

28 February 2024

To: All Councillors

Dear Councillor,

Council (Budget) – Wednesday 6 March 2024

Amendments to the Motion proposed by the Meeting of Cabinet on 13 February 2024

Please find enclosed, for your consideration, the amendments to the Budget Motion, which have been received by the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 19 (3).

The Amendments are attached in the order that they were received by the Chief Executive.

I also attach a summary of amendments to the previously circulated Budget Motion which set out necessary adjustments following the confirmation of the final settlement.

Yours sincerely,



Andrea Woodside
Principal Governance Officer

Conservative Budget Amendment

The Conservative Group's amendment provides many millions of pounds over the lifetime of the Medium-Term Financial Plan for pot-holing and the highways resurfacing programme, to address the increasingly poor state of our roads. An amount has also been proposed for a feasibility study into new ways of repairing the roads, looking at innovative practice in other councils.

We are concerned that money is to be withdrawn from the winter maintenance programme: while we agree that some efficiencies are desirable and achievable, we aim to reinstate some of this reduction.

Conservatives believe in devolving power so that it is transparent where and by whom decisions are made, and to achieve greater accountability. A Conservative administration would devolve many of the decisions over spending on highways, road safety, parks maintenance, street cleaning and gritting to ward councillors who are directly accountable to their residents.

At a time when our town centres and traders are struggling, we do not accept the Labour administration's proposals to introduce parking charges into smaller towns and villages, which we believe will harm the viability of some small businesses and cost the council more than it raises. We note the waste of S106 contributions purchasing Metro cards for householders who will not use them, and instead intend to negotiate S106 contributions which enhance local transport infrastructure.

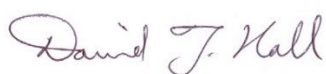
To reduce waste and contribute to our recycling targets, we propose a new scheme to involve young people in re-use and recycling, pilots of repair cafes in North and South Kirklees, and a greater roll-out of community donation centres. To address the annual huge inconvenience to residents and pressure at our waste sites we support the reintroduction of Christmas week bin collections.

The Conservative Group is alarmed by the anti-social behaviour which is now apparent in our larger town centres, and proposes to employ more Public Protection Officers. Similarly, we are concerned with the prevalence of parking on double-yellow lines and zig-zags around schools, and seek to employ more Parking Enforcement Officers. Both of these proposals will contribute to the safety of our residents and will cover their own costs.

We are not persuaded by the administration's plans for the Huddersfield Cultural Heart, which come with a huge borrowing requirement of over £250million. We would therefore remove the provision for an events space so that more immediate revenue needs can be funded. The cost to the revenue account of that part of the project alone will be nearly £8million per year: funds which cannot then be spent on providing services to residents.

A review of our estate – especially those small packets of land to be identified by ward councillors – would also generate millions of pounds over the short term, to be redirected to other capital projects, thus reducing borrowing costs.

Crucially, the Conservative amendment would see the replacing and increasing of financial reserves over the term of the financial plan.



Cllr David Hall



Cllr John Taylor

Conservative Group budget amendment proposals

General Fund Revenue	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<u>DEVELOPMENTS</u>					
No parking charges in smaller centres	180	180	180	180	180
New methods of road repairs feasibility	20	0	0	0	0
Community recycling & donation centres	20	20	20	20	20
Repair café pilot	20	0	0	0	0
X-Mas week bin collections	20	20	20	20	20
Partially reinstate winter maintenance service cuts	200	200	200	200	200
Traffic enforcement officers around schools	0	0	0	0	0
Public protection officers in town centres	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total Revenue Developments</i>	460	420	420	420	420
Change in capital financing requirement	-2	-10	-2	-91	-617
Increase in general reserves over MTFP	-158	-110	-118	-29	497
	300	300	300	300	300
<u>SAVINGS</u>					
Cease Trades Unions support costs	-125	-125	-125	-125	-125
Re-direction of S106 funds from Metro cards to transport infrastructure	-175	-175	-175	-175	-175
<i>Total Savings</i>	-300	-300	-300	-300	-300
<i>Total Revenue effect</i>	0	0	0	0	0
General Fund Capital					
Pot-hole and road repairs	0	0	1,000	2,000	3,000
Reduction in number of car parking meters required	-50	-160	-120	-120	0
Review Cultural Heart programme Phase 5	0	0	0	-3,500	-12,000
<i>Total Capital Developments</i>	-50	-160	880	-1,620	-9,000
Funded by :					
Ward councillor review of estate (future capital receipts)	0	0	-500	-1,000	-1,500
Change in borrowing requirement	50	160	-380	2,620	10,500
	50	160	-880	1,620	9,000

Green Party – Budget Amendment 2024/25

Establish a Council owned company to help private householders improve their homes.

Other Councils have successfully established wholly owned companies that both provide services local people want and generate profit which can then be used to support Council services. Oxford Direct Services run by the Oxford City Council is a positive example of this. Everything from gardening services to improving insulation and heating standards in peoples homes could be provided by such a company. This could also provide opportunities for apprenticeships which helps build up the skills of young people and those seeking new employment opportunities.

Generate renewable energy locally to support our swimming pools and leisure centres.

Instead of paying £114,000 a year to an energy company for a dubious claim to 'green' sourcing we will use that revenue to support local priorities.

Starting the retrofit revolution in Kirklees

We lack a sustainable model, which can deliver improvement to homes at scale to a zero-energy standard. Our proposal gives a way of building the capacity & capability to deliver for tenants & later for the wider housing sector.

Mobilising community finance through Municipal Climate Bonds

Municipal Climate Bonds have been used by at least 9 Councils to lever in finance from the community drawing in millions to support council projects. They have the benefit of providing finance at a cheaper rate than Public Works Loans Board and so using them to substitute existing Council borrowing reduces council costs and has the added benefit of engaging the community directly in the work of the council and giving them a stake in our projects.

Passivhaus or equivalent as standard on all Council new build projects

Having a high energy efficiency standard means developers can invest in skills locally, build capacity and the capability to deliver to the passivhaus standard or equivalent.

Solar PV Panels on all Council new build projects as standard

With rising energy prices we need to find ways of reducing energy demand in the home. So, as well as 'fabric first' insulation measures we also should use renewables as much as possible on site. Funding could be sought from Combined Authority Gainshare funding but failing that HRA funds could be utilised to achieve this.

Safer streets for all

Funding to support area wide traffic calming on residential roads to respond positively to community concerns, take a preventative approach to traffic speeds rather than one rationed on the basis of injuries.

Better adult social care

We will support the development of Care Cooperatives that will operate on the basis of reinvesting surpluses in improving and extending the services they offer to provide a wide range of care services.

Restore Ward budgets

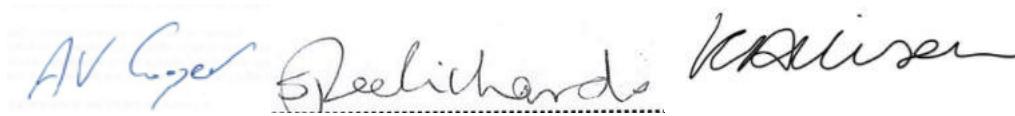
The halving of ward budgets has disproportionately affected wards where councillors are actively engaged in community projects. Our proposal would not fully restore these budgets but we would seek as part of our proposal to redistribute any unused ward budgets to more active wards at the end of the financial year.

Restore Village and Town Centres Christmas Trees

The loss of Christmas Trees to village and Town centres that had been provided for many years was a big blow to many communities. Funding these out of ward budgets would limit local flexibility to support community schemes. This proposal would restore many of those Christmas trees.

Refilling priority grit bins

Some grit bins are on roads which are particularly dangerous in icy conditions due to incline and risk of collision with roads they feed into. This proposal would allow flexibility to prioritise some grit bins for a refill without resorting to diminishing ward budgets.



Cllr Andrew Cooper

Cllr Sue Lee-Richards

Cllr Karen Allison

Greens Budget amendment proposals

GENERAL FUND - Revenue

	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Developments: One-offs				
Community based care co-operative model development	50	0		
Feasibility- council trading company to private householders	50	0		
Restore Ward Budgets		100	110	100
Ward grit bin priorities	14	14	14	14
Restore Ward Christmas Trees		20	20	
Total	114	134	144	114
Capital borrowing costs - revenue impact	-5	-20	-30	
Total	109	114	114	114
Funded by :				
Revert energy contract from green to standard rate and use to fund renewable energy projects in the District	-109	-114	-114	-114
Total	-109	-114	-114	-114
Total Revenue Effect	0	0	0	0

GENERAL FUND - Capital

Safer streets - area based traffic calming	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
climate bonds - renewable energy projects	500	2,000	3,000	
Total	1,500	3,000	4,000	1,000
Funded by :				
Highways budget reduction	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000
Climate Bond	-500	-2,000	-3,000	
Total	-1,500	-3,000	-4,000	-1,000

HRA - Revenue

	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Capital borrowing costs - revenue impact	110	330	550	770
Total	110	330	550	770
Funded by :				
repair & maintenance efficiencies	-10	-180	-350	-520
comfort charge from tenants (retrofit housing scheme)	-100	-150	-200	-250
Total	-110	-330	-550	-770
Total Revenue effect	0	0	0	0

HRA - Capital

Retrofit Housing	2,750	2,750	2,750	2,750
Passivhaus standard on all new build properties	634	687	488	228
Solar PV panels on all new build projects	507	550	390	182
Total	3,891	3,987	3,628	3,160
Funded by :				
Borrowing requirement	-2,750	-2,750	-2,750	-2,750
WYMCA funding support for Passivhsaus/Solar PV	-1,141	-1,237	-878	-410
Total	-3,891	-3,987	-3,628	-3,160

Kirklees Liberal Democrat Budget Amendment 2024/25

Forward to the Kirklees Liberal Democrat Group Amendment

The Kirklees Liberal Democrat group propose the following amendment for the budget being set for 2024/25. In recent years, the difficulty in setting budgets has been because of the degree of uncertainty caused by events such as the Covid-19 pandemic or leaving the European Union and unresolved Government policies, such as Adult Social Care funding. This year, the situation has been compounded by the continual, uneven, defunding of local government services and the historical reluctance of the local administration to make the difficult choices that would have eased the current situation.

As we submit our amendment, measures are still being announced, such as library changes, and changes to customer services. These, coupled with having a matter of days to digest and amend the Labour administration's budget, has made the process unnecessarily constrained. We have still managed to arrive at a series of amendments that reflect some of our values and priorities.

Through our proposals, we hope to highlight that there are always alternatives when setting budgets. We want to show that we wish to resist the trend to centralise services and investment in Huddersfield, not to block that investment totally, but to make it fair and not at the expense of outlying towns and villages. We also want to highlight that we can and will oppose the growing tendency of the Conservative Government to force local authorities to provide 'products' to residents instead of services.

We acknowledge that there has been limited scope to develop a comprehensive amendment. This reflects the ongoing financial pressures faced by Kirklees Council and councils across the country. We have been careful to emphasise the need for evidence on which to make decisions that effect Kirklees residents. With that in mind, many of our proposals take the form of pilots and reviews. Our amendment will be funded by the prudent and modest use of the Transformation Fund, reallocation of borrowing for capital funding and the rephasing of borrowing to release revenue.

Proposals

1. Reintroduce Area Committees (Place Partnerships) and protect Members' Local Projects Fund

Kirklees Liberal Democrat group believe in localism, community politics and devolved power and support the devolution of government and decision-making at the lowest practicable level. The group support the reintroduction of Area Committees in the council for wards that want them and believe that this will help to ensure that there is accountable decision-making in public.

The group also believe that the administration's proposal to cut ward budgets (Members'

Local Projects Fund) has not been fully thought through. These councillor-led budgets help to support local communities by funding local projects which benefit local residents, such as funding for community groups and installing footpaths.

2. Pride in Place

The Government, as part of the Levelling-Up Bill, has set out a Pride in Place Mission, which aims to enhance 'pride in place' and restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost or are at risk. In its latest update report, in January 2024, one of its recommendations is to change the way in which local authorities relate to the communities they serve. Kirklees Liberal Democrat group note the report's findings and believe that a sense of pride in place can be enhanced by expanding the delivery of the regeneration of our district's towns and villages. The group broadly supports the Huddersfield Blueprint but believe that a proportion of the borrowing scheduled for phases 3b and 4 should be used for our other towns and villages in as fair a way as possible.

3. Highway Improvements

Review of car parking charges and permit parking

Kirklees Liberal Democrat group are concerned that the administration's plan to introduce car parking charges in areas where they don't currently exist may have a negative impact on local communities and businesses across the district. It may also have an impact on residents who have no other option other than to use their own vehicle. The group's amendment includes a proposal for an independent review of car parking charges, which will help to assess the impact on businesses, such as footfall and changes in retail behaviour.

Furthermore, the group want an independent review to be carried out to assess the impact of increasing the cost of permit parking in areas which already have permit parking schemes. The group believe that decisions should be evidence-led and that a vital part of that evidence is the consequences of the decision to the people who have no other choice than to use these schemes.

Extra capacity to tackle pothole backlog

Road maintenance is vital for road safety and connectivity. However, many of our roads are in a poor state. The group's amendment includes a proposal to reprofile borrowing to invest in additional capacity to tackle the pothole backlog. The Local Roads programme is consistently underspent, and we believe we can release revenue through reduced in-year borrowing over the next 3 years.

Moving forward, Kirklees Liberal Democrat group would like the Council to explore more innovative ways to fix potholes and enhance road safety. The challenges facing our road infrastructure is increasing in scale and complexity, and climate change, and its associated increase in extreme weather conditions, is likely to exacerbate the issue. To help to address these challenges, the group believe that there are innovative solutions that already exist,

such as self-healing asphalt and ground-source heating as well as use of Artificial Intelligence technology, for predictive road management.

4. Waste Management

Measures to Tackle Flytipping (Bulky Waste Collections)

Kirklees Council charges residents for bulky waste collections. However, the group believe that the cost is prohibitive for some of our residents and propose a trial of discounted bulky waste collections for Kirklees Passport holders.

Waste Management – Additional Capacity

The group are concerned by the scale of reported missed bin collections, especially repeat missed bin collections, in recent months, and believe that there is a shortfall in a number of customer-focused officers, who can deal with missed bin collection reports. The Council's staff recruitment freeze has contributed to this shortfall, so Kirklees Liberal Democrat group's amendment includes a proposal to increase officer capacity to help to tackle the issue.

5. Solar PV Scheme (HRA)

Kirklees Liberal Democrat group are in favour of measures that can mitigate environmental impacts, such as reducing energy consumption, reducing waste and using eco-friendly materials. We also want to support initiatives to make our housebuilding more efficient and cheaper to run. The group would support the installation of solar panel and battery systems on new council houses. Harnessing solar energy provides huge benefits to council housing tenants and the environment, such as cheaper electricity, lower bills, energy security and reduced carbon emissions. Last year, the number of households and businesses installing rooftop solar panels reached its highest level in 12 years, with prices decreasing all the time.



Cllr John Lawson



Cllr Andrew Marchington



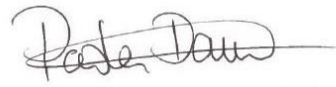
Cllr Alison Munro



Cllr Kath Pinnock

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Cllr Cahal Burke

Handwritten signature of Paola Davies in black ink, with a cursive style and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cllr Paola Davies

Handwritten signature of Andrew Pinnock in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature is cursive and includes the name 'Andrew Pinnock'.

Cllr Andrew Pinnock

Handwritten signature of Anthony Smith in black ink, featuring a stylized 'A' and 'S' with a horizontal line at the bottom.

Cllr Anthony Smith

Kirklees Liberal Democrat Group - Budget Amendment

<u>GENERAL FUND - Revenue</u>	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Developments (one off)					
Reintroduce Area Committees (Place Partnerships)	28				
Measures to Tackle Flytipping	100				
Members' Local Project Funds	115				
Waste Management - Additional Capacity	80				
Evidence-based Assessment of Car Parking Charges (independent review)	50				
Permit Parking (independent review)	50				
Extra capacity to tackle pothole backlog	120	120	120		
Total Revenue Developments	543	120	120	0	0
Savings					
Use of Transformation Fund	-503	-40	-20	60	
Reduced Borrowing for Local Community Roads capital programme	-40	-80	-100	-60	0
Total Savings	-543	-120	-120	0	0
Total Revenue Effect	0	0	0	0	0
General Fund Capital					
	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pride In Place			910	4,500	
Reprofile Local Roads Programme	-1000		-500	1500	
Total Capital Developments	-1000	0	410	6,000	0
Savings					
Huddersfield Blueprint (Phase 3b & 4)			-910	-4,500	
Change in borrowing requirement	1,000		500	-1,500	
Total Savings	1,000	0	-410	-6,000	0
HRA - Capital					
Installation of Solar Panels on New Build Council Houses	433	875	532		
Total Capital Developments	433	875	532	0	0
Funded by :					
Using 5% of capital funds for council house building	433	875	532		
Total savings	433	875	532	0	0

Changes from Cabinet Budget Papers	Impact of Change						
	Main Report	Appendix A MTFP Summary	Appendix B Funding Assumptions	Appendix D New Pressures	Appendix F Detailed Budgets by Service Area	Appendix K Capital Strategy	Appendix N Council Tax Motion
Final Settlement - Additional Social Care Grant £125k	Table at para 1.8	-£125k change to new budget pressures line		Additional social care funding increased to - £3,875k (central budgets)	-£125k change to new budget pressures column (central budgets)		
Final Settlement - Additional Services Grant £51k	Table at para 1.8 Table at para 2.11.2 Para 2.11.4	-£51k change to un-ringfenced grants line	Appx Bii, Para 6		-£51k change to government funding line		
Final settlement - New Green Plant & Machinery Business Rates Grant £76k	Table at para 1.8 Table at para 2.11.2 Para 2.11.4	-£76k change to Business Rates Grants line			-£76k change to government funding line		
Additional contingency budget balancing to the above income changes £252k	Table at para 1.8	+£252k change to new budget pressures line		Social care contingency budget increased to £1,997k (central budgets)	+£252k change to new budget pressures column (central budgets)		

Changes from Cabinet Budget Papers	Impact of Change						
	Main Report	Appendix A MTFP Summary	Appendix B Funding Assumptions	Appendix D New Pressures	Appendix F Detailed Budgets by Service Area	Appendix K Capital Strategy	Appendix N Council Tax Motion
Core Spending Power amended from Provisional to Final Settlement figures	Para 2.11.1						
Realignment of savings between service activity lines (no change to Directorate totals)					New savings column (Children & Families and Adults & Health)		
Capital Plan - correction of transposition of lines (Flood Management and Land Drainage & Transpennine Route Upgrade)						Appx Kiii p7	
Estimated Parish and police precept figures replaced with final figures							Paras 4, 5 and 6

1.8 Overall Budget Position

The table below shows how the budget is balanced in 2024/25:

	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	TOTAL £m
Budget Gap 23/24 Budget Report	25.2	(0.4)	3.1	27.9
Funding Changes	1.1	3.5	(0.2)	4.4
Spend Changes	21.5	3.2	4.1	28.8
MTFP Update Report Budget Gap	47.8	6.3	7.0	61.1
Funding Changes	1.3	(2.2)	(2.3)	(3.2)
Spend Changes	(18.4)	15.5	1.4	(1.5)
Changes to Planned Transfer to reserves	3.8	(3.8)	-	-
Updated Budget Gap	34.5	15.8	6.1	56.4
New Savings Proposals	(34.5)	(7.9)	(0.4)	(42.8)
Balanced Budget 2024/25	(0.0)	7.9	5.7	13.6

- 1.9 The scale of the financial challenge means significant savings are also needed across all council directorates. Inflationary pressures and increasing demands on services have meant that £34.5m in savings are necessary to deliver a balanced budget in 2024/25. The council has already consulted on some of the proposals or signalled their implementation in the new financial year. Further savings are described in the report.
- 1.10 The council will continue to focus on savings that protect frontline services, achieve efficiencies and reduce costs through managing staff vacancies, using assets more efficiently and limiting expenditure only to the most essential activities. However, in the current circumstances, savings that directly affect some services and council staff are unavoidable.
- 1.11 With limited options for raising income, the budget includes a 2.99% increase in council tax alongside a 2% increase to fund social care for adults in Kirklees. This means an additional £1.71 per week for an average Band D property in the district. Kirklees' approach is in line with the government's assumption that all councils will seek to raise council tax by the maximum allowable amount without the need for a local referendum. It is clear that the majority of councils across the country will follow a similar council tax strategy in 2024/25.
- 1.12 As a result of the choices set out in this budget, the council will achieve financial stability for the financial year 2024/25. But the budget is also set in a wider context. It aligns with the principles of MTFs, which was agreed by the council in September 2023. The plan's three principles set out how the council will continue to achieve financial sustainability for future years.
- 1.13 In line with the first principle of the MTFs, the budget supports the council's ambition to grow the Kirklees economy. The capital programme envisages £1.4 billion of investment into local infrastructure over the next 8 years. This funding sits alongside major investments going into Kirklees towns in partnership with other agencies and organisations. Prudent Investment of this kind will bring jobs and opportunities for communities and will build resilience in the local economy. This, in turn, will support the council's long-term financial position.

capital plan to increase High Needs sufficiency across the district, alongside additional Government capital funding support at £9m.

2.10.8 There has also been significant broader schools system support through schools block funding transfers to High needs block; £1.6m in 2022/23, £2.1m in 2023/24 and £2.6m agreed for 2024/25. The transfers were approved through Schools Forum. This funding will ensure more children receive additional support to remain in, or return to, mainstream school and supports the DSG deficit reduction plans; reflecting the collaborative partner approach to addressing the growing pressures relating to High Needs.

2.10.9 Any future year annual block transfer requests will be subject to review and consultation through Schools Forum.

2.10.10 The management plan also allows for some flexibility to review spend and funding profiles over the lifetime of the Plan, with appropriate DfE Safety Valve agreement where circumstances permit.

2.11 Funding within the MTFS

2.11.1 The Core Spending Power (CSP) is the Government preferred measure of calculating the theoretical resources available to local authorities to fund service delivery. It sets out the money that has been made available to local authorities through the Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS) and represents an estimate of the resources available. The CSP increase for 2024/25, based on Government assumptions, is £31.0m; equivalent to 7.8%. The actual CSP increase based on the Council baseline position and local decisions matches this uplift in monetary terms.

2.11.2 The table below summarises the year on year changes to the funding assumptions within the MTFS, with specific comments on the reasons for the changes:-

	2024/25 £k	2025/26 £k	2026/27 £k
Funding			
Retained Business Rates	1,156	(1,472)	(1,703)
Government Funding	(5,134)	(1,263)	(1,382)
Council Tax	(14,184)	(14,305)	(15,874)
Funding Changes	(18,162)	(17,040)	(18,959)

Business Rates and Government Funding

2.11.3 The budget also includes the anticipated net reduction of retained business rates income of £1.1m in 2024/25. This includes a change in the repayment to collection fund of £2.3m, offset in part by estimated retained rates of £1.2m (see Appendix B).

2.11.4 Government funding increases by £5.1m in 2024/25. This is largely from estimated additional business rates cap compensation funding of £4.5m; reflecting the element of the business rates multipliers that have been frozen for 2024/25. There are also increases of £1.1m in top up grant, £1.0m in Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and £1.2m in New Homes Bonus. This is offset by a £2.8m reduction in Services Grant.

Appendix A

Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£k	£k	£k	£k
Funding				
Council Tax	(219,867)	(234,051)	(248,356)	(264,230)
Retained Business Rates	(62,727)	(61,571)	(63,043)	(64,746)
Government Funding:				
- Business Rates Top Up	(30,570)	(31,687)	(32,321)	(32,968)
- Business Rates Grants	(15,719)	(20,247)	(20,615)	(21,052)
- Revenue Support Grant	(15,491)	(16,517)	(16,818)	(17,154)
- Other Unringfenced Grants	(4,708)	(3,171)	(3,131)	(3,094)
Total Funding	(349,082)	(367,244)	(384,284)	(403,244)
Net Budget (funded)		372,998	363,449	378,634
Pressures Previously Approved		12,257	14,050	14,480
Savings Previously Approved		(8,010)	(5,734)	(2,204)
New Budget Pressures		20,685	22,701	8,873
New Budget Savings		(34,481)	(7,914)	(405)
Adjusted Net Budget	372,998	363,449	386,552	399,378
Budget Gap	23,916	(3,795)	2,268	(3,866)
Transfer to/(from) Unallocated reserves	(24,648)			
Transfer to/(from) Collection Fund Reserves	732	(2,000)		
Transfer to/(from) WYMCA Levy Rebate Reserve		(9,400)		
Transfer to/(from) Voluntary Revenue Provision		15,195		
Transfer to/(from) Reserves - Other			5,650	9,600
Total Budget Gap	-	(0)	7,918	5,734
Net Budget (Funding plus Reserves)	372,998	363,449	378,634	393,644

OTHER UN-RINGFENCED GRANTS

1. While these grants are separately identifiable, the Council can apply this funding flexibly to meet overall Council spend priorities. Budgets for 2024/25 include annual allocations set out in the 2024/25 local government finance settlement, with those not yet announced reflecting existing budget plans. The overall effect for the Council is a cash reduction of £1.5m due to changes in New Homes Bonus and Services Grant allocations as outlined below.

NEW HOMES BONUS

2. New Homes Bonus (NHB) is a grant that was paid for 6 years by Government based on the amount of extra Council Tax revenue raised for new-build homes, conversions and long-term empty homes brought back into use. There is also an extra payment for providing affordable homes. NHB is funded by reducing the baseline funding available for Councils and consequently the Council is worse off because the amount deducted is significantly more than the grant received.
3. The 2017/18 Settlement announcement on 15th December 2016 reduced the number of years for which NHB is paid from the existing 6 years to 5 for 2017/18 and 4 for 2018/19 onwards and introduced a national baseline for housing growth of 0.4% that has to be exceeded before any NHB becomes available.
4. Subsequent Spending Rounds have all announced that in-year allocations would not attract any legacy payments.
5. The NHB for the Council is £1.449m for 2024/25, which is a £1.153m increase from 2023/24.

SERVICES GRANT

6. The final Local Government Finance settlement for 2022/23 confirmed a new “one-off” 2022/23 Services Grant worth £822.0m nationally for 2022/23. This grant continued in 2023/24 but at a lower level of £483.3m; Kirklees’ share £3.334m. The national total was further reduced in the 2024/25 local government finance settlement to £87.4m; Kirklees’ share £0.577m. This reflects a reduction of £2.757m from the 2023/24 level.

SPECIFIC GRANTS WITHIN SERVICES

7. The Council receives a number of specific grants from Government which are non-ring fenced and can be redirected to other areas of service provision as required. It also receives some specific grants that are ring-fenced and can only be used for the specific purpose set out in the grant conditions. Further details of the main specific grants are shown in the following table:

		Central Budgets Totals		
		6,635	22,166	6,158
Service Area	Proposal Title	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000
Contingencies	Additional Social Care funding	(3,875)		
Contingencies	Social Care Contingency Budget	1,997		
Contingencies	Write Down Insurance Provision (one-off)	(1,500)	1,500	-
Contingencies	Reduction in Superannuation rate (0.1%)	-	(200)	-
Treasury Management	Treasury Management Budget Requirement – Capital Financing	7,520	19,846	5,118

Detailed budgets by Service Area

Service Area	2023/24 Controllable Gross Expenditure £000	2023/24 Controllable Income £000	2023/24 Net Controllable Budget £'000	Previously Approved Budget Proposals £'000	New Pressures £'000	New Savings £'000	2024/25 Net Controllable Budget £'000
CHILDREN & FAMILIES							
Child Protection & Family Support	32,305	(2,122)	30,183	(271)	3,460	(1,089)	32,283
Learning & Early Support	324,178	(304,066)	20,112	(86)	823	(3,375)	17,474
Resources, Improvements & Partnerships	32,816	(3,342)	29,474	211	2,300	(1,537)	30,448
CHILDREN & FAMILIES TOTAL	389,299	(309,530)	79,769	(146)	6,583	(6,001)	80,205
ADULTS & HEALTH							
Customers & Communities	19,995	(5,178)	14,817	(147)		(2,709)	11,961
Culture & Visitor Economy	36,071	(32,596)	3,475		1,420	(1,465)	3,430
Adult Social Care - Older People & Physical Disabilities	99,896	(84,056)	15,840	(6,240)	(633)	(2,973)	5,994
Adult Social Care - Learning Disabilities & Mental Health	125,440	(43,019)	82,421	8,183	707	(5,294)	86,017
Adults Sufficiency	23,099	(9,642)	13,457	(74)		(250)	13,133
ADULTS & HEALTH TOTAL	304,501	(174,491)	130,010	1,722	1,494	(12,691)	120,535
GROWTH & REGENERATION							
Skills & Regeneration	10,304	(7,372)	2,932		450	(948)	2,434
Development	31,337	(18,586)	12,751	(1,350)	1,360	(2,612)	10,149
Highways & Streetscene	82,750	(48,567)	34,183	(1,800)	400	(5,763)	27,020
GROWTH & REGENERATION TOTAL	124,391	(74,525)	49,866	(3,150)	2,210	(9,323)	39,603
CORPORATE STRATEGY, COMMISSIONING & PUBLIC HEALTH							
Strategy & Innovation	23,708	(4,853)	18,855		500	(659)	18,696
Public Health & People	36,173	(33,993)	2,180	200	623	(2,702)	301
Governance & Commissioning	17,996	(2,756)	15,240	200		(838)	14,602
Finance	80,397	(71,256)	9,141	(404)	2,500	(1,285)	9,952
Environmental Strategy & Climate Change	19,294	(2,600)	16,694	(325)	140	(982)	15,527
CORPORATE STRATEGY, COMMISSIONING & PUBLIC HEALTH TOTAL	177,568	(115,458)	62,110	(329)	3,763	(6,466)	59,078
CENTRAL BUDGETS	54,553	(3,310)	51,243	6,150	6,635	0	64,028
TOTAL COUNCIL BUDGET	1,050,312	(677,314)	372,998	4,247	20,685	(34,481)	363,449

Service Area	2023/24 Controllable Gross Expenditure £000	2023/24 Controllable Income £000	2023/24 Net Controllable Budget £'000	Previously Approved Budget Proposals £'000	New Pressures £'000	New Savings £'000	2024/25 Net Controllable Budget £'000
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Funded By: -							
COUNCIL TAX			(219,867)				(234,051)
RETAINED BUSINESS RATES			(62,727)				(61,571)
GOVERNMENT FUNDING			(66,488)				(71,622)
TOTAL FUNDING			(349,082)				(367,244)
NET TRANSFER TO/(FROM) RESERVES			(23,916)				3,795
TOTAL FUNDING INCLUDING RESERVES MOVEMENTS			(372,998)				(363,449)

BALANCED 2024/25 BUDGET			0				0
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Including estimated precepts from the West Yorkshire Fire**KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL****COUNCIL MEETING - 6 MARCH 2024****COUNCIL TAX**

1. That the Revenue Budget for the year 2024/2025, as submitted, be approved.
2. That it be noted that the Service Director -Finance (acting under delegated powers from Council 22 February 2023 and delegated decision published on 29 January 2024) calculated the following amounts for Kirklees for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 in accordance with Regulations 3-to 5 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base (England) Regulations 2012):-

(a) 126,342.29 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance' with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012, as its council tax base for the year

(b) Part of the Council's area

Parish of Denby Dale	6,323.70
Parish of Holme Valley	10,741.38
Parish of Kirkburton	9,455.59
Parish of Meltham	3,071.60
Parish of Mirfield	7,083.77

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

3. Calculate that the Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2024-25 (excluding parish precepts) is £236,391,000
4. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2024-2025 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-
 - (a) £ 986,748,886 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) £ 749,365,592 being the aggregate of the amounts which

Including estimated precepts from the West Yorkshire Fire

the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act

- (c) £ 237,383,294 being the amount by which the aggregate at 4(a) exceeds the aggregate at 4(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) £ 1,878.89 being the amount at 4(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (2(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) £ 992,294 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- (f) £ 1,871.04 being the amount at 4(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(e) above by Item T (1(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.

g)

<u>Part of the Council's area</u>	Base Council Tax £	Parish Precept £	Resultant Council Tax £
Parish of Denby Dale	1871.04	33.52	1904.56
Parish of Holme Valley	1871.04	30.53	1901.57
Parish of Kirkburton	1871.04	16.18	1887.22
Parish of Meltham	1871.04	62.63	1933.67
Parish of Mirfield	1871.04	15.10	1886.14
Other Kirklees areas	1871.04	0.00	1871.04

being the amounts to be added to the amount at 4(g) (and the resultant council tax amounts), as the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 2(b), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

Including estimated precepts from the West Yorkshire Fire(h) Kirklees Valuation Bands

Part of the Council's area	<u>A</u> £	<u>B</u> £	<u>C</u> £	<u>D</u> £	<u>E</u> £	<u>F</u> £	<u>G</u> £	<u>H</u> £
Denby Dale	1,269.71	1,481.32	1,692.95	1,904.56	2,327.80	2,751.03	3,174.27	3,809.12
Holme Valley	1,267.71	1,479.00	1,690.29	1,901.57	2,324.14	2,746.71	3,169.28	3,803.14
Kirkburton	1,258.15	1,467.83	1,677.53	1,887.22	2,306.61	2,725.98	3,145.37	3,774.44
Meltham	1,289.11	1,503.96	1,718.82	1,933.67	2,363.38	2,793.08	3,222.78	3,867.34
Mirfield	1,257.43	1,466.99	1,676.57	1,886.14	2,305.29	2,724.42	3,143.57	3,772.28
All other parts	1,247.36	1,455.25	1,663.15	1,871.04	2,286.83	2,702.61	3,118.40	3,742.08

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 4(g) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

5. That it be noted that for the year 2024-2025 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings in the Council's area as shown below:-

Precepting Authority	<u>A</u> £	<u>B</u> £	<u>C</u> £	<u>D</u> £	<u>E</u> £	<u>F</u> £	<u>G</u> £	<u>H</u> £
West Yorkshire Fire & Civil Defence Authority	52.99	61.83	70.66	79.49	97.15	114.82	132.48	158.98
West Yorkshire Police Authority	166.19	193.88	221.58	249.28	304.67	360.07	415.46	498.56

Including estimated precepts from the West Yorkshire Fire

6. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4(g) and 5, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2024-2025 for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:-

Part of the Council's area	<u>Valuation Bands</u>							
	<u>A</u> £	<u>B</u> £	<u>C</u> £	<u>D</u> £	<u>E</u> £	<u>F</u> £	<u>G</u> £	<u>H</u> £
Denby Dale	1,488.89	1,737.03	1,985.19	2,233.33	2,729.62	3,225.92	3,722.21	4,466.66
Holme Valley	1,486.89	1,734.71	1,982.53	2,230.34	2,725.96	3,221.60	3,717.22	4,460.68
Kirkburton	1,477.33	1,723.54	1,969.77	2,215.99	2,708.43	3,200.87	3,693.31	4,431.98
Meltham	1,508.29	1,759.67	2,011.06	2,262.44	2,765.20	3,267.97	3,770.72	4,524.88
Mirfield	1,476.61	1,722.70	1,968.81	2,214.91	2,707.11	3,199.31	3,691.51	4,429.82
All other parts	1,466.54	1,710.96	1,955.39	2,199.81	2,688.65	3,177.50	3,666.34	4,399.62

7. The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2024-2025 is **not** excessive in accordance with principles approved under section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

As the billing authority, the Council has **not** been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2024-2025 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

8. That notice of the amounts set by the Council in accordance with Section 30 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 be published in at least one newspaper circulating in the Council's area, in accordance with Section 38(2) of the Act.

Motion to be presented by Cllr Cathy Scott (Leader) and Cllr Paul Davies (Deputy Leader)



Cllr Cathy Scott



Cllr Paul Davies