

DECISION SESSION - EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE, MAJOR PROJECTS AND EQUALITIES

TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Decision Session Executive Member for **Finance, Performance, Major Projects** and **Equalities** held on Tuesday, 19 March 2024. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in a decision, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group no later than 4pm on the fifth working day after this meeting.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact .

4. COUNCIL TAX DEBT PILOT

Resolved: That approval be given to:

1. Set up a voluntary non-cost multi-agency debt group including community sector partners – to look in more detail during 2024 at all the issues raised by residents in the debt pilot.
2. The establishment of non-cost debt surgeries at West Offices following issue of Council Tax (CT) reminders during 2024 – there is little resource for one-to-one support across the city so establishing a surgery with partners may help in dealing with a larger number of residents issues.
3. To issue text messages to all residents getting CT reminders about continuing to pay something and inviting them to attend a debt surgery. This is to help prevent residents getting further into arrears through the debt recovery process and provide broader advice and support.

4. To review the wording on CT reminders and summons and pilot alternative wording to see if there is any beneficial effect. This also responds to and supports recent comments from the Poverty Truth Commission.

Reason: In order to provide immediate support at the point a resident may fall into debt following good practice early intervention; and to help residents affected by debt and address the broader linked issues within our communities.