

Decision Recording Form

Decisions determined at the Strategy and Resources
Policy Committee meeting on 18 November 2024



Committee members present:

Councillor Tony Dyer, Chair
Councillor Caroline Gooch, Vice-Chair
Councillor John Goulandris
Councillor Ellie King
Councillor Heather Mack
Councillor Abdul Malik
Councillor Tom Renhard, Leader of the Labour Group
Councillor Tim Rippington
Councillor Jenny Bartle (substitute for Councillor Ani Stafford-Townsend)

Apologies: Councillor Ani Stafford-Townsend

Deadline for Escalation Panel referral – 5pm Monday 25 November 2024

(a)	Subject:	Household Support Fund 6 (October 2024 to March 2025) (agenda item 7)
(b)	Ward:	Citywide
(c)	Declarations of interest:	None



(d)	<p>Decision taken</p> <p>The Committee RESOLVED (unanimously):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the Household Support Fund Policy October 2024 - March 2025 and change of budget to reflect the funding as outlined in the report. 2. To authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee, to take all steps required to accept and spend (including procuring and awarding contracts over £500k) the remaining £3 million of the extended allocation of the DWP Household Support Fund as outlined in Household Support Fund Policy October 2024 – March 2025, and up to the maximum budget envelope outlined in this report. 3. To note the finance urgent key decision taken in September 2024 to spend £1,021,500 of the Household Support Fund in respect of Free School Meals food vouchers over the October and Christmas school holidays.
(e)	<p>Exempt Information?</p> <p>Open</p>
(f)	<p>Decision made in exempt session?</p> <p>No</p>
(g)	<p>Additional information at the meeting/documents taken into account:</p> <p>None</p>
(h)	<p>Reason for decision:</p> <p>As set out in the report.</p>



Deadline for Escalation Panel referral – 5pm, Monday 25 November 2024

(a)	Subject:	Period 6 Finance outturn report 2024/25 (agenda item 8)
(b)	Ward:	Citywide
(c)	Declarations of interest: None	



(d) Decision taken

The Committee RESOLVED:

To note:

1. The council's General Fund forecast outturn revenue overspend of £18.9 million at P6 2024/25 against the council approved budget of £533.7 million.
2. The performance on delivery of savings (Appendix A1, Section 3, Tables 3a and 3b).
3. The additional weighted net risk of £5.6 million per the risks and opportunities register (Appendix A1, Section 4, Tables 4a and 4b)
4. The council's outturn position of £14.2 million overspend within the Housing Revenue Account to be transferred to the HRA general reserve at the year end (Appendix A1a, Section 5.3).
5. The council's outturn position of a £31.6 million overspend (net £15.0m) in the Dedicated Schools Grant and that this brings the carry forward deficit to £90.2 million. Following the application of the DfE's 24/25 Safety Valve combined with contribution from the General Fund a total £52.1 million is forecast to be carried forward at the year end in the DSG deficit reserve (Appendix A1, Section 5.4).
6. The breakeven position on Public Health services (Appendix A1, Section 5.5).
7. The breakeven position on the Bristol Harbour Fund. (Appendix A1, Section 5.6).
8. The council's forecast underspend of £34.2 million against the Capital Programme revised budget 2024/25, comprised of £15.5 million underspend on the General Fund (including £8.1 million underspend on corporate contingency and adjustments) and £18.7 million underspend on the HRA. (Appendix A1, Section 6).
9. That SCIL budget allocation of £5.0 million will be utilised to support the Investment in the 'New Cut' harbour wall works to repair and strengthen the River Avon New Cut retaining walls. (Appendix A1, Section 6.4).
10. The urgent key decision by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair of Strategy and Resources Committee to approve spend of £1,021,500 to assist 22,700 free school meals food vouchers for the October and Christmas 2024 school holidays. (Appendix A3).

To approve (6 members voting in favour and 3 against):

- Revisions to the revised Capital Budget to incorporate the reprofiling of up to £18.7 million HRA budget into future years following the £18.7 million forecast underspend at P6.



(e)	Exempt Information? Open
(f)	Decision made in exempt session? No
(g)	Additional information at the meeting/documents taken into account: None
(h)	Reason for decision: As set out in the report.



Deadline for Escalation Panel referral – not applicable

(a)	Subject:	Estate rationalisation - surplus asset disposals (agenda item 9)
(b)	Ward:	Citywide
(c)	Declarations of interest: None	
(d)	Decision taken Note: The Committee agreed to defer this report.	
(e)	Exempt Information? Part exempt 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	
(f)	Decision made in exempt session? No decision taken – the report was deferred.	
(g)	Additional information at the meeting/documents taken into account: None	
(h)	Reason for decision: No decision taken – the report was deferred.	



Deadline for Escalation Panel referral – 5pm Monday 25 November 2024

(a)	Subject:	Confidential report (agenda item 11)
(b)	Ward:	Citywide
(c)	Declarations of interest: None	
(d)	Decision taken Note: The Committee agreed that under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for this item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act. The Committee took a decision on this matter in exempt session.	
(e)	Exempt Information? Fully exempt 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	
(f)	Decision made in exempt session? Yes	
(g)	Additional information at the meeting/documents taken into account: None	
(h)	Reason for decision: As set out in the report.	





