

Resources Scrutiny Commission

30 January 2024 (budget scrutiny – part 1)



**Questions submitted in advance of the meeting by
Resources Scrutiny Commission members**



List of advance questions submitted by Resources Scrutiny Chair and members ahead of Resources Scrutiny budget sessions on 30 January and 1 February:

General:

1. Consultation: My ward (Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze) had the highest response to the consultation, 90 respondents, just over 5%. Is this satisfactory?
2. At what point will the budgets be represented by policy committee, i.e. aligned with the new policy committees that will take effect from May?

Growth and Regeneration:

1. **Waste:** How much loss is it anticipated Bristol Waste will make in 2024/25? Will this be covered by anticipated reserves?
2. **Housing Revenue Account:** Is the anticipated surplus this year the figure after the Barton House additional spend is included?
3. **Transport:** Under the G&R budget, there is reference to the scooter money as an income. I thought that income belonged to WECA, not to Bristol. Can you clarify please?
4. **Clean Air Zone:**
 - a. The Cabinet report indicates a £26m income generation. Can we see a balance sheet for the CAZ?
 - b. How much cash has been received, how much is outstanding debt and how has bad debt provision been made against that?
 - c. There is nowhere that summarises how this money will be spent. I have picked up £10.3m for transport levy, £2.3m for road repairs and £350k for local transport schemes. How much else of the CAZ is allocated within the budget? Is the balance carried forward as a reserve or as a creditor? Where will it be held on the balance sheet and how much is that balance estimated to be at 31st March 2024? How much was held at 31st March 2023 and where was it held in the balance sheet?
 - d. How much income will be brought into account for the period from inception to 31st March 2024 and how is that split between financial years?
5. **Parking:** Can we have clarity on the projected budget for managing parking and where the surplus would be spent, based on modelling the outcomes of the proposed permit charges and what these might yield in future years?

6. Parks and Green Spaces: Can we have clarity on budget [income and expenditure; capital and revenue] for parks and green spaces, crems and cems, and allotments service – disaggregated for each service and based on modelled outcomes for proposed new charges and fees [e.g. proposals for new fees and charges for the allotments service].

Children and Education:

The supplementary estimate shows further deterioration from £11m at the end of October to aim at the middle of January. Does this all relate to DSG and the special needs block? Does it represent providing for the shortfall because of the pending statutory overdraft or is it something else?