

County Council

Labour Group, Liberal Democrat Group, and Green Group Budget Amendments

Date: Tuesday 7 February 2023

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Shire Hall

Items on the agenda: -

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 6. 2023/24 Budget and 2023-28 Medium Term Financial Strategy | 3 - 40 |
|---|---------------|

Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Warwick

This page is intentionally left blank

This document represents an alternative 2023/24 Revenue Budget Proposal. The detail shows the differences compared to the Conservative proposals to aid effective debate.

2023/24 Revenue Budget Resolution

Labour Recommendations to County Council

The County Council is recommended to plan its budget framework for 2023/24 on the following basis:

Section 1: Financial Direction of Travel

Delete paragraph 1.1 and replace as follows:

- 1.1 Years of government cuts and the removal of grant funding from local government has seen service cuts that have led to poorer outcomes for the most disadvantaged in our county. We believe that significant change must happen to ensure that the needs of communities are met and that whilst this budget position is made in line with the restrictions placed by central government it needs to be commented on that local authorities have lost a significant amount of money through these cuts. Cuts to budgets mean that there are cuts to services and we believe that cuts to services, such as universal access to youth services, sure start, community meals that have already been decided mean that the most vulnerable are not being enabled to thrive and live their best lives.

Delete the first bullet point in paragraph 1.5 and replace as follows:

- Warwickshire is a county where all people can live their best lives; acknowledging that diverse communities will have diverse needs; all communities and individuals are supported to live safely, healthily, happily and independently with the right support;

Add the following as paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 and renumber the follows paragraphs accordingly:

- 1.6 We believe that our communities will face unprecedented challenges in the forthcoming year; in terms of inflationary pressures on their own homes and do not believe it right to remove services from some of the most vulnerable communities. With this in mind we will maintain, and not reduce, the Council's investment in housing

related support. We will invest additional funds to ensure the community meals service can be maintained; we believe that this is not only the right thing to do for our elderly vulnerable residents but also that it will reduce cost pressures in social care moving forward.

- 1.7 We believe that the best services are offered by our staff working for us. We believe that the proposed transfer of the heritage and culture services into a trust will impact on the service given after transfer and potentially on the terms and conditions of those staff in the longer term.

Add the following bullet points to the current paragraph 1.7:

- 1.7 To ensure the finances of the Council are robust and sustainable we will:
- Invest £1.4 million to support the first 1001 days of a child's life – investing in a child's outcomes from the start means that many will have far better life outcomes. We would see investment in each of the five district areas to provide more support for struggling families with both parenting support and mental health support in early years. We would continue to support targeted social, emotional and mental health work in Nuneaton, Bedworth and Atherstone and those areas of highest deprivation;
 - Invest £0.1 million to investigate better ways to support those older people who need short term care to be able to exit hospital or remain in their own homes, this would ease the system pressure on the NHS and social care;
 - Invest an additional £0.3 million which, along with the current resource, would maintain a community meals service in Warwickshire and stop additional pressures on the social care system.

Delete the following bullet point from the current paragraph 1.7:

- Invest £0.3 million in support for apprenticeships and reskilling across the county, with an emphasis on reskilling for the changing economy and consistent with the countywide levelling up approach, with proposals to be brought back to Cabinet for approval in April 2023;

Delete paragraph 1.14 and 1.15 and replace as follows:

- 1.14 We will deliver £15.0 million of budget reductions in 2023/24, increasing to £65.4 million by 2028, through better procurement, improvements in efficiency, increased income and delivering reductions in demand. We all use the services the County Council provides and will ensure they deliver value for money for the taxpayers of Warwickshire.

- 1.15 We acknowledge the need for an increase in local council tax. In the absence of other funding options, we will use the opportunity provided by the Government to levy additional council tax (up to a maximum of 2.99% core council tax plus up to 2% adult social care levy, overall 2% more than previously permitted), to provide resources to fund rising costs and demand for our services. We will take 1.64% of this additional flexibility in 2023/24. In total, this means **a 4.64% council tax increase for 2023/24**, a 1.65% increase from the adult social care levy and a 2.99% core council tax increase for all services, but 0.36% below the maximum increase permitted by Government. This is equivalent to an increase of £1.42p per week for a Band D dwelling.

Section 2: Adult Social Care

Add the following to paragraph 2.4:

In making provision for additional investment we will evaluate ways to ease the pressure on the system by examining the feasibility of providing short-term care, including in-house provision, to facilitate rapid discharges from hospital.

Section 4: Revenue Allocations

Replace paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3 and replace as follows:

- 4.1 To reflect the significant pressures on communities and the increasing demand for services we are responsible for, whilst ensuring we continue to develop so we can deliver the public services expected for the future, we are making allocations totalling £68.315 million.
- 4.2 We will provide £32.489 million for the estimated cost of pay and price inflation in 2023/24, allocated between Services as shown in **Appendix A**. In making this allocation it is acknowledged that the allocation to Services for inflation is an approximate cost, recognising that costs will increase at different rates. Once the overall allocation has been agreed, a Service will have the opportunity to allocate the funding provided to reflect where inflation will impact at a local level.
- 4.3 In addition to meeting the estimated cost of inflation we will also provide £35.826 million to meet additional spending need, of which £12.322 million is time-limited. Details of the allocations and how we expect the funding to be used are also detailed in **Appendix A as amended by Annex A** for permanent allocations and **Appendix B as amended by Annex B** for time-limited allocations.

Section 5: Funding Sources

Replace paragraph 5.4 as follows:

- 5.4 Our plan for budget reductions will generate savings of £14.995 million in 2023/24 and a further £50.399 million over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Approval is given to the plans for the delivery of these savings detailed in **Appendix D as amended by Annex D**. If during 2023/24 any of the budget reductions do not materialise to the degree shown, the Assistant Director in conjunction with their Strategic Director and Portfolio Holder should identify alternative proposals to ensure the required levels of reduced spend are delivered and report this as part of quarterly monitoring.

Replace paragraphs 5.8 and 5.9 as follows:

- 5.8. We will use £21.359 million of reserves in 2023/24 to fund time-limited costs and budget allocations and to accommodate the differences in timing between spending need and the delivery of savings and/or growth in the business and council tax taxbases.
- 5.9. **The council tax will increase by 4.64% in 2023/24.** With the other funding resources identified, this will fund the proposals contained within this resolution.

Section 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy

Replace paragraph 6.7 as follows:

- 6.7. We recognise our MTFS means significant challenges for the organisation, including the changing way in which people want to access services. Our proposals recognise that this will take time and investment and a broad engagement with all those affected, both inside and outside the organisation. Our MTFS requires the use of £31.080 million of reserves, including £21.359 million in 2023/24, to fund time-limited costs and budget allocations and to accommodate the differences in timing between spending need and the delivery of savings and/or growth in the business and council tax taxbases. The availability of this level of reserves is consistent with our Reserves Strategy, attached at Appendix C.
- 6.10. A summary of our MTFS, demonstrating how we plan to balance our spending needs and resources over the medium term is shown in **Appendix E**.

Section 7: Strategic Director for Resources Statement

Replace the first paragraph of Risk 10 as follows:

Risk 10 – Impact on the Medium Term Financial Strategy

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) outlines the significant additional financial challenge to the authority in future years. The indicative future spending allocations and planned reductions deliver a balanced MTFS over the period of the Council Plan with a 2.99% increase in council tax plus 1.65% of the available adult social care levy in 2023/24 and a 1.99% annual increase in the council tax in future years plus the additional 1% adult social care levy in 2024/25. Without this level of increase in council tax, or if future spending needs exceeds the indicative levels, further budget reductions will need to be identified and delivered to ensure the budget remains sustainable. The £0.600 million reduction in the provision for future pressures in 2023/24 increases the short- and medium-term risk that, given the current challenging external environment, additional savings will be required early in the MTFS period. The commitment of Members to meet the financial challenges ahead and take the decisions needed to ensure the finances of the authority remain robust into the future is welcomed.

Section 8: Summary of Service Estimates

Delete Section 8 and replace as follows:

- 8.1. Approval be given to the individual service net revenue estimates shown below, which will be finalised for the service estimates to be presented to Cabinet in April 2023 of:

	Base Budget £	Additional Investment £	Funding Sources £	Total £
Environment Services	49,359,191	12,256,000	(1,119,000)	60,496,191
Fire and Rescue Service	22,031,435	1,016,000	(50,000)	22,997,435
Strategic Commissioning - Communities	23,419,058	1,614,000	(1,294,000)	23,739,058
Children and Families	78,997,700	6,781,000	(2,914,000)	82,864,700
Education Services	122,581,784	1,486,000	(209,000)	123,858,784
Strategic Commissioning – People	35,486,051	1,059,000	(338,000)	36,207,051
Social Care and Support	185,966,131	26,198,000	(6,269,000)	205,895,131
Business and Customer Services	19,046,382	1,769,000	(496,000)	20,319,382
Commissioning Support Unit	5,486,800	366,000	(234,000)	5,618,800
Enabling Services	23,818,163	1,408,000	(666,000)	24,560,163
Finance	5,683,072	448,000	(121,000)	6,010,072
Governance and Policy	3,175,913	53,000	(325,000)	2,903,913
Other Services – spending	43,187,293	13,861,000	(960,000)	56,088,293
Other Services - schools and funding	(115,289,971)	0	(174,428,000)	(289,717,971)
	502,949,002	68,315,000	(189,423,000)	381,841,002
<u>Contributions to/(from) reserves:</u>				
- Service Reserves	(178,000)	5,000,000	0	4,822,000
- General Reserves	0	0	(21,359,399)	(21,359,399)
Budget Requirement	502,771,002	73,315,000	(210,782,399)	365,303,603

Section 9: Council Tax Requirement

Delete Section 9 and replace as follows:

- 9.1 Approval is given to a council tax requirement and a Band D Council Tax for the County Council for the year ending 31 March 2024 as follows:

	£
Budget Requirement	365,303,603.35
Less Council Tax Surplus on Collection	(221,305.84)
Council Tax Requirement for the year ended 31 March 2024	365,082,297.51
Divided by aggregate Council Tax Base for the County Area	219,304.21
Basic Amount of Council Tax (Band D)	1,664.73

Section 10: Council Tax

Delete Section 10 and replace as follows:

- 10.1 The council tax for 2023/24 is increasing by 3.49%. Therefore, approval is given to Council Tax amounts for each category of property as follows:

	£
Band A	1,109.8200
Band B	1,294.7900
Band C	1,479.7600
Band D	1,664.7300
Band E	2,034.6700
Band F	2,404.6100
Band G	2,774.5500
Band H	3,329.4600

Section 11: Precepts

Delete Section 11 and replace as follows:

- 8.2. The Chief Executive is authorised to issue the 2023/24 precepts on the Warwickshire billing authorities, as follows:

	£
North Warwickshire Borough Council	36,269,189.51
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	65,298,867.78
Rugby Borough Council	67,312,774.89
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	100,197,118.83
Warwick District Council	96,004,346.50

All other sections/paragraphs remain unchanged.

Changes to the 2023-28 Permanent Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Strategic Commissioning for Communities					
Apprenticeships and reskilling - Removal of the allocation to invest in the expansion of apprenticeships and reskilling across the county.	(300)	0	0	0	0
Children and Families					
First 1,001 Day of a Child's Life - An allocation to provide support for struggling families with both parenting support and mental health support in early years.	1,405	0	0	0	0
Strategic Commissioning for People					
Community meals service - An allocation, which along with the removal of the saving, to provide for the continuation of the service.	300	0	0	0	0
Corporate Services					
Provision for future indicative spending pressures - A reduction in the provision for future unknown and unquantified spending need to mitigate future potential costs as part of ensuring the Council's services are sustainable over the medium term.	(600)	0	0	0	0
Annual Change in Permanent Allocations	805	0	0	0	0
Total Change in Permanent Allocations	805	805	805	805	805

Changes to the 2023-28 Time-limited Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Strategic Commissioning for Communities					
HS2 - Removal of the annual allocation to continue work to mitigate the impacts of HS2 on Warwickshire residents and communities.	(103)	(103)	(103)	0	0
Education Services					
SEND support provision - An allocation to undertake a project to co-produce options for providing a single point of reference for children needing SEND support and their carers.	100	0	0	0	0
Social Care and Support					
Short term care - A one-off allocation to look at options for supplying short term care to older people so they are able to exit hospital or remain in their own homes.	100	0	0	0	0
Business and Customer Support					
Food Strategy - An increase in the allocation to support the development and implementation of the Council's food strategy.	50	0	0	0	0
Total Change in Time-Limited Allocations	147	(103)	(103)	0	0

Changes to the 2023-28 Proposed Budget Reductions

Figures in brackets represent an increase in the budget reduction. Figures without brackets are a reduction on the savings required.

Purpose of the Reduction by Service	Reduction 2023-24 £'000	Indicative Additional Future Reduction			
		2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Children and Families					
Internal foster care - Reduce the cost of care/services by not applying inflation to internal foster care allowances and some commissioned services.	(100)	0	(100)	(100)	0
Strategic Commissioning for People					
Health, wellbeing and self-care - Reduce the saving from rationalising the public health offer.	163	73	50	335	0
Domestic Abuse and Substance Misuse Detox Framework - Remove the budget reduction from increasing partner contributions to multi agency risk assessment conference in line with the national approach.	50	0	0	0	0
Community meals service - Remove the saving from the provision of non-statutory community meals for residents.	0	160	0	0	0
Housing related support - Remove the saving from further decommissioning of the housing related support service offer.	0	0	1,000	0	0
Social Care and Support					
Reduce cost of support for children with disabilities - Reduce the saving from implementing the service change and transformation activities services supporting children with disabilities.	0	250	250	0	0
Business and Customer Services					
Library Service - Remove the saving from rebalancing the provision of library services, for example through increasing the use of drop off book boxes.	50	0	0	0	0
Heritage and Culture Charitable Trust - Remove the saving from redesigning heritage and culture services culminating in the transfer of the service to a charitable trust.	0	0	0	196	0
Total in-year change to budget reductions	163	483	1,200	431	0
Total cumulative change to budget reductions	163	646	1,846	2,277	2,277

Warwickshire County Council Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m
Resources					
• Government grant	(93.6)	(93.2)	(92.2)	(92.2)	(92.2)
• Business rates	(80.8)	(82.4)	(84.1)	(85.7)	(87.5)
• Council tax	(365.3)	(382.2)	(397.2)	(413.4)	(430.0)
Total resources	(539.7)	(557.8)	(573.5)	(591.3)	(609.7)
Spending					
• Base budget	502.8	502.8	502.8	502.8	502.8
• Inflation	32.5	48.5	61.2	74.2	87.5
• Demand/cost increases	23.5	37.0	53.4	70.1	84.7
• Time-limited investments	17.3	8.2	1.8	-	-
• Budget reductions	(15.0)	(30.8)	(45.5)	(58.9)	(65.4)
Total spending	561.1	565.7	573.7	588.2	609.6
Planned use of reserves	(21.4)	(7.9)	(1.8)	-	-
Remaining (surplus)/gap	0	0	(1.6)	(3.1)	(0.1)

This page is intentionally left blank

This document represents an alternative 2023/24 Revenue Budget Proposal. The detail shows the differences compared to the Conservative proposals to aid effective debate.

2023/24 Revenue Budget Proposal

Liberal Democrat Recommendations to County Council

The County Council is recommended to plan its budget framework for 2023/24 on the following basis:

Section 1: Financial Direction of Travel

Delete paragraphs 1.1 to 1.6 and replace as follows:

- 1.1 We would like to start by placing on record our gratitude to all the key workers, NHS and care staff, along with all Warwickshire County Council staff at every level, who have been involved in the continuing challenge of the past year. We are also grateful to all the community groups, volunteers and individuals who have continued to support our communities in the ongoing fight against service reductions and the rising cost of living.
- 1.2 2023 is set to be yet another 'year of the squeeze' as families face a changing economy which was brought on by the combined effects of instability at the helm of government and the invasion of Ukraine. This has added to the tightening of the economy and thus added to the increasing cost-of-living crisis that has not been seen in years.
- 1.3 The Government has once again chosen to use the Council Tax along with the Adult Social Care precept as a way of trying to shift responsibility. Achieving the Government's stated increase in Warwickshire's spending power is reliant on raising council tax. Any council tax rise during the current cost of living crisis is a difficult choice, but one that we will need to take to ensure we can maintain vital frontline services. The growing demands on our services – and in particular a growing older population – means that we have no real choice but to increase the council tax to protect the vulnerable.
- 1.4 As Warwickshire County Council refreshes its medium-term financial strategy (MTFS) and as we look forward, we need to support our residents through these difficult times. We are committed to a set of clear priorities that will be used for all decision making. Our priorities are to make Warwickshire:
 - **Fairer** – giving opportunities for all
 - **Caring** – for all our residents
 - **Greener** – accelerating the work needed

- 1.5 Our ambition is to build a resilient County that is growing in a sustainable way, caring for our residents and communities, reducing health inequalities, supporting young people and children, and enabling families to prosper.
- 1.6 It is widely recognised that Council Tax is an unfair tax. The Government has left us with no choice: we either reduce services further risking harm to vulnerable residents, or we increase Council tax. Savings are not a viable option because of the impact of Government policy over more than a decade, and with increasing inflation and energy costs, local government will once again be fighting to retain services. Where possible, we need to give service areas the space they need to continue with redesign and restructure.

Add the following bullet points to paragraph 1.7:

- 1.7 We will:
- Invest in the **Forestry team** to meet the increase in demand and provide resilience to support emerging climate change initiatives, such as tree planting schemes;
 - Invest in **Community transport** to support the introduction and development of school travel plans as part of activity to further strengthen the ECO schools pillar on transport across Warwickshire;
 - Grow the capacity to support delivery of the **Outdoor Education and Learning Strategy** to enable young people in Warwickshire to experience activities within the County;
 - Increase **community development activity** by supporting Councillors in their Divisions with the work of empowering local communities; and
 - Through our capital resolution amendment, increase the **highways delegated funding** to enable local councillors to do more in their communities.

Delete the following bullet point from paragraph 1.7:

- Invest £0.3 million in support for apprenticeships and reskilling across the county, with an emphasis on reskilling for the changing economy and consistent with the countywide levelling up approach, with proposals to be brought back to Cabinet for approval in April 2023;

Delete paragraph 1.11 and replace as follows, renumbering the following paragraphs accordingly:

- 1.11 Our Investment Funds contain over £10 million revenue funding which will be topped up during the five-year period as our finances allow. We will consolidate the present revenue investment funds into one single fund with two targeted funding streams which will allow for a more focused fund to enable:
- **A greener and more sustainable economy**, accelerating the work needed to make Warwickshire County Council a net zero carbon producer by 2030; and
 - **A Fairer, Caring Best Lives Fund** - business cases should prioritise mental health support in communities, investment in broadening community youth support work and in preventative public health work.

- 1.12 We also request that the Corporate Board brings forward proposals that aim to significantly increase the take-up of Free School Meals, including considering the option of automatic opt-in and how this can lawfully be done in a two-tier area.

Delete paragraph 1.14 and replace as follows:

- 1.14 We will deliver £14.7 million of budget reductions in 2023/24, increasing to £66.8 million by 2028, through better procurement, improvements in efficiency, increased income and delivering reductions in demand. We all use the services the County Council provides and will ensure they deliver value for money for the taxpayers of Warwickshire. We will not take forward any savings proposals that we believe will have a detrimental impact on our communities and vulnerable people cross Warwickshire. We will not:
- take the benefit of increased income from use of our Youth and Community Centres, instead reinvesting the income in the service offer and facilities; or
 - rely on increased partner contributions to support critical domestic abuse and substance misuse detox activity.

Section 4: Revenue Allocations

Replace paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3 and replace as follows:

- 4.1 To reflect the significant pressures on communities and the increasing demand for services we are responsible for, whilst ensuring we continue to develop so we can deliver the public services expected for the future, we are making allocations totalling £66.490 million.
- 4.2 We will provide £32.489 million for the estimated cost of pay and price inflation in 2023/24, allocated between Services as shown in **Appendix A**. In making this allocation it is acknowledged that the allocation to Services for inflation is an approximate cost, recognising that some costs will increase above the standard rate and some below. Once the overall allocation has been agreed, a Service will have the opportunity to allocate the funding provided to reflect where inflation will impact at a local level.
- 4.3 In addition to meeting the estimated cost of inflation we will also provide £34.001 million to meet additional spending need, of which £12.132 million is time limited. Details of the allocations and how we expect the funding to be used are also detailed in **Appendix A as amended by Annex A** for permanent allocations and **Appendix B as amended by Annex B** for time-limited allocations.

Section 5: Funding Sources

Replace paragraph 5.4 as follows:

- 5.4 Our plan for budget reductions will generate savings of £14.668 million in 2023/24 and a further £52.143 million over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Approval is given to the plans for the delivery of these savings detailed in **Appendix D as amended by Annex D**. If during 2023/24 any of the budget reductions do not materialise to the degree shown, the Assistant Director in conjunction with their Strategic Director and Portfolio Holder should identify alternative proposals to ensure the required levels of reduced spend are delivered and report this as part of quarterly monitoring.

Replace paragraph 5.8 as follows:

- 5.8 We will use £22.309 million of reserves in 2023/24 to fund time-limited costs and budget allocations and to accommodate the differences in timing between spending need and the delivery of savings and/or growth in the business and council tax taxbases.

Section 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy

Replace paragraph 6.7 as follows:

- 6.7 We recognise our MTFS means significant challenges for the organisation, including the changing way in which people want to access services. Our proposals recognise that this will take time and investment and a broad engagement with all those affected, both inside and outside the organisation. Our MTFS requires the use of £33.6 million of reserves, including £22.3 million in 2023/24, to fund time-limited costs and budget allocations and to accommodate the differences in timing between spending need and the delivery of savings and/or growth in the business and council tax taxbases. The availability of this level of reserves is consistent with our Reserves Strategy, attached at Appendix C.
- 6.10 A summary of our MTFS, demonstrating how we plan to balance our spending needs and resources over the medium term is shown in **Appendix E**.

Section 7: Strategic Director for Resources Statement

Replace the first paragraph of Risk 10 as follows:

Risk 10 – Impact on the Medium Term Financial Strategy

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) outlines the significant additional financial challenge to the authority in future years. The indicative future spending allocations and planned reductions deliver a balanced MTFS over the period of the Council Plan with a

2.94% increase in council tax plus 1% of the available adult social care levy in 2023/24 and a 1.99% annual increase in the council tax in future years plus the additional 1% adult social care levy in 2024/25. Without this level of increase in council tax, or if future spending needs exceeds the indicative levels, further budget reductions will need to be identified and delivered to ensure the budget remains sustainable. The £0.600 million reduction in the provision for future pressures in 2023/24 increases the short- and medium-term risk that, given the current challenging external environment, additional savings will be required early in the MTFs period. The commitment of Members to meet the financial challenges ahead and take the decisions needed to ensure the finances of the authority remain robust into the future is welcomed.

Section 8: Summary of Service Estimates

Delete Section 8 and replace as follows:

8.1 Approval be given to the individual service net revenue estimates shown below, which will be finalised for the service estimates to be presented to Cabinet in April 2023 of:

	Base Budget £	Additional Investment £	Funding Sources £	Total £
Environment Services	49,359,191	12,256,000	(1,119,000)	60,496,191
Fire and Rescue Service	22,031,435	1,016,000	(50,000)	22,997,435
Strategic Commissioning - Communities	23,419,058	1,754,000	(1,294,000)	23,879,058
Children and Families	78,997,700	5,376,000	(2,764,000)	81,609,700
Education Services	122,581,784	1,436,000	(189,000)	123,828,784
Strategic Commissioning – People	35,486,051	759,000	(501,000)	35,744,051
Social Care and Support	185,966,131	26,098,000	(5,919,000)	206,145,131
Business and Customer Services	19,046,382	1,689,000	(526,000)	20,209,382
Commissioning Support Unit	5,486,800	336,000	(234,000)	5,588,800
Enabling Services	23,818,163	1,408,000	(666,000)	24,560,163
Finance	5,683,072	448,000	(121,000)	6,010,072
Governance and Policy	3,175,913	53,000	(325,000)	2,903,913
Other Services – spending	43,187,293	13,861,000	(960,000)	56,088,293
Other Services - schools and funding	(115,289,971)	0	(174,428,000)	(289,717,971)
	502,949,002	66,490,000	(189,096,000)	380,343,002
<u>Contributions to/(from) reserves:</u>				
- Service Reserves	(178,000)	5,000,000	0	4,822,000
- General Reserves	0	0	(22,308,834)	(22,308,834)
Budget Requirement	502,771,002	71,490,000	(211,404,834)	362,856,168

All other sections/paragraphs remain unchanged.

Changes to the 2023-28 Permanent Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation 2023-24 £'000	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
		2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Environmental Services					
Forestry - An additional allocation to meet the increased demand for the service and to provide resilience to support emerging climate change initiatives, such as tree planting schemes.	0	90	0	0	0
Strategic Commissioning for Communities					
Community transport - An allocation to support the introduction and development of school travel plans as part of activity to further strengthen the ECO schools pillar on transport across Warwickshire.	100	100	0	0	0
Apprenticeships and reskilling - Removal of the allocation to invest in the expansion of apprenticeships and reskilling across the county.	(300)	0	0	0	0
Commissioning Support Unit					
Consultation and engagement - A reduction in the allocation to enhance the current consultation and engagement offer.	(30)	0	0	0	0
Corporate Services					
Provision for future indicative spending pressures - A reduction in the provision for future unknown and unquantified spending need to mitigate future potential costs as part of ensuring the Council's services are sustainable over the medium term.	(600)	0	0	0	0
Annual Change in Permanent Allocations	(830)	190	0	0	0
Total Change in Permanent Allocations	(830)	(640)	(640)	(640)	(640)

Changes to the 2023-28 Time-limited Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation 2023-24 £'000	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
		2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Strategic Commissioning for Communities					
HS2 - A reduction in the annual allocation to continue work to mitigate the impacts of HS2 on Warwickshire residents and communities.	(63)	(63)	(63)	0	0
Education Services					
Outdoor Education Capacity Building - An increase and extension of the allocation to build capacity to enable young people in Warwickshire to experience activities within the County.	50	50	50	0	0
Business and Customer Support					
Food Strategy - A rephasing of the allocation to support the development and implementation of the Council's food strategy.	(60)	60	0	0	0
Community development / Empowering Communities - An allocation in each of the next three years to provide additional capacity to support councillors, in their divisions, with the work of empowering local communities.	30	30	30	0	0
Total Change in Time-Limited Allocations	(43)	77	17	0	0

Changes to the 2023-28 Proposed Budget Reductions

Figures in brackets represent an increase in the budget reduction. Figures without brackets are a reduction on the savings required.

Purpose of the Reduction by Service	Reduction	Indicative Additional Future Reduction			
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Children and Families					
Youth and Community Centres - Remove the saving from the generation of income from third party use of centres, instead reinvesting any income generated into the service.	50	0	0	20	0
Education Services					
NEETs contract - Reduce the saving from more effective contracting of the service to support those not in employment, education or training, instead reinvesting any contracting savings in the service offer.	20	0	0	0	0
Strategic Commissioning for People					
Domestic Abuse and Substance Misuse Detox Framework - Remove the budget reduction from increasing partner contributions to multi agency risk assessment conference in line with the national approach.	50	0	0	0	0
Adult Social Care					
Housing with support for older people - Reduce the saving required from the further development the housing with support offer; instead reinvesting any saving in the further expansion of the service.	350	350	0	0	0
Business and Customer Services					
Community development - Remove the budget reduction as a result of delivering efficiencies in the delivery of the internal community development function.	20	0	0	0	0
Total in-year change to budget reductions	490	350	0	20	0
Total cumulative change to budget reductions	490	840	840	860	860

Warwickshire County Council Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m
Resources					
• Government grant	(93.6)	(93.2)	(92.2)	(92.2)	(92.2)
• Business rates	(80.8)	(82.4)	(84.1)	(85.8)	(87.4)
• Council tax	(362.9)	(379.7)	(394.5)	(410.4)	(427.1)
Total resources	(537.3)	(555.3)	(570.8)	(588.4)	(606.7)
Spending					
• Base budget	502.8	502.8	502.8	502.8	502.8
• Inflation	32.5	48.5	61.2	74.2	87.5
• Demand/cost increases	21.9	35.6	52.0	68.7	83.2
• Time-limited investments	17.1	8.4	2.0	-	-
• Budget reductions	(14.7)	(30.6)	(46.5)	(60.4)	(66.8)
Total spending	559.6	564.7	571.5	585.3	606.7
Planned use of reserves	(22.3)	(9.4)	(2.0)	-	-
Remaining (surplus)/gap	0	0	(1.3)	(3.1)	-

This proposal represents an alternative 2023/24 Capital Budget Proposal. The detail shows the differences compared to the Conservative proposals to aid effective debate.

2023/24 Capital Budget Proposal

Liberal Democrat Recommendations to County Council

1. Financial Direction of Travel

Add the following as paragraph 1.4 and renumber the following paragraphs as required:

- 1.4 The Capital Highways delegated member budget has not been increased for some years. To ensure the allocation reflects the impact of increased costs and provides for an inflationary uplift we will increase the annual to £45,000 per member.

2. 2023/24 Capital Programme

Delete paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 and replace as follows:

- 2.1 Approval is given to a capital programme of £848.566 million. Of this £316.945 million is planned for 2023/24 and £531.621 million for future years. There is £87.659 million in the Capital Investment Fund that will be allocated to specific schemes, in line with our priorities, as bids are created and considered over the five years of the 2022-27 Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 2.2 Table 1 shows the breakdown of the programme across services, with the full detail of the capital programme attached at **Appendix C as amended by Annex A**. The Strategic Director for Resources is authorised to update Appendices A and B of the 2023/24 Capital Budget resolution, as required, to reflect the content of this amendment.

Table 1: Capital Programme						
Service	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	Total £m
Best Lives	118.628	44.961	0.262	-	-	163.851
Thriving Economy and Places	51.468	59.210	25.261	5.806	-	141.744
Sustainable Futures *	3.229	0.451	-	-	-	3.680
Great Council and Partner	2.851	-	-	-	-	2.851
Maintenance Programme	43.253	34.724	34.752	35.228	35.228	183.185
Developer Funded Programme	32.217	14.090	0.050	-	-	46.357
Total Allocations	251.646	153.436	60.325	41.034	35.228	541.668
Capital Investment Fund	14.449	18.302	18.302	18.302	18.302	87.659
WRIF	20.600	20.000	20.000	26.500	-	87.100
WPDG	19.101	21.763	7.611	0.242	51.334	100.051
Investigation Design Fund	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800	4.000
Inflation Contingency Fund	4.429	5.739	-	-	-	10.168
Asset Replacement Fund	5.920	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	17.920
Total Programme	316.945	223.039	110.038	89.879	108.664	848.566

Note:

- * Our capital investment in Sustainable Futures extends beyond the focussed schemes summarised here. All schemes are required to specifically consider sustainability, climate change and environmental impact as part of the evaluation and due diligence process prior to approval.

All other paragraphs/sections remain unchanged.

Annex A to Appendix C

Changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme

Add/amend the proposals below to those listed in Appendix C:

	Scheme Title	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	Total £'000
Investment Programme							
Corporate Investment Funds							
Corporate	CIF Unallocated - Reduction in funding available as a result of other allocations made in this resolution.	(570)	(570)	(570)	(570)	(570)	(2,850)
	Total for Corporate Investment Funds	65,299	69,604	49,713	48,845	73,436	306,898
	Total Investment Programme	241,475	174,226	75,236	54,651	73,436	619,024
Maintenance Programme							
Environment Services	Area Delegated Schemes - An allocation to increase the annual allocation for area delegated schemes for Members.	570	570	570	570	570	2,850
	Total Maintenance Programme	43,254	34,724	34,752	35,228	35,228	183,186

This document represents an alternative 2023/24 Revenue Budget Proposal. The detail shows the differences compared to the Conservative proposals to aid effective debate.

2023/24 Revenue Budget Resolution

Green Party Recommendations to County Council

The County Council is recommended to plan its budget framework for 2023/24 on the following basis:

Section 1: Financial Direction of Travel

Delete paragraph 1.2 and replace as follows, renumbering the following paragraphs accordingly:

- 1.2 Central government, in London, has failed us in its basic duties to provide stability and responsibly plan for the future. In their absence local government must step up. The focus of our budget is investing in skills and lowering energy bills. Like the rest of the country, Warwickshire faces a severe skills shortage, and we must step up to address this, so that more of our residents have high quality, fulfilling jobs that contribute to society. Energy prices are a major driver of inflation which is eating into residents' quality of life. Investment in energy conservation and generation can lower bills permanently for residents and the Council.
- 1.3 We will sustainably tackle the major financial and demand challenges we face as we continue to be faced with demand for services rising much more quickly than our resources. We will respond to the demographic growth in adult social care, the increasing numbers of children and families needing support and delivering on the challenges of climate change and commitment to net zero carbon emissions by 2030 as an organisation and as a county by 2041. We will do this by resourcing the additional costs we face now whilst retaining sufficient capacity to invest to be more efficient and effective in the future. We will drive cost reductions through investment in digital, data and automation technologies, reducing demand through targeted prevention work, adopting more commercial approaches setting financial returns and payback periods for our investments and continuing to support investment that provides for a buoyant taxbase.

Add the following bullet points to paragraph 1.7:

- 1.7 To ensure the finances of the Council are robust and sustainable we will:
- Invest £4.5 million over three years to support **accommodation-based rehabilitation** from addiction;
 - Invest £1.3m in **training and education** to bring trades and businesses into the energy conservation and generation sectors;
 - Increase funding for successful **Youth projects**, by £0.6 million, to be awarded over three years;
 - Invest £0.6 million over three-years support to provide additional capacity to bring **walking and cycling capital investment schemes** forward for delivery;
 - Invest £0.3 million over three-years to further develop options for demand **responsive bus transport** and to model new long-term solutions;
 - Invest £0.3 million to support the development of a **gainshare energy conservation and generation programme** for schools and community buildings;
 - Increase investment to expand the **Fire Service Citizenship project** by £0.3 million over three-years.

Delete paragraph 1.14 and 1.15 and replace as follows:

- 1.14 We will deliver £15.6 million of budget reductions in 2023/24, increasing to £68.7 million by 2028, through better procurement, improvements in efficiency, increased income and delivering reductions in demand. We all use the services the County Council provides and will ensure they deliver value for money for the taxpayers of Warwickshire.
- 1.15 We acknowledge the need for an increase in local council tax. In the absence of other funding options, we will use the opportunity provided by the Government to levy additional council tax (up to a maximum of 2.99% core council tax plus up to 2% adult social care levy, overall 2% more than previously permitted), to provide resources to fund rising costs and demand for our services. We will take 0.45% of this additional flexibility in 2023/24. In total, this means a **3.49% council tax increase for 2023/24**, a 1% increase from the adult social care levy and a 2.49% core council tax increase for all services, but 1.5% below the maximum increase permitted by Government. This is equivalent to an increase of £1.07p per week for a Band D dwelling.

Section 4: Revenue Allocations

Replace paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3 and replace as follows:

- 4.1 To reflect the significant pressures on communities and the increasing demand for services we are responsible for, whilst ensuring we continue to develop so we can deliver the public services expected for the future, we are making allocations totalling £67.883 million.
- 4.2 We will provide £32.489 million for the estimated cost of pay and price inflation in 2023/24, allocated between Services as shown in **Appendix A**. In making this allocation it is acknowledged that the allocation to Services for inflation is an approximate cost, recognising that costs will increase at different rates. Once the overall allocation has been agreed, a Service will have the opportunity to allocate the funding provided to reflect where inflation will impact at a local level.
- 4.3 In addition to meeting the estimated cost of inflation we will also provide £35.394 million to meet additional spending need, of which £13.295 million is time-limited. Details of the allocations and how we expect the funding to be used are also detailed in **Appendix A as amended by Annex A** for permanent allocations and **Appendix B as amended by Annex B** for time-limited allocations.

Section 5: Funding Sources

Replace paragraph 5.4 as follows:

- 5.4 Our plan for budget reductions will generate savings of £15.600 million in 2023/24 and a further £53.098 million over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Approval is given to the plans for the delivery of these savings detailed in **Appendix D as amended by Annex D**. If during 2023/24 any of the budget reductions do not materialise to the degree shown, the Assistant Director in conjunction with their Strategic Director and Portfolio Holder should identify alternative proposals to ensure the required levels of reduced spend are delivered and report this as part of quarterly monitoring.

Replace paragraphs 5.8 and 5.9 as follows:

- 5.8. We will use £24.349 million of reserves in 2023/24 to fund time-limited costs and budget allocations and to accommodate the differences in timing between spending need and the delivery of savings and/or growth in the business and council tax taxbases.

- 5.9. **The council tax will increase by 3.49% in 2023/24.** With the other funding resources identified, this will fund the proposals contained within this resolution.

Section 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy

Replace paragraph 6.7 as follows:

- 6.7. We recognise our MTFS means significant challenges for the organisation, including the changing way in which people want to access services. Our proposals recognise that this will take time and investment and a broad engagement with all those affected, both inside and outside the organisation. Our MTFS requires the use of £42.685 million of reserves, including £24.349 million in 2023/24, to fund time-limited costs and budget allocations and to accommodate the differences in timing between spending need and the delivery of savings and/or growth in the business and council tax taxbases. The availability of this level of reserves is consistent with our Reserves Strategy, attached at Appendix C.
- 6.10. A summary of our MTFS, demonstrating how we plan to balance our spending needs and resources over the medium term is shown in **Appendix E**.

Section 7: Strategic Director for Resources Statement

Replace the first paragraph of Risk 10 as follows:

Risk 10 – Impact on the Medium Term Financial Strategy

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) outlines the significant additional financial challenge to the authority in future years. The indicative future spending allocations and planned reductions deliver a balanced MTFS over the period of the Council Plan with a 2.49% increase in council tax plus 1% of the available adult social care levy in 2023/24 and a 1.99% annual increase in the council tax in future years plus the additional 1% adult social care levy in 2024/25. Without this level of increase in council tax, or if future spending needs exceeds the indicative levels, further budget reductions will need to be identified and delivered to ensure the budget remains sustainable. The £0.600 million reduction in the provision for future pressures in 2023/24 and the use of £42.7 million of the available £44.1 million reserves available over the five years of the MTFS materially increases the short- and medium-term risk that, given the current challenging external environment, additional savings will be required early in the MTFS period. The commitment of Members to meet the financial challenges ahead and take the decisions needed to ensure the finances of the authority remain robust into the future is welcomed.

Section 8: Summary of Service Estimates

Delete Section 8 and replace as follows:

- 8.1. Approval be given to the individual service net revenue estimates shown below, which will be finalised for the service estimates to be presented to Cabinet in April 2023 of:

	Base Budget £	Additional Investment £	Funding Sources £	Total £
Environment Services	49,359,191	12,356,000	(1,324,000)	60,391,191
Fire and Rescue Service	22,031,435	1,116,000	(50,000)	23,097,435
Strategic Commissioning - Communities	23,419,058	2,637,000	(1,636,000)	24,420,058
Children and Families	78,997,700	5,576,000	(2,764,000)	81,809,700
Education Services	122,581,784	1,386,000	(174,000)	123,793,784
Strategic Commissioning – People	35,486,051	759,000	(551,000)	35,694,051
Social Care and Support	185,966,131	26,098,000	(6,269,000)	205,795,131
Business and Customer Services	19,046,382	1,719,000	(526,000)	20,239,382
Commissioning Support Unit	5,486,800	466,000	(234,000)	5,718,800
Enabling Services	23,818,163	1,408,000	(666,000)	24,560,163
Finance	5,683,072	448,000	(121,000)	6,010,072
Governance and Policy	3,175,913	53,000	(325,000)	2,903,913
Other Services – spending	43,187,293	13,861,000	(960,000)	56,088,293
Other Services - schools and funding	(115,289,971)	0	(174,428,000)	(289,717,971)
	502,949,002	67,883,000	(190,028,000)	380,804,002
<u>Contributions to/(from) reserves:</u>				
- Service Reserves	(178,000)	5,000,000	0	4,822,000
- General Reserves	0	0	(24,348,824)	(24,348,824)
Budget Requirement	502,771,002	72,883,000	(214,376,824)	361,277,178

Section 9: Council Tax Requirement

Delete Section 9 and replace as follows:

- 9.1 Approval is given to a council tax requirement and a Band D Council Tax for the County Council for the year ending 31 March 2024 as follows:

	£
Budget Requirement	361,277,178.06
Less Council Tax Surplus on Collection	(221,305.84)
Council Tax Requirement for the year ended 31 March 2024	361,055,872.22
Divided by aggregate Council Tax Base for the County Area	219,304.21
Basic Amount of Council Tax (Band D)	1,646.37

Section 10: Council Tax

Delete Section 10 and replace as follows:

- 10.1 The council tax for 2023/24 is increasing by 3.49%. Therefore, approval is given to Council Tax amounts for each category of property as follows:

	£
Band A	1,097.5800
Band B	1,280.5100
Band C	1,463.4400
Band D	1,646.3700
Band E	2,012.2300
Band F	2,378.0900
Band G	2,743.9500
Band H	3,292.7400

Section 11: Precepts

Delete Section 11 and replace as follows:

- 8.2. The Chief Executive is authorised to issue the 2023/24 precepts on the Warwickshire billing authorities, as follows:

	£
North Warwickshire Borough Council	35,869,183.31
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	64,578,698.61
Rugby Borough Council	66,570,394.72
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	99,092,063.30
Warwick District Council	94,945,532.29

All other sections/paragraphs remain unchanged.

Changes to the 2023-28 Permanent Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Corporate Services					
Provision for future indicative spending pressures - A reduction in the provision for future unknown and unquantified spending need to mitigate future potential costs as part of ensuring the Council's services are sustainable over the medium term.	(600)	0	0	0	0
Annual Change in Permanent Allocations	(600)	0	0	0	0
Total Change in Permanent Allocations	(600)	(600)	(600)	(600)	(600)

Changes to the 2023-28 Time-limited Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation 2023-24 £'000	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
		2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Environment Services					
Demand responsive transport - A three-year allocation to further develop options for demand responsive bus transport and to model new long term solutions.	100	100	100	-	-
Fire and Rescue					
Fire Service citizenship project - A three year allocation to expand the Fire service citizenship project.	100	100	100	-	-
Strategic Commissioning for Communities					
Energy conservation and generation skills training - A three year allocation to develop and undertake a skills project to bring trades and businesses into training and education in energy conservation and generation sectors.	420	420	420	-	-
Active travel transport development - A three year allocation to increase capacity to bring forward walking and cycling schemes for delivery	200	200	200	-	-
Children and Families					
Youth projects - A three-year allocation to provide additional funding for successful youth projects.	200	200	200	-	-
Strategic Commissioning for People					
Rehabilitation from addiction - A three year project to support accommodation based rehabilitation from addiction.	-	-	1,500	1,500	1,500

Changes to the 2023-28 Time-limited Investment Proposals

Figures in brackets represent a reduction in the budget allocation. Figures without brackets are an increased allocation.

Purpose of the Allocation by Service	Allocation 2023-24 £'000	Indicative Additional Future Allocation			
		2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Commissioning Support Unit					
Gainshare energy conservation and generation - A three-year allocation to support the development of a gainshare energy conservation and generation programme for schools and community buildings.	100	100	100	-	-
Total Annual Change in Time-Limited Allocations	1,120	1,120	2,620	1,500	1,500
Total Cumulative Change in Time-Limited Allocations					7,860

Changes to the 2023-28 Proposed Budget Reductions

Figures in brackets represent an increase in the budget reduction. Figures without brackets are a reduction on the savings required.

Purpose of the Reduction by Service	Reduction	Indicative Additional Future Reduction			
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Environment Services					
County highways reduced cyclical maintenance - Reductions in gulley cleaning, jetting and grass cutting.	(100)	-	-	-	-
Trading standards - Remove the need to deliver savings from the delivery of efficiencies in trading standards community safety provision. Instead any efficiencies are to be reinvested in the service.	45	-	-	-	-
Winter gritting reductions - Reductions in winter maintenance budgets based on removal of some gritting routes on minor roads. Reducing network coverage from 48% down to 35%.	(150)	-	-	-	-
Fire and Rescue					
Service review - Implementation of the proposals from a review of the Fire and Rescue Service with the objective of starting to bring the spend of the service down to nearer the mean cost of similar services.	-	-	(115)	(115)	(115)
Strategic Commissioner for Communities					
Parking Income - Increased income from Pay and Display charges and resident parking permits as well as additional third party procurement savings.	(342)	(80)	-	-	-
Children and Families					
Internal foster care - Reduce the cost of care/services by not applying inflation to internal foster care allowances and some commissioned services.	-	-	(100)	(100)	-
Youth and Community Centres - Remove the saving from the generation of income from third party use of centres, instead reinvesting any income generated into the service.	50	-	-	20	-

Changes to the 2023-28 Proposed Budget Reductions

Figures in brackets represent an increase in the budget reduction. Figures without brackets are a reduction on the savings required.

Purpose of the Reduction by Service	Reduction	Indicative Additional Future Reduction			
	2023-24 £'000	2024-25 £'000	2025-26 £'000	2026-27 £'000	2027-28 £'000
Education Services					
NEETs contract - Remove the saving from more effective contracting of the service to support those not in employment, education of training, instead reinvesting any contracting savings in the service offer.	35	10	10	-	-
Business and Customer Services					
Community development - Remove the budget reduction as a result of delivering efficiencies in the delivery of the internal community development function, instead any efficiencies are to be reinvested in the service.	20	-	-	-	-
Total in-year change to budget reductions	(442)	(70)	(205)	(195)	(115)
Total cumulative change to budget reductions	(442)	(512)	(717)	(912)	(1,027)

Warwickshire County Council Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m
Resources					
• Government grant	(93.6)	(93.2)	(92.2)	(92.2)	(92.2)
• Business rates	(80.8)	(82.4)	(84.1)	(85.7)	(87.5)
• Council tax	(361.3)	(378.0)	(392.8)	(408.8)	(425.2)
Total resources	(535.7)	(553.6)	(569.1)	(586.7)	(604.9)
Spending					
• Base budget	502.8	502.8	502.8	502.8	502.8
• Inflation	32.5	48.5	61.2	74.2	87.5
• Demand/cost increases	22.0	35.6	52	68.8	83.3
• Time-limited investments	18.3	9.5	4.5	1.5	1.5
• Budget reductions	(15.6)	(32.0)	(48.0)	(62.2)	(68.7)
Total spending	560.0	564.4	572.5	585.1	606.4
Planned use of reserves	(24.3)	(10.8)	(4.5)	(1.5)	(1.5)
Remaining (surplus)/gap	0	0	(1.1)	(3.1)	0

This proposal represents an alternative 2023/24 Capital Budget Proposal. The detail shows the differences compared to the Conservative proposals to aid effective debate.

2023/24 Capital Budget Proposal

Green Recommendations to County Council

1. Financial Direction of Travel

Reword and add the following priority investment proposals to the schemes listed in paragraph 1.11:

Sustainable Futures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy conservation and generation gainshare scheme for schools and community buildings.• Defending Warwickshire against flooding, including significant investment in nature-based solutions.• A sustainable transport network that supports a low carbon future and rural connectivity to places of work, improving air quality, active travel to deliver the positive benefits of outdoor activity, reducing congestion and enabling growth in housing. Schemes which are predominantly aimed at increasing safe and enjoyable walking and cycling journeys to work, school and leisure will be strongly prioritised.• Demand responsive transport.
---------------------	---

All other paragraphs/sections remain unchanged.

This page is intentionally left blank