

Cherwell District Council

Budget Planning Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Budget Planning Committee held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon OX15 4AA, on 4 March 2025 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillor Edward Fraser Reeves (Chairman)
Councillor Tom Beckett
Councillor Gordon Blakeway
Councillor Frank Ideh
Councillor Robert Parkinson
Councillor Rob Pattenden
Councillor David Rogers
Councillor Les Sibley
Councillor Dom Vaitkus

Substitute Members:

Councillor Lynne Parsons (In place of Councillor Andrew Crichton)

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Andrew Crichton
Councillor Barry Wood

Also Present:

Councillor Lesley McLean, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Regeneration and Property

Also Present Virtually:

Councillor Matt Hodgson (Vice-Chairman)

Officers:

Joanne Kaye, Head of Finance and Deputy Section 151 Officer
Matt Swinford, Democratic and Elections Officer

Officers Attending Virtually:

Leanne Lock, Strategic Business Partner - Business Partnering & Controls

39 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

40 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2025 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

41 **Chairman's Announcements**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

42 **Requests to Address the Meeting**

There were no requests to address the meeting.

43 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

44 **Budget Monitoring Report**

The Assistant Director of Finance submitted a report which provided the forecast outturn position for the end of the financial year 2024-2025 based on the position as at 31 December 2024.

In introducing the report, the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Property and Regeneration advised the Committee that, the forecast outturn position for the Council for the 2024/25 financial year was an overspend of £43k. The forecast overspend was due to variations across Environmental Services, Property and Legal and Democratic. The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Property and Regeneration advised the Committee that all services were considering ways that the forecast overspend would be mitigated.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance Portfolio Holder for Finance, Property and Regeneration advised that the Council's projected year end forecast for capital profiled spend was projected to be an in-year underspend of £.0438m with £0.270 recommended to be re-profiled into future years.

It was proposed by Councillor Reeves and seconded by Councillor Rogers that the meeting move into private session to consider exempt appendix 6.

45 **Exclusion of Press and Public**

Resolved

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part 1, Paragraph 3 would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

46 **Monthly Monitoring Report - Exempt Appendix**

The Committee asked questions regarding the exempt appendix, debt write offs, which were duly answered by the Portfolio Holder Finance, Property and Regeneration.

47 **Readmittance of the Press and Public**

Resolved

That the press and public be readmitted to the meeting.

48 **Budget Monitoring Report**

Having readmitted the press and public and having discussed the public report and appendices and exempt appendix, the Committee noted the report.

Resolved

(1) That the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 6.43 pm

Chair:

Date: