

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cabinet Executive Response to Scrutiny Recommendations on the Administrations 2025-26 Draft Budget Proposals

Date submitted to Cabinet Executive: 24th February 2025

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 welcomes the support of Scrutiny to increase Council Tax by 2.99%.	Executive Director (S151)	March 2025
R2	Scrutiny would welcome the opportunity to be consulted on any detailed local government reorganisation proposals as they emerge, including any requirement to increase resource to support the new Council.	Yes	A request for additional resources to support the Local Government Reorganisation is on the forward plan for Cabinet in May 2025. If there is any requirement to increase capacity further as we progress through the transition arrangements, this will be taken to Cabinet at the relevant time. Scrutiny will have the opportunity to engage in that process.	Executive Director (S151)	N/A

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R3	That Scrutiny be consulted on any amendments to the prioritisation of key projects resulting from local government reorganisation and the Corporate Plan and associated Action Plan.	Yes	Delivery of the Blaby Plan continues supported by this years Corporate Action plan. Should there be any changes during the year, Council will be made aware.	Chief Executive	N/A
R4	That Cabinet Executive uses iPlan as a platform to communicate the latest amendments to the Corporate Action Plan and reprioritisation of key projects arising as a result of local government reorganisation.	Yes	Iplan is used as a platform for all projects. Programme board regularly review key priority projects and will continue to do so. Members also have access to view Iplan.	N/A	N/A
R5	Scrutiny would welcome an update on external funding shortfalls as early as possible.	Yes	External funding is only included in the budget where confirmation of the funding has been received. Should there be any significant changes in external funding during the year these will be detailed within the Quarterly Budget Review Report.	Financial Services Group Manager	In line with Quarterly report.
R6	That Cabinet considers looking at investing in suitable, affordable properties outside of the District to continue to support the housing team and vulnerable residents.	Yes	Government advises wherever possible residents who are homeless should be housed within the District they are presenting at. Whilst this is not always possible for temporary provision, efforts are made to locate within the district as	Environmental Health, Housing and Community Services Group Manager	N/A

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			soon as possible. We do however house outside the District if required.		
R7	That Scrutiny be notified should demand on the service increase resulting in the Housing Team requiring additional resource.	Yes	The demand on the Housing team is being closely monitored and reported via the IPlan system on a monthly basis. Any additional concerns relating to increasing case numbers and adequate resourcing will be raised in order that Cabinet can consider increasing resource should it be required.	Environmental Health, Housing and Community Services Group Manager	N/A
R8	In order to address the shortfall in fees, that Cabinet considers solutions to diversify the use of car parks, including offering season tickets and permits.	Yes	The new order from the start of the year has already been expanded to include the ability to issue Permits within the car parks. Additional options for diversifying the car park use are also being considered.	Environmental Health, Housing and Community Services Group Manager	N/A

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R9	That Cabinet reconsiders its aim of breaking even and set a realistic target that it could achieve.	No	The current car parking strategy that was approved by Full Council set the aim of trying to achieve break even on the cost of running the car parks within the District. Following a review of how the internal recharges are charged to car parks, the target is expected to be achieved. Updates on the Car Parking break-even position will be provided in the Quarterly budget review reports to Cabinet throughout the year.	Environmental Health, Housing and Community Services Group Manager	In line with Quarterly report.
R10	As Power BI is established across services, Scrutiny is keen to understand its impact and where it has improved decision- making and requests that further reports be provided, clearly evidencing expected efficiencies/savings and improvements to service delivery.	Yes	A foundation for Business Information reporting using Power Bi has been established by the Performance and Information Team. Further work is planned to fully embed Power Bi and evaluate the impact. A report will be delivered to Scrutiny at the appropriate time.	Corporate Services Group Manager and ICT and Transformation Group Manager	TBC

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R11	That consistent updates, including sufficient commentary are made to iPlan.	Yes	This is an ongoing action for Service Managers and Group Managers. Enhancements planned to Iplan during the year will increase consistency of reporting.	Corporate Services Group Manager and ICT and Transformation Group Manager	N/A