

Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)
Councillor Moses Crook
Councillor Beverley Addy
Councillor Munir Ahmed
Councillor Tyler Hawkins
Councillor Amanda Pinnock
Councillor Graham Turner

Apologies: Councillor Viv Kendrick

105 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Viv Kendrick.

106 Minutes of Previous Meetings

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2025 be approved as a correct record.

107 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

108 Admission of the Public

It was noted that all items would be considered in public session.

109 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

110 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were received.

111 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

No questions were asked.

112 Corporate Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2024-25

Cabinet considered a report which set out financial monitoring information for General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Plan, as at Quarter 3 (month 9), 2024/25.

The report advised that the forecast outturn position at Quarter 3 was an overspend of £13.0m after which the use of earmarked reserves and contingencies reduced to £9.9m. Within the £13m, an estimated £9m was due to slippage in the approved savings programme across the Council.

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In line with Financial Procedure Rules, the S151 Officer would undertake a review of all balances, earmarked reserves, grant reserves and consider whether some of those could be brought into revenue as they were no longer needed or there were no immediate plans for their use.

The report provided a breakdown of the projected outturn financial monitoring position in terms of (i) forecast general fund revenue outturn position in 2024/25 by service area (ii) general fund reserves and balances movements in year (iii) forecast Housing Revenue Account outturn position including movements in the Housing Revenue Account reserves in-year (iv) forecast capital outturn position in 2024/2025 and (v) treasury management prudential indicators.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the forecast revenue outturn position at Quarter 3 for 2024/25 (£9.9m overspend) be noted.
- 2) That in line with Financial Procedure Rules the Service Director - Finance would undertake a review of all balances and earmarked reserves to fund any remaining overspend.
- 3) That authority be given to the wrap around school hours (8am to 6pm) child care for primary school aged pupils funding, and that the proposed allocation method be noted.
- 4) That it be noted the Quarter 3 DSG deficit was forecast to increase by £20.6m in 2024/25.
- 5) That the Quarter 3 forecast HRA position as breakeven and forecast year-end reserves position of £21m be noted.
- 6) That the Quarter 3 forecast capital monitoring position for 2024/25 be noted, and that approval be given to a further net reduction in the 2024/25 position of £33.3m due to £36.4m re-profiling (£30.4m General Fund and £6m HRA) into future years.
- 7) That approval be given to the £3.5m net increase in the overall capital plan (£3.1m 2024/25, £0.4m 2025/26) due to increased grant.
- 8) That the Quarter 3 treasury management prudential indicators be noted.

113 Q3 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report

Cabinet considered a report which provided an update on performance against the 2024/25 Council Plan deliverables contributing to the Kirklees Shared Outcomes and the Council's aspiration to be effective and efficient in the delivery of its services.

Cabinet noted that throughout 2024/25, the Council Key Measures had been continuously reviewed to ensure that they reflected and represented the most critical and important areas of the council.

The report advised that updates would continue to be presented on a quarterly basis which would enable Executive Directors, the Chief Executive and Members of Cabinet to monitor progress against key priorities and enact change where needed.

RESOLVED – That the Q3 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report be noted.

114 Corporate Risk - Quarterly Report 3 2024/25

Cabinet received the Corporate Risk Quarterly Report (3) 2024/2025 which provided information about an assessment of risks faced by the Council at a significant corporate level.

The report highlighted the importance of having effective risk management arrangements as part of a strong assurance and governance framework and that identifying current and potential future controls played a key role in that.

The report advised that, during the quarter, no new risks had been raised, no risks had been removed, no increases to risk scores and there was one reduction in risk score. It was noted that there would be continual monitoring and reporting through the Council's governance and management processes.

RESOLVED – That the Corporate Risk Quarter 3 2024/25 report be noted.

115 Vulnerable Tenant Policy

Cabinet considered a report setting out the Homes and Neighbourhoods Vulnerable Tenant Policy, which ensured the Council's commitment to try and ensure that vulnerable tenants with support needs were not disadvantaged when accessing housing-related support.

The report advised that the Vulnerable Tenant Policy was essential to ensure that social housing was inclusive, supportive, and responsive to the needs of all tenants, particularly those who were most at risk. The policy aimed to support staff in making informed decisions when supporting vulnerable tenants and household members. This underlined the Council's commitment to being a responsible social landlord in assisting vulnerable tenants in accessing housing related services and in sustaining their tenancies and homes.

RESOLVED – That the Homes and Neighbourhood Vulnerable Tenant Policy be adopted.

116 Anti-Social Behaviour Policy (Incorporating Hate Crime and noise nuisance)

Cabinet considered a report which sought approval for the Homes and Neighbourhoods Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Policy. Cabinet noted that the policy incorporated hate crime and noise nuisance.

The report advised that Homes and Neighbourhoods strived to improve services for tenants and residents and the approach to ASB needed strengthening to improve satisfaction with ASB services.

Cabinet noted that the new policy had considered reports from the Housing Ombudsman Services along with reports in 2019 and 2024 by Baroness Newlove which provided an understanding of the lived experiences of victims of antisocial behaviour.

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RESOLVED – That the Homes and Neighbourhoods Antisocial Behaviour Policy (incorporating hate crime and noise nuisance) be adopted.

117 **Domestic Abuse Policy**

Cabinet considered a report which sought approval for the updated Homes and Neighbourhoods Domestic Abuse Policy.

The report advised that the Domestic Abuse Policy complemented the Vulnerable Tenant and ASB Policies, and by working together the policies helped to identify and address issues early, preventing escalation and ensuring tenants well-being. The policies provided a robust and interconnected support system that enhanced tenant safety, well-being, and community cohesion.

Cabinet noted that the updated Domestic Abuse Policy had several important implications for the community and individuals (i) Increased Awareness, encouraging tenants and staff to recognise the signs and understand the resources available (ii) Support for Victims, providing a clear framework for the support and (iii) Empowerment, by giving tenants the knowledge and resources to seek help and report incidents without fear of stigma or retaliation.

RESOLVED – That the revised Homes and Neighbourhoods Domestic Abuse Policy be adopted.