

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cabinet Executive Response to Scrutiny Recommendations on the Administrations 2024-25 Draft Budget Proposals

Date submitted to Cabinet Executive: 26th February 2024

Cabinet Member responsible for compliance with notice of requirement: Cllr Maggie Wright

	Recommendation	Agreed YES/N O/IN PART	Cabinet Response including proposed action	Responsible Officer	Action by date
R1	Scrutiny would be supportive of a 2.99% increase given the current financial uncertainty that local authorities face.	Yes	Cabinet welcome the support of Scrutiny to increase Council Tax by 2.99%.	Executive Director (S151)	March 2024
R2	Scrutiny would welcome an update in 6 months on the levels of demand for Council Tax Support and Discretionary Housing Payments provided or any other similar support scheme.	Yes	Cabinet welcomes the interest shown by Scrutiny of the support that is given to Blaby residents.	Finance Group Manager	October 2024
R3	Scrutiny asks that Cabinet considers whether it is appropriate to hold a vacancy savings provision which is based on unfilled positions.	No	Cabinet considers the holding of a vacancy provision to be the most appropriate manner in which to reflect a budget which is not overstated. To be clear, the provision is not a target figure	N/A	N/A

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			for the Council to achieve and vacancies will be filled in the normal manner.		
R4	That Cabinet Executive continues to retain its investments and supports diversification in the Council's investments.	Yes	It is Cabinet's intention to retain the investment in the property fund, however this will be dependent upon the continuation of the Lothbury Property Fund. An update will be provided within the Quarterly Treasury Reporting to Council. Cabinet will continue to consider investment opportunities as part of the Council's Commercial Strategy.	Executive Director (S151) & Finance Group Manager	In line with Qtrly report
R5	That Scrutiny be notified should a partner withdraw from the Lightbulb service.	Yes	Cabinet welcomes the interest in the Lightbulb service and will notify Scrutiny if a partner should withdraw.	Group Manager Environmental Health, Housing and Communities	When applicable
R6	Scrutiny requests that the financial impact on Blaby be provided, if one or more partners withdraw their funding from the Lightbulb Partnership.	Yes	Cabinet welcomes the interest in the Lightbulb service and will provide information relating to the financial impact should one or more partners withdraw.	Group Manager Environmental Health, Housing and Communities	When applicable

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R7	That a breakdown of Blaby's contribution to Lightbulb, compared to other partner authorities be provided.	Yes	Information relating to the contributions made by Blaby and partner authorities will be provided.	Group Manager Environmental Health, Housing and Communities	TBC
R8	That the new offer in terms of sport and physical activity be provided to Scrutiny, highlighting what changes have been made.	Yes	Cabinet welcomes Scrutiny's interest in the changes that may become necessary with reduced funding for the provision of sport and physical activity.	Group Manager of Assets and Major Projects	TBC
R9	In order to mitigate some of the costs associated with HVO, Scrutiny recommends that the Cabinet Executive explores increased storage capacity of HVO at the depot.	No	The Council's fuel capacity is already considerable and Cabinet does not feel it appropriate to retain levels above the current levels.	N/A	N/A
R10	Scrutiny recommends that should demand on the service increase further, resource be increased in the Housing Team to support vulnerable residents.	Yes	Demand on services provided to vulnerable residents are monitored by officers in order that Cabinet can consider increasing resource should it be required. Note: the Housing Team also deal with residents that may not be defined under the term vulnerable.	N/A	N/A