



Social Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on: Thursday 19 January 2023 at 6.00 P.M.

Meeting to be held: Conference room 2, Walsall Council House

Public access to meeting via: www.WalsallCouncilWebcasts.com

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Waters (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Clarke
Councillor Martin
Councillor R.K. Mehmi
Councillor Rasab
Councillor Rattigan
Councillor Sears
Councillor Smith
Councillor Worrall
Vacancy x1

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

Health and Wellbeing Councillor G. Flint
Adult Social Care Councillor Pedley

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Contact: Jack Thompson ☎ 01922 654196 E-mail: jack.thompson@walsall.gov.uk

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AGENDA

1.	Apologies To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Committee.	
2.	Substitutions To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.	
3.	Declarations of interest and party whip To receive declarations of interest or the party whip from Members in respect of items on the agenda.	
4.	Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda (if applicable).	
5.	Minutes of the previous meeting To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting that took place on 27 October 2022.	<u>To follow</u>
<u>Scrutiny</u>		
6.	Primary Care Access To receive a report on in response to specific issues raised by the Chair in a letter dated the 13 December 2022 and from discussion at the Committee on 15 December 2022.	<u>Enclosed</u>
7.	Adult Social Care Reform – Walsall Adult Social Care CQC Assurance Readiness To receive a presentation on the Adult Social Care CQC assurance process being introduce in April 2023 and the underpinning in legislation.	<u>Enclosed</u>
8.	Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23 – 7 month position ended 31 October 2022. To receive an updated forecast financial position for 2022/23 based on the position to October 2022, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022.	<u>Enclosed</u>
9.	Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2023/24 – 2026/27 To receive the draft budget, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022. To also receive the draft revenue budget proposals and draft capital programmes relating to the Committee’s remit.	<u>Enclosed</u>
<u>Overview</u>		
10.	Recommendation Tracker To review progress with recommendations from previous meetings.	<u>Enclosed</u>

11.	Areas of Focus To review the Committee Work Programme and the Forward Plans for Walsall Council and the Black Country Executive Committee.	<u>Enclosed</u>
12.	Date of next meeting To note that the date of the next meeting will be 19 January 2023.	

The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

Access to information: Exempt information

Part 1

Descriptions of exempt information: England

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
 - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
 - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
 - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

19th January 2023

Primary Care Access

1. Purpose

This report is provided to the Social Care and Health Overview Scrutiny Committee in response to specific issues raised by the Chair in a letter dated 13th December 2022 and from the discussion at the meeting on 15th December 2022.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee note the additional GP capacity commissioned over winter 2022/23 in Walsall
- 2.2 That the Committee invite Modality to the February meeting to discuss potential changes to the Harden Practice
- 2.3 That the Committee note the contractual issues relating to Walsall APMS practices and consider any views that they would wish to communicate to the ICB in its decision making process

3. Issues raised by the Committee

3.1. What has been commissioned over winter 2022/23 in order to ensure that patients can access a GP?

- 3.1.1. On 1 October 2022, as part of the contractual requirements of Primary Care Networks (PCNs), a new service “enhanced access” was introduced. This service pulls together two previous schemes into one coherent approach to provide additional capacity for patients. For the first time the principle of “network standard hours” was introduced. This provides additional capacity outside of the Monday – Friday 8:00am - 18:30 hours provided by individual GP practices. PCN practices collaborate to ensure that additional appointments are available and that all patients will be able to access from 18:30 until 20:00hrs every day and from 9:00hrs – 17:00hrs on Saturdays.
- 3.1.2. In Walsall, Ournet, a local GP collaborative, is providing these additional appointments for five of the PCNs, with two other PCNs delivering for their own combined registered patients.
- 3.1.3. The service is commissioned on the basis of an additional 60 minutes worth of appointments per thousand patients registered. If we assume every GP appointment is 15 minutes, then this created approx. 30,000 additional appointments up to the end of March 2023.
- 3.1.4. As part of the preparation for winter, NHS England (NHSE) wrote to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) on 26 September 2022. The letter set out a

range of interventions to support primary care to continue to meet the challenging demands they are facing, that will be amplified over winter.

- 3.1.5. The letter set out that some of the standards that apply to PCNs will be relaxed and the associated payments can be used to create additional capacity in primary care. This has released £187,000 for Walsall. In addition, the ICB has provided some additional funds to increase the available resource to £404, 833. In totality, this has created an additional 9,000 appointments.
- 3.1.6. In light of the recent increase in Strep A related sickness, NHSE has released £196,000 to Walsall to create additional capacity to support speedy access for patients, specifically children with acute respiratory symptoms. Notification of this resource was received on 13/12/22.
- 3.1.7. Walsall had already created an urgent primary care paediatric service in response to the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and the additional funding has allowed us to extend this service to March 2023.
- 3.1.8. Despite this additional capacity service demand has been exceptionally high during December and January exacerbated by both flu and covid outbreaks. This has caused pressure on all elements of the NHS, both locally and nationally. To partially mitigate this, additional capacity has also been commissioned in the urgent care centre which provides GP appointments as an alternative to A&E. The urgent care centre has seen very high attendances throughout the Christmas and New Year period and this additional capacity has been extended to the end of January 2023.

3.2. Committee members have been engaged in discussions about potential changes to services in Harden, with reports of the surgery being closed permanently. Given the concerns of the local population can you outline what plans are being proposed and how scrutiny will be involved in what could be a significant service change.

- 3.2.1. The ICB has been in extensive dialogue with the Harden and Blakenall practice on this issue and has conveyed the concerns of the OSC and local Councillors on this issue. Having reflected on this discussion the practice are no longer considering permanent closure of the Harden site and would wish to discuss with the committee the options for future services to be provided on the Harden site.
- 3.2.2. If acceptable to the committee, Modality, the GP organisation holding the contract for this practice, would like to attend the February meeting of the committee with the ICB to share the options they are developing and seek OSC views on potential service models and public and patient consultation

3.3. Based on previous discussions at both Social Care and Health Scrutiny and Overview Scrutiny, the committee understands that some GP services are based on fixed length contracts. When are these contracts due to end and when will scrutiny have the opportunity to comment on any planned changes?

- 3.3.1. All GPs in Walsall are independent contractors. This means that they are not directly employed by the NHS. Practices can range from single handed practices where 1 GP owns and runs a single practice with a team they

employ, to large multi-practices, also known as super practices, where one organisation can run multiple sites either within a defined geography or nationally. Walsall has 52 GP practice sites, including 2 super practices Umbrella Group (a Walsall based group) and Modality (a national GP company with a Walsall sub-division)

- 3.3.2.** Every GP practice holds a contract with the NHS to deliver services. These contracts state the mandatory services a GP practice must provide to all of their patients, as well as making provision for services which they choose to provide.
- 3.3.3.** There are 2 types of GP contract in Walsall; The General Medical Services (GMS) contract and the Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contract. The Care Quality Commission assesses the quality of care under both contract types and provides an independent rating and assessment of practices.
- 3.3.4.** The GMS contract is the national standard contract, held by 46 of the Walsall practices. The contract is negotiated nationally between NHS England and the General Practice Committee of the British Medical Association (BMA). This contract is then used locally by the NHS to commission care. This contract is not time limited and continues until the practice wishes to relinquish, for example when a single handed practitioner retires, or the NHS determines that the quality of care being delivered does not meet the standard requires and takes enforcement action.
- 3.3.5.** The APMS contract allows contracts with private companies or third sector providers as well as GPs to provide primary care services. They can also be used to commission services outside the GMS contract in areas where there are particular needs, e.g. services to the homeless or asylum seekers. APMS contract are time limited, usually 5 years, and will usually contain an option to extend for a further 5 years. There are currently 6 APMS contracts in Walsall.

Practice Code	Practice Name	PCN	Contract GMS/PMS	Contract Term	Extension
M91032	Collingwood Family Practice, Collingwood Drive, Great Barr, B43 7NF (Modality Group)	East 2	APMS	01.09.2018 - 31.08.2023	Option to extend - 5 years 31.08 2028
M91613	Forrester Street Surgery, 1 Forrester Street, Walsall, WS2 9PL (Modality Group)	South 1	APMS	01.09.2018 - 31.08.2023	Option to extend - 5 years 31.08 2028
Y02626	Keys Family Practice, Willenhall Health Centre, Field Street, Willenhall, WV132NY (Modality Group)	West 2	APMS	01.09.2018 - 31.08.2023	Option to extend - 5 years 31.08 2028
Y02627	Harden Blakenall, Blakenall Village, 79 Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall, WS3 1LZ (Modality Group)	North	APMS	01.09.2018 - 31.08.2023	Option to extend - 5 years 31.08 2028
M91626	Holland Park, Parkview Centre, Chester Road North, Brownhills, WS8 7JB (Umbrella Group)	East 1	APMS	01.02.2009 - 31.01.2019	5 year extension enacted from 01.02.2019 to 31.01.2024
M91016	New Invention Health Centre, 66 Cannock Road, Willenhall, WV12 5RZ (Modality Group)	West 1	APMS	01.04.2016 - 31.03.2026	Option to extend - 5 years 31.03 2031

3.3.6. At the end of any APMS contract the ICB has 3 options:

- 3.3.6.1. Terminate the contract and disperse the patient list between neighbouring practices. To do this consideration needs to be given to the capacity of other GP lists in the area.
- 3.3.6.2. Re-tender the contract as an APMS contract to consider whether there are alternative providers. This may increase costs if the existing

or new providers tender at a higher price, and is also time consuming from a procurement perspective

3.3.6.3. Enact the extension period, where this has not already been done. A contract that has completed its 10 year period cannot be extended without re-procurement.

3.3.7. The decision on the options is made by the Primary Care Committee within the ICB. The committee is chaired by the Medical Director and supported by the Director of Primary Care. They will consider contract performance on a range of access and quality indicators including any specific to the APMS contract, patient complaints, CQC ratings and any local intelligence available for consideration as well as ensuring that any extended contract continues to meet the needs of the registered population.

3.3.8. Under the national APMS contract the ICB is required to indicate no less than 9 months prior to contract end date which of the 3 options it is minded to pursue (2 options if contract has already been extended). Each party then has an option to terminate the contract no less than 6 months prior to the end of the contract if they do not wish to proceed as indicated.

3.3.9. Therefore, in the current year for Walsall there are 4 Modality contracts which required a decision and an Umbrella contract which requires a decision by the end of July 2023. The Primary Care Committee have decided that they are minded to extend the 4 Modality contracts due to expire in August 2023 until August 2028. A decision on Holland Park will be made in the next few months.

3.3.10. The ICB would welcome views from the OSC, or local Councillors affected by the changes, and will incorporate these views into their process. This view can be conveyed in writing from the committee or members, or a meeting can be arranged with the Primary Care Commissioning Committee. The views held by local Councillors were considered by the Committee in making a decision on the Modality extension.

4. Conclusion

The current winter period has been extremely challenging for both the NHS and partners, including Walsall Council. Significant extra capacity has been commissioned, both prior to winter and during the run up to Christmas as demand increased. All available workforce has been utilised and partnership working has reduced the impact of flu and covid in Walsall on service access compared to other areas but has remained a significant concern.

The Harden practice wishes to work with the Committee to agree a service model for the local population and will present options to the Committee, if this is acceptable

The contractual status of GP practices has been outlined in the paper, and the ICB would wish to work with the OSC to ensure that its views are fully considered as part of any future contractual discussions.

Author

Geraint Griffiths-Dale, Managing Director – Walsall; Black Country ICB

19th January 2023

Walsall Adult Social Care CQC Assurance Readiness

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr Keir Pedley, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

Report:

- 1.1 The aim of this report is to promote understanding of the Adult Social Care CQC assurance process being introduced in April 2023.
- 1.2 The aim is to evidence our growing self-awareness, strengths and areas for development to support adult social care CQC readiness.
- 1.3 The purpose of the presentation is:-
 - To give an overview of CQC Assurance and the underpinning legislation
 - Provide information about preparatory work that is already underway
 - Provide an overview of the self-assessment process to date and what we know
 - Consider our roles and how we can support CQC readiness

Recommendations:

- 2.1 Consider the CQC requirements described in the presentation.
- 2.2 Recognise the activity already being undertaken to support CQC readiness.
- 2.3 Commit to support adult social care to build on the strengths and focus on the areas of development identified to support CQC readiness.

Contact Officer:

Author

Seanna Lassetter
Principal Social Worker

☎ 07387 527482

✉ seanna.lassetter@walsall.gov.uk

Adult Social Care

Preparing for CQC Assurance

Health & Social Care Scrutiny 19th Jan 2023

David Hamilton, Interim Director Adult Social Care

Seanna Lassetter, Principal Social Worker, Adult Social Care



Purpose of the presentation

- To give an overview of CQC Assurance and the underpinning legislation
- Provide information about preparatory work that is already underway
- Provide an overview of the self assessment process to date and what we know
- Consider our roles and how we can support CQC readiness

Health and Social Care Act 2022

The main purpose of the Health and Care Act is to establish a [legislative framework](#) that supports collaboration and partnership-working to integrate services for patients. Among a wide range of other measures, the Act also includes targeted changes to public health, social care and the oversight of quality and safety.

Key areas for Adult Social Care

- Brings into affect CQC regulation of Adult Social Care
- Reforms the social care charging system, the “Care Cap” (deferred to 2025)
- Underlines the importance of a sustainable care market
- Highlights the importance of supporting informal carers

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CQC assurance what we know so far...

- Sept 2022 , CQC shared a draft assurance framework with local authorities and both CQC and the LGA have been proactive in engaging with the sector
- CQC actively promoted co-production to support the development of the assurance framework
- CQC have a good understanding of the domains currently used to rate care providers and we also have the Ofsted process, used in Children's Services to help us prepare and plan for the work ahead.
- CQC will use the information and documentation we already have from both regional and national returns/surveys as well as our peer review activity to inform the assurance process. T
- CQC acknowledge the pressure that services are already under post COVID and are looking to understand the local system and how we plan to build on this to support better outcomes for the people we work with, as well as understanding if our prevention agenda is effective.

More information can be found on the CQC website [How we will regulate - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk/how-we-will-regulate-care-quality)

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CQC assurance what we know so far...

- The formal assurance process is due to commence in April 2023 with a soft launch preparing for first onsite visits in Oct 2023
- There is currently no indication of which LAs will be visited first
- A first draft of the regional self assessment readiness tool has been completed and we buddied with Staffordshire and Warwickshire to share our findings in December
- Regional findings will be considered by CQC assurance leads at a workshop on 31st Jan
- Employees will have the opportunity to be further inform the self-assessment in Feb/March
- Walsall will have a practice review led by our Principal Social Worker in April 2023 and a CQC readiness review led by colleagues from Worcestershire in April 2023

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What we do know about CQC assurance

CQC will retain a single assessment framework regardless of the organisation they are inspecting. This is already used for adult social care providers, but for ASC there will be a clear focus on the local authority Care Act duties.

Safe

Effective

Caring

Responsive

Well-led

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Areas of focus

How we work with people, including understanding how we apply eligibility criteria, how we hear from people using our services and support carers. Our wellbeing and prevention work.

How we provide support, including market shaping, workforce and integration

Ensuring safety within the system, including understanding our adult safeguarding activity and practice, continuity of care e.g. through transitions/hospital discharge arrangements.

Leadership, including how we learn and innovate and the governance arrangements in place. They will want to see the key principle of compassion in our organisational leadership style.

Evidence will be gathered by talking to and hearing about feedback from people who use services, feedback from our staff, partner organisations, reviewing our data, documents.

Key Questions and Quality Statements

What CQC are looking for:



Quality statements are the commitments that providers, commissioners and system leaders should live up to. Expressed as 'we statements', they show what is needed to deliver high-quality, person-centred care.



The quality statements show how services and providers need to work together to plan and deliver high quality care



We will be rated according to how we are measured against these questions and quality statements.

Example of We statements - Working with People

We maximise the effectiveness of people's care and treatment by assessing and reviewing their health, care, wellbeing and communication needs with them

We support people to manage their health and wellbeing so they can maximise their independence , choice and control, live healthier lives and when possible reduce further need for care and support

Example of I statements, what good looks like

- I have care and support that is coordinated, and everyone works well together and with me.
- I have care and support that enables me to live as I want to, seeing me as a unique person with skills, strengths and goals.



Evidence Used

Case audits

Staff focus groups

Focus groups with people using services
and organisations representing them

Key documents

Policies and procedures

Regional work with peer authorities, Principal Social
Work practice reviews, Buddy evidence review etc.

National returns and surveys

CQC readiness- Our current position

- Completed the West Midlands ADASS self assessment tool based on the 4 areas of focus.
- Strengths identified in the ensuring safety domain and areas for development in the working with people domain.
- Discussions with our buddy local authorities have highlighted the same areas needing focus.
- We are using the self assessment tool as a live document in a shared MS Teams space. It is updated to reflect new information and improvement work undertaken.
- There is an evidence folder in the MS Teams space so that relevant reports, documents and case studies can be stored ready for inspectors.

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CQC readiness- Our current position

- Our CQC readiness steering group involves senior managers from across the directorate who review, discuss and update the self assessment
- We are actively involved in regional activity and support including the West Midlands ADASS Assurance group meeting 3 weekly
- 4 staff briefings have taken place in December with the recording available to those unable to attend.
- Further briefings of providers and the Walsall Safeguarding Partnership taking place in Dec/Jan
- Engagement with Children's colleagues developing to inform ASC approach
- Further focus groups will ensure we capture the views of others
- A wider communication plan is being developed to ensure all stakeholders have the required information

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5 Areas of Strength

- Robust policies, procedures and partnership working within Adult Safeguarding
- Strong Corporate initiatives such as Walsall 2040, work around Equality and Diversity and Walsall Together which Adult Social Care can benefit from
- Good data sets already used and available
- Strength based approach to practice and handbook
- Auditing of case work already taking place and work being undertaken to enhance the Quality Assurance Framework

5 Areas for Development

- Need to improve our Carers Offer
- Improve the level of engagement and feedback from people using services
- Review and update our prevention and well-being offer
- Be able to consistently describe the current waiting list position across the organisation and how it is being managed
- Refresh our Quality Assurance Framework with a focus on the outcomes people want to achieve
- Market Shaping in response to ASC reforms

NB All of the above have identified actions captured within the governance of the Continuous Improvement Programme

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Comments and Questions



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Key Contacts

- Seanna Lassetter, Principal Social Worker.
Seanna.lassetter@walsall.gov.uk
- David Stephens, Programme Manager.
David.Stephens@walsall.gov.uk

[How we will regulate - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](http://cqc.org.uk)

**Social Care and Health
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

19 JANUARY 2023

Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23 – 7-month position ended 31 October 2022

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr K Pedley – Adult Social Care
Cllr G Flint – Health and Wellbeing

1. Aim

1.1 To inform the Committee of the updated forecast financial position for 2022/23 based on the position to October 2022, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022, to allow the scrutiny of the financial performance of the council, and specifically for the services within the committee's remit.

2. Recommendations:

The Committee are requested to:

2.1 Note the forecast 2022/23 year-end financial position for the council as a whole – a predicted net revenue overspend of £11.33m (an increase of £5.21m since last reported to Cabinet in October 2022), and capital break even position after re-phasing of £92.64m into 2023/24. The section 151 Officer requested that all budgets be reviewed and that services identify mitigating actions to address the revenue position. Following this review, £11.28m of mitigating actions have been identified to address this, resulting in a marginal revenue forecast overspend of £0.05m. Any ongoing pressures or undelivered savings not addressed in year will need to be considered as part of the 2023/24 budget process, putting pressure on that process. Officers are confident at this stage based on known assumptions, that actions being taken will address this and outturn on budget.

2.2 Note and comment on the forecast 2022/23 year-end financial position for services within the remit of this committee – a predicted net revenue overspend of £6.08m and net capital break even position subject to an ongoing review.

3. Report detail - Know

3.1 This report summarises the forecast revenue and capital financial position for 2022/23, based on the position to October 2022, for services within the remit of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022. The full Cabinet report can be accessed by the following link:

3.2 The Quarter 2 financial position was last reported to this Committee on 27 October 2022, with the next Quarter 3 position planned to be circulated to scrutiny members following the report to Cabinet in February 2023. Given the worsening financial position reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022 based on the October forecast (an increase of £5.21m since last reported to Cabinet in October 2022) and the mitigation to ensure we can outturn within budget by the year end, then it was felt appropriate for each scrutiny to receive this update, along with the impact on services within the remit of their committees.

3.3 The forecast revenue outturn for 2022/23 for services within the remit of this committee as at the end of October 2022, is a net overspend of £6.08m against budget and net of the use of earmarked reserves. This represents an increase of £3.72m since the position reported to this Committee on 27 October 2022. Further details are shown in **Appendix 1**.

3.4 The forecast capital outturn for 2022/23 for services within the remit of this committee as at the end of October 2022, is expected to be fully spent within 22/23. Further details of schemes are shown in **Appendix 2**.

Resource and legal considerations:

3.5 This report represents the forecast revenue and capital outturn as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022.

Reducing inequalities:

3.6 Services consider equality issues in setting budgets and delivering services. Irrespective of budgetary pressures the council must fulfil its equal opportunities obligations.

4. Decide

4.1 This Committee is asked to note and comment on the forecast revenue and capital forecast for 2022/23 and consider the recommendations as set out.

5. Respond

5.1 This report is for noting and comment by the Committee as above.

6. Review

6.1 This report is for noting and comment by the Committee as above.

Background papers:

- Various financial working papers.
- Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022.

Contact Officers:

Kerrie Allward - Executive Director, Adult Social Care and Public Health, ☎01922 654713, ✉kerrie.allward@walsall.gov.uk

Vicky Buckley, Head of Finance and Assurance, ☎ 01922 652326 / 07983 604698, ✉
Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk

Ross Hutchinson – Head of Finance – Finance Business Partnering & ESS Projects, ✉
Ross.Hutchinson@walsall.gov.uk

Forecast Revenue position 2022/23
Services within the remit of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Revenue Forecast

The forecast revenue outturn for 2022/23 for the services under the remit of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is an overspend of £6.08m, net of the use of earmarked reserves of £10.95m, as shown in **Table 1**. The forecast revenue outturn shown is based on actual information from the financial system as at the end of October 2022, and discussions with managers regarding year end forecast and achievement of approved savings.

The August forecast position reported to this Committee on 27 October 2022 was an overspend of £2.36m, net of the use of reserves, therefore a net increase of **£3.72m** over the 2 months.

Table 1: Summary of forecast outturn position 2022/23					
Service	Annual Budget	Year End Forecast	Net Use of Reserves	Draft Outturn after use of and transfer to Earmarked Reserves	Variance to Budget
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Management Support & Other	0.63	2.16	(1.38)	0.78	0.15
Improved Better Care Fund	(11.99)	(11.99)	0.00	(11.99)	0.00
Complex Needs	0.28	0.46	(0.01)	0.45	0.17
Older People	8.95	9.47	(0.52)	8.95	0.00
Health & Social Care	0.00	3.20	(1.11)	2.08	2.08
Mental Health Services	1.31	1.30	(0.00)	1.30	(0.01)
Demand Management	49.41	58.12	(4.73)	53.39	3.98
Safeguarding	0.90	1.06	(0.14)	0.92	0.02
Resources	1.32	1.41	(0.00)	1.41	0.09
ASC Partnerships	0.74	0.58	(0.00)	0.58	(0.16)
Access, Assessment & Care	5.33	5.39	(0.41)	4.98	(0.35)
Strategy and Commissioning	0.49	0.49	(0.00)	0.49	0.00
Intelligence & Delivery	1.11	1.21	(0.00)	1.21	0.10
Total Adult Social Care	58.48	72.86	(8.30)	64.56	6.08
Public Health	0.00	2.65	(2.65)	0.00	0.00
Total Services within remit of Committee	58.48	75.51	(10.95)	64.56	6.08

Total earmarked reserves of £16.05m are available for use in 2022/23 (where approval has been given by Cabinet for additional funds for specific services). Within the reported outturn position a total of £10.95m of earmarked reserves are forecast to be used.

The main variances are summarised in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 – Reasons for revenue outturn variance		
Service	Variance £m	Explanation of Year End Outturn
Management Support & Other	0.15	Interim management costs
Complex Needs	0.17	Increased demand and costs associated with the Integrated equipment store due
Health & Social Care	2.08	Increased demand and costs relating to Intermediate Care services (supporting discharges from hospital)
Demand Management	3.98	Due to partial achievement of approved STP proposals (see table below) and increased client placements costs and associated client contributions.
Resources	0.09	Additional staffing costs
ASC Partnerships	(0.16)	Underspend mainly associated with vacant posts within the service
Access, Assessment & Care Management	(0.35)	Underspend mainly associated with vacant posts within the service
Intelligence & Delivery	0.10	Over spend due to staffing costs and additional system license costs
Total Services within remit of this Committee	6.08	

Reasons for Movements

The August forecast position reported to this Committee on 28 November 2022 was an overspend of £2.36m, net of the use of reserves, therefore a net increase of £3.72m over the 2 months. The key reasons for movements are detailed in **Table 3** below:

Table 3 – Reasons for movements in variance		
Service	Movement £m	Explanation of Movement in Year End Variance
Health and Social Care	1.90	Increased costs in discharge to assess beds and reablement hours due to increased demand and the assumption this continues for the remainder of the financial year. This is as a result of assessment delays, the ongoing impact of COVID and the likely impact of the upcoming winter period.
Demand Management (Business as usual)	1.78	Increase in client placements costs. This is predominantly due to an increase in backdated client costs and as a result of an increase in future client projections, partially offset by additional joint funding income arrangements.
Complex Needs	0.17	Increase due to increased demand and costs in the Integrated equipment store (ICES)

Various services	(0.41)	Decrease in staffing costs across services within this remit as a result of revised recruitment dates and vacant posts
Demand Management (STP)	0.28	Revalidation of current cost reductions and future projections associated with STPs (Service transformation proposals)
Total Movements for Services within remit of this Committee	3.72	

Risks

For the services under the remit of the committee, there are a number of risks totalling **£12.68m**, which have not been included within the above forecast. At this stage the risks are not certainties and as such are not included in the monitoring as an under or over spend. High risks of **£5.22m** are included in the corporate monitoring report to CMT. If the risks become certainties, they will need to be included in the forecast position as overspends unless alternative action can be identified to mitigate these costs. A summary of the risk assessment is shown in **Table 4** below.

Table 4 – Revenue Risks 2022/23		
Risk	Value (£m)	Description and actions to manage risk
High	5.22	See table 5 below
Medium	0.48	Relates to increased new clients within Demand Management
Low	6.99	
Total	18.08	

The main high risks (Red risks) that could negatively impact the current forecast position if they occur are shown in **Table 5** below.

Table 5 - High risks 2022/23		
Service	Reason/ explanation of risk	£m
Demand Management	Section 117 and CHC recharge income from Walsall ICB	4.00
ASC STP Savings	Adult Social Care STP proposals currently identified as Amber*	1.22
Total High Risks		5.22

*The risk of £1.22m is associated with STP proposals that require further work or detailed delivery plans to prevent these savings moving to red. This includes the outcome of ongoing discussions with the ICB in relation to joint funding arrangements.

Service Transformation Plan Benefits

Included within the budget for 2022/23 for services within the remit of this Committee are £13.62m of approved savings. **Table 6** gives an update on progress towards implementing these benefits:

Table 6: Delivery of 2022/23 approved savings – services within the remit of this Committee					
Saving	Total savings £m	Delivered (Blue) £m	To be delivered by 31/03/23 (Green) £m	Not fully guaranteed (Amber) £m	At High risk of non delivery (Red) £m
OP89 – Reducing new demand – front door	(2.32)	(0.00)	(0.93)	(0.16)	(1.23)
OP90A – Review older people client packages	(4.54)	(2.40)	(0.00)	(0.73)	(1.41)
OP90B – Review LD and MH client packages	(1.25)	(1.21)	(0.00)	(0.04)	(0.00)
OP91 – Review of Day Provision	(0.36)	(0.16)	(0.00)	(0.20)	(0.00)
Total ‘Front Door’ and client packages	(8.47)	(3.77)	(0.93)	(1.14)	(2.64)
OP84 – Staffing reconfiguration – Better Care Finance System	(0.09)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.09)
OP113 - Implementation of the Better Care Finance System	(0.77)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.77)
Total Better Care Finance System	(0.86)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.86)
OP94A/95 - Review for joint funding tool arrangements	(1.76)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(1.76)
Total Joint Funding Arrangements	(1.76)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(1.76)
OP94 – Review of funding stream to support Demand Management	(0.30)	(0.00)	(0.30)	(0.00)	(0.00)
OP96 – Benefit maximisation project	(0.18)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.18)
OP97 – Review of Goscote operating model	(0.50)	(0.50)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Various – All Age Disability Approach	(0.75)	(0.40)	(0.00)	(0.08)	(0.27)
Various – Public Health	(0.80)	(0.00)	(0.50)	(0.00)	(0.30)
Total Other	(2.53)	(0.91)	(0.80)	(0.08)	(0.76)
Total approved savings for services within remit of Committee	(13.62)	(4.68)	(1.72)	(1.22)	(6.01)

Each benefit is “BRAG” categorised as follows:

- Blue (delivered).
- Green (on track to be delivered with no issues at year end of 2021/22).
- Amber (not guaranteed at this stage but no major issues expected, some management action needed to ensure delivery) or,
- Red - (at high risk of not being achieved either in part or in full and therefore either alternative actions are required or a plan to ensure delivery is put back on track).

A Walsall proud resource plan has been agreed to provide additional support towards delivery.

Forecast Capital position 2022/23
Services within the remit of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Capital Forecast

The capital programme for the services under the remit of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as at the end of October 2022, is £0.89m. It is currently expected to be fully spent within 22/23. A list of schemes within the remit of this committee is shown in **Table 6**.

Table 6 – Capital Outturn 2022/23 – Services within the remit of this Committee						
Scheme	Approved Budget £m	Actual year to date £m	Forecast Outturn £m	Year End Variance £m	Proposed Carry Forward to 2023/24 £m	Variance Over/ (Under) £m
Externally Funded schemes						
ICES (Integrated Equipment Store)	0.89	0.32	0.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total External Funded Schemes	0.89	0.32	0.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Capital Services within the remit of this Committee	0.89	0.32	0.89	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Social Care and Health
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

19 JANUARY 2023

Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2023/24 – 2026/27

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr K Pedley – Adult Social Care
Cllr G Flint – Health and Wellbeing

Executive Summary:

The draft budget, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2022, includes the latest medium term financial outlook (MTFO) for the four-year period from 2023/24 to 2026/27. It also outlines the draft revenue budget for 2023/24 to 2026/27 (including savings proposals for consultation), the draft capital programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27, and sets out the process and timescale for setting a legally balanced budget for 2023/24.

Our MTFO has been updated for all known pressures, including best professional assumptions on the impact of increasing demand and the cost of living on service delivery and finances. The Council is legally obliged to set a one-year balanced budget (2023/24), however a medium-term approach is beneficial to allow for sound financial planning and to support future financial stability. This report presents a balanced budget for 2023/24, subject to changes arising from the settlement yet to be received. A number of savings proposals are also included for 2024/25 to 2026/27, with further options being identified to allow for a balanced budget over the period 2024/25 to 2026/27 aligned to the Council Plan and Proud activity.

The Autumn Statement was announced on 17 November 2022 and, whilst it has provided some further detail for 2023/24, the impact on our financial forecasts remains uncertain until we formally receive further policy documents, as referred to in the Statement, and our provisional core grant settlement which was received in late December 2022. Any changes in specific grant funding announced as part of this settlement will be allocated to services in keeping with the requirements of the funding. These changes will be included in the final budget report to Cabinet and Council in February 2023.

The 2023/24 draft budget assumes a 2.99% general council tax increase. This is in line with Government referendum limits announced in the Autumn Statement on 17 November 2022, with the option to increase by a further 2% for the Adult Social Care Precept, which Cabinet are currently not minded to do, but are consulting on.

The total draft capital programme for 2023/24 is £110.09m. It sets out new capital investment funded from the council's own resources of £66.86m (funded by capital receipts and borrowing) and externally funded schemes of £43.23m (funded by capital grants) and represents a balanced programme for 2023/24. In addition, the report sets out a further three years of indicative proposals to 2026/27. Despite reductions in capital funding in recent years and going forward, the draft capital programme contains significant investment into highways, education,

and housing to support vulnerable households through Health through Warmth and provision of aids and adaptations.

This report provides an extract of the Proud draft revenue savings proposals and investments/cost pressures for 2023/24 – 2026/27 by Proud Outcomes, which fall within the remit of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration. It also provides a summary of the draft capital programme for schemes within the remit of this Committee.

Feedback from the Committee on the draft revenue and capital proposals will be reported back to Cabinet on 8 February 2023, to inform the final draft budget to be recommended to Council on 23 February 2023. Any changes to draft revenue and capital budget proposals as a result of equality impact assessments and consultation will also be fed into the final budget report.

Reason for scrutiny:

To enable consultation of the draft revenue and capital budget proposals for services within the remit of this Committee.

Recommendations:

That:

1. The Committee are recommended to consider the draft revenue budget proposals attached that relate to the remit of this committee as shown in **Appendices 1 and 2**, and that feedback will be presented to Cabinet on 8 February 2023.

Background papers:

Various financial working papers.

Resource and legal considerations:

Cabinet on 14 December 2022 were presented with a list of draft Proud revenue savings proposals for consultation and a list of investment/cost pressures by Proud outcome, along with a draft capital programme over the period 2023/24 to 2026/27.

The full Cabinet report can be accessed at the following link:

[Draft Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2026/27 - Cabinet 14 December 2022](#)

Maximising Outcomes through Budgeting 2023/24 onwards

Our approach to budget setting was established for 2022/23 with overall financial savings expected to be delivered via Proud activity. For 2023/24 Proud work streams will continue to provide the 'enablers' to allow Directorates to deliver through Service Transformation Plans (STP's).

Directors and their Heads of Service were tasked with completion of new STP's linking their current and future service delivery with Council priority outcomes as per the Council Plan. This will allow for identification of potential transformation activity and associated savings for future

financial years. Those identified to date are outlined within this report, with the need for further review to close the financial gap from 2024/25 onwards.

The Council Plan direction of travel approach will set out how the budget will be aligned to deliver the desired outcome i.e., through different amounts of delivery, coordination, influencing, signposting or regulating. A review of the current delivery model will be undertaken alongside the direction of travel and re-prioritised where appropriate to maximise value for money and overall delivery of outcomes and ensuring the 2023/24 onwards budget is built and developed on this moving forward.

Investment / cost pressures

Further to the changes in assumptions, the draft budget 2023/24 – 2026/27 includes provision for growth and investment of c£111m (£50.52m of this is in 2023/24). Those investments relating to the remit of this Committee are shown at **Appendix 1** and total £14.61m over 4 years.

Savings proposals

The Proud service transformation plans have identified £9.02m of financial benefit for 2023/24, in addition to the £7.28m identified in the budget report to Council in February 2022. There is also £1.95m identified for 2024/25 (in addition to £1.15m already identified), £854k for 2025/26 and £844k for 2026/27. Benefits / savings are classified into two categories:

1. Policy Proposals - which require an Executive decision to proceed, and which will be referred for public consultation and equality impact assessment. These total £1.16m in 2023/24.
2. Operational Proposals – savings which officers have delegations to implement; examples include restructures, back-office savings, operational efficiencies. These total £15.14m in 2023/24 (£19.94m over the four years).

Some proposals require investment to support delivery which will only be allocated if the relevant saving proposal is included within Cabinet's final budget report in February, once consultation and equality impact assessment has concluded.

Savings proposals outlined in the report to Cabinet on 14 December 2022 will ensure a balanced budget for 2023/24. A gap of £13.85m remains in 2024/25, with a further £12.56m saving requirement for 2025/26 and £8.54m for 2026/27 (after the delivery of the £3.10m saving identified for 2024/25, £854k for 2025/26 and £844k for 2026/27). Directors continue to work on identifying additional options for Members consideration through the STP process, and a further report will be presented to Cabinet outlining further options to balance the budget for 2024/25 onwards. A work stream review of the STP's is taking place to ensure that they maximise opportunities from the Proud ways of working and capabilities, and therefore capture the full benefits; to ensure they capture innovative thinking; and to challenge any opportunities to accelerate identified savings.

Those savings proposals relating to the remit of this Committee are shown at **Appendix 2** and total £2.66m over 4 years.

Net investment / savings

The following summarises the net investment /(savings) by Directorate for 2023/24.

Net Investment/savings by Directorate 2023/24	Investment £m	Savings £m	Net £m
Adult Social Care, Public Health and Hub	8.00	(2.25)	5.75
Children's Services	13.41	(2.68)	10.73
Children's - Customer Engagement	0.45	(0.88)	(0.44)
Economy, Environment and Communities	1.53	(3.43)	(1.90)
Resources and Transformation	2.21	(1.68)	0.53
Central / Capital Financing*	24.92	(5.37)	19.56
Total Net Investments by Directorate	50.52	(16.30)	34.23

*Central investment includes £12.5m of pay and pension costs which will be allocated to services following a detailed review of salary budget requirements, and £6.92m Social Care Grant which will be allocated to support both Adults and Children's Social Care when the allocations are confirmed. Central savings include £4.47m for Customer Access Management which will be allocated to services once plan finalised.

Therefore, when central investments are taken into account, all Directorates will see a net increase in budgets.

Draft Capital Programme

The draft capital programme for 2023/24 is balanced and totals £110.09m. It sets out new capital investment funded from the council's own resources of £66.86m (funded by capital receipts and borrowing) and externally funded schemes of £43.23m (funded by capital grants). In addition, the report sets out a further three years of indicative proposals to 2026/27.

There are no capital schemes relating to the remit of this committee.

Contact Officers:

Kerrie Allward - Executive Director, Adult Social Care, ☎01922 654713,
✉ kerrie.allward@walsall.gov.uk

Vicky Buckley – Head of Finance and Assurance, ☎ 07983 604698,
✉ Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk

Ross Hutchinson – Head of Finance (Finance Business Partnering & ESS projects),
☎ 07415 308513, ✉ Ross.Hutchinson@walsall.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

Summary of New Growth and Investment 2023/24 to 2026/27 aligned to Proud Outcomes relating to the remit of this Committee

Directorate	Ref No	Details of Growth by outcome	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life						
Adult Social Care, Public Health & Hub	9	Social Care increase in demand pressures	1,834,118	371,862	371,862	371,862
	10	Contract price uplift	1,675,785	523,855	534,332	545,018
	11	Better Care Funding iBCF2 fall out of grant funding in 2025/26	0	0	2,023,652	0
	12	Direct Payments - to cover reduction in refund income	153,000	0	0	0
	13	Adult Social Care contractual inflation based on RPXI - Housing 21	1,125,768	(293,450)	245,506	251,644
	14	A preparing for adulthood service - capacity to support statutory functions across 14/18-25 year olds and meet the transition needs of all young people	256,126	0	0	0
	15	Hospital discharge - fully funded from grant	2,385,000	1,670,000	0	0
Total People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life			7,429,797	2,272,267	3,175,352	1,168,524
The Council will deliver trusted, customer focused, and enabling services, which are recognised by customers and our partners for the value they bring						
Adult Social Care, Public Health & Hub	19	Additional capacity - Hub linked to HUBS work stream activity	566,000	0	0	0
Total The Council will deliver trusted, customer focused, and enabling services, which are recognised by customers and our partners for the value they bring			566,000	0	0	0
Total Growth and investment relating to the remit of this Committee			7,995,797	2,272,267	3,175,352	1,168,524

APPENDIX 2

Benefits Realisation (Savings) for Proud activity by Outcome 2023/24 to 2026/27 relating to the remit of this Committee

A: Summary of Policy Proposals by Outcome 2023/24 – 2026/27

None relating to the remit of this Committee

B: Summary of Operational Proposals by Outcome 2023/24 – 2026/27

Directorate	Ref No	Detail of Operational Proposals by Outcome	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	Total £
People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life							
Adult Social Care, Public Health & Hubs	OP10	Demand - Develop and deliver additional support to Carers	(240,934)	(270,241)	0	0	(511,175)
	OP11	Shared lives - foster care provision	(116,277)	(142,812)	0	0	(259,089)
	OP12	Public health grant utilisation	(204,678)	0	0	0	(204,678)
	OP13	Additional income from joint funding arrangements including, Learning disability tool, Section 117 and CHC	(954,000)	0	0	0	(954,000)
	OP14	Full year effect of extension of existing client reviews and reduction in costs of new client packages	(674,841)	0	0	0	(674,841)
	OP15	Income generation review of grants - Section 75 grant	(59,780)	0	0	0	(59,780)
Total People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing & quality of life			(2,250,510)	(413,053)	0	0	(2,663,563)
Total Operational Proposals relating to the remit of this Committee			(2,250,510)	(413,053)	0	0	(2,663,563)

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	Total £
Total Savings Proposals					
A - Policy Proposals	0	0	0	0	0
B - Operational Proposals	(2,250,510)	(413,053)	0	0	(2,663,563)
Total Savings Proposals relating to the remit of this Committee	(2,250,510)	(413,053)	0	0	(2,663,563)

Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Recommendation Tracker 2022/23

Committee Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Action/Recommendation	Officer responsible	Status	Target Completion Date	Notes
14 July 2022	Introduction to the Health and Care system on Walsall	A briefing note on GP services provision be provided by the Managing Director of NHS Walsall and circulated to members.	Geraint Griffiths-Dale and Jack Thompson/Nikki Gough	Complete	14 July 2022	This was supplied to members via email shortly after the meeting on the 14 July 2022.
	Areas of Focus	A work programme for the municipal year be produced containing agreed areas of focus, for agreement by the Committee.	Jack Thompson/Nikki Gough	Complete	15 September 2022	Agreed on 29.9.22
29 Sept 2022	Access to GP services	That the Committee receive a further report detailing the implementation of the improved telephony system and the impact on patient experience in access GP appointments, in 6 months.	Geraint Griffiths-Dale	In Progress	To be scheduled for 6 April 2022	
		The Committee request a breakdown of the number of face-to-face appointments and digital appointments (as a percentage of all appointments) for each practice in Walsall.	Geraint Griffiths-Dale and Jack Thompson/Nikki Gough Request to be made to LMC	In Progress	To be scheduled for 6 April 2022	
	Update on Urgent Treatment Centre	That the Committee receive a report on the emergency department, the urgent treatment centre with updated figures in April 2023 to include patient experience.		In Progress	To be scheduled for 6 April 2022	

Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Recommendation Tracker 2022/23

		Committee Members visit the emergency department around 2 months after opening.		In Progress	30 January 2022	A visit by Members of the Committee has been booked for the 26 January 2023 at 11:00am.
27 Oct 2022	Emergency Access	That Council Officers organise a visit for members of the Committee to the West Midlands Ambulance Service call centre.	Jack Thompson/ Nikki Gough and Vivek Khashu	In Progress	30 January 2022	Email sent to West Midlands Ambulance Services and have received an initial response.
15 Dec 2022	Waiting Times for Elective Care	That the Chief Executive of Walsall Healthcare Trust and Wolverhampton Hospital Trust share video footage of the new surgical robot installed at the Walsall Manor Hospital at a future meeting.	Jack Thompson	In Progress		
	Urgent Item – Primary Care Access (GP contract renewal)	That a response to the letter sent by the Chair in regard to GP contract renewal be added as an item for the next meeting of the Committee.	Jack Thompson	Complete	11 January 2023	This item was added to the agenda published on the 11 January 2023

Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work programme 2022/23¹

Main agenda items	15/09/22	27/10/22	15/12/22	19/01/23	20/02/23	06/04/23
Theme: Primary Care Access						
Access to GP Services				Review of scheduled GP commissions		Update on telephone system
Dentistry Service Provision						
Update on the Walsall Walk-in-Centre						Update on emergency dept
Theme: Emergency and Hospital Care						
Access to A&E						
Report from the CQC on Manor Hospital						
Review of Maternity Services						
Discharge of patients						
Theme: Waiting times						
Ambulance waiting times						
A&E waiting times						
Elective care (inc. Surgery)						
Theme: Children and Young Adult						
Teen pregnancy						
Childhood obesity						
Revisit: Primary Care Access						
Adult Social Care						
CQC Inspection Readiness						
Adult Social Care Reform						
Winter preparedness (Social Care and Health)		X ²				
Budget Scrutiny						
Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring						
Budget Setting 2022/23						

¹ Please note that the work plan can be edited, and items can be added and removed at the discretion of the chair.

² Please note that 'Winter Preparedness (Social Care and Health)' will be covered by above items AT the meeting.



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

**Council House,
Lichfield Street,
Walsall, WS1 1TW**
www.walsall.gov.uk

5 December 2022

FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan sets out decisions that are termed as “key decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive (Cabinet). Also included on the plan are other decisions to be taken by the Cabinet (“non-key decisions”). Preparation of the forward plan helps the Council to programme its work. The purpose of the forward plan is to give plenty of notice and an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The plan is updated each month with the period of the plan being rolled forward by one month and republished. Copies of the plan can be obtained from Democratic Services, Walsall MBC, Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk and can also be accessed from the Council’s website at www.walsall.gov.uk. The Cabinet is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the forward plan, however, a notice will be included on the agenda for the relevant Cabinet meeting which explains the reasons why.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change. Please contact the above addressee if you wish to check the date for a particular item.

The Cabinet agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public 7 days prior to the meeting of the Cabinet on the Council’s website. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Cabinet and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they are confidential. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer. These details can also be found in the forward plan.

Meetings of the Cabinet are open to the public. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are confidential and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. The forward plan will show where this is intended and the reason why the reports are confidential. Enquiries regarding these reasons should be directed to Democratic Services (craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk).

“Key decisions” are those decisions which have a significant effect within the community or which involve considerable expenditure or savings. With regard to key decisions the Council’s Constitution states:

- (1) A key decision is:
 - (i) any decision in relation to an executive function which results in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant, having regard to the Council’s budget for the service or function to which the decision relates or
 - (ii) any decision that is likely to have significant impact on two or more wards within the borough.
- (2) The threshold for “significant” expenditure/savings is £500,000.
- (3) A decision taker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
JANUARY 2023 TO APRIL 2023 (5.12.22)**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reference No./ Date first entered in Plan	Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside the Council)	Decision maker	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Contact Member (All Members can be written to at Civic Centre, Walsall)	Date item to be considered
110/22 (6.6.22)	<p>Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2026/27:</p> <p>To provide an updated medium term financial outlook, draft revenue budget and capital programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27, including savings proposals, and to set out the process and timescales for setting a legally balanced budget for 2023/24.</p>	Cabinet Non-key decision	Vicky Buckley Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Public Internal Services	Cllr Bird	14 December 2022
121/22 (8.8.22)	<p>Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23:</p> <p>To report the financial position based on 7 months to October 2022, including the impact of Covid-19.</p>	Cabinet Non-key decision	Vicky Buckley Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	14 December 2022
123/22 (8.8.22)	<p>Treasury Management Mid Year Position Statement 2022/23:</p> <p>The council is required through regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce a mid-year position statement reviewing</p>	Cabinet Non-key decision	Lloyd Haynes Lloyd.Haynes@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	14 December 2022

	treasury management activities and prudential and treasury indicator performance.					
135/22 (10.10.22)	<p>Renewal of the Council's insurance arrangements from 1st April 2023:</p> <p>To seek delegated authority to renew the Council's insurance arrangements from 1 April 2023</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Cabinet Report 14 February 2018 - Renewal of the Council's Insurance Arrangements from 1 April 2018</p> <p>Marc Cox Marc.Cox@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	14 December 2022
157/22 (7.11.22)	<p>Streamlining Black Country Ways of Working – Black Country Consortium:</p> <p>To provide an update on finalising an agreed way forward for streamlining ways of working across the Black Country, many of which have historically been coordinated through and by Black Country Consortium Ltd (BCC Ltd). The report builds from the agreements to date on the transition of the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership and the collaborative Black Country based approach for the future accountability of LEP legacy funds utilising Association of Black Country Authorities as a mechanism if and when required.</p> <p><i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i></p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Sarah Middleton (Chief Executive, Black Country Consortium Ltd.)</p> <p>Sarah.Middleton@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk</p>	Association of Black Country Authority Leaders	Cllr Bird	14 December 2022

136/22 (10.10.22)	<p>Black Country Enterprise Zone-Gasholders Site:</p> <p>To update on the direction of travel and seek approvals in relation to the preferred delivery approach, project funding and next steps to bring forward the site for employment generating uses.</p> <p><i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i></p>	Cabinet Key decision	Caroline Harper Caroline.Harper@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	14 December 2022
137/22 (10.10.22)	<p>Willenhall Framework Plan: Phase 1 Developer Partner Procurement Approach and Funding Update:</p> <p>To provide an update on the preferred developer partner procurement approach and funding position.</p> <p><i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i></p>	Cabinet Key Decision	Kauser Agha Kauser.Agha@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	14 December 2022
144/22 (7.11.22)	<p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund:</p> <p>To authorise officers to accept a funding allocation for UK Shared Prosperity Fund to utilise for project activity aligned with the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	Philippa Venables Philippa.Venables@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services	Cllr Andrew	14 December 2022
158/22 (07.11.22)	<p>Walsall Economic Strategy</p> <p>To approve an economic strategy for the borough.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	Philippa Venables Philippa.Venables@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services	Cllr Andrew	14 December 2022

126/22 (8.8.22)	<p>Strategic acquisition of a freehold heritage building in Walsall Town Centre:</p> <p>To seek approval to the freehold acquisition of a heritage property in Walsall Town Centre to support the preservation of the property.</p> <p><i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i></p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Nick Ford Nick.Ford@walsall.gov.uk</p> <p>Bryte Legister Bryte.Legister@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	14 December 2022
161/22 (5.12.22)	<p>Responses to Local Plan Consultations:</p> <p>To agree responses to Local Plan consultations from Birmingham City Council, Stafford Borough Council and South Staffordshire District Council.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Neville Ball Neville.Ball@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	14 December 2022
125/22 (8.8.22)	<p>Housing First contract award:</p> <p>To approve the contract award enabling the continuation of flexible support to former rough sleepers housed through the Housing First initiative.</p> <p><i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i></p>	Cabinet Key decision	<p>Neil Hollyhead Neil.Hollyhead@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal services, service users, external stakeholders	Cllr Ali	14 December 2022
146/22 (7.11.22)	<p>Home Upgrade Grant (HUGs) Round 2 Procurement and Update:</p> <p>To approve the use of a Framework to appoint contractors to deliver government funds to help residents with</p>	Cabinet Key decision	<p>David Lockwood David.Lockwood@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Public, Internal Services	Councillor Ali	14 December 2022

	retro-fit works where they are not on the gas network.					
138/22 (10.10.22)	<p>Food for Life Contract:</p> <p>Cabinet is asked to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to enter into appropriate contractual arrangements from 1st April 2023 until 31st March 2024, and subsequently authorize the sealing or signing of associated contracts, deeds or other related documents for the Food for Life contract.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Key Decision</p>	<p>Esther Higdon</p> <p>Esther.Higdon@walsall.gov.uk</p> <p>Paul Nelson</p> <p>Paul.Nelson@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal services	Cllr Flint	14 December 2022
130/22 (6.9.22)	<p>Sexual Health and 0-19 Contracts:</p> <p>To approve the extension of the integrated sexual health service, contract delivered by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.</p> <p>To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care, Public Health and Hub in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing to extend contracts on behalf of the Council and to subsequently authorise the variations to the contractual arrangements for the services should this be required at any time during the term, in line with Public Contract Regulations and the Council's Contract Rules to 31 March 2024.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Key Decision</p>	<p>Tony Meadows</p> <p>Tony.Meadows@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Cllr Flint	14 December 2022

147/22 (7.11.22)	We Are Walsall 2040: Consultation Feedback: To note the key findings from the consultation activities carried out over summer/autumn 2022, which will inform the We Are Walsall 2040 strategic borough plan.	Cabinet Non-key decision	Karen Griffiths Karen.Griffiths@walsall.gov.uk Policy & Strategy Unit (policyandstrategy@walsall.gov.uk)	Internal Services, Local partners/ stakeholders	Cllr Perry Cllr Wilson	14 December 2022
148/22 (7.11.22)	Food Law Service Plan: The Food Standards Agency (FSA) requires all local authorities to prepare an annual service delivery plan to reflect the work required of food authorities by the FSA, under the requirements of the Food Standards Act 1999 and the framework agreement on local authority enforcement. In accordance with this requirement a Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2022/23 has been prepared. Cabinet are asked to forward the Plan to Council for approval.	Cabinet Council Non-key decision	Paul Rooney Paul.Rooney@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Perry	14 December 2022 Council 9 January 2023
149/22 (7.11.22)	Electronic Calls Monitoring Contract Extension: To approve the extension of the ECM contract with Access UK Ltd.	Cabinet Key Decision	Tracy Simcox Tracy.Simcox@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Pedley	14 December 2022
124/22 (8.8.22)	Schools Mainstream Local Funding Formula 2023/24: That Cabinet approves the Mainstream Local Funding Formula, to be used for	Cabinet Key Decision	ESFA – Schools revenue funding operation guide. Richard Walley Richard.Walley@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services Schools Forum	Cllr M. Statham	14 December 2022

	the allocation of mainstream funding to schools in Walsall					
159/22 (7.11.22)	Secondary School Sufficiency To approve funds for the creation of an additional 150 places in three Secondary Schools.	Key Decision	Alex Groom Alex.Groom@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services Local partners/stake holders	Cllr. M. Statham	14 December 2022
160/22 (7.11.22)	Special School Sufficiency To begin feasibility works to create to additional places in SEN Schools to meet additional demands.	Key Decision	Alex Groom Alex.Groom@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services Local partners/stake holders	Cllr. M. Statham	14 December 2022
141/22 (10.10.22)	Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23: To report the financial position based on 9 months to December 2022, including the impact of Covid-19.	Cabinet Non-key decision	Vicky Buckley Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Corporate Management Team and Internal Services	Cllr Bird	8 February 2023
142/22 (10.10.22)	Corporate Budget Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27, incorporating the Capital Strategy and the Treasury Management and investment Strategy 2023/24: To recommend the final budget and council tax for approval by Council.	Cabinet Key decision	Vicky Buckley Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Council tax payers, business rate payers, voluntary and community organisations, Internal Services	Cllr Bird	8 February 2022 Council 23 February 2023
150/22 (7.11.22)	Payments Project Contract Award: To award a contract to Capita/Pay360 Ltd (soon to be Access Group Ltd) for	Cabinet	Janice Freeman-Phillips Page 55 of 63	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	8 February 2023

	the provision of Pay 360 Licences and Capita/Pay360 Ltd services.	Key Decision	Janice.Freeman-Phillips@walsall.gov.uk			
155/22 (7.11.22)	Council Plan: Review of Achievements 2021/22: To note the Review of Achievements for 2021/22, highlighting successes and progress towards achieving our Council priorities.	Cabinet Non-key decision	Meresh Kumari (meresh.kumari@walsall.gov.uk) Elizabeth Connolly (elizabeth.connolly@walsall.gov.uk)	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	8 February 2023
107/22 (6.6.22)	Procurement of Corporate Landlord Strategic Partner: To seek approval to the appointment of a strategic partner to support the programme of capital schemes related to the council's property portfolio.	Cabinet Key Decision	Nick Ford Nick.Ford@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	8 February 2023
145/22 (7.11.22)	Town Centre Theatre Project: To agree next steps for the Town Deal Theatre project, setting out funding implications and options. <i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i>	Cabinet Key Decision	Philippa Venables Philippa.Venables@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services	Cllr Andrew	8 February 2022
129/22 (5.9.22)	Update on Resilient Communities Safer Streets Programme: To report back on Safer Streets activity and recommend any adjustments/additions to the programme.	Cabinet Non-key Decision	Paul Gordon Paul.Gordon@walsall.gov.uk Page 56 of 63	Internal Services	Cllr Perry	8 February 2023

151/22 (7.11.22)	<p>Introduction of Council Tax Premium on unoccupied but furnished properties:</p> <p>Levy the premium on properties that are unoccupied and unfurnished for more than 12 months. Effective from 1 April 24</p>	Cabinet to make recommen dation to Council	<p>Mark Fearn</p> <p>Mark.Fearn@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Part of budget consultation	Cllr Ali	8 February 2023
156/22 (7.11.22)	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Contract and Smoking Cessation Contract Extensions:</p> <p>To delegate authority to the Director of Public Health and the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing. This will allow them to extend contracts on behalf of the Council and to subsequently authorise the variations to the contractual arrangements for the services should this be required at any time during the term, in line with Public Contract Regulations and the Council's Contract Rules.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Joe Holding</p> <p>Joe.Holding@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Cllr Flint	8 February 2023
140/22 (10.10.22)	<p>High Needs Funding Formula:</p> <p>To approve changes to the High Needs Funding Formula, as agreed by Schools Forum, to be used for the allocation of Dedicated Schools Grant – High Needs Block to schools in Walsall for the 2023/24 financial year</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Richard Walley</p> <p>Richard.Walley@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services, Schools Forum	Cllr M. Statham	8 February 2023
152/22 (7.11.22)	<p>Renewal of the Council's Oracle Cloud Licenses:</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Ian Tuft</p> <p>Ian.Tuft@walsall.gov.uk</p> <p>Page 57 of 63</p>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird Cllr Ferguson	22 March 2023

	To renew the Council's Oracle cloud Licenses required for the operation of the Council's One Source system for HR, Payroll, Finance and Procurement from May 2023					
162/22 (5.12.22)	Approval of the Black Country Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement: Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Resources and transformation to enter into legal agreements with WMCA relating to BC LEP Legacy funds.	Cabinet Key Decision	Kelly Valente Kelly.Valente@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services	Cllr Bird	22 March 2023
153/22 (7.11.22)	Walsall's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2022 to 2027: To approve Walsall's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, 2022 to 2027.	Cabinet Key Decision	Neil Hollyhead Neil.HollyHead@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services, service users, external stakeholders	Cllr Ali	22 March 2023
154/22 (7.11.22)	Early Years Funding Formula: That Cabinet approves the Early Years Formula, as agreed by Schools Forum, to be used for the allocation of funding to early years providers in Walsall	Cabinet Key Decision	Richard Walley Richard.Walley@walsall.gov.uk	Schools Forum Internal Services	Cllr M. Statham	22 March 2023

Black Country Executive Joint Committee
Forward Plan of Key Decisions Published up to May 2023

Date Created	Key Decision	Contact Officer	Main consultee	Date of meeting
	Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF)			
03/10/2022	<p>Willenhall Garden City - Phase 1 (Moat Street and Villiers Street)</p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into internal Grant Agreement with Walsall Council, to deliver the BCLEP funded elements of the Willenhall Garden City – Phase 1 (Moat street and Villiers Street) with delivery to commence in the 2023/24 financial year.</p>	<p>Simon Neilson Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Walsall Council	01/02/2023
03/10/2022	<p>Dudley Brownfield Land Programme</p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into a Grant Agreement with Dudley Council, to deliver the</p>	<p>Helen Martin Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</p>	Dudley Council	01/02/2023

Date Created	Key Decision	Contact Officer	Main consultee	Date of meeting
	Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF), funded elements of the Dudley Brownfield Land Programme with delivery to commence in the 2023/24 financial year.			
07/11/2022	<p>Wolverhampton Stowheath Redevelopment for Housing</p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into a Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council, to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF), funded elements of the Stowheath Redevelopment for Housing project with delivery to commence in the 2023/24 financial year.</p>	<p>Richard Lawrence Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk</p>	<p>City of Wolverhampton Council</p>	<p>01/02/2023</p>
	Non-Key Decision	Growing Places Fund Delegated Authority for Noting		

Date Created	Key Decision	Contact Officer	Main consultee	Date of meeting
05/12/2022	<p>Dudley Zoo Visitor and Education Centre Development Phase Project</p> <p>To note that the Executive Director for Economy, Environment and Communities within Walsall Council in his role of the Chair of the Working Group has used his Delegated Authority to approve the Accountable Body for the Growing Places Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with the Dudley and West Midlands Zoological Society Ltd, to deliver the Growing Places Fund (GPF) funded elements of the Dudley Zoo Visitor and Education Centre Development Phase project with delivery to commence in the 2022/23 financial year.</p>	<p>Simon Neilson Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Walsall Council	01/02/2023
	Non-Key Decision	Black Country Growth Hub for Noting		

Date Created	Key Decision	Contact Officer	Main consultee	Date of meeting
05/12/2022	<p>Black Country Growth Hub</p> <p>To note that the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) has received Walsall Council's Cabinet approval to proceed to a Grant Agreement to the value of £231,000, with the Black Country Consortium Ltd to deliver the Black Country Growth Hub Funding for 2022/2023.</p>	<p>Simon Neilson Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Walsall Council	01/02/2023
	<p>Black Country Executive Joint Committee Governance</p>			
05/12/2022	<p>Approval of the Black Country Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement</p> <p>Approval of future arrangements for the Black Country Joint Committee, and approval of the revised Black Country Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement setting out how</p>	<p>Simon Neilson Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Walsall Council	19/04/2023

Date Created	Key Decision	Contact Officer	Main consultee	Date of meeting
	legacy funds, including Enterprise Zones, will be dealt with.			
	Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF)			
05/12/2022	<p>Music Institute - Cable Plaza Site (Main Scheme)</p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending its Grant Agreement with Dudley Council, to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF), funded elements of the Music Institute - Cable Plaza Site (Main Scheme) project.</p>	<p>Helen Martin Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</p>	Dudley Council	19/04/2023