

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 25 February 2025

Report of: Strategic Director of Corporate Resources & s151 Officer

Title: Overview of General Fund Revenue Budget 2024/25 – Quarter 3

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council

1. What is the report about?

To advise Members of the overall financial position of the General Fund Revenue Budgets for the 2024/25 financial year after nine months.

2. Recommendations:

It is recommended that Council notes and approves (where applicable):

- (1) The General Fund forecast financial position for the 2024 financial year;
- (2) The supplementary budgets, transfer of reserve and budget transfers as detailed in paragraph 8.10 and Appendix 3;
- (3) The outstanding Sundry Debt position as at December 2024;
- (4) The creditors payments performance; and
- (5) The One Exeter programme update

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

To formally note the Council's projected financial position and to approve additional expenditure required during the financial year.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources?

The impact on the General Fund working balance is set out in section 8.9.

The General Fund Working Balance is projected to stand at £4.362 million at year end.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

The financial position shows a further improvement at Quarter 3. It should be noted that although the call on General Fund Reserves has reduced, there are indications of a number of requests for supplementary budgets in 2025/26, which will bring the General Fund Balance down to the anticipated level.

6. What are the legal aspects?

Section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003 imposes a statutory duty on the Council to monitor during the financial year its expenditure and income against the budget calculations. If the monitoring establishes that the budgetary situation has deteriorated, the Council must take such action as it considers necessary to deal with the situation. This might include, for example, action to reduce spending in the rest of the year, or to increase income, or to finance the shortfall from reserves.

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 places a legal requirement on Council to approve not only the budget but also any changes to the budget proposed during the year. Council has a legal duty to ensure that the budget is balanced and that any changes to the budget are fully funded.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

7.1 The content of this report raises no issues for the Monitoring Officer.

8. Report details:

Overview of General Fund Revenue Budget 2024/25 – Quarter 3

8.1 Financial Summary

FUND	Planned Transfer To / (From) Working Balance £	Budget Variance (More) / Less £	Outturn Transfer 2024/25 £
General Fund	(2,862,201)	1,341,321	(1,520,880)

8.2 General Fund (Appendix 1 & Appendix 2)

During the year, a restructure of the Senior Leadership of the Council has taken place. The restructure was projected to reduce costs by £388,110, which would be used to strengthen areas of the Council requiring investment to meet members' priorities. In 2024/25, the actual reduction totals £350,946 as there are some interim arrangements in place to cover vacant posts. Once these posts are filled on a permanent basis the reduction will rise to £389,580 in line with the original estimate. As agreed, some of the funds have been used for additional posts and therefore in the current financial year, a net saving of £266k is expected from the senior leadership review (£243k within General Fund Services and £23k within the Housing Revenue Account) after the interim arrangements and new posts. The Appendices have been updated to reflect this new leadership structure that is now in place.

For the 2024/25 financial year, the current forecasts show an overall projected underspend of £497,830 against a revised budget of £23,081,890. This includes

supplementary budgets of £6,331,110 already agreed by Council. Variances of more than +/- £30,000 are detailed below:

8.3 Chief Executive

Budget Heading	Over / (Underspend)
Strategic Management	£40,910
<p>Responsible Officer: Executive Office Manager</p> <p>Although this shows a £40,910 overspend, the forecast includes £256,000 of redundancy costs which will be covered by reserves. Therefore, the actual out-turn is a £215,020 underspend. This is solely due to the Senior Leadership Restructure which occurred earlier in the year</p>	

8.4 Operations

Budget Heading	Over / (Underspend)
Environmental Health & Licensing	(£287,000)
<p>Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Environmental Health & Waste</p> <p>Vacancies across the service are proving difficult to fill with a forecast underspend. The services are beginning to make use of the funding issued in respect of the significant disruption that occurred whilst staff were diverted on to working on the Homes for Ukraine initiative, but some £74,000 is still expected to be available at year end to further the recovery. Another year of higher than expected funding for Disabled Facilities Grants has also increased the administrative burden rechargeable to the grant allocation above budgeted levels.</p>	
Domestic Refuse Collection	(£412,460)
<p>Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Environmental Health & Waste</p> <p>There is a delay to further roll out of the doorstep food waste programme until the construction of the food waste bay, so there will be savings in the year due to roles not being filled and vehicles not yet being leased until such time as the service is in a position to roll out to the remaining two thirds of the city. These savings will more than offset the income the service is unable to claim from DCC's Share Scheme saving fund, to which we have no eligibility until the scheme achieves 100% coverage.</p>	
Materials Reclamation Facility	£124,740
<p>Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Environmental Health & Waste</p> <p>The use of secondary reclamation facilities is frequently necessary due to the age of the site, which is due to undergo refurbishment. The level of usage is dependent on the date of closure of the facility for the start of this work, but the overspend could increase if the facility fails before the anticipated closure and takes a significant time to bring back into use.</p>	
Engineering Services	(£210,230)

Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Operations

The team have had some success in recruiting to the vacancies seen over previous years and can continue to look forward to pursuing both revenue and capital schemes more actively as a result. There remain a number of vacancies which have been difficult to fill, this will be partially offset by not having the third Capital Delivery officer which will reduce the recharge to capital. The use of sub-contractors across the service remains subdued with a forecast underspend. Funding associated with demolition costs for a footbridge will not be spent releasing £134,180 of one-off budget this year.

Waterways**(£134,100)****Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Operations**

The Exeter Port Authority operates a mooring repairs service, purchased by the Council several years ago. The intention was for this to be self-financing, but costs have risen significantly whilst workload and income have not. The opportunity is still available but, without the introduction of the Harbour Revision Order (HRO) which is currently being progressed, improvement will be slow – the current forecast is that the service will be very near to breakeven at year end, depending on the ongoing demand for the services it provides. The presently unoccupied Waterways Engineer post, funded for a 3-year period from historic vacancy underspending within Engineering (at £120,000) has been transferred to the service which is looking at how best to use this resource. There is a contingency fund available for any inquiry that might follow the application for the HRO, but that will not take place in the current year and the £80,000 will be required to roll over to the next financial year.

Canal licences represent the one area of concern – income levels have stagnated with few new vessels being kept in the canal. The forecast is for there to be a reduction in income in comparison with 2023/24, due to vessels being scrapped or leaving. Income will likely be some £76,000 below budgeted level.

Corporate Property – Assets**(£269,380)****Responsible Officer: Interim Head of Service – Asset Maintenance**

A £200,000 underspend continues to be forecast against property maintenance to reflect the budget for Leisure services not being used this year; the actual costs sit in the individual Leisure centres. The remaining underspend is from savings against the establishment budget. However, £63,890 of redundancy costs were recognised in this out-turn; these will be covered by reserves so the actual underspend is £333,270.

Corporate Support**£100,000****Responsible Officer: Interim Head of Service – Asset Maintenance**

As in previous quarters, the adverse variance of £230,000 against rental income has created a material overspend; however, this has been mitigated by two main areas of saving. Firstly, savings in utilities has created a £43,000 underspend in supplies & services. Secondly, a supplementary budget of £100,000 has been added to facilitate the work around the Civic Centre Development Plan but it is unlikely that much of this will be spent this financial year so a saving of £90,000 has been forecast against this, however any unspent amount will be requested again in the 2025/26 financial year.

8.5 Corporate Resources

Budget Heading	Over / (Underspend)
Parking Services	£492,180
<p>Responsible Officer: Head of Service – City Centre & Net Zero</p> <p>The resolution of where Global Payment Bank Charges should fall was completed only after budgets had been set for the current year and these were not within the agreed budget book values. It is anticipated that the full year cost of these charges will be around £85,000. The Council's contract with Ring-Go is of a cost and volume nature; we are hitting the point of additional charges being levied earlier and earlier each contract year due to the switchover to cashless payments, which is also creating pressures on the card charges budget. The re-zoning of some car parks has significantly increased a number of site rateable values, some up by almost 50% - the budget pressure is £164,000 which has substantially been offset by lower electricity charges (£155,000).</p>	
Major Projects	(£57,160)
<p>Responsible Officer: Interim Head of Service – Commercial Property</p> <p>This underspend is solely due to the Bus Station Demolition project now being complete. The cost of this project will be funded from the Guildhall Shopping Centre reserve.</p>	
Markets	(£52,460)
<p>Responsible Officer: Interim Head of Service – Commercial Property</p> <p>At the Matford Centre, Kivell's continues to increase income targets, with an additional £20,000 added to the forecast at year-end. Elsewhere there are saving against utility costs and supplies and services. However, income from the solar array is still showing a material adverse variance (due to the low market rate) lowering the forecast out-turn – this is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. Unbudgeted redundancy costs have also been added which will be covered by reserves at year-end.</p>	
Revenues & Benefits	£235,220
<p>Responsible Officer: Head of Service - Finance</p> <p>A £150k overspend is forecast in respect of unrecoverable housing benefits, of which £120k relates to temporary accommodation. The budgets factored in a reduction in the level of unrecoverable housing benefits relating to the spot purchases of B&B accommodation. However, this is no longer expected to be realised in 2024/25 due to the time required to purchase or lease additional temporary accommodation, to reduce the need for B&B accommodation.</p> <p>Alongside this, an £85k overspend in the Revenues Service is forecast, which is predominantly due to additional agency staff covering vacant posts in Council Tax. Plans to address the reliance on agency staff are being progressed as a priority.</p> <p>The senior leadership restructure resulted in unbudgeted redundancy costs, which are matched by a saving in employee costs following deletion of the former Service Lead post within this management unit.</p>	
Elections & Electoral Registration	£46,210

Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services This overspend is due to the budget reduction that was included in the 2023/24 estimates and will be smoothed across the MTFP against years where there are savings. Some cost has been forecast in relation to the 2025/26 Council elections on the assumption that they will be taking place in May 2025 as normal.	
Corporate	£35,190
Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Finance Increased audit fees and bank charges continue to cause this cost centre to overspend (increased costs of £15,000 and £10,000 respectively) as well as an overspend of £12,300 on corporate subscriptions. A portion of the audit and bank fees will be recharged to HRA – however, this still leaves an adverse variance at year-end.	
Democratic Representation	(£39,760)
Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services This underspend is mostly due to the savings against Members’ special responsibility allowances (£21,000 saving). However, there are also savings against pay in the Member Services Team – due to short periods of vacancy – and there have been smaller savings against supplies and services, especially against the member training budget. Recruitment has started to fill a vacant post but it is unlikely that this will be complete by year-end.	
Unapportionable Overheads	£883,200
Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Finance The overspend is the result of pension strain payments incurred after the senior management restructure. The majority of this in-year cost will be covered by reserves (£804,200), reducing the overspend to £79,000; this represents one strain payment that will be absorbed by the General Fund.	

8.6 People and Communities

Budget Heading	Over / (Underspend)
Housing Needs and Homelessness	£350,000

Responsible Officer: Head of Service - Housing

As per the explanation in quarter 2 there remains a continued national increase in the number of households in Temporary Accommodation (TA); in Exeter over the past two years there has been an increase of 20%, with a corresponding increase in costs of £364k over budgeted levels.

Due to the necessity of using contracted hotels to meet this increase in demand there have been additional costs for providing security services to ensure safety of all residents. Whilst we have been able to reduce the use of security in one unit due to remodelling there remains a forecasted cost of £200k more than budgeted by the end of the year.

It is anticipated that some of these costs may be offset through the in-year provision of supplementary central government grants such as the Homelessness Prevention Grant and Winter Pressures money. We remain committed to reviewing the current operating model of the service to look for any efficiency including providing long leases with the aim of reducing unit cost of temporary accommodation.

GF Housing – Property	(£53,000)
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Responsible Officer – Head of Service - Housing

Over the past 12 months we have handed back all of the Private Sector Leased Properties under council management, whilst taking into account any mandatory reimbursement under the terms of the lease. This has now stopped the deficit of rental income against payments to landlords. The EXtralet tenancies have remained stable, meaning that we haven't needed to utilise the handback or voids budgets set aside.

Transportation	(£60,000)
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Responsible Officer – Interim Head of HR Workforce Planning & OD

This surplus to budget will be transferred to reserves at year-end and will be used to facilitate initiatives under the new Sustainable Travel Policy.

Central Support	£66,280
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Responsible Officer – Head of Service - Digital & Data

The year-end out-turn includes unbudgeted redundancy costs which will be covered by reserves.

Exeter Community Grants Programme	(£180,980)
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Responsible Officer – Head of Customer and Communities

The forecast underspend is attributable to the following:

- £106,100 refund and CIL underspend, resulting from the change of contract for Wellbeing Exeter, during 2024/25. The £72,000 refund will be added to the Wellbeing Exeter earmarked reserve.
- £65,000 resulting from schemes delayed in 2024/25, due to uncertainty regarding CIL receipts.
- £9,880 due to the Consultation and Engagement Manager post being vacant until February 2025.

Customer Service Centre	£79,150
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Responsible Officer – Head of Customer and Communities

£42,700 of this forecast overspend is attributable to the senior leadership restructure, the costs of which are offset elsewhere and include a redundancy cost that is funded from an earmarked reserve.

The rest of the projected overspend is a result of the long-term use of agency staff within the customer contact centre. These contracts arose from post covid demand increases, including the introduction of discretionary schemes such as the household support fund. All contact centre agency staff contracts ended on 31 October.

8.7 Place

Budget Heading	Over / (Underspend)
Culture	(£127,680)
Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Culture Arts & Events are showing a £55,420 underspend, predominantly due to the Women's Rugby World Cup supplementary budget. £50,000 of this is forecast to be spent by year-end and the surplus will be requested for inclusion in the 2025/26 budget. At the Corn Exchange, the forecast underspend is £72,260 and an unbudgeted redundancy payment will be covered by reserves. Event income is still healthy and there continues to be savings in premises, mainly against utility costs.	
Building Control & Land Charges	£90,000
Responsible Officer: Head of City Development Building Control is facing a revenue shortfall of £90k due to ongoing market challenges restricting construction activity. House sales remain below pre-pandemic levels, particularly those requiring mortgages, as high interest rates continue to limit affordability and demand. Construction activity is also being impacted by persistent labour shortages, supply chain disruptions, and rising material costs. Inflationary pressures, including high fuel and energy costs, are further increasing construction expenses, leading to project delays and reduced investment in new developments which impact income generation through applications for Building Regulation approval.	
Planning	£94,200

Responsible Officer: Head of City Development

There is a forecast reduction in fee income of £340,000, primarily attributed to a continuing decline in the overall number of planning applications submitted. In the 2022/23 financial year, we processed 1,482 applications, whereas in 2023/24 this number dropped to 1,289—a reduction of approximately 13%. Notably, householder applications, which are the most common type we receive, fell from 403 to 311. This downward trend has continued into the 2024/25 financial year. If this trend persists, fee income will fall short by £340,000 by the end of the financial year.

The ongoing decrease in application numbers, particularly in the householder category, is offsetting the increase in planning fees, resulting in a net reduction in overall fee income. The reduction is likely influenced by broader economic factors, including persistent economic uncertainty and the cost-of-living crisis. Rising interest rates, inflation, and the increased costs of materials, labour, and energy have made developers and homeowners more cautious about embarking on new projects. Furthermore, the housing market slowdown, characterised by fluctuating property values and demand, continues to deter potential applicants from proceeding with developments or home improvements.

The timetable for the Exeter Plan continues to respond to complex consultation responses, evidence requirements and national planning policy reforms meaning the projects is extending into multiple financial years. Significant evidence has been commissioned which continues to support the Exeter Plan, although the project is likely to be underspent by £250,000 in 2024/25. A supplementary budget will be requested for 2025/26 when the plan is scheduled to go through its examination and substantial costs will be incurred.

Museum Service**(£201,710)****Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Culture**

Efficiencies in energy consumption are still being found which has given rise to £300k forecast savings in utilities. This consultancy work will continue to year-end and £80k to £85k is estimated to be saved through this work. There have been some improvements in revenue, due to the popularity of the recent Dartmoor exhibition and there have been savings in Museum Projects. However, these have been used to offset the forecast adverse variance in the shop, which is now £62k overspent.

Leisure & Sport**(£958,980)****Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Culture**

In March 2023, HMRC changed how VAT was to be applied to Leisure income, changing it from standard rated to outside the scope. The Council became eligible to reclaim the majority of this VAT and work commenced on calculating the amount, starting from bringing Leisure in-house in 2020/21. This has now been completed and the total amount submitted for refund is £646,560 (submitted over two claims). The second claim is now complete and this has been included in this month's out-turn forecast.

Leisure continues to show material savings against salaries, due to vacant posts across all the centres and there is forecast surplus to income forecast of £240,000. This has been offset by premises costs being higher than budget due to maintenance being carried out by the centres; however, indications are that these costs will not be as high as last year.

St Sidwells Point**(£59,850)**

Responsible Officer: Head of Service – Culture This underspend is due to the supplementary budget added to St Sidwells Point not being utilised this year. The need for this will be reviewed and it will be requested for 2025/26 budget, if required.	
Liveable Exeter Garden City	(£100,000)
Responsible Officer: Strategic Director for Place Grant funding has been provided from DLUCH to progress Liveable Exeter, the money can be spent in any given financial year so the flexibility remains to apportion the money as projects are developed. Therefore, any unspent grant money at the end of the financial year will be transferred into an earmarked reserve and a supplementary budget requested in 2025/26.	
CCTV & Home Call	£91,860
Responsible Officer: Head of Service – City Centre & Net Zero Home Call income remains an issue within this Management Unit due to previous unrealistic income targets continuing to be set. Despite recent marketing campaigns generating new customers, sadly valued service users have passed away which means that numbers have remained static, with income continuing to fall short of budget. In addition, the service is trying to mitigate the shortfall in Home Call income with new CCTV Monitoring contracts for other locations in Devon and Exeter, but there is a significant delay between expressions of interest and contract sign-up by third party clients, restricting the growth this year. Non-contractual overtime is currently high to maintain minimum operational staffing levels.	

8.8 Other Financial Variations

Budget Heading	Over / (Underspend)
Net interest	(£83,224)
Interest payable remains on target. Interest receivable is expected to be higher than budgeted as interest rates were elevated for the first part of the year and cash balances have not reduced as much as anticipated.	

8.9 General Fund Balance

In 2024/25 it is projected that there will be an overall net contribution from the General Fund Balance of £1,520,880. The minimum requirement for the General Fund working balance which was approved by Council in February 2024 at £3.020 million.

Movement	2024/25
Opening Balance, as at 01/04/24	£5,882,563

Net	(£1,520,880)
Projected Balance at Year End	£4,361,683

8.10 Supplementary Budgets

It is proposed that the supplementary budgets and budget transfers identified in Appendix 3 are approved and added to the 2024/25 budget. The supplementary budget requests will have no impact on the projected General Fund working balance.

It is proposed to transfer funds from the earmarked reserve set up to originally fund IFRS9 to the Governance reserve in order to fund the £100k supplementary budget requested in response to the LGR/Devolution Invitation

8.11 Outstanding Sundry Debt

An aged debt analysis of the Council's sundry debts is shown in the table below:

Age of Debt	March 2023	March 2024	Dec 2024
Up to 29 days (current)	£1,436,904	£1,411,457	£1,276,723
30 days – 1 Year	£1,697,735	£2,738,947	£1,081,391
1 – 2 years	£1,645,793	£299,265	£1,078,346
2 – 3 years	£199,426	£273,541	£220,035
3 – 4 years	£539,002	£78,227	£160,414
4 – 5 years	£254,721	£290,834	£78,636
5 + years	£1,186,130	£340,009	£563,459
Total	£6,959,711	£5,432,280	£4,459,004

In November 2023 aged debt totalling £1.7m in respect of overpaid Housing Benefits was transferred from the ASH Sundry Debtors system to the IMAN system, a new system specifically to manage the recovery of overpaid Housing Benefits. The aged debt analysis in the above table therefore reflects outstanding sundry debtors.

8.12 Debt Write-Offs

The following amounts have been written-off during 2024/25:

	2023/24 Total	2024/25 (Qtr 3)
• Council Tax	£236,172	£228,125
• Business Rates *	£38,096	£0
• Sundry Debt	£2,238	£0
• Housing Rents	£93,187	£46,390
• Non-HRA Rents	£63,376	£32,938
• HB Overpayments	£191,856	£29,155

* Business Rate write offs dealt with annually

8.13 Creditor Payments Performance

Creditors' payments continue to be monitored in spite of the withdrawal of statutory performance indicator BVPI8. The percentage paid within 30 days was 95.69% for the first nine months of 2024/25 compared with 95.37% after the first nine months of 2023/24.

9. One Exeter Update

As Members will be aware, One Exeter is the Council's transformation programme and is a critical priority for the council.

A progress report was presented to Executive in February 2024. The report provided an annual summary of progress against the One Exeter Programme and set out a series of proposed outcomes for the following 12 months. Alongside this, work has started to identify cost reduction proposals for 2025/26.

Appendix 5 sets out how the Council is performing against the 2024/25 cost reductions. At the end of Quarter 3, it is forecast that £216k of the £1.402m will not be achieved, of which £157k relates to planning fee income and £80k relates to delays in achieving reductions in B&B accommodation costs. Both planning fee income and costs of the Housing Needs and Homelessness Service will therefore be subject to close monitoring by officers as areas of budgetary risk.

The Council's medium term financial plan anticipates reserves being reduced to the minimum required by the end of 2024/25 and further budget reductions of £3.5m are required in 2025/26. The proposed budget for 2025/26 is due to be presented to Council on 25 February for approval.

Since the last update, work continues on reviewing the council's Corporate Plan to ensure that it is focussed on outcomes. An organisational Performance Dashboard is currently being developed to clearly show how the council is performing against the measures set out in the updated Corporate Plan. This work is due for completion by April 2025.

Work continues on the delivery of the Digital Customer Strategy with the introduction and launch of the My Account platform. This will provide a single digital front door for customers to contact the council and track their requests. A Rapid Impact Team has been created to look at the Parks and Open Spaces and Waste Management services to determine the potential to reduce the current cost base through service improvement and digitalisation.

A residents' survey has recently been completed and the results will be used to inform the budget setting process for 2025/26.

A peer review was conducted to assess the council's work on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and make recommendations for improvement. The review identified that there was clear commitment to EDI from the Chief Executive and political leadership and that there were pockets of good practice that could be replicated across the organisation. The review recommended that further work was undertaken to embed EDI across the council, communicate positive EDI initiatives and increase collaboration with community groups to inform service delivery.

An EDI Taskforce has been created under the Lead Strategic Director for People and Communities and a detailed action plan has been developed.

A series of All Staff meetings are due to be held in February to bring teams together, introduce the new Extended Leadership team and set out the focus and priorities for

the year ahead. The Chief Executive also meets with new starters on a quarterly basis to welcome them to the council, talk about the priorities and what support is available in terms of wellbeing and personal development.

10. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

This is a statement of the projected financial position to the end of the 2024/25.

11. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

The risks relate to overspending the Council budget and are mitigated by regular reporting to the Strategic Management Board and Members. Members have a legal responsibility to take action where balances are projected to reach an unsustainable level and the Strategic Management Board are working to address the current projected shortfall in reserves.

Areas of budgetary risk are highlighted in this report. The key areas of budgetary risks are attached as Appendix 4, for reference.

12. Equality Act 2010 (The Act)

11.1 Under the Act's Public Sector Equalities Duty, decision makers are required to consider the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct;
- advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs; and
- foster good relations between people by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

11.2 In order to comply with the general duty authorities must assess the impact on equality of decisions, policies and practices. These duties do not prevent the authority from reducing services where necessary, but they offer a way of developing proposals that consider the impacts on all members of the community.

11.3 In making decisions the authority must take into account the potential impact of that decision in relation to age, disability, race/ethnicity (includes Gypsies and Travellers), sex and gender, gender identity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, pregnant women and new and breastfeeding mothers, marriage and civil partnership status in coming to a decision.

11.4 In recommending this proposal no potential impact has been identified on people with protected characteristics as determined by the Act because there are no significant equality and diversity impacts associated with this decision.

13. Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

There are no direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations.

14. Are there any other options?

Not applicable.

Strategic Director of Corporate Resources & s151 Officer, Dave Hodgson

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Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:
None

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