



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Held: THURSDAY, 30 JANUARY 2020 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Kitterick (Chair)

Councillor Aldred
Councillor Chamund
Councillor March

In Attendance:

Councillor Clarke, Deputy City Mayor - Environment and Transportation
Councillor Dempster, Assistant City Mayor - Health

* * * * *

54. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fonseca (Vice Chair), Dr Sangster and Westley, and from Micheal Smith (Healthwatch).

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

63. GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21 TO 2021/22

The Director of Finance submitted the draft report due to be considered by Council on 19 February 2020, which outlined the City Mayor's proposed budget for 2020/2021.

It was clarified that the proposed budget was for one year, as significant changes that were expected to local government finance, including the Fair Funding Review and delayed decisions concerning the extent of future Business Rates retention remained unclear.

It was noted that revised funding of the Public Health Grant had been cited within the review of business rates, but that decision had not been made by Government.

In response to questions the Director of Public Health confirmed that no significant changes had been included in the budget, although some pressures existed in terms of the delivery of some services. In this regard it was clarified that the provision of pre-exposure treatment to prevent HIV transmission will be a responsibility of the Council's Public Health service from 1 April 2020, but details of the likely funding stream had not been identified to date. It was confirmed that the necessary funding of the service would need to be met by the Council and would not be part of wider NHS budgets. It was currently unclear whether there would be any earmarked funding from NHS England or the Department of Health to support the Council and it was confirmed that the service would not be inexpensive and would likely have an adverse effect on the budgets of city authorities such as Leicester.

In terms of other pressures, the adverse effect on the budget of NHS salary increases to meet inflation was explained and recognised, where the Council acted as an employer through commissioning. It was noted that the Council was responsible for the uplift in payments with no support from government.

In conclusion, the Spending Review Programme was discussed and the Assistant City Mayor (Health) confirmed that items would be submitted to and discussed by scrutiny. It was noted that there were no expected items during the period of the proposed budget that involved any significant impacts on existing services.

AGREED:

1. That the report and proposed budget to Council be noted.
2. That updates concerning the impact of the Pre-exposure to HIV service and its funding be submitted to a future meeting of the Commission at the appropriate time.
3. That any other significant impacts on services as a result of the Spending Review Programme be submitted to a future meeting of the Commission at the appropriate time.