

# Budget Scrutiny Meeting

## 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022



<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>Scrutiny Review of Budget Consultation</b>
<b>Ward:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Director:</b>	<b>Director of Finance (s151 Officer): Denise Murray</b>

### **Recommendations:**

That Members note the consultation on budget savings proposals and provide comments and feedback.

### **Purpose of the report:**

To present the budget consultation document and invite comments and feedback.

### **The significant issues in the report are:**

The Medium Term Financial Plan for Bristol outlines a cumulative peak funding gap of £37.5 million to £87.6 million during the 2023/24 – 2027/28 period.

This reflects the information available at the time of preparation. There continues to be significant external uncertainty around the economic environment that could impact the assumptions made, including inflationary levels being at the highest level in decades, increasing demand on services and consistent reductions and changes to local government funding. The options available to balance budgets are therefore increasingly difficult.

The requirement to bridge-the-gap to ensure that the Council sets a balanced budget has led to savings proposal options amounting to £45.7 million over the next five years being presented in the consultation.

The budget consultation was launched on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022, providing details of these savings proposals, and is annexed below.

Consultation Link: [Budget consultation 2023/24 \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk/Budget%20consultation%202023%2F24)

