

BUDGET & SPENDING REPORT - SELECT COMMITTEE MONITORING

Committee name	Residents' Services Select Committee
Corporate Director(s) responsible	Dan Kennedy, Corporate Director – Homes & Communities Karrie Whelan, Corporate Director – Place
Papers with report	N/A
Ward	All

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Committee agrees the proposed approach to financial monitoring at this Select Committee as set out in this report.

HEADLINES

2. This monitoring report will provide an overview of financial performance relevant to the Select Committee. The proposed structure and approach to this report is detailed in the Supporting Information section below. Corporate Directors, supported by their Finance Business Partners, will attend the meeting to provide further details and clarifications.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3. APPROACH

4. The establishment of this select committee is part of our commitment to transparency and ensuring rigorous scrutiny of the council's finances.
5. Table 1 below provides a detailed breakdown of the Residents' Committee's budget by portfolio and service area. It includes adjustments made to the 2024/25 budget for inflation, corporate adjustments, growth and savings.
6. Table 2 provides a detailed breakdown of the 2025/26 savings by portfolio, and Table 3 provides a detailed breakdown of the 2025/26 growth by portfolio.
7. Tables 4, 5 and 6 provide a breakdown of the HRA budget for 2025/26.
8. In the next select committee meeting on 12th June and in future meetings, we will report on the 2025/26 budget as shown Table 1. These reports will cover:
 - How much has been spent during the year to date against the profiled budget.
 - The Area's delivery against the savings that are expected of it and any forecast variance.
 - Where there are variances against the budget as a whole and what is being done to mitigate any adverse variances.

9. OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION

10. Future reports will deal with the issues as set out in section 8 above.

11. SAVINGS

12. It is essential that the select committee increases the ability for the council to deliver its services within budget. The report will provide an update on the £9.949m savings to be achieved by the end of 2025/26.
13. Table 2 also outlines the cross-cutting savings proposals that are being jointly led by corporate directors. These include initiatives such as the Target Operating Model, Procurement Savings, and the Review of Employee Terms and Conditions.

14. RISKS & MITIGATIONS

15. The report will identify key risks, along with the actions being taken to mitigate these risks.

Table 1: 2025/26 Budget Position

Portfolio	Service	24/25 Budget	Inflation	Corporate Adjs	Growth	Savings	Budget Transfers	25/26 Budget
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Community & Environment	R32 Head of Direct Care Provision (HSC)	43	7	0	0	-3	0	47
Community & Environment	R74 Director Environment and Leisure (Residents)	28,620	763	0	1,643	-3,019	0	28,007
Community & Environment	R76 Head of Transport & Town Centres Projects	536	12	0	230	-234	0	544
Community & Environment	R78 Corporate Director Place	361	-57	0	0	0	0	304
Community & Environment	R82 Community Safety and Enforcement	-3,147	318	0	335	-2,321	0	-4,815
Community & Environment	R83 Community Services	3,927	174	0	0	-168	0	3,933
Community & Environment	R9A A Health & Safety and Emergency	143	4	0	0	-1	0	146
Community & Environment Total		30,483	1,221	0	2,208	-5,746	0	28,166
Planning, Housing & Growth	R81 Housing	7,036	91	0	5,021	-3,634	0	8,514
Planning, Housing & Growth	R82 Community Safety and Enforcement	21	13	0	0	-4	0	30
Planning, Housing & Growth	R9B B Director Planning, Regeneration and Environment	1,641	168	0	0	-565	0	1,244
Planning, Housing & Growth Total		8,698	272	0	5,021	-4,203	0	9,788
Residents' Total		39,181	1,493	0	7,229	-9,949	0	37,954

Table 2: 2025/26 Savings Proposals

Portfolio	Savings Proposal	2025/26 (£'000)
Community & Environment	Charging for Green Waste (subject to consultation)	-2,500
Community & Environment	Christmas Lighting sponsorship model	-230
Community & Environment	Fees & Charges Uplifts	-705
Community & Environment	Review Green Flag Award Scheme	-43
Community & Environment	Hillingdon in Bloom and the Autumn Show.	-17
Community & Environment	Increase MVF by 1%	-195
Community & Environment	Review Seasonal Hanging Basket Displays	-92
Community & Environment	Review of Burial Fees	-200
Community & Environment	Review of Crematoria & Cemetery Charges	-300
Community & Environment	Beck Theatre Parking	-50
Community & Environment	Review Hillingdon Voluntary Centre Grants	-30
Community & Environment	Increase in Car Park Revenue from increased demand	-50
Community & Environment	Review Library Stock Budget	-30
Community & Environment	Meeting Room Hire Revenue in Libraries	-40
Community & Environment	Review Out of Hours Noise Nuisance Service	-220
Community & Environment	Review & Charge Parking penalty level banding	-600
Community & Environment	Pay and Display Machine Cash Collection	-66
Community & Environment	Review Domestic Support Contracts	-79
Community & Environment	Platinum Jubilee Leisure Centre Management Fee	-80
Community & Environment	Increase in Parking Enforcement Charges	-140
Community & Environment	Review of Stronger Communities Service	-79
Community & Environment Total		-5,746
Planning, Housing & Growth	Increase MVF by 1%	-109
Planning, Housing & Growth	Environmental Specialists Staffing Costs Realignment	-66
Planning, Housing & Growth	Residents' service Vacant Post review	-39
Planning, Housing & Growth	Building Control Fee Uplift	-16
Planning, Housing & Growth	Discretionary Planning Fees Uplift	-13
Planning, Housing & Growth	Fast Track Planning Service	-60
Planning, Housing & Growth	Statutory Planning Fee Increase - Householders	-300
Planning, Housing & Growth	Increase Leased temporary accommodation	-1,600
Planning, Housing & Growth	Temporary Accommodation - re-negotiate to reduce rates with all B&B / private sector providers	-500
Planning, Housing & Growth	Temporary Accommodation Commissioning – Review Zero / Low Subsidy Accommodation	-1,500
Planning, Housing & Growth Total		-4,203
Residents' Total – excluding cross-cutting		-9,949
Cross-Cutting	Target Operating Model	-5,000
Cross-Cutting	Procurement Saving	-600
Cross-Cutting	Employee Terms and Conditions Review	-100
Cross-Cutting Total		-5,700
Residents' Total - including cross-cutting		-15,649

Table 3: 2025/26 Growth

Portfolio	Growth	2025/26 (£'000)
Community & Environment	Christmas Lighting Growth	230
Community & Environment	Waste Disposal Levy & Contracts	1,643
Community & Environment	Imported Food Office	335
Community & Environment Total		2,208
Planning, Housing & Growth	Homelessness Prevention	5,021
Planning, Housing & Growth Total		5,021
Residents' Total		7,229

Table 4: 2025/26 Budget Position – HRA

Portfolio	Service	24/25 Budget	Inflation	Corporate Adjs	Growth	Savings	Budget Transfers	25/26 Budget
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Housing Revenue Account	R61 HRA Operating Budgets	39,454	4,070	0	1,935	-1,000	0	44,459
	R62 Capital Programme Financing	41,309	0	-262	00		0	41,048
	R63 HRA Rental Income	-80,662	-4,743	0	00		0	-85,405
	R64 HRA Contribution to / from Balances	-101	0	0	00		0	-101
Housing Revenue Account total		0	-673	-262	1,935	-1,000	0	0

Table 5: 2025/26 Growth – HRA

Portfolio	Growth	2025/26 (£'000)
Housing Revenue Account	Gas Servicing backlog on additional stock	250
Housing Revenue Account	Extractor Fans/Ventilation Servicing - Due to change in legislation	250
Housing Revenue Account	Legal Disrepair in tackling increase in cases anticipated	175
Housing Revenue Account	Materials Purchases - price uplifts	150
Housing Revenue Account	Housing Management Restructure	110
Housing Revenue Account	Corporate Recharges related	1,000
Housing Revenue Account Total		1,935

Table 6: 2025/26 Savings - HRA

Portfolio	Savings Proposal	2025/26 (£'000)
Housing Revenue Account	Corporate Recharges related	(1,000)
Housing Revenue Account Total		(1,000)

PERFORMANCE DATA

N/A

RESIDENT BENEFIT

Regular monitoring of financial performance ensures that spending and savings targets are met, which supports the efficient delivery of services to residents. By closely tracking expenditure and identifying variances, the council can take timely corrective actions to address overspending and mitigate risks. This also enhances public transparency and accountability, providing residents with confidence that their Council is managing finances prudently and prioritising their needs. Overall, regular monitoring supports safeguarding the Council's finances and the delivery of quality services to residents.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This is primarily a finance report and the implications are set out in the main body of the report above.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications arising from regular monitoring of the council's finances by select committees.

Democratic Services advise that effective overview and scrutiny arrangements require access to the information under the committee's purview and, in accordance with the 2024 Statutory Scrutiny Guidance, such information includes finance and risk information from the Council, and its partners where relevant.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

APPENDICES

NIL