	Capture illegal parking suspensions, upholding current fees and charges for suspending parking bays.	0.020	-	-	0.020
Environment	Streamlining of services across Street Works, Highways and the Energy Team.	0.096	-	-	0.096
Environment	Create single team to support licensing, street trading, land charges, naming and numbering with automation through a new back office system.	0.030	-	-	0.030
Environment	Removal of non-operational parking machines, allowing the budget for these works to be removed.	0.175	-	-	0.175
Fairer Together	Alignment of management structures across Access Islington & Libraries to secure greater efficiency whilst maintaining quality service delivery	0.300	-	-	0.300
Fairer Together	Redirecting money from commissioning budgets into the new Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) grants programme to ensure local and more efficient delivery of services through our local VCS organisations	-	-	0.150	0.150
Homes and Neighbourhoods	Temporary Accommodation (TA) a range of measures to be put in place that aim to both reduce the cost of the provision of TA (e.g. by using lower cost accommodation) and managing demand by expanding homelessness prevention strategies.	0.374	0.407	0.511	1.292
Public Health	Introduce targeted offer of oral health fluoride varnish within Children's Centres and Primary Schools.	-	-	0.060	0.060
Public Health	Driving greater cost savings into our Public Health (PH) commissioned contracts thereby releasing PH grant to be re-invested in other eligible PH spend across the Council.	0.500	-	-	0.500
Resources	Reduced costs of the Finance service, through the consolidation of systems, improvements in processes and development of staff to deliver a more efficient service.	-	0.050	0.300	0.350
Resources	Additional Legal income from s.42 Notices (leaseholder lease extensions and other requests), s.106 Agreements (covering development contributions) and Right to Buy applications.	0.100	0.050	0.050	0.200
Resources	Digital Services Future Operating Model - modernisation towards hosting in the cloud will require different levels of support.	0.300	-	-	0.300
Resources	Digital Services third party contract consolidation and efficiencies.	0.200	-	-	0.200
Resources	Reduced costs of the Human Resources service, by improving systems and processes.	-	0.050	0.050	0.100
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10.995</b>	<b>5.069</b>	<b>2.818</b>	<b>18.882</b>

GF Proposed Savings (Total)	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	Total £m
Adults	2.090	1.540	0.876	4.506
Children's Services	1.407	0.377	0.247	2.031
Cross-Cutting	2.940	-	-	2.940
Community Wealth Building	0.991	1.123	0.069	2.183
Environment	1.793	1.472	0.505	3.770
Fairer Together	0.300	-	0.150	0.450
Homes and Neighbourhoods	0.374	0.407	0.511	1.292
Public Health	0.500	-	0.060	0.560
Resources	0.600	0.150	0.400	1.150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10.995</b>	<b>5.069</b>	<b>2.818</b>	<b>18.882</b>

## Appendix C1 – HRA MTFS 2022/23 to 2025/26

<b><u>HRA MTFS</u></b>	<b>2022/23 Estimate £m</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate £m</b>	<b>2024/25 Indicative Estimate £m</b>	<b>2025/26 Indicative Estimate £m</b>
<b><u>HRA INCOME</u></b>				
Tenant Rents	£168.4	£181.4	£186.8	£192.3
Tenant Service Charges	£19.3	£23.3	£23.8	£24.4
<b>Sub-Total Income from Dwellings</b>	<b>£187.7</b>	<b>£204.7</b>	<b>£210.6</b>	<b>£216.7</b>
Commercial Income	£1.4	£1.4	£1.4	£1.7
Heating Charges (Tenants & Leaseholders)	£2.6	£5.3	£4.6	£4.6
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>£4.0</b>	<b>£6.7</b>	<b>£6.0</b>	<b>£6.3</b>
Leaseholder Annual Service Charges	£13.6	£15.5	£15.9	£16.2
Leaseholder Major Works Charges	£3.5	£3.5	£3.5	£3.5
<b>Sub-Total Leaseholder Charges</b>	<b>£17.1</b>	<b>£19.0</b>	<b>£19.4</b>	<b>£19.7</b>
Other Charges for Services & Other Income	£2.8	£2.8	£2.8	£2.9
PFI - Government Subsidy	£6.1	£6.1	£6.1	£6.1
Interest Receivable	£1.0	£0.6	£0.7	£0.8
Transfer from the General Fund for Shared Services	£0.8	£0.8	£0.8	£0.8
Contribution from Reserves	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>£219.5</b>	<b>£240.7</b>	<b>£246.4</b>	<b>£253.3</b>
<b><u>HRA EXPENDITURE</u></b>				
General Management	£61.8	£65.4	£67.1	£69.0
Special Services	£26.9	£33.3	£34.3	£35.3
PFI Payments	£13.1	£14.6	£14.9	£15.5
Repairs & Maintenance	£42.9	£43.2	£44.1	£44.7
Rent, Rates & Other Charges	£1.0	£1.0	£1.1	£1.1
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>£145.7</b>	<b>£157.5</b>	<b>£161.5</b>	<b>£165.6</b>
Interest Charges on Borrowing	£19.5	£17.9	£20.3	£22.4
Revenue Contributions to fund Capital Expenditure	£5.7	£15.2	£6.9	£10.0
Depreciation - Contribution to the Major Repairs Reserve to fund the Major Works Capital Prog.	£32.1	£35.5	£36.2	£36.9
<b>Sub-Total Capital Financing Costs</b>	<b>£57.3</b>	<b>£68.6</b>	<b>£63.4</b>	<b>£69.3</b>
Increase in Bad Debt Provision	£2.3	£3.2	£3.4	£3.1
Contingency	£6.1	£8.0	£6.3	£4.9
Contribution to Reserves	£8.1	£3.4	£11.8	£10.4
<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>£219.5</b>	<b>£240.7</b>	<b>£246.4</b>	<b>£253.3</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>£0.0</b>	<b>£0.0</b>	<b>£0.0</b>	<b>£0.0</b>
<b><u>RESERVES</u></b>				
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>£78.3</b>	<b>£66.4</b>	<b>£69.8</b>	<b>£81.6</b>
DEDUCT: Contribution from Reserves	£20.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0
ADD: Contribution to Reserves	£8.1	£3.4	£11.8	£10.4
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>£66.4</b>	<b>£69.8</b>	<b>£81.6</b>	<b>£92.0</b>

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## Appendix C2 - HRA Fees and Charges 2023/24

### Tenant Service Charges and Digital TV Charges

	<b>Proposed weekly charge or compensation sum</b>
Caretaking and Cleaning	£11.44
Estate Services (estate lighting, communal estate repairs and grounds maintenance)	£ 8.71
<b>Tenant Service Charge</b>	<b>£20.15</b>
Digital TV (Installation & maintenance)	£0.38
Digital TV (maintenance only)	£0.22
Compensation for loss of caretaking service	£3.02 per day (after 5 consecutive days of lost service)

**Note:** The weekly tenant service charge for caretaking and estate services increases by £1.03 (+5.4%) per week from £19.12 per week (which is the revised 2022/23 charge that applies WEF 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and reflects the +54% increase in communal lighting electricity prices that arose during 2022/23 - this compares to the original 2022/23 charge of £16.57 per week) to £20.15 per week.

The overall Tenant Service Charge increase of £1.03 per week (+5.4%) primarily relates to the net impact of the increase in staffing costs and the reduction in the weekly charge for communal electricity as compared to the revised 2022-23 charge as the recovery of costs are spread over a longer time frame in 2022-23.

Caretaking compensation has increased in line with charges.

Digital TV installation & maintenance and maintenance only have increased by 2p and 1p per week respectively.

### Heating and Hot Water Charges

	<b>Bedsit Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>1-Bed Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>2-Bed Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>3-Bed Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>4-Bed Weekly Charge £</b>
<b>General:</b>					
Heating and Hot Water	17.23	19.07	22.63	26.62	30.14
Heating Only (60% of Full Charge)	10.34	11.44	13.58	15.97	18.09
Heating Only (60% of Full Charge + 15%) All Year heating (Braithwaite)	11.89	13.16	15.61	18.37	20.80
Bunhill Energy Network (St Luke's, Stafford Cripps, Redbrick & Kings SQ, Excl. Turnpike House)	15.50	17.16	20.37	23.96	27.13
Bunhill Energy Network Heating Only (60% of Full Charge) (Turnpike House Kings SQ.)	9.30	10.30	12.22	14.38	16.28

Compensation has increased in line with the increase in charges (after 5 consecutive days or more of lost service, backdated to the start of the heating loss period):

Heating and Hot Water £16.97 per day

Heating only £15.82 per day

Hot Water only £2.06 per day

**Note:** Underlying gas prices are forecast to increase by a further 14% in 2023/24 as compared to revised 2022/23 prices. However, use of the remaining balance in the tenants' gas reserve & spreading the recovery of costs over a longer time frame in 2023/24 means that tenant charges are limited to a +9% increase equating to an average increase of £1.60 per week, taking the average charge from £17.74 per week (which is the revised 2022/23 average charge that applies WEF 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and reflects the 106% underlying increase in Gas prices that arose

during 2022/23 - this compares to the original 2022/23 average charge per week of £10.60) to an average of £19.33 per week.

### **Estate Parking Charges**

<b>CARBON EMISSION AND ENGINE SIZES:</b>	<b>EMISSION BANDS / CHARGES</b>			
	<b>BAND A</b>	<b>BAND B</b>	<b>BAND C</b>	<b>BAND D</b>
Carbon CO2 Rating G/km (Grams per kilometre)	0-120	121-150	151-185	186+
Engine Size CC (Cylinder Capacity)	Up to 1100	1101-1399	1400-1850	1851+
	<b>Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>Weekly Charge £</b>	<b>Weekly Charge £</b>
<b>Rent &amp; Service Charge Payers:</b>				
- Garage	11.18	22.37	22.37	24.60
- Car Cage	5.23	10.46	10.46	11.50
- Parking Space	2.86	5.70	5.70	6.27
- Integral Garage	7.72	15.40	15.40	16.96
<b>Non-Rent &amp; Service Charge Payers:</b>				
- Garage	25.14	50.20	50.20	55.19
- Car Cage	11.78	23.47	23.47	25.82
- Parking Space	6.91	14.71	14.71	20.24
				<b>£</b>
<b>Garages Used for Non-Vehicle Storage – Rent &amp; Service Charge Payers</b>				24.60
<b>Garages Used for Non-Vehicle Storage – Non-Rent &amp; Non-Service Charge Payers</b>				51.18
Diesel Surcharge - applies to both Rent/Serv. Charge Payers & Non- Rent/Serv. Charge Payers in respect of all parking facilities				160.00 per Year or 3.08 per Week

A 50% or 100% discount is offered on all vehicle parking charges to Islington Council residents that hold a disability parking blue badge issued by either Islington Council or another Local Authority.

VAT will be added to the above charges where applicable.

#### **Note: Vehicle charges**

All vehicle charges increase by 5%.

For example, the charge to an LBI Tenant or Leaseholder for a garage with a band B vehicle increases by £1.07 per week from £21.30 to £22.37 per week.

Except for the diesel surcharge which has increased by £31.00 (24%) per year to align the surcharge with the on-street (outside council estates) surcharge.

Electric Car users: Rent & Service Charge payers will continue to have free access to all council estate parking facilities and Non-Rent & Service payers will continue to be charged at Band A rates.

### Concierge Service Charges

	<b>Weekly Charge £</b>
Category A (Concierge Office in Block)	18.30
Category B (Concierge Office in Estate)	13.74
Category C (Concierge Office – Remote multiple cameras)	8.25
Category D (Concierge Office – Remote a small number of cameras)	2.59
<p><b>Note:</b> The weekly tenant charges have increased by 11.4%. Concierge costs are primarily linked to staffing as such the increase reflects the latest 2022/23 pay award, the estimated 2023/24 pay award and the increase in the employers' pension contribution rate. For example, the charge to tenants who receive a Category B service increases by £1.40 per week from £12.34 to £13.74 per week.</p>	

### Parking Charge Notices (PCN)

	<b>Council Estates £</b>
Parking Charge Notices	100.00
Parking Charge Notices (Paid within 14 days of issue)	60.00
<p><b>Note:</b> The maximum charges for unauthorised parking on council estates (off-street parking) are recommended by the British Parking Association on behalf of the Home Office. No increase is recommended in 2023/24.</p> <p>For Penalty Charge Notices issued on-street and on some council estates (where Traffic Management Orders have been introduced) the Council charges between £110 and £130 depending on the seriousness of the offence (discounts apply if paid within 14 days)</p>	

### Storage Units

	<b>Weekly Charge £</b>
Rent & Service Charge Payers	2.00
Non-Rent & Service Charge Payers	4.02
<p><b>Note:</b> Charges increase by 5%. The charge to Rent &amp; Service Charge Payers has increased by 9p from £1.91 to £2.00 per week and that for Non-Rent &amp; Service Charge Payers has increased by 19p from £3.83 to £4.02 per week.</p>	

### Floor Coverings (including underlay, carpets & fitting):

Covering the Bedroom(s), Front Room, Hallway & Staircase

<b>2023/24 charges to tenants</b>		
Commencing the scheme WEF 2017/18 reflects a more robust/substantial underlay Increased in line with the latest negotiated contract price plus 2%		
<b>No of Beds</b>	<b>2023/24 Charge £</b>	<b>Weekly Charge to Tenants over 5 years £</b>
1	773.00	2.97
2	1,131.00	4.35
3	1,488.00	5.72
4	1,785.00	6.87

## Home Ownership Unit Charges:

Fees increase by 5%

### 1. Lease Holder Fees in respect of Structural Alterations & Additions:

		Home Ownership Fees 2023/24	Technical Property Services Fees 2023/24
<b>a</b>	Minor alterations (e.g.: flues, extractor fans)	£98 – letter of consent	None
<b>b</b>	Deed of variation for windows	£273	None
<b>c</b>	Minor structural alterations	£98	£219
<b>d</b>	Major structural alterations (e.g. roofs, conservatories)	£119	£219 – technical inspections £66 per hour if additional technical work required
<b>e</b>	Retrospective consent	a/b/c/d +£345	£440 – technical inspections £66 per hour if additional technical work required
<b>f</b>	Re-drawing lease plans	£58	£499
<b>g</b>	Purchase of land/space e.g. garden/loft/basement	£122	£659 and any additional inspections £66 per hour, £550 valuation fee

### 2. Lease Holder Miscellaneous Fees:

		Home Ownership Fees 2023/24
<b>a</b>	Sub-let Registration	£47
<b>b</b>	Assignment pack	£213 L/Holder £92 F/Holder
<b>c</b>	Re-mortgage pack	£152 L/Holder £78 F/Holder
<b>d</b>	S146 costs	£307
<b>e</b>	Copy of lease	£30
<b>f</b>	Letter of Satisfaction	£61
<b>g</b>	Copy of service charge invoice	£30
<b>h</b>	Breakdown of charges for a previous year	£30
<b>i</b>	Notice of assignment or charge	£75
<b>j</b>	Combined notice of assignment and charge	£150
<b>k</b>	Removal of Land Registry charge	£126
<b>l</b>	Details of planned major works	£60
<b>m</b>	Postponement charge	£239
<b>n</b>	Major works extended payment plan – legal charge	£239
<b>o</b>	Removal of Land Registry charge for major works extended payment plan	£126
<b>p</b>	Letter before legal action	£45

**Appendix C3: HRA Savings Proposals 2023/24**

<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Option Title</b>	<b>2023/24 £m</b>	<b>2024/25 £m</b>	<b>2025/26 £m</b>	<b>Total £m</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Commercial letting of storage space in disused car park	-	-	0.295	<b>0.295</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Insource more voids work - thereby reducing more expensive contractor costs	-	-	0.400	<b>0.400</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Managing annual demand for aids and adaptations to align to current demand and adjusting the budget accordingly.	0.300	-		<b>0.300</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Repairs operatives multi-skills training programme completed - budget no longer required	-	0.260	-	<b>0.260</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Driving efficiencies into the housing procurement process where synergies between housing & corporate contracts can be identified.	-	0.050	0.050	<b>0.100</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Review Floating Housing Related Support contracts	-	0.120	-	<b>0.120</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Following the return to the Council of the PF12 stock a review/re-assessment of the budget provision required in respect of the repairs service indicates that the service can be provided at a lower cost than initially anticipated	0.400	0.800	-	<b>1.200</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Staffing review of the Housing Strategic Business Planning and Investment team and the Integrated Services team	-	0.053	-	<b>0.053</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Staffing review of the Income Recovery & Income Control Teams.	0.085		-	<b>0.085</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Diversify funding and provision of apprenticeships	-	-	0.100	<b>0.100</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Staffing review of the Repairs Service	-	0.100	0.100	<b>0.200</b>
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Technical budget adjustments	0.602	0.060	-	<b>0.662</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1.387</b>	<b>1.443</b>	<b>0.945</b>	<b>3.775</b>

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**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME			209.921	182.975	246.855	220.972	213.935	208.846	1,225.871	1,213.702
			2023/24 (Year 1)		2024/25 (Year 2)		2025/26 (Year 3)		2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)	
Scheme Title	Area of Programme	Project Description	23/24 Expenditure £m	23/24 Net Budget £m	24/25 Expenditure £m	24/25 Net Budget £m	25/26 Expenditure £m	25/26 Net Budget £m	26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m	26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m
<b>A Safer Borough for All</b>										
Corporate CCTV Upgrade	Environment	Urgent upgrades to the Council's core CCTV network to increase resilience and minimise downtime. Also includes investment in a CCTV-enabled vehicle to increase coverage for hot-spots, aligned to growth for the Antisocial Behaviour team.	1.200	1.200	1.554	1.554	-	-	1.400	1.400
<b>Children and Young People</b>										
Adventure Playgrounds - Cornwallis Adventure Playground	CWB	Delivery of new main building.	0.014	0.014	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adventure Playgrounds - Martin Luther King	CWB	Delivery of new main building.	0.008	0.008	-	-	-	-	-	-
Early Years and Children's Centres	CWB	Package of urgent repairs and modernisation across the majority of the Council's early years facilities and children's centres.	0.068	0.068	-	-	-	-	-	-
Primary Schools Condition Schemes/Schools Modernisation SEN - New River College SEND/Elthorne	CWB	Special provision Fund allocation to cover £2m project at Elthorne SEN and other smaller SEN projects	2.914	2.073	-	-	-	-	-	-
Schools - Schools Condition Schemes	CWB	Government grant funding for condition maintenance covering the fabric of school buildings, roofs, brickwork, windows and internal works. Also includes grant funding to undertake investments in provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, such as new places and improvements to facilities for pupils with education, health and care plans in mainstream and special schools, nurseries, colleges and other provision.	2.664	0.664	1.400	-	-	-	9.800	-
Schools - Tufnell Park School Expansion	CWB	New Build replacement and expansion of existing 1.5 form entry school to 3 form entry school.	0.020	0.020	-	-	-	-	-	-
Toffee Park & Radnor St Gardens	CWB	Substantial refurbishment of current facilities to create a 'start well' campus, as well as improving the MUGA and creating a new BMX/skateboarding facility in Radnor St Gardens. Includes a £1.5m Local CIL contribution.	1.279	0.000	1.613	1.423	0.233	0.233	-	-
High Needs Provision Allocation	CWB	Rolling high needs funding provision, will be combined with existing unspent funds to develop a refreshed capital strategy for the special needs estate. This forms part of 5 projects in delivery or now complete.	3.258	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Packington Nursery Expansion	CWB	Works to enhance indoor and outdoor space, providing children with additional space for play and a new staff room with improved visibility and sight lines	0.175	0.175	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lift Building Development	CWB	Refurbishment of dance studio and roof space to support income generation targets in new contract.	0.350	0.350	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prior Weston Primary School Playground Redevelopment	CWB	S106 Funded scheme for the redevelopment of Prior Weston Primary School Playground. This scheme is managed by the school and will be overseen by our S106 Project Manager.	0.320	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hayward Adventure Playground	CWB	Council top-up to support completion of scheme to reconfigure buildings to increase privacy following neighbouring development	0.180	0.000	0.539	0.075	-	-	-	-
16-18 Hornsey Road	CWB	Interim arrangement for black cultural and community centre instead of Holly Hall	0.280	0.280	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Decent &amp; Affordable Homes</b>										
HRA Pipeline New Build Programme - General Fund Open Market Sales units	Housing - GF	Our major programme of investment in new social housing. Provision of housing supports local plan objectives for delivery and provides a cross subsidy for affordable homes and public infrastructure.	7.105	7.105	27.750	27.750	51.450	51.450	371.850	371.850

**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

<b>TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>			<b>209.921</b>	<b>182.975</b>	<b>246.855</b>	<b>220.972</b>	<b>213.935</b>	<b>208.846</b>	<b>1,225.871</b>	<b>1,213.702</b>
			<b>2023/24 (Year 1)</b>		<b>2024/25 (Year 2)</b>		<b>2025/26 (Year 3)</b>		<b>2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)</b>	
<b>Scheme Title</b>	<b>Area of Programme</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>23/24 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>23/24 Net Budget £m</b>	<b>24/25 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>24/25 Net Budget £m</b>	<b>25/26 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>25/26 Net Budget £m</b>	<b>26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m</b>
HRA Pipeline New Build Programme - HRA Social Rented Units	Housing - HRA	Our major programme of investment in new social housing to provide high quality and genuinely affordable council rent housing supply to Islington residents.	7.105	7.105	27.750	27.750	51.450	51.450	371.850	371.850
Finsbury Leisure Centre Redevelopment	CWB	The council is seeking to redevelop Finsbury leisure centre and surrounds as a mixed use development - delivering new affordable housing, a new leisure centre and medical centre, and other significant community benefits. This funding represents the general fund contribution to the scheme (predominantly funded from the housing capital programme), and supports design and construction phases. The scheme has dedicated governance and spending will be subject to multiple gateway reviews	5.921	5.921	22.507	10.868	2.837	2.837	-	-
HRA Current New Build Programme - General Fund Open Market Sales Units	Housing - GF	Our major programme of investment in new social housing. Provision of housing supports local plan objectives for delivery and provides a cross subsidy for affordable homes and public infrastructure.	12.608	12.608	16.107	16.107	5.076	5.076	-	-
Housing Revenue Account Major Works and Improvements	Housing - HRA	Ongoing programme of investment in council homes and estates, including cyclical improvements (e.g. kitchens & bathrooms, smoke and heat detection, windows), mechanical and electrical (e.g. lifts, door entry, water tanks, CCTV) and fire safety (e.g. fire risk assessment works, front entrance doors, fire-fighting facilities and fire safety measures in street properties and tall blocks).	63.570	60.852	76.070	75.980	77.309	77.309	380.120	380.120
HRA Current New Build Programme - HRA Social Rented Units	Housing - HRA	Our major programme of investment in new social housing to provide high quality and genuinely affordable council rent housing supply to Islington residents.	56.163	56.163	35.036	35.036	7.868	7.868	-	-
<b>Enhancing Community Assets</b>										
Libraries - Islington Museum and Local History Centre	CWB	Redesign and refurbishment of museum space (exhibition space and permanent gallery) and improved accessibility	0.250	0.250	-	-	-	-	-	-
Compliance and Modernisation	CWB	Funds to deal with urgent property compliance issues and to assist in providing funds for a cyclical maintenance and modernisation programme across the council's estate.	3.416	3.416	2.500	2.500	2.500	2.500	7.970	7.970
29-33 Old Street	CWB	Refurbishment and remodelling of the existing building and garages	1.200	1.200	2.800	2.800	-	-	-	-
Mildmay Library	CWB	Refurbishment to make better use of the asset and to accommodate additional community services including a Fairer Together locality hub. Scope and funding still to be finalised.	0.610	0.610	-	-	-	-	-	-
Future Work Phase 2	CWB	Placeholder for capital elements, subject to further development and does not include likely investment requirements around ventilation, accessibility and common parts. All subject to business case approval.	2.401	2.401	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thriving Neighbourhoods Scheme	Housing - HRA	One-off capital investment to support key community priorities across the borough. Officers will work with members to agree how the pot is used, which may include: - Tackling urgent maintenance and improvement backlogs; - Providing top-up funding to ensure that in-flight schemes are completed or accelerated; and - Delivering new schemes.	3.500	-	3.500	-	2.880	-	-	-
Fully Funded Small S106/CIL Schemes	CWB	This programme consists of small capital projects funded by S106/CIL budgeted at less than £0.250m per project. These projects aim to make targeted investments across the borough with spending decisions led and managed by local ward councillor	4.520	-	5.000	-	2.209	-	-	-



**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME			209.921	182.975	246.855	220.972	213.935	208.846	1,225.871	1,213.702
			2023/24 (Year 1)		2024/25 (Year 2)		2025/26 (Year 3)		2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)	
Scheme Title	Area of Programme	Project Description	23/24 Expenditure £m	23/24 Net Budget £m	24/25 Expenditure £m	24/25 Net Budget £m	25/26 Expenditure £m	25/26 Net Budget £m	26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m	26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m
Chapel Market	Environment	Chapel Market Inclusive Economy Project (CMIEP) is a masterplan for the enhancement of an existing affordable, diverse and inclusive market. This redevelopment of Chapel Market will offer a pioneering example of how the original features of a traditional retail market can be retained, whilst providing an offering which serves the local community, both through provision of goods and services and the potential for livelihoods and job creation fit for the future.	0.975	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Highways - Highways	Environment	Structural maintenance of the highways infrastructure including carriageways, footways, drainage, bridges, pipe subways. Capital investment helps to slow the rate of deterioration extend the life of Islington streets, improve streetscape, meet legal obligations, reduce cyclic repairs and maintenance costs and reduce insurance liability risk claims.	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.400	8.400	8.400
Leisure - Strategic Provision	Environment	This programme consists of various schemes across the leisure facilities in Islington. This programme is compiled in unison with GLL with which we have a contractual obligation to undertake and income is predicated on the investment. Planned works include technogym equipment replacement across sites, pitch replacements, sports hall replacements etc..	1.115	1.115	1.299	1.299	-	-	5.000	5.000
External S106/CIL Schemes	Environment	This programme consists of small capital projects funded by S106/CIL budgeted at less than £0.250m per project. These projects aim to make targeted investments across the borough with spending decisions led and managed by local ward councillor	0.404	0.000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vorley Road Library	CWB	To create a new state of the art library for Archway. It would offer a significant improvement from the current library, which has limited flexibility, is increasingly in need of repair, and is also located within a leased space. Co-locating with the proposed new medical centre and next door to archway children's centre and leisure centre, would create a new community hub for Archway residents.	0.950	0.950	2.000	2.000	-	-	1.287	1.287
Disability/Accessibility Works	CWB	Taking a strategic approach to making corporate buildings more accessible	0.600	0.600	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.150	1.150
<b>Greener &amp; Cleaner Islington</b>										
7 Automated Public Toilets	CWB	Provision of 7 automated public toilets	0.888	0.888	0.024	0.024	-	-	-	-
Islington Heat Networks	Environment	Expand existing heat networks and develop new ones following the decentralised energy masterplan. Part of the Council's Net Zero 'Vision 2030' strategy.	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.241	19.241
Energy - Retrofitting Existing Council Buildings	Environment	Retrofitting existing council buildings to reduce carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency. This will include replacing gas heating systems with heat pumps, installing solar PV and other energy efficiency measures (insulation, glazing, LED lighting etc). Feasibility studies are to be carried out on around 50-60 corporate buildings to identify the works required, costs and any savings, with capital works starting in 22/23. This will help the council achieve its zero carbon ambition and possibly lead to reduced operating costs.	3.000	3.000	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME			209.921	182.975	246.855	220.972	213.935	208.846	1,225.871	1,213.702
			2023/24 (Year 1)		2024/25 (Year 2)		2025/26 (Year 3)		2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)	
Scheme Title	Area of Programme	Project Description	23/24 Expenditure £m	23/24 Net Budget £m	24/25 Expenditure £m	24/25 Net Budget £m	25/26 Expenditure £m	25/26 Net Budget £m	26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m	26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m
Greening the Borough	Environment	This project is to develop and deliver a community led and maintained, long-term, large scale, borough wide, innovative programme, for the greening (and blueing) of the wider public realm across highways, cycleways, housing and parkland assets. This would enable approximately 70 interventions to be delivered in a fair, transparent and accessible way, in line with Islington, regional and national policy documents and the emerging Green Infrastructure Strategy.	0.500	0.500	0.660	0.660	-	-	-	-
Street Lighting - LED upgrades	Environment	Scheme to upgrade street lighting to LEDs across 34 streets that were not covered in the prior upgrade project. This project will deliver energy savings for authority.	0.198	0.198	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clerkenwell Green	Environment	Pedestrian, cycle and public realm improvements - scheme will remove most through traffic and parking to transform the Green into a more welcoming public space. In addition, there will be investment in new community facilities to help further integrate local communities and celebrate the area's heritage.	0.850	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Energy - LED Lighting Upgrades	Environment	Replace traditional lighting fittings with LED lights whenever possible in both corporate buildings and housing. Part of the Net Zero 'Vision 2030' strategy.	0.667	0.667	-	-	-	-	-	-
Energy - Solar Panels on Corporate Buildings	Environment	Install solar panels wherever financially and technically feasible on our corporate estate. This is a commitment within the Net Zero 'Vision 2030' strategy. Savings from generating our own electricity also support effective budget management.	0.667	0.667	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenspaces - Barnard Park Renewal	Environment	Full renovation of Barnard Park including 3G all-weather sports pitch, low carbon community hub building heated by ground source heat pump, green oval area for general leisure and informal sports, outdoor gym equipment, increased biodiversity, increased seating, new footpath routes and improved entrances.	2.298	0.600	1.800	1.250	-	-	-	-
Greenspaces - Bingfield Park (including Crumbles Castle legacy)	Environment	Enhancements to Bingfield Park including improved, more welcoming entrances and planting, enhanced sports facilities and new play equipment.	0.570	0.251	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenspaces - Park Improvements	Environment	As well generating income the pitches play a key role in maintaining and improving the physical and mental health of the community by providing quality year round facilities for physical activity.	0.207	0.207	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenspaces - Highbury Bandstand/Highbury Fields	Environment	Completion of works to café and toilets and funding for Christ Church to accommodate a stay & play service. This will protect under 5 stay and play provision, improves the provision of toilets and aims to make the building as energy efficient as possible to support the Council's zero carbon 2030 target.	0.669	0.356	0.551	0.551	-	-	-	-
Greenspaces - New River Walk	Environment	Repairs to the lining of the watercourse, bridge and other associated features, improving bio-diversity and safety and reducing water loss in support of Islington's Biodiversity Action Plan.	0.103	0.103	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure - Floodlight Upgrades	Environment	Floodlight upgrades for various Greenspace locations through converting all parks' pitch lighting to LED to reduce running costs and carbon emissions. Replacement required to ensure that lights do not ultimately fail, and prevent lost income associated with this risk.	-	-	-	-	0.095	0.095	-	-
Leisure - Tufnell Park all-weather pitch	Environment	Conversion of the current grass football pitch to a grass hybrid pitch which will allow for more year round play and greater flexibility around the use of the space for a range of sporting activities.	0.146	0.146	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME			209.921	182.975	246.855	220.972	213.935	208.846	1,225.871	1,213.702
			2023/24 (Year 1)		2024/25 (Year 2)		2025/26 (Year 3)		2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)	
Scheme Title	Area of Programme	Project Description	23/24 Expenditure £m	23/24 Net Budget £m	24/25 Expenditure £m	24/25 Net Budget £m	25/26 Expenditure £m	25/26 Net Budget £m	26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m	26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m
People Friendly Streets - Liveable Neighbourhoods, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods & School Streets	Environment	Following the delivery of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods across the borough there is opportunity to deliver wide-sweeping environmental improvements on local streets including planting, footway improvements and pocket parks to all 20 Low Traffic Neighbourhoods transforming them into 'Liveable Neighbourhoods', following extensive consultation and engagement with local communities. There is also a Borough wide programme to reduce car trips and improve neighbourhoods for walking, cycling and living. Further investment will continue delivery of our Low Traffic Neighbourhood across all of Islington under the banner of 'People friendly streets.' Temporary street closures to become a pedestrian and cycle zone during the school's opening and closing times to reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates as well as make it easier and safer for children to get to and from school to improve air quality, increase road safety and encourage active travel. Measures will include widening footways, tree planting and green screens and secure cycle and scooter parking.	3.100	2.704	3.653	3.653	3.252	3.252	12.650	12.650
Public Realm - Kings Square Shopping Area Public Space	Environment	Community driven public realm improvement project as part of public realm improvement plan. Will improve the space outside the shops to encourage community use of the space (e.g. to socialise). Opportunity for public realm feature (e.g. play equipment, public art or other) to act as a focal point.	0.466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Realm - Old Street/Clerkenwell Road	Environment	Public realm improvements to reduce through traffic, making route safer for pedestrians and cyclists, improving air quality and making area greener, healthier and a more attractive place.	0.200	-	0.800	0.750	-	-	-	-
Public Realm - St Johns Street Public Realm Improvements	Environment	Public realm improvements and pedestrian and cycling safety measures - proposal includes reallocation of road space to pedestrians and traffic management changes to reduce non-local traffic. Project linked to Farringdon Station which will have 140,000 passengers a day when Crossrail opens.	0.954	0.000	1.000	-	-	-	-	-
Recycling Site Improvement & Estate recycling and refuse bin storage accelerated improvement programme	Environment	Delivering improvements to recycling and waste facilities for purpose built blocks of flats, to drive down contamination, increase recycling and improve the environment and standard of living on estates.	0.367	0.367	0.967	0.967	0.966	0.966	0.600	0.600
Traffic & Parking - T&E Cycle Schemes	Environment	Borough-wide cycle parking and cycle hangars to provide secure cycle storage (especially for residents without domestic or garden space) to overcome a major barrier for new and continuing cyclists. Significant additional investment in the bike hangar programme to reduce the waiting list, and contribute to our Net Zero 'Vision 2030' strategy and improve Air Quality.	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	0.450	2.700	2.700
Traffic & Parking - T&E EV Charging Points	Environment	Borough-wide electric vehicle charging points. On-street charging points are essential to facilitate the switch to electric vehicles for the majority of motorists who park on-street. Islington Council is committed to encourage the switch to low emission vehicles to reduce emissions and increase air quality.	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.960	0.960

**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME			209.921	182.975	246.855	220.972	213.935	208.846	1,225.871	1,213.702
			2023/24 (Year 1)		2024/25 (Year 2)		2025/26 (Year 3)		2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)	
Scheme Title	Area of Programme	Project Description	23/24 Expenditure £m	23/24 Net Budget £m	24/25 Expenditure £m	24/25 Net Budget £m	25/26 Expenditure £m	25/26 Net Budget £m	26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m	26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m
Traffic & Parking - T&E Safety Schemes	Environment	Borough-wide safety and corridor schemes - support of People Friendly Streets programme by delivering walking and cycling improvements on main roads. Will deliver improved and new crossings to create safe walking and cycling links, provide additional pedestrian facilities at local amenities and town centres, and deliver improvement to main roads such as improving bus priority. Will also look at maximising junction capacities to ensure that main roads do not become heavily congested and address emerging collision hotspots in line with collision data and collision studies.	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	3.000	3.000
Traffic & Parking - T&E Traffic Enforcement/Parking	Environment	Borough-wide traffic enforcement and parking schemes, including dedicated disabled bay scheme and other accessibility improvements across the borough. Addressing emerging issues through traffic restrictions is an essential part of managing traffic in the borough and protecting the local environment and communities from excessive traffic, air pollution and road safety risks.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	1.800	1.800
Vehicle fleet electrification (infrastructure)	Environment	Development of a new substation/high voltage connection into the National Grid, low voltage network across the site and a contribution towards charging infrastructure. Supports the 'greening' of the Council's fleet and upgrades electrical infrastructure to ensure HGV element of the fleet can be switched to EV. This supports the Council's Net Zero Carbon Vision.	0.999	0.999	1.258	1.258	-	-	1.953	1.953
Vehicle Replacement	Environment	Replacement of ageing fleet to decrease the use of hire vehicles and ensure that the Council is operating newer vehicles which are Euro 6/ULEZ compliant and replacement of petrol/diesel vehicles with electric vehicles on an ongoing ten year programme.	2.000	2.000	1.969	1.969	2.000	2.000	20.990	20.990
Wray Crescent Cricket Pavilion	Environment	Completion of works at the building, which will also have a green roof and ground source heat pump which supports the Net Zero Carbon 2030 Strategy, as well as supporting physical and community activity in the borough.	0.412	0.412	0.938	0.938	-	-	-	-
Isledon Road Gardens	Environment	S106 funded scheme to deliver improvements to Isledon Road Gardens. This project will rectify the current sunken garden area and design it as a sustainable drainage space with a focus on biodiversity enhancement. Other enhancements will include new play equipment and improvements to planting and garden design.	0.350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retrofitting Existing Council Housing Stock	Housing - HRA	Additional retrofitting pilot projects to support funding agreed in 21/22 (Harry Weston/Longley House £3.5m). It is proposed that a rolling programme of £0.5m per annum is funded from the council's carbon offset fund which is allowable under the conditions of the fund and is considered by the Viability & Obligations Team to be affordable. Subject to sufficient funding available.	0.500	-	0.500	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure - Sobell Leisure Centre	Environment	Urgent repairs to the roof of Sobell Leisure Centre.	0.400	0.400	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flats above shops food waste service	Environment	Provision of food waste recycling service for flats above shops	0.500	0.500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mull Walk & Pritchard Court - Welfare facilities upgrade	Environment	Mull Walk and Pritchard Court Welfare facility upgrade	0.052	0.052	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenspaces - 3G Football Pitch Replacement	Environment	Relaying of carpets on 3G pitches - carpets need relaying every 7 to 10 years (depending on wear). This contributes to improving physical and health opportunities for the community and protects income from use of these pitches.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.781	0.781

**Appendix D1: Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

<b>TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>			<b>209.921</b>	<b>182.975</b>	<b>246.855</b>	<b>220.972</b>	<b>213.935</b>	<b>208.846</b>	<b>1,225.871</b>	<b>1,213.702</b>
			<b>2023/24 (Year 1)</b>		<b>2024/25 (Year 2)</b>		<b>2025/26 (Year 3)</b>		<b>2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)</b>	
<b>Scheme Title</b>	<b>Area of Programme</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>23/24 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>23/24 Net Budget £m</b>	<b>24/25 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>24/25 Net Budget £m</b>	<b>25/26 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>25/26 Net Budget £m</b>	<b>26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m</b>	<b>26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m</b>
Extension of energy network to Highbury West incl Harvist Estate	Environment	Installation of ground source heat pump system at the Harvist Estate to replace current electric storage heaters to address fuel poverty and cut carbon emissions.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.869	-
People-friendly Streets borough-wide roll out - Camera enforcement	Environment	Building on the success of the people-friendly streets programme in Islington this capital bid will secure the future of the programme through the purchase of 137 traffic enforcement cameras. These cameras will be used across the borough to ensure that there is high compliance to the traffic management projects while retaining emergency service access. The cameras will be used for a wider range of projects including Secondary School streets, liveable neighbourhoods, lorry control zones, yellow box junctions and school keep clear enforcement. The income generated from these cameras will ensure a short pay back period and provide additional income to invest into making Islington cleaner and greener in future years.	0.905	-	1.500	-	-	-	1.500	-

**Appendix D2: Capital Programme Reserve List 2023/24 - 2025/26  
and Indicative Programme 2026/27 - 2032/33**

Reserve List - Capital Programme			2.450	2.000	11.250	7.000	10.750	7.432	29.408	29.408
			2023/24 (Year 1)		2024/25 (Year 2)		2025/26 (Year 3)		2026/27 to 2032/33 (Years 4-10)	
Scheme Title	Area of Programme	Project Description	23/24 Expenditure £m	23/24 Net Budget £m	24/25 Expenditure £m	24/25 Net Budget £m	25/26 Expenditure £m	25/26 Net Budget £m	26/27-32/33 Expenditure £m	26/27-32/33 Net Budget £m
<b>Children and Young People</b>										
Rose Bowl	CWB	Facility built in 2001 and will need future capital redevelopment in next 10 years in order for the up keep of provision for youth activities.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.908	1.908
<b>Greener &amp; Cleaner Islington</b>										
GreenSCIES (New River Heat Network)	Environment	To develop a new heat network in the south of the borough potentially linking City University with New River Head, Sadlers Weill Theatre, Spa Green Estate, Finsbury Estate, Brunswick Close Estate, Roseberry Hall, Hugh Myddleton school and Finsbury Library with integrating Solar PV and Electric Vehicle charging points. This project aims to reduce CO2 by 5,000 tonnes benefitting 820 council homes.	0.450	-	4.250	-	5.000	1.682	7.500	7.500
Energy - Retrofitting Schools	Environment	The council is carrying out decarbonisation feasibility studies on 20 schools, which will identify appropriate measures, including heating system replacements, insulation and other energy-saving works. These studies will enable future bids to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to deliver the decarbonisation proposals. If approved, the £4m in Council funding will help to implement these measures and could be used as match funding to leverage additional investment	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	-	-	-	-
Corporate Building Decarbonisation - Energy Match Funding for Government Grants	Environment	Decarbonising council buildings by replacing gas boilers with heat pumps, installing solar PV and various other energy efficiency works. This is additional funding of £5m+ being allocated for 2024/25 onwards annually for match funding future PSDS bids (bids to date have only covered nine corporate buildings.	-	-	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	20.000	20.000
<b>Enhancing Community Assets</b>										
Leisure - Strategic Provision	Environment	Additional investment over the value included in the approved capital programme. This programme consists of various schemes across the leisure facilities in Islington. This programme is compiled in unison with GLL with which we have a contractual obligation to undertake and income is predicated on the investment. Planned works include technogym equipment replacement across sites, pitch replacements, sports hall replacements etc.	-	-	-	-	0.750	0.750	-	-

# **Appendix E: Budget 2023/24 Cumulative Equalities Impact Assessment**

## **1. Purpose of Report**

This report assesses the equalities impacts of the savings proposals set out in the Council's Budget for 2023/24.

It provides an assessment of the likely impacts of the budget savings on residents and employees with 'protected characteristics' as defined by the Equality Act 2010. It also considers the impacts on those who could be considered at a disadvantage in accessing opportunities or services (such as people with language difficulties or from low-income households), which is also a consideration in Islington's Equality Impact Assessment process.

The report assesses the overall impacts of the suite of savings proposals (cumulative impact) set out in the 2023/24 budget on residents and staff. It also provides a more detailed review – by specific groups and by directorate – of the cumulative impacts of previously agreed savings set out last year, and in this new budget, on specific groups, and the actions to reduce or mitigate these impacts.

There are significantly more savings proposals this year than there were last year, due to the significant medium-term budget gap.

## **2. Context**

### Our commitment to fairness and equality

Our [Islington Together: For a more equal future strategy](#) sets out the Council's vision to make Islington a more equal place – to create a place where everyone, whatever their background, has the same opportunity to reach their potential and enjoy a good quality of life.

Challenging inequality, racism and injustice is mission critical for Islington. We cannot realise our vision of creating a more equal borough for all our residents without tackling the inequality that continues to hold back some communities. Our 'Challenging Inequality Programme' sets out our long-term ambition for challenging inequality, inequity, racism and promoting inclusion. We are determined to improve life chances for our residents and staff, ensuring no-one is left behind.

We want to challenge inequality in every capacity available to us, taking advantage of our position as an employer, strategic leader and as a service provider/ commissioner.

### Our EQIA Process

Equality impact assessments are an important part of ensuring our services are responsive to the needs of our diverse communities and help tackle inequality, creating a fairer more equal borough for all.

In Autumn 2021, we introduced a new EQIA process to improve efficiency and quality assurance. Each of the savings proposals set out in this budget have been considered through an equalities lens, with initial screening of all completed via our EQIA Screening Tool. Where the screening tool identified significant potential (or perceived) negative or positive impacts, a full Equalities Impact

Assessment was completed in order to mitigate any risks or maximise potential benefits. The Equalities Team was closely involved in all aspects of this process, working with services to identify potential or perceived impacts.

These individual assessments have been used to inform this overall cumulative assessment of the impacts of our budget savings proposals on residents and staff and, in particular, on any specific group.

### Our priorities

Over the next decade we will maintain a relentless focus on tackling inequality and eradicating poverty in our borough. To bring this vision to life, we have five clear priorities:

**We nurture our children and young people in Islington, so everyone has the very best start** ensuring that every young person in Islington has access to the opportunities they need to thrive in life, including an excellent education.

**We make sure everyone has a place to call home, which is secure, decent, and genuinely affordable** using our power and influence to stand up for private renters and all others in our communities to ensure equity in access to decent, safe, and affordable homes.

**We stand with our communities, so they are safe, connected, and inclusive** fostering a place made up of strong communities, where – regardless of background – people feel safe, connected, and have the resources they need to make change in their local areas.

**We invest in local jobs and businesses to ensure a thriving local economy** addressing precarious employment and ensuring equal access to well-paid jobs with prospects. This has been exacerbated by the pandemic, with the night-time economy and sectors such as leisure and hospitality hit hardest in the borough, which means creating local opportunities is more important than ever.

**We work together to create a cleaner, greener, healthier** borough seizing opportunities to create a sustainable future where people can live independent and healthy lives, while enjoying clean air and people-friendly streets.

### Our legal duties

Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council has a legal duty to have “due regard” to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity and
- foster good relations between different groups.

The precise wording of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), together with a list of the ‘protected characteristics’ defined in the Act, is set out at Annex A.

We are required to demonstrate fulfilment of our duty to pay ‘due regard’ in the decision-making process and, as such, we need to understand the effect our policies and practices have on equality. Although the Council is not legally obligated to reject savings or growth proposals that could have negative impacts on any groups, it must carefully and with rigour consider the impact



of its proposals on the PSED, take a reasonable and proportionate view about the overall impact on particular groups, and seek to mitigate negative impacts where possible.

In addition, at Islington we go above and beyond our legal duties to consider impacts on those who could be considered at a disadvantage in accessing opportunities or services. This includes people from low-income households, carers, migrants, refugees, and people with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF), and those with low literacy levels.

### Our diverse population

Islington is an Inner London borough with a diverse population. Data from our 2022 [State of Equalities](#) report paints a profile of Islington as a place and of our diverse communities:

- **Population:** The population of Islington is estimated to be 245,827 in 2022. This is an increase of approximately 19% (39,189 people) since 2011. It is estimated that our population will grow by a further 2.7% (6,600 people) over the next 10 years. Islington is the second most densely populated local authority area in England and Wales, with 16,699 people per square km. This is almost triple the London average and more than 38 times the national average.
- **Age:** Islington has a relatively young population: 9% of the population is aged over 65, compared with an average of 12% in London and 19% in England. Twenty-eight per cent of children under 16 live in low-income households, and 61% of secondary school pupils are eligible for the deprivation Pupil Premium, a grant aimed at raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.
- **Ethnicity:** Islington is a diverse borough, with Black, Asian, or Minority Ethnic groups accounting for 32% of our population. 32% of residents are estimated to be born outside of the UK, compared to a national average of 14%.
- **Children growing up in Black, Asian, or Minority Ethnic households in Islington are more likely to be living in poverty in comparison to white children.**
- **Sex:** The proportion of men and women in the borough is roughly 50/50. However, there are variations in life expectancy between men and women. Life expectancy at birth for men in Islington is 79.5 years, whilst women in Islington have a longer life expectancy of 83.2 years.
- **93% of lone parents with dependent children are female. This is significant because unemployment rates among lone parents are far higher than the wider population - this is likely to affect household income and therefore deprivation levels. In Islington 56% of lone parents are not in employment while just 21% are in full-time employment – half the figure for the wider population.**
- **Disability:** In May 2021, there were 5,157 Disability Living Allowance claimants in Islington. The estimated number of Islington residents with a disability in 2022 is 34,416, or 14% of the population. There are 3930 people in Islington living with a serious mental illness, the fourth highest prevalence of serious mental illness in London.
- **National research has demonstrated that disabled jobseekers need to apply for 60% more jobs than their non-disabled counterparts.**
- **Socio-economic:** Islington is the most deprived borough in London for income deprivation affecting children, and fourth highest for income deprivation affecting older people. Poverty is an issue in every part of the borough: almost every ward includes one of the most deprived LSOAs in Islington. Finsbury Park is the most deprived ward. As mentioned

above, children in Black and Minority Ethnic households or in lone parent households, and households with a disabled person, are more likely to be living in poverty.

- Housing: Islington has a relatively high proportion of social housing. Those in social housing are more likely to be on low income, though increasingly we are seeing households in the private rented sector struggling. Both social and private sector tenants who have moved to Universal Credit have seen increased levels of debt, which may put their tenancies at risk.

### The impact of the cost-of-living crisis

The cost-of-living crisis has put further pressure on households who were already struggling. In Islington there are more than 11,500 families living in fuel poverty, and 27,400 people in households receiving housing benefit or council tax support. Many households who are just about managing will also soon start to see a decrease in their financial resilience.

Businesses in Islington are closing at the fastest rate since 2017, faced with uncertainty on energy bills and soaring costs for services, labour, and raw materials. In addition, some businesses are already experiencing a drop in consumer spend (e.g., delivery food items) and this is only expected to increase as households reduce discretionary spend. At the same time, the number of businesses carrying debt has more than doubled, initially because of the pandemic, and now increasing because of increased supply and borrowing costs.

In September 2022, the Council declared a “cost of living emergency” and pledged to do all it can to help the tens of thousands of residents likely to be hit hardest by spiralling energy and food costs, and soften the blow for local small and medium-sized businesses.

Despite ongoing pressures on local authority funding, the Council continues to provide a comprehensive range of support for vulnerable and low income households and to support local businesses and communities. In addition to the core support offer, a range of additional support is being delivered or planned, including ensuring any government grants are targeted as effectively as possible in support of the cost-of-living crisis and distributed as quickly as possible.

[Islington’s response to the cost-of-living crisis](#) sets out the full range of actions which Islington is taking to protect residents and businesses.

This year, as in previous years, we have made every endeavour to protect those in greatest need and at most risk. Where possible, savings focus on optimising efficiencies in service delivery. However, some reductions in services have been unavoidable. Where this is the case, we have assessed the potential impact on groups with protected characteristics. In Islington, with high levels of poverty and deprivation, we also consider socio-economic disadvantage when assessing the impacts of changes to policies and services.

### **3. Equalities Impacts: overall cumulative impact**

The overall assessment is that there is a **potential negative impact** because of the budget savings proposals for 2023/24. Much of this is due to the current climate we find ourselves in with the cost-of-living crisis impacting the lives of our residents. Whilst many of these decisions are taken nationally by government, it is the council that feels the brunt of them with even less funding to support those most in need.

The Chancellor's Autumn statement (17/11/22) set out further measures that will impact our residents. The savings proposed as part of this budget are essential in order to be able to continue to deliver services to the most vulnerable. But within this challenging context any savings impacting residents are likely to exacerbate their difficult circumstances.

The majority of savings for this year will come from council tax and tariff fee rises or changes, service restructures, maximising use of the various funding streams the Council has access to, and making better use of technology. These will result in 'back office' changes with small impacts on staff but with little or no impact on residents.

The majority of these impacts were not deemed significant enough to progress to a full EQIA, or had robust enough mitigation in place to mitigate fully against any negative impacts. However, 17 of the new savings proposals submitted for 2023/24 progressed to a full EQIA, and 11 will require a full EQIA at a later stage (for example, following an organisational review).

The 17 full EQIAs identified potential negative impacts on:

- Residents
- Service users
- Staff

#### Impacts on all residents

There are a small number of changes to universal services and charges, and these have the potential to affect all residents. The key proposals are:

- Restricting non-sports park keepers to the main period of park use
- Council Tax and Adult Social Care precept increase

The proposal to restrict park keepers' role to the main period of park use will mean that public toilets in four parks are closed between October and March, as they cannot be safely kept open without a keeper on site to offer supervision and regular cleaning.

This will affect all residents and is likely to have a disproportionate impact on residents who are disabled, older, pregnant, or caring for small children. Residents may also feel less safe without the presence of park keepers, though the parks security team will continue to respond to and deal with anti-social behaviour.

The Parks Service will mitigate the impact of toilet closures by providing key access to trusted community partners to use the facilities when programmes are being delivered in the park, as well as looking at possible agreements with concession holders to open/close and clean the toilets.

The service will continue to develop opportunities such as volunteering, health-based activities, and community partner programmes in our parks, and to encourage greater diversity in park use and an increased feeling of safety for all users through the Parks for Health programme.

Residents will see a small increase in their Council Tax, including the Adult Social Care precept. However, the most vulnerable residents will continue to be protected. Older people and those on low incomes remain eligible for subsidised Council Tax through our Council Tax Support Scheme, and Islington's Resident Support Scheme continues to provide a safety net for those in crisis and facing severe financial hardship.

The council has also taken steps to protect vulnerable residents through its response to the cost-of-living crisis, which has included work with voluntary sector partners to maximise the borough's collective offer, including the rollout of warm spaces, a communications campaign to increase awareness and take up of the support which is available to residents, and a core offer of financial and other support (e.g., the work of the Income Maximisation team).

### Impacts on specific service users

Most of the proposed changes will have no impact on service users, as the savings focus on contracts, 'back office' staffing, the deletion of vacancies, changes to funding sources, and the removal of excess budgets where there is currently an underspend.

However, five proposals could impact specific groups of service users. The proposals are:

- Charging for all rechargeable repairs
- Repairs staffing review
- Changes to the Bright Start operating model
- Changes to Bright Start locality working
- New administrative charge for appointeeships

The proposal to charge for all rechargeable repairs – council housing repairs where the damage/loss is a result of misuse or neglect – could have a negative impact on older and disabled council tenants, as tenants with a recorded disability are currently exempt from the charges. The proposal will also disproportionately affect low-income and Black and minority ethnic residents, who are overrepresented on our estates.

The service plan to mitigate these impacts by offering tenants access to a subsidised handyperson service. If a tenant calls up about a rechargeable repair and is flagged as vulnerable, they will be referred to housing management and can be linked into intensive support if appropriate. The Income team will also continue to refer tenants who end up having a debt against their property to the Income Maximisation team.

The review of staffing in the repairs service could also have a negative impact on council tenants. As above, any change in service quality would disproportionately affect low-income and Black and minority ethnic residents, who are overrepresented on our estates. The service will mitigate this risk by carrying out a full equality impact assessment alongside the review and focusing on back-office staff.

The changes to Bright Start, which include the deletion of one family support practitioner post and reduced area budgets, could have a negative impact on people who are more likely to access family support – including mothers, families with young children, families where someone has a disability, global majority families, lone parent families, and families experiencing poverty. The proposal will also impact families where a parent attends English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, as the creche facilities for these classes will no longer be able to run.

However, this will be mitigated by improvements in universal early help services, including the development of Family Hubs and the introduction of a universal Early Help case recording system. Families with the greatest needs will be prioritised for support, including through targeted outreach

to temporary accommodation and community organisations, and the service will develop alternatives to creche facilities for ESOL classes.

The proposal to charge clients who have over £1,000 in savings for the council's appointeeship service, which manages the financial affairs of individuals who have been deemed to lack the mental capacity to do so themselves, will impact service users who are older and/or disabled. However, in assessing someone's ability to pay, the team will consider their income and liabilities to ensure that any charges do not have an unfair impact.

### Impacts on staff

The vast majority of staff savings and efficiencies will come from deleting / not recruiting to vacant posts, so there will be no direct impact on most staff or specific protected characteristics. However, a small number of proposals could lead to redundancies or redeployment. These staffing changes are subject to consultation and are not expected to have any negative impacts on protected groups.

The proposal to reduce the number of vehicles in the Repairs and Maintenance fleet could have a negative impact on a small number of older staff, disabled staff and staff in financial hardship, as some operatives will lose the ability to drive their vehicles home and to work and will have to find alternative transport. This will be mitigated by a train loan scheme and by the possibility of on-site storage to minimise transport of tools.

Some of the staffing changes proposed in the 23/24 budget are likely to have a positive impact on staff from protected groups. For example, the proposed new Reablement model in Adult Social Care and the reorganisation of the Mental Health Service will improve career progression opportunities for staff on lower pay grades, who are more likely to be from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds.

Several proposals include organisational reviews to identify further savings, which will likely lead to changes in staffing. In these cases, services have committed to completing a full EQIA once each review has taken place. The proposals are summarised in section 5 below.

Of the proposals that did not progress to a full EQIA, there were potential impacts – with mitigating action in place – on the following groups:

- Service users
- Residents
- Staff

However, as these impacts were not significant enough to progress to a full EQIA, they have been outlined in section 5 in the summary of all proposals.

### Overall equalities impact assessment

Looking at the totality of the savings to be delivered in 2023/24, the impacts on Islington residents and staff are assessed as follows:

- The proposals could negatively impact older and disabled residents, Black residents (who are overrepresented among our tenants), households who are more likely to access family

support, and families where a parent attends ESOL classes. However, the council will seek to mitigate these impacts wherever possible. For example, alternatives to creche facilities are being developed for ESOL classes, and older and disabled tenants who are no longer exempt from rechargeable repairs will be able to access a subsidised handyman service.

- While few proposals will have a negative impact on staff, the proposal to reduce the number of vehicles in the Repair and Maintenance fleet could negatively impact a very small number of older or disabled operatives, and a small number of proposals could lead to redundancies or redeployment. The EQIA process did not identify any disproportionate impacts on protected groups from changes to staffing.

In light of the extremely challenging fiscal situation and the need for services to remain financially sustainable, the conclusion is that the Council’s proposals for achieving savings are considered reasonable and have shown due regard to the PSED.

#### 4. Equalities groups impacted by savings proposals

This section looks in more detail at the impacts of specific proposals on protected characteristics and on socio-economic disadvantage. It includes proposals from this year’s budget and from the budget last year that have a potential equalities impact.

Based on individual Equalities Impact Assessments the following protected characteristics are potentially impacted by one or more of the savings proposals for 2023/24:

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Directorate</b>
<b>Age (older people)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charge for all rechargeable repairs</li> <li>• Remodel Repairs and Maintenance fleet strategy</li> <li>• New administrative charge for appointeeships</li> <li>• Restricting non-sports park keepers</li> </ul>	Homes and Neighbourhoods Homes and Neighbourhoods Community Wealth-Building Environment
<b>Age (younger people)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Children’s Services Operating Model: Bright Start</li> </ul>	Children’s Services
<b>Disability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charge for all rechargeable repairs</li> <li>• Remodel Repairs and Maintenance fleet strategy</li> <li>• New administrative charge for appointeeships</li> <li>• Restricting non-sports park keepers</li> </ul>	Homes and Neighbourhoods Homes and Neighbourhoods Community Wealth-Building Environment
<b>Race</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Children’s Services Operating Model: Bright Start</li> <li>• Restricting non-sports park keepers</li> <li>• Repairs staffing review</li> </ul>	Children’s Services Environment Homes and Neighbourhoods

<b>Socio-economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remodel Repairs and Maintenance fleet strategy</li> <li>New Children's Services Operating Model: Bright Start</li> <li>Repairs staffing review</li> </ul>	Homes and Neighbourhoods Children's Services Homes and Neighbourhoods
<b>Pregnancy / maternity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restricting non-sports park keepers</li> </ul>	Environment
<b>Gender</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Children's Services Operating Model: Bright Start</li> </ul>	Children's Services
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bright Start Locality Working (families where English is spoken as an additional language)</li> </ul>	Children's Services

There are no disproportionate impacts relating to:

- Marriage and civil partnership
- Sexual orientation
- Religion or belief
- Gender reassignment

## 5. Savings proposals and impacts – by directorate

This section provides a detailed assessment by Directorate of those savings proposals – both new and existing - that will potentially impact specific groups. This includes proposals that necessitated full EQIAs as well as proposals that only necessitated completion of an EQIA screening tool – i.e., the proposal did not demonstrate a significant (negative or positive) equalities impact.

### a) Council wide

*New savings:*

Five cross-cutting proposals were submitted, two of which will require a full EQIA at a later stage.

#### Making the Organisation more Efficient (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)

The proposal is to review back-office structures and management to reduce silo working between departments, ensure technology and processes are in place to get things right first time and eliminate waste to focus on what matters for residents. This review will include consideration of staff and budgets from around the council associated with complaints, information governance, business support, printing/paper, postage/courier costs, payments and processing teams and other relevant budgets.

The screening tool identified that the proposal will likely lead to the deletion of multiple posts, and to potential redundancies. A full EQIA will be completed following the review.

#### Reduction in departmental management costs (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)

The proposal is to delete four Senior Officer posts. While the screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts at this stage, a consultation will be held with all impacted staff and a full EQIA will be completed after this has taken place.

#### Removal of Unallocated Member Investment Base Budget

The 2022/23 budget included investment to fund manifesto commitments. The proposal is to remove the unallocated investment budget – the amount which remained after all commitments were funded. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

#### Enhanced Business Efficiency scheme

The proposal is to establish a time-limited scheme where staff can request to leave the council voluntarily, on either redundancy or business efficiency grounds. The scheme will be applied consistently to all employees and proposed application outcomes will be subject to equality impact analysis. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

#### Organisation Wide Efficiency Programme

The proposal is to require a pro-rata efficiency requirement for each directorate, based on gross budget. The savings will be delivered through ensuring value for money is considered in decisions when renewing and reviewing contracts, when appointing to vacancies, the use of agency staff, reducing overtime and other variable pay, avoiding duplication and any other appropriate means.

The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts. If a department plans to alter service delivery to deliver their portion of the saving, they will need to carry out a review to determine if they need to complete an EQIA.

#### *Previously agreed savings*

None of the cross-cutting savings proposals from the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

## **b) Adult Social Care**

#### *New savings:*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out seven savings proposals, five of which were assessed to have no significant equalities impacts at the screening stage. One proposal will require a full EQIA as it is developed further.

#### Review Mental Health Crisis and Recovery Pathways (full EQIA to be completed for 2024/25 savings)

This proposal is based on efficiencies in several contracts for commissioned mental health services, following service reviews. It includes savings for the financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25.

The savings for 2023/24 are based on a reduction in contract value for the commissioned Community Wellbeing Service, and on the outcome of a procurement process for the Islington-commissioned Crisis House Service. The screening tool did not identify any significant negative equalities impacts. Savings in the Community Wellbeing Service will not undermine



the community outreach for protected groups which is provided by the service, and the successful provider for Crisis House submitted a tender which met the department's quality criteria but was below the allocated budget.

However, the screening tool did identify a potential small negative impact on service users' mental health, within the protected characteristic of disability. While the quality of the service will not change, the transition to a new provider could be unsettling for some service users. The tool set out appropriate mitigations: tailored and timely engagement with service users and their families and a carefully managed transition process.

The savings for 2024/25 are based on the outcomes of two further service reviews, one of which is ongoing and one of which has not yet started. The reviews are expected to lead to a reduction in the value of contracts, and a shift towards more flexible and strengths-based support in the community. The screening process found that a full EQIA would be needed at a later stage, as the service reviews will likely lead to the redesign of services.

#### Introduction of a 7-day 'Recovery Model' to reduce the demand for ongoing care services

The proposal is to pilot the 7-Day Recovery Model, an approach to managing discharges from hospital which has already been introduced in other local authorities (Kent, Camden, and Gateshead) with positive outcomes. In this model, people who have been discharged from hospital receive free homecare support for up to 7 days, helping them to recover and providing space to assess their needs.

The screening tool explained that Reablement are finding it difficult to respond to the level of demand from hospital discharge and are quickly hitting capacity. Once this happens, people can only be discharged with a long-term care package or, in exceptional circumstances, into residential care. The new model will allow for a more targeted reablement approach, allowing more people to discharge safely back home and receive support which matches their needs.

The screening tool identified that the proposal mainly affected older people, disabled people, and carers, but found that it would have a positive impact on these groups, as the new model will maximise people's independence and work on their strengths before any long-term decisions are made. Data and feedback from residents and staff will be captured throughout the six-month pilot, allowing Adult Social Care to adjust the service before committing to a final model.

#### New Reablement Model

This proposal is based on a restructure of Reablement. The proposed savings are from staffing changes and an expected reduction in the homecare budget, as a more effective reablement service will reduce the need for long-term care. The screening process identified no negative equalities impacts, as service quality will not be affected and the reduction in staffing will be achieved through deleting vacancies and reducing agency use. The service had engaged with staff through a consultation process and had been able to ensure that the restructured roles met individual and home/family needs.

The screening tool also identified potential positive equalities impacts. While the staff in the service are predominantly from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds, the restructure

may benefit this group by providing more consistency, more opportunities for career progression and a potential increase in paygrade. The screening also found that the restructure will benefit disabled people by increasing capacity in the reablement service, providing more focused support, and extending the service to people with a learning disability or mental health needs.

#### Review Floating Housing Related Support Contract

This proposal is based on efficiencies identified through an ongoing strategic commissioning review. The early stages of the review process found that six staff posts in this commissioned service could likely be reduced through vacancies and redeployment, without any significant change in service provision.

The screening tool identified no negative impacts on protected groups. However, as the proposal was still under development and it was not possible to rule out future negative impacts, the screening tool committed to working with the provider to continually monitor the equalities impact of each proposed and agreed change. The screening tool will be updated as the proposal develops.

#### Review of Older People's Day Services

This proposal is to redesign day service provision by reconfiguring a day centre building, adopting a new model which was more enabling and community focused, and developing inhouse day provision to meet more complex needs. The saving is based on a reduction in the homecare budget and delayed admission to residential care, as more residents will be able to access day services which meet their enhanced needs.

The screening tool identified a positive impact on older people, disabled people and unpaid carers, whose needs would be better met by the redesigned service. It did not identify any impacts on other protected groups.

#### Improved price negotiations with providers

The proposal is to introduce a dedicated post to focus on contract negotiation. The postholder will draw on their commercial knowledge and experience to achieve the best value for money in contracts with providers, without impacting quality of care. The screening tool did not identify any negative or positive equalities impacts.

#### Reorganisation of the mental health service

This proposal is to restructure the Mental Health Service. While the number of FTE positions will be reduced, all permanent members of staff will be assimilated into the new structure and (due to vacancy levels in the service) there will be no redundancies.

The screening tool found that there were no negative equalities impacts. Staff on maternity leave would be included in the consultation and the new structure would improve career progression opportunities for more junior staff, who were more likely to be from a Black or other ethnic minority background.

*Previously agreed savings*

None of the savings proposals from Adult Social Care in the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

### **c) Fairer Together**

#### *New savings*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out two savings proposals, both of which required a full EQIA.

The proposals include:

#### Redirecting money from commissioning budgets into new Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) grants programme (full EQIA completed)

The proposal is to identify commissioned contracts which can be effectively delivered by local Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, then divert them into the grants programme. The saving will come from a small reduction in the value of the grant compared to the previous contract.

The EQIA identified potential positive and negative impacts for each protected group. The shift to VCS delivery was assessed as positive for protected groups, as local VCS organisations have expertise in reaching people from different backgrounds. However, the reduction in funding could mean reduced capacity to support residents. The EQIA identified that additional screening tools would be required for each contract which was moved to the grants programme, to identify any potential impacts on protected groups.

#### Library/Access Islington Savings (full EQIA completed)

The proposal is to bring together Libraries and Heritage and Access Islington, to form a division within the new Community Engagement and Wellbeing Directorate. The savings will come from a realignment of managerial roles and responsibilities. Separately, the service will carry out reviews of non-management roles and the borough's libraries and community centres/spaces. The service will aim to make any staffing changes through deleting vacancies, and the reviews may also identify sufficient savings without any reduction in posts.

The EQIA identified positive impacts for residents with limited mobility and those with complex needs, as a range of services and support would be moved closer to people's homes – for example, through the development of the new Fairer Together hubs and the use of libraries to deliver frontline services. However, it also identified the need for a further screening tool, or potentially a full EQIA, if changes to staffing are made following the reviews.

The service will also update the EQIA following the review of the borough's libraries and community centres, to consider any potential negative impact on protected groups who may have to change where they access support.

#### *Current savings*

This directorate did not exist at the time proposals were submitted for 2022/23.

### **d) Environment**

### *New savings:*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out 16 savings proposals. One proposal required a full EQIA, and an additional three proposals may require full EQIAs at a later stage, depending on the outcome of organisational reviews.

The proposals include:

#### Non-sports park keepers winter provision (full EQIA completed)

The proposal is to restrict provision of park keepers to the main period of park use, from April to September, and to redeploy staff to other suitable roles within the grounds maintenance council cleaning service. Public toilets in four parks would be closed between October and March, as they could not be safely kept open without a keeper on site to offer supervision and regular cleaning. The EQIA found that the negative impacts of the proposal on protected groups could not be fully mitigated.

The EQIA identified that the closure of public toilets would have a negative impact on disabled people, older people, and parents of young children. By reducing supervision and perceived safety in the affected parks, the loss of park keepers could also disproportionately affect people who feel less safe in our open spaces, including disabled people and people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds.

The Park Service will mitigate the impact of toilet closures by providing key access to trusted community partners, so that the toilets can be kept open when programmes are being delivered in the park. The service will look into making arrangements with concession holders to open/close and clean the toilets.

The service will mitigate the impact on perceived safety through the work of the parks security team (which will continue to respond to reports of anti-social behaviour), and by working closely with the police and the Community Safety team. The service will also address perceptions of safety by developing opportunities for positive activities in the parks and through its Parks for Health programme, which works with target groups from different racial backgrounds.

#### Integrate and commission the Out of Hours ASB service with the Patrolling and ASB Enforcement service contract (full EQIA required at a later stage)

The proposal is to add the Out of Hours Anti-Social Behaviour Service – including the response to noise complaints – as a provisional item in the tender for the next Patrolling and ASB Enforcement service contract. The screening tool found that there could be a negative impact on residents and staff with protected characteristics, especially in-house Out of Hours ASB staff whose roles could be deleted. However, as any changes adopted following the tender will be subject to an organisational review, the service committed to carrying out a full EQIA alongside this review (in 2023).

#### Out of Hours ASB Service Hours (full EQIA required at a later stage)

The proposal is to reconfigure the Out of Hours ASB Service to operate from 10pm, instead of 5pm. While most out-of-hours calls are after 10pm, 44% of premises-based ASB calls are

made during the hours from 5pm to 10pm. The proposal is that these calls would be assigned to the response and patrol team, with callers advised that ASB officers could call back and visit from 10pm if needed. Any immediate safeguarding concerns would still be escalated, e.g., to police or the duty social worker.

The screening tool found that there could be a negative impact on residents and staff with protected characteristics. However, as any changes to the structure of the service would require an organisational review, the service committed to carrying out a full EQIA alongside this review (by April 2023).

#### Integration of the appeals processing and correspondence staff into the parking services contract (full EQIA required at a later stage)

The proposal is to either integrate the appeals processing and correspondence teams into the outsourced parking services contract, or to relocate appeals staff from Greater Manchester to Islington. The screening tool identified that this could negatively impact disabled staff, who could be disproportionately impacted by relocation, and staff on a low income who would be faced with higher living costs. The service committed to completing a full EQIA once a decision had been made, and before the implementation of any restructure.

#### Revise Street Cleansing and Enforcement Operations to meet needs of the borough - Variable Back Street Sweeping (4 days)

The proposal is to remodel the street cleansing service to provide a better value for money solution, while maintaining a high level of cleanliness. The changes will affect side/residential streets with low footfall and the saving will come from reduced agency use. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

#### Additional filming income via the Filmfixer contract

The proposal is based on additional income from the suspension of parking for filming. The surplus income has been generated through the creation of a specific officer post, streamlining the process, and ensuring that parking suspensions are implemented in a timely way. The post was created in the previous financial year and has already successfully increased income.

#### Increase in pavement licence fees

This proposal is based on an upcoming increase in the statutory fees which businesses must pay to apply for a pavement licence. These fees are set by central government and will be increased through legislation in 2023. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

#### Increasing CPZ controllable hours on a Saturday

The proposal is to introduce consistent Saturday operating hours for all Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) in the borough. This will increase CPZ hours for 11 zones and will generate additional income from pay and display parking charges and resident visitor vouchers. It will also mean that residents and businesses have greater access to their parking zones, as CPZs provide priority parking for residents, their visitors, and businesses. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

### Reducing energy costs in street lighting

The proposal is to accelerate the replacement of older streetlights with low energy, low maintenance LED lights. The LED lights are lower in terms of energy consumption but have no impact on lighting levels. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

### Commercial Waste Service

The proposal is to implement a commercial waste and recycling strategy developed with ReLondon, a partnership between the Mayor of London and London boroughs to improve waste and resource management. The strategy aims to increase commercial recycling and will raise money by increasing the number of customers for the council's Commercial Waste Service. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

### Improving waste crime enforcement

This proposal will increase the number of night-time Waste and Environmental enforcement officers from one to two. The savings will come from overtime and an increase in enforcement fines. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

### Improved hosted IT system

The proposal is to introduce a hosted parking system, which will increase functionality, support intelligence-led parking enforcement, and improve resident experience by creating functionality for online permits and enabling residents to apply for parking suspensions online. The saving will come from an expected increase in the number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) for traffic violations, as a greater proportion of traffic offences will lead to enforcement. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

### Improve debt recovery of Penalty Charge Notices

The proposal is to begin the debt recovery process earlier, which will increase the likelihood of recovery via our internal teams and reduce the number of cases where debt recovery is passed to specialist companies, with associated costs. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

### Accelerated vehicle purchases to reduce hire costs

The proposal is to accelerate the purchase of council vehicles where the existing vehicle is leased or hired, to reduce revenue costs. The initial programme will replace nine hired vehicles with purchased electric vehicles. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

### Restructuring street trading

The proposal is to reduce the managerial role in the Street Trading service from a full-time to a part-time (3 days a week) role. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups. However, if the proposal is accepted, an organisational review and a full EQIA will be carried out during the restructure (by April 2023).

### Additional Streetworks Inspector enforcement activity

The proposal is to recruit an additional Streetworks inspector to support highways enforcement. Streetworks is an internal council service which checks on external street works, e.g., by utility companies. The saving will come from an increase in Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for non-compliant permits, and from an increase in licences issued for works. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts on protected groups.

#### *Previously agreed savings:*

Three savings proposals from the 23/24 budget required a full EQIA. However, two of these proposals – Review of in-house compliance service and Stream-lining the daytime response services – were not implemented.

The other proposal, Re-design and simplify the resident parking zone permit price-tariff, has been included in a separate report on an in-year increase in fees and charges.

## **e) Homes and Neighbourhoods**

#### *New savings*

The budget for 2023/24 includes 16 savings proposals, two of which required a full EQIA. A further two proposals will require a full EQIA at a later stage.

#### Charge for all rechargeable repairs (full EQIA completed)

Rechargeable repairs are council housing repairs where the damage/loss is a result of misuse or neglect, and where the tenant can be charged for the cost of the repair. Currently, tenants who have a vulnerability recorded on the system will not be charged for these repairs – for example, the council will change their locks free of charge if they lose their keys. The proposal is to charge all tenants for rechargeable repairs.

The EQIA identified a negative impact on older and disabled people, who are more likely to have a recorded vulnerability (the flag is used for physical and mental ill-health, learning difficulties and neurodevelopmental conditions) and so to be exempt from the charges. The service plan to partially mitigate this impact by offering tenants access to a subsidised handyperson service. However, as the subsidised service is not free, it will not fully mitigate the impact of the charges.

There are additional safeguards built into the process, which will help to protect disabled and low-income tenants. If a tenant calls up about a rechargeable repair and is flagged as vulnerable, they will be referred to housing management and can be linked into intensive support if needed. Any tenant who ends up with a debt against their property will also be referred to financial support by the Income team.

#### Remodel Repairs and Maintenance fleet strategy (full EQIA completed)

The proposal is to reduce the number of vehicles in the Repairs and Maintenance fleet. The EQIA identified that some staff would lose the ability to drive their vehicles home and to work, and that this would have a negative impact on older staff (operatives are disproportionately over 55), disabled staff (though the nature of the job means that staff are unlikely to have mobility problems), and staff in financial hardship.

The impact will be partly mitigated through a train loan scheme, and the service will investigate on-site storage so that operatives do not have to transport hand tools.

#### **Repairs staffing review (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)**

The proposal is to review staffing levels and identify any areas where the service can reduce staff numbers, with a focus on back-office staff. The screening tool identified potential negative impacts on staff and residents with protected characteristics, depending on the outcome of the review.

For example, a reduction in staffing following the review could undermine service quality. This would disproportionately affect Black and minority ethnic residents, particularly Black residents, who are overrepresented among our tenants. While data quality is poor due to a high level of missing data, more than a quarter of tenants with a recorded ethnicity are Black, compared to 12 per cent of the borough's population overall.

The service will complete a full EQIA alongside the review and will ensure that the consultation process includes staff members who are on maternity or sickness leave. The service will also prioritise the deletion of vacancies and redeployment over redundancies.

#### **Establish corporate contracts (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)**

The proposal is to review the possibility of combining contracts for day-to-day repairs, cyclical repairs, and compliance. The saving would come from larger, more competitive contracts and the need for fewer staff to manage contractors.

The screening tool identified the need for a full EQIA alongside the reorganisation of the service, which will take place in summer 2024. The service will ensure that the consultation process includes staff members who are on maternity or sickness leave and will prioritise the deletion of vacancies and redeployment rather than redundancies.

#### **Setting adaptations budget at current demand**

The Housing Revenue Account funds all adaptations for disabled residents in council homes. The proposal is to set the adaptations budget at a level which reflects current demand, as this budget has been underspent in recent years. However, the service will spend more than the new allocated budget if needed, as adaptations are a statutory duty. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups, as service provision will remain the same.

#### **Temporary Accommodation (TA) Demand Management**

The proposal is to place homelessness prevention at the heart of the service and ensure that fewer people are placed in temporary accommodation outside the borough. The savings will come from improvements in performance management and efficiency, and from a reduction in expensive and unnecessary private sector temporary accommodation. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

#### **Commercial letting of storage space in disused car park**

The proposal is to convert unused car parking facilities into storage facilities for Islington residents. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.



### Staffing review of the Housing Strategic Business Planning and Investment team and the Integrated Services team

The proposal is to delete two vacant posts from the service. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### Insource more voids work

The voids service is currently delivered by both external contractors and in-house teams. The proposal is to increase the work levels taken on by in-house teams, saving money and benefitting local employment. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### PFI 2 rationalisation

The proposal is to reduce the budget for repairs to housing which was previously provided through Islington's Partners for Improvement 2 contract, but which has now been integrated into the council's housing stock. The service's forecasts have identified that the agreed budget is excessive and can be reduced without any impact on service delivery. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### Completed multi-skills training program

The proposal is to reduce the Repairs and Maintenance training budget, as the service's investment in multi-skill training for inhouse repair operatives has ensured that all current staff have now been trained, and new employees will be multiskilled as a matter of course where there is a business need. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### Diversify funding and provision of apprenticeships

The proposal is to apply the success achieved to date in other areas of council procurements and fund apprenticeships in the repairs team via corporate social responsibility contributions from contractors rather than paying for them directly. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### Remodel the HRA Income team

The proposal is to reverse an internally agreed restructure of the Income team. The savings are compared to the budget agreed for the previous restructure proposal, which had not yet been communicated to staff, and are based on the deletion of three vacant posts. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### Reducing Homes and Neighbourhoods management team

The proposal is to reduce the Homes and Neighbourhoods departmental management team by one post by 2026/27. This will be achieved through consolidating senior management across services and will not impact frontline service delivery. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### Review Floating Housing Support

This proposal will be implemented by Adult Social Care and is summarised above (page 15).

## Review the Repairs and Maintenance team power tools procurement strategy

The in-house repairs operative service currently hires all power tools. The proposal is for the council to purchase these power tools following the end of the current contract, as this would be more cost effective. The screening tool did not identify any negative impacts for protected groups.

### *Pre-existing savings*

None of the savings proposals from Homes and Neighbourhoods in the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

## **f) Children's Services**

### *New savings*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out 14 savings proposals, seven of which progressed to a full EQIA. The proposals include:

#### **Lunch Bunch: 5–16-year-olds (full EQIA completed)**

The proposal is to remove £140k from the core Lunch Bunch budget, as the government-funded Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme has funded and expanded holiday activities and a healthy meal for 5–16-year-olds in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. The overall level of funding through the HAF grant is over six times as much as the Lunch Club budget. The proposal would retain £20k to develop and provide a food order for children under five and their families. The EQIA did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

#### **New Children's Services Operating Model: Motivational Practice Review - Phase 1 (full EQIA completed)**

The proposal is to reconfigure the operating model for children's social care and early help, following a reduction in re-referrals for the Children in Need and Child Protection services. The saving would come from a reduction in staffing in these services, with most of the deleted posts – and all deleted frontline posts – currently vacant.

The EQIA found that while global majority groups are overrepresented within the child protection system, the new operating model will realign service capacity to the areas of greatest demand and will not negatively impact service users. The EQIA did not identify any other negative impacts on protected groups at this stage. However, the service noted that the demographic profile of staff at risk would be compared against the overall profile of staff, to understand and mitigate any potential equalities impacts.

#### **New Children's Services Operating Model: Motivational Practice Review - Phase 2 (provisional EQIA completed, full EQIA required at a later stage)**

The proposal has not been worked up as it is subject to legislative changes that are due to be reported on, in terms of implementation by December 2022. Any reductions are likely to protect frontline practitioners and to maintain caseloads as they are in line with our Practice Model. A

full EQIA will be completed after the government announces its response to the Independent Review of Social Care.

**Redundancies across Bright Futures - in conjunction with Fairer Together (full EQIA completed)**

The proposal is to reduce either the hours or the number of administrative posts in the Bright Futures team. The EQIA did not identify any negative equalities impacts, as the number of posts affected is small and the consultation process will be inclusive of staff members on maternity leave. It also found that there will likely be no impact on residents/service delivery, due to changed workstyles and a modernisation of systems since these roles were first created.

**New Children's Services Operating Model: Early Years and Childcare (full EQIA completed)**

The proposal is to reduce staffing in the Quality function of the Early Years and Childcare Service, which supports providers across the Early Years sector to improve practice. The EQIA identified potential negative impacts for the protected characteristics of gender (as all team members are women), though natural attrition could mean that no current postholders were subject to redundancy or redeployment.

The EQIA did not identify negative impacts for service users, as the service will continue to prioritise quality support for providers with low Ofsted outcomes, concerns around risk, or a higher proportion of vulnerable or disadvantaged children.

**New Children's Services Operating Model: Bright Start (full EQIA completed)**

The proposal is to reduce the overall number of family support practitioners by one Full Time Equivalent post. The reduction will likely come from turnover rather than redundancy or redeployment. The EQIA identified potential negative impacts on families with young children, families where someone has a disability, global majority families, lone parent families and families experiencing poverty – all of whom are more likely to access family support.

However, these impacts will be mitigated by improvements in universal early help services, including the development of Family Hubs and the introduction of a universal Early Help case recording system. If some families cannot be allocated support at the point of referral because of the reduction in capacity, the service will mitigate negative impacts by prioritising families with the highest needs. Requests for service will also be signposted elsewhere via triage, and families will remain linked into universal support services.

**Bright Start - Locality Working (full EQIA completed)**

The proposal is to reduce the area budgets for each Bright Start locality, leading to reduced capacity to deliver the current broad and varied range of commissioned universal services for families. The screening tool identified potential negative impacts on people who have English as a second language, as access to creche facilities for English for Speakers of Other Languages classes will be reduced.

However, this will be mitigated by Family Hub funding for children aged 0–2 and their families; by alternatives to creche facilities; and by the service continuing to prioritise children and

families living in poverty, homeless families and refugees. The service does this through targeted outreach, including to temporary accommodation and community organisations who are linked into and directly inform service delivery.

#### Adopt London North (Regional Adoption Arrangements)

Adopt London North (ALN) includes six North London boroughs and was formed in October 2019, following legislation which required local authorities to enter into Regional Adoption Agency arrangements by 2020. The ALN Governance Board are currently reviewing its financial contribution arrangements and are considering a range of alternatives, all of which would lead to a reduction in Islington's budget contribution. The screening tool identified no negative equalities impacts from Islington's reduced contribution to ALN, as there will be no impact on staff or service delivery.

#### Bright Start - Hosting Arrangements

The proposal is to remove Bright Start hosting budgets from the 5 LBI-maintained children's centre nurseries, giving a saving to core council budgets of £106k. Costs will be passed onto settings, which are judged to be easily able to absorb them. The screening tool found that the impact of the proposal was expected to be minimal, with no impact for residents. It identified no negative equalities impacts.

#### New Children's Services Operating Model: Learning and Culture

The proposal is based on the deletion of vacant posts in Learning and Culture and will not impact postholders or service users. The screening tool identified no negative equalities impacts.

#### New Children's Services Operating Model: Young Islington

The proposal is to review the management and staffing structure and recruitment and retention costs in Young Islington, and to reduce staffing through natural turnover. The views of service users, the Youth Justice Service and Targeted Youth Support Young Advocates will be incorporated in the review process. The screening tool identified no negative equalities impacts.

#### Elective Home Education

The proposal is to switch the funding source for an Elective Home Education officer post. The new role will focus on reintegrating children who are at risk of poor outcomes from Elective Home Education – for example, children who have been illegally removed from school because of their impact on educational outcomes ('off rolling'). The existing vacancy will be replaced by a post funded through the School Improvement Monitoring and Brokerage Grant, instead of core funding, and the post will increase from 1.5 days a week to three days a week. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

#### SEND transport

The proposal is to increase the use of flexible personal transport budgets for families where children have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as the service is not currently

achieving value for money. The saving is expected to come from an increase in personal budgets to parents/carers as opposed to commissioned transport, and from the provision of independent travel training for older children. The service will also review the cost of commissioned taxi and minibus routes, to assess value for money against existing contracts.

The screening tool identified no negative equalities impacts. Personal transport budgets will only be taken up by those opting for this flexibility, and any change of providers will be managed sensitively so that children and families can adjust to any change in routine.

#### Family hubs: funding swap/s

The proposal is to swap core council funding for 5.3 FTE Family Engagement Worker (FEW) posts with family hubs grant funding, achieving an annual saving of £210k. FEWs funded through the Family Hubs programme will focus their work on outreach to families in the conception – 2 phase, while FEWs funded through core council funding will have a focus on children aged 2–5 and their families. The screening tool identified no negative equalities impacts, as the proposal is a funding swap which will not reduce staffing or service provision.

#### *Previously agreed savings*

None of the savings proposals from Children's Services in the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

## **g) Community Wealth Building**

#### *New savings*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out four savings proposals, one of which progressed to a full EQIA and one of which will require a full EQIA at a later stage. The proposals include:

#### Council Tax Support Scheme: Introducing Banded Scheme (full EQIA to be completed)

The proposal is to change the Council Tax Support Scheme to a banded income scheme for residents on Universal Credit. At present, a new payment instalment plan is issued with each new council tax bill. For residents on Universal Credit who have a fluctuating income, new payment plans can begin before the first instalment of the previous plan is due. The banded scheme will mean that small fluctuations in income do not lead to a changed payment plan.

The screening tool identified a potential negative impact on low-income households with children, if parents have to find additional money to cover the shortfall in Council Tax Support. However, the income from disability benefits will be disregarded in the new scheme and there will be greater consistency for residents on Universal Credit. A full EQIA will be completed as the proposal develops.

#### Future Work Business Case (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)

The proposal is to provide diverse and modern workspaces that support the organisation's commitment to hybrid working. The saving will come from a reduction in excess office space, with several options under consideration.

The screening tool identified a positive impact on disabled staff, as office spaces will become more accessible. However, other impacts cannot be predicted until a preferred option is agreed. Community Wealth Building will complete a full EQIA once this has happened.

#### New administrative fee for adult social care self-funders

The proposal is to introduce an administrative fee for Adult Social Care service users who are funding their own care (as they have assets above the upper capital limit of £23,250). Self-funders will be able to choose between arranging their own care or paying the administrative fee and allowing Islington to arrange their care.

The screening tool found that the proposal would have a positive impact on disabled and elderly service users, as self-funders who opted to pay the admin fee would be able to access lower-cost provision through the council's block contracts.

#### New administrative charge for Appointeeships

The council can manage the financial affairs of someone who has been deemed to lack the mental capacity to do so themselves through an appointeeship order. The proposal is to begin charging for the appointeeship service where clients have over £1,000 in savings. The screening tool identified that the proposal would affect older and disabled service users, most of whom are men, but assessed that the negative impact is likely to be low.

#### *Previously agreed savings*

None of the savings proposals from Community Wealth-Building in the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

## **h) Resources**

#### *New savings*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out six savings proposals, two of which will require a full EQIA at a later stage. The proposals include:

#### Future Operating Model Staffing (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)

As the modernisation of the services reduces staffing requirements in Digital Services, the proposal is to transfer administrative staff to appropriate services and reduce posts related to technology which is no longer being used. The screening tool identified that a full EQIA might be required prior to the review of staffing structures.

#### Reduced costs in HR services (full EQIA to be completed at a later stage)

The proposal is to reduce staffing in the operational HR team, following a restructure. The service plan to make savings through natural attrition, with vacant posts being deleted as people leave the service or are promoted. However, if this is not possible, some staff could be placed at risk of redundancy. The screening tool identified that a full EQIA could be required at a later stage if the savings cannot be made through natural attrition of staff.

#### Reduced costs of the finance service

The proposal is to reduce costs through consolidating systems, improving processes, and developing staff. Staffing-related savings will come from natural attrition over time, as vacant posts are deleted when staff leave the service or are promoted into more senior roles. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

### Legal Income

This proposal is based on maintaining and maximising additional legal income. The current increase in income – which the service expects to continue – comes from leaseholder lease extensions, Right to Buy applications, and developers looking to complete their section 106 agreements so that they do not have to retender in the current market (these agreements set out the contributions which developers will make to mitigate the impact of the development). The service is looking at alternative/revised charging processes to consider opportunities to maximise this income.

The screening tool identified that leaseholders, developers and Right to Buy applicants will be impacted if charging processes are revised (though this has not yet been decided). However, the service could mitigate any impacts on protected groups by reducing or waiving legal fees where the use of the service arises out of necessity – for example, where the seeking of a landlord’s consent to carry out works is necessary because of the particular needs of a disabled service user.

### Contract Consolidation

The proposal is to consolidate and eliminate third-party contracts in Digital Services to provide better value. Some core costs can be offset through services moving to the cloud, the downgrading of consumption-based contracts (e.g., less use of Zoom), contract renewals and improved auditing of usage. Under the Future Operating model, IT service costs will be transferred to services rather than being held by Digital Services. This will incentivise services to reduce consumption within contracts. The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

### Council tax increase and additional Adult Social Care precept

The proposals are to increase council tax by the government’s council tax referendum threshold and to include an additional Adult Social Care precept to fund increased costs. The council recognises that council tax is a regressive taxation method within which the more asset rich in society will generally pay proportionately less of their income. Nevertheless, the council has no control over the structure of this tax, which is vital to funding our essential services.

One screening tool was completed for both proposals. The screening tool judged that, given the safety net for residents who struggle to pay council tax, the proposal would not have a negative impact on protected groups. Households on low incomes can apply for a significantly reduced rate of council tax through Islington’s Resident Support Scheme, foster carers are exempt from paying council tax and older people receive a £100 discount.

### *Previously agreed savings*

None of the savings proposals from Resources in the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

## **i) Public Health**

## *New savings*

The budget for 2023/24 sets out two savings proposals, neither of which progressed to a full EQIA. The proposals include:

### Introduce Targeted Offer of Oral Health Fluoride Varnish

The proposal is to move from the current, universal, fluoride varnish offer for children aged 3-7 to a more targeted offer for children aged 3-7 years old within selected Children's Centres and Primary School based on levels of deprivation and tooth decay. Fluoride varnish will remain freely available through general dental services, and the proposal will only be implemented if payment for the fluoride varnish offer within schools and early years settings is not transferred to the NHS.

The screening tool identified that some children and families could struggle to access general dental services, for example because of language barriers or not being signed up to a general dental practice. However, if the proposal is implemented, Public Health will work with dental commissioners on a communications campaign to promote fluoride varnish and will develop a more targeted fluoride varnish offer at a smaller scale. This will mitigate the proposal's potential equalities impacts.

### Commissioning Efficiency – containing commissioning cost increases in order to release PH Grant uplift

The proposal is to work with commissioned services to deliver efficiencies. Depending on the service type, this will build on the adoption of new delivery models and ways of working developed during the Covid-19 pandemic, such as increased use of online and remote appointments and support.

By containing commissioning costs growth, the department will be able to release the Public Health grant uplift awarded in the financial year 2022/23, which will be re-invested in other eligible expenditure across the council.

The screening tool did not identify any negative equalities impacts.

## *Previously agreed savings*

None of the savings proposals from Resources in the 2022/23 budget required a full EQIA.

## **6. Staffing Impacts**

As summarised in section 3, some proposals will have staffing implications. While the significant majority will come from deleting / not recruiting to vacant posts, some proposals will have implications which may include changes to current roles or a potential risk of redundancy (for a very limited number of staff).

The impacts of these proposals on staff with protected characteristics cannot yet be fully determined but as numbers are low and spread across a number of services / types of roles there are unlikely to be any groups disproportionately impacted. Any changes to staffing structure will



require consultation with staff unions in accordance with the council's reorganisation policy and procedures.

Our established organisational change process ensures we support all of our staff through this change. Where restructures are proposed we carry out a comprehensive Staffing Impact Assessment that identifies the implications for those with protected characteristics and finds ways to mitigate accordingly.

Where a redundancy situation is possible, we will take a number of steps including:

- not filling vacancies in advance of a restructure so as many opportunities as possible are available to our existing staff
- using our redeployment process to help staff at risk find suitable alternative employment within the council
- considering alternative options to redundancy such as early retirement, flexible working or other 'working differently' options.
- stress management support and counselling services will be offered to staff through the Employee Assist Programme to help them cope with the additional pressures that structural change may bring.

We have an ongoing commitment to making Islington an employer of choice and are Timewise accredited, supporting flexible working opportunities available where possible, including condensed hours, flexible start and end times and part time working.

The Council is committed to a workforce that is representative of the borough at all levels and will continue to look for new ways to improve progression routes for staff and equip them to be senior managers of the future. We will continue to promote our staff equality forums as a way of engaging with staff and working together to continually improve their experience of working in Islington.

## **7. Human Rights and Safeguarding**

### **Human Rights**

It is unlawful for the council to act in a way that is incompatible with a European Convention right (unless the council could not have acted differently as a result of a statutory provision).

An interference with a qualified right (e.g., the right to respect for private and family life) is not unlawful if the council acts in accordance with the law and the interference is necessary in a democratic society.

In deciding whether the interference is necessary, the law applies a proportionality test, including whether a fair balance has been struck between the rights of the individual and the interests of the community.

### **Safeguarding**

#### **Implications for safeguarding in Adult Social Care**

Proposals outlined in this document build on the Council's work on Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP). MSP is enshrined in the Care Act (2014) and the Pan London Safeguarding Adults Policies and Procedures.

MSP puts the person at risk of harm or abuse at the centre of decisions and actions about them. Just like the Strengths Based Practice approach for general social work activities, MSP respects that adults often bring ideas and solutions which will work best for them and the outcomes they need support in achieving.

This means that safeguarding adults continues to be integral in the work we are undertaking to really embed strengths-based practice. Ensuring vulnerable adults are safe and focusing on wellbeing is a core element of strengths-based practice and ensures there is consistency in approach whether we are working with a vulnerable person on a support plan or a safeguarding plan.

### **Implications for safeguarding in Children's Services**

Safeguarding children is about protecting them from maltreatment, preventing their health and development being impaired, ensuring that they grow up in environments which provide safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

The mitigation identified for each proposal reduces very significantly the risk of poor safeguarding practice. The council's mitigation should include not adopting any policy where safeguarding practice is adversely affected.

The proposals put forward have been tested against effective safeguarding practice. A broad range of quality assurance measures are already in place and will continue to be monitored and responded to robustly.

### **8. Monitoring**

This year, the Equalities Team has reviewed the equalities impacts from current savings to screen for any unexpected impacts as the projects have progressed – this process will continue.

Each individual proposal will continue to be reviewed and updated as required. Consultation will be carried out where required to seek the views of residents and service users. The lead officer for each proposal will be responsible for ensuring that equality considerations remain at the forefront of decision making as each of these proposals are progressed.

## Annex A: Public Sector Equality Duty

Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 provides that:

- (1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to —
  - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (2) A person who is not a public authority but who exercises public functions must, in the exercise of those functions, have due regard to the matters mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to —
  - (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic
  - (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it
  - (c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- (4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.
- (5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to —
  - (a) tackle prejudice, and
  - (b) promote understanding.
- (6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favorably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.
- (7) The relevant protected characteristics are —
  - age
  - disability
  - gender reassignment, including non-binary and gender-fluid identification

- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation.

(8) A reference to conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act includes a reference to —

(a) a breach of an equality clause or rule;

(b) a breach of a non-discrimination rule.

(9) Schedule 18 (exceptions) has effect.

## Appendix F: CIPFA Financial Management Code

### Compliance Assessment – Islington Council 2023/24 Budget

#### Objectives and Principles

The CIPFA Financial Management Code (CIPFA FM Code) is designed to support good practice in financial management and to assist local authorities in demonstrating their financial sustainability. The CIPFA FM Code sets a standard of financial management for local authorities.

The Code is based on a series of principles supported by specific standards and statements of practice to provide the strong foundation to:

- Financially manage the short, medium and long-term finances;
- Manage financial resilience to meet foreseen demands on services; and
- Financially manage unexpected shocks in financial circumstances.

Each local authority must demonstrate that the requirements of the Code are being satisfied. Demonstrating this compliance with the CIPFA FM Code is a collective responsibility of elected members, the Chief Finance Officer and professional colleagues in the leadership team.

The CIPFA FM Code applies a principle-based approach. It does not prescribe the financial management processes that local authorities should adopt. Instead, the Code requires that a local authority demonstrate that its processes satisfy the principles of good financial management for an authority of its size, responsibilities and circumstances. Good financial management is proportionate to the risks to the authority's financial sustainability posed by the twin pressures of scarce resources and the rising demands on services.

The principles focus on an approach which will assist in determining whether, in applying standards of financial management, an authority is financially sustainable:

- Organisational **leadership** - demonstrating a clear strategic direction based on a vision in which financial management is embedded into culture
- **Accountability** - based on medium-term financial planning which drives the annual budget process supported by effective risk management, quality supporting data and whole life costs
- Financial management is undertaken with **transparency** at its core using consistent, meaningful and understandable data, reported frequently with evidence of periodic officer action and elected member decision making
- Adherence to professional **standards** is promoted by the leadership team and is evidenced.
- Sources of **assurance** are recognised as an effective tool mainstreamed into financial management and includes political scrutiny and the results of both external audit, internal audit and inspection.
- The long-term **sustainability** of local services is at the heart of all financial management process and is evidenced by prudent use of public resources.

**Assessment of Compliance with Statements of Standard Practice**

	<b>Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice</b>	<b>Level of Compliance (H/M/L)</b>	<b>Current Treatment</b>	<b>Further Action(if required)</b>
	<b>Section 1 The Responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer</b>			
<b>A</b>	<b>The leadership team demonstrates that the services provided by the authority provide value for money.</b>	H	Compliance is demonstrated by the application of other Standards and Statements in the FMCode	
<b>B</b>	<b>The authority complies with the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Finance Officer in Local Government</b>			
B1	The Chief Finance Officer in a public service organisation is a key member of the leadership team, helping it to develop and implement strategy and to resource and deliver the organisation's strategic objectives sustainably and in the public interest.	H	The Corporate Director of Resources (CDR, S151) is a key member of the Corporate Management Board.	Keep under constant review and seek continuous improvements to processes and practice.
B2	The Chief Finance Officer must be actively involved in, and able to bring influence to bear on, all material business decisions to ensure immediate and longer-term implications, opportunities and risks are fully considered, and alignment with the organisation's financial strategy.	H	All key and material financial decisions that require the approval of senior officers or Members must have first been considered by the CDR.	Keep under constant review and seek continuous improvements to processes and practice.
B3	The Chief Finance Officer must lead the promotion and delivery by the whole organisation of good financial management so that public money is safeguarded at all times and used appropriately, economically, efficiently and effectively. The Chief Finance Officer should regularly review the skill sets of elected members and all officers with budget/financial management responsibility and ensure appropriate support is provided.	H	Good financial management is promoted throughout the authority through regular communication. All managers with budgetary responsibility receive financial training from finance teams and there are regular Member training sessions/briefings.	Keep under constant review and seek continuous improvements to processes and practice.

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
B4	<p>The Chief Finance Officer must lead and direct a finance function that is resourced to be fit for purpose.</p> <p>The Chief Finance Officer should regularly review the skillsets of all finance staff with senior budget/financial management responsibility and ensure ongoing appropriate support is provided.</p> <p>The ratio of qualified staff as a proportion of total finance staff ensures that the finance function has the necessary financial competence.</p>	H	<p>The Finance function has recently undergone a full review and is fit for purpose. This structure was based around core competencies against which job descriptions and recruitment decisions are made.</p> <p>A training needs analysis is undertaken annually.</p> <p>The professional team are either qualified or actively studying for a qualification.</p>	
B5	<p>The Chief Finance Officer must be professionally qualified and suitably experienced.</p> <p>The Chief Finance Officer must be able to demonstrate adherence to professional CPD requirements on an annual basis.</p>	H	<p>The CDR is CCAB qualified with extensive experience in local government finance.</p> <p>CPD is demonstrated as part of CCAB membership obligations.</p>	
B6	<p>The Chief Finance Officer should promote the highest standards of ethical behaviour in the conduct of financial management. Professionally qualified staff should evidence an ongoing commitment to the principles of objectivity, integrity professional behaviour, professional competence, due care and confidentiality.</p>	H	<p>Professionally qualified staff are required to adhere to the ethical standards of their professional bodies.</p> <p>Finance staff are also bound by ethical requirements in their Job Description and those within the Council's code of conduct.</p> <p>The Council is an accredited employer with CCAB bodies.</p>	

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
B7	To enable financially informed decision making: The Chief Finance Officer should be able to provide the leadership team with sound advice on the key principles of local government finance; and The Chief Finance Officer should be able to demonstrate a sound system which ensures the authority has access to high standards of technical financial advice.	H	The CDR is an integral part of the leadership team and provides sound advice as part of this role. The authority employs a capable and experienced workforce and also has access to technical advice through external experts for funding, taxation, audit and pensions, as well as many forums to discuss London and national issues.	
B8	The Chief Finance Officer should report explicitly on the affordability and risk associated with the capital strategy and where appropriate have access to specialised advice to enable them to reach their conclusions.	H	The affordability and risk of the capital strategy is an integral part of the budget and MTFS.	
B9	The Chief Finance Officer must establish the reporting and monitoring processes and integrate the treasury management indicators into the overall financial planning process.	H	There is an established process for reporting and monitoring. Treasury Indicators are approved annually as part of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement alongside the budget papers each year. There is a year-end and mid-year Treasury Management review reported through to Members.	
B10	The Chief Finance Officer of Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administering authorities satisfies the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Public Sector Pensions Finance Knowledge and Skills (2013 edition).	H	Fully complies. This organisation recognises the importance of ensuring that it has the necessary resources to discharge its pensions administration responsibilities and that all staff and Members charged with financial administration, governance and decision-making with regard to the	



	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
			<p>pension scheme are fully equipped with the knowledge and skills to discharge the duties and responsibilities allocated to them.</p> <p>Training is held quarterly for members and they are advised of external training opportunities. A log of training provided is recorded.</p>	
<b>Section 2 Governance and Management Style</b>				
C	<b>The leadership team demonstrates in its actions and behaviours responsibility for governance and internal control.</b>	H	<p>CMB have hosted sessions on good financial management.</p> <p>An organisation wide internal controls board and Good Governance Group were established, and internal controls are tested annually as part of the work of Internal Audit.</p>	
D	<b>The authority applies the CIPFA/SOLACE Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016)</b>			
D1	The authority maintains an effective audit committee.	H	The Audit Committee meets at regular stages throughout the financial year. It has two knowledgeable and experienced independent members.	
D2	The audit committee receives and monitors the implementation of internal and external audit recommendations. When threats to the financial sustainability of the authority are identified by auditors the audit committee should ensure that the recommendations are communicated to the leadership team and that the	M	The audit committee receives details of all recommendations made by External Audit. The Committee receive an overview of assurance of all internal audit reports and the implementation	A practice of referring all financial sustainability related recommendations to management and the consideration of their response will be put in place.

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
	committee are informed of the effectiveness of the leadership team's response.		progress of those.	
D3	The authority has a PSIAS conformant internal audit function	H	Fully complies.	The implementation of any recommendations from the External Quality Assessment (EQA)
<b>E</b>	<b>The Financial Management Style of the authority supports financial sustainability</b>			
E1	The organisation has an effective framework of financial accountability that is clearly understood and applied throughout, from the political leaders, elected members to directors, finance officers and front-line service managers.	H	Financial Regulations and Instructions provide a clear and understandable framework for financial accountability.	
E2	Finance teams and the organisation they support are actively committed to continuous improvement focused on efficient and effective delivery and organisational performance.	H	Finance act as effective business partners, working closely with budget managers and Corporate Directors. This has been strengthened in the new finance structure.	
E3	Enabling transformation: the finance team have input into strategic and operational plans taking into account proactive risk management, clear strategic directions and focus-based outcomes	H	Finance act as effective business partners, working closely with budget managers and Corporate Directors. Transformation colleagues work closely with their finance counterparts. The transformation process is established within the budget process.	

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
E4	Managers understand they are responsible for delivering services cost effectively and are held accountable for doing so. Financial literacy is diffused throughout the organisation so that decision takers understand and manage the financial implications of their decisions.	H	Budgets and financial cash limits are clearly delegated to cost centre managers. Business partners and budget holders ensure implications of decisions are understood and that departments /managers are responsible for those decisions. Budget manager job descriptions set out their responsibilities for financial management.	
E5	The financial management of the authority has been critically evaluated	H	Internal Audit reviews core financial controls and systems on a cyclical basis. There have been four financial systems audits in 2022	
<b>Section 3: Long to Medium Term Financial Management</b>				
<b>F</b>	<b>The authority has carried out a credible and transparent Financial Resilience Assessment.</b>			
F1	Financial resilience is tested against best- and worst-case scenarios which cover a wide range of financial demographic and social challenges.	H	Financial resilience is tested against key risk scenarios when planning the MTFS. The budget setting process includes scenario planning and sensitivity analysis in working up budget forecasts and proposals.	
F2	The authority uses independent objective quantitative measures to assess the risks to its financial sustainability.	H	Key quantitative measures are used to assess financial stability and risks. For example, analysing the level of general fund balances and reserves.	

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
F3	Decision making by the authority demonstrates a sound understanding of the risks associated with its strategic business partners.	M	Key partners are evaluated before entry into formal arrangements.	Potential to review and strengthen especially since the impact of the pandemic on partners.
<b>G</b>	<b>The authority has a Long-Term Financial Strategy for financial sustainability.</b>	H	Fully embedded within the rolling MTFS and long-term capital programme.	
<b>H</b>	<b>The authority has a capital strategy aligned to its long-term financial strategy</b>			
H1	The authority has an asset management plan that reviews the condition, sufficiency and suitability of assets in the light of business needs, and ambitions of the Medium to Long Term Financial Strategy. The plan should evidence rigorous assessment of asset portfolio in relation to service delivery.	H	The Council operates a corporate landlord model and is constantly evaluating the best use of its assets. A condition survey is carried out on a regular basis by external consultants, which provides a total cost and prioritisation to inform the capital programme and strategy.	
H2	The authority maintains processes to ensure that information about key assets and liabilities in its balance sheet is a sound and current platform for management action.	H	Information regarding whole-life cost of assets is maintained within the financial system and accounts.	
<b>I</b>	<b>The authority complies with the CIPFA Prudential Code</b>	H	Compliance is reported annually within the budget report. The Council is compliant. This is also reported on with the Treasury Management Strategy Statement.	
<b>J</b>	<b>The authority has a rolling multi-year Medium Term Financial Plan</b>	H	The MTFS is approved and updated annually within the budget report for a 3-year period.	
<b>K</b>	<b>The authority has sustainable service plans that are consistent with its long-term financial strategy and the medium-term financial plan.</b>			

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
K1	The Medium-Term Financial Plan should make reference to other organisational plans (e.g. workforce planning) and performance measures to demonstrate an alignment between service and financial planning.	M	Whilst other plans (e.g.,workforce planning) are central to the MTFS, this link isn't explicit in published documents.	Explicit and written linking of the MTFS to all key organisational plans is recommended going forward. This should also be reflected in in-year budget monitoring.
K2	The authority has benchmarked the performance of its services against appropriate comparators.	H	The Authority uses CIPFA and other benchmarking services to analyse financial and service performance.	
K3	To inform the Leadership Team's decisions the authority has a single document tracking progress in the delivery of planned savings over the period of the Medium-Term Financial Plan.	H	A savings tracker is maintained and monitored regularly as part of in-year budget monitoring with ongoing implications picked up in the rolling MTFS.	
K4	<p>The authority publishes it plans for the use of reserves over the over the period of the Medium-Term Financial Plan</p> <p>The level of reserves at 31st March in any one year should not fall below the level previously agreed.</p> <p>The authority should demonstrate adherence to the mostrecent guidance on reserves from CIPFA's Local AuthorityAccounting Panel</p>	H	The Authority has an approved Reserves document that details plans for reserves over the period of the rolling MTFS - compliant with CIPFA guidance.	
<b>Section 4: The Annual Budget</b>				
L	<b>The authority complies with its statutory obligations in respect of the budget setting process</b>	H	All statutory obligations are fulfilled within the annual budget report.	

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
<b>M</b>	<b>The budget report includes an assessment of its consistency with the current medium term financial plan and long-term financial strategy.</b>			
M1	The annual report proposing the budget includes an analysis of the success/failures in achieving the spending plans of the previous year and of departures from the planned use of reserves and balances.	H	<p>This is monitored and reported on an ongoing basis with reporting picked up in the budget report as appropriate where it relates to the rolling MTFS. The budget report addresses the long-term impact of in year variances.</p> <p>There is a clear linkage between the in-year budget monitoring process and the medium-term financial planning process, with the strategic implications of in-year monitoring taken forward in the future year budget process. This process is clearly set out in the council's budget report.</p>	
<b>N</b>	<b>The budget report includes a statement by the Chief Finance Officer on the robustness of the estimates and a statement of the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves.</b>	H	This is included within the annual budget report.	
<b>Section 5: Stakeholder Engagement and Businesses Cases</b>				
<b>O</b>	<b>The authority has engaged with key stakeholders in developing its long-term financial strategy, medium term financial plan and annual budget.</b>	H	The annual budget report and rolling MTFS is subject to full consultation including with key stakeholders (e.g. Council Management Board, political leadership and the business community).	

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
<b>P</b>	<b>The authority uses a documented option appraisal methodology to demonstrate the VFM of its decisions</b>			
P1	Option appraisal complies with IFAC/PAIB Project and Investment Appraisal for Sustainable Value Creation: Principles in Project and Investment Appraisal.	H	There is a well-established and documented option appraisal process taking in to account the 5 case model and other elements of the Treasury Green Book.	This will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure that the process continues to be robust going forward.
P2	The accounting treatment of material decisions is considered and demonstrated as part of the formal option appraisal process.	H	The accounting treatment and impact is determined and documented within formal financial implications.	
<b>Q</b>	<b>The authority applies the principles contained in the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice and utilises appropriate costing techniques in the development of business cases</b>	H	SeRCoP principles are utilised consistently.	
<b>Section 6: Performance Monitoring</b>				
<b>R</b>	<b>The authority takes action using reports enabling it to identify and correct emerging risks to its budget strategy and financial sustainability.</b>			
R1	Timely time financial and performance information is available to managers via the appropriate systems. The systems are engineered to provide relevant data at a sufficiently accurate level. The organisation ensures that information is appropriately tailored and streamlined to avoid the risk of 'data overload'.	H	Managers are able to access information on demand. Reports have been developed with budget holders to provide them with the correct level of information.	
R2	All Financial monitoring reports include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The name of the budget holder responsible for the information presented</li> <li>Accruals based financial information</li> <li>Include the approved budget against which monitoring is taking place.</li> <li>A forecast for the remainder of the budget period,</li> </ul> Service performance information	H	Complies with the exception of the inclusion of budget holder names. These are maintained on the financial system but not routinely included in monitoring reports. The Council's financial monitor includes performance information. The Corporate Performance	

	Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice	Level of Compliance (H/M/L)	Current Treatment	Further Action(if required)
			Manager is embedded within the Finance Business Partner management structure to further align reporting.	
R3	<p>Financial monitoring reports for high-risk budgets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scrutinised by the leadership team of the organisation (as a minimum) monthly basis.</li> </ul> <p>Financial monitoring reports for steady state/low risk budgets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Received by budget holders on a monthly basis</li> </ul> <p>Received (in aggregate) by the leadership team on a regular basis (in aggregate) by the leadership team.</p>	H	Fully compliant.	
R4	The authority has arrangements which allow annual service budgets to be recalibrated in response to unforeseen developments.	H	In-year budget realignments can be approved in line with the council's financial regulations.	
R5	At the financial monitoring period end the leadership team receives a set of financial statements with forecast outturn for the year ahead	H	Fully compliant.	
R6	There are appropriate arrangements in place for reporting and managing the financial performance of each of the organisation's delivery partnerships and collaborative arrangements.	H	Yes, to the appropriate officer and Member meetings/bodies.	
R7	There are appropriate arrangements in place for the project management and cost control of capital projects.	H	Capital projects and programme monitored on a monthly basis.	
<b>S</b>	<b>The authority monitors the elements of its balance sheet which pose a significant risk to its financial stability</b>			
S1	Unplanned and planned use of reserves are reported [quarterly] to the management team of the organisation and to Council.	H	Picked up on a regular basis as part of in-year budget monitoring.	



	<b>Section/Financial Management Standard/Statement of Standard Practice</b>	<b>Level of Compliance (H/M/L)</b>	<b>Current Treatment</b>	<b>Further Action(if required)</b>
S2	Management accounts include either a full balance sheet or an appropriate level of balance sheet information to meet business needs and evidence of monitoring of material items	H	Yes – where appropriate.	
<b>Section 7 External Financial Reporting</b>				
T	<b>The Chief Finance Officer has personal responsibility for ensuring that the statutory accounts provided to the local authority comply with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.</b>	H	The annual accounts are reviewed and signed by the CDR.	
U	<b>The presentation of the final outturn figures and variations from budget allow the leadership team to make strategic financial decisions.</b>	H	An annual report is presented that informs strategic decision making.	

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Report of: Corporate Director of Resources

Meeting of: Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee

Date: 26 January 2023

## Subject: Budget Monitoring 2022/23 Month 8 – Covering Report

### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1. The Resources Directorate produces regular budget monitoring reports on the council’s current financial position to allow the Executive to fulfil its responsibility to monitor the budget and make decisions on budget revisions and the allocation of contingency funding.
- 1.2. The Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee’s Terms of Reference also include the responsibility to consider matters relating to the financial position of the council. Therefore, the latest budget monitoring report is submitted to meetings of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To consider and note the enclosed budget monitoring report which was considered by the Executive on 12 January 2023.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The council is required by law to conduct its business efficiently and to ensure that it has sound financial management policies in place that are strictly adhered to. Reviewing the budget from time to time during the year and taking any such actions as is deemed necessary is the responsibility of the Executive. The monitoring of the budget by the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee provides an additional level of assurance.

### 4. Implications

- 4.1. The implications are detailed in the related report.

### 5. Reason for Recommendations

- 5.1. To enable the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee to fulfil its obligation to consider matters relating to the financial position of the council.

### Appendices

Report to the Executive: Budget Monitoring 2022/23 – Month 8 and associated appendices.

**Background Papers** None

<b>Signed by:</b>		
	Corporate Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	Date

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Report of: Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance

Meeting of: Executive

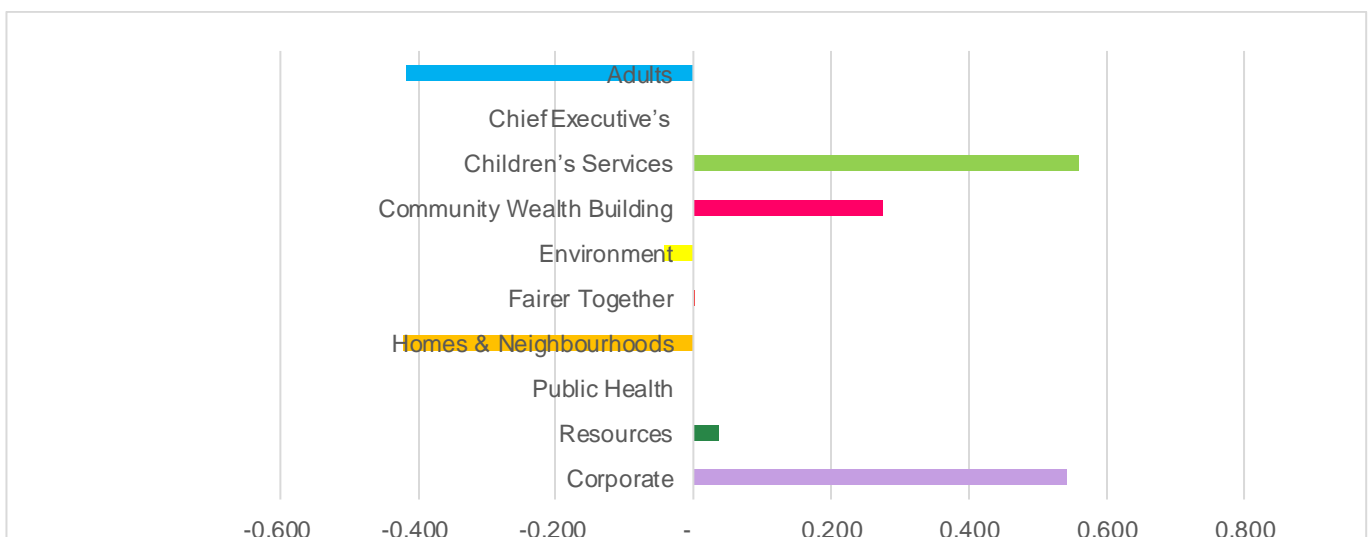
Date: 12 January 2023

## Subject: Budget Monitoring 2022/23 - Month 8

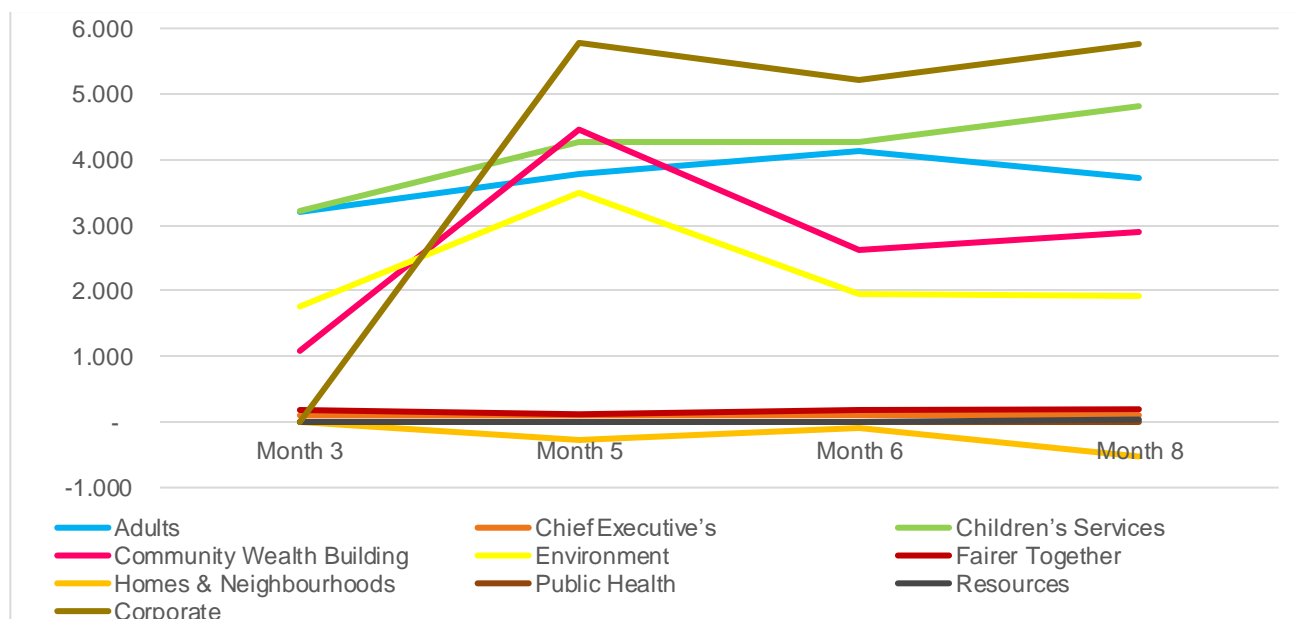
### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1. This report presents the estimated outturn position for the 2022/23 financial year as at the end of month 8 (30 November 2022). This estimated financial position for the financial year incorporates known and emerging budget variances and details any known residual risks.
- 1.2. The financial context of high inflation and continued recovery from the pandemic creates a very uncertain backdrop to the 2022/23 financial year. The impact of the cost-of-living crisis is already being felt hard by the council and residents.
- 1.3. This report seeks to highlight the largest variances to budgets and how these are being managed. The main report includes the most significant budget variances by directorate with an exhaustive list of variances included at **Appendix 1**, with appropriate commentary. Overall, the General Fund (GF) is currently forecasting a net overspend of +£3.268m. This is following the drawdown of the following corporate resources
  - -£1.400m Corporate Energy Provision
  - -£5.509m Energy and Inflation Smoothing Reserve
  - -£3.713m Social Care Reserve drawdown
  - -£5.000m General Contingency
- 1.4. There has been a net adverse movement in the forecast of +£0.606m since the previous reported position. **Figure 1** shows the movement by directorate and **Figure 2** shows the forecast variance by directorate over the course of the financial year.

**Figure 1 – Movement by Directorate Month 6 to Month 8 (£m)**



**Figure 2 – Forecast Variance by Directorate Month 3 to Month 8 (£m)**



- 1.5. The HRA is currently forecasting an in-year surplus of -£2.228m, an increase of -£6.780m since previous reported position. As the HRA is a ring-fenced account, a surplus or deficit at the end of the financial year will be transferred to or from HRA reserves.
- 1.6. At the end of month 8, total capital expenditure of £83.302m had been incurred against a 2022/23 forecast of £165.136m and the revised 2022/23 capital budget of £175.327m.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To note the breakdown of the forecast General Fund outturn by individual variance at **Appendix 1** and by service area at **Appendix 2**. (**Section 3, Table 1, and Appendix 1 and 2**)
- 2.2. To agree, within the overall cash limited budget position, the inter-directorate virements and budget adjustments up to month 8 2022/23, as detailed within **Appendix 2**. (**Paragraph 3.5**)
- 2.3. To note the delivery progress of the 2022/23 budgeted savings. (**Paragraph 3.6 and Appendix 5**)
- 2.4. To note the transformation fund allocations and anticipated, profiled drawdowns for 2022/23. (**Paragraph 4.55 and Appendix 3**)
- 2.5. To note the collection fund monitoring position at month 8. (**Paragraphs 4.56 to 4.70**)
- 2.6. To note the Energy Price Analysis position at month 8. (**Paragraphs 4.71 to 4.78**)
- 2.7. To note the forecast 2022/23 HRA estimated outturn -£2.228m surplus at month 8. (**Section 5 and Appendix 1 and 2**)
- 2.8. To note that, as at the end of month 8, total capital expenditure of £83.302m had been incurred against a 2022/23 forecast of £165.136m and the revised 2022/23 capital budget of £175.327m. (**Section 6 and Appendix 4**)

- 2.9. To agree capital slippage of £5.745m to future financial years and to note that there is a risk of further slippage over the remainder of the financial year. **(Section 6, Table 12 and Appendix 4)**
- 2.10. To agree spend on 16-18 Hornsey Road of £0.050m as a replacement for Holly Hall project which has been discontinued. **(Paragraph 6.10)**
- 2.11. To agree capital acceleration of £0.080m for Prior Western School project. **(Paragraph 6.9)**

### 3. Revenue Summary

- 3.1. A summary position of the month 8 2022/23 GF financial position is shown in **Table 1**, with a breakdown by individual variance in **Appendix 1**.

**Table 1: 2022/23 GF Over/(Under)Spend – Estimated Outturn**

Directorate	Month 8 Total £m	Month 6 Total £m	Change to Previous £m
Adults	3.713	4.130	(0.417)
Chief Executive's	0.103	0.103	-
Children's Services	4.814	4.254	0.560
Community Wealth Building	2.888	2.612	0.276
Environment	1.910	1.953	(0.043)
Fairer Together	0.194	0.193	0.001
Homes & Neighbourhoods	(0.526)	(0.104)	(0.422)
Public Health	-	-	-
Resources	0.038	-	0.038
<b>Total: Directorates</b>	<b>13.134</b>	<b>13.141</b>	<b>(0.007)</b>
Corporate	5.756	5.213	0.543
<b>Total: General Fund</b>	<b>18.890</b>	<b>18.354</b>	<b>0.536</b>
Less: Energy Provision	(1.400)	(1.400)	-
Less: Energy and Inflation Reserve	(5.509)	(5.509)	-
Less: Social Care Reserve	(3.713)	(3.783)	0.070
Less: General Contingency	(5.000)	<b>(5.000)</b>	-
<b>Net: General Fund</b>	<b>3.268</b>	<b>2.662</b>	<b>0.606</b>

- 3.2. The 2022/23 corporate energy provision of -£1.400m and the energy and inflation reserve of -£5.509m have been applied against the gross GF position to offset the significant increase in estimated energy-related costs in this financial year.
- 3.3. A drawdown against the Social Care Reserve of -£3.713m has been applied to smooth the increase in Adults Social Care pressures.
- 3.4. General contingency of -£5.000m built into the budget has been applied due to the current estimates of the 2022/23 pay award being recognised as a pressure corporately. Further details can be found in the corporate monitoring section of this report.

- 3.5. Variances by overall directorate and service are shown at **Appendix 2**, for noting. Included within **Appendix 2** is a schedule which shows the inter-directorate virements and adjustments (movements of budgets between directorates) up to month 8 2022/23, together with a reason for the virement, for agreement within the overall cash limited budget position.
- 3.6. A schedule of the 2022/23 budget agreed revenue savings is shown at **Appendix 5** together with comments against each agreed saving on delivery progress. Any ongoing savings delivery issue against an agreed saving requires directorates to compensate with management actions in-year to achieve cash limited financial targets and alternative savings, where appropriate, brought into the wider budget planning process for future years.

#### **4. General Fund**

##### **Adult Social Services +£3.713m, a decrease of -£0.417m since the previous reported position**

- 4.1. Adult Social Services is currently forecasting an overspend of +£3.713m, which is detailed by key variances in **Appendix 1**.

##### Covid and Hospital Discharge Pressures (+£1.245m, a decrease of -£0.136m since the previous reported position)

- 4.2. The Covid and Hospital Discharge pressures are made up of:

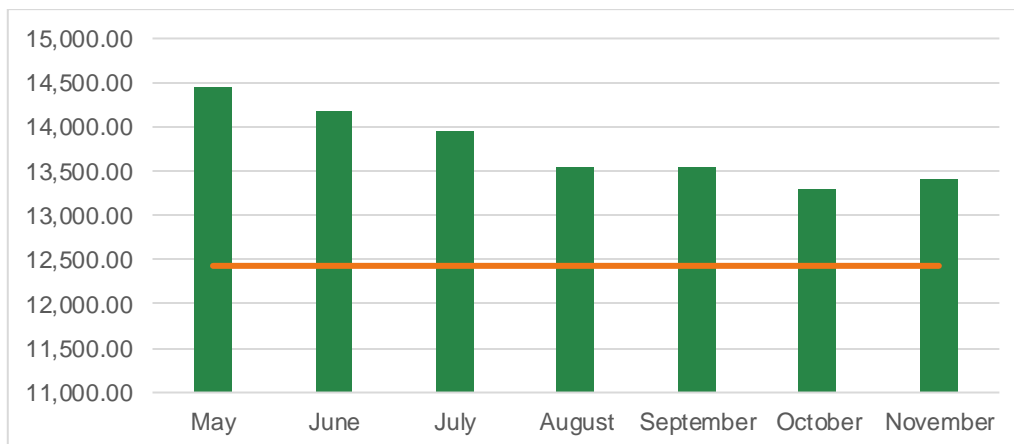
- +£0.992m, a decrease of -£0.136m since the previous reported position relating to individuals who came through the NHS Hospital Discharge schemes from March 2020 to March 2022 and are now receiving social care packages; and
- +£0.253m, no change since the previous reported position relating to hospital discharge pressures in the current financial year.

##### **4.3. NHS Hospital Discharge pressure March 2020-March 2022**

A pressure of +£0.992m relates to individuals who came through the Covid related NHS Hospital Discharge scheme from March 2020 to March 2022 and are now receiving social care packages. The original cost for this cohort of 660 individuals at the start of 2022/23 was £14.652m, causing a pressure of +£2.221m over budget. It is expected that this will decrease throughout the year as these individuals leave the system. As at month 8, this pressure has reduced to +£0.992m as 229 individuals have left since April 2022 (see **Figure 3**).



**Figure 3 - Value of Historical Covid-19 Hospital Discharge Care Packages within Adult Social Services in 2022/23 (£'000s)**



#### 4.4. **NHS Hospital Discharge pressure April 2023**

As a result of the proposed Hospital Discharge process and a change in the NHS funding, the Council is facing a net pressure of +£0.253m.

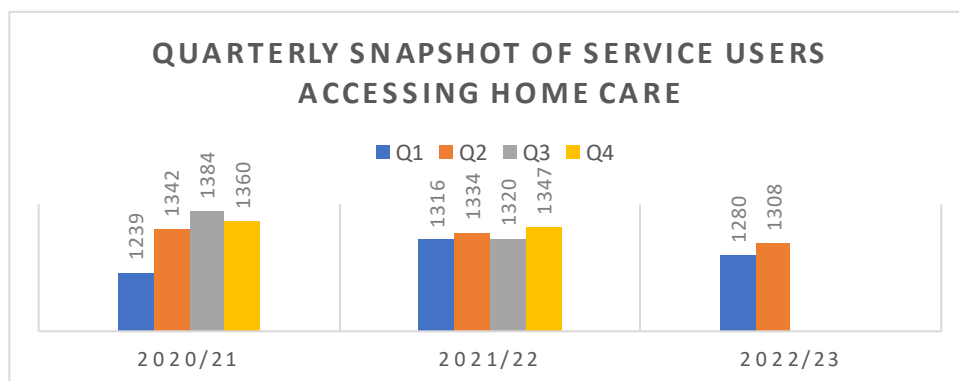
Demand over Demographic Growth +£2.626m, an increase of +£0.277m since the previous reported position

- 4.5. Adult Social Services continues to be impacted by wider demographic pressures, including increased demand for services, the need for acute care and increases in acuity of need of existing service users. During budget setting, it was assumed that demographic growth would reduce back to pre-pandemic levels in 2022/23. However, in the first half of the year we are seeing a continuation of demand over demographic projections but below the growth trends seen in 2021/22 during the pandemic, which is now an unbudgeted growth pressure of +£2.383m. This growth has primarily been in homecare throughout the pandemic; however, residential and nursing placements are also increasing to pre-pandemic levels after a dip in the past few years.
- 4.6. These trends link to the COVID related Hospital Discharge Scheme. When the funding was in place to support discharges, packages were often arranged quickly, within 24 hours, for residential and nursing settings as this would be paid for by the NHS. Although that funding has ended, hospitals are still under incredible pressure and the expectation has remained to move individuals into these settings at pace. Mitigations in place to stem this demand include moving away from NHS Therapy led discharges and ensuring that the Council has more control with discharge decisions.
- 4.7. Management actions have reduced the forecasted risk from the previous reported position; however, it is now thought that these will not be able to reduce demand down to budgeted growth levels. Therefore, an additional pressure for demand over demographic growth for the rest of the year has been added for +£0.243m.

**Management actions to mitigate the pressures from this increased demand include:**

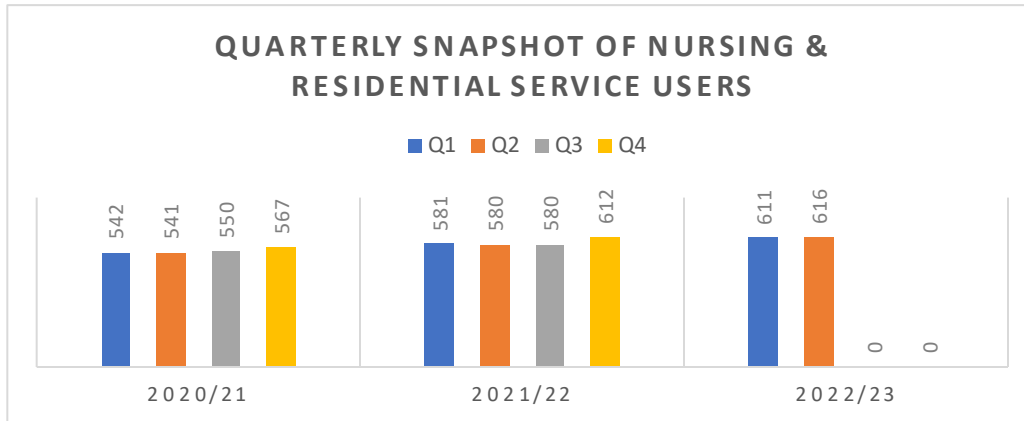
- Using the Integrated Quality Assurance Meeting (IQAM) Panel to focus on the right sizing of packages with an emphasis on maximising enablement. A slight reduction in the size of packages going forward should also start to be evidenced due to an amendment to custom and practice.
  - The restructure of the reablement service has been completed however there are number of outstanding issues which means the service has not increased its capacity to take on additional cases.
  - Operational Social Work Management are working with the Finance team and Data Intelligence to capture further information on the pressures to be able to focus targeted work on areas of growth earlier.
  - Further work is being undertaken to identify tangible saving opportunities in all areas of the service. These savings are primarily aimed at addressing pressures in future years but there is potential for work to be started sooner to offset additional pressures.
  - Operational Changes to the Hospital Discharge Process. This includes a move away from NHS Therapy led discharges with the Hospital Social Work team managing the process from start to finish and all funding requests to come to a single IQAM Panel for agreement.
- 4.8. **Figure 4** shows that whilst demand for homecare is less than it was in 2021/22, demand is still above early pandemic levels.

**Figure 4 – Quarterly Snapshot of people accessing Homecare over the past three financial years**



- 4.9. **Figure 5** shows that since the pandemic, demand for residential and nursing beds has been steadily increasing.

**Figure 5 - Quarterly Snapshot of people accessing Residential and Nursing beds over the past three financial years**



Client Contributions and Direct Payments Drawdown -£1.000m, an increase of -£0.200m since the previous reported position

4.10. There are several factors to mitigate the above pressures. As the number of individuals accessing care increases, so does the level of client contributions -£0.500m and one-off direct payment surplus will be drawn down -£0.500m to offset the pressure.

Additional Staffing in the Adult Senior Leadership Team +£0.325m, a decrease of -£0.060m since the previous reported position

4.11. This is mainly due to several roles where the postholder is involved in a long-term HR related issue and it has been deemed necessary to have another individual covering their post, resulting in the double cost of these roles and potential redundancy costs.

In-House Pressures +£0.828m, an increase of +£0.309m since the previous reported position

4.12. The In-House Transformation Programme has been delayed. This was due to requests for further information and clarification from interested parties. The consultation ended on the 30 November. The proposed go live date is estimated for April 2023. This will cause a financial pressure in 2022/23 of +£0.828m.

Delay to Beaumont Rise Opening +£0.258m, a decrease of -£0.038m since previous reported position

4.13. The delay in the opening of a new residential Mental Health care home, Beaumont Rise, because of construction work delays due to restrictions to activity on the building site and supply chain issues resulting from COVID-19. As a result of not having this accommodation available means that the NHS contribution to the pool cannot be materialised as care is still required in NHS accommodation.

Additional Social Work staff +£0.031m, (this was previously a risk which has now materialised) an increase of +£0.031m since previous reported position.

4.14. Additional staff to support the effective management of increased resident demand and complexity and support delivery of MTFs assumptions for 2022/23 of +£0.348m, this has been offset by non-pay underspends in the service of -£0.317m.

Delayed Savings +£0.400m, an increase of +£0.400m since previous reported position.

4.15. Mental Health Accommodation moves from out of borough back to Islington have been delayed resulting in a year pressure of +£0.170m, this is related to two individuals, escalation meetings are being held with the Trust to determine if moves can take place more quickly. Learning Disability Reviews savings have slipped by +£0.709m however this has been mitigated by one-off income of -£0.479m.

Use of Grant Income to offset projected expenditure -£1.000m, an increase of -£1.000m since previous reported position.

4.16. The service will use the Fair Cost of Care and the Adult Social Care Discharge fund to offset appropriate projected expenditure above budget.

Risks and Opportunities for Adult Social Service's finances:

4.17. **Savings** - Adult Social Services have a significant amount of savings at £5.521m to be delivered in 2022/23. This report assumes that most savings will be delivered, or substitutions found except +£0.400m from Mental Accommodation moves, Learning Disability Reviews and +£0.823m from In-House transformation, this is due to a further delay in the go live date for the new structure, these are expected to deliver in 2023/24.

**Chief Executive's Directorate +£0.103m, unchanged since the Month 6 reported position**

4.18. The Chief Executive's Directorate is currently forecasting an overspend of +£0.103m, which is detailed by key variances in **Appendix 1**.

4.19. The significant variances within the department are as follows:

- Unbudgeted activity within communications as part of the Accessible Documents project.
- Net overspend on employee and supplies and services within the Communications service as a result of increased communications activity.

4.20. There are no other known risks or opportunities to report.

**Children's Services +£4.814m, an increase of +£0.560m since the previous reported position;**

**Schools +£0.068m overspend, a movement of +£0.253m since the previous reported position**

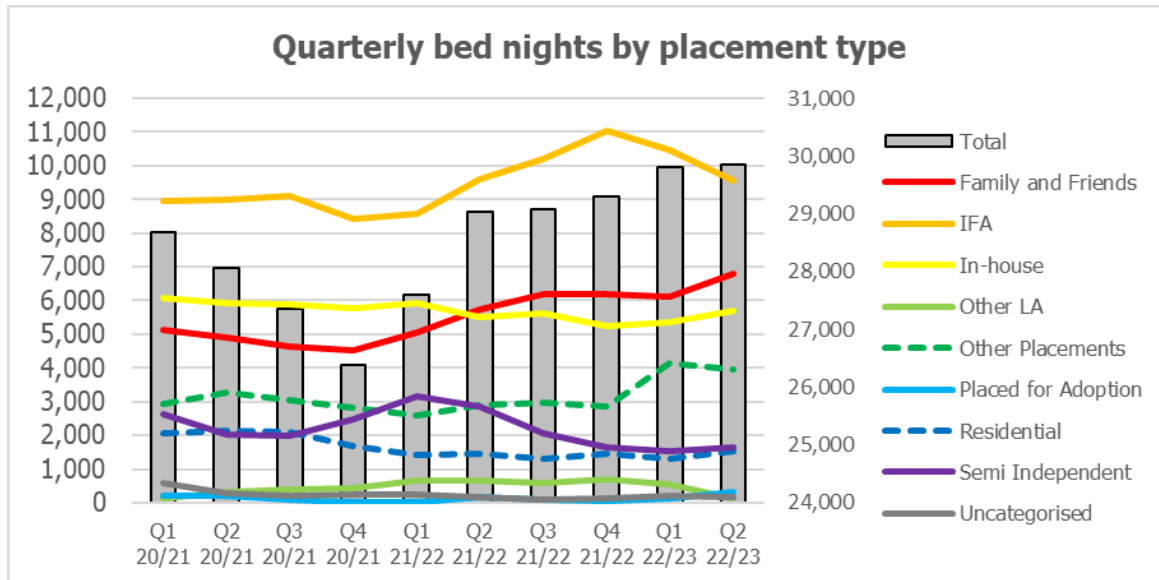
4.21. Children's Services are currently forecasting an overspend of +£4.841m, an increase of +£0.560m since the previous reported position, which is detailed by key variances in **Appendix 1**.

4.22. Variances to note include:

- +£2.481m, a reduction of -£0.030m since the previous reported position overspend against the Children's Social Care placements budget at quarter 2. The pressure on the placements budget is partly driven by delays to court directed care proceedings which is adding over £1m to placement costs each year and a shortage of housing (including secure tenancies) for care leavers which is adding a further £2m to placement costs.
- Placement activity data at quarter 2 shows the following:

- This shows that bed night activity for all placement types (non-UASC) increased by 0.1% during quarter 2 and was 3% higher during quarter 2 2022/23 compared to a year earlier. CLA numbers peaked during July and August, therefore bed nights should start to reduce, unless more children become looked after.

**Figure 6 - Quarterly bed night activity data (non-UASC)**



- Residential bed night activity data is shown in **Table 2** below. At quarter 2 there was an increase in residential activity, reversing the reduction seen during quarter 1 2021/22. Residential activity is higher than this time last year. Significant reductions were seen during 2021/22 in welfare secure placements, parent and child court directed placements and therapeutic placements.

**Table 2 – Residential bed night data extract**

	Q2 21/22	Q4 21/22	Q1 22/23	Q2 22/23
Residential bed nights	1,452	1,488	1,315	1,545
Movement from previous quarter			- 9%	+ 17%
Movement from same quarter one year earlier			- 8%	+ 6%

- Activity continued to reduce during quarter 2, following a reduction in quarter 1. This has reversed the trend of increases in each quarter during the last financial year – activity is just below the level seen during the same time last year.

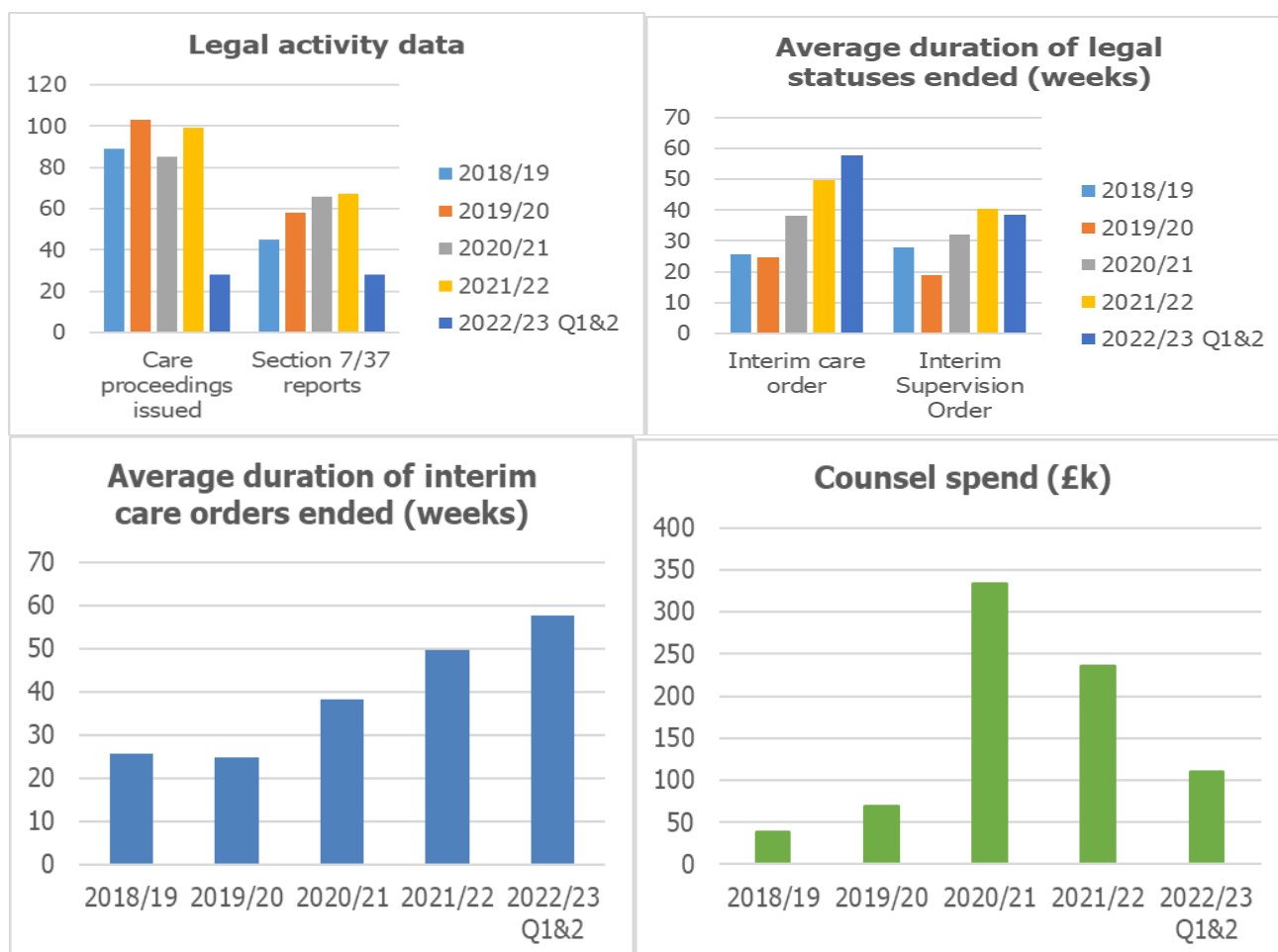
**Table 3 – IFA bed night data extract**

	Q2 21/22	Q4 21/22	Q1 22/23	Q2 22/23
IFA bed nights	9,589	11,049	10,471	9,539
Movement from previous quarter			- 5%	- 9%
Movement from same quarter one year earlier			+ 22%	-1%

- Cost pressures in relation to Children’s Social Care placements is an issue across London. There has been a 36% increase in the cost of the support for children in care across all London Boroughs since 2015, a 64% increase in the unit cost of residential settings and a 13% increase in the unit cost of fostering settings.

- +£0.379m, an increase of +£0.129m since the previous reported position forecast legal costs in relation to demand for care proceedings. The use of Counsel is subject to service director approval to minimise this cost pressure. Care proceedings issued have reduced in 2022/23 – activity to the end of quarter 2 is 28% of the total level of activity for last year, however costs remain high as there are 56 cases still open from last year that are in excess of 26 weeks. Section 7/37 report activity is on course to be slightly lower than last year, with activity to the end of quarter 2 being 42% of last year’s activity. The average duration of interim care orders ended continues to increase, standing at 57.7 weeks in 2022/23 to date, compared to 49.8 weeks in 2021/22 and 38.1 weeks in 2020/21. The average duration above 26 weeks is costing an estimated £1m in additional placement costs per year. Activity continues to be affected by the pandemic and pressures on counsel spend is a national issue across local authorities.

**Figure 7 - Legal activity data and Counsel spend**



- +£0.241m, a reduction of -£0.040m since the previous reported position forecast cost of continuing to underwrite income losses at Lift and Rosebowl while income levels continue to recover to pre-pandemic levels.
- +£0.281m, an increase of +£0.047m from the previous reported position estimated cost pressure from bringing the youth provision at platform back in-house. This includes estimates of pressures in relation to facilities management.

- +£0.379m, an increase of +£0.144m from the previous reported position structural shortfall in the budget for the Schools' human resources service and Cardfields and a shortfall in traded income.
- +£0.553m, a new variance since the previous reported position forecast staffing cost pressures in Children's Social Care. Enhanced team posts have been left vacant due to the motivational practice review, but to ensure there is enough direct social worker intervention with families the vacant posts have been filled by agency staff. In addition, due to an increased number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), agency workers have been recruited to meet demand, but this is offset by surplus UASC income from the Home Office -£0.565m, a new variance since the previous reported position.
- +£0.371m, a new variance the previous reported position forecast non-staffing cost pressures in Children's Social Care.

4.23. Risks and opportunities within the department are:

- There are risks in relation to the Children's Social care placements budget forecast:
  - Market inflation pressures are provisionally estimated at this stage based on uplifts agreed to date but could rise as further as the year progresses.
  - The regulation of supported accommodation is due to come into force in April 2023. This will result in an increase in provision for 16/17-year-olds falling under the scope of Ofsted regulation as Children's Homes. Following consultation with providers they have set the intention to comply with regulatory changes which will result in a cost increase on provision for this cohort.
- Recent increases in demand for temporary accommodation +£0.098m overspend in 2021/22 may recur in 2022/23.
- Spend against the Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) budget is expected to continue to reduce in line with projected pupil numbers and increased eligibility for free school meals in future years. High level estimates indicate that non-FSM pupils (nursery and KS2) will reduce by another 3.3% at October 2022 and 2.6% at October 2023. This follows a 10.5% reduction in October 2021. UFSM spend could therefore reduce by -£0.220m in 2022/23 and -£0.040m in 2023/24. The reduction in spend in 2021/22 and future forecasts indicate that agreed 2022/23 savings of -£0.195m are deliverable and could be exceeded.
- The forecast overspend for Children's Services takes into account the delivery of savings. All savings are on track for delivery with the exception of:
  - Targeted reduction in Children Looked After £0.800m. This has not materialised due to increased demand, particularly during covid where: more children suffered serious harm; care proceedings were delayed, therefore more children stayed in care for longer; and a large increase in numbers of UASC presented. Savings against residential provision have been delivered but these have been offset by increased pressures on provision in IFAs and independent living. During Covid, the placement market was insufficient leading to ongoing unit cost increases – this is a national issue.

4.24. The ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is currently forecast to overspend by +£0.068m, a movement of +£0.253m since the previous reported position.

- 4.25. DSG balances are forecast to reduce by -£0.068m to +£5.150 during 2022/23. This is shown in **Table 4** below. These balances are earmarked in future years to manage increasing pressures on the high needs block and early years block, and to meet cost pressures within schools.

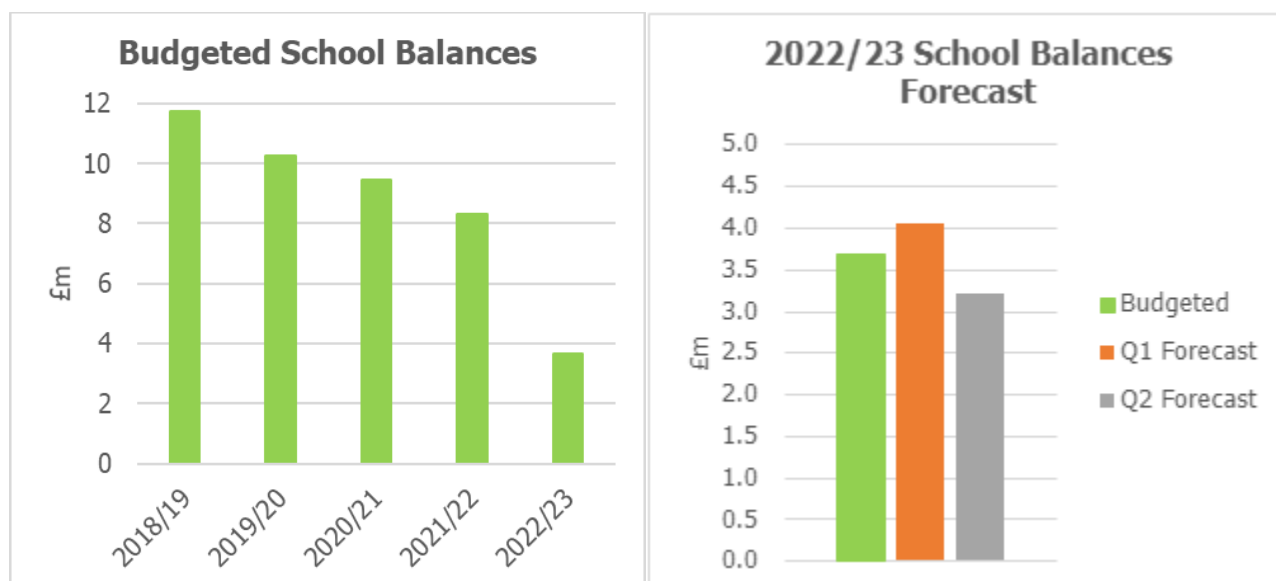
**Table 4: Forecast DSG Balances**

	<b>Schools Block £m</b>	<b>De-delegated budgets £m</b>	<b>Central Schools Services £m</b>	<b>High Needs Block £m</b>	<b>Early Years Block £m</b>	<b>Total £m</b>
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>0.776</b>	<b>0.122</b>	<b>0.210</b>	<b>2.649</b>	<b>1.461</b>	<b>5.218</b>
In-year DSG variance	(0.140)	0.000	0.068	0.171	(0.167)	<b>(0.068)</b>
<b>Forecast closing balance</b>	<b>0.636</b>	<b>0.122</b>	<b>0.278</b>	<b>2.820</b>	<b>1.294</b>	<b>5.150</b>

- 4.26. Individual school balances stood at £8.313m at the end of 2021/22. Schools have budgeted to reduce their balances by £5.233m to £3.080m over the course of the year. Individual school balances in Islington have been in decline since 2018/19 when they stood at £11.732m. Balances reduced steadily to £8.313m at the end of 2021/22 but are budgeted by schools to sharply decline during 2022/23. The decline in school balances is a national issue as schools face increasing cost pressures.
- 4.27. There were 10 schools in deficit as of 31 March 2022, based on the budget plans submitted by schools this is expected to increase to 11 by 31 March 2022, with two schools entering deficit and one coming out of deficit. A further analysis of balances, when compared to the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) suggested guidance of balances held by schools; 8% for nursery, primary and special schools and 5% for secondary schools, indicate 13 schools will be above the suggested limits at the end of 2022/23, a reduction from 21 at the start of the year.
- 4.28. The quarter 2 forecast from schools is for balances to reduce to +£3.210m, a reduction of -£0.842m from the quarter 1 forecast but still -£0.466m less than the budget position. The number of schools forecast to be in deficit at the end of the year will increase to 21 (40% of maintained schools).



**Figure 8: School balances**



4.29. The main causes of the decline in Islington are:

- Reducing pupil numbers. 90% of school funding is pupil led – each reduction in pupils equates to an average loss of funding per pupil of £5,430 in primary and £8,040 in secondary schools. Actual losses per pupil for individual schools will depend on the pupil characteristics at that school.
- Increased numbers of elective home educated pupils – there are currently 356 elective home educated pupils, at a cost of £1.9m in lost funding for our schools. This is an increase of 197 from before the pandemic, and 270 since 2016/17. If the 197 additional pupils returned to Islington schools, the additional funding would be equivalent to £1.1m.
- Increasing numbers of pupils with SEND. Education health and care plans increased at a rate of 10.4% per annum in Islington in 2021/22.
- Below inflation per-pupil increases in funding under the national funding formula.

**Community Wealth Building +£2.888m, +£0.276m movement since Month 6 reported position**

4.30. The Community Wealth Building Directorate is currently forecasting a +£2.888m overspend position, which is detailed by key variances in **Appendix 1**.

4.31. The movement from last month +£0.276m is due to revised forecasts as follows:

- The main movement from last reported position is due to increase in energy bills +£0.126m for council buildings in the Corporate Landlord division. This increase is due to invoices coming through at a slightly higher than expected rate.
- There is a favourable movement in Commercial property income of -£0.032m compared to the last period. This relates to one-off ad-hoc income usually based on charging daily rates for use of empty properties to maximise income.
- Staffing overspends in Inclusive Economy +£0.182m as a result of historic under-funding and an increased risk that alternative funding sources will not be secured in-year, although the service continues to actively seek additional funding

4.32. The significant variances within the department are as follows:

- It is expected that there will be a shortfall in Commercial property income in the Corporate Landlord division of +£0.890m - including the ad-hoc income above due to additional undeliverable savings of £0.840m and £0.244m from previous years. This variance also includes 3 leases worth £0.194m which have transferred to Corporate Landlord division. This income is currently claimed by Adult Social Care and Children Services.
- The division currently has 47 committed live leases with annual value of £3.407m including the 3 leases mentioned above. This assumes 100% occupancy rate during the year with no void or rent-free periods, however there is a risk of tenants exercising a break clause. This is monitored closely on a monthly basis and any risks will be reported in the next reporting period. It is assumed that commercial tenants will remain throughout the year and rent of £3.407m will be received.
- The Corporate Landlord department is forecasting an overspend of +1.816m in energy costs for council buildings. The forecast to date assumes that consumption remains the same as 2021/22, there has been a slight increase on bills coming through due to increased consumption. The service is actively seeking to mitigate this risk by reviewing heating and cooling systems, ensuring all lighting is LED, reviewing core working hours and rationalising the facilities estate.

4.33. Risks and opportunities within the department:

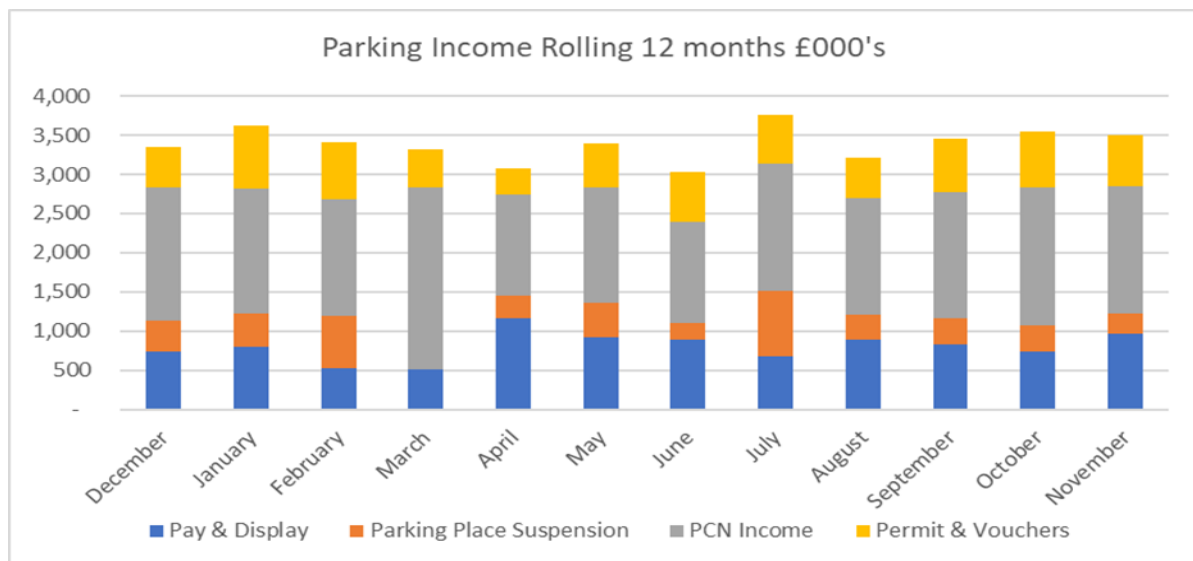
- Corporate Landlord
  - There is a pipeline of £1.271m of new commercial property income opportunities for future years to offset the pressure in the longer term.
  - 5 leases with a total value of £0.133m are being investigated and re-negotiated currently. The income from these contracts will reduce the overspend position if they are agreed and signed off.
- Planning and Development
  - There is a risk of underachieving the income targets from planning applications, however the service is expecting 2-3 significant planning applications this year which will significantly contribute towards delivering income targets. The service is currently reviewing the income schedule and will provide a forecast in the next reporting period.
  - The service has recruited a total of 12 permanent staff (replacing 3 agency staff with 3 permanent staff) in the last year but faces the ongoing structural budget challenge of very limited general fund and a high reliance on fluctuating/deferred income, which generates in-year financial pressures. There is thus a risk of staffing overspend through use of additional agency staff, but at this stage the service expects to mitigate this risk in-year.
- Inclusive Economy
  - There is a risk of an overspend of £0.054m in Inclusive Economy division. This expenditure is related to an ongoing legal dispute with a local business. The

outcome of the case is yet to be determined however it is expected that these costs will be reimbursed.

**Environment +£1.910m, -£0.043m movement since the Month 6 reported position**

- 4.34. The Environment Directorate is currently forecasting a +£1.910m overspend position, which is detailed by key variances in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.35. The movement from last month -£0.043m is due to revised forecasts regarding suspension of the ‘Empowering Communities within Integrated Network Systems’ project within the ASB team.
- 4.36. The significant variances within the department are as follows:
  - The Parking account is currently forecast to break-even, however there are several risks around the significant income streams. Whilst volumes of pay and display transactions are increasing the average income per transaction is falling indicating shorter lengths of stays. Suspension income remains strong with the continued programme of fibre network roll-out across the borough. There is a risk around the timing of the delivery of the rollout of the GNetwork works programme which could lead to a pressure within the parking account as this gain is currently offsetting the shortfall within the pay and display budget of around £1.5m.
  - There is a pressure on parking permit income which it is anticipated will be partially resolved by a mid-year pricing review. £0.300m was set aside within reserves from surplus parking income in 2021/22 to alleviate this part year pressure so is not included in the forecast.
  - The figure below shows the monthly breakdown of the main parking income streams over the last 12 months.

**Figure 9 - Parking Income Streams December 2021- November 2022**

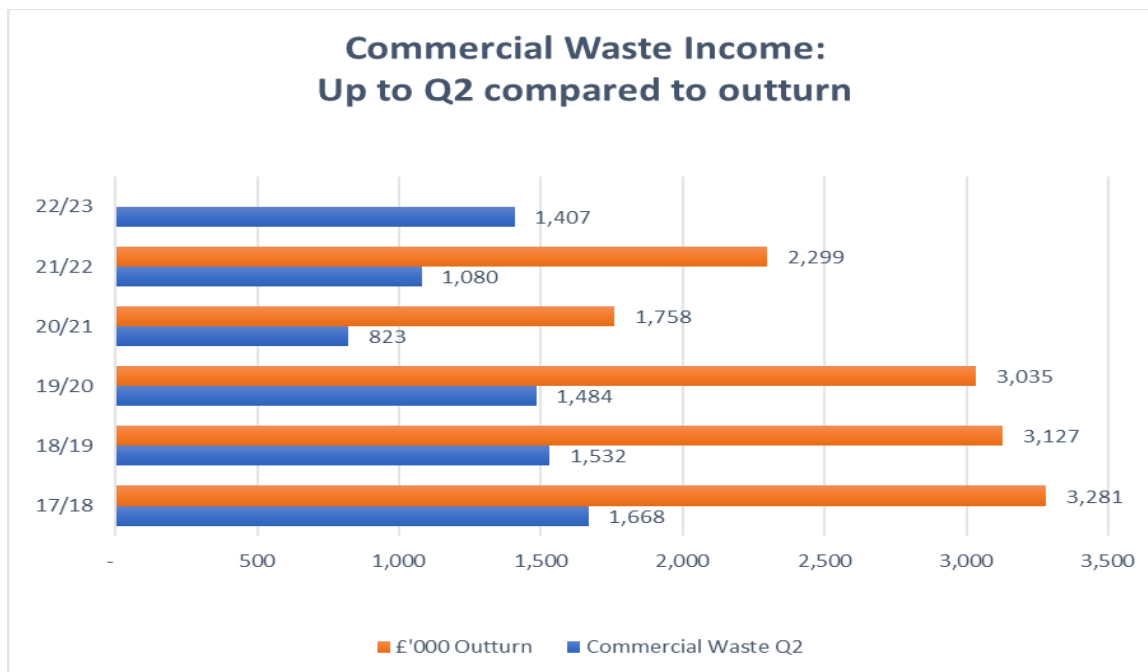


- In the leisure contract there is also a pressure around the energy price risk share where the council would bear 50% of the rise in the cost of energy. This risk is uncertain but is currently estimated to be +£0.576m. The capacity of GLL to absorb their portion of the

energy risk is currently unknown and may be dependent upon an in-year price rise as the inflationary cost pressures continue.

- The energy risk also impacts upon other service areas but particularly on the Street Lighting PFI contract. Some allowance has been made from the annual contract inflation provision however at current prices it is anticipated that this could be +£0.639m underprovided.
- There continues to be a pressure within the commercial waste service as the customer base recovers, however the first quarter income figures look encouraging. The chart below compares the income received during the first quarter compared to the outturn for the previous 5 financial years. The first quarter income of 2022/23 saw a return to pre-covid levels last achieved in 2018/19.
- There continues to be a pressure within the commercial waste service as the customer base recovers, however the first quarter income figures look encouraging. The chart below compares the income received during the first half compared to the outturn for the previous 5 financial years. The first half income of 2022/23 saw a return to pre-covid levels last achieved in 2018/19.
- With offsetting reductions in the commercial waste disposal levy it is estimated that there is a pressure of around £0.3m within the service. With a business plan to increase the customer base utilising and re-focussing existing resources this pressure is expected to diminish over time.

**Figure 10 - Quarter 2 Compared to Outturn: Current performance compared to last 5 years**



**All other areas are expected to break-even at this stage.**

4.37. Risks and opportunities within the Department are set out below.

4.38. Although the net zero carbon service is currently forecasting a nil variance, there is a possibility that it may underspend as there is a delay in the amount that is to be spent by

the Communications team. A plan determining how this is to be addressed is currently underway and the situation will be reviewed next month.

- The Street Operations Service (SOS) has a saving relating to charging for waste containers to RSLs totalling +£0.237m that is being assumed as met. However, the service still needs to identify exactly how +£0.197m of this saving is to be achieved.
- SOS' forecasts are dependent on management action taken from 19/09/22 around reducing agency costs i.e., reducing shifts from 580 weekly shifts to 400 (further action will be taken if necessary – costs will be vigorously monitored throughout the remaining months) and include insurance income from vehicle repairs.
- Public Protection has two savings totalling +£0.170m that is being assumed as met, however the service still needs to identify exactly how they will meet these savings.
- Possible NLWA levy rebate – an estimate of this for 22/23 will not be known until Feb 2023. However, in 19/21 it was -£0.191m, 20/21 -£0.780m and 21/22 -£0.460m - estimated.

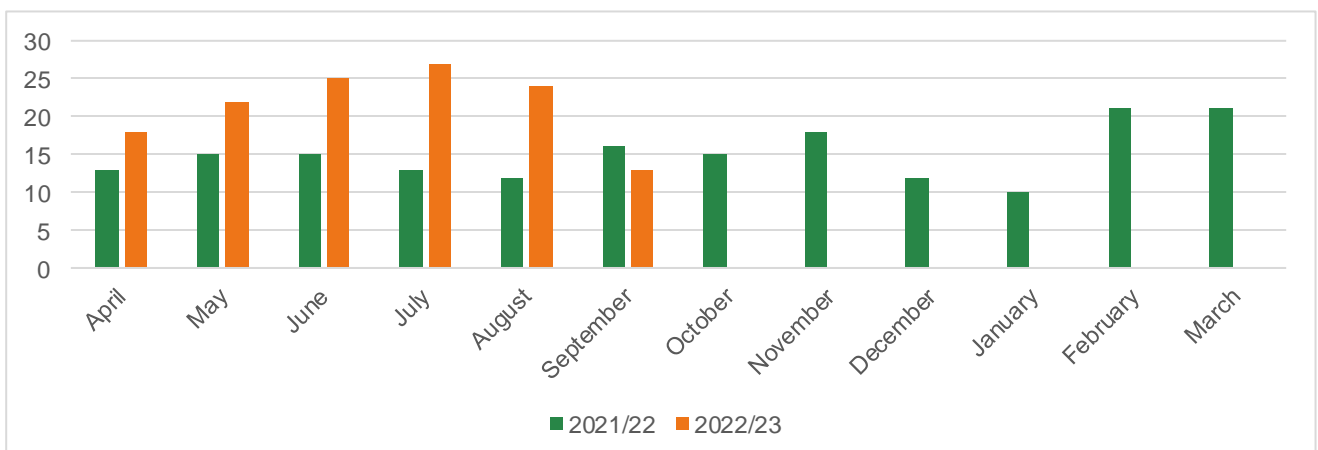
**Fairer Together +£0.194m, an increase of +£0.001m since the previous reported position**

4.39. The Fairer Together Directorate is currently forecasting a +£0.194m overspend, which is detailed by key variances in **Appendix 1**. This position has increased +£0.001m which is attributable to an increase in the unmet vacancy factor saving within Resident Experience.

4.40. Significant variances within the directorate are as follows:

- +£0.065m, +£0.001m since the previous reported position cost pressure from materialised risk of unmet vacancy factor savings, as the sheer volume of calls received by the Access Islington team means vacancies must be filled by agency or overtime to deal with current workload.
- +£0.055m, unchanged since the previous reported position cost pressure due to the cost of three temporary full time Customer Service agents to support the Council's Cost of Living campaign.
- +£0.021m, unchanged since the previous reported position cost pressure due to overtime to deal with Chief Executive complaints effectively and efficiently, to combat Ombudsman action and ultimately avoid fines.

**Figure 11 – 2021/22 Call volumes for the Chief Executive Team (Stage 2)**



- +£0.040m, unchanged since previous reported position COVID-19 related costs from We Are Islington, which was wound down by Month 5. These costs are for additional overtime and salary related expenditure, from providing extra support and assistance provided to the vulnerable, those isolating and communities in general.
- +£0.013m, unchanged since the previous reported position shortfall due to unmet income targets against courses supplied by Resident Experience.

4.41. Risks and opportunities are as follows:

- There is a risk that in addition to the reported +£0.064m overspend above, that an additional +£0.065m of the vacancy factor saving may be unmet. This risk, along with the reported overspend is equivalent to 3.5 full time Customer Service Agents.
- There is a risk in addition to the reported +£0.013m overspend above, that an additional +£0.014m of savings targets may be unmet due to the nature of the courses supplied by Resident Experience.
- There is a cost pressure +£0.017m risk within Resident Experience due to a redundancy payment if the staff member currently within a fixed-term contract is unable to be re-deployed.

**Homes and Neighbourhood -£0.526m underspend, a movement of -£0.422m since the previous reported position**

4.42. The Homes and Neighbourhood directorate is currently forecasting a -£0.526m underspend position, this is an increase of -£0.422m in underspend since month 6. The primary reason for the movement is the receipt of additional grants.

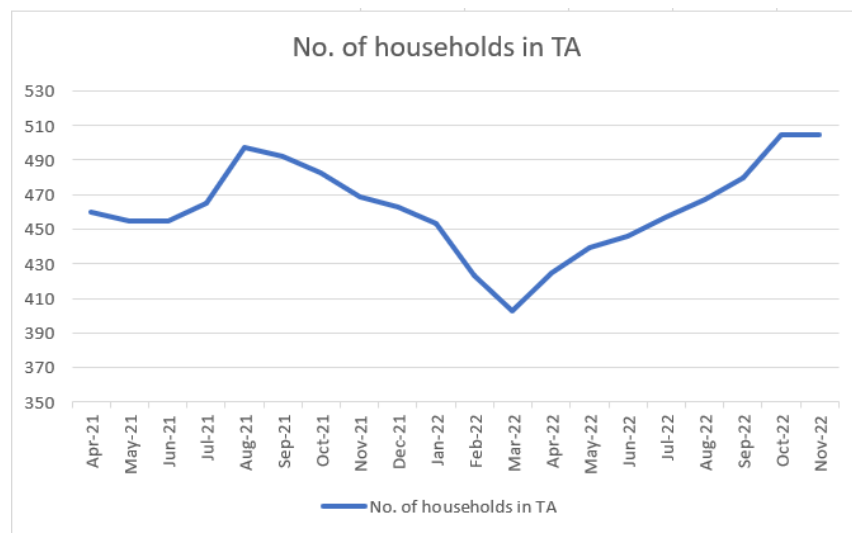
4.43. Within the underspend position there are a number of variances to note:

- Nightly Booked Temporary Accommodation (TA) is currently forecasting an underspend of -£0.678m. Numbers in TA overall are rising, but the department believes that it can accelerate cases moving out of TA, with a number of new Property Acquisition Programme (PAPs) properties becoming available. There has been a sharp decline in the use of more expensive Notting Hill Genesis properties.
- Bad debts/arrears are expected to be +£0.181m overspent. As case numbers rise and the cost of living impacts, then more people will be in a position where other priorities conflict with TA rents, resulting in increased arrears. The department will seek to reform the management of this area ensuring it is led by a specialist team, to drive a focus on improving outcomes and collection rates.
- Islington Lettings is currently forecasting +£0.174m pressure. Islington Lettings is a guaranteed rent scheme that means a liability is created when tenants do not pay their rent and arrears develop. The department is seeking to mitigate the cost of this scheme by removing tenants from this more expensive accommodation either by transferring them into nightly booked TA or by creating direct relations between the tenants and the landlords, moving them out of the scheme.
- This is offset by smaller variances detailed in **Appendix 1**.

4.44. There are a number of risks and opportunities to report for 2022/23. TA cases nationally are rising and expecting to rise to rise over the next 3 years by 20% per year by Heriot-Watt University. The local and national picture are increasingly difficult for the homeless:

- Nationally the cost-of-living crisis is beginning to impact on residents, private sector rents are rising in Islington by 16.2pc (based on inner-London rental values 2021).
- The number of private rented sector properties available to rent has fallen in London by 38% (July 2021 to July 2022).
- The number of evictions in the borough are rising due to the evictions ban ending in mid-2021.
- The number of cases presenting themselves to the team has risen in the first few months of 2022/23. The department is focusing on preventing case numbers rising insurmountably by increasing the number of clients being supported back into private sector options and through moving clients into cost neutral accommodation.

**Figure 12 – April 2021 to November 2022 Number of Households in Temporary Accommodation**



- Islington is participating in a number of refugee schemes, namely those for Syrian, Afghan and Ukrainian citizens. These projects, while coming with grant money, provide an increased burden on the service staff to manage this influx of clients. There is a risk that core No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) numbers may rise as the service struggles to absorb both sets of cases.
- A number of different capital grants are coming into the HRA/HGF that will lead to an increase in Islington’s acquisitions programme and the new Stacey Street project releasing up to 150 new properties. These properties will be cost neutral to the Housing General Fund budget and will help lower TA costs in the long term.
- Central government reviews of Homelessness Prevention Grant risk reduced funding for the Council. Current consultation estimates could see funding to Islington fall between £0.700m to £1.200m, which would come into effect from 2023/24.

4.45. Savings – Homes and Neighbourhood have a significant amount of savings £0.675m to be delivered in 2022/23. This report assumes that all par the reduction in numbers in TA will be achieved £0.100m. Sustained rises in case numbers are increasing the risk that this saving will not be delivered. The service can absorb this cost pressure in this financial year.

4.46. It is difficult to draw long-term conclusions for FY2023/24 for the department. TA case rises, potential Homelessness Prevention Grant Reductions, service restructure costs, and the return of one-off NRPF demography in FY2023/24 make the long-term position particularly fluid.

#### **Public Health (Break-even), unchanged since previous reported position**

4.47. Public Health is funded by a ring-fenced grant of £28.135m in 2022/23. The directorate is currently forecasting a break-even position.

4.48. There are number of variances that may impact on the department and have been included in the current forecast for 2022/23:

- The Sexual Health Service is currently in an underspend position. The Sexual Health Service continues to pay suppliers at baseline tariffs, and it is expected that this will continue for the remainder of the year. There have been additional costs related to an increase in activity for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and the E-Service.
- Since the last reported position, there has been a +£0.081m movement in the Obesity and Physical Activity division. This is due to a two-year pilot programme that has recently been commissioned relating to Adult Weight Management Get Active service.
- The department is funding number of one-off projects +£0.499m in the Other Public Health Division. This will be met from underspends in the remaining divisions. The total underlying underspend position is -£0.717m. The remaining -£0.218m underspend will be transferred to the Public Health reserves at the end of the year.

4.49. There are number of risks and opportunities in the area for 2022/23 and further:

- The PrEP budget has previously not been fully utilised, but this was more a consequence of the pandemic preventing full access to the service. Demand is continuing to increase and is likely to fully consume any additional funding in the year ahead.
- There is an increase in the use of online sexual health services that are not offset by a reduction in costs for in-clinic sexual health services, which have been significantly impacted by the response to the outbreak of Mpox virus. Public Health cannot offset online sexual health service costs in the short term. It is possible that in the longer term some efficiencies across the whole sexual health system can be realised, but at the current time, the Mpox virus outbreak following the impacts on operation over the first two years of the Covid pandemic means that this is a sector that is still in recovery.
- There are challenges in the Sexual Health services from the Mpox virus. Vaccination costs are paid from NHSE, but the assessment, testing and treatment may have direct or indirect financial impacts on the service if support to meet the additional cost pressure is not provided by DHSC or NHSE.
- The demerger between Camden and Islington risks creating a number of financial pressures. Additional staff may be required and there will be previously shared costs that may need to be absorbed solely going forward. It is too early to determine the financial outcome from this process, but the loss of overhead income from Camden would create a financial pressure of +£0.213m.



- Inflation risks creating financial pressures for providers, resulting in requests for additional payments or risk of provider failure, forcing the service to find alternative provision at additional cost. Inflationary pressures risk increased pay awards that will consume a greater share of the Public Health grant.
- The department has been awarded an additional core Public Health grant uplift of £0.767m from the 2021/22 allocation. It is unclear if this uplift will be needed to pay for the Agenda for Change pay awards in contracts, if so, this will likely consume all the uncommitted uplift.

4.50. Savings – Public Health have a significant amount of recurring savings £0.433m to be delivered in 2022/23. At this stage it is assumed that all savings will be delivered.

**Resources +£0.038m, an increase of +£0.038m since the previous reported position**

4.51. The Resources Directorate is currently forecasting an overspend of +£0.038m, an increase of +£0.038m since the last reported position. The main items making up this forecast are:

- -£0.296m forecast underspend against the activity and training budgets within human resources due to slippage in the roll-out of training programmes.
- +£0.272m net staffing cost pressure across the whole directorate.
- +£0.300m pressure due to the replacement of hardware devices to meet demand and as existing stock reaches the end of its life.
- -£0.360m underspend against the cost of software licenses.

4.52. Risks within the directorate include:

- There is an inflationary pressure and exchange rate risk in re-negotiating contracts with Digital Services suppliers. The service is monitoring this on an individual contract basis.
- Since the start of the pandemic the Digital Services department has had to improve technology in several areas, and this has seen a significant increase in projects. Digital Services are reviewing spend profiles on all projects in the department to ensure that project forecasts are robust and mitigate overspend risks on projects. The pressure in this area will become clearer as the review is completed.

**Corporate Items +£5.756m, an increase of +£0.543m since the previous reported position**

4.53. The corporate items forecast is a +£5.756m overspend, an increase of +£0.543m since the last reported position. This is as a result of the application of the one-off underspend on the corporate levies budget.

4.54. The pressures relate largely to the working assumption of the minimum 2022/23 pay award, based on the most recent Local Government pay offer. There is currently a centrally held budget to allow for a 2% pay award in 2022/23. The latest local government pay offer for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 is for a flat rate increase of £2,355 (for NJC pay points). On average, across the Council's payroll, initial estimates are that this would equate to a 6% increase in the council's pay bill. This would add an estimated £5.779m pressure to the in-year budget monitoring position. This is offset largely (at this stage) by applying the council's £5m contingency budget to the month 5 forecast. The ongoing, additional cost will need to be reflected in the 2023/24 base budget position going forward.

4.55. The latest transformation fund allocations and anticipated drawdowns are included at **Appendix 3** for noting. An additional allocation of £0.070m against the Transformation Fund, for the People Friendly Streets programme, is included within **Appendix 3** for agreement.

## Collection Fund Update

### Background

4.56. The recovery of council tax and business rates continues to be affected by the impact on household budgets of the cost-of-living crisis. The collection and recovery of collection fund income could be adversely affected in the current year.

4.57. Council tax and business rates income is a major source of the council's overall funding, representing around 24% of the council's gross general fund income. The combined collection fund income (council tax and business rates) is shared with the Greater London Authority (GLA) and central government. The council currently keeps 76.9% of council tax income collected, approximately £102.3m, and 30% of business rates income, approximately £73.7m, based on the estimated 2022/23 budget.

4.58. Collectable gross income and actual outturn is offset by number of reliefs such as single person discounts and exemptions (council tax) and charity relief (business rates).

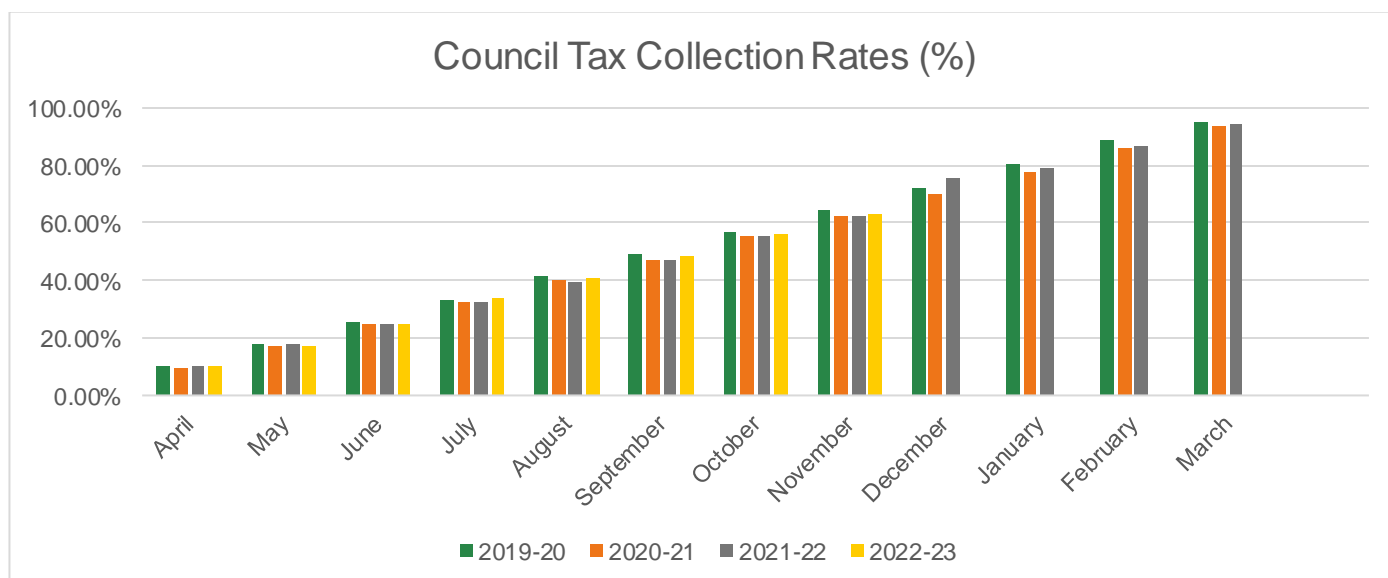
### Current Collection Rate

4.59. The council has set an in-year target collection rate for council tax collection of 95.33%, against which 63.4% (£91.6m) has been collected at month 8. This is -1.21% lower than the monthly in-year target.

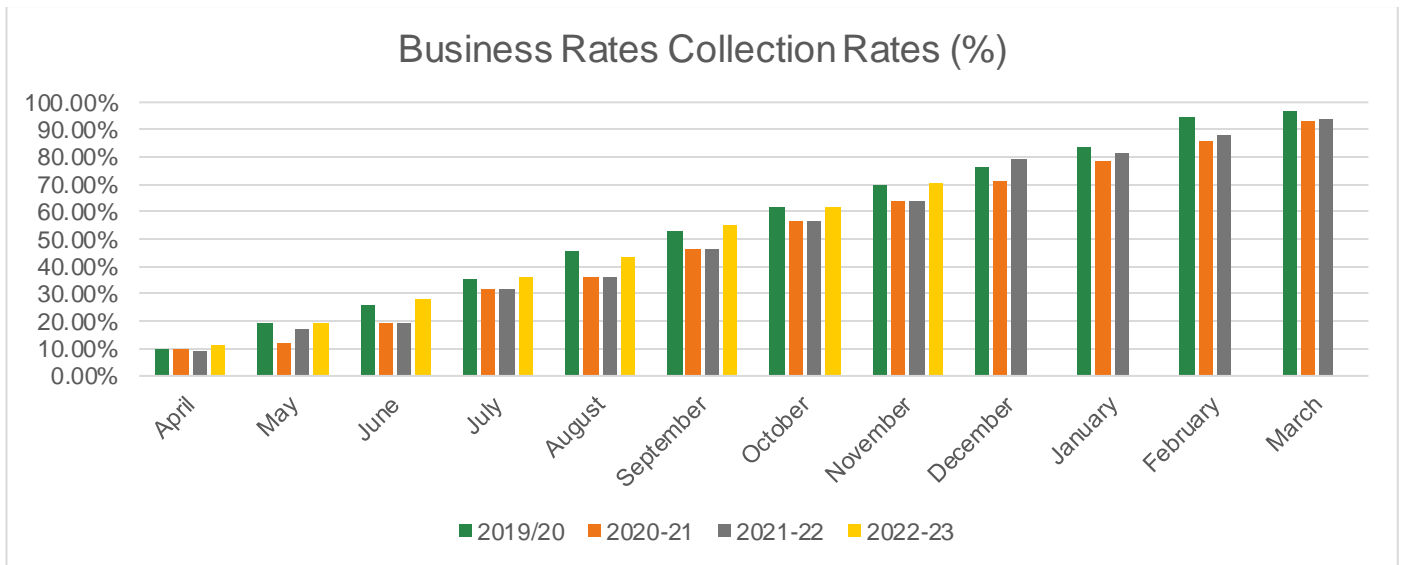
4.60. For business rates the council has set an in-year target 96.7%, against which 70.7% (£204.4m) has been collected at month 8. This is +1.02% higher than the monthly in-year target rate.

4.61. The two graphs below illustrate the recovery trends of in-year council tax and business rates by month and year.

**Figure 13 – Council Tax In-Year Collection Rate Trend**



**Figure 14 – Business Rates In-Year Collection Rate Trend**



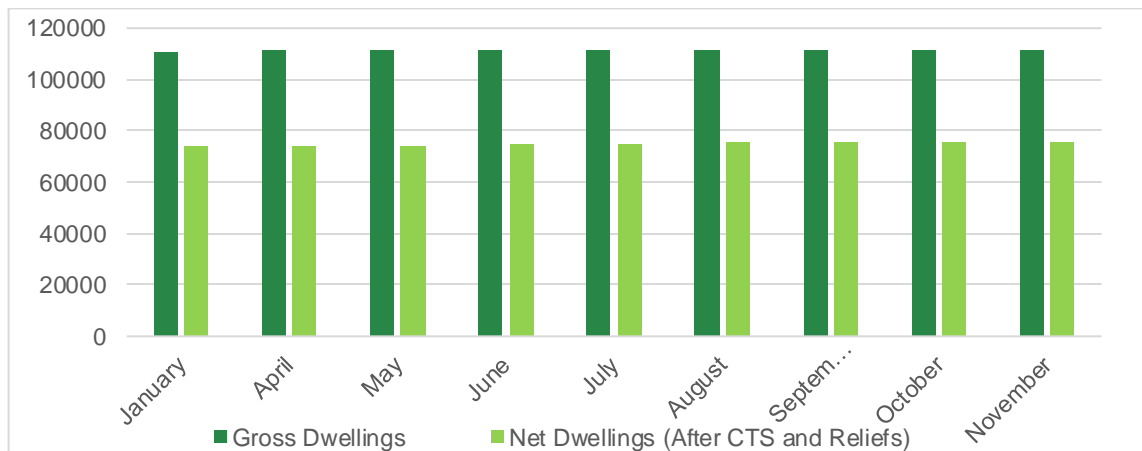
Arrears Analysis

- 4.62. The level of total council tax arrears outstanding at month 8 is £85.8m (£65.9m is Islington’s share), of which £52.8m (£40.6m Islington’s share) or 62% being the current year arrears. The remaining £33.0m relates to prior years.
- 4.63. Out of the overall £85.8m current outstanding debts, it is estimated that £7.2m (8%), or 10,968 accounts, relate to payers who are in receipt of council tax support.
- 4.64. The level of total NNDR arrears outstanding at month 8 is £112.5m (£33.8m is Islington’s share) of which £84.5m (£25.4m Islington’s share) or 75.2% being the current year arrears. The remaining £27.9m relates to prior year arrears.

Taxbase Analysis

- 4.65. At January 2022, the overall council’s gross dwellings were estimated to be 111,023 and net dwellings for taxbase purposes, after adjusting for Council Tax Support and various reliefs but before the collection losses, were 74,459. The number of gross dwellings currently stands as at 111,298, which is an increase of 0.25% and estimated net dwellings 75,332, an increase of 1.17%.

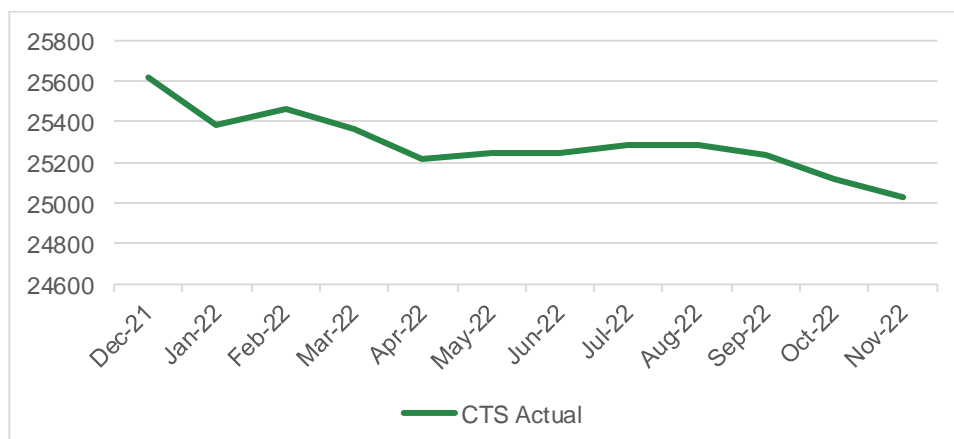
**Figure 15 – Monthly Changes in Gross Dwellings and Estimated Taxbase Before Collection Losses.**



**Additional Commentary**

- 4.66. At month 8 the council has paid out £10.1m or 95.4% of the available grants (67,437 properties) for the government’s £150 Energy Bill Rebates scheme to help households with rising costs of living. This is available to properties in council tax bands between bands A to D.
- 4.67. The council has also paid out £2.4m or 98.9% of total available grants from the Discretionary Fund to 26,983 households.
- 4.68. Of the £17.2m grant provided to the council under the Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF) scheme, the council has approximately made a net payment of, £16.8m or 94.2%. This is a reduction to previous reported figure due to reversals and cancellation.
- 4.69. The virtual court hearings system for both council tax and business rates continue to operate efficiently. At month 8 the council has issued 19,736 summonses (16,175 council tax and 3,561 business rates). Based on the current trend, costs raised through the summonses are in line with budget estimates.
- 4.70. At month 8 Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme caseload stood at 25,029 representing £31.3m in financial terms), of which 18,049 (£21.9m) related to working-age recipients and 6,980 (£9.5m) related to pension-age recipients.

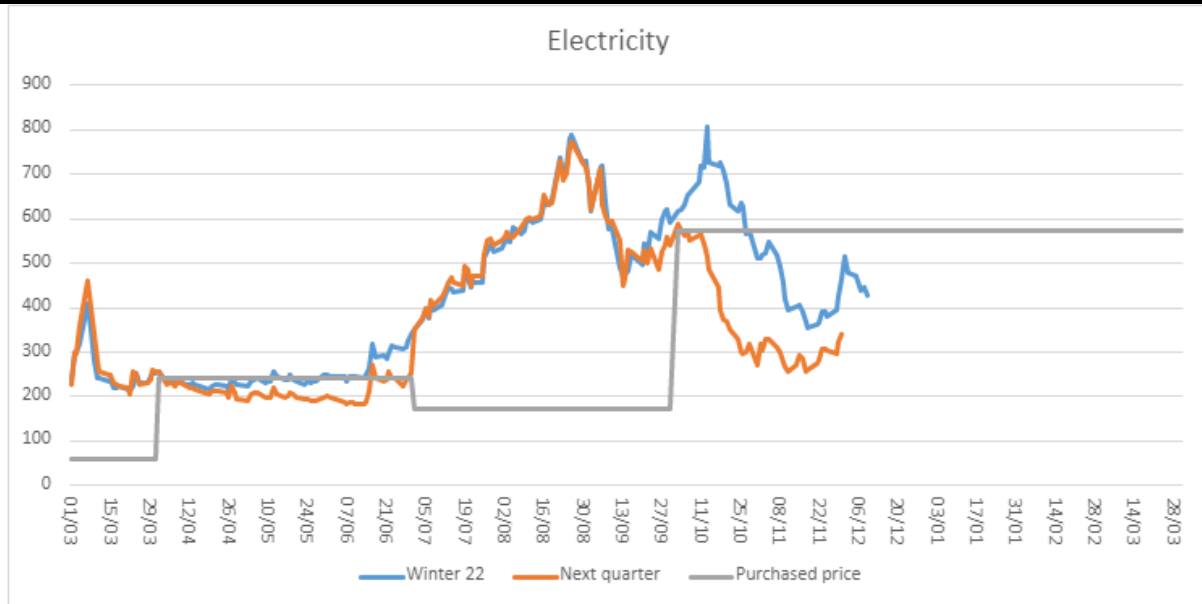
**Figure 16 – Total Council Tax Support Case Load Over 2022/23**



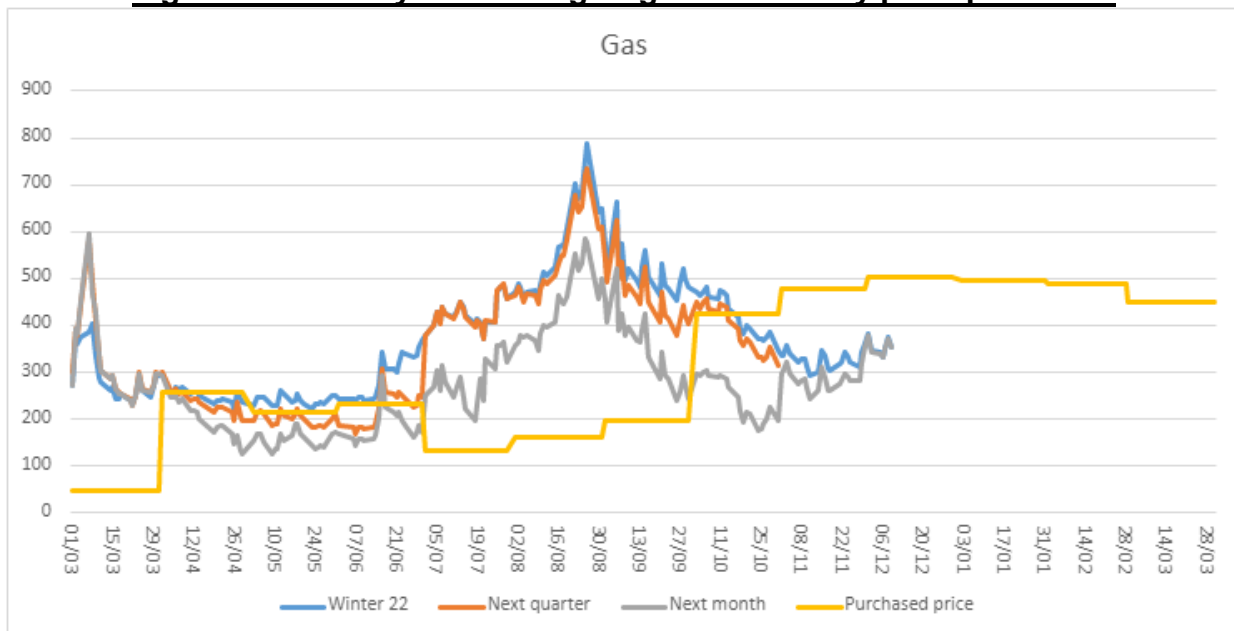
## Energy Price Analysis – Month 8

4.71. Rising energy prices, global supply chain issues and the economic consequences of the war in Ukraine have driven inflation levels to a 40-year high. It is important that the impact of rising prices is monitored within departmental monitoring submissions with, in addition, a more wide-ranging analysis in this section. This assists in identifying trends and impacts over time. The graphs below reflect the movements in price since 1 March 2022.

**Figure 17 - Weekly monitoring of electricity commodity price at Megawatt per hour**



**Figure 18 - Weekly monitoring of gas commodity price per therm**



4.72. For quarter 1 of 2022/23 the council purchased electricity at £243/Megawatt (MW) and gas at an average price of 235p/therm. This equated to end user costs of around 37p/kWh for electricity and 9p/kWh for gas (a figure which includes an estimate of the standing charges). Volume was estimated at 2021/22 levels with an allowance of 20% in reduction or increase on usage. There was a drop in prices for quarter 2 and electricity was

purchased at £173/MWh and gas at 163p/therm on average, resulting in end user prices of around 30p/kWh for electricity and 7p/kWh for gas.

- 4.73. There was a sharp increase in commodity prices for quarter 3 and quarter 4 since mid-June. This occurred while the council was waiting for the development and sign-off of a new energy purchasing strategy commissioned from an energy market consultancy firm.
- 4.74. Following the development and subsequent adoption of this strategy, the council purchased electricity at £575/megawatt (MW) and gas at an average price of 477p/therm. This equated to end user costs of around 70p/kWh for electricity and 17p/kWh for gas (a figure which includes an estimate of the standing charges).
- 4.75. The government has introduced an 'Energy Bill Relief Scheme: help for businesses and other non-domestic customers' to take effect from 1 October 2022. The government is providing a discount for all non-domestic energy users at £211 per megawatt hour (MWh) for electricity and £75 per MWh for gas. Suppliers will apply reductions to the bills of all eligible non-domestic customers.
- 4.76. **Table 5** shows the estimated quarterly costs of gas and electricity for the General Fund and Leisure Centres, HRA and Schools following the introduction of the price cap. These estimates are based on the prices purchased at and 2021/22 usage figures.

**Table 5 – Quarterly Electricity and Gas estimates for 2022/23**

Period	General Fund		HRA		Schools (Incl. academies)	
	Elec. £m	Gas £m	Elec. £m	Gas £m	Elec. £m	Gas £m
Quarter 1 average	1.108	0.418	1.746	1.392	0.664	0.357
Quarter 2 average	1.010	0.268	1.411	0.615	0.539	0.160
Quarter 3 average	1.320	0.550	1.683	2.059	0.641	0.529
Quarter 4 average	1.257	0.629	1.683	2.459	0.641	0.632
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.696</b>	<b>1.864</b>	<b>6.524</b>	<b>6.526</b>	<b>2.485</b>	<b>1.679</b>
<b>Total Gas and Electricity</b>	<b>6.560</b>		<b>13.050</b>		<b>4.164</b>	

- 4.77. **Table 6** shows energy pressures of +£3.031m, reflected in the month 8 general fund and HRA financial positions.

**Table 6 – Current Energy Pressures - 2022/23 Month 8**

<b>Directorate/Service</b>	<b>General Fund £m</b>	<b>HRA £m</b>
CWB - Corporate Landlord Services	1.816	-
Environment - Pressure on Leisure Contract	0.576	-
Environment - Street Lighting Contract	0.639	-
Landlord supplies and community centres (non-recoverable)	-	0.220
	<b>3.031</b>	<b>0.220</b>

4.78. Further commentary on figures in Table 6 is included in the directorate narratives within the main body of the report. There is also commentary in the directorate narratives on emerging energy risks.

## **5. Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**

- 5.1. The HRA is currently forecasting an in-year surplus of -£2.228m, -£6.780m change since previous reported position.
- 5.2. As the HRA is a ring-fenced account, a surplus or deficit at the end of the financial year will be transferred to or from HRA reserves.
- 5.3. Variances within the department includes:
  - -£0.584m favourable variance from rent and service charge income (excluding the mid-year revised communal electricity charges, effective from 28 November), representing 0.31% of rent and tenant service charge income budgets. This is detailed in the table below:

**Table 7 – Rent and service charge income - 2022/23 Month 8**

	<b>Current Budget £m</b>	<b>Forecast £m</b>	<b>Variance £m</b>
Dwelling rents	(168.394)	(168.604)	(0.210)
Tenant service charges	(19.263)	(19.637)	(0.374)
<b>Total Dwelling rents and tenant service charges</b>	<b>(187.657)</b>	<b>(188.241)</b>	<b>(0.584)</b>

- +£0.403m staffing cost pressure resulting from the 2022-23 Pay award. This is detailed in the table below:

**Table 8 – Staff Costing Pressures HRA**

	<b>£m</b>
Impact of the 2022-23 Pay award to the HRA	2.615
Staffing cost underspends	(1.005)
Costs able to be capitalised	(0.276)
2022-23 Pay award assumed at budget setting (2%)	(0.931)
<b>Net staffing cost pressure</b>	<b>0.403</b>

- Following the return of PFI 2 stock to Council management a re-assessment of the budget provision allocated in respect of PFI 2 stock indicates that the service can be provided at a lower cost than initially anticipated. This is expected to result in a -£1.000m underspend within the repairs and maintenance service.
- -£0.450m forecast underspend variance from rent and service charge income, representing 0.35% of rent and service charge income budgets against provisions provided to accommodate one-off mobilisation costs arising from the re-integration of PFI 2 street properties to council management
- Works to migrate tenants on housing benefits to universal credit has not progressed at a pace initially anticipated. As such, one-off provisions set aside to manage cost pressures that may have arisen is expected to be lower than budgeted (-£0.400m).
- The early repayment of the HRA's Pension deficit in 2022/23 of £20.000m funded from a planned drawdown from HRA reserves will relieve the HRA from annual pension deficit contributions, generating a saving of -£1.600m per annum.
- -£3.080m in respect of reduced Capital financing costs. A combination of temporarily funding the New build programme from reserves in 2021/22 and New build slippage of £47.936m in 2022/23 (from £104.885m to £56.949m) has reduced the HRA's budgeted increase in borrowing by £47.094m (£33.902 in 21/22 & £13.192 in 22/23) and as such, has reduced interest costs in 2022/23 by £3.080m. It should be noted that this reduction in borrowing is simply a timing issue, the overall borrowing requirement to fund the new build programme remains unchanged.
- +£0.716m - the use of HRA reserves to temporarily fund the new build programme in 2021/22 has resulted in a reduction to HRA balances and, as such, interest receivable in respect of HRA reserve balances are expected to reduce.
- +£3.487m increase in depreciation costs anticipated as a result of an upward revaluation of HRA dwelling assets during 2021-22. Whilst this appears to represent a cost pressure to the HRA, this is a technical overspend. Depreciation costs are transferred to the Major Repairs Reserve (MRR) to fund HRA major works projects, as such, the increase in MRR balances will reduce the use of Revenue Contributions to Capital Expenditure (RCCO) over the medium term thus no adverse impact on the HRA
- In light of the spiralling cost of energy, a mid-year Housing Service Charges review was undertaken. With effect from 28 November 2022, heating and hot water charges and communal electricity charges were revised which aims to recover the increased costs of supplying gas and electricity to HRA residents.
- The Council has taken immediate action to reduce the impact of increasing gas costs for our residents and took important steps to reduce the heating season and heating hours of the communal heating service, reducing the provision of communal heating by 5 hours a day and the heating period by 6 weeks. By reducing energy usage, it is expected a saving of approximately -£1.128m will be achieved and bring costs down for our residents to a more affordable level.
- To further support tenants who are struggling with household bills, the council has decided to limit the increases in gas costs by investing the remaining £1.126m balance held in the tenant heat reserve to cover some of the increases tenants face.



- As a result of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme and the reduced heating hours, the forecast cost increases have been revised down to +£4.546m, +£2.176m gas and +£2.370m electricity.

**Table 9** below outlines the expected costs arising from the increased energy prices:

**Table 9 – Energy Budget and Forecast Variances 2022/23**

		Before Energy Bill Relief Scheme			After EBRS and Reduced Heating Hours		
		2022/23 Budget (£m)	Forecast BEFORE (£m)	Variance BEFORE (£m)	Forecast AFTER (£m)	Variance AFTER (£m)	Reduction in cost (£m)
Landlord supplies and community centres (not recoverable)	Elec	0.245	0.594	0.349	0.377	0.132	(0.217)
	Gas	0.083	0.300	0.217	0.171	0.088	(0.129)
<b>Landlord supplies &amp; community centres total</b>		<b>0.328</b>	<b>0.894</b>	<b>0.566</b>	<b>0.548</b>	<b>0.220</b>	<b>(0.346)</b>
Communal Electricity and heating supplies (recoverable from tenants and leaseholders)	Elec	3.726	9.026	5.300	5.964	2.238	(3.062)
	Gas	3.040	10.952	7.912	5.128	2.088	(5.824)
<b>Communal electricity &amp; heating total</b>		<b>6.766</b>	<b>19.978</b>	<b>13.212</b>	<b>11.092</b>	<b>4.326</b>	<b>(8.886)</b>
<b>Total energy costs</b>		<b>7.094</b>	<b>20.872</b>	<b>13.778</b>	<b>11.640</b>	<b>4.546</b>	<b>(9.232)</b>

- It is anticipated the income generated from the revised charges will off-set the increased costs for supplying communal electricity and heating.
- +£0.220m of the increased costs relate to supply costs for landlord supplies and community centres which are not recoverable from tenants and leaseholders, thus representing a cost pressure to the HRA.

#### 5.4. HRA Reserves position:

- The table below outlines the anticipated HRA reserves position as at 31 March 2023.

**Table 10 – Forecast HRA Reserves Position as at 31 March 2023**

	£m
<b>HRA Reserves – Balance as of 1st April 2022</b>	<b>+74.027</b>
Early repayment of HRA's pension deficit	-20.000
Transfer from revenue to HRA reserves	+10.350
<b>HRA Reserves – Anticipated balance as of 31st March 2023</b>	<b>+64.377</b>

- HRA 2022/23 reserves opening balance totals £74.027m, whilst these reserves are in the long term designated to funding the major works capital programme, in the short term the reserves are available to temporarily delay borrowing thus reduce capital financing costs.

- The early repayment of the HRA's pension deficit will relieve the HRA from annual contributions towards the pension deficit, generating annual savings of £1.600m.

5.5. Risks and opportunities within the department include:

Heat Metering Regulation

- The Heat Network (Metering and Billing) Regulations 2014 requires all properties connected to a heat network to have end point level meters or building level meters installed. Meters are to be installed by 1 September 2022 (on buildings that meet the viability criteria) and failure to comply will mean that the council could face fines which are equivalent to the value of the works required to make our network compliant.
- We are engaging with the Department for Business Energy & Industrial relations Strategy (BEIS) & keeping them aware of our progress, BEIS are satisfied with our progress towards compliancy as such there is currently no threat of fines being levied, even though we are officially in breach of the deadline. Engagement with BEIS will be maintained as a priority to mitigate this risk of fines as far as is possible. Our understanding is that that many other LA's further behind than Islington Council.
- Of the already assessed housing stock, 650 properties have been identified as meeting the criteria work is currently under way, which is due to complete in 2023/24, to install end point meters in these properties.
- Of the remaining stock some we are unable to assess because we do not have the necessary block level data to run the viability model as such work is currently under way to install block level meters to facilitate the required viability assessments.
- The balance of stock relates to properties we were able to assess as not requiring meters.
- Once end point metering is installed, the council is legally obliged to bill residents based on their individual use, considering the cost of fuel, contract costs including repairs and maintenance costs. Local authorities are expected to operate on a not-for-profit basis.
- Several properties that require meters installed are currently on the pooled heating system and by virtue, will be removed from the pool once meters are installed. This is likely to distort the charges for those remaining in the pool which could cause a movement in charges levied on tenants from current levels.
- The installation of end point meters and Building level meters in particular sites that are older and more complex will require significant investment. It is unclear what the full costs of these works will be until a full assessment has been carried out.

Increase Bad Debt Provision (BDP) in relation to the revised communal electricity and heating charges

- Measures have been put in place to reduce the impact of rising energy costs, the revised charges will mean charges will be higher than they were at the start of the year. The cost-of-living crisis is already affecting hundreds of thousands of families and households and the increased charges will likely impose further financial pressure on families and household on communal heat networks and communal electricity. As such, an allowance for BDP may be necessary to accommodate the risk of tenants falling into arrears and become irrecoverable as a result of the increased charges. Whilst its not known if a BDP

in respect of communal electricity and heating charges is required at this stage, a provision for such costs has been set aside in the HRA business plan.

## 6. Capital Programme 2022/23

- 6.1. At the end of month 8, total capital expenditure of £83.302m had been incurred against a 2022/23 full year forecast of £165.136m, representing 50% of the forecast capital expenditure.
- 6.2. This is summarised between the non-housing and housing capital programme in **Table 11** and detailed in **Appendix 4**.

**Table 11 – 2022/23 Capital Programme**

Directorate	Agreed Budget (£m)	21/22 Outturn Adj. (£m)	Budget Changes as at M8 (£m)	Revised Budget (£m)	Actuals to Date (£m)	Forecast Outturn (£m)	Forecast Variance (£m)
Community Wealth Building	19.721	3.940	(2.564)	<b>21.097</b>	7.647	13.024	(8.072)
Environment	25.481	5.255	(11.817)	<b>18.919</b>	4.761	18.920	0.001
<b>Total GF</b>	<b>45.202</b>	<b>9.195</b>	<b>(14.381)</b>	<b>40.016</b>	<b>12.408</b>	<b>31.944</b>	<b>(8.072)</b>
Homes and Neighbourhoods	168.607	16.651	(49.947)	<b>135.311</b>	70.894	133.192	(2.119)
<b>Total HRA</b>	<b>168.607</b>	<b>16.651</b>	<b>(49.947)</b>	<b>135.311</b>	<b>70.894</b>	<b>133.192</b>	<b>(2.119)</b>
<b>Total Programme</b>	<b>213.809</b>	<b>25.846</b>	<b>(64.328)</b>	<b>175.327</b>	<b>83.302</b>	<b>165.136</b>	<b>(10.191)</b>

- 6.3. Current forecasts suggest approximately the amount spent in the first 8 months of the year will be spent again in the remaining 4 months. Capital spend analysis of the last 3 financial years shows an average spend in the second half of the financial year being approximately £77m – there is currently £81m forecast to be spent in months 9 to 12 of 2022/23.
- 6.4. For agreement as part of this report, services are requesting to reprofile capital budgets to future financial years. This request is summarised for agreement in **Table 12**.

**Table 12 – Slippage Requested to Future Financial Years at Month 8 2022/23**

Directorate	Slippage Requested £m
Community Wealth Building	(5.745)
Environment	0.000
<b>Total GF</b>	<b>(5.745)</b>
Homes and Neighbourhoods	0.000
<b>Total HRA</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Total Programme</b>	<b>(5.745)</b>

- 6.5. Key terms:

- Capital Slippage – The reprofiling of capital budgets to future financial years to match forecast timing of expenditure, whilst staying within the approved project budget.

- Capital Acceleration - The reprofiling of capital budgets from future financial years to match forecast timing of expenditure, whilst staying within the approved project budget.
- Capital Additions - Capital budgets may be added in year where these are to be funded by resources available to the Council, including grant funding.
- Capital Reduction – A reduction in an agreed capital budget.
- Underspend - Where a capital scheme spend is less than the budget agreed.
- Overspend – Where a capital scheme spend is more than the budget agreed.

### **General Fund Position (Capital)**

6.6. As at month 8 there is a variance to the budget of -£8.072m against a budget of £40.016m. All of this variance relates to capital slippage (for agreement in this report) to be reprofiled into future years to match the latest expected spend profile.

### **Community Wealth Building**

6.7. Forecast outturn is reported at £13.024m against a revised budget of £21.096m. The variance of -£8.072m relates to capital re-profiling of -£5.745m and capital underspends/reductions -£2.327m.

6.8. As part of rolling reviews of project deliverability and funding pressures, the following schemes have been reprofiled into future years £5.745m

- High Needs Provision Allocation – -£1.337m - the Council's capital award was fully allocated into 22/23 on receipt but is now fully reprofiled in line with anticipated project delivery.
- Future Work Phase 2 – -£1.331m slipped in line with the delayed decision on the FutureWork business case. Subject to business case approval, the majority of the work will be carried out in 23/24.
- New River College SEND/Elthorne – -£1.291m - the programme has slipped as a result of scope changes and other delivery pressures, phase one of construction works expected to start before March 2023

6.9. The scheme(s) requesting acceleration £0.080m to the current financial year (22/23) include:

Prior Weston Primary School Playground Redevelopment - £0.080m acceleration is requested, as for works to be carried out in summer 2023, surveys must be undertaken and the design must be finalised in 2022/23. This will reduce the risk of the project slipping into summer 2024 and potential inflationary price increases.

6.10. The following schemes were completed have confirmed underspends/reductions for the year:

- Enhanced Children's Residential Provision – -£0.526m reduction due to being unable to secure match funding for the scheme.
- Schools Tufnell Park School Expansion – -£0.579m – scheme completed
- The scheme at Holly Hall has been discontinued (-£0.550m) as the property was not deemed fit for purpose, and a new scheme for 16-18 Hornsey Road has been proposed £0.050m.

## **Environment**

- 6.11. The Environment Directorate capital forecast is expenditure of £18.920m compared to the revised 2022/23 capital budget of £18.920 (which includes £11.817m of reprofiling agreed as at M6 2022/23). As at the end of month 8, £4.761m of capital expenditure had been incurred, representing 25.2% of the revised capital forecast
- 6.12. In month 8, a deep dive was carried out in line with the budget setting process to ensure budgets have been profiled correctly and delivery is on track. The revised capital forecast assumes a significant amount of capital expenditure in the last 4 months of the financial year (£14.159m) which is aligned to the milestones of the various projects. Schemes such as the Retrofit schemes for the WRC and New River College, as well as a significant component of the WRC electrification (infrastructure) project will be completed in year.

## **Housing Capital Programme**

- 6.13. The Housing (HRA & GF) capital forecast totals £133.192m compared to the revised 2022/23 capital budget of £135.311m (which includes £16.651m of net slippage from 2021/22 primarily in respect of the new build prog. Less £49.947m slipped to future years agreed as at month 6 2022/23).
- 6.14. Forecast outturn is reported at £133.192m, of which:
- £40.006m relates to the major works capital programme covering the cost of investment in existing HRA stock.
  - £56.949m relates to the HRA's new build programme.
  - The remainder £36.237m relates to the acquisition programme of properties for temporary accommodation which is on target.
- 6.15. The overall forecast reflects a variance totalling £2.119m which is made up of; slippage of £185k in respect of the new build programme, slippage of £1.434m in respect of the major works and improvements programme and a potential underspend of £500k in respect of the major works programme relating to retrofitting pilots which can only proceed if carbon offset grant is available which remains unconfirmed.
- 6.16. The £40.006m capital programme of major works and investment is largely on track for delivery except for £2.5m slippage due to on-going cyclical improvement prog. planning delays and the re-phasing and repackaging of projects. This slippage is offset by £1.1m of increased expenditure in respect of voids (kitchens & bathrooms) & high value repairs capitalisation.
- 6.17. The slight increase, at month 8, in new build prog. slippage of £185k continues to relate to unforeseen on-site events and global inflationary pressures either delaying contract award or creating supply chain issues/labour shortages which is impeding contractor productivity and progress on site.

## **Section 106/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding**

- 6.18. The Community Infrastructure Levy (the 'levy') is a charge which can be levied by local authorities on new development in their area based on an approved charging schedule which sets out its levy rates. Most new development which creates net additional floor space of 100 square metres or more, or creates a new dwelling, is potentially liable for the levy.

- 6.19. In Islington, 50% of the CIL (known as Strategic CIL) collected from a development is used to help fund the Council's annual Capital Programme.
- 6.20. For the other 50% Ward Councillors (in consultation with officers, constituents, ward partnerships etc) are asked to make recommendations to the Borough Investment Panel on how this funding is allocated.
- 6.21. A 15% proportion of the 50% (known as Local CIL) can be allocated to the provision, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. The remaining 35% (known as Strategic-Local CIL) can be allocated for the provision, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure.
- 6.22. Planning obligations, secured through Section 106 Agreements of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, are used to make developments acceptable in planning terms that would not be acceptable otherwise. Obligations can include either direct provision of a service or facility, financial contributions towards a provision made by the Council or external service provider, or both. With the introduction of the CIL in 2014, the council mostly now secures financial S106 contribution for non-CIL eligible infrastructure or to meet specific planning policy requirements such as off-site affordable housing and affordable workplace payments, carbon offsetting and employment and training contributions.
- 6.23. The table below sets out current budget position for S106 and CIL including current year income and spend forecast.

**Table 13 – Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy**

Fund	Received in 2022/23 (£m)	Brought Forward (£m)	2022/23 Forecast Expenditure (£m)	Forecast Carry Forward to 2023/24 (£m)
S106	2.804	28.384	5.444	25.744
CIL	2.772	13.989	3.431	13.330
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.576</b>	<b>42.373</b>	<b>8.875</b>	<b>39.074</b>

- 6.24. The current combined S106 and CIL Balance is £47.95m. This consists of £33.4m that has been allocated to various projects and programmes and £13.8m that is unallocated.
- 6.25. There is a capital forecast spend of £6.375m in the current financial year. A number of S106/CIL funded capital projects are at planning stage with the majority of spend expected in future years. The overall budget also includes £9m of funding allocated to revenue programmes and projects including staff costs, and an expected £2.5m revenue spends in the current financial year.
- 6.26. Of the £13.8m unallocated funding, £3.8m is Strategic CIL which has been earmarked to fund the recently launched Thriving Neighbourhoods Programme. A further £4m has been secured from S106 Agreements for Affordable Housing and Affordable Workspaces and it is expected this will be allocated before the end of the year.

## 7. Implications

- 7.1. **Financial Implications:** These are included in the main body of the report.
- 7.2. **Legal Implications:** The law requires that the council must plan to balance its spending plans against resources to avoid a deficit occurring in any year. Members need to be

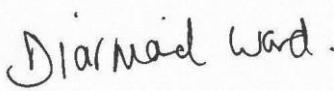
reasonably satisfied that expenditure is being contained within budget and that the savings for the financial year will be achieved, to ensure that income and expenditure balance (Section 28 Local Government Act 2003: the council's Financial Regulations 3.7 to 3.10 Revenue Monitoring and Control).

- 7.3. **Environmental Implications:** This report does not have any direct environmental implications.
- 7.4. **Equality Impact Assessment:** The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.
- 7.5. An equality impact assessment (EQIA) was carried out for the 2022/23 Budget Report agreed by Full Council. This report notes the financial performance to date but does not have direct policy implications, therefore a separate EQIA is not required for this report.

**Appendices:**

- **Appendix 1** – General Fund and HRA Revenue Monitoring by Variance
- **Appendix 2** – 2022/23 Revenue by Service Area – GF, HRA, Inter Directorate Virements
- **Appendix 3** – Transformation Fund Allocations
- **Appendix 4** – Capital Programme 2022/23
- **Appendix 5** – Savings Delivery Tracker 2033/23

Background papers: None

Signed by:		
	Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance	Date:22.12.2022

**Responsible Officer:**

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**Appendix 1: 2022/23 Key Variances - Month 8**

DIRECTORATE/DIVISION	VARIANCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	OVER/(UNDER)SPEND M8 2022/23 £m
<b>ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES</b>			
Integrated Community Services	Overspend	Service Users from Hospital Discharge Schemes in previous financial years	0.992
Integrated Community Services	Overspend	Service Users entering through Hospital Discharge Schemes in 2022-23	0.253
Integrated Community Services	Overspend	Demand over Demographic Growth to date	0.838
Integrated Community Services	Overspend	Demand over Demographic Growth forecast for the rest of the year	0.243
Integrated Community Services	Overspend	Late Authorisations of Care Packages relating to 2021-22	1.545
Integrated Community Services	Income	Additional Client Contributions	(0.500)
Integrated Community Services	Income	Direct Payments Surplus	(0.500)
In House Provider Services	Saving Slippage	In House Transformation Slippage	0.828
Learning Disabilities	Saving Slippage	Slippage in the review of Learning Disabilities package.	0.230
Mental Health	Saving Slippage	Delays in mental health accommodation moves from out of borough back to Islington	0.170
Adult Social Care	Overspend	Senior Leadership Team Staffing	0.325
Adult Social Care	Overspend	Social Work Staffing	0.348
Adult Social Care	Underspend	Non pay underspends	(0.317)
Strategic Commissioning	Overspend	Delay to Opening of Beaumont Rise	0.258
Adult Social Care	Income	Use of Fair Cost of Care and Adult Social Care Discharge Grants	(1.000)
<b>Total Adult Social Services</b>			<b>3.713</b>
<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>			
Communications	Overspend	Unfunded costs relating to mandatory project relating to accessible documents	0.070
Communications	Overspend	Net overspend on employee and supplies / services costs	0.019
Communications	Overspend	Overspend on print costs on Islington Now	0.004
Print Services	Overspend	Net overspend on additional paper / print costs and employee costs	0.010
<b>Total Chief Executive</b>			<b>0.103</b>
<b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>			
Early Intervention and Prevention	Timing issue	Commitments in Early Help against the multi-year budget provision. Income recognised in full in previous year's, therefore this is a timing issue.	0.173
Early Intervention and Prevention	Loss of income	Potential loss of income from paid for childcare provision post Covid-19 due to reduced demand	0.112
Early Intervention and Prevention	Underspend	Staffing and other net underspends in Children's Centres	(0.122)
Early Intervention and Prevention	Underspend	Unallocated grant aid budget	(0.061)
Early Intervention and Prevention	Income	Use of Holiday Activities and Food funding to meet eligible costs of Lunch Bunch	(0.100)
Early Intervention and Prevention	Income	Shortfall in funding for the young black men and mental health project offset by staffing underspends	0.070
Learning and Culture	Overspend	Structural shortfall in the budget for Cardfields and Schools HR and shortfall in income	0.343
Learning and Culture	Loss of income	Loss of income at Laycock due to capital works	0.069
Learning and Culture	Overspend	Increased demand for SEND transport and personal transport budgets	0.100
Learning and Culture	Underspend	Reduced demand for universal free school meals	(0.167)
Learning and Culture	Loss of income	Cut in School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering grant that cannot be mitigated in-year	0.077
Learning and Culture	Underspend	Net staffing underspend and commissioning efficiencies	(0.060)
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Forecast pressure against the Children's Social Care placements budget due to increased demand	2.481
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Estimated pressure against the budget for care proceedings due to a sustained increase in activity levels in the last 2 financial years that does yet appear to be reducing	0.379
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Estimated SEND transport related cost pressure in relation looked after children in out of borough provision	0.127
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Staffing cost pressures in Children's Social Care	0.553
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Non-staffing cost pressures in Children's Social Care	0.371
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Increased demand for parent / child contact services	0.069
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Demand pressure on personal budgets	0.259
Safeguarding and Family Support	Income	Net Home Office income in relation to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children	(0.565)
Health Commissioning	Overspend	Staffing pressures in health commissioning	0.033
Young Islington	Overspend	Forecast cost in relation to underwriting income losses while income levels continue to recover at Lift and Rosebowl	0.241
Young Islington	Overspend	Cost pressure from bring youth provision at Platform back in-house offset by staffing underspends	0.281
Young Islington	Overspend	Estimated overspend against the budget for secure remand	0.094
Young Islington	Loss of income	In-year cut in Youth Justice Board Remand grant funding	0.057
<b>Total Children's Services</b>			<b>4.814</b>
<b>COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING</b>			
Corporate Landlord	Overspend	Increased energy costs on contract	1.816
Inclusive Economy	Overspend	Staffing cost pressures	0.182
Corporate Landlord	Income	Commercial Property Income shortfall	0.890
<b>Total CWB</b>			<b>2.888</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Business Performance & Improvement	Underspend	Net underspend within the division	(0.057)
Street Lighting	Overspend	Increased energy costs on PFI contract	0.639
Leisure	Overspend	Energy risk share for leisure centres	0.576
Greenspace	Overspend	Vacancy Factor pressure within the Grounds Maintenance Service	0.168
Tree Service	Overspend	Net overspend forecast within the service	0.050
Parking	Loss of Income	Lower levels of pay and display income	1.500
Parking	Additional Income	Higher levels of suspension income	(1.500)
Commercial Waste	Loss of Income	Reduced volume of activity	0.802
Commercial Waste	Saving	Reduction in levy due to reduced tonnages	(0.393)
Street Services Operations	Overspend	Additional staff costs as a result of the two extra bank holidays this year	0.090
Street Services Operations	Overspend	Net employee / supplies & services overspend forecast throughout the rest of the division	0.035
<b>Total Environment</b>			<b>1.910</b>
<b>Fairer Together</b>			
We Are Islington	Cost Pressure	Cost of COVID-19 response 'We Are Islington', wound down in Q2. Additional overtime/salary related expenditure incurred due to extra support and assistance provided to vulnerable, isolating and communities	0.040
Resident Experience	Cost Pressure	Staffing overspend across Resident Experience due to vacancy factor saving, nature of service	0.065
Resident Experience	Cost Pressure	Cost of three temporary full time Customer Service agents to support the Council's Cost of Living Campaign	0.055
Resident Experience	Cost Pressure	Overtime for Chief Executive and Ombudsman Complaints, in order to ensure an orderly handling of complaints so Ombudsman action is avoided	0.021
Resident Experience	Loss of income	Unmet income targets from courses supplied by Resident Experience	0.013
<b>Total Fairer Together</b>			<b>0.194</b>
<b>HOMES &amp; NEIGHBOURHOODS</b>			
Housing Needs	Underspend	Temporary Accommodation: Nightly Booked/PSL	(0.758)
Housing Needs	Overspend	Bad Debt/Arrears: Case numbers in TA are rising and due to the impact of cost of living, other priorities will conflict with TA rent, resulting in increased arrears.	0.181
Housing Needs	Overspend	Islington Lettings - Charges for voids and uncollected rent.	0.174
Housing Needs	Underspend	Other Housing Needs	(0.123)
<b>Total H&amp;N</b>			<b>(0.526)</b>
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>			
Obesity & Physical Activity	Overspend	Commissioning of 2 year pilot programme for Adult Weight Management Get Active Service	0.076
NHS Health Checks	Underspend	Activity numbers continue to be low in 22/23. Figures are based on last years data.	(0.042)
Public Health	Overspend	Overspend from remaining PH divisions.	0.030
Smoking & Tobacco	Underspend	Activity numbers to be low in 22/23	(0.064)
<b>Total Public Health</b>			<b>0.000</b>
<b>RESOURCES DIRECTORATE</b>			
Human Resources	Underspend	Projected underspend against the organization development training and activities budgets	(0.296)
Human Resources	Overspend	Maternity cover and staffing costs of clearing the Disclosure and Barring Service backlog	0.197
Human Resources	Overspend	Cost pressure from the human resources system development work	0.092
Business Support	Underspend	Net staffing pressure in business support	0.010
Law and Governance	Overspend	Use of agency staff to cover vacant posts	0.127
Director of Resources	Underspend	Net staffing underspend due to vacancies	(0.378)
Finance	Overspend	Increase in cost of external audit fees	0.070
Finance	Underspend	Forecast underspend against bank charges	(0.040)
Digital Services	Overspend	Device replacement costs	0.300
Digital Services	Overspend	Agency spend in Digital Services	0.316
Digital Services	Underspend	Net underspend against bank charges partially offset by pressures on digital projects	(0.360)

**Appendix 1: 2022/23 Key Variances - Month 8**

<b>Total Resources</b>			<b>0.038</b>
<b>Directorates Total</b>			<b>13.134</b>
<b>CORPORATE</b>			
Pay Award	Cost Pressure	Pay Award (Latest Offer)	5.756
<b>Total Corporate</b>			<b>5.756</b>
<b>GROSS GENERAL FUND</b>			
<b>NET GENERAL FUND</b>			<b>3.268</b>
Less: Corporate Energy Provision			(1.400)
Less: Corporate Energy and Inflation Reserve			(5.509)
Less: Social Care Reserve			(3.713)
General Contingency			(5.000)

### Appendix 1: 2022/23 Key Variances - Month 8

DIRECTORATE/DIVISION	VARIANCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	OVER/(UNDER)SPEND M8 2022/23 £m
<b>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT</b>			
Finance	Additional Income	Favourable rent and service charges income projections	(0.584)
Finance	Underspend	PFI 2 mobilisation costs lower than anticipated	(0.450)
Finance	Underspend	Migration of tenants on housing benefit to universal credit works not progressing as anticipated resulting in reduced costs	(0.400)
Finance	Underspend	HRA pension deficit contributions	(1.600)
Finance	Underspend	Reduced capital financing costs resulting from a reduction in borrowing	(3.080)
Housing Property Services	Underspend	Repairs and maintenance PFI2 street properties	(1.000)
Finance	Loss of income	Reduction in interest receivable on HRA reserve balances	0.716
Finance	Loss of income	Parking Income	0.060
Housing Revenue Account	Overspend	2022/24 staff Pay award	0.403
Finance	Overspend	Technical overspend resulting from an anticipated increase in depreciation charges	3.487
Homes and Communities	Overspend	Increasing energy costs for landlord supplies and community centres (not recoverable from tenants and leaseholders) & Communal electricity and gas costs	0.220
<b>Total Housing Revenue Account</b>			<b>(2.228)</b>

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**Appendix 2: 2022/23 Budget Monitoring by Service Area - Month 8**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>					
	<b>Expenditure Budget</b>	<b>Income Budget</b>	<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Outturn</b>	<b>Over/ (Under) Month 8</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES</b>					
Adult Social Care	(3.140)	(28.459)	(31.599)	(32.243)	(0.644)
In House Provider Services	8.709	(1.715)	6.994	7.822	0.828
Integrated Community Services	53.020	(18.882)	34.138	37.179	3.041
Learning Disabilities	37.714	(8.362)	29.352	29.582	0.230
Strategic Commissioning	37.836	(20.334)	17.502	17.760	0.258
<b>Total Adult Social Services</b>	<b>134.139</b>	<b>(77.752)</b>	<b>56.388</b>	<b>60.100</b>	<b>3.713</b>
<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIRECTORATE</b>					
Chief Executive's Office	0.378	(0.342)	0.036	0.036	0.000
Communications	2.199	(1.091)	1.108	1.211	0.103
<b>Total Chief Executive's</b>	<b>2.577</b>	<b>(1.433)</b>	<b>1.145</b>	<b>1.247</b>	<b>0.103</b>
<b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>					
Young Islington	9.914	(4.049)	5.865	6.539	0.674
Safeguarding and Family Support	54.333	(10.093)	44.240	47.913	3.673
Learning and Culture	219.548	(200.087)	19.461	19.824	0.363
Early Intervention & Prevention	30.239	(18.660)	11.579	11.651	0.072
Strategy and Commissioning	1.818	(1.046)	0.772	0.805	0.033
Directorate	0.759	(1.347)	(0.588)	(0.588)	0.000
<b>Total Children's Services</b>	<b>316.611</b>	<b>(235.282)</b>	<b>81.329</b>	<b>86.144</b>	<b>4.815</b>
<b>COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING</b>					
Community Finance Resilience	5.841	(3.995)	1.846	1.846	0.000
Corporate Landlord	24.262	(12.794)	11.468	14.174	2.706
Capital Delivery Team	0.060	0.000	0.060	0.060	0.000
Directorate	0.326	0.000	0.326	0.326	0.000
Inclusive Economy	5.722	(3.047)	2.675	2.857	0.182
Planning & Development	4.237	(3.683)	0.554	0.554	0.000
Procurement	1.352	0.000	1.352	1.352	0.000
<b>Total Community Wealth Building</b>	<b>41.800</b>	<b>(23.519)</b>	<b>18.281</b>	<b>21.169</b>	<b>2.888</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>					
Business Performance & Improvement	1.300	(0.517)	0.783	0.726	(0.057)
Climate Change & Transport	20.605	(8.040)	12.565	13.204	0.639
Directorate	0.887	(0.560)	0.326	0.326	0.000
Environment & Commercial Operations	55.740	(67.839)	(12.099)	(10.771)	1.328
Public Protection	11.369	(7.962)	3.407	3.407	0.000
<b>Total Environment</b>	<b>89.900</b>	<b>(84.918)</b>	<b>4.982</b>	<b>6.892</b>	<b>1.910</b>
<b>FAIRER TOGETHER</b>					
Management	0.188	0.000	0.188	0.188	0.000
Resident Experience	4.968	(2.448)	2.520	2.714	0.194
Community Partnerships	3.249	(0.897)	2.352	2.352	0.000
Early Intervention & Prevention	2.088	(1.331)	0.757	0.757	0.000
Fairness & Equalities	3.049	(1.412)	1.636	1.636	0.000
<b>Total Fairer Together</b>	<b>13.541</b>	<b>(6.088)</b>	<b>7.453</b>	<b>7.648</b>	<b>0.194</b>
<b>HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS</b>					
Temporary Accommodation (Homelessness Direct)	12.181	(9.237)	2.944	2.370	(0.574)
Housing Needs (Homelessness Indirect)	4.252	(3.413)	0.839	1.014	0.175
Housing Strategy and Development	0.025	0.000	0.025	0.025	0.000
Housing Administration	1.155	(0.131)	1.024	1.048	0.024
No Recourse to Public Funds	1.477	(0.363)	1.115	0.964	(0.151)
Community Safety	1.155	(0.788)	0.367	0.367	0.000
<b>Total Homes and Neighbourhoods</b>	<b>20.246</b>	<b>(13.933)</b>	<b>6.313</b>	<b>5.787</b>	<b>(0.526)</b>
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>					
Children 0-5 Public Health	3.672	0.000	3.672	3.665	(0.007)
Children and Young People	2.492	(0.160)	2.332	2.333	0.001
NHS Health Checks	0.265	0.000	0.265	0.223	(0.042)
Obesity and Physical Activity	0.655	0.000	0.655	0.731	0.076
Other Public Health	12.091	(31.858)	(19.767)	(19.675)	0.093
Sexual Health	6.534	(0.893)	5.641	5.634	(0.007)
Smoking and Tobacco	0.455	0.000	0.455	0.391	(0.064)
Substance Misuse	6.747	0.000	6.747	6.697	(0.050)
<b>Total Public Health</b>	<b>32.911</b>	<b>(32.911)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.000)</b>	<b>(0.000)</b>
<b>RESOURCES</b>					
Digital Services	20.060	(5.434)	14.626	14.882	0.256
Director of Resources	0.857	0.000	0.857	0.479	(0.378)
Finance	216.190	(209.998)	6.192	6.222	0.030
Human Resources	4.087	(1.501)	2.586	2.579	(0.007)
Law and Governance	6.942	(3.610)	3.332	3.459	0.127
Business Support	3.946	0.000	3.946	3.956	0.010
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>252.082</b>	<b>(220.543)</b>	<b>31.539</b>	<b>31.577</b>	<b>0.038</b>
<b>Directorates Total</b>	<b>903.808</b>	<b>(696.378)</b>	<b>207.430</b>	<b>220.564</b>	<b>13.134</b>

**Appendix 2: 2022/23 Budget Monitoring by Service Area - Month 8**

	Expenditure Budget	Income Budget	Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	Over/ (Under) Month 8
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>CORPORATE</b>					
Other	23.079	0.000	23.079	28.856	5.777
Levies	16.631	0.000	16.631	16.631	0.000
Corporate Financing	1.124	0.000	1.124	1.124	0.000
Specific Grants	0.000	(8.298)	(8.298)	(8.321)	(0.023)
Technical	0.000	(25.960)	(25.960)	(25.960)	0.000
Reserves	0.000	(15.913)	(15.913)	(15.913)	0.000
Provisions	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council Tax	0.000	(106.494)	(106.494)	(106.494)	0.000
Core Funding	0.000	(101.935)	(101.935)	(101.935)	0.000
Covid/business grants	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Pensions	10.335	0.000	10.335	10.335	0.000
<b>Total Corporate Items</b>	<b>51.169</b>	<b>(258.600)</b>	<b>(207.430)</b>	<b>(201.676)</b>	<b>5.756</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>954.977</b>	<b>(954.977)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>18.888</b>	<b>18.890</b>
Less: Corporate Energy Provision					(1.400)
Less: Corporate Energy and Inflation Reserve					(5.509)
Less: Social Care Reserve					(3.713)
General Contingency					(5.000)
<b>NET GENERAL FUND</b>					<b>3.268</b>

**Appendix 2: 2022/23 Budget Monitoring by Service Area - Month 8**

<b>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT(HRA)</b>			
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Outturn</b>	<b>Over/(Under) Spend Month 8</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Dwelling Rents	(168.394)	(168.747)	(0.353)
Tenant Service Charges	(19.263)	(21.117)	(1.854)
Non Dwelling Rents	(1.384)	(1.384)	0.000
Heating Charges	(2.552)	(4.640)	(2.088)
Leaseholder Charges	(17.112)	(17.727)	(0.615)
Parking Income	(2.175)	(2.115)	0.060
PFI Credits	(6.140)	(6.140)	0.000
Interest Receivable	(0.990)	(0.274)	0.716
Contribution from the General Fund	(0.816)	(0.816)	0.000
Transfer from HRA Reserves	0.000	(20.000)	(20.000)
Other Income	(0.500)	(0.500)	0.000
<b>Income</b>	<b>(219.326)</b>	<b>(243.460)</b>	<b>(24.134)</b>
Repairs and Maintenance	42.857	42.357	(0.500)
General Management	61.717	79.470	17.753
PFI Payments	13.087	13.087	0.000
Special Services	26.894	31.989	5.095
Rents, Rates, Taxes & Other Changes	0.974	0.974	0.000
Capital Financing Costs	19.782	16.702	(3.080)
Depreciation (mandatory transfer to Major Repairs Reserve)	31.842	35.329	3.487
Bad Debt Provisions	2.250	2.250	0.000
Contingency	6.108	5.258	(0.850)
Revenue Contributions to Capital Expenditure	5.694	5.694	0.000
Transfer to HRA Reserves	8.121	10.350	2.229
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>219.326</b>	<b>243.460</b>	<b>24.134</b>
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>

**Inter-Directorate Virements/Movements 2022/23**

Description	Adults	Chief Executive	CWB	Childrens	Fairer Together	Housing	Environment	Resources	Public Health	Corporate	Net Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>56.769</b>	<b>1.228</b>	<b>16.626</b>	<b>84.966</b>	<b>7.112</b>	<b>6.354</b>	<b>5.390</b>	<b>28.258</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(206.703)</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Agreed Growth	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.395	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.395)	0.000
Business Support Review	(0.609)	(0.080)	0.000	(1.941)	(0.037)	0.000	(0.275)	3.142	0.000	(0.200)	0.000
Procurement Saving apportionment	(0.321)	(0.004)	0.954	(0.244)	(0.017)	(0.040)	(0.133)	(0.060)	0.000	(0.133)	0.000
Resident Support Scheme allocation	0.000	0.000	(0.550)	0.000	0.550	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other (e.g. recharges, structural)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.200)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000
Structural Adjustments (Not Virements)	0.550	0.000	1.251	(1.251)	(0.550)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>56.388</b>	<b>1.145</b>	<b>18.281</b>	<b>81.329</b>	<b>7.454</b>	<b>6.313</b>	<b>4.982</b>	<b>31.539</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(207.432)</b>	<b>0.000</b>



### **Appendix 3 - Transformation Fund Allocations**

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>REMAINING EARMARKED AMOUNT £m</b>	<b>Anticipated Drawdown 2022/23 £m</b>
Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care Transformation phase 1	<b>0.125</b>	<b>0.125</b>
Adult Social Care	Adult Social Care Transformation phase 2	<b>0.457</b>	<b>0.457</b>
Adult Social Care	Assistive Technology	<b>0.128</b>	<b>0.128</b>
Children's Services	Children's Social Care Transformation	<b>0.752</b>	
Children's Services	Foster Care Housing Adaptation Scheme (PM cost)	<b>0.005</b>	<b>0.005</b>
Children's Services	ASIP (Adolescent support intervention project)	<b>0.725</b>	<b>0.490</b>
CWB	Procurement Capacity	<b>0.251</b>	<b>0.251</b>
CWB	FutureWork - Phase 1 Business Case	<b>0.581</b>	<b>0.581</b>
Environment	SES Back Office System	<b>0.292</b>	<b>0.292</b>
Environment	People Friendly Streets	<b>0.070</b>	<b>0.070</b>
Fairer Together	Resident Experience	<b>0.243</b>	<b>0.243</b>
Resources	Workforce Strategy	<b>0.250</b>	<b>0.250</b>
Resources	Applications upgrades & HR Zellis	<b>1.048</b>	<b>1.048</b>
Resources	Legal Case Management	<b>0.424</b>	<b>0.424</b>
Resources	Systems Review	<b>0.422</b>	<b>0.422</b>
Resources	Modernising Finance	<b>0.222</b>	<b>0.222</b>
Resources	Intranet Re-design	<b>0.180</b>	<b>0.180</b>
Resources	Digital Experience Platform	<b>2.022</b>	<b>2.022</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8.198</b>	<b>7.211</b>

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**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
CLS	Non-Housing	Adventure Playgrounds - Cornwallis Adventure Playground	0.218	0.036	0.000	<b>0.254</b>	0.759	0.505	0.196	Overspend	Recent fire at Cornwallis - likely to lead to delays and substantial cost increase to be mitigated via insurance claims. Project initially anticipated to be completed by Jan '23.
CLS	Non-Housing	Adventure Playgrounds - Martin Luther King	0.124	0.119	0.000	<b>0.243</b>	0.467	0.224	0.123	Overspend	Contractors on sit - expect completion by Feb '23.
CLS	Non-Housing	Adult Social Care	0.000	0.227	0.000	<b>0.227</b>	0.227	0.000	0.177	No Current Variance	Multiple projects at various stages
CLS	Non-Housing	Early Years and Children's Centres	0.185	0.116	0.000	<b>0.301</b>	0.132	(0.169)	0.000	Underspend	As below
CLS	Non-Housing	Early Years Capital	0.332	0.239	0.000	<b>0.571</b>	0.000	(0.571)	0.113	Underspend	Includes some kitchen compliance works which are due to complete by end of Summer.
CLS	Non-Housing	Primary Schools Condition Schemes/Schools Modernisation SEN	1.780	0.193	0.000	<b>1.973</b>	0.682	(1.291)	0.370	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Projects at various stages. Kitchen and Windows / Fabric works are due to be completed by the end of summer. New schemes are also going through the budget allocation process via schools forum etc.
CLS	Non-Housing	Schools - Schools Condition Schemes	2.278	1.066	(0.564)	<b>2.780</b>	2.680	(0.100)	1.696	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	In progress. Projects are various stages. New schemes to go through the budget allocation process via schools forum etc. Slippage reported on new window schemes. Tender returns have come in over budget. Currently on hold, to be rescope building in decarbonisation element.
CLS	Non-Housing	Schools Major Works	0.000	0.133	0.000	<b>0.133</b>	0.193	0.060	0.034	Overspend	In Final Accounts
CLS	Non-Housing	Schools - Tufnell Park School Expansion	0.688	0.021	0.000	<b>0.709</b>	0.050	(0.659)	0.000	Underspend	In Final Accounts, some disputes to be resolved but asset in use.
CLS	Non-Housing	Toffee Park & Radnor St Gardens	1.828	0.122	(1.850)	<b>0.100</b>	0.044	(0.056)	0.001	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Reporting slippage as project currently on hold. Delays in getting the brief finalised. Spend expected from October (work on design to start but not expected to complete this financial year. Therefore construction is expected to start next year.
CLS	Non-Housing	Enhanced Special Needs Provision	1.743	0.000	0.000	<b>1.743</b>	0.406	(1.337)	0.050	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Funding mainly for NRC Elthorne. Options being reviewed to advance decarbonisation on this project to secure Salix funding
CLS	Non-Housing	Packington Nursery Expansion	0.180	0.000	0.000	<b>0.180</b>	0.005	(0.175)	0.005	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	At early phase of project. Expect to have further scoping over the next few months.
CLS	Non-Housing	The Zone Youth Club - Refurbishment and Reconfiguration	0.128	0.000	0.000	<b>0.128</b>	0.128	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	New project - project still being scoped.
CLS	Non-Housing	Enhanced Children's Residential Provision	0.526	0.000	0.000	<b>0.526</b>	0.000	(0.526)	0.000	Underspend	
CLS	Non-Housing	Lift Building Development	0.550	0.000	0.000	<b>0.550</b>	0.200	(0.350)	0.000	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Isledon have been given "licence to alter". LBI will transfer a lump sum for the works. Isledon are liable for any increase in costs. Project is at early feasibility stages
CLS	Non-Housing	Finsbury Leisure Centre Redevelopment	0.858	0.143	0.000	<b>1.001</b>	0.927	(0.074)	1.336	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	The programme is currently in RIBA stage 2. Viability assessment is being worked up with the design team. A position is expected by early September
CLS	Non-Housing	Libraries - Islington Museum and Local History Centre	0.200	0.100	(0.150)	<b>0.150</b>	0.050	(0.100)	0.021	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Subject to planning conditions, this project is anticipated to be delivered by July 2023.
CLS	Non-Housing	Libraries - South Library	0.200	0.107	0.000	<b>0.307</b>	0.307	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	
CLS	Non-Housing	Libraries - West Library	0.100	0.127	0.000	<b>0.227</b>	0.227	0.000	0.305	No Current Variance	Part of "We are Cally". Delayed start but expected to complete this year.
CLS	Non-Housing	Libraries Modernisation	0.150	0.029	0.000	<b>0.179</b>	0.179	0.000	0.084	No Current Variance	
CLS	Non-Housing	Compliance and Modernisation	3.410	0.740	0.000	<b>4.150</b>	3.421	(0.729)	2.043	Other	Awaiting budget transfer to Cornwallis and Martin Luther King Adventure playgrounds
CLS	Non-Housing	Whittington Park Hocking Hall Community Centre Phase 1	1.346	(0.112)	0.000	<b>1.234</b>	1.234	0.000	0.793	No Current Variance	Projected to budget but the project is at risk of overspend due to delays from variations in the contract. Pre-lim costs to be reviewed at which point revised costs will be know. Project is still anticipated to complete this financial year (delayed from a September finish).

**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
CLS	Non-Housing	Mildmay Library	0.450	0.000	0.000	<b>0.450</b>	0.040	(0.410)	0.019	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	The projects team is still awaiting confirmation on the project brief from the Fairer Together team and the Library Services. Subject to clarification from the Energy Team on their Net Zero Carbon requirements for this site, the budget for this project could rise further.
CLS	Non-Housing	Holly Hall	0.550	0.000	0.000	<b>0.550</b>	0.000	(0.550)	0.004	Other	Due to the extreme dilapidations of this building that it will need substantial refurbishment works carried out to it plus the project team do not have a defined project brief from the Fairer Together team relating to how they wish Holly Hall to be reconfigured.
CLS	Non-Housing	Future Work Phase 2	1.631	0.000	0.000	<b>1.631</b>	0.300	(1.331)	0.243	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	On track. Works in conjunction with Transformation (revenue) project
CLS	Non-Housing	CWB Small S106/CIL Schemes	0.066	0.000	0.000	<b>0.066</b>	0.066	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	Allocated to a number of projects. Expected to spend in full.
CLS	Non-Housing	Laycock Street	0.000	0.233	0.000	<b>0.233</b>	0.000	(0.233)	0.019	Other	On track and in progress. Works expected to start from October
CLS	Non-Housing	GGF Affordable Work Space	0.000	0.300	0.000	<b>0.300</b>	0.300	0.000	0.015	No Current Variance	Construction started. Expected to complete before end of the year
CLS	Non-Housing	Vorley Road Library	0.200	0.000	0.000	<b>0.200</b>	0.000	(0.200)	0.000	Other	
Environment	Non-Housing	Bunhill Energy Centre Phase 2	0.000	0.578	0.000	<b>0.578</b>	0.578	0.000	0.283	No Current Variance	
Environment	Non-Housing	Corporate CCTV Upgrade	2.200	1.154	(2.354)	<b>1.000</b>	1.000	(0.000)	0.116	Reprofiling - Partly CV-19	This scheme is to move cameras from Analogue to HD. The network upgrade will deliver later because of the need to end the contract with wireless LAN which we were initially unaware of. Our supplier estimate this could take up to a year to do this which delays the improvements and installation of new cameras.  There is an additional £316k of invoice raised in October for the wireless system upgrades which will be hitting the accounts in December
Environment	Non-Housing	Chapel Market	1.133	0.009	(0.975)	<b>0.167</b>	0.167	(0.000)	0.021	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Chapel Market Inclusive Economy Project (CMIEP) is a masterplan for the enhancement of an existing affordable, diverse and inclusive market. Currently in design phase and has been reforecasted to reflect revised project plan with construction works to occur in 23/24.  To date RIBA Stage 3 has been completed and the project is in line with the revised DoV. PM fee claim is outstanding and will be charged to the scheme in P9.
Environment	Non-Housing	Council Building Renovation (Special Projects) Repairs and Renewal of Council Buildings	0.025	0.097	0.000	<b>0.122</b>	0.122	0.000	0.169	No Current Variance	This is a programme that covers the WRC Reorganisation Project. This works was previously partially completed however due to quality issues it had to be recommissioned with the original contractor supplying credit notes to remedy this. This is currently being recommissioned.
Environment	Non-Housing	Highways - Highways	1.400	0.049	0.000	<b>1.449</b>	1.449	(0.000)	0.664	No Current Variance	This scheme is part of the rolling programme to maintain highways and corresponding infrastructure assets. This will be spent in year.
Environment	Non-Housing	Environment Small S106/CIL Schemes	0.128	0.000	0.000	<b>0.128</b>	0.128	0.000	0.220	Other	Included in S106 schemes.
Environment	Non-Housing	Energy - Retrofitting Existing Council Buildings	0.500	0.000	0.000	<b>0.500</b>	0.500	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	See above

**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
Environment	Non-Housing	Greening the Borough	0.500	0.000	(0.160)	<b>0.340</b>	0.340	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	This project is to develop and deliver a community led and maintained, long-term, large scale, borough wide, innovative programme, for the greening of the wider public realm across highways, cycleways, housing and parkland assets. Currently we are wrapping up the feasibility to create a draft programme for approval for public announcement at the end of July. Following this the projects will be split into type and duration and the first phase will be delivered March 23. Details on the types of project, geography and duration will follow, which will then inform projected spend.  Year to date there is £50k of spend in revenue to be transferred in P9
Environment	Non-Housing	Street Lighting - LED upgrades	0.060	0.020	0.000	<b>0.080</b>	0.080	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	Programme to upgrade street lighting to LED - to be completed in year.
Environment	Non-Housing	Clerkenwell Green	1.717	0.000	(0.850)	<b>0.867</b>	0.867	0.000	0.263	No Current Variance	This is a scheme to deliver public realm improvements in Clerkenwell Green, which will benefit pedestrians and cyclists and increase public space here by 62%. The scheme will remove most through traffic and all parking to transform the Green and work to engage with local communities and celebrate the area's heritage.  Recommendation note in terms of the toilets have been sent to the councillors as at the end of September for approval. Works to the toilets need to occur ASAP in conjunction with the Public Real, landscaping.  The project currently is in design stage, with both the heritage interpretation and public realm works to commence in 22/23. Works to St James Church Open Space were granted planning consent in Spring 2022, and are currently on site with an expected completion in December. There are invoices totalling £250k to hit the accounts in December.
Environment	Non-Housing	Energy - LED Lighting Upgrades	0.333	0.000	0.000	<b>0.333</b>	0.333	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	The Energy schemes budgets (LED Upgrades, Retrofitting Existing Council Buildings & Solar Panels on Corporate Buildings) have been utilised to undertake a retrofit for the Waste and Recycling Centre & New River College with additional funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. To be spent in year  WRC - Keith just approved an additional £1.34m of match funding required to deliver the works. The tender for the main contractor has been launched with a view of appointment before Christmas.  New River College - the ground source heat pump is procured separately from the rest of the measures: Kensa (specialists in ground source heat pumps) have been appointed and they have started working, with the aim of completing the installation by March 2023
Environment	Non-Housing	Energy - Solar Panels on Corporate Buildings	0.333	0.000	0.000	<b>0.333</b>	0.333	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	See above
Environment	Non-Housing	Energy Services	0.251	0.000	(0.251)	<b>0.000</b>	0.000	0.000	0.000	Other	Related to GHG LAD1A scheme which was completed in 2021/22 - to be removed

**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
Environment	Non-Housing	GreenSCIES	0.000	0.232	0.000	<b>0.232</b>	0.232	0.000	0.081	No Current Variance	The aim of this project is to contribute to the Council's Net Zero Carbon agenda but also to test a commercial delivery model that will allow the Council to deliver large capital projects with a reduced financial risk. The project will be the first of its kind and will allow the expansion of the heat networks in the south of the Borough. Feasibility studies currently occurring in year.
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspaces - Barnard Park Renewal	1.441	0.000	(1.266)	<b>0.175</b>	0.175	0.000	0.006	No Current Variance	This is a scheme to update the park and add a new building and football pitch. Currently on hold due to increased forecasted costs of the build. Planning approval was granted in March 22. In technical design stage and due to initiate invitation to tender for a contractor. Construction to occur in 23/24 following approval of an additional bid to cover the funding gap.
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspaces - Bingfield Park (including Crumbles Castle legacy)	0.408	0.001	(0.370)	<b>0.039</b>	0.039	0.000	0.050	No Current Variance	Enhancements to Bingfield Park including improved, more welcoming entrances and planting, enhanced sports facilities and new play equipment. Designs have been approved - scheme is going out to tender.
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspaces - Park Improvements	0.192	0.075	(0.207)	<b>0.060</b>	0.060	(0.000)	0.000	No Current Variance	Park improvements including Highbury Fields Sports Pitch. As well generating income the pitches play a key role in maintaining and improving the physical and mental health of the community by providing quality year round facilities for physical activity. The £178k remaining funding will be used for Highbury Bandstand which will be allocated in 23/24.
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspaces - Highbury Bandstand/Highbury Fields	0.455	0.000	(0.335)	<b>0.120</b>	0.120	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	Only Fees are to be charged this year as the scheme is currently waiting to go to planning once funding shortfall is resolved. As such the programme will be reprofiled into 23/24
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspaces - New River Walk	0.371	0.032	(0.103)	<b>0.300</b>	0.300	(0.000)	0.037	No Current Variance	Repairs to the lining of the watercourse, bridge and other associated features, improving bio-diversity and safety and reducing water loss in support of Islington's Biodiversity Action Plan. Works are commencing on the site in December, however completion in early 23/24.
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspace - Other	0.000	0.112	0.000	<b>0.112</b>	0.112	0.000	0.065	No Current Variance	0
Environment	Non-Housing	Greenspaces - Woodfall Park Improvements	0.433	0.000	0.000	<b>0.433</b>	0.433	0.000	0.026	No Current Variance	Playground improvements to improve the pitch, replace playground surfacing and play equipment, replace site furniture, soft landscaping and tree works and installation of electricity and water point for events. Works to start mid to late October
Environment	Non-Housing	Leisure - Cally Pool	0.250	0.000	(0.250)	<b>0.000</b>	0.000	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	This is a scheme to repair and replace the roof for Cally Pool. Currently this project is on hold while options are taken for the future of site and leisure centre. Options appraisal sitting with members currently, which will then need to go to planning, as such this scheme will be slipped to 23/24.
Environment	Non-Housing	Leisure - Leisure repairs/modernisation	0.190	(0.146)	0.160	<b>0.204</b>	0.204	0.000	(0.046)	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Two projects have been agreed for 2022/23. These are to change the gym layouts at Highbury & ITC leisure centres. Commenced work in August with a October completion date - invoices to be paid at completion. Budget to be accelerated.
Environment	Non-Housing	Leisure - Sobell Leisure Centre	0.000	0.445	(0.400)	<b>0.045</b>	0.045	0.000	0.002	No Current Variance	Project to replace the Sobell Leisure Centre. Fees to be charged in year
Environment	Non-Housing	Leisure - Tufnell Park all-weather pitch	0.385	0.011	(0.346)	<b>0.050</b>	0.050	(0.000)	0.000	No Current Variance	Conversion of the current grass football pitch to a grass hybrid pitch which will allow for more year round play and greater flexibility around the use of the space for a range of sporting activities. £200K to be reprofiled to cover the Parks Projects Funding shortfall with the remaining money spend in 23/24.

**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
Environment	Non-Housing	People Friendly Streets - Liveable Neighbourhoods	1.500	0.000	(0.946)	<b>0.554</b>	0.554	0.000	0.000	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Members have asked for extensive consultation prior to implementation and this will take place during 22/23 with delivery starting 23/24. These are all large areas with complex road networks making delivery more difficult. In year spend is focused on delivering 4 Liveable neighbourhoods and project management is resourced and underway.
Environment	Non-Housing	People Friendly Streets - Low Traffic Neighbourhoods	1.153	0.485	(0.663)	<b>0.975</b>	0.975	(0.000)	0.217	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	The pace of delivery of LTNs has changed as per exec decision in October 2021. This accounts for a change in member priorities with more of an emphasis on consultation and engagement prior to implementation. Work is underway for many of the 4 new LTNs with consultation due to take place in 22/23 with delivery in 23/24. Further decisions are required to make 7 already implemented LTNs permanent as a new trial was needed for blue badge exemptions - this required additional monitoring and decision making further delaying the implementation of new LTNs
Environment	Non-Housing	Public Realm - Fortune Street Area	0.592	0.000	0.000	<b>0.592</b>	0.592	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	The scheme will involve the development of a Fortune Street masterplan incorporating the enhancement of Fortune Street to make the street more pedestrian friendly, greener and to integrate the park with the wider neighbourhood. This will improve physical and health opportunities and access to nature.
Environment	Non-Housing	Public Realm - Kings Square Shopping Area Public Space	0.597	0.000	(0.466)	<b>0.131</b>	0.131	0.000	0.008	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Community driven public realm improvement project as part of public realm improvement plan. Will improve the space outside the shops to encourage community use of the space (e.g. to socialise). Opportunity for public realm feature (e.g. play equipment, public art or other) to act as a focal point. Project manager now assigned to scheme. Project has changed wards from Bunhill to St Peters and Transport projects team will drive project forward this year with design and consultation taking place with construction to occur in 23/24.
Environment	Non-Housing	Public Realm - St Johns Street Public Realm Improvements	0.250	0.000	(0.200)	<b>0.050</b>	0.050	0.000	0.000	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Public realm improvements and pedestrian and cycling safety measures - proposal includes reallocation of road space to pedestrians and traffic management changes to reduce non-local traffic. Project linked to Farringdon Station which will have 140,000 passengers a day when Crossrail opens. Project moved to Transport project team. Complex project which requires scaling down from original £4m budget to be reforecast as a smaller scheme to be designed in 22/23 (due to a suspension of a TFL bid). Cost for 22/23 is going to be undertaken by public design consultants for a revised design. Invitation to tender will be submitted by the end of December with a view for consultants to begin in mid January.
Environment	Non-Housing	Recycling Site Improvement	0.150	0.035	0.000	<b>0.185</b>	0.185	0.000	0.073	No Current Variance	
Environment	Non-Housing	School Streets	0.400	0.193	(0.253)	<b>0.340</b>	0.340	(0.000)	0.093	No Current Variance	A scheme to implement temporary street closures to become a pedestrian and cycle zone during the school's opening and closing times to reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates as well as make it easier and safer for children to get to and from school. Schemes to be completed in year. Year to date Ambler and Canonbury improvements completed in June 2022.

**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
Environment	Non-Housing	Traffic & Parking - T&E Cycle Schemes	0.450	(0.014)	0.000	<b>0.436</b>	0.436	(0.000)	0.028	No Current Variance	Borough-wide cycle parking and cycle hangars to provide secure cycle storage (especially for residents without domestic or garden space) to overcome a major barrier for new and continuing cyclists. Significant additional investment in the bike hangar programme to reduce the waiting list, and contribute to our Net Zero 'Vision 2030' strategy and improve Air Quality.  A number of invoices to be processed - hangars and installations to be delivered by year end.
Environment	Non-Housing	Traffic & Parking - T&E EV Charging Points	0.160	0.131	0.000	<b>0.291</b>	0.291	(0.000)	0.148	No Current Variance	A programme to install a number of EV charging points for the public across the borough. Consultation is commencing 05/12/22 with a view of a minimum of 64 charging points being delivered by March 23. Fee Claims to be charged in P9.
Environment	Non-Housing	Traffic & Parking - T&E Safety Schemes	0.500	0.762	0.000	<b>1.262</b>	1.262	0.000	0.141	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Borough-wide safety and corridor schemes - support of People Friendly Streets programme by delivering walking and cycling improvements on main roads. Programme works to be delivered in Q3 2022/23 with some schemes already progressing. Fee claim to be charged in P9. Forecasted underspend will be partially offset by overspend in T&E Enforcement / Parking.
Environment	Non-Housing	Traffic & Parking - T&E Traffic Enforcement/Parking	0.300	0.017	0.000	<b>0.317</b>	0.317	(0.000)	0.013	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Borough-wide traffic enforcement and parking schemes, including dedicated disabled bay scheme and other accessibility improvements across the borough. Forecasted overspend will be offset by underspend in T&E Safety Schemes.
Environment	Non-Housing	Tree Planting Programme	0.210	0.000	0.000	<b>0.210</b>	0.210	0.000	0.000	No Current Variance	Borough wide tree planting programme linked to outcome of tree canopy cover assessment and subsequent tree planting strategy. This will increase the canopy cover, amenity and climate change resilience of the borough.  Tree planting programme has not yet been issued. 450 trees have been reserved and are ready to be planted. There is a further £30k of budget in CIL & £30k in grant funding from the urban tree fund.  Currently the programme is on hold until the new term contractor is appointed. This decision will be made mid December. However once appointed assurance has been given that they will have capacity to deliver the programme prior to year end.



**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
Environment	Non-Housing	Vehicle fleet electrification (infrastructure)	2.375	1.498	(1.483)	<b>2.390</b>	2.390	0.000	1.049	Reprofiling - Partly CV-19	The WRC infrastructure project has seen further delays in recent weeks despite the completion of 95% of the works, the contractor are carrying out further exploratory works and revising final design for the earthing works which needs to be completed before energisation. This will push completion back into the new year due to labour availability through December. The project should still be completed well within the financial year, assumed by the end of January. The remaining value of the contract is approximately £300k but the project team is currently in the process of assessing options on liquidated damages for the contractor due to failure to deliver against the contract timeline. Orders for EV chargers to follow the sites energisation have already been placed with a number of chargers already in situ. Works orders total £900k and should be completed swiftly following energisation. Works orders have been placed for four other council sites totalling £410K however these may not all be delivered within this financial year. As a minimum £240K is expected to be delivered before financial year end. Overall despite the WRC delays the project overall is broadly on track.
Environment	Non-Housing	Vehicle Replacement	4.000	(0.520)	0.000	<b>3.480</b>	3.480	0.000	0.998	No Current Variance	Rolling replacement programme for council vehicles. Currently there are orders for £4.3m of vehicles in 22/23 to make provision for increased lead times with delivery. Budget to be spent in year.
Environment	Non-Housing	Wray Crescent Cricket Pavilion	0.139	0.000	(0.099)	<b>0.040</b>	0.040	0.000	0.037	No Current Variance	22/23 spend relates to design fees and planning permission preparation. There is a budget pressure of £442k for 23/24 linked to this scheme which is being addressed by a further capital bid.
<b>TOTAL NON-HOUSING</b>			<b>45.202</b>	<b>9.195</b>	<b>(14.381)</b>	<b>40.016</b>	<b>31.944</b>	<b>(8.072)</b>	<b>12.408</b>		
Housing	Housing	Housing Revenue Account Major Works and Improvements	45.500	(1.864)	(2.196)	<b>41.440</b>	40.006	(1.434)	19.224	Reprofiling - Non CV-19	Net increased Variance of £1.4m due to ongoing Cyclical Imp. Prog. planning delays & the repackaging/re-phasing of projects - slippage £2.6m offset by an increase in Voids (kitchens & Bathrooms) & High Value Repairs Capitalisation costs £1.1m
Housing	Housing	HRA Current New Build Programme - General Fund Open Market Sales Units	16.139	3.244	(7.553)	<b>11.830</b>	11.788	(0.042)	6.110	Reprofiling - Partly CV-19	
Housing	Housing	HRA Current New Build Programme - HRA Social Rented Units	54.984	11.050	(25.730)	<b>40.304</b>	40.161	(0.143)	20.814	Reprofiling - Partly CV-19	A slight increase in Slippage £185k due to ongoing unforeseen on site events and global inflationary pressures either delaying contract award or creating supply chain issues/labour shortages which is impeding productivity and progress on site
Housing	Housing	HRA Pipeline New Build Programme - General Fund Open Market Sales units	7.584	0.000	(5.636)	<b>1.948</b>	1.948	0.000	0.549	Reprofiling - Partly CV-19	
Housing	Housing	HRA Pipeline New Build Programme - HRA Social Rented Units	11.884	0.000	(8.832)	<b>3.052</b>	3.052	0.000	0.861	Reprofiling - Partly CV-19	
Housing	Housing	Property Acquisitions	32.016	4.221	0.000	<b>36.237</b>	36.237	0.000	23.336	No Current Variance	Total purchases over 21-22 & 22-23 = 140 Budget £57.421m - purchases in 21-22 = 57 so a bal. of 83 remaining to be purchased by 310323 - actual to date 22-23 relates to 56 purchases however there are at least 7 further purchases completed as at end of Nov.22 not yet recorded on the ledger leaving a further 20 properties to be purchased in 22-23

**APPENDIX 4 - CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - MONTH 8**

Directorate	Housing/ Non-Housing	Scheme	Original Budget £m	M12 2021/22 Slippage £m	Month 6 2022/23 £m	Current Budget £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Variance to Budget £m	Spend to Date MONTH 8 £m	Reason for Variance	Explanation of Variance
Housing	Housing	Retrofitting Existing Council Housing Stock-Pilots	0.500	0.000	0.000	<b>0.500</b>	0.000	(0.500)	0.000	Underspend	Expenditure against this budget is subject to carbon offset grant being available - not as yet confirmed. There is no funding in the HRA for this project.
		<b>TOTAL - HOUSING</b>	<b>168.607</b>	<b>16.651</b>	<b>(49.947)</b>	<b>135.311</b>	<b>133.192</b>	<b>(2.119)</b>	<b>70.894</b>		
		<b>TOTAL - CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>213.809</b>	<b>25.846</b>	<b>(64.328)</b>	<b>175.327</b>	<b>165.136</b>	<b>(10.191)</b>	<b>83.302</b>		

**APPENDIX 5 - DELIVERY PROGRESS OF 2022/23 BUDGET AGREED SAVINGS**

<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>	<b>2022/23 £m</b>	<b>Month 8 Update</b>
Adult Social Services	Negotiate increased joint funded Physical Disability care packages	0.175	On track to deliver
Adult Social Services	Increase the take-up of Shared Lives	0.100	On track to deliver
Adult Social Services	Recommissioning of the 'low support' Housing Related Support services, moving towards a model of enhanced housing management	0.048	On track to deliver
Adult Social Services	Review and reduce the floating support service	0.053	On track to deliver
Adult Social Services	Review charging policy with a view to maximise income	0.027	Significant concerns with delivery timing and/or amount
Adult Social Services	Package of savings through recommissioning of services	0.350	Problems with delivery timing and/or amount
Adult Social Services	In-house services transformation	0.700	Problems with delivery timing and/or amount
Children's Services	Review management structure in Learning and Culture to deliver a saving equivalent to a vacant post	0.080	On track to deliver
Children's Services	Reduce council contributions to Islington Safeguarding Children's Partnership (ISCP)	0.025	On track to deliver
Children's Services	Reduced commissioning to roles that are not providing good value and/or where alternative provision exists	0.108	On track to deliver
Children's Services	Restructure within Targeted Youth Support	0.026	On track to deliver
Children's Services	Investment in the House Project as a permanent service in Islington	0.078	On track to deliver
Community Wealth Building	Additional procurement savings using existing delivery approach	0.250	On track to deliver
Community Wealth Building	Corporate Landlord Services: Deliver resourcing and purchasing efficiencies through the consolidation and rationalisation of services	0.190	On track to deliver
Community Wealth Building	Reduce the % of planning officer posts filled by agency staff	0.100	Problems with delivery timing and/or amount
Community Wealth Building	Savings resulting from a new property strategy, increasing income, more co-locating with partners and reducing the council's office footprint	0.840	Significant concerns with delivery timing and/or amount
Environment	Greenspace and Street Environment Operations: Changes to how operational services are delivered, including moving Greenspaces operations to an area based model aligned to the village model introduced previously	0.200	On track to deliver
Environment	Additional income in the Highways and Streetworks team based on current over-achievement of income target	0.200	On track to deliver
Environment	Bunhill Heat & Power Network: Income generated from the sale of heat and electricity	0.061	On track to deliver
Environment	Reduce bulk overtime and agency usage for weekend shifts in Street Operational Services, including the creation of 35 hour weeks to include weekend working	0.055	On track to deliver
Environment	Review of measures to reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality	0.134	On track to deliver
Environment	Introduce new emissions charging to electronic parking vouchers by implementing a surcharge on petrol and diesel vehicles	0.686	On track to deliver
Environment	Enforcement of environmental and highways offences	0.100	On track to deliver

**APPENDIX 5 - DELIVERY PROGRESS OF 2022/23 BUDGET AGREED SAVINGS**

Environment	Operational changes to in-house compliance service, Street trading and evening / night time ASB services	0.070	On track to deliver
Environment	Revise approach to Commercial Waste Services by withdrawing provision of commercial waste services outside of the borough	0.070	On track to deliver
Environment	Capture illegal parking suspensions	0.030	On track to deliver
Environment	Street Works, Highways & Energy	0.100	On track to deliver
Environment	Create single team to support licensing, street trading, land charges, naming and numbering with automation through new back office system	0.060	On track to deliver
Environment	Divisional Development (Greenspace)	0.035	On track to deliver
Environment	Removal of parking machines over next 2 years	0.000	On track to deliver
Environment	Income generation from roll out of School Streets phase 2	0.375	On track to deliver
Fairer Together	VCS Partnership Grant Programme	0.100	On track to deliver
Homes & Neighbourhoods	Temporary Accommodation	0.100	Significant concerns with delivery timing and/or amount
Homes & Neighbourhoods	Replacement of core council budget with additional Homeless Prevention Grant available to the service	0.500	On track to deliver
Public Health	Health Visiting Transformation	0.100	On track to deliver
Public Health	Re-model substance misuse prescribing service	0.150	On track to deliver
Resources	Reduce bad/impaired debt through improvements to systems and processes	0.500	On track to deliver
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6.776</b>	

# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS



# ISLINGTON

## **KEY DECISIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE/COMMITTEES/OFFICERS FOR THE PERIOD TO THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ON 9 FEBRUARY 2023 AND BEYOND**

Linzi Roberts-Egan  
Chief Executive  
Islington Council  
Town Hall  
Upper Street  
London N1 2UD

Contact Officer: Mary Green  
Democratic Services  
E-Mail: [democracy@islington.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@islington.gov.uk)  
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Website: <http://democracy.islington.gov.uk/>

Published on 3 January 2023

# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

## KEY DECISIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE/COMMITTEES/OFFICERS

### FOR THE PERIOD TO THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ON 9 FEBRUARY 2023 AND BEYOND

This document sets out key decisions to be taken by the Executive within the next 28 days, together with any key decisions by Committees of the Executive, individual Members of the Executive and officers. It also includes potential key decisions beyond that period, though this is not comprehensive and items will be confirmed in the publication of the key decisions document 28 days before a decision is taken.

It is likely that all or a part of each Executive meeting will be held in private and not open to the public. This may be because an appendix to an agenda item will be discussed which is likely to lead to the disclosure of exempt or confidential information. The items of business where this is likely to apply are indicated on the plan below.

If you wish to make representations about why those parts of the meeting should be open to the public, please contact Democratic Services at least ten clear days before the meeting.

The background documents (if any) specified for any agenda item below, will be available on the Democracy in Islington web pages, five clear days before the meeting, at this link -<http://democracy.islington.gov.uk/> - subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure. Alternatively, please contact Democratic Services on telephone number 020 7527 3005/3184 or via e-mail to [democracy@islington.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@islington.gov.uk) to request the documents.

If you wish to make representations to the Executive about an agenda item, please note that you will need to contact the Democratic Services Team on the above number at least 2 days before the meeting date to make your request.

**Please note that the decision dates are indicative and occasionally subject to change. Please contact the Democratic Services Team if you wish to check the decision date for a particular item.**

A key decision is 1. an executive decision (other than a decision which relates to the placement of an individual, be that an adult or child) which is likely to result in expenditure or a receipt which is, or the making of savings which are, significant (i.e. in excess of £500,000 revenue or £1m capital), or to have significant effects on those living or working in an area comprising two or more Wards or, in respect of a disposal of land, where the proposed receipt (or reasonable pre-sale estimate in the case of an auction sale) exceeds £1.5m, or in respect of the acquisition of land or property, the proposed expenditure (or reasonable estimate prior to entering into the contract) exceeds £500,000; or

2. a decision to be made by the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors or the Director of Public Health to award contracts where the value of the contract is up to £2million revenue expenditure or £5million capital expenditure.

# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

	Subject/Decision	Ward (s)	Decision taker	Date(s) of decision	Background papers	If all or part of the item is exempt or confidential this will be stated below and a reason given. If all the papers are publically accessible this column will say 'Open'.	Corporate Director/Head of Service Executive Member (including e-mail address)
1.	Contract award for Children's Centres	All Wards	Corporate Director of Children's Services	12 January 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>
2.	Procurement strategy for Home Care reprocurement	All Wards	Executive	12 January 2023	None	Open	John Everson <a href="mailto:john.everson@islington.gov.uk">john.everson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Nurullah Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care <a href="mailto:nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk">nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk</a>
3.	Monthly Budget Monitor, including funding allocations and adjustments to the capital programme	All Wards	Executive	12 January 2023	None	Open	Dave Hodgkinson <a href="mailto:David.hodgkinson@islington.gov.uk">David.hodgkinson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>
4.	People-friendly Streets Programme update	All Wards	Executive	12 January 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport <a href="mailto:rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk">rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk</a>

# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

	Subject/Decision	Ward (s)	Decision taker	Date(s) of decision	Background papers	Is all or part of this item likely to refer to exempt or confidential information and therefore require exclusion of the press and public from the meeting?	Corporate Director/Head of Service Executive Member (including e-mail address)
5.	Discretionary rate relief scheme	All Wards	Executive	12 January 2023	None	Open	Amy Buxton-Jennings <a href="mailto:amy_buxton-jennings@islington.gov.uk">amy_buxton-jennings@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Una O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities <a href="mailto:una.o'halloran@islington.gov.uk">una.o'halloran@islington.gov.uk</a>
Page 180	Contract award for Waste Recycling Centre decarbonisation and roof works project		Corporate Director Environment	13 January 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>
7.	Parking Debt Recovery Services (Concessions Contract)	All Wards	Corporate Director Environment	27 January 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>

A key decision is 1.an executive decision (other than a decision which relates to the placement of an individual, be that an adult or child) which is likely to result in expenditure or a receipt which is, or the making of savings which are, significant (i.e. in excess of £500,000 revenue or £1m capital), or to have significant effects on those living or working in an area comprising two or more Wards or, in respect of a disposal of land, where the proposed receipt (or reasonable pre-sale estimate in the case of an auction sale) exceeds £1.5m, or in respect of the acquisition of land or property, the proposed expenditure (or reasonable estimate prior to entering into the contract) exceeds £500,000; or

2. a decision to be made by the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors or the Director of Public Health to award contracts where the value of the contract is up to £2million revenue expenditure or £5million capital expenditure.



# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

	Subject/Decision	Ward (s)	Decision taker	Date(s) of decision	Background papers	Is all or part of this item likely to refer to exempt or confidential information and therefore require exclusion of the press and public from the meeting?	Corporate Director/Head of Service Executive Member (including e-mail address)
8.	TfL 2022/23 - 2024/25 LIP Delivery Plan, Cycle Improvement Plan and Bus Priority Programme update	All Wards	Corporate Director Environment	27 January 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>
9.	Contract award for Building Safety IT Solution	All Wards	Acting Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	30 January 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>
10.	Leisure Contract CPI uplift	All Wards	Corporate Director Environment	31 January 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>

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# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

	Subject/Decision	Ward (s)	Decision taker	Date(s) of decision	Background papers	Is all or part of this item likely to refer to exempt or confidential information and therefore require exclusion of the press and public from the meeting?	Corporate Director/Head of Service Executive Member (including e-mail address)
11.	Procurement strategy for Bevin Court heating source system renewal		Acting Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	1 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>
12.	Procurement strategy for replacement of automated public conveniences	All Wards	Corporate Director Community Wealth Building	3 February 2023	None	Open	Stephen Biggs <a href="mailto:stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk">stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk</a>
12.	Contract award for the Camden and Islington Oral Health Promotion	All Wards	Director of Public Health	3 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jonathan O'Sullivan <a href="mailto:Jonathan.O'Sullivan@islington.gov.uk">Jonathan.O'Sullivan@islington.gov.uk</a>

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	Subject/Decision	Ward (s)	Decision taker	Date(s) of decision	Background papers	Is all or part of this item likely to refer to exempt or confidential information and therefore require exclusion of the press and public from the meeting?	Corporate Director/Head of Service Executive Member (including e-mail address)
14.	Approval of GreenSCIES New River Scheme funding application to Green Heat Network Fund	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport <a href="mailto:rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk">rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk</a>
15.	Procurement strategy for taxi and attendant services contract	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport <a href="mailto:rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk">rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk</a>
16.	Monthly Budget Monitor, including funding allocations and adjustments to the capital programme	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Dave Hodgkinson <a href="mailto:David.hodgkinson@islington.gov.uk">David.hodgkinson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>

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17.	Determination of school admission arrangements 2024/25	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Michelline Safi Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families <a href="mailto:michelline.ngongo@islington.gov.uk">michelline.ngongo@islington.gov.uk</a>
18	Procurement strategy for supported living services at Windsor Street	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	John Everson <a href="mailto:john.everson@islington.gov.uk">john.everson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Nurullah Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care <a href="mailto:nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk">nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk</a>
19.	Review of local development scheme - timetable for local plan adoption	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Stephen Biggs <a href="mailto:stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk">stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>

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20.	Procurement strategy for Patrolling Services	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor John Woolf, Executive Member for Community Safety <a href="mailto:John.Woolf@islington.gov.uk">John.Woolf@islington.gov.uk</a>
21.	Future of Copenhagen and Vittoria Schools	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Michelline Safi Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families <a href="mailto:michelline.ngongo@islington.gov.uk">michelline.ngongo@islington.gov.uk</a>
22.	Contract award for Islington Violence Against Women and Girls services: Black and minoritised ethnic women service	All Wards	Corporate Director of Children's Services	9 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>

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23.	Contract award for Islington Violence Against Women and Girls services: Core and Targeted Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy service	All Wards	Corporate Director of Children's Services	9 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>
24.	Contract award for Islington Violence Against Women and Girls services: Domestic Abuse Refuge service	All Wards	Corporate Director of Children's Services	9 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>
25.	Review of parks' Barbecue Policy	All Wards	Executive	9 February 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport <a href="mailto:rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk">rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk</a>
26.	Procurement strategy for Barnard Park Improvements Project	All Wards	Corporate Director Environment	10 February 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>

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27.	Contract award for residential care service for older men with alcohol misuse and mental health care	All Wards	Director of Adult Social Care	23 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	John Everson <a href="mailto:john.everson@islington.gov.uk">john.everson@islington.gov.uk</a>
28.	Contract award for lightning protection equipment servicing and maintenance contract	All Wards	Acting Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	23 February 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>
29.	Contract award for asbestos removals and reinstatement works	All Wards	Acting Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	8 March 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>

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30.	Contract award for asbestos air testing and surveys	All Wards	Acting Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	8 March 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>
31.	Triangle Estate - appropriation of land	Bunhill	Executive	23 March 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Una O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities <a href="mailto:una.o'halloran@islington.gov.uk">una.o'halloran@islington.gov.uk</a>
32.	Quaker Court and Braithwaite House - appropriation of land for planning purposes	All Wards	Executive	23 March 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>

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33.	Community Wealth Building Strategy	All Wards	Executive	23 March 2023	None	Open	Stephen Biggs <a href="mailto:stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk">stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Una O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities <a href="mailto:una.o'halloran@islington.gov.uk">una.o'halloran@islington.gov.uk</a>
34.	Adoption of Reduction and Recycling Plan	All Wards	Executive	23 March 2023	None	Open	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport <a href="mailto:rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk">rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk</a>
35.	Contract award for Bunhill Energy extension to City Forum and Telfer House	Bunhill	Corporate Director Environment	23 March 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>

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36.	Contract award for Patrolling Services	All Wards	Corporate Director Environment	14 April 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>
37.	Dementia Strategy	All Wards	Executive	20 April 2023	None	Open	John Everson <a href="mailto:john.everson@islington.gov.uk">john.everson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Nurullah Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care <a href="mailto:nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk">nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk</a>
38.	New Barnsbury Estate; disposal of freehold land and release of restrictive covenant to support redevelopment	All Wards	Executive	20 April 2023	None	Open	Stephen Biggs <a href="mailto:stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk">stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>

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39.	Vale Royal; Acquisition of freehold and long leasehold land, including the delivery of a new salt store and related works.	All Wards	Executive	20 April 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Stephen Biggs <a href="mailto:stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk">stephen.biggs@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>
40.	Quaker Court and Braithwaite House - award of Pre-Construction Services Agreement in advance of main building contract	Bunhill	Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	28 April 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>
41.	Contract award for City Forum Heat Supply	Bunhill	Executive	18 May 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Keith Townsend <a href="mailto:Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk">Keith.townsend@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Rowena Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport <a href="mailto:rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk">rowena.champion@islington.gov.uk</a>

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42.	Under 5s childcare fee increase	All Wards	Executive	18 May 2023	None	Open	Jon Abbey <a href="mailto:Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk">Jon.abbey@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Michelline Safi Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families <a href="mailto:michelline.ngongo@islington.gov.uk">michelline.ngongo@islington.gov.uk</a>
43. Page 192	Islington All Age Carers' Strategy	All Wards	Executive	18 May 2023	None	Open	John Everson <a href="mailto:john.everson@islington.gov.uk">john.everson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Nurullah Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care <a href="mailto:nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk">nurullah.turan@islington.gov.uk</a>
44.	Bemerton Estate South - award of Pre-Construction Services Agreement in advance of main building contract	Caledonian	Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	31 May 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>

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45.	Monthly Budget Monitor, including funding allocations and adjustments to the capital programme	All Wards	Executive	22 June 2023	None	Open	Dave Hodgkinson <a href="mailto:David.hodgkinson@islington.gov.uk">David.hodgkinson@islington.gov.uk</a>  Councillor Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance <a href="mailto:diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk">diarmaid.ward@islington.gov.uk</a>
46.	Elmore Street and Lindsey Mews - award of Pre-Construction Services Agreement in advance of main building contract	Canonbury	Corporate Director of Homes and Neighbourhoods	30 June 2023	None	Part exempt Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Jed Young <a href="mailto:Jed.young@islington.gov.uk">Jed.young@islington.gov.uk</a>

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Membership of the Executive:

Councillors:

Portfolio

Kaya Comer-Schwartz	Leader
Santiago Bell-Bradford	Executive Member for Inclusive Economy and Jobs
Rowena Champion	Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality & Transport
Pauloulin Khondoker	Executive Member for Equalities, Culture & Inclusion
Michelleline Safi Ngongo	Executive Member for Children, Young People & Families
Una O'Halloran	Executive Member for Homes and Communities
Nurullah Turan	Executive Member for Health and Social Care
Diarmaid Ward	Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance
John Woolf	Executive Member for Community Safety

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**SCRUTINY REVIEWS  
IN PROGRESS**

<b>SCRUTINY REVIEWS 2022/23</b>						
<b>SCRUTINY REVIEW</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>SID approval</b>	<b>DATE SUBMITTED/DUE TO GO TO EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS DUE (3 months after submission to Executive)</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>12 MONTH REPORT DUE TO ORIGINAL REVIEW COMMITTEE</b>
Visibility of Children (school attendance, NEET, children's voice in decision-making, etc)	Children's Services	<a href="#">08-Sep-22</a>				
Net Zero Carbon 2030 strategy focusing on the Circular Economy and Green Jobs	Environment and Regeneration	<a href="#">21-Jul-22</a>				
Transformation in Adult Social Care	Health and Care	<a href="#">04-Oct-22</a>				
Strategic Review of Overcrowding in Islington	Housing	<a href="#">22-Sep-22</a>				
Cost of Living Crisis (Title TBC)	Policy and Performance	<a href="#">25-Jul-22</a>				

<b>SCRUTINY REVIEWS 2021/22</b>						
<b>SCRUTINY REVIEW</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>SID approval</b>	<b>DATE SUBMITTED/DUE TO GO TO EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS DUE (3 months after submission to Executive)</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>12 MONTH REPORT DUE TO ORIGINAL REVIEW COMMITTEE</b>
Overview of the Council's 2030 Net Zero Carbon Programme	Environment and Regeneration	Jun-21	21-Apr-22	Sep-22	Mar-23	TBC
Waste Management (informal working group)	Environment and Regeneration	N/A	This was incorporated into the above report.			
Preparing for the end of PF12 in 2022	Housing Scrutiny Committee	Jul-21	21-Apr-22	Jul-22	Jul-22	TBC
Communal Heating (mini review)	Housing Scrutiny Committee	Jul-21	21-Apr-22	Jul-22	Jul-22	TBC
Health Inequalities in the light of the Covid 19 Pandemic	Health and Care Scrutiny Committee	Oct-21	09-Jun-22	Sep-22	Mar-23	TBC
Special Educational Needs	Children's Services Scrutiny	2021	01-Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	TBC
Employment, Business and Economy/Financial Effects on Council – COVID (main topic)	Policy and Performance	Jul-21	09-Jun-22	Sep-22	Mar-23	TBC
Performance Management and Development (informal working group)	Policy and Performance	Jul-21	09-Jun-22	Sep-22	Mar-23	TBC

**Older Outstanding Scrutiny Reviews:**

<b>SCRUTINY REVIEW</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>SID approval</b>	<b>DATE SUBMITTED/DUE TO GO TO EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS DUE (3 months after submission to Executive)</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>12 MONTH REPORT DUE TO ORIGINAL REVIEW COMMITTEE</b>
Private Rented Sector (mini review)	Housing Scrutiny Committee	N/A	26-Nov-20	Feb-21	13-Jan-22	TBC
Adult Paid Carers	Health and Care Scrutiny Committee	N/A	22-Jul-21	Sep-21	25-Nov-21	Sep-22
Behavioural Change	Environment and Regeneration	N/A	11-Feb-21	May-21	10-Feb-22	TBC
Covid-19 Recovery	Children's Services	N/A	22-Jul-21	Oct-21	24-Mar-22	Oct-22





## **POLICY AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23**

### **MEETING ON 26 JANUARY 2023**

Statutory Despatch Date – 18 January 2023

1. Annual Crime and Disorder report – Borough Commander
2. Cost of Living Crisis Scrutiny Review – Witness Evidence
  - Voluntary and community sector work
  - Review of Council Tax Support proposals
3. Budget Scrutiny 2023/24
4. Budget Monitoring Report
5. Monitoring item (Council Forward Plan / Scrutiny updates / Work Programme)

### **MEETING ON 21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Statutory Despatch - 13 February 2023

1. Monitoring item (Council Forward Plan / Scrutiny updates/Work Programme)
2. Annual Presentation Executive Member – Finance and Performance
3. Budget Monitoring Report
4. Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 2
5. Cost of Living Crisis Scrutiny Review – Discussion on conclusions and outstanding issues

### **MEETING ON 30 MARCH 2023**

Statutory Despatch Date – 22 March 2023

1. Monitoring item (Council Forward Plan / Scrutiny updates/Work Programme)
2. Budget Monitoring Report
3. Presentation by Executive Member – Community Safety
4. Cost of Living Crisis Scrutiny Review – Draft Recommendations

### **MEETING ON 04 MAY 2023**

Statutory Despatch Date – 25 April 2023

1. Budget Monitoring Report
2. Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 3
3. Cost of Living Crisis Scrutiny Review – Final Report
4. Scrutiny Review Employment, Business, Council Finances COVID 19 – 12 Month Update
5. Scrutiny Review of Performance Management – 12 Month Update
6. Annual Report from the Council's Review Committees

**Informal Working Groups – timetable to be agreed in consultation with the Chair**

- Digital Inclusion
- Performance Indicators
- Budget Monitoring