

**CITY OF YORK COUNCIL
SUMMONS**

All Councillors, relevant Council Officers and other interested parties and residents are formally invited to attend a Budget Council meeting of the **City of York Council** at **The Guildhall, York**, to consider the business contained in this agenda on the following date and time

Thursday, 23 February 2023 at 6.30 pm

A G E N D A

1. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registerable interest they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests.

2. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 24)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 15 December 2022.

3. **Civic Announcements**

To consider any announcements made by the Lord Mayor in respect of Civic business.

4. **Public Participation**

At this point in the meeting, any member of the public who has registered to address the Council, or to ask a Member of the Council a question, on a matter directly relevant to the setting of the Council's budget for the coming financial year, may do so. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Tuesday, 21 February 2023.**

To register to speak please visit www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings to fill in an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting please contact Democratic Services. Contact details can be found at the foot of this agenda.

Webcasting of Public Meetings

Please note that, subject to available resources, this public meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The remote public meeting can be viewed live and on demand at www.york.gov.uk/webcasts.

During coronavirus, we made some changes to how we're running council meetings. See our updates at www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy for more information on meetings and decisions.

5. Recommendations of Executive on York and North Yorkshire Devolution - Outcome of Consultation (Pages 25 - 30)

To consider the recommendations made by Executive at their meeting on 14 February 2023 in respect of the outcome of consultation on York and North Yorkshire Devolution. These are set out in the attached report and will be moved by the Executive Leader.

Note: The above report contains a link to the report and annexes on which the recommendations were based. This is reproduced below.

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=69045&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A164548>

6. Recommendations of the Executive in respect of the Capital Programme Monitor 3 2022/23 (Pages 31 - 32)

To consider the recommendations made by Executive, at their meeting on 9 February 2023, regarding the third monitor report on the 2022/23 Capital Programme. These are set out in the attached Part B minute and will be moved by the Executive Leader.

7. Recommendations of Executive on the Council's Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28, Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28, Capital Financing and Investment Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28 (Pages 33 - 46)

To consider the recommendations made by the Executive, at their meeting on 9 February 2023, in relation to:

- i) The Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28
- ii) The Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28
- iii) The Capital Financing and Investment Strategy
- iv) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators 2023/24 to 2027/28.

These recommendations are set out in the attached report and will be moved by the Executive Leader.

Note: The original budget reports to Executive, on which their recommendations are based, will be circulated to all Members with this agenda and can be found on the council's website, here: <https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=13295&Ver=4>

8. Council Tax Resolution 2023/24 (Pages 47 - 58)

To consider the Council Tax Resolution for 2023/24, as set out in the attached report.

9. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democratic Services officer

Fiona Young

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552030
- Email fiona.young@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

www.york.gov.uk

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

**Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim (Polish)
własnym języku.**

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550

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J Hussein
Corporate
Director of Adult
Social Care &
Integration

D Steel,
Head of
Civic &
Democratic
Services

B Roberts
Monitoring
Officer

D Mitchell
Chief
Finance
Officer

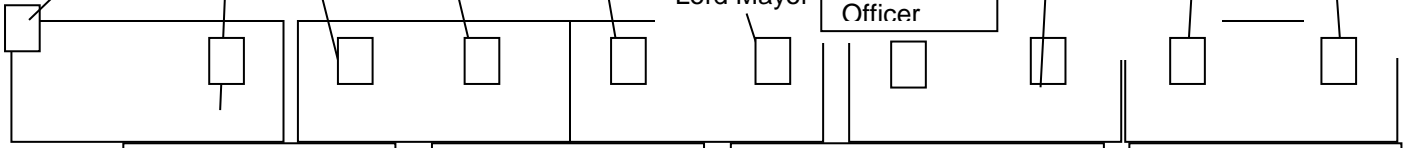
Customer
Services & Digital

Martin
Kelly,
Corporate
Director of
Children &
Education

Democracy
Officer

Clr D Carr
Lord Mayor

I Floyd,
Chief
Operating
Officer



Clr D Smalley

Clr C
Runciman

Clr D
Craghill

Clr A
D'Agorne

Clr K
Aspden

Clr
Ayre

Clr
Waller

Clr P
Widdowson

Clr A
Mason

Clr
Fenton

Clr
Cuthbertson

Clr
Hollyer

Clr
Fisher

Clr
Pearson

Clr Baker

Clr
Vassie

Clr D
Taylor

Clr
Galvin

Clr
Hook

Clr
Wann

Clr
Cullwick

Clr
Barker

Clr
Waudby

Clr
Hunter

Clr
Orrell

Clr
Daubney

Clr
Doughty

Clr M
Warters

Clr
Rowley

Clr K
Taylor

Clr F
Fitzpatrick

Clr R
Webb

Clr P
Kilbane

Clr C
Douglas

Clr R
Melly

Clr M
Pavlovic

Clr J
Looker

Clr D
Myers

Clr A
Musson

Clr A
Perrett

Clr S
Barnes

Clr K
Lomas

Clr J
Crawshaw

Clr D
Heaton

Clr G
Norman

Clr M
Wells

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City of York Council

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held at The Guildhall, York on Thursday, 15 December 2022, starting at 6.30 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr David Carr) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

Acomb Ward

Bishopthorpe Ward

Lomas

Clifton Ward

Copmanthorpe Ward

D Myers
Wells

Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward

Fishergate Ward

Fenton
Mason
Widdowson

D'Agorne
D Taylor

Fulford and Heslington Ward

Guildhall Ward

Aspden

Craghill
Fitzpatrick
Looker

Haxby & Wigginton Ward

Heworth Ward

Cuthbertson
Hollyer
Pearson

Douglas
Perrett
Webb

Heworth Without Ward

Holgate Ward

Ayre

Melly

Hull Road Ward

Musson
Norman
Pavlovic

Huntington and New Earswick
Ward

Cullwick
Orrell
Runciman

Micklegate Ward

Baker
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Osbalwick and Derwent Ward

Warters

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Smalley
Waudby

Rural West York Ward

Barker
Hook

Strensall Ward

Doughty
Fisher

Westfield Ward

Daubeney
Hunter
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barnes, Galvin, Heaton, Rowley, K Taylor and Wann.

31. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in the business on the agenda.

Cllr Barker declared a pecuniary interest in Motion (iii) at Agenda Item 8, 'Introduction of Council Tax Premium for Second Homes', as the owner of a second home. He left the Chamber during consideration of that motion, and took no part in the debate or decision thereon.

Prior to the debate on Motion (iii) Cllr Cullwick declared, for the sake of transparency, that he was in the process of administering an estate but it was not his second home.

32. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 October 2022 be approved, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

33. Civic Announcements (18:37)

The Lord Mayor invited Members to observe a minute's silence in memory of Andrew Digwood, former Under-Sheriff, who had died in November 2022.

The Lord Mayor went on to announce the receipt of gifts to the city from the Women's Rugby World Cup teams of Australia, France, the Cook Islands and New Zealand.

Finally, the Lord Mayor invited Cllr Aspden to nominate the Lord Mayor Elect for the 2023/24 Municipal Year, on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group. Cllr Aspden nominated Cllr Chris Cullwick as the Lord Mayor Elect. Cllr Cullwick confirmed that he would be honoured to accept, and nominated Cllr Susan Hunter as his Sheriff.

34. Public Participation (18:41)

It was reported that ten people had registered to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Gwen Swinburn spoke on governance issues as a matter relevant to the Council or city, raising concerns about the control of governance and the report on Members' Allowances.

The following spoke on Agenda Item 6 (Executive Recommendations) in relation to the 10 Year Strategies, supporting the proposals and the Climate Change Strategy in particular:

- a) Professor Andy Gouldson, Co-Director of the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission.
- b) Laurence Beardmore, President of York and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce.
- c) Professor Charlie Jeffery, Vice Chancellor of the University of York, and Chair of Higher York.
- d) James Farrar, Chief Operating Officer of York and North Yorkshire LEP
- e) Alex McCallion, Director of Works and Precinct, York Minster.
- f) Gareth Parry Forest Managing Director Yorkshire District, Forestry England.
- g) Sarah Loftus, Managing Director of Make It York.

Carl Alsop, of York BID, spoke on Agenda Item 6, regarding the Pavement Café Licence Update. He urged Council not to overlook the impact of the proposals on businesses, and to improve consultation so that business owners could plan ahead.

Flick Williams spoke on Agenda Item 11 (Scrutiny – Report of the Chair of CCSMC), asking why the issue of the accessibility of the Council Chamber had not been through the scrutiny process.

35. Petitions (19:14)

Under Rule B5 2, the following petitions were presented for reference to the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee, in accordance with the Council's petition arrangements:

- (i) A petition presented by Cllr Myers, on behalf of residents of Westminster Rd, Greycliffe Drive and The Avenue, asking the council to explore options for a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in their area.¹

- (ii) A petition presented by Cllr Baker, on behalf of residents calling on the council to take action to tackle safety concerns resulting from drivers using St Benedict's Road as a short cut.²

Action Required

1. Add the petition to explore options for a LTN to the petitions log for referral to CCSMC. SS
2. Add the petition on the use of St Benedict's Road as a short cut to the petitions log for referral to CCSMC. SS

36. **Report of Executive Leader, Questions, and Executive Recommendations (19:17)**

A – Executive Leader's Report

A written report was received from the Executive Leader, Cllr Aspden, on the work of the Executive.

Members were then invited to question the Leader on his report. Questions were received from the floor from the following Members in relation to the subjects listed, and replied to as indicated:

Cost of Living Crisis

From Cllr Webb: Can you detail any new actions or commitments to the city arising from the York Cost of Living Summit?

Response: An update was provided to Executive on this and I would be happy to share it and to discuss what more can be done with you and officers.

[Supplementary: But what has this administration actually done?]

Supplementary Response: I discussed some examples in my speech and report, such as the housing support fund. I will send you the report that outlines feedback and further actions from the Cost of Living Summit. If you have any further suggestions, drop me a line and I would be happy to look at them.

[Supplementary from Cllr Crawshaw: The household support fund is a government scheme, so have you done nothing?]

Supplementary Response: A lot of funding to the council comes from government, and we need to do what we can to utilise it and top it up or enhance it. Please get in touch if you have any suggestions.

Devolution

From Cllr Fenton: Can you give an update on the work of the Joint Devolution Committee?

Response: The first committee meeting took place recently with CYC and NYCC joined by colleagues from the LEP and the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner. This was an important first step to ensure we are in a position to access the government funding offered early. Subject to the Council making a decision early next year there is likely to be a second meeting in February or March to progress that to becoming a shadow authority, so that we can capitalise on the funding offered.

[Supplementary from Cllr Douglas: How will you face the challenge of spending the money, including £2.6m on brownfield sites by 2025 – are there any creative ideas of finding partners to make sure we benefit?]

Supplementary Response: We discussed that point at the meeting – it's an ambitious timescale. A call has already gone out for projects and proposals. Ensuring that the wider community is aware of the opportunity to become involved is part of the process we'll take in the coming weeks to benefit from the funding.

[Supplementary from Cllr Warters: Can you clearly outline what levels of adverse reaction to consultation on the devolution proposals would lead to the deal not progressing?]

Supplementary Response: The results will come here for Council to consider and decide on in the new year. So far, there have been more positive than negative responses to consultation and the part most critically commented on has been the prospect of the elected Mayor having powers to raise taxes or business rates.

Council Budget

From Cllr Douglas: What decisions do you intend to take in-year to stabilise the council's finances so it's not at risk of going bust next year?

Response: This has been reported on through various financial monitors to Executive; for example a recruitment freeze on non-essential posts and stopping non-essential spend where services can. There are particular pressures within Adults' and Children's social care and that feeds into the wider conversations about next year's budget. We will do everything we can that does not impact on crucial services.

[Supplementary: So what are you going to cut?]

Supplementary Response: I can't tell you until the government publishes its settlement. I have given examples of what we are doing in-year and we will continue to do things like that.

B – Executive Recommendations

Cllr Aspden moved, and Cllr D'Agorne seconded, the following recommendations contained in Minutes 57-59 of the Executive meeting held on 22 November 2022 and Minute 71 of the Executive meeting held on 15 December 2022:

Minute 57 - 10 Year Strategies

Recommended: That Council adopt the 10 year Strategy and Policy framework, which comprises the Climate Change, Economic and Health and Wellbeing 10 year strategies and the emerging 10 year City Plan.

Reason: To engage partners, city leaders, businesses, stakeholders and residents to work together on key agreed priority areas that aim to actively improve the quality of life for all York's residents.

Minute 58 - Pavement Café Licence Update¹

Recommended: (i) That the following changes be made to local guidance used in the determining of pavement café licenses under the Business and Planning Act 2020:

- a) Cafés only allowed on footways if 1.5m width remains for people to get past (width increased to 2m in high footfall areas, for example busy junctions, near bus stops, etc). In footstreets with access level between footways and carriageway (for example Coney Street), licences may be issued for pavement cafes to cover the full width of the footway. If a licence is refused under the Business and Planning Act it would be possible for the applicant to use the planning permission process (and licensing under Highways Act Part 7A) to seek permission for a pavement café area. If a permission and a licence were to be granted under this process, adequate

access mitigations would be conditioned through the planning permission on a case-by-case basis and all costs associated with required highway improvements would need to be borne by the applicant.

- b) Café areas can be allowed in on-street parking bays, where sufficient parking and loading capacity remains (including for Blue Badge holders) and the café area can be protected from passing traffic (if required). The licence holder will be required to cover all associated costs (changes to the permanent TRO, changes to the kerb line/protection measures).
- c) To require the named licence holder to have completed the ACT Awareness E-learning course and provide additional information to licence holders on the Protect Duty.
- d) To adopt the updated guidance document (Annex B) and proposals for additional information to be provided. Key changes are: updated barriers requirements and specifications, updated access width requirements, strengthened enforcement process, reintroduction of a £100 charge per licence. Additional information to be provided includes: design and set up guidance for licence holders, advice and support on 'How to set-up your pavement cafe area', and information on hospitality venues' duties under the Equality Act. Pavement café licence holders will be written to – to notify them of the changes.

Reason: To clarify the criteria against which pavement café applications will be assessed and mitigate the impact of some pavement cafes on accessibility and to clarify the criteria against which pavement café applications will be assessed and the standards licence holders will be expected to meet and provide additional support and guidance to licence holders.

(ii) That the Policy for Pavement Cafes under the Business and Planning Act 2020 be reviewed by the Licensing & Regulatory Committee and be added to the list of functions of that committee. Officers will continue to determine applications made under that policy.

Reason: So that the Licensing & Regulatory Committee can review the policy.

Minute 59 - Capital Programme - Monitor 2 2022/23 ²

Recommended: That Council approve the adjustments resulting in a decrease in the 2022/23 budget of £38.193m, as detailed in the report and contained in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the Council's capital programme.

Minute 71 - York 2032: The 10-Year Plan ³

Recommended: That Council approve and adopt the York 2032: 10-Year Plan on behalf of the city.

Reason: To engage partners, city leaders, businesses, stakeholders and residents to work together on key agreed priority areas and actions that aim to actively improve the quality of life for all York's residents.

On being put to the vote, all of the recommendations were declared CARRIED, and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendations be approved. ^{1,2,3}

Action Required

1. Note approval of the recommendations on the Pavement Café Licence Update and take appropriate actions. JG

2. Note approval of the recommendation on the Capital Programme - Monitor 2 2022/23 and take the appropriate action. DM

3. Note approval of the recommendation on York 2032: The 10-Year Plan and take appropriate action. CF

[The meeting was adjourned for a break from
8:25pm to 8:42 pm]

37. Report of Deputy Leader and Questions (20:43)

A written report was received from the Deputy Leader, Cllr D'Agorne.

Members were then invited to question the Deputy Leader on his report. Questions were received from the floor from the following Members in relation to the subjects listed, and replied to as indicated:

Cost of Living Crisis

From Cllr Orrell: Can you update Members on work in the city to support those struggling most this winter, and is there any progress on the Warm Spaces initiative?

Response: Warm Spaces is an important initiative. A number of places such as Explore libraries and community centres are offering that facility, and I very much welcome any other organisations that could be added to the list. 10,000 copies have been produced of a leaflet providing information to residents on how to find out more about the funding sources available for them to access. The leaflet is available online at foodaidnetwork.org.uk and worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/york. We also work with other organisations through the Financial Inclusion Steering Group – there are many ways in which residents can get support at this difficult time, even down to the small things like the York Energy Advice service and the housing Handyperson service.

York Central

From Cllr Hook: Can you update Members on the Riverside Park consultation as part of the York Central plans?

Response: This is an important connection for people to walk and cycle from one area to the city centre, and a sensitive issue given the impact of stopping off Leeman Road. Consultation is under way inviting residents to comment. I'm aware that although we have capital funding to spend on it, this probably won't cover everything we choose to do there and several options are being looked at. When the consultation feedback has been compiled there will be a further report to decide what the money will be spent on.

[Supplementary from Cllr Melly: All the improvements to Riverside Park are necessary and are now more urgent in the light of plans to close Leeman Road. We are told they will cost over £1m but only £0.5m has been allocated. You said in your report that the plans would be funded through the capital programme. Can we take this as a commitment to fully fund the required improvements?]

Supplementary Response: I share your concerns, and it's important to understand the priorities from the perspective of local residents. The budget is constrained - your leader raised questions this morning about how to reduce the capital programme - but we need to spend to ensure long-term investment in the city. It may be that, for example, we have to spend on ensuring the route is gritted and raised or widened to enhance its safety and reduce the impact on the city, residents and the NHS.

[Supplementary from Cllr Crawshaw: Previous funding for other schemes has been removed from the budget for lack of officer time. Can you guarantee to Holgate ward councillors that any money in the budget for these riverside improvements will come with dedicated officer time to deliver or work up the scheme?]

Supplementary Response: Next year's budget will come to Council in February. The funding you refer to hasn't been removed but was identified in a different way to enable ward councillors to take a holistic approach.

Passivhaus homes

From Cllr Pavlovic: If these houses had been built to building regulations instead of Passivhaus standards, how many more affordable homes could you have delivered?

Response: This is not my portfolio area and I don't have that information to hand. This programme was adopted several years ago and is being delivered, so it's rather a hypothetical question.

38. Motions on Notice (21:18)

(i) Delivering Effective Customer Services to York Residents

Moved by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Lomas.

"This Council believes that an effective council is one that appropriately supports its staff and is responsive to the needs of all its residents.

Council notes:

- that at least one in ten people are not digitally connected, rising to more than four in ten for the over 75s;
- older residents are less likely to wait for long periods to have their calls answered, and are more likely to have difficulty navigating numbered option-based customer service phone lines;
- that the welcome [4 Cs](#) council policy for comments, concerns, complaints and compliments is tempered by the Local Govt Ombudsman's reported concerns about the way some council departments are responding to complaints;
- the 2,500% increase in average call wait times for residents when calling the council for help over the past two years, from 42 seconds to 18 minutes, not accounting for those calls abandoned altogether;
- the value and importance of calling residents back if their calls are not answered;
- that the complexity and sometimes difficult experience of customer calls, as well as understaffing of the customer services team, are exacerbating the problem of poor staff retention.

Council believes quality of customer service reflects the importance the council attaches to residents' issues, whether online, over the phone or in person.

It further believes:

- that cuts to staffing and policy decisions taken by the current administration are a significant component in current poor response times;
- that we do not currently know the extent of resident calls abandoned due to non-responses by the council;
- that helping residents in the right way at the first opportunity saves time and money for the council;
- suspending the call-back service to residents whose calls go unanswered sends the message that their issues are unimportant;
- new approaches must be considered to operating the council's customer services number to arrest the decline in responsiveness to residents;
- the effect of the removal of staff from the customer services phone line is to make services far more difficult to access for some York residents;
- current and former call-centre staff have been avoidably exposed to increased abuse and a deterioration in their

working conditions due to poor political decision making both in policy and budgetary (staff) cutbacks.

Council resolves to request that the Executive, including as part of its current budget preparations:

- publicly acknowledges the hard work of customer services staff and the impact of cuts on their ability to meet resident expectations, and apologises for the council's ongoing inability to effectively respond to residents' issues in a timely way;
- urgently reinstates the customer services call-back service to residents;
- commits to reviewing the functioning of the relevant council services as a priority, with a focus to include:
 - staffing and operating hours of the customer call centre;
 - ensuring access to non-digital council services is an easy, straightforward process;
 - categorisation of services on, and user-friendliness of, a council website a significant number of residents struggle to navigate;
 - monitoring and recording of abusive calls to staff, including a clear structure for escalation, response and staff well-being support."

Cllr Ayre then moved, and Cllr Cullwick seconded, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

"In the second paragraph, under 'Council notes:

- after the 4th bullet point, insert:

- *'That the issue is exacerbated by challenge in recruiting to vacancies, as has been experienced by other council services and employers across all sectors;*
- *that prior to covid, service levels and performance were good within the current level of resources;*
- *That recruitment has been ongoing since summer 2021 and there are still 6 vacancies with 2.5 vacancies recruited to but not yet occupied;*
- *That the service has an improving recruitment position and hence improving performance, with average wait times going from 5.5 mins in October to 3.3 mins in November;'*

- in the last bullet point, delete 'understaffing of the customer services team' and substitute 'increased workload since the pandemic'.

- after the last bullet point, insert:
 - *‘That a policy is in place for staff dealing with abusive customers / distressing conversations and weekly training and support sessions have been implemented to further support staff and staff were also paid a retention payment for the April to September period this year.’*

In the fourth paragraph, under ‘It further believes’:

- delete the first two bullet points and substitute:
 - *‘That service levels would not have been affected to the extent they are, if the service had been able to fill vacancies and had the level of additional workload not increased through administration of additional support schemes*
 - *That data is available on total number of calls answered, how many are answered within 20 seconds and the number of abandoned calls. Abandoned calls do not mean the customer did not get their query resolved’.*
- delete the 4th bullet point and substitute:
 - *‘That whilst the call-back service was suspended following the increase in workload in September 2021, it will, as planned, be reimplemented when current vacancies are filled and new staff have been trained. This is not an issue of extra funding, as vacancies are still present due to market competitiveness.’*
- in the 5th bullet point, delete ‘*arrest the decline in*’ and substitute ‘*improve*’
- delete the 6th bullet point and substitute:
 - *‘that had the service been able to fully resource its vacancies then normal service level would have been delivered.’*

In the fifth paragraph, under ‘Council resolves to request that the Executive...’

- in the 1st bullet point, delete ‘*cuts*’ and substitute ‘*increased workloads*’
- in the 2nd bullet point, delete ‘*urgently reinstates*’ and substitute ‘*commits to reinstate*’; and add to the end of the bullet point ‘*once current vacant positions are filled and new staff have been trained*’
- in the 3rd bullet point, before ‘*monitoring and recording*’ in the final sub-bullet point, insert ‘*a more effective and simpler system for*’.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared CARRIED.

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

“This Council believes that an effective council is one that appropriately supports its staff and is responsive to the needs of all its residents.

Council notes:

- that at least one in ten people are not digitally connected, rising to more than four in ten for the over 75s;
- older residents are less likely to wait for long periods to have their calls answered, and are more likely to have difficulty navigating numbered option-based customer service phone lines;
- that the welcome [4 Cs](#) council policy for comments, concerns, complaints and compliments is tempered by the Local Govt Ombudsman’s reported concerns about the way some council departments are responding to complaints;
- the 2,500% increase in average call wait times for residents when calling the council for help over the past two years, from 42 seconds to 18 minutes, not accounting for those calls abandoned altogether;
- **that the issue is exacerbated by challenge in recruiting to vacancies, as has been experienced by other council services and employers across all sectors;**
- **that prior to covid, service levels and performance were good within the current level of resources;**
- **that recruitment has been ongoing since summer 2021 and there are still 6 vacancies with 2.5 vacancies recruited to but not yet occupied;**
- **that the service has an improving recruitment position and hence improving performance, with average wait times going from 5.5 mins in October to 3.3 mins in November;**
- the value and importance of calling residents back if their calls are not answered;
- that the complexity and sometimes difficult experience of customer calls, as well as **increased workload since the pandemic**, are exacerbating the problem of poor staff retention;
- **that a policy is in place for staff dealing with abusive customers / distressing conversations and weekly training and support sessions have been implemented to further support staff and staff were also paid a retention payment for the April to September period this year.**

Council believes quality of customer service reflects the importance the council attaches to residents' issues, whether online, over the phone or in person.

It further believes:

- **that service levels would not have been affected to the extent they are, if the service had been able to fill vacancies and had the level of additional workload not increased through administration of additional support schemes;**
- **that data is available on total number of calls answered, how many are answered within 20 seconds and the number of abandoned calls. Abandoned calls do not mean the customer did not get their query resolved;**
- that helping residents in the right way at the first opportunity saves time and money for the council;
- **that whilst the call-back service was suspended following the increase in workload in September 2021, it will, as planned, be reimplemented when current vacancies are filled and new staff have been trained. This is not an issue of extra funding, as vacancies are still present due to market competitiveness;**
- new approaches must be considered to operating the council's customer services number to **improve** responsiveness to residents;
- **that had the service been able to fully resource its vacancies then normal service level would have been delivered;**
- current and former call-centre staff have been avoidably exposed to increased abuse and a deterioration in their working conditions due to poor political decision making both in policy and budgetary (staff) cutbacks.

Council resolves to request that the Executive, including as part of its current budget preparations:

- publicly acknowledges the hard work of customer services staff and the impact of **increased workloads** on their ability to meet resident expectations, and apologises for the council's ongoing inability to effectively respond to residents' issues in a timely way;
- **commits to reinstate** the customer services call-back service to residents **once current vacant positions are filled and new staff have been trained;**

- commits to reviewing the functioning of the relevant council services as a priority, with a focus to include:
 - staffing and operating hours of the customer call centre;
 - ensuring access to non-digital council services is an easy, straightforward process;
 - categorisation of services on, and user-friendliness of, a council website a significant number of residents struggle to navigate;
 - **a more effective and simpler system for monitoring and recording of abusive calls to staff, including a clear structure for escalation, response and staff well-being support.**

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above motion, as amended, be approved.¹

(ii) York Opposes Voter ID Requirements

Cllr Hollyer sought consent to alter his motion to incorporate the amendment submitted by Cllr Kilbane.

Council having granted consent, the altered motion was moved by Cllr Hollyer and seconded by Cllr Kilbane, as follows:

“This Council notes that:

- Voters will be required to show an approved form of photographic identification at polling stations from May next year, under measures in the Government’s Elections Act 2022. The secondary legislation is yet however to be finalised and implemented.
- The total cost of the ID roll-out overall could cost £180m over a decade, according to Government’s figures.
- According to the Electoral Reform Society, the accepted forms of photographic identification would disadvantage younger people.
- In September the Electoral Commission issued a stark warning to the Government over their “fundamental concerns” and “alarm” over these plans – which it said could not “be delivered in a way which is fully secure, accessible and workable” in time for the local elections in May.

- There were only four convictions resulting from the allegations of in-person voter fraud during the 2019 General Election.
- Electoral Commission research has found that about 7.5% of the electorate do not have access to any form of photo ID.
- Over 1,100 people were denied a vote in local government elections during the 2018 and 2019 Voter ID pilots.
- After the May 2018 Voter ID pilots, the Electoral Reform Society concluded that the introduction of Voter ID is ‘a sledge hammer to crack a nut’.
- Insufficient information regarding the introduction of the new voter ID policy has been shared with local councils ahead of the May 2023 election.
- There is expected to be a substantial additional strain on staff and resources preparing for the introduction of these changes. Including the issuing of local electoral identity documents, communication of the new rules and the impact of training, retaining and recruiting election day staff who will have extra responsibilities at polling stations.

This Council believes that:

- The introduction of mandatory Voter ID will undermine the democratic process and create barriers to exercising the right to vote, disproportionately affecting ethnic minority, low income, homeless, LGBT+, elderly, disabled and young people.
- The Government should be trying to increase engagement in democracy, not hinder it. The Government should be urgently acting to increase voter registration and turnout.
- If the Conservative Government is intent on using Voter ID to make voting unnecessarily complex for a demographic known to give it less support, local councils must work to find ways to ensure the democratic right to vote is upheld.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Request the Chief Operating Officer writes to the Cabinet Office to express the Council’s serious concern as to the introduction of mandatory Voter ID in any UK elections.
- Request a report is brought to a public meeting of the council’s Executive outlining:
 - the plans and update on preparations to introduce mandatory voter ID for the May 2023 local election in York;

- the potential cost as well as consideration of any practical issues involved in issuing postal vote application forms to every eligible voter on the Electoral Register in York;
- use the council's communications function to regularly promote postal voting, and frequently in the months prior to an election."

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above motion be approved.²

(iii) Introduction of Council Tax Premium for Second Homes

Moved by Cllr Fenton and seconded by Cllr Hook.

"The Council notes:

- The regressive and unfair nature of the Council Tax system.
- Second home ownership in York was estimated at 429 in 2020/21, according to the National Housing Federation, and is recognised to have a negative impact in terms of the supply of homes available to meet local housing need.
- The negative impact of an increase in the number of second homes in terms of the supply of homes available to meet local housing need and residents being priced out of the housing market.
- The average house price in York, which was estimated to be £315,202 in June 2022, according to the Land Registry.
- That in 2018, City of York Council introduced a policy to charge an extra 50% (bringing it to a 100%) in Council tax on long-term empty homes in an effort to bring empty homes into proper use.
- Following the announcement in May of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which is still progressing through Parliament without a confirmed timeframe, Councils will be able to utilise a new discretionary council tax premium of up to 100% on second homes which are not let out or lived in for at least 70 days a year.
- Initial, high level analysis, shows that the application of a 100% premium on second homes in York could generate in excess of £740k in additional Council Tax revenue.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Request officers to bring a paper to a meeting of the Executive outlining the implications and options for implementing a 100% council tax premium of second homes in York, with a view to implementing the policy once national legislation has been granted Royal assent.
- Request the Chief Operating Officer to write to relevant Ministers on behalf of the Council in support of the introduction of the council tax premium for second homes and seek assurance that loopholes that could see second home owners avoid the payment of the premium will be addressed.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above motion be approved.³

Action Required

1. To note approval of the motion on Delivering Effective Customer Services to York Residents and take appropriate action. IF
2. To note approval of the motion 'York Opposes Voter ID Requirements' and take appropriate action. IF
3. To note approval of the motion on Introduction of Council Tax Premium for Second Homes and take appropriate action. IF

[The guillotine fell at 10:20 pm]

39. Questions to the Leader or Executive Members (22:20)

No questions were put, as the guillotine had fallen.

40. Report of Executive Member (22:20)

The report was received. No questions were put, as the guillotine had fallen.

41. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee (22:20)

The report was received.

42. Appointments and Changes to Membership (22:20)

Resolved: That the appointments and changes to membership on the list at page 49 of the agenda papers be approved.¹

Action Required

1. Make the agreed change to the membership list JB on the system.

43. Urgent Business - Members' Allowances (20:53)

Council received a report which sought Council's decision on a potential increase to Members' Allowances, prompted by the National Joint Pay Award negotiated for City of York Council employees under national collective bargaining.

The Lord Mayor had agreed to accept this item as Urgent Business to ensure that the increase, if agreed, could be implemented by the end of the financial year.

The Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer introduced the report, at page 1 of Agenda Supplement 1, and granted a general dispensation for all Members to take part in the debate and vote.

During the debate, a Member indicated they had not taken any increases since 2019.

A vote was then taken on the following options, as set out in paragraph 4 of the report:

- Option 1 - Apply 4.04% to both the basic and special responsibility allowances.
- Option 2 - Apply '52.5% less a third' (in line with the calculation methodology used in the 2019 IRP Report) of £1,925 to the basic allowance (which equates to £673) and 4.04% to the special responsibility allowances.
- Option 3 - No uplift and a freeze on the current basic and special responsibility allowances.

Option 1 received 38 votes and Option 3 received 2 votes. There were no votes in favour of Option 2 and no abstentions. **Option 1** was therefore declared CARRIED, and it was

Resolved: That Option 1, to apply 4.04% to both the basic and special responsibility allowances, be approved.¹

Note: This item was brought forward on the agenda by the Lord Mayor and was therefore dealt with before the guillotine fell.

Action Required

1. Note approval of Option 1 in the report and take appropriate action. BR

Cllr D Carr

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 10.20 pm]



Budget Council**23 February 2023**

Report of the Chief Operating Officer
Portfolio of the Executive Leader

**Recommendations of Executive on York and North Yorkshire
Devolution – Outcome of Consultation****Summary**

1. On 14 February, Executive considered a report on the outcome of the recent statutory consultation on devolution. Executive approved the recommendations of the report, including that the report was referred to Full Council.
2. This report outlines the recommendations to be considered and identifies the relevant background information.

Background

3. The Part B minutes of the meeting (Matters Referred to Council) are as follows:

“York and North Yorkshire Devolution - Outcome of Consultation

The Chief Operating Officer and the Head of Corporate Policy & City Partnerships presented a report which summarised the outcome of consultation on a Scheme for governance arrangements to implement the proposed Devolution Deal for York and North Yorkshire, suggested amendments to the Deal arising from the consultation, and asked Executive to recommend that Council approve the submission of a consultation summary to Government. North Yorkshire County Council was considering the same matters, as the approval of both councils was needed to progress the statutory process.

Details of the consultation were set out in Annex 1 to the report and summarised in paragraphs 10-92, including suggested amendments to take on board the comments received. The overall response had been positive,

with 54% supporting the proposals and 32% opposing them. Three options were presented, as set out in paragraphs 93-101:

Option 1 – submit the consultation summary and Scheme to government without amendment. Not recommended, as the suggested amendments would improve the model of governance.

Option 2 – decide not to submit the summary and Scheme. Not recommended, as the consultation had been robust and the issues raised could be addressed satisfactorily.

Option 3 – amend the Scheme based on information received and submit it to government with the summary, as recommended.

In supporting the recommendations, the Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change highlighted the greater autonomy and access to funding that devolution would bring, while noting the importance of consultation amid concerns around the power of the mayor. The Chair also welcomed the proposals and the significant benefits that devolution would bring to the city. Having noted the comments made under Public Participation on this item, it was

Recommended: (i) That Council approve the submission of a Consultation Summary Report to the Government.

Reason: To inform the Secretary of State of the consultation outcome, allowing him to consider the next stages of the statutory process facilitating the creation of a York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

(ii) That Council approve Amendments to the Scheme and proposals for the operating model of the Combined Authority outlined in paragraph 92 of the report, for submission to Government.

Reason: To utilise the information received during the consultation to improve the proposed governance arrangements.

(iii) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to undertake any action necessary to submit the Consultation Summary Report and Scheme to Government, in line with recommendations (i) and (ii) above.

Reason: To facilitate the submission of the required documents to Government within the required timescales.

(iv) That Council approve Amendments to the Terms of Reference for the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee outlined in paragraphs 103-107 of the report and attached at Annex 2.

Reason: To ensure appropriate, robust and transparent decision-making.

(iii) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to undertake any action necessary to provide consent to the Order facilitating the creation of the Combined Authority in line with the scheme submitted to Government, as outlined in paragraph 115 of the report.

Reason: To allow the progress of the statutory process facilitating the creation of the Combined Authority.”

4. The paragraph and annex references refer to the Executive report, which can be found here:

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieIssueDetails.aspx?IId=69045&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI64548>

Options

5. Council may decide to approve Executive’s recommendations or reject them.

Recommendations

6. Executive recommends:

(i) That Council approve the submission of a Consultation Summary Report to the Government.

Reason: To inform the Secretary of State of the consultation outcome, allowing him to consider the next stages of the statutory process facilitating the creation of a York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

(ii) That Council approve Amendments to the Scheme and proposals for the operating model of the Combined Authority outlined in paragraph 92 of the report, for submission to Government.

Reason: To utilise the information received during the consultation to improve the proposed governance arrangements.

(iii) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to undertake any action necessary to submit the Consultation Summary Report and Scheme to Government, in line with recommendations (i) and (ii) above.

Reason: To facilitate the submission of the required documents to Government within the required timescales.

(iv) That Council approve Amendments to the Terms of Reference for the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee outlined in paragraphs 103-107 of the report and attached at Annex 2.

Reason: To ensure appropriate, robust and transparent decision-making.

(iii) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to undertake any action necessary to provide consent to the Order facilitating the creation of the Combined Authority in line with the scheme submitted to Government, as outlined in paragraph 115 of the report.

Reason: To allow the progress of the statutory process facilitating the creation of the Combined Authority.

Contact Details

Author:

Will Boardman

Head of Corporate Policy and
City Partnerships
Corporate Services

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Ian Floyd

Chief Operating Officer

Report

Approved

Date

15/02/23

Specialist Implications Officer(s) List information for all

Financial:-

Debbie Mitchel

Chief Finance Officer

Legal:-

Bryn Roberts

Director of Governance

Wards Affected: [List wards or tick box to indicate all]

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Executive Report – 14 February – York and North Yorkshire Devolution –
Outcome of Consultation -

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?Ild=69045&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI64548>

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Executive
Date	9 February 2023
Present	Councillors Aspden (Chair), Ayre, Craghill, D'Agorne, Mason, Runciman, Smalley, Waller and Widdowson
In Attendance	Councillor Douglas
Officers in Attendance	Ian Floyd – Chief Operating Officer Bryn Roberts – Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer Debbie Mitchell – Chief Finance Officer Neil Ferris – Corporate Director of Place Sharon Stoltz – Director of Public Health Jamaila Hussain – Corporate Director of Adult Social Care & Integration Tracey Carter – Director of Housing, Economy & Regeneration Sophie Round – Housing Delivery Programme Manager

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

85. Capital Programme - Monitor 2022/23

[See also under Part A]

The Chief Finance Officer presented a report which set out the projected out-turn position on the capital programme for 2022/23 and asked Executive to recommend to Council the adjustments detailed in the report and in Annex A.

A decrease of £27.164m was reported on the approved capital budget, resulting in a revised programme of £127.393m. This represented an increase of £5.305m, and a re-profiling of budgets to future years totalling £32.469m, due mainly to several schemes being delayed until 2023/24. Variances in each portfolio area were outlined in Table 1 at paragraph 6 of the report, and detailed in paragraphs 7- 46. The effect of the revisions was shown in Table 2, at paragraph 47.

Officers confirmed that there were no major issues to report and that there continued to be a significant level of investment in the programme.

Recommended: That Council approve the adjustments resulting in a decrease in the 2022/23 budget of £27.164m, as detailed in the report and contained in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the Council's capital programme.

Cllr K Aspden, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.47 pm].



Budget Council

23 February 2023

Report of the Chief Finance Officer

Recommendations of Executive on the Council's Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28, Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28, Capital Financing and Investment Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28

Summary and Background

1. This report presents to Council the recommendations of Executive for approval in respect of the revenue budget proposals for 2023/24, the Capital Budget for the period 2023/24 to 2027/28, the Capital Financing and Investment Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy for the period 2023/24 to 2027/28. This report should be read in conjunction with the reports presented to Executive on 9 February.
2. On 9 February the Executive met to consider the revenue and capital budgets and the Treasury Management Strategy. The following reports, copies of which Members have previously received, were considered;
 - i) Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28
 - ii) Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28
 - iii) Capital Financing and Investment Strategy
 - iv) Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators 2023/24 to 2027/28.

Consultation

3. The council's budget has been widely consulted upon. Please refer to the relevant section of the Financial Strategy report for further details.

4. As noted in the Financial Strategy report, the consultation was promoted within the business community via existing business network links and distribution groups including York Business Week, Make It York, The Business Improvement District, York Chamber of Commerce and the York Federation of Small Businesses. Promotion was through social media, website channels and email. These key stakeholders were asked to pass on details of the consultation to their members.
5. The results will be published alongside all consultation response on York's open data platform. www.yorkopendata.org

Options

6. Options open to the Council are to approve Executive's recommendations or to approve any amendments that may be moved by other Members of Council.

Specialist Implications

7. Implications in respect of setting the budget are contained in the Executive reports. Member's attention is drawn in particular to the legal advice of the Council's Monitoring Officer and the statutory advice of the Section 151 officer as set out in the Financial Strategy report and repeated in the following sections.

Legal

8. The council is required to set a council tax for 2023/24 before 11 March 2023. It may not be set before all major precepts (i.e. precepts from the Police and Fire Authorities) have been issued or before 1st March 2023, whichever is the earlier. The decision to set the level of council tax is reserved to Council and cannot be taken by Executive or delegated to officers, although Executive has to recommend a budget to Council. These comments are intended to apply to both the Executive meeting and the subsequent Council meeting.
9. Before determining the level of the tax, the Council must estimate its proposed revenue expenditure, taking into account amounts required by way of contingency, any need to raise reserves and any other amounts which the Council is legally required to transfer between funds. It must also estimate its anticipated income, any relevant transfer between funds and any proposed use of reserves. It must then calculate the difference between the two which is the council tax requirement.

10. The Council's Chief Financial Officer (under s151 Local Government Act 1972) is required to report to the Council on the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the calculations, and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves. The Council must have regard to the report when making decisions about the calculations in connection with which it is made. The Chief Financial Officer has a statutory duty under section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to issue a written report if he considers that a decision taken by the Council would be unlawful and likely to cause a financial deficiency.
11. In reaching decisions on these matters, Members are bound by the general principles of administrative law. Lawful discretions must not be abused or fettered and all relevant considerations must be taken into account. No irrelevant considerations may be taken into account, and any decision made must be one which only a reasonable authority, properly directing itself, could have reached. Members must also balance the interests of service users against those who contribute to the Council's finances. The resources available to the Council must be deployed to their best advantage.
12. Members must also act prudently. Members must also bear in mind their other statutory duties to have regard to certain matters when making decisions. The report identifies proposals which, if approved, may potentially have an impact on children, older adults and persons with disabilities all of which groups are statutorily protected equality strands under the Equalities Act 2010. In making their decision, Members must have due regard to their public sector equality duties and the need to eliminate discrimination, to mitigate against negative impacts where these are known and to promote equality when making decisions. Members must also take into consideration the need to consider any crime and disorder implications of the decision. A failure to follow these principles could open the Council to judicial review.
13. Members have a fiduciary duty to the council tax payers and others in the local authority's area. This means that members must behave responsibly in agreeing the budget. Members have no authority to make anything other than a balanced budget.
14. Among the relevant considerations which Members must take into account in reaching their decisions are the views of business ratepayers and the advice of officers. The duty to consult representatives of non-domestic

ratepayers on the Council's expenditure plans is contained in Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

15. In considering the advice of officers, and the weight to be attached to that advice, Members should have regard to the personal duties placed upon the s151 Officer. Members are obliged under the Code of Conduct to have regard to the advice of the s151 Officer and Monitoring Officer. The Council may take decisions which are at variance with their advice, providing there are reasonable grounds to do so. However, Members may expose themselves to risk if they disregard clearly expressed advice, for example as to the level of provision required for contingencies, bad debts and future liabilities. In addition, if Members wish to re-instate savings recommended by the Chief Finance Officer in order to balance the budget, they must find equivalent savings elsewhere.
16. The Chief Finance Officer is required by Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 and by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended) to ensure that the council's budgeting, financial management, and accounting practices meet relevant statutory and professional requirements. This is in addition subject to the requirements set out above.
17. Members must also have regard to, and be aware of, the wider duties placed upon the council by various statutes governing the conduct of its financial affairs. These include the distinction between revenue and capital expenditure and the requirement to set prudential indicators in line with capital investment plans that are prudent, affordable and sustainable.
18. Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 makes it a criminal offence for any Member with arrears of council tax which have been outstanding for two months or more to attend any meeting at which a decision affecting the budget is to be made, unless the Member concerned declares at the outset of the meeting that he or she is in arrears and will not be voting on the decision for that reason. The Member concerned must not vote but may speak. The application of Section 106 of the 1992 Act is very wide and Members should be aware that the responsibility for ensuring that they act within the law at all times rests solely with the individual Member concerned.
19. If a referendum is held after the beginning of the relevant financial year, the higher rate of council tax will be payable unless and until it is overturned by a 'no' vote in the referendum. It must also provide "substitute calculations" which need to be presented to Council setting out what the

alternative budget would be. This means that that if a party proposes a council tax above the referendum limit they must also produce “substitute calculations” within the referendum limit, to be used in the event that the referendum would reject the increase. In the event that a referendum rejects the increase, the billing authority would be able to issue new bills, offer refunds at the end of the year or allow credits against liability the following year, although individual council taxpayers would be entitled to a refund on demand.

Statutory Advice from the s151 Officer

Introduction

20. The Local Government Act 2003 places responsibilities upon the council's Chief Finance Officer to advise the council on the adequacy of its reserves and the robustness of the budget proposals including the estimates contained in this document. This section also addresses the key risks facing the council in relation to current and future budget provision. The following paragraphs outline my assessment of the budget proposals outlined in this report, including reserves and general robustness of the process. Section 25 (2) of the 2003 Act requires the council to have regard to this assessment in approving the annual budget and setting the council tax.

Robustness of proposals and process

21. The preparation of a budget relies on estimates, which are made at a point in time, and clearly there are a number of factors that can influence actual expenditure throughout the year. However, there are processes in place to ensure that assurance can be given that this budget has been constructed using the best available information and assumptions at the time of preparation. These include:
- regular budget monitoring to ensure known pressures are reflected
 - involvement of directorate management teams in development of the proposals
 - regular scrutiny of the proposals by Executive members, including separate budget Executive Member Decision Sessions held during December
22. Considerable reliance is also placed on budget managers having proper arrangements in place to identify issues early, project the likely demand for services, and consider value for money and efficiency.

23. In order to provide assurances that the budget estimates are robust the following factors have been considered:
- overall funding available including specific grants and other funding available from central government, along with locally raised income from council tax and business rates,
 - progress made in delivering 2022/23 savings
 - whether the budget decisions outlined in this report are achievable
 - the current and anticipated budget pressures arising from services such as social care
 - the forecast impact of inflation and pay awards
 - the financial sustainability of the council and the effectiveness of the financial management arrangements in place
 - the affordability and sustainability of the capital investment plans outlined in the capital programme report elsewhere on this agenda and the revenue impact of this expenditure
24. In addition, the council has a demonstrable track record of delivering budget savings and has sound financial management procedures in place. This has been recognised by favourable audit reports in respect of financial management and processes and overall the financial planning process is sound and effective.
25. A range of pressures have been identified and built into the budget presented in this report, including a contingency sum of £500k as in previous years. There are also significant savings, reflecting the scale of the challenge facing the council. There should be no understatement of the scale of this challenge that continues to face the council, given the general upward cost profile of adult care and children's services and the significant inflationary pressures being experienced across all areas of expenditure.

Risks

26. The report outlines the key risks to the 2023/24 budget, and these are considered further in the following paragraphs.
27. Rising inflation, especially in relation to energy costs, is an area of concern with rates reaching 11% in October, falling slightly to 10.7% in November 2022. This is having an impact on all our residents. In addition, given the Council's significant capital programme, rising costs are to be expected and may result in some schemes being delayed or costing more than estimated. The Council is also experiencing difficulties in recruiting to some front line services given the high number of vacancies across the

economy. This may again result in difficulties in achieving some Council Plan priorities.

28. Within the HRA the level of inflation particularly in repairs and utilities has significantly impacted the long term financial position of the HRA. The government continue to limit the level of rent increases which have resulted in expenditure increasing faster than income. The change this has had on the 30 year business plan (with large levels of debt across the whole period) leaves the account more exposed to external economic shocks such as higher inflation, interest rate increases and levels of voids and arrears. This will need to be closely monitored in the short to medium term.
29. A key risk facing the council is the number of complex capital schemes it is currently undertaking, and which are still at relatively early stages of development. Should schemes not progress to full completion there remains a risk that costs currently assumed to be capable of being capitalised must be written off to revenue. There are also increased borrowing levels resulting in increased revenue costs of debt in coming years. This is highlighted in the medium term plan figures.
30. A further key risk in relation to the capital programme is that some major capital projects may have short/medium term cash flow impacts. For example York Central, and Castle Gateway will be major schemes, which will result in additional business rates, income or capital receipts, but that may require short term borrowing prior to income being received to cover the costs. As identified in previous budget reports, the Venture Fund will be used to support early years cash flow deficits on major strategic capital projects but given the current economic outlook and rising interest rates, this borrowing will be more expensive than previously expected.
31. The current pressures being experienced within both adults and children's services remain of concern and the ongoing action being taken will need to continue and be given a high priority. Specific attention is drawn to the national picture regarding these services, which are recognised as being under increased pressure. Whilst this council has invested in these services in recent years, the risks remain, and it is essential the council continues to make adequate budgetary growth provision to deal with the significant cost pressures these services are experiencing, along with savings programmes to mitigate pressures. The budget proposals properly recognise these pressures.

32. Clearly, there are risks in the achievement of some of the proposed savings and, in assessing this risk, I cannot guarantee that every single proposal will be achieved. I do however consider the overall package to be prudent. As outlined earlier, processes are in place to ensure the robustness of the proposed savings. A risk assessment of the individual savings proposals has been conducted and discussed with senior management. Where savings are not delivered, services are fully aware of the need to find compensating savings.
33. The Government announced in “Building Back Better” that it would be introducing new social care reforms funded by a Health and Social Care Levy which was subsequently abolished. There remain many questions about the future funding for social care. In the meantime, the Local Government Settlement allocated additional grant funding for social care in the short term (2 years) but there remains continued uncertainty around both the cost of any future reforms and how the funding will be determined and distributed. As a result, there remains a very significant financial risk to local authorities with social care responsibilities.
34. Finally, there remains again the potential for significant changes to the system of local government finance in coming years. The Government published the provisional settlement on 21 December 2022. It is a one year settlement with indicative figures for 2024/25. With the Fair Funding Review now postponed until 2025, the more fundamental changes needed in local government finances are again unlikely to take place for a number of years.
35. These changes in funding could be significant and will make forecasting for 2024/25 and beyond very difficult. The government originally launched the Fair Funding Review in 2016 and the review has been postponed numerous times. This policy is likely to change the needs assessments of local authorities and therefore the distribution of funding between different councils, adding to the uncertainty in the years ahead.

Reserves

36. CIPFA guidance states that, in order to assess the adequacy of reserves when setting the budget, chief finance officers should take account of the strategic, operational and financial risks facing the authority and that the many factors involved when considering appropriate levels of reserves can only be assessed properly at a local level.

37. Determining the appropriate levels of balances is therefore a professional judgement based on local circumstances including the overall budget size, risks, robustness of budgets, major initiatives being undertaken, budget assumptions and other earmarked reserves and provisions. Based on the range of factors and risks outlined in this report it is my view that the general reserve should be a figure of £6.8m.
38. Furthermore, part of the risk management process involves taking appropriate action to mitigate or remove risks, where this is possible. This in turn may lead to a lower level of reserves being required, and it would be appropriate to consider reducing the level of balances held where appropriate action to mitigate or remove risks has been successfully undertaken. As part of the year end process, a review is undertaken and any balances that are no longer required, or that can be reduced due to action taken to reduce or mitigate the relevant risks, will be reported to Executive as part of the year end outturn report.
39. The proposed 2023/24 budget does not use the general reserve to balance and therefore reserves remain sufficient to deal with any further risks.

Summary

40. The uncertainty over recent years, created by Covid-19 and now continued with the cost of living crisis and inflationary pressures, along with increasing demand for our services, means financial planning needs to be robust.
41. For future budget planning, further action will be needed to continue to focus resources on the highest priority services to reduce demand, as well as creating capacity to make investment in key front line services and essential capital investment. Therefore, the major financial challenge facing the council in coming years remains the need to secure further savings and for cost pressures, particularly those resulting from the pandemic, to be managed effectively. Given the current financial pressures referred to in previous paragraphs there will need to be continued careful monitoring of the achievement of the savings outlined in this report.
42. I have given careful consideration to the proposals outlined in all the budget reports on this agenda and particularly the risks associated with the proposals. Prudent and realistic assumptions have been made and the financial implications of known pressures have been included.

Therefore, I am satisfied that they represent a robust budget on which the council can rely in setting council tax.

Recommendations

Revenue Budget

43. Executive recommends that Council:

- i. Approve the budget proposals outlined in the Financial Strategy report and in particular;
 - a. The net revenue expenditure requirement of £141.624m
 - b. A council tax requirement of £107.783m
 - c. The revenue growth proposals as outlined in the body of the report
 - d. The 2023/24 revenue savings proposals as outlined in annex 2
 - e. The fees and charges proposals as outlined in annex 3
 - f. The consultation feedback as set out in annex 4
 - g. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) savings proposals set out in annex 6 and the HRA 2023/24 budget set out in annex 7
 - h. The dedicated schools grant proposals outlined from paragraph 186, including option 1 for allocating 3 & 4 year old early years funding to providers
 - i. The use of £1m from reserves to fund one off investment, as outlined in paragraph 87
- ii. That Council note that the effect of approving the income and expenditure proposals included in the recommendations would result in a 4.99% increase in the City of York Council element of the council tax, 2% of which would relate to the social care precept.
- iii. Members are asked to approve the 100% increase in council tax on second homes with effect from 1st April 2024 subject to the Levelling

Up bill receive Royal Assent by 31st March 2023, as set out in paragraphs 119 to 121.

Reason: To ensure a legally balanced budget is set

Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28

44. Executive recommends that Council:

- i. Agree to the revised capital programme of **£481.980m** that reflects a net overall increase of **£51.158m** (as set out in table 2 and in Annex A). Key elements of this include:
 - a) New schemes funded by prudential borrowing totalling £1.229m as set out in tables 3;
 - b) Extension of prudential borrowing funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £22.286m as set out in table 4;
 - c) Extension of externally funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £8.998m as set out in table 6;
 - d) An increase in HRA funded schemes totalling £18.645m funded from a combination HRA balances/Right to Buy receipts as set out in table 7;
- ii. Note the total increase in Council borrowing as a result of new schemes being recommended for approval is £23.515m the details of which are considered within this report and the financial strategy report
- iii. Approve the full restated programme as summarised in Annex B totalling **£481.980m** covering financial years 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in table 11 and Annex B

Reason: In accordance with the statutory requirement to set a capital budget for the forthcoming financial year.

Capital and Investment Strategy

45. Executive recommends that Council:

- i. Approve the Capital and Investment Strategy at Annex A

Reason: To meet the statutory obligation to comply with the Prudential Code 2017.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators

46. Executive recommends that Council approve:

- i. The proposed treasury management strategy for 2023/24 including the annual investment strategy and the minimum revenue provision policy statement;
- ii. The prudential indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28 in the main body of the report;
- iii. The specified and non-specified investments schedule (annex B)
- iv. The scheme of delegation and the role of the section 151 officer (annex D)

Reason: To enable the continued effective operation of the treasury management function and ensure that all council borrowing is prudent, affordable and sustainable.

Contact Details

Authors:

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

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Debbie Mitchell
Chief Finance Officer
(s151 Officer)

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**Report
Approved**



Date 14/2/23

Wards Affected: *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

All

For further information please contact the authors of the report

Background Papers:

Reports to Executive meeting held on 9 February 2023

- Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28
- Capital and Investment Strategy
- Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28
- Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28

Annexes: None

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Budget Council**23 February 2023**

Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer)
Portfolio of Executive Member for Finance and Major Projects

Council Tax Resolution 2023/24**Summary**

- 1 This report asks Members to approve the rate of council tax for 2023/24. Although the legal requirement is that the Council must have set a balanced budget and the council tax charge by 11 March it is important that council tax rates are approved at this meeting to allow sufficient time to produce and post council tax bills and meet all statutory deadlines.
- 2 This report sets out the resolution based on the assumption that the budget proposals recommended by Executive on 9 February 2023 are approved.
- 3 Members are reminded that the individual council tax bill is comprised of four elements - the amount levied for City of York Council, the amount precepted by the North Yorkshire Police Authority, the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and, for properties in a parished area of the city, the amount precepted by the individual Town or Parish Council.
- 4 The Localism Act 2011 requires the billing authority to calculate a council tax requirement for the year. This is to help the council determine if it has set an excessive council tax increase that would in turn trigger a local referendum. Principles set by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities determines that an increase in a council's basic rate of council tax of 3% is excessive.
- 5 In 2023/24 local authorities with responsibilities for adult social care have been given the flexibility to charge a further precept. City of York Council may charge a maximum of 2% social care precept in 2023/24, in addition to the 3% referendum limit. The additional social care precept must be used to fund adult social care.

Background

- 6 The Council's net revenue budget and capital programme were recommended by the 9 February 2023 Executive for approval by Council. Details appear earlier on this agenda.
- 7 The council tax levels to be proposed will include the precepts received from the parish councils, the North Yorkshire Police Authority and the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority. Members are reminded that the Council must word the resolution in precise language, as directed by legislation.

Parishes

- 8 The total parish funding has increased by £60,059 (6.69%) to £958,135 from £898,076 in 2022/23. This figure includes grants totalling £30,694 provided by the council to parishes to protect against the effects of the localised council tax support scheme. Therefore, the total amount of council tax to be levied by parishes in 2023/24 is £927,441. The percentage increases vary from 0.16% to 122%, with an average increase overall of 6.7%. 9 parishes have frozen their funding. The individual precepts are only charged to the residents in that parish. The total rise in parish precepts over the last three years has been £131k (16%).

North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

- 9 The North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner met on 6th February 2023 to confirm the precept value for the North Yorkshire Police Authority and the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority.
- 10 The proposal is to increase the North Yorkshire Police Authority precept by £14.03 (4.99%) to £295.09 for a band D property for 2023/24.
- 11 The North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority precept will increase by £5.00 (6.61%) to £80.61 for a band D property for 2023/24.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

- 12 City of York Council is currently a member of the Leeds City Region (LCR) Business Rates Pool. The pool was formed for 2021/22 and retains 50% of business rates, in line with national policy. The pool will continue to operate in 2023/24.
- 13 The council is projecting retained business rates income in 2023/24 of £33.841m, which is an increase of £500k compared to 2022/23.

Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

- 14 It be noted that on 13 December 2022 the Chief Finance Officer, under her delegated authority, calculated the council tax base for the year 2023/24:
- (a) for the **whole Council area** as 68,633.10 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)]; and
 - (b) for those dwellings in those parts of its area to which a **Parish** precept relates as in column 1 in the attached Schedule A.
- 15 Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2023/24 (excluding Parish precepts) is £107,782,790.
- 16 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- (a) £549,488,952 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - (b) £440,748,027 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £108,740,925 being the amount by which the aggregate at 16(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 16(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. [Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act].
 - (d) £1,584.38 being the amount at 16(c) above [Item R], all divided by Item T (14(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
 - (e) £958,135 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Schedule A).
 - (f) £1,570.42 being the amount at 16(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 16(e) above by

Item T (14(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

- 17 To note that the Fire and Crime Commissioner for the North Yorkshire Police Authority and the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority has issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the tables below.
- 18 That the Council, in accordance with sections 30 and 36 of the Act, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below, and at Schedule B for Parished areas, as the amounts of council tax for 2023/24 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

City of York Council

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,046.95	1,221.44	1,395.93	1,570.42	1,919.40	2,268.38	2,617.37	3,140.84

North Yorkshire Police Authority

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
196.73	229.51	262.30	295.09	360.67	426.24	491.82	590.18

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
53.74	62.70	71.65	80.61	98.52	116.44	134.35	161.22

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements (excluding Parished Areas)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,297.42	1,513.65	1,729.88	1,946.12	2,378.59	2,811.06	3,243.54	3,892.24

- 19 Determine that the Council's basic amount of council tax for 2023/24 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under section 52ZB of the Act. As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2023/24 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

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SCHEDULE A

Parts of the Council's Area

	1.	2.	3.							
	Council	Basic Amount	Valuation Bands							
	Tax Base	of Tax	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Acaster Malbis Parish Council	343.27	1,583.23	1,055.49	1,231.40	1,407.32	1,583.23	1,935.06	2,286.88	2,638.72	3,166.46
Askham Bryan Parish Council	210.50	1,620.33	1,080.22	1,260.26	1,440.29	1,620.33	1,980.40	2,340.47	2,700.55	3,240.66
Askham Richard Parish Council	95.03	1,600.15	1,066.77	1,244.56	1,422.36	1,600.15	1,955.74	2,311.32	2,666.92	3,200.30
Bishopthorpe Parish Council	1,293.66	1,596.66	1,064.44	1,241.85	1,419.25	1,596.66	1,951.47	2,306.28	2,661.10	3,193.32
Clifton Without Parish Council	2,071.10	1,584.56	1,056.38	1,232.44	1,408.50	1,584.56	1,936.68	2,288.80	2,640.94	3,169.12
Copmanthorpe Parish Council	1,708.18	1,591.77	1,061.18	1,238.05	1,414.91	1,591.77	1,945.49	2,299.22	2,652.95	3,183.54
Deighton Parish Council	139.09	1,596.37	1,064.25	1,241.62	1,419.00	1,596.37	1,951.12	2,305.86	2,660.62	3,192.74
Dunnington Parish Council	1,376.28	1,600.09	1,066.73	1,244.52	1,422.30	1,600.09	1,955.66	2,311.24	2,666.82	3,200.18
Earswick Parish Council	438.14	1,634.58	1,089.72	1,271.34	1,452.96	1,634.58	1,997.82	2,361.06	2,724.30	3,269.16
Elvington Parish Council	494.68	1,595.84	1,063.90	1,241.21	1,418.53	1,595.84	1,950.47	2,305.10	2,659.74	3,191.68
Fulford Parish Council	1,154.72	1,608.18	1,072.12	1,250.81	1,429.49	1,608.18	1,965.55	2,322.92	2,680.30	3,216.36
Haxby Town Council	3,241.80	1,615.35	1,076.90	1,256.39	1,435.87	1,615.35	1,974.31	2,333.28	2,692.25	3,230.70
Heslington Parish Council	362.28	1,618.58	1,079.06	1,258.90	1,438.74	1,618.58	1,978.26	2,337.94	2,697.64	3,237.16
Hessay Parish Council	117.41	1,603.66	1,069.11	1,247.29	1,425.48	1,603.66	1,960.03	2,316.39	2,672.77	3,207.32
Heworth Parish Council	833.93	1,385.96	923.98	1,077.97	1,231.97	1,385.96	1,693.95	2,001.94	2,309.94	2,771.92
Holtby Parish Council	101.28	1,587.68	1,058.46	1,234.86	1,411.27	1,587.68	1,940.50	2,293.31	2,646.14	3,175.36
Huntington Parish Council	3,549.26	1,609.69	1,073.13	1,251.98	1,430.84	1,609.69	1,967.40	2,325.10	2,682.82	3,219.38
Kexby Parish Council	100.36	1,610.11	1,073.41	1,252.31	1,431.21	1,610.11	1,967.91	2,325.71	2,683.52	3,220.22
Murton Parish Council	207.62	1,582.26	1,054.84	1,230.65	1,406.45	1,582.26	1,933.87	2,285.48	2,637.10	3,164.52
Naburn Parish Council	226.43	1,594.11	1,062.74	1,239.87	1,416.99	1,594.11	1,948.35	2,302.60	2,656.85	3,188.22
Nether Poppleton Parish Council	873.04	1,595.07	1,063.38	1,240.61	1,417.84	1,595.07	1,949.53	2,303.99	2,658.45	3,190.14
New Earswick Parish Council	818.24	1,599.30	1,066.20	1,243.90	1,421.60	1,599.30	1,954.70	2,310.10	2,665.50	3,198.60
Osbalwick Parish Council	1,353.14	1,580.76	1,053.84	1,229.48	1,405.12	1,580.76	1,932.04	2,283.32	2,634.60	3,161.52
Rawcliffe Parish Council	2,306.56	1,589.00	1,059.34	1,235.89	1,412.45	1,589.00	1,942.11	2,295.22	2,648.34	3,178.00
Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council	466.41	1,596.55	1,064.37	1,241.76	1,419.16	1,596.55	1,951.34	2,306.12	2,660.92	3,193.10
Skelton Parish Council	642.59	1,609.61	1,073.08	1,251.92	1,430.77	1,609.61	1,967.30	2,324.99	2,682.69	3,219.22
Stockton-on-the-Forest Parish Council	542.92	1,586.31	1,057.54	1,233.80	1,410.05	1,586.31	1,938.82	2,291.33	2,643.85	3,172.62
Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council	2,102.18	1,595.29	1,063.53	1,240.78	1,418.04	1,595.29	1,949.80	2,304.30	2,658.82	3,190.58
Upper Poppleton Parish Council	919.37	1,607.99	1,072.00	1,250.66	1,429.33	1,607.99	1,965.32	2,322.65	2,679.99	3,215.98
Wheldrake Parish Council	868.44	1,615.84	1,077.23	1,256.77	1,436.30	1,615.84	1,974.91	2,333.99	2,693.07	3,231.68
Wigginton Parish Council	1,373.76	1,618.38	1,078.92	1,258.74	1,438.56	1,618.38	1,978.02	2,337.66	2,697.30	3,236.76
	<u>30,331.69</u>									
All other parts of the council's area	<u>38,301.41</u>	1,570.42	1,046.95	1,221.44	1,395.93	1,570.42	1,919.40	2,268.38	2,617.37	3,140.84
	<u>68,633.10</u>									

Note: This schedule shows the basic City of York Council + Parish element of Council Tax for each area.

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SCHEDULE B

Parts of the Council's Area

Valuation Bands

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Acaster Malbis Parish Council	1,305.96	1,523.61	1,741.27	1,958.93	2,394.25	2,829.56	3,264.89	3,917.86
Askham Bryan Parish Council	1,330.69	1,552.47	1,774.24	1,996.03	2,439.59	2,883.15	3,326.72	3,992.06
Askham Richard Parish Council	1,317.24	1,536.77	1,756.31	1,975.85	2,414.93	2,854.00	3,293.09	3,951.70
Bishopthorpe Parish Council	1,314.91	1,534.06	1,753.20	1,972.36	2,410.66	2,848.96	3,287.27	3,944.72
Clifton Without Parish Council	1,306.85	1,524.65	1,742.45	1,960.26	2,395.87	2,831.48	3,267.11	3,920.52
Copmanthorpe Parish Council	1,311.65	1,530.26	1,748.86	1,967.47	2,404.68	2,841.90	3,279.12	3,934.94
Deighton Parish Council	1,314.72	1,533.83	1,752.95	1,972.07	2,410.31	2,848.54	3,286.79	3,944.14
Dunnington Parish Council	1,317.20	1,536.73	1,756.25	1,975.79	2,414.85	2,853.92	3,292.99	3,951.58
Earswick Parish Council	1,340.19	1,563.55	1,786.91	2,010.28	2,457.01	2,903.74	3,350.47	4,020.56
Elvington Parish Council	1,314.37	1,533.42	1,752.48	1,971.54	2,409.66	2,847.78	3,285.91	3,943.08
Fulford Parish Council	1,322.59	1,543.02	1,763.44	1,983.88	2,424.74	2,865.60	3,306.47	3,967.76
Haxby Town Council	1,327.37	1,548.60	1,769.82	1,991.05	2,433.50	2,875.96	3,318.42	3,982.10
Heslington Parish Council	1,329.53	1,551.11	1,772.69	1,994.28	2,437.45	2,880.62	3,323.81	3,988.56
Hessay Parish Council	1,319.58	1,539.50	1,759.43	1,979.36	2,419.22	2,859.07	3,298.94	3,958.72
Heworth Parish Council	1,314.37	1,533.42	1,752.48	1,971.54	2,409.66	2,847.78	3,285.91	3,943.08
Holtby Parish Council	1,308.93	1,527.07	1,745.22	1,963.38	2,399.69	2,835.99	3,272.31	3,926.76
Huntington Parish Council	1,323.60	1,544.19	1,764.79	1,985.39	2,426.59	2,867.78	3,308.99	3,970.78
Kexby Parish Council	1,323.88	1,544.52	1,765.16	1,985.81	2,427.10	2,868.39	3,309.69	3,971.62
Murton Parish Council	1,305.31	1,522.86	1,740.40	1,957.96	2,393.06	2,828.16	3,263.27	3,915.92
Naburn Parish Council	1,313.21	1,532.08	1,750.94	1,969.81	2,407.54	2,845.28	3,283.02	3,939.62
Nether Poppleton Parish Council	1,313.85	1,532.82	1,751.79	1,970.77	2,408.72	2,846.67	3,284.62	3,941.54
New Earswick Parish Council	1,316.67	1,536.11	1,755.55	1,975.00	2,413.89	2,852.78	3,291.67	3,950.00
Osbalwick Parish Council	1,304.31	1,521.69	1,739.07	1,956.46	2,391.23	2,826.00	3,260.77	3,912.92
Rawcliffe Parish Council	1,309.81	1,528.10	1,746.40	1,964.70	2,401.30	2,837.90	3,274.51	3,929.40
Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council	1,314.84	1,533.97	1,753.11	1,972.25	2,410.53	2,848.80	3,287.09	3,944.50
Skelton Parish Council	1,323.55	1,544.13	1,764.72	1,985.31	2,426.49	2,867.67	3,308.86	3,970.62
Stockton-on-the-Forest Parish Council	1,308.01	1,526.01	1,744.00	1,962.01	2,398.01	2,834.01	3,270.02	3,924.02
Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council	1,314.00	1,532.99	1,751.99	1,970.99	2,408.99	2,846.98	3,284.99	3,941.98
Upper Poppleton Parish Council	1,322.47	1,542.87	1,763.28	1,983.69	2,424.51	2,865.33	3,306.16	3,967.38
Wheldrake Parish Council	1,327.70	1,548.98	1,770.25	1,991.54	2,434.10	2,876.67	3,319.24	3,983.08
Wigginton Parish Council	1,329.39	1,550.95	1,772.51	1,994.08	2,437.21	2,880.34	3,323.47	3,988.16
All other parts of the council's area	1,297.42	1,513.65	1,729.88	1,946.12	2,378.59	2,811.06	3,243.54	3,892.24

Note: This schedule shows the total aggregate Council Tax (City of York Council, Police, Fire and Parish) for each area.

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Schedule C

Parts of the Council's Area

	Council Tax Base	Precept Value £	Support Grant £	Total Funding Value £	Basic Band D £	% Increase in Total Funding
Acaster Malbis Parish Council	343.3	4,398.00	155.00	4,553.00	12.81	0.0%
Askham Bryan Parish Council	210.5	10,506.00	299.00	10,805.00	49.91	4.8%
Askham Richard Parish Council	95.0	2,825.00	9.00	2,834.00	29.73	15.0%
Bishopthorpe Parish Council	1,293.7	33,950.00	1,050.00	35,000.00	26.24	0.0%
Clifton Without Parish Council	2,071.1	29,291.00	659.00	29,950.00	14.14	81.5%
Copmanthorpe Parish Council	1,708.2	36,463.00	607.00	37,070.00	21.35	3.0%
Deighton Parish Council	139.1	3,610.00	87.00	3,697.00	25.95	0.0%
Dunnington Parish Council	1,376.3	40,831.00	1,114.00	41,945.00	29.67	0.2%
Earswick Parish Council	438.1	28,112.00	377.00	28,489.00	64.16	8.2%
Elvington Parish Council	494.7	12,573.00	337.00	12,910.00	25.42	2.5%
Fulford Parish Council	1,154.7	43,600.00	2,113.00	45,713.00	37.76	4.8%
Haxby Town Council	3,241.8	145,645.00	4,355.00	150,000.00	44.93	4.7%
Heslington Parish Council	362.3	17,446.00	554.00	18,000.00	48.16	3.6%
Hessay Parish Council	117.4	3,902.00	98.00	4,000.00	33.24	9.6%
Heworth Parish Council	833.9	21,196.00	619.00	21,815.00	25.42	0.0%
Holtby Parish Council	101.3	1,748.00	16.00	1,764.00	17.26	0.0%
Huntington Parish Council	3,549.3	139,384.00	5,274.00	144,658.00	39.27	10.0%
Kexby Parish Council	100.4	3,983.00	17.00	4,000.00	39.69	122.2%
Murton Parish Council	207.6	2,458.00	42.00	2,500.00	11.84	0.0%
Naburn Parish Council	226.4	5,363.00	164.00	5,527.00	23.69	5.0%
Nether Poppleton Parish Council	873.0	21,517.00	483.00	22,000.00	24.65	0.0%
New Earswick Parish Council	818.2	23,634.00	4,366.00	28,000.00	28.88	0.0%
Osbalwick Parish Council	1,353.1	13,990.00	710.00	14,700.00	10.34	5.0%
Rawcliffe Parish Council	2,306.6	42,866.00	1,134.00	44,000.00	18.58	4.8%
Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council	466.4	12,187.00	113.00	12,300.00	26.13	3.4%
Skelton Parish Council	642.6	25,182.00	1,298.00	26,480.00	39.19	4.9%
Stockton-on-the-Forest Parish Council	542.9	8,625.00	300.00	8,925.00	15.89	5.0%
Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council	2,102.2	52,283.00	1,717.00	54,000.00	24.87	1.9%
Upper Poppleton Parish Council	919.4	34,539.00	461.00	35,000.00	37.57	31.7%
Wheldrake Parish Council	868.4	39,449.00	551.00	40,000.00	45.42	0.0%
Wigginton Parish Council	1,373.8	65,885.00	1,615.00	67,500.00	47.96	3.8%

Note: This schedule shows precepting information for each parish area.

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Budget Council – 23 February 2023**Amendment to be Proposed****Labour Group Amendment to the Budget proposals.**

To be moved by Cllr Douglas as follows:

Revenue Budget

In relation to the Executive's recommendations on the revenue budget (paragraph 43 of page 42 of Council papers refers):

"In sub paragraph (c) add at the end of the sentence 'subject to the following amendments;

- £40k recurring investment in Youth Services across the City, funding additional youth outreach sessions in areas of greatest need, due to prevalence of anti-social behaviour;
- £100k one-off investment for seed funding of commitment to deliver free school meals to every primary school child across our communities in response to the cost-of-living crisis;
- £30k one-off investment to undertake a consultation on altering current access restrictions for Blue Badge holders in the city centre;
- £20k one-off investment in work to develop a new staffing and service model across all wards to include new 'Neighbourhood Caretaker' roles that respond to local community priorities;
- Part reversal of one-off growth £150k – part reversal of the one-off growth of £250k 'to allow wards to invest directly in improvements to local communities, from installing new benches to repairing local roads'.

In sub paragraph (d) add at the end of the sentence 'subject to the following amendment:

- A reduction of two Executive Members - £40k"

[For information, the effect on the original motion of this amendment would be as follows:

Revenue Budget

43. Executive recommends that Council:

- i. Approve the budget proposals outlined in the Financial Strategy report and in particular;
 - a. The net revenue expenditure requirement of £141.624m.
 - b. A council tax requirement of £107.783m.
 - c. The revenue growth proposals as outlined in the body of the report, **subject to the following amendments:**
 - **£40k recurring investment in Youth Services across the City, funding additional youth outreach sessions in areas of greatest need, due to prevalence of anti-social behaviour;**
 - **£100k one-off investment for seed funding of commitment to deliver free school meals to every primary school child across our communities in response to the cost-of-living crisis;**
 - **£30k one-off investment to undertake a consultation on altering current access restrictions for Blue Badge holders in the city centre;**
 - **£20k one-off investment in work to develop a new staffing and service model across all wards to include new 'Neighbourhood Caretaker' roles that respond to local community priorities;**
 - **Part reversal of one-off growth £150k – part reversal of the one-off growth of £250k 'to allow wards to invest directly in improvements to local communities, from installing new benches to repairing local roads.**
 - d. The 2023/24 revenue savings proposals as outlined in annex 2, **subject to the following amendment:**
 - **A reduction of two Executive Members - £40k;**
 - e. The fees and charges proposals as outlined in annex 3
 - f. The consultation feedback as set out in annex 4
 - g. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) savings proposals set out in annex 6 and the HRA 2023/24 budget set out in annex 7
 - h. The dedicated schools grant proposals outlined from paragraph 186, including option 1 for allocating 3 & 4 year old early years funding to providers

- i. The use of £1m from reserves to fund one off investment, as outlined in paragraph 87
- ii. That Council note that the effect of approving the income and expenditure proposals included in the recommendations would result in a 4.99% increase in the City of York Council element of the council tax, 2% of which would relate to the social care precept.
- iii. Members are asked to approve the 100% increase in council tax on second homes with effect from 1st April 2024 subject to the Levelling Up bill receive Royal Assent by 31st March 2023, as set out in paragraphs 119 to 121.

Reason: To ensure a legally balanced budget is set

Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28

44. Executive recommends that Council:

- i. Agree to the revised capital programme of **£481.980m** that reflects a net overall increase of **£51.158m** (as set out in table 2 and in Annex A). Key elements of this include:
 - a) New schemes funded by prudential borrowing totalling £1.229m as set out in tables 3;
 - b) Extension of prudential borrowing funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £22.286m as set out in table 4;
 - c) Extension of externally funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £8.998m as set out in table 6;
 - d) An increase in HRA funded schemes totalling £18.645m funded from a combination HRA balances/Right to Buy receipts as set out in table 7;
- ii. Note the total increase in Council borrowing as a result of new schemes being recommended for approval is £23.515m the details of which are considered within this report and the financial strategy report
- iii. Approve the full restated programme as summarised in Annex B totalling **£481.980m** covering financial years 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in table 11 and Annex B

Reason: In accordance with the statutory requirement to set a capital budget for the forthcoming financial year.

Capital and Investment Strategy

45. Executive recommends that Council:

- i. Approve the Capital and Investment Strategy at Annex A

Reason: To meet the statutory obligation to comply with the Prudential Code 2017.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators

46. Executive recommends that Council approve:
- i. The proposed treasury management strategy for 2023/24 including the annual investment strategy and the minimum revenue provision policy statement;
 - ii. The prudential indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28 in the main body of the report;
 - iii. The specified and non-specified investments schedule (annex B);
 - iv. The scheme of delegation and the role of the section 151 officer (annex D).

Reason: To enable the continued effective operation of the treasury management function and ensure that all council borrowing is prudent, affordable and sustainable.]