



**Service Director – Legal, Governance and
Commissioning**
Samantha Lawton

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Decision Summary

Committee:
Date:
Committee Clerk:
TEL:

CABINET
TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2025
Yolande Myers
01484 221000

Chair

Councillor Carole Pattison

Councillors Attended

Councillor Beverley Addy
Councillor Moses Crook
Councillor Nosheen Dad
Councillor Tyler Hawkins
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Amanda Pinnock
Councillor Jane Rylah

Observers

Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Jo Lawson
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor Harry McCarthy
Councillor Matthew McLoughlin

8: Council Proposed Budget Report 2026/27; incorporating Capital, Treasury Management, General Fund Revenue and Housing Revenue Account

To consider the Council's proposed budget for 2026/27.

Contact: Kevin Mulvaney Service Director, Finance

RESOLVED –

- 1) That it be noted the proposed budget was balanced based on assumptions around the potential impact of the Fair Funding Review 2.0

as outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in September. It was noted these assumptions may be subject to change when the provisional local government finance settlement was published by Government (expected mid-December) and furthermore once the final settlement was published. A balanced budget must be set no later than 10th March 2026.

- 2) That approval be given to a 5 week consultation on the Proposed Budget for 2026/27 starting on 3 December 2025 and closing on 7 January 2026. This includes the proposed 2.99% increase in core Council Tax and the 2% increase in the Adult Social Care precept.
- 3) That the forecast spending and funding plans for the 2026-27 year and indicatively the following 2 years (Appendix B) be noted;
- 4) That it be noted the Proposed Budget for 2026/27 presented in the considered report was based on the approval and delivery of £6.9m of new savings for 2026/27 as identified in the report (Appendix D).
- 5) That the forecast levels of statutory and other Council reserves as set out at Appendix C be noted;
- 6) That the proposed savings as set out in Appendix D be noted.

Capital

- 7) That the draft updated Capital Plan for 2025-33 for consultation as part of the budget (Appendix E) be noted
- 8) That it be noted the proposed release of £57.7m uncommitted budget across the multi-year capital plan (£1.3m 2025/26, £56.4m 2026/27 onwards) to assist treasury management of the capital financing budget
- 9) That the proposed addition of £35.1m budget towards a new sport and leisure facility in North Kirklees (£0.1m feasibility 2025/26, £35m construction budget 2028/29 – 2032/33) be noted.
- 10) That it be noted that following changes to the operation of business rates pools set out by Government, there would be no Leeds City Region business rates pool in 2026/27.

Housing Revenue Account

- 11) That it be noted that the proposed budget including rent and service charges increases for the HRA which was considered as a separate report at the meeting.
- 12) The Integrated Impact assessments referred to in paragraph 3.5 be noted.

9: Rent & service charge setting for Housing Revenue Account properties for 2026-27

To consider the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Rent, Service Charge Uplift and the HRA Budget for 2026-27.

Contact: Jacqui Fieldhouse, Head of Finance – Homes & Neighbourhoods

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the rent uplifts by an average of £4.19 per week (CPI, 3.8% +1%) and service charges payable between 0.01p and £0.87 per week (4.8%) from 1 April 2026, after taking into consideration the affordability to tenants, as summarised in Appendix 1
 - 2) That approval be given to the increase the rent by a further £1 or £2 per week in line with the government announcement to move towards rent convergence.
 - 3) That approval be given to increase the service charge for communal grounds maintenance services capped at £1.00 per week each year until full cost recovery is achieved.
 - 4) That approval be given to increase the charges for Extra Care Services – Intensive Housing Management to be uplifted by between £1.47 and £3.74 (4.8%) and Extra Care Services – Night Care Service to be uplifted by £1.13 per week (4.8%).
 - 5) That the national and local financial challenges outlined as part of the HRA budget proposals for 2026-27 be noted.
 - 6) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Housing to approve any changes to the rate for sheltered heating and district heating.
 - 7) That the draft HRA Revenue Budget for 2026/27 be recommended to Council in February 2026 for approval as outlined at appendix 2
 - 8) That the revised proposed five-year Capital Plan Budget be recommended to Council for approval as outlined at appendix 6. (Funding summary Appendix 4)
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10: Proposed Updates to Procurement Strategy

To consider proposed updates to the Procurement Strategy.

Contact: Ruth Calladine, Head of Procurement & Commissioning Support

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the updated Procurement Strategy.
 - 2) That approval be given to the introduction of an Ethical Procurement Policy and Supplier Code of Conduct.
 - 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director – Legal & Commissioning, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to make any minor amendments required to the Procurement Strategy, the Ethical Procurement Policy and Ethical Code of Conduct for Suppliers.
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11: Marsden Master Plan - Approval and Next Steps

To consider the Marsden Masterplan and proposed next steps.

Contact: Joanne Tansley, Design and Conservation Project Manager – Town Centre Regeneration

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the final draft Masterplan, as appended to the considered report, be noted.
 - 2) That the Masterplan be approved.
 - 3) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration to finalise the Masterplan document and formally adopt the plan.
 - 4) That the Masterplan be published on the Council's website to form the basis for informing investment decisions in the masterplan area.
 - 5) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration to continue to develop the masterplan, its principles and the propositions along with approval to spend up to £140,000 to progress design development on Peel Street as the initial priority project.
 - 6) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Service Director for Finance, Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning, and the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration, to agree all necessary legal agreements with any potential external funders and for the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into, on behalf of the Council, any external funding agreements and/or legal formalities related to the Masterplan.
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12: Corporate Financial Monitoring Report; Quarter 2 2025-26

To receive information on financial monitoring for General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Plan, as at Quarter 2 (month 6), 2025/26.

Contact: James Anderson, Head of Accountancy

RESOLVED –

- 1) That it be noted the revenue outturn position at Quarter 2 was a forecast overspend of £5.1m (Q1: £5.9m) and that there would be a requirement to balance the budget using reserves should the overspend remain;
- 2) That it be noted the Quarter 2 position on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) was an in year deficit of £14.7m (2024/25 £20m) to take the cumulative deficit to £78.5m;
- 3) That it be noted the Quarter 2 HRA position was a projected underspend of £318k and any underspend would be taken to HRA reserves at year end. That it also be noted the current forecast year end reserves position was £19m;
- 4) That the Quarter 2 forecast capital monitoring position for 2025/26 as set out in the accompanying slides (Appendix 1 slides 39-43 and Appendix 3) be noted along with a proposed net reduction in the 2025/26 position of £29.3m due to (i) £28.9m re-profiling of spend into future years (£23.4m General Fund and £5.5m HRA) (ii) £0.8m net increase in the capital plan due to increased grant and S106 contributions (iii) approval to fully fund injection into the capital plan for an MHCLG Community Cohesion Grant (£170k) and WYCA Mayoral Renewables Grant Phase 1

(£110k) (iv) delegated authority to the Executive Director of Place and Service Director Finance to accept Mayoral Renewables Grant Phase 2 in the event the Council is successful with its bid (v) approval of the draw down of a fully repayable £250k from the Investment & Modernisation Fund towards an Energy Efficiency Invest to Save Scheme for LED lighting and control upgrades across six Council-owned leisure centres operated by Kirklees Active Leisure (KAL) and (vi) that as a means of helping reduce revenue overspends, an exercise to identify expenditure that could be charged to capital would be undertaken. Any such capitalisation would be funded from capital receipts.

- 5) That the Quarter 2 treasury management prudential indicators (slide 43-57, Appendix 1) be noted.

16: Surplus Property Disposals - December 2025

To consider Surplus Property Disposals.

Contact: Alistair Kimpton: Strategic Manager, Logistics

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the disposal of the land and property within the Capital Receipts Schedule December 2025 as appended to the considered report, to support the Council's income targets subject to consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Regeneration.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place to negotiate and agree terms and complete the sales of any land and property identified within the Capital Receipts Schedule December 2025 to support the Council's income targets on such terms as officers deem most appropriate.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning authority to enter into all agreements necessary to affect any of the disposals.

17: Huddersfield Health Innovation Incubator Programme

To consider the Huddersfield Health Innovation Incubator Programme.

Contact: Chris Duffill, Head of Business and Skills

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the delivery of the Huddersfield Health Innovation Incubator.
- 2) That approval be given to accepting external revenue funding of £2,023,576.25 from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to support delivery of the programme, and for the Council to act as Accountable Body for the grant.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place, in consultation with the Service Director Legal, Governance and

Commissioning, to agree all necessary legal agreements with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the flow down grant agreements with the Council's project delivery partners the University of Huddersfield and 3M Buckley Innovation Centre.

- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into the aforementioned documentation in resolution (3) on behalf of the Council and for the Executive Director for Place to put in place the necessary governance arrangements for the programme.
 - 5) That authority be delegated for the implementation of the programme to the Executive Director for Place to include the commencement and award of any related procurement exercises and for the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into the associated legal formalities and documentation on behalf of the Council.
 - 6) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place and the Service Director Finance to submit grant claims and to undertake related project monitoring and reporting in accordance with the contract procedure rules and finance procedure rules.
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