

**North Tyneside Council
Report to Cabinet
16 September 2024**

**Title: 2024/25 Performance & Financial Management Report to
31 July 2024**

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

Report from: Corporate Strategy and Finance

Responsible Officer: Paul Hanson, Chief Executive Tel: 643 5724

Jon Ritchie, Director of Resources Tel: 643 5701

Wards affected: All

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 2024. 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 2025 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, treasury management and prudential indicators. In addition, it provides details of additional revenue and capital grants received up until 31 July 2024 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 Plans (EHCPs), 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 number of homecare hours commissioned by the Authority is continuing to increase, reducing reliance on short-term residential care, facilitating hospital discharges and supporting residents' independence to remain at home. Since joining the Safety Valve Programme, the rate of new EHCPs issued has decreased in contrast to increases in rates seen regionally and nationally. Council Tax and Business Rates collection also remains on track and better than national and regional comparators.
- 1.1.4 The Authority continues to experience challenges in some areas of delivery, which impact on the overall financial forecast for the year. As part of the 2024-2028 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) there were 13 workstreams established to address the pressures over the 4-year period. Whilst improvements are starting to be seen in social care, especially in terms of the number of children in need, some of the financial benefits will take several months and years to be fully realised. The forecast net pressure on the general fund for the current year as at 31 July 2024 is £14.002m, which is a worsening of £0.326m compared to the position reported in May's Cabinet Report. The Housing Revenue Account remains broadly comparable, with a forecast underspend of £0.039m for 2024-25.
- 1.1.5 These figures are presented on a prudent basis, and work by Cabinet Members and senior officers is underway to address these pressures and look for mitigating actions during the year. Senior Leadership Team (SLT) continues to meet on a weekly basis to track progress in addition to the formal budget monitoring to Cabinet on a bi-monthly basis.
- 1.1.6 Despite this prudent approach, Cabinet will note the potential scale of the financial challenge this year. Work has been undertaken to assess the component parts of this forecast overspend, which has confirmed that the majority were identified as part of the 2024/25 budget setting process. As this report and accompanying appendices set out, the key areas of pressure are already part of the MTFP projects for 2024-2028, but the scale and acceleration of the pressures was greater than anticipated when the MTFP was agreed in February.

- 1.1.7 In addition, some unforeseen pressures are arising, notably the proposed pay award for the year. Whilst this is not agreed, the current proposal from the Local Government Employers equates to circa 4.4% for the Authority (it is a combination of a £1,290 or 2.5% depending on grade). This is above the 3.5% provided for in the budget.
- 1.1.8 Within Children's Services, there is an overall pressure of £10.625m which is driven by similar challenges to those outlined in the 2023/24 outturn position, despite the additional growth included in the 2024/25 budget. There were an additional 13 children taken into care in the last 2 months with the total number of children in care rising to 375 in July. This is now above the estimate in the MTFP workstream and the placement mix continues to be too reliant on more expensive external residential care provision. Market forces have also resulted in the average cost per placement continuing to increase, the current average weekly cost to the Authority for an external residential care placement is £7,080, however this is still below costs which some other local authorities are incurring. More positively, there are signs that changes in the approach to care placements have started to show a more positive trend which should hopefully see costs stabilising in the future, as well as the total number of children in need falling below the 1,600 figure that the budget was based on.
- 1.1.9 Children's Disability Services are supporting children with increasingly complex needs and are often required to support children in bespoke care arrangements where market failure results in no alternative care plans being available. The in-house short break care service has seen a high level of sickness resulting in an increased pressure on staffing budgets. There has also been an increase in the pressure on external short break care as the Authority supports parents and children on the edge of care. There continues to be delay and challenge in the corresponding health income to support these complex children.
- 1.1.10 The Home to School Transport MTFP workstream is being reviewed to identify efficiencies which could be delivered earlier to help to address the overall pressure. The impact of the additional £1.500m budget allocated as part of the 2024/25 MTFP workstream and the stabilisation of the numbers of pupils receiving the service is encouraging, however there remains a significant challenge as the Authority works to bring the service into balance within the 4 years of the MTFP.
- 1.1.11 The Health and Social Care MTFP workstream identified £4.650m savings targets in 2024/25 to partly mitigate the £9.428m growth required. In order to drive out efficiencies, a review team was established to undertake timely 6-8 week reviews and a redesigned hospital discharge pathway was introduced to

reduce reliance on beds. These are both having positive impacts and has resulted in a reduced forecast pressure of £3.425m. There is also a review of all packages for transitions of complex clients from both hospital settings and Children's Services.

1.1.12 Housing is showing pressures totalling almost £1m on Homeless presentations who are accommodated in Bed and Breakfast accommodation. This is after the use of both the Homeless Prevention Grant and claimable Housing Benefit Subsidy is taken into account. This was previously reported through a combination of pressure in Housing as well as Revenues and Benefits, within Resources, but is now fully reported within Housing to give greater transparency on the scale of the pressure. A working group is reviewing this to focus on mitigating actions for the future.

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 2024 (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 £21.556m to 31 July 2024 and the proposed financing of the Plan to the end of the year (section 1.5.4 of this report) and the Quarter 1 Prudential Indicators as part of Appendix 3;
- (d) approves reprofiling of £10.299m from 2024/25 into future years, and variations of £5.626m within the 2024-2029 Investment Plan (section 1.5.4 of this report) and note the current position with Developers' Contributions (section 1.5.6); and
- (e) approves the receipt of £0.465m new revenue grants (as outlined in section 1.5.7 of this report), £4.768m of new capital grants (as outlined in section 1.5.8 of this report).

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 21 June 2024.

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 Authority service operations has achieved 60% against the baseline year of 2010/11. The ambition to deliver 5,000 Affordable Homes is on track against the profiled target with 2,289 homes delivered at the end of the first quarter. There has been a 12% increase in the number of clients receiving homecare services, reducing reliance on short-term residential care, facilitating hospital discharges and supporting residents to live independently in their own home. Since joining the Safety Valve Programme, the rate of new EHCPs issued has decreased in contrast to increases seen regionally and nationally. Council Tax and Business Rates collection remains strong and comparable with national performance.

1.5.1.2 Since the May 2024 report, the number of children in care has increased by 13 from 362 children in our care in May to 375 in July. The number of budgeted children in care was temporarily increased as part of the 2024–28 MTFP to 365, as work is ongoing to reach the core number, which remains at 330 children. The aim for 2024/25 is for a maximum of 26 children to be accommodated in external residential placements, however there are currently 41 external placements, an increase of 5 since May. In addition to the increased number, there are also increasing market forces driving up the average weekly cost of external residential placements, which Cabinet is aware is a challenge both locally and nationally.

1.5.1.3 The overall level of children in need has continued to decrease, to 1,591 (1,609 in May) and is now in-line with the 1,600-figure used to estimate required social work capacity. The Handling Children's Finance MTFP workstream identified an increase to the net placement budgets of £5.452m in 2024/25, which assumed a level of 365 children in care, 1,600 children in need, and a

staffing requirement of 74 social workers. The workstream also focused on improving the recruitment and retention of social work staff which has seen extremely positive results. There have been 9 new social workers recruited since January 2024 which, once in post, will not only reduce the number of vacancies but more importantly reduce reliance on agency staff. In the interim this has increased the forecast staffing pressure while newly recruited staff are supported and cases are handed over sensitively. The long-term impact will be a more stable, supported work force with reduced pressure on the budget.

- 1.5.1.4 However, the significant increase to the total children in care, the current mix of placements and the market forces in the external residential care market has driven a deterioration, to a total forecasted pressure in Children's Services of £10.625m. Further detail is provided in Annex 2 at section 1.3.
- 1.5.1.5 The Home to School Transport MTFP workstream aims to bring the service back into balance over the 4-year period through a combination of additional budget and savings. The number of children requiring home to school transport has stabilised over the last year, following a year-on-year increase in the number of pupils requiring the service. In July 2024 there were 862 pupils receiving home to school transport which was the same as during May 2024, but lower than the 904 in July 2023. However, there has not been the level of assumed reductions in children with complex needs who have support with transport as assumed in year 1 of the workstream. This is linked to the number of pupils with EHCPs the Authority maintains. This, along with inflationary pressures on the transport contracts, means that Home to School Transport has a pressure of £1.776m.
- 1.5.1.6 As part of the Health & Social Care MTFP workstream within Adults Services the focus remains to facilitate effective and efficient hospital discharge with the "Home First" model and reduce the number of clients in short- and long-term residential and nursing care placements by maximising the use of home care. The number of home care hours provided has shown a significant increase, reducing the number of people in short-term residential placements, and the number of clients waiting for homecare services is at its lowest level in three years with 18 clients waiting for homecare services. The changes to the client contribution policy introduced as part of the MTFP workstream have also resulted in additional income.
- 1.5.1.7 The overall number of clients in residential and nursing care has increased from 1,126 in May 2024 to 1,221 in July 2024, but the trend of new short and long-term placements has significantly decreased compared to the previous year, largely due to the increase in home care hours being provided.

However, the turnover in the number of clients leaving and joining the service continues to be high.

- 1.5.1.8 As Adult Services continues to focus on the “Home First” approach to hospital discharge, the on-going review of people transitioning from young people to adult services, combined with the wider review team and increased external income, the forecast financial position has improved by £0.448m since May with an overall expected pressure for the Directorate of £3.425m.
- 1.5.1.9 As well as the above pressures the Authority is also continuing to see pressures relating to homelessness, additional external legal costs and higher than anticipated premises costs. There are some organisation-wide savings resulting from treasury management savings of 1.000m, which partly offset the overall forecast pressure, further detail is included in section 1 of the Annex 2.
- 1.5.1.10 As at 31 July 2024, the Authority is showing a total forecast net pressure for the current year of £14.002m. This is an increased pressure of £0.326m since the May 2024 position.
- 1.5.1.11 A more detailed commentary of the overall financial position is contained in section 1 of Annex 2. However, the key areas of variation behind the forecast net pressure for the current year as at 31 July 2024 of £14.002m are summarised in the following table.

1.5.1.12 Table 1: 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Forecast Outturn as at 31 July 2024 by Directorate

Directorates	Budget	Forecast July	Variance July	Variance May	Change May-July
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services	69.172	72.597	3.425	3.873	(0.448)
Children's Services	52.577	63.202	10.625	8.380	2.245
Public Health	1.613	1.613	0.000	0.000	0.000
Environment	43.922	44.123	0.201	0.600	(0.399)
Regeneration & Economic Development	11.880	11.736	(0.144)	(0.193)	0.049
Corporate Strategy	2.479	2.879	0.400	0.618	(0.218)
Chief Executive Office	(0.108)	(0.129)	(0.021)	(0.020)	(0.001)
Resources	9.473	9.152	(0.321)	0.751	(1.072)
General Fund Housing	2.446	3.412	0.966	0.200	0.766
Central Items	(17.375)	(18.504)	(1.129)	(0.533)	(0.596)
Support Services	19.170	19.170	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total Authority	195.248	209.251	14.002	13.676	0.326

1.5.1.13 Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is working with Cabinet and senior officers across the organisation to update the 2024-28 MTFP workstreams and to develop a range of in-year mitigations to support the 2024/25 position.

1.5.2 Schools

1.5.2.1 There are currently 16 schools that have submitted a deficit budget plan for 2024/25 and deficit review sessions started in July. Cabinet should note that there are six new schools potentially requiring a licenced deficit agreement in 2024/25 and two which have a structural deficit, which means that the school is unable to submit a recovery plan which shows it coming back into financial balance within 3 years. Cabinet will be aware that Schools Forum set aside school funding to support schools with falling rolls or with growth in pupil numbers. Eligible schools have been identified and presented to the Schools Forum finance sub-group for their initial agreement before final approval at Schools Forum. The process for allocating funding to schools in financial difficulty will begin in September.

1.5.2.2 Cabinet will recall there have also been significant pressures within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in relation to the High Needs block which ended 2023/24 with an overspend of £10.494m. As reported previously, to address these pressures, the Authority joined the Department for Education's

(DfE) Safety Valve Intervention Programme, the first year 2 submission of 2024/25 was made to the DfE on 28 August 2024 and reported that the Authority remains on track to reach a positive in-year balance by the end of 2027/28. The current position includes the allocations of funding from the DfE of £11.700m.

- 1.5.2.3 The Authority continues to receive a high volume of requests for an EHCP Assessment, 118 requests at the end of June 2024, similar to 120 at the end of June 2023 and 122 as of June 2022. There are 4,332 pupils with Special Educational Needs Support, an increase of 8% compared to the same period last year and the highest recorded level. However, since joining the Safety Valve Intervention Programme, the rate of new EHCPs issued has decreased by 26% in contrast to a 5% increase regionally and 27% increase nationally. The rate of EHCP growth has significantly decreased over the last two years and performance is better than national and regional rates. EHCP growth in North Tyneside was 2.6% in 2023, compared to 9.57% regionally and 11.30% nationally. This demonstrates the success of initiatives within the DSG management plan to manage the continuing high demand for Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments in North Tyneside. In July 2024, there were 2,263 EHCPs maintained by the Authority, an increase of 17 since May 2024.
- 1.5.2.5 As part of the Safety Valve Intervention Programme, the Authority also received £4.7m from the DfE in capital funding to support the DSG Management Plan. This will be used to develop an Early Years hub, increase the Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) in schools and £0.833m was allocated to "Funding for Inclusion". A joint working group was established with schools and settings and the funding for inclusion capital allocation has been allocated to the schools which submitted successful applications.

1.5.3 Housing Revenue Account

- 1.5.3.1 Performance overall is holding relatively strong in this area. However, housing rental income collection has dipped to 91% at the end of quarter 1, compared to 95% during the first quarter last year, which is due to a number of factors including the increased number of our tenants moving over to Universal Credit (UC), and the overall increase in rent. Arrears management continues to be a critical area of performance, and officers are monitoring increasing arrears levels for current tenants. A particular area of focus for 2024/25 will be the change in the timetable which will accelerate the numbers of existing tenants moving across to UC. Empty homes are still trending at relatively lower levels, currently at around 0.6%, which represents

just over 80 homes out of over 14,000 in total. This helps the overall income position significantly as every pound collected counts, by helping to maximise the amount of rent that can be collected and invested in improving service delivery to tenants.

1.5.3.2 The number of homeless presentations to the Authority is rising year on year. At the end of July 2024 there had been 1,076 homeless presentations this financial year, an increase of 14% compared to July 2023. There was also an increase in priority homeless acceptances to 54 as at July 2024 compared to 49 the previous July, and an increase in people booked into Temporary Accommodation up to a total of 719 by July 2024, compared to 577 in July 2023. The costs attached to homelessness have naturally risen as a result mainly of the increase in these numbers, and the increasing costs of the accommodation, as the Authority has a statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation.

1.5.3.3 The projected outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2024/25 is an underspend of £0.039m. The main areas of pressure relate to utility costs across the sheltered estate, and the forecast impact of the tabled 2024/25 pay award although this is forecast to be lower than the previous year settlement, but which is still marginally higher than was budgeted for in the HRA Business Plan. These pressures are offset by a combination of small savings across the service, from vacancy assumptions through to reducing non-essential spend, and maximising the use of grant and other income. The Repairs budget continues to manage the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the impact on material and sub-contractor costs, as well as the impact of the pay award mentioned above, however, at the current time this budget is forecast to come in on budget.

1.5.4 Investment Plan

1.5.4.1 The investment plan as approved at full Council in February 2024 for 2024-2029 totals £334.444m (£104.727m in 2024/25 and is detailed in table 21 of Annex 2, within section 4).

1.5.4.2 To date £15.861m of reprogramming has been approved (changes to the anticipated delivery into future financial years), and proposals of variations of £7.716m (changes to the financing of the Plan) over the investment plan. As part of July 2024 monitoring, further reprogramming of £10.299m and £5.626m of variations has been identified for the 2024/25 investment plan. Details are set out in Section 4 of Annex 2, paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3.

1.5.4.3 At the end of July 2024, spend of £21.556m had been incurred in year, representing 16.80% of the Council approved plan for 2024/25. This is

broadly in line with spend trajectory incurred on average at this point in time in prior years.

1.5.4.4 At the end of July 2024 investment had been made in the following areas:

- **Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme;** Since the last report a further £5.276m has been invested to date in delivering planned improvement works to maintain homes to the Decent Homes Standard. This includes £4.154m on kitchen and bathroom upgrades, structural works and heating replacements. An additional £04.12m has been invested on the HRA programme of new builds and residential conversions. £0.347m has been spent on disabled adaptations including stairlift installations.
- **Highways and Infrastructure Improvements;** over £2.000m of highways improvement works have been delivered to date throughout the Borough including integrated transport improvements. Progress continues on the Seafront Cycle Route with £1.643m spent since the previous report. £0.157m of Transport Cities funding utilised on Four Lane End bus priority works, and improving walking and cycling routes to metros.
- **Affordable homes delivery;** investment of over £0.188m on works associated with the delivery of affordable homes through the Authority's Trading Company, as well as the HRA New Build programme.
- **Education improvement works;** £2.402m of spend incurred to date relating primarily to the installation of modular classroom in the Borough.
- **Strategic Asset Maintenance;** Over £0.123m has been invested delivering planned preventative maintenance activity within the Authority's operational asset portfolio. £0.080m relating to works to replace the boiler at Saville Exchange Building.
- **Leisure Facilities;** £0.253m has been invested to date delivering improvement works relating to the ongoing works at St Peter's Sports playing fields.
- **Regeneration projects;** Since the last report, £0.984m has been invested to date on the Authority's regeneration projects across the Borough. Spend primarily relating to ongoing works at Embankment Walkway.

1.5.5 Treasury Management

1.5.5.1 As at 31 July 2024, the level of external borrowing (excluding Private Finance Initiative) is £413.443m for the period, with the level of internal funding forecast to remain relatively high for the year and is projected to be

£93.962m (£86.503m at 31 March 2024). This is in line with the Authority's Treasury Management Strategy as this minimises external interest charges wherever possible, providing the optimal financial position for the Authority in line with the MTFP project on Financial Management.

1.5.5.2 As at 31 July 2024, the Authority had total treasury investments of £1.500m. Year to date income generated through interest earned on investments from combined General Fund and HRA balances for 2023/24 is £0.356m. 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 the planning process. £21.544m of contributions have been received to date, with £17.140m spent or committed through the Investment Programme Board process to date. £4.405m as of 31 July 2024 remains uncommitted, a reduction of £0.729m from previously reported. Officers continue developing plans to utilise this in line with the conditions of the section 106 agreements and the Authority's strategic objectives. Further information is provided in section 6 of the Annex 2 and shows an improving position in terms of utilisation.

1.5.6.2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) £1.265m funding has been received by the Authority to date. CIL continues to develop within the Authority and to date £0.025m of CIL funding has been committed against the balance.

1.5.7 New Revenue Grants Received

1.5.7.1 Table 2 below sets out the details of new revenue grants received up to end July 2024 for Cabinet's approval.

1.5.7.2 Table 2: Grants Received June and July 2024

Directorate	Grant Provider	Grant	Purpose	2024/25 value £m
Public Health	Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities	Healthy Homes Project	Support local authorities in tackling damp and mould hazards in private rented properties in the areas of greatest need.	0.130
Environment	The Bread & Butter Thing	The Bread & Butter Thing	Activity should meet the Holiday Activities & Food Programme standards/regs for both food and activities and will build upon what is already being delivered and has been approved by the relevant local authorities.	0.015
Housing	Home Office	Asylum Dispersal Scheme	Grant 6 - relates to the number of asylum seekers accommodated in your local Authority as of 1 April 2024 in Dispersal Accommodation (DA), Overflow Dispersal Accommodation (ODA), Initial Accommodation (IA), Contingency Accommodation – Hotels (CAH) and Contingency Accommodation – Other (CAO).	0.278
Housing	North East Combined Authority	UK Shared Prosperity Fund – In Work Support	Funding received from Northumberland County Council to deliver skills diagnostics with 10 businesses between 01/08/24 and 31/03/25.	0.042
Total				0.465

1.5.8 New Capital Grants Received

1.5.8.1 Table 3 below sets out the details of new capital grants received up to end July 2024 for Cabinet’s approval.

1.5.8.2 Table 3: Capital Grants Received June and July 2024/25

Directorate	Grant Provider	Grant / Project	Purpose	2024/25 value £m
Children's Services	Department for Education	School High Needs Capital Allocation	Grant allocation to be utilised for schools high needs capital works	0.557
Regeneration	Transport North East	Active Travel Fund Tranche 4	Grant funding to support Phase 2 public realm improvements to North Shields	3.300
Regeneration	North East Combined Authority	Devolution	Grant funding to support Phase 2 public realm improvements to North Shields	0.600
Total				4.457

1.6 Decision Options:

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

1.6.2 Option 1

Cabinet agrees the recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

1.6.3 Options 2

Cabinet does not agree the 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. It is also important that Cabinet agrees to receive the revenue and capital grants referred to in the report.

1.8 Appendices:

Annex 1: Performance and Financial Management Report to 31 July 2024

Annex 2: Financial Management Report to 31 July 2024

Appendix 1: Investment Plan Summary

Appendix 2: S106 Summary & Detail

Appendix 3: Quarter 1 Prudential Indicators

1.9 Contact Officers:

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

David Mason – Corporate Finance matters – Tel. (0191) 643 5747

Caroline Maxwell – Corporate Finance and General Fund matters – Tel. (0191) 643 7027

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

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

Haley Hudson – 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 2024/25

[Search results | North Tyneside Council](#)

(b) Investment Plan 2023-2028

<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s16457/Appendix%20D%20-%20Investment%20Plan%202024%20-%202029.pdf>

(Agenda reports pack 29 January 2024 – Appendix D(i))

(c) Reserves and Balances Policy

<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s16464/Appendix%20G%20-%20Reserves%20and%20Balances%20Policy%202024-25.pdf>

(Agenda reports pack 29 January 2024 – Appendix G)

(d) Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Performance Report

<https://democracy.northtyneside.gov.uk/documents/s16466/Appendix%20I%20-%202024%20OSFC%20Budget%20Scrutiny%20Sub-group%20Draft%20report.pdf>

(Agenda reports pack 29 January 2024 – 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

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 2024/25 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
- Director of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Interim Director of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service