
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS AND TRANSFORMATION HELD ON 6 JANUARY 2022

BTSP.07/22 BUDGET 2022/23

(3) BACKGROUND INFORMATION REPORTS:

(3)(a) BUDGET UPDATE - REVENUE ESTIMATES 2022/23 TO 2026/27

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources submitted report RD.52/21 which provided an update to report RD.46/21. The report summarised key budget considerations, the Council's revised revenue base estimates for 2021/22, together with base estimates for 2022/23, forecasts up to 2026/27 for illustrative purposes. Potential new spending pressures, bids and savings were also set out in the report in an indicative manner, the final position being subject to decisions taken further in the budget process.

The Executive had considered the matter on 13 December 2021 (EX.153/21 refers) and decided:

"That the Executive:

- (i) Noted the revised estimates for 2021/22 and base estimates for 2022/23;
- (ii) Noted the estimates in the report are draft and will be subject to the confirmation of the Local Government Finance Settlement due in December 2021;
- (iii) Noted the current MTFP projections, which would continue to be updated throughout the budget process as key issues become clearer and decisions were taken;
- (iv) noted the budget pressures, bids and savings which needed to be taken into account as part of the 2022/23 budget process;
- (v) Approved the release of amounts from the Operational Risk Reserve for Treasury Management (£600,000) and Covid costs (£500,000) as outlined in paragraph 5.2 of report RD.52/21
- (vi) notes the Statutory Report of the S.151 Officer outlining the risks associated with the draft budget figures and that minimum reserves may need to be reviewed in the future depending upon the outcome of the Local Government Finance review."

In considering the report, Members raised the following comments and questions:

- Why had additional subsidy for the Leisure contract been included in the budget? Was it a local or national issue?

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources explained that additional subsidy had been removed from the budget. The amount was not yet known and would therefore be dealt with outwith the budget process. The additional subsidy was unique to Carlisle due to the delay in the redevelopment of the Sands Centre.

- Would the increase in car parking during the recovery from Covid and the Christmas period improve the car parking shortfall income?

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources clarified that the figures used for the shortfall were based on pre covid figures and there was a shortfall at that time. The shortfall would go forward as a recurring pressure.

- Did the level of external debt figures include the value of Gateway 44?

The Corporate Director of Finance and Resources confirmed that Gateway 44 had been included in the balance sheet from 2020/21.

RESOLVED - That the Panel had scrutinised report RD.52/21 and made comments on the revised base estimates for 2021/22 and the proposed overall budgetary position for 2022/23.