

**North Tyneside Council  
Report to Cabinet  
18 Sept 2023**

**Title: 2023/24 Performance and Financial Management Report  
to 31 July 2023**

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<b>Portfolios:</b>	<b>Elected Mayor</b>	<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<b>Dame Norma Redfearn DBE</b>
	<b>Finance and Resources</b>		<b>Councillor Anthony McMullen</b>
	<b>Deputy Mayor</b>		<b>Councillor Carl Johnson</b>

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**Report from:** Finance and Corporate Strategy

**Responsible Officer:** Jackie Laughton, Assistant Chief Executive  
Tel: 643 5724  
Jon Ritchie, Director of Resources  
Tel: 643 5701

**Wards affected:** All

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**1.1 Executive Summary**

1.1.1 This report provides Cabinet with a full overview of both the service delivery performance and budget position across the Authority as at 31 July 2023. For performance, it sets out the key areas of service delivery for Cabinet to note, including where this impacts in budget terms. In terms of the budget, it sets out the forecast outturn position to 31 March 2024 for both revenue and capital.

1.1.2 The report also sets out for Cabinet to note the current position in relation to schools finance, the Authority's Investment Plan, developers' contributions and treasury management. In addition, it provides details of additional

revenue and capital grants received up until 31 July 2023 for Cabinet to approve.

- 1.1.3 From a performance point of view, service delivery overall across the Authority remains strong. The Authority continues to manage high levels of demand in a number of areas including Education, Health and Care Needs Plans, children in care, children in need, home care provision, residential and nursing care placements all of which have financial implications. Key areas of strength are delivery of the Our North Tyneside Plan 2021-2025 priorities such as the affordable homes programme and carbon net zero. The Ambition for North Tyneside Programme is progressing well with regeneration projects across the four areas of the borough. Capital investment continues to deliver planned improvement works helping maintain council homes at the decent homes standard. Council Tax and Business Rates collection also remains on track.
- 1.1.4 Since the last report, the number of children in care has increased from 362 in May to 376 in July. The Authority currently has an additional 64 children in need and an additional 46 children in care, compared to budgeted levels. The result of the additional children in care compared to May combined with the current mix of placements has driven a £1.093m worsening of the Children's position, to a total forecasted pressure of £6.474m. All other services areas have seen their financial position improve helping to mitigate the increase in Children's resulting in an overall improvement of £0.389m to the position compared to May 2023.
- 1.1.5 From a budget perspective, the overall projection for 2023/24 is that the General Fund will outturn with a pressure of £11.311m and the Housing Revenue Account will have a forecast underspend of £0.053m.
- 1.1.6 The report sets out the programme of work which is in place to manage and mitigate the 2023/24 budget pressures and form part of the 2024-2028 Medium Term Financial Plan.

## 1.2 Recommendations

- 1.2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
- (a) Notes the update provided on the Performance of the Authority including updated data on the key pressures facing the Authority and progress against the Our North Tyneside Plan 2021-2025,
  - (b) notes the forecast budget monitoring position for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), schools finance and Treasury

Management together with the service delivery performance position across the Authority as at 31 July 2023 (sections 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3 and 1.5.5 of this report),

- (c) notes the Authority's Investment Plan spend of £19.264m to 31 July 2023 and the proposed financing of the Plan to the end of the year (section 1.5.4 of this report),
- (d) approves variations of £5.579m and reprogramming of £8.489m for 2023/24 within the 2023-2028 Investment Plan (section 1.5.4 of this report) and note the current position with Developers' Contributions (section 1.5.6),
- (e) approves the receipt of £1.066m new revenue grants (as outlined in section 1.5.7 of this report), and £0.775m of new capital grants to be applied in 2023/24 (as outlined in section 1.5.8 of this report), and
- (f) approves the budget setting timetable for the 2024/28 Medium Term Financial Plan (as outlined in Appendix 2).

### **1.3 Forward Plan:**

- 1.3.1 Twenty-eight days' notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 23 June 2023.

### **1.4 Authority Plan and Policy Framework:**

- 1.4.1 This report relates to all priorities in the Our North Tyneside Plan.

### **1.5 Information:**

#### **1.5.1 General Fund**

- 1.5.1.1 Service delivery overall across the Authority remains strong, particularly in relation to the key policy priorities of the Our North Tyneside Plan 2021-2025. The Authority is on track against its commitment to become carbon net-zero by 2030. Carbon reduction in council service operations has achieved 58% against the baseline year of 2010/11. The ambition to deliver 5,000 Affordable Homes is on track against the profiled target with 2,144 homes delivered at the end of quarter one. The Ambition for North Tyneside Programme is progressing with regeneration projects in all four areas of the borough. Council Tax and Business Rates collection remains strong and comparable with national performance.

- 1.5.1.2 The Council is experiencing challenges in some areas of delivery, which impact on the overall financial forecast for the year. This most significant elements are summarised below, with changes since the previous report to Cabinet highlighted.
- 1.5.1.3 Within Children's Services, the number of children in care has increased from 362 in May to 376 in July. Although the overall level of children in need has decreased slightly to 1,664 (1,669 in May), the numbers remain significantly above those used to set the budget for the year. As previously reported, the increase to the gross budget of £9.700m in 2023/24 assumes levels of 1,600 children in need, 330 children in care and a staffing requirement of 74 social workers.
- 1.5.1.4 The Authority currently has an additional 64 children in need and an additional 46 children in care, compared to budgeted levels, leading to a significant financial pressure being forecast. The costs of residential placements are individually high reflecting both significant inflationary and complexity pressures. The result of the additional 14 children in care compared to May combined with the current mix of placements has driven a £1.093m worsening, to a total forecasted pressure of £6.474m. Further detail is provided in the Annex in section 1.3.
- 1.5.1.5 Within Commissioning and Asset Management (C&AM) there are higher than expected levels of children with complex needs who have support with transport, linked to the number of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) the authority maintains. The number of children requiring home to school transport has risen from 614 in April 2016 to 897 in May 2023. This, along with inflationary pressures on the transport contracts, means that Home to School Transport has a pressure of £2.892m.
- 1.5.1.6 Catering Services also have a combination of inflation on the costs of food purchases, staffing costs relating to sickness, maternity cover, 'deep cleaning' days and reduced income from fewer schools now using this service has led to a forecast pressure of £2.938m. The resultant overall position in Commissioning and Asset Management is a pressure of £6.002m, an improvement of £0.169m from May. Further information on C&AM is included in section 1.5 of the annex.
- 1.5.1.7 Within Adults Services the focus remains to facilitate hospital discharge and reduce the number of clients in short- and long-term residential and nursing care placements by maximising the use of home care. Pressure continues within residential care, although the number of home care hours provided

are slowly starting to increase and the volume of people in residential placements have started to fall, the reduction in reliance on short-term residential placements is not yet established. The overall number of clients has fallen from 1,250 in May to 1,157 in July.

- 1.5.1.8 There is ongoing work to support the homecare market, which is a national issue across all authorities. Since the last report to Cabinet, the Department of Health (DoH) recently announced £570m additional workforce funding over a 2-year period, a supplement to the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund (MSIF). North Tyneside's allocation for 2023/24 is £1.568m and the grant conditions allow local authorities to decide how they focus the funding to make tangible improvements to adult social care capacity. They can choose to use the funding to:
- Increase fee rates paid to adult social care providers
  - Increase adult social care workforce capacity and retention
  - Reduce adult social care waiting times
- Improvements must be reported in at least one of the target areas with assurance that other target areas have not worsened. The template for this will be released from the DoH in due course and local authority officers are currently working through detailed grant conditions to develop proposals. The financial impact of the grant and the associated spend is reflected in the current forecasts.
- 1.5.1.9 The falling number of clients, combined with the application of additional income and partial mitigation of vacant posts has seen an improvement to the Adults position of £0.496m. The overall forecast pressure in Adults Services is now £1.780m. Further detail is contained within section 1.2 of the annex.
- 1.5.1.10 The impact of this has been factored into the financial forecasts for the year. As at 31 July 2023, the Authority is showing a forecast net pressure for the current year of £11.311m. This is an improvement of £0.389m since May's position.
- 1.5.1.11 Offsetting the above pressures are organisation wide savings resulting from changes in the minimum revenue provision (£1.500m), treasury management savings (£1.000m) and the application of contingencies for general inflationary pressures (£2.102m). These items partly offset the overall forecast pressure by £4.741m. Further detail is included in section 1.11 of the annex.
- 1.5.1.12 A more detailed commentary of the overall financial position is contained in section 1 of Annex 1. However, the key areas of variation behind the forecast

net pressure for the current year as at 31 July 2023 of £11.311m are summarised in the following table.

**1.5.1.13 Table: 1 2023/24 General Fund Revenue Forecast Outturn as at 31 July 2023 by Directorate**

Services	Budget	Forecast July	Variance July	Variance May	Change since May
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services	64.328	66.108	1.780	2.276	(0.496)
Children's Services	34.146	40.620	6.474	5.381	1.093
Public Health	1.477	1.477	0.000	0.000	0.000
Commissioning & Asset Management	8.590	14.592	6.002	6.171	(0.169)
Environment	42.469	42.329	(0.140)	(0.034)	(0.106)
Regeneration & Economic Development	11.383	11.383	0.000	0.383	(0.383)
Corporate Strategy	2.316	2.643	0.327	0.452	(0.125)
Chief Executive Office	(0.070)	(0.083)	(0.013)	(0.009)	(0.004)
Resources	4.838	5.809	0.971	0.997	(0.026)
General Fund Housing	2.343	2.994	0.651	0.651	0.000
Central Items	(9.542)	(14.283)	(4.741)	(4.568)	(0.173)
Support Services	20.181	20.181	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total Authority</b>	<b>182.459</b>	<b>193.770</b>	<b>11.311</b>	<b>11.700</b>	<b>(0.389)</b>

1.5.1.14 Cabinet will wish to note that a programme of work is in place to both manage and mitigate the 2023/24 budget pressures as well as form the 2024-2028 Medium Term Financial Plan. A full overview of the 15 workstreams within this programme was included in the May report. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) have worked with Senior Officers across the organisation to consider a range of in-year mitigations that could be explored to support the 2023/24 position. A summary of the options will be presented to lead Members in due course and included in future Performance and Finance reports to Cabinet.

**1.5.2 Schools**

1.5.2.1 Individual schools are required to submit their rolling three-year budget plan to the Authority by 31 May each year. 14 schools submitted a deficit budget plan for 2023/24 and deficit review sessions started with these schools during July 2023 and will continue in September. To further support schools

in deficit, the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) have extended their offer to provide School Resource Management Advisors (SRMA) to visit schools and provide a comprehensive review of their finances.

- 1.5.2.2 In July, Schools Forum reviewed the funding allocations of Falling Rolls funding, Growth funding and Schools in Financial Difficulty funding, based on eligibility criteria and the recommendations from the School's Forum Finance Sub-group. Further information on Schools is included in section 2.0 of the annex.
- 1.5.2.3 Cabinet will recall there has also been significant pressures within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in relation to the High Needs block which ended 2022/23 with an overspend of £9.591m. As reported previously, to address these pressures, the Authority joined the Department for Education's (DfE) Safety Valve Intervention Programme, the first submission to the DfE was 16 June where the Authority reported it is on track to reach a positive in-year balance on this budget by the end 2027/2028. Positive feedback was received and the next submission is due on 15 September 2023.
- 1.5.2.4 The Authority's DSG management plan forecasts that there would be 2,134 Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) maintained in January 2024 and currently the authority is on track to do this. There are 2,136 EHCPs at the end of July 2023. The rate of EHCPs maintained by the Authority has slowed, despite the continued high demand for assessments in North Tyneside compared to national and regional rates.

### **1.5.3 Housing Revenue Account**

- 1.5.3.1 Again, performance is strong in this area. Housing rental income collection is better than forecast, although officers are monitoring closely the increasing arrears for current tenants. This performance is encouraging, especially given the impact of the rent increase and Universal Credit, which both increase the amount of income that has to be collected. Empty homes levels are very low at around half a percentage point, which represents around 75 homes out of over 14,000 in total. This is a significant help in maximising the amount of rent that can be collected and invested in improving service delivery to tenants.
- 1.5.3.2 The projected outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is an underspend of £0.053m. The main areas of pressure within this budget area relate to housing management costs and more specifically to the costs of utilities attached to sheltered accommodation schemes. The Housing Repairs service continues to deal with inflationary increases on materials and subcontractor prices, however, at the current time the overall Repairs

spend is forecast to come in on budget. There is also an anticipated pressure due to the 2023/24 pay award expected to be greater than assumed in the HRA Business Plan.

#### 1.5.4 Investment Plan

- 1.5.4.1 The approved 2023–2028 Investment Plan totals £340m (£120m in 2023/24) and is detailed in table 23 of Annex, within section 4.
- 1.5.4.2 Following a series of budget challenge sessions held with project managers and Directors to understand delivery plans and risks, a review of the Investment Plan has resulted in proposals for variations (changes to the financing of the Plan) of £5.579m and reprogramming (changes to the delivery of the Plan) of £8.489m in 2023/24, details of which are set out in Section 4 of Annex, paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3. At the end of July 2023, spend of £19.264m had been incurred in year, representing 16.03% of the approved plan for 2023/24. This is higher than the 13.74% incurred by this stage in 2022/23.
- 1.5.4.3 At the end of July significant investment had been made in the following areas:
- **Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme;** Over £6m (c.25% of the budget) has been invested in delivering planned improvement works to maintain homes to the decent homes standard including kitchen and bathroom replacements, roof replacements, redecoration works, fencing replacements, heating replacement works. Officers continue to manage the risks that could impact on delivery and costs including the availability of resources to deliver the works, as well as delayed and reduced supply of building materials, which is a global issue.
  - **Highways and Infrastructure Improvements;** Almost £5m of improvement works (c.21% of the budget) have been delivered including integrated transport improvements including the North Shields Transport Hub, the resurfacing programme, flood alleviation measures as well as the progression of a number of major highways improvement schemes such as the Seafront Sustainable Cycle Route, Stephenson Street junction upgrade and the next phase of the Routes to Metro Project.
  - **Affordable homes delivery;** Almost £3m of works (c.21% of the budget) associated with the delivery of affordable homes, through the Authority's Trading Company as well as the HRA New Build programme. The Authority's Trading Company currently owns 101 homes following the purchase of 7 homes since 1 April 2023 and has offers accepted on three more homes. The HRA New Build Programme is currently on site at three



projects including a further phase of HUSK, converting garage sites in Battle Hill with 9 affordable homes and the conversion of two recreation rooms at Forest Hall and at Wallsend to two bungalows. Further development sites across the borough are in the process of being purchased, designs produced and applications for planning permission submitted.

- **Vehicle Replacement;** £1.9m (c.76% of the budget) relating to investment under the rolling vehicle replacement programme, ensuring the Authority's fleet are aligned to operational delivery requirements. Five new refuse collection vehicles have been delivered, orders have been placed for two bin lift vehicles and a 12-tonne sweeper.
- **Education improvement works;** £1.4m of planned works delivering improvements in condition and capacity within the Borough's schools (c.12% of the budget) with significant investment works to be delivered during the summer holidays. Major works underway at Beacon Hill School to increase capacity. Whilst it is not a project funded by the Authority, significant support is being provided to Whitley Bay High School in the delivery of the new £30m school opening this month.
- **Strategic Asset Maintenance;** £0.7m (c.24% of the budget) has been invested delivering planned preventative maintenance activity within the Authority's operational asset portfolio. Works have been completed at High Borrans and works are currently in progress at the Saville Exchange.
- **Leisure Improvements;** £0.6m (c.14% of the budget) relating to the conclusion of works to upgrade the Authority's tennis facilities as well as the commencement of major works to develop a Regional Sports Hub at St Peter's.

1.5.4.4 In addition to the proposed variations outlined within the report, work is ongoing to confirm the resource requirement to support investment in replacing the Authority's fibre networks as part of its Wide Area Network and the planned replacement of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. Once confirmed, this will be considered as a variation to the Investment Plan to enable the procurement processes to proceed.

## 1.5.5 Treasury Management

1.5.5.1 The level of external borrowing (excluding PFI) has remained at £422.443m in the period to 31 July 2023. The level of internal funding remains high at £68.532m at 31 March 2023 (£102m at 31 March 2022). This is in line with the Authority's Treasury Management Strategy as this avoids external interest charges wherever possible.

1.5.5.2 As at 31 July 2023, the Authority had Treasury investments of £15m. During June and July 2023, £0.493m was generated through interest earned on investments from General Fund and HRA balances. The Authority invests in line with Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy (CIPFA) guidance, maintaining a low-risk approach to investments.

## 1.5.6 Developer Contributions

1.5.6.1 Section 106 monies relate to contributions received by the Authority through planning gain. £20.342m of contributions have been received to date, with £12.848 spent or committed through the Investment Programme Board process. £7.494m as of 31 July 2023 remains uncommitted, with officers developing plans to utilise this in line with the conditions of the s106 agreement and the Authority's strategic objectives. Further information is provided in section 6 of the Annex and shows an improving position in terms of utilisation.

1.5.6.2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) £0.675m funding has been received by the Authority to date. CIL continues to develop within the Authority and further updates will be incorporated within this report when projects are developed, and funds utilised.

## 1.5.7 New Revenue Grants Received

1.5.7.1 The table below sets out the details of new revenue grants received up to end July 2023 for Cabinet's approval.

**Table 3 – Grants Received June and July 2023/24**

Directorate	Grant Provider	Grant	Purpose	2023/24 value £m
Housing	DLUHC	Homelessness Prevention Grant 2023/24 Homes for Ukraine Funding Top Up to support guests into sustainable accommodation	To help local authorities support Ukrainian guests as they move into their second year and to reduce the risk of homelessness.	0.203
Regeneration & Economic Development	Department for Transport	Bikeability Grant Awards 2023/24	To support cycle training to every eligible child.	0.020

Children's	Youth Custody Service/ HM Prison & Probation Services	Remands to youth secure accommodation of children and young people	Transfer of responsibility to Local Authorities for cost of remand to youth detention.	0.008
Environment	Electricals Recycling Fund	Material Focus (Joint Trade Associations Contract Ltd)	To support the additional and separate vape collections, and to purchase bins to increase the number of Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) banks in the borough.	0.012
Childrens	Early Help	Reducing Parental Conflict	To strengthen strategic leadership training for frontline staff to deal with parental conflict.	0.030
Childrens	Corporate Parenting	Data and Digital Solutions Fund (DDSF)	A regional grant to explore and improve data pertaining to the voice of children and families in children's social care.	0.425
Childrens	Youth Justice Service	Youth Justice Good Practice Grant	Reduction in youth offending.	0.021
Childrens	Corporate Parenting	Mockingbird Project	Funding to support the development of further "Mockingbird constellations" across the NE region to provide on-going support to foster carers.	0.089
Childrens	Employment & Skills	Working Well	Extend the Working Well pilot in North Shields and deliver a comparison pilot in Wallsend Town Centre and activities across the wider Borough.	0.258
<b>Total</b>				<b>1.066</b>

## 1.5.8 New Capital Grants Received

1.5.8.1 Table 4 below sets out the details of new capital grants received up to end July 2023 for Cabinet's approval.

**Table 4 – Capital Grants Received June and July 2023/24**

Directorate	Grant Provider	Grant / Project	Purpose	2023/24 value £m
Commissioning & Asset Management	Department for Education	High Needs Provision Capital Allocation	£4.681m of Capital funding has been awarded from the DfE to support the wider Safety Valve Programme, to deliver new places and improve the existing provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.	0.475
Regeneration & Economic Development	North of Tyne Combined Authority	Wallsend Town & High Street Programme	North of Tyne Combined Authority have awarded £0.300m of capital resource relating to the digital infrastructure to ensure the works will align with the requirements of the Cultural Quarter and businesses within it.	0.300
Regeneration & Economic Development	North of Tyne Combined Authority	North Shields Cultural Quarter - Globe Gallery/Business Centre	£0.300m of additional capital funding has been awarded by North of Tyne Combined Authority relating to proposed investment in the Globe Gallery and Business Centre as part of developing the cultural quarter. The funding will be received and used in 2024/25 to invest in mechanical, electrical and building improvements.	0.000
<b>Total</b>				<b>0.775</b>

## **1.6 Decision Options:**

1.6.1 The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

### **1.6.2 Option 1**

Cabinet may approve the recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

### **1.6.3 Options 2**

Cabinet may decide not to approve to recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

## **1.7 Reasons for Recommended Option:**

1.7.1 Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

1.7.2 Cabinet is recommended to agree the proposals set out in section 1.2 of this report as it is important that Cabinet continues to monitor performance against the Budget, especially given the current level of financial pressures faced by the public sector.

## **1.8 Appendices:**

Annex 1: Financial Management Report to 31 July 2023

Annex 2: Performance Report to 31 July 2023

Appendix 1: Investment Plan Summary

Appendix 2: Budget Setting Timetable 2023/24

Appendix 3: S106 Spend & Commitments Summary

Appendix 4: S106 Spend & Commitments Detail

## **1.9 Contact Officers:**

Jon Ritchie – Corporate Finance matters – Tel. (0191) 643 5701

Claire Emmerson – Corporate Finance and Schools matters – Tel. (0191) 643 8109

David Dunford – Corporate Finance and General Fund matters – Tel. (0191) 643 7027

Jane Cross – Corporate Finance and General Fund matters – Tel. (0191) 643 3166

David Mason – Investment Plan matters – Tel. (0191) 643 5747

Darrell Campbell – Housing Revenue Account matters – Tel. (0191) 643 7052

Jackie Laughton – Policy and Performance matters – Tel. (0191) 643 5724

Pam Colby – Policy and Performance matters – Tel. (0191) 643 7252

## 1.10 Background Information:

1.10.1 The following background papers and research reports have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the offices of the author:

(a) Revenue budget 2023/24

[https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/NTC%20Revenue%20Budget%202023\\_24.pdf](https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/NTC%20Revenue%20Budget%202023_24.pdf)

(b) Investment Plan 2023–2028

<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s11473/Annex%201%20Appendix%20D%20i%202023%20-%202028%20Investment%20Plan.pdf>

(Agenda reports pack 16 February 2023 – Appendix D(i))

(c) Reserves and Balances Policy

<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s11480/Annex%201%20Appendix%20G%20-%202023->

[24%20Reserves%20and%20Balances%20Policy.pdf](https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s11480/Annex%201%20Appendix%20G%20-%202023-24%20Reserves%20and%20Balances%20Policy.pdf)

(Agenda reports pack 16 February 2023 – Appendix G)

(d) Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Performance Report

<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s11482/Annex%201%20Appendix%20I%20-%202023->

[24%20Report%20of%20the%20Overview%20Scrutiny%20and%20Policy%20Development%20Committee%20Jan%20202.pdf](https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s11482/Annex%201%20Appendix%20I%20-%202023-24%20Report%20of%20the%20Overview%20Scrutiny%20and%20Policy%20Development%20Committee%20Jan%20202.pdf)

(Agenda reports pack 16 February 2023 – Appendix I)

(e) North Tyneside Safety Valve Agreement

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1142857/North\\_Tyneside\\_Safety\\_Valve\\_Agreement\\_2022-2023.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1142857/North_Tyneside_Safety_Valve_Agreement_2022-2023.pdf)

## PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

### 2.1 Finance and Other Resources

2.1.1 Financial and other resources implications are covered in the body of the report.

### 2.2 Legal

2.2.1 The Authority has a duty to ensure it can deliver a balanced budget. The Local Government Act 2003 imposes a duty on an authority to monitor its

budgets during the year and consider what action to take if a potential deterioration is identified.

## **2.3 Consultation/Community Engagement**

### **2.3.1 Internal Consultation**

Internal consultation has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, the Elected Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Members, the Senior Leadership Team and Senior Finance Officers.

### **2.3.2 External Consultation / Engagement**

The 2023/24 budget was completed after widespread consultation and community engagement in line with the Authority's approved Budget Engagement Strategy.

## **2.4 Human Rights**

2.4.1 The proposals within this report do not have direct implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998.

## **2.5 Equalities and Diversity**

2.5.1 There are no direct equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

## **2.6 Risk Management**

2.6.1 Potential future financial pressures against the Authority are covered in this report and registered through the Authority's risk management process.

## **2.7 Crime and Disorder**

2.7.1 There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

## **2.8 Environment and Sustainability**

2.8.1 There are no direct environmental and sustainability implications arising from this report.

**PART 3 – SIGN OFF**

- Chief Executive  X
- Director of Service  X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)  X
- Chief Finance Officer  X
- Monitoring Officer  X
- Assistant Chief Executive  X