

**BUDGET AND  
PERFORMANCE PANEL**

**6.00 P.M.**

**1ST FEBRUARY 2023**

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Ross Hunter (Vice-Chair in the Chair), Victoria Boyd-Power, Keith Budden (substitute for Councillor Joan Jackson), Tim Dant, Roger Dennison, Colin Hartley and Sally Maddocks

Cabinet Members in attendance:

Councillors Dave Brookes, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Tricia Heath, Caroline Jackson, Sandra Thornberry and Anne Whitehead

Also in attendance: Councillor June Greenwell

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Joan Jackson (Chair) and Margaret Pattison

Officers in attendance:

Mark Davies	Chief Executive
Paul Thompson	Chief Financial Officer (Head of Finance & Section 151 Officer)
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer

**26 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> September and 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were signed by the Chair as correct records.

**27 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR**

There were no items of urgent business.

**28 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

**29 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE**

Councillor Anne Whitehead, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance and Resources, presented the City Council's Budget and Policy Framework Proposals 2023/24.

The presentation contained details regarding:

- Revenue Budget (£M) 2022-23
- Core Income (£M) 2010/11-2025/26.

- General Fund Revenue Budget Projections (Sep 2022) (if no action is taken).
- Council's Core Plan 2030 – Strategic Priorities and Outcomes.
- Outcomes-Based Resourcing (OBR) Approach/OBR Principles/Results of Outcomes Based Resourcing Survey.
- Savings and Budget Proposals £K.
- Senior Leadership Team Restructure.
- Back-Office Support Functions.
- Assets and Hospitality.
- Fees and Charges.
- Visitor Services.
- Arts, Culture, Heritage and Events.
- Business Support.
- Lancaster City Council component of Council Tax 2022/23 to 2025/26/Annual Council Tax Bill for Band D (predicted).
- General Fund Revenue Budget (Jan 2023) (£M).
- Future Strategy/What We Are Doing.

Councillor Whitehead then responded to questions from members and also members of the public. Other Cabinet Members and City Council's officers also assisted with responses to queries.

Issues raised by the Panel were Cost savings and processes involved, The Platform, VICs, the OBR process, SALC, posts being frozen, staff pay and inflation, risk assessments and the future use of Council buildings.

The Vice-Chair thanked Councillor Whitehead for her thorough and comprehensive presentation.

It was moved by Councillor Budden and seconded by Councillor Hartley:-

"That Cabinet be asked to revisit the Platform issue contained within the budget proposals."

Upon being put to the vote the Vice-Chair declared the proposition to be carried.

***Resolved:***

That Cabinet be asked to revisit the Platform issue contained within the budget proposals.

**30 DELIVERING OUR PRIORITIES Q2 2022/23**

The Panel received a report from the Chief Executive and Chief Finance/Section 151 Officer that provided members with an update on performance, projects, and resources during the first two quarters of 2022/23 (April – September 2022).

The report considered by Cabinet on 6 December 2022 was submitted. This provided Members with a view of progress against the Council's agreed priorities for Quarter 2 of the 2022/23 performance monitoring cycle.

The Panel was asked to consider the Cabinet report and attachments in line with their Terms of Reference within the Constitution relating to the monitoring and review of the Council's performance.

Members asked a number of questions in relation to write-offs, Council Tax business rates, grants, Housing Benefit overpayments and the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation/energy costs.

It was moved by Councillor Maddocks and seconded by Councillor Dennison:-

"That a vote of thanks be conveyed to the Financial Team and the Cabinet for being so open and having a wonderful process and to the Head of Pay Service for introducing the issue of peoples redundancies in a very sensitive manner."

Upon being put to the vote the Vice-Chair declared the proposition to be carried.

Members of the Panel also thanked the Vice-Chair for Chairing the meeting in the absence of the Chair.

***Resolved:***

That a vote of thanks be conveyed to the Financial Team and the Cabinet for being so open and having a wonderful process and to the Head of Pay Service for introducing the issue of peoples redundancies in a very sensitive manner.

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Chair

(The meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
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