

APPENDIX 3 – POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEES FEEDBACK

The Minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meetings held in January and February 2023 to consider the options presented to Policy and Resources Committee in January 2023, the feedback from the Budget Workshops held in Summer and Autumn 2022, and where applicable, the service specific consultation responses.

The Budget Workshop Outcomes are detailed in exempt Appendix 10.

24 January 2023	Children and Young People Education Committee	Budget Workshop Outcomes
2 February 2023	Children and Young People Education Committee Workshop	Outcome of the Public Consultation for Youth Services
26 January 2023	Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee	Budget Workshop Outcomes
30 January 2023	Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Workshop Outcomes • Outcome of the Public Consultation for Street Cleaning • Outcome of the Public Consultation for Park
31 January 2023	Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee	Budget Workshop Outcomes
2 February 2023	Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Workshop Outcomes • Outcome of the Public Consultation for Leisure Services • Outcome of the Public Consultation for Library Services

MINUTE EXTRACT

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 24 January 2023

57 BUDGET WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

The Director of Children, Families and Education introduced the report which enabled the Committee to consider feedback and outcomes from the Budget Workshops which had been held in recent months to facilitate discussion on the proposed budget options. The report also provided an update on the 2023/24 budget setting process with details on the most recent budget options, which were developed in response to the previously outlined budget position.

Members acknowledged the level of public support for play schemes and thanked those residents who had spoken at the beginning of the meeting. The Committee debated the Council's overall budgetary position and the level of funding required to operate the schemes. The Chair outlined concerns around discrepancies between users and the Council for the running costs of the schemes and their attendance levels.

On a motion by Councillor Kathy Hodson, seconded by Councillor Vida Wilson, it was –

Resolved (unanimously) – That

- (1) The Committee would oppose any attempts to close these play centres until adequate evidence on which to base a decision on the level of quality and provision has been provided.**
- (2) The Committee be invited to meet with the play schemes to learn more about their work, the issues they have faced, their relationship with the department and their communities.**
- (3) the Budget Workshop feedback and outcomes, as detailed appendices 2 and 3, be reported to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.**
- (4) the latest budget information provided to Policy and Resources Committee in January 2023 be noted.**

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE YOUTH SERVICES BUDGET CONSULTATION WORKSHOP OUTCOME

2 February 2023

This Budget Workshop was arranged to enable comments on the Budget 2023-24 Youth Services Budget Options Consultation Outcomes report to be fed to P&R, as the consultation had not concluded in time for consideration at Committee. The proposals look to find savings through reducing the current Youth Provision service offer.

The public consultation was held on the Youth Service Budget Options from 19 December 2022 to 22 January 2023 and allowed people to provide their view on the three questions proposed. Key themes emerging from the free text section of the questionnaire were that cuts to youth services would disproportionately affect the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children, reducing provisions in youth services would remove safe spaces for children, putting them at risk and cuts are a false economy which would cost more in the long run. Respondents highlighted that the cuts would lead to increases in costs associated with declining mental health and increased crime and anti-social behaviour.

Respondents strongly disagreed with question 1 that if Pilgrim Street was closed the service could be delivered by outreach or a “pop-up offer”. Further information on the broad range of services provided at Pilgrim Street will be provided by Officers and a visit for Members will be offered where they can speak to the Youth Service Leads. Officers confirmed that Pilgrim Street is open to all children and young people, not just looked after children.

Respondents strongly disagreed with question 2 that the Council could consider reducing the budget used to support out of hours and weekend play schemes and explore the opportunities to work with voluntary and charity groups to provide alternative forms of activities and location. Members requested further information on the potential impact on playscheme staffing numbers and the associated financial and cost implications and officers agreed to provide this.

Respondents also strongly disagreed with question 3 that the Council could consider more mobile and outreach services.

It was noted by Members that the savings proposals would need to be made equitably across different services and wards.

Members queried whether there was any flexibility in the budget savings as it was felt that some of the services offered by Children’s and Adults services are more crucial to save than some of the other Council services.

MINUTE EXTRACT

ECONOMY REGENERATION AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Thursday 26 January 2023

57 BUDGET WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

The Director of Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee introduced the report which enabled the Committee to consider feedback and outcomes from the Budget Workshops which had been held in recent months to facilitate discussion on the proposed budget options. The report also provided an update on the 2023/24 budget setting process with details on the most recent budget options, which were developed in response to the previously outlined budget position.

Members queried the Merseytravel Levy and asked if any representation was being made by the Council to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) regarding reduced train services. Officers assured Members that the budget setting process or the Merseytravel Levy was undertaken by the LCRCA and that representation was made by all 5 constituent Local Authorities.

Resolved – That

- (1) the Budget Workshop feedback and outcomes, as detailed appendices 2 and 3, be reported to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.**
- (2) the latest budget information provided to Policy and Resources Committee in January 2023 be noted.**

MINUTE EXTRACT

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Monday, 30 January 2023

59 BUDGET SETTING 2023/24

The Director of Neighbourhood Services introduced the report which allowed the Committee to consider feedback and outcomes from the Budget Workshops which had been held in recent months. The workshops enabled officer and member liaison on proposed budget options, to facilitate discussion and allow direction to be obtained on further analysis required. The Budget Workshops also provided an opportunity for alternative proposals to be considered.

Engagement with local residents and businesses had been undertaken as part of the budget setting process. The outcome of this consultation for Street Cleaning and Parks was included at Appendix 4 and 5 and would be presented to Policy and Resources Committee on 15 February 2023, alongside the outcomes of the other service-specific consultations.

Members acknowledged that the budget workshops were an opportunity to speak freely and work beyond political boundaries. The Chair noted that although no options had been rejected or agreed in these workshops, detailed comments were made which would be shared with Policy and Resources Committee.

Resolved – That

- (1) the Budget Workshop feedback and outcomes, as detailed in Appendices 2 & 3, be reported to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.**
- (2) the latest budget information provided to Policy and Resources Committee in January be noted.**
- (3) the outcome of the public consultation for Street Cleaning and Parks as detailed in Appendix 4 & 5 to the report be noted.**

MINUTE EXTRACT

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

31 January 2023

78 BUDGET SETTING 2023-24

The Director of Care and Health introduced the report which summarised the outcomes of the recent budget workshops between Members and senior officers. The report also provided an update on the 2023/2024 budget setting process, including details of recently developed budget options.

Members requested an update on the Public Health grant as soon as it was readily available.

Resolved – That

- (1) The Budget Workshop feedback and outcomes, as detailed in Appendices 2 & 3, be agreed and reported to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.**
- (2) The latest budget information provided to Policy and Resources Committee in January be noted.**

MINUTE EXTRACT

TOURISM COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Thursday, 2 February 2023

60 BUDGET SETTING 2023/24

The Director of Neighbourhood Services introduced the report which enabled the Committee to consider feedback and outcomes from the Budget Workshops which had been held in recent months. The workshops enabled officer and member liaison on proposed budget options, to facilitate discussion and allow direction to be obtained on further analysis required. The Budget Workshops also provided an opportunity for alternative proposals to be considered.

Engagement with local residents and businesses had been undertaken as part of the budget setting process. The outcome of this consultation for Leisure and Library Services was included at Appendices 4 and 5 and would be presented to Policy and Resources Committee on 15 February 2023, alongside the outcomes of the other service-specific consultations.

The Chair thanked officers for their hard work in delivering the workshops and budget options and expressed that some options had been difficult to consider but acknowledged that officers had to bring a range of proposals to Members.

Resolved – That

- (1) the Budget Workshop feedback and outcomes, as detailed in Appendices 2 & 3, be reported to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.**
- (2) the latest budget information provided to Policy and Resources Committee in January be noted.**
- (3) the outcome of the public consultation for Leisure and Library Services as detailed in Appendices 4 & 5 to the report be noted.**