

**Economy and Environment  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**02 FEBRUARY 2023**

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

**Ward(s)** All

**Portfolios:** Cllr A Andrew – Deputy Leader and Regeneration  
Cllr G Perry – Deputy Leader and Resilient Communities  
Cllr K Murphy – Clean and Green

**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 is expected in late December 2022, and which 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 Economy and Environment 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.
2. The Committee are recommended to consider the draft capital schemes included in the draft capital programme attached that relate to the remit of this committee as shown in **Appendices 3 and 4**, 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 £4.67m 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 £3.71m over 4 years.

## Net investment / savings

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

<b>Net Investment/savings by Directorate 2023/24</b>	<b>Investment £m</b>	<b>Savings £m</b>	<b>Net £m</b>
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
<b>Total Net Investments by Directorate</b>	<b>50.52</b>	<b>(16.30)</b>	<b>34.23</b>

\*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.

Those council funded schemes relating to the remit of this Committee are shown at **Appendix 3** totalling £93.48m over 4 years, and external funded schemes of £57.11m at **Appendix 4**.

### **Contact Officers:**

Simon Neilson - Executive Director, Economy, Environment and Communities,  
☎ 07776 455335, ✉ [simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk)

Vicky Buckley – Head of Finance and Assurance,  
☎ 07983 604698,  
✉ [Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk)

Ross Hutchinson – Head of Finance (Finance Business Partnering & ESS projects),  
☎ 07415 308513, ✉ [Ross.Hutchinson@walsall.gov.uk](mailto: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 £
<b>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	1	Funding of the delivery and development team following the fall out of grant funding (Economic Growth Programme) which ceases from March 2023 but can be contained from reserves for 2023/24	0	1,013,000	0	0
	2	Town Centre Officer post - to support the regeneration of the high street - funded from Public Health Grant	0	86,315	0	0
Resources & Transformation	3	Funding of the Programme Management team following the fall out of grant funding (Economic growth programme) which ceases from March 2023 but can be contained from reserves for 2023/24	0	885,150	0	0
	4	Black country consortium annual subscription - previously funded from external funding which ceases 31 March 2023 but funded from reserves for 1 year.	0	90,000	0	0
<b>Total Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>2,074,465</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Education, training and skills enable people to contribute to their community and our economy</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	6	Add capacity to support Collections, Library and Archive Service	27,500	0	0	0
<b>Total Education, training and skills enable people to contribute to their community and our economy</b>			<b>27,500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	16	Leisure services income shortfall - on-going impact of the pandemic (one-off)	150,000	(150,000)	0	0
<b>Total People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>			<b>150,000</b>	<b>(150,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	52	Economy, Environment and Communities contractual inflation	590,000	590,000	590,000	590,000
	53	Increase in vehicle fuel costs	275,000	(125,000)	(75,000)	0
	54	Capacity to support the councils climate change agenda	100,000	0	0	0
Resources & Transformation	55	Funding of the transport team costs following the fall out of grant funding (Economic growth programme) which ceases from March 2023 but can be contained from reserves for 2023/24	0	33,000	0	0
<b>Total The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>			<b>965,000</b>	<b>498,000</b>	<b>515,000</b>	<b>590,000</b>
<b>Total Growth and investment relating to the remit of this Committee</b>			<b>1,142,500</b>	<b>2,422,465</b>	<b>515,000</b>	<b>590,000</b>

**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**

Directorate	Ref No	Detail of Policy Proposals by Outcome	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	Total £
<b>Education, training and skills enable people to contribute to their community and our economy</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	P1	Outsource Mobile / Home Library Service	(155,000)	0	0	0	(155,000)
<b>Total Education, training and skills enable people to contribute to their community and our economy</b>			<b>(155,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(155,000)</b>
<b>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	P3	Outsource Outdoor Pursuits Service to a community group	(23,776)	0	0	0	(23,776)
<b>Total People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>			<b>(23,776)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(23,776)</b>
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	P4	Increase in bulky waste charges from £10 to £30 for up to 3 items, £50 for 4-6 items and £70 for 7-9 items	(136,000)	0	0	0	(136,000)
	P5	Reduce grass cutting frequencies	(40,000)	0	0	0	(40,000)
	P6	Rewilding of all urban grassed areas - to manage public grassed open spaces and verges for biodiversity rather than visual appearance. Most areas would only receive one cut per year; however pitches, visibility splays, paths and edges would be cut more often.	(352,348)	0	0	0	(352,348)
	P7	Increase resident and business parking permit charges by 20%	(3,300)	0	0	0	(3,300)
	P8	Introduce charge for advisory disabled parking bays [£90 one off to align with Sandwell]	(2,850)	0	0	0	(2,850)
	P9	Part night lighting - reduce energy consumption by 20%	(40,000)	0	0	0	(40,000)
	P10	Garden waste collection - 2 weekly from May-Nov	(100,000)	0	0	0	(100,000)
	P11	Modified winter maintenance service - the same roads will be gritted but split into 5 routes rather than 6	(30,000)	0	0	0	(30,000)
	P12	Parking dispensation charging of £15 per vehicle per day	(19,500)	0	0	0	(19,500)
	P13	Reintroduce staff parking charges – reduction from £45 to £15 per month	(18,000)				(18,000)
<b>Total The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>			<b>(741,998)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(741,998)</b>
<b>Total Policy Proposals relating to the remit of this Committee</b>			<b>(920,774)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(920,774)</b>

## 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 £
<b>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	OP1	Income generation review of fees and charges - increase planning development charges by 5%	(1,385)	0	0	0	(1,385)
	<b>Total Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>		<b>(1,385)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,385)</b>
<b>Education, training and skills enable people to contribute to their community and our economy</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	OP4	Regeneration & Economy team review	(260,193)	0	0	0	(260,193)
	OP5	Income generation review of fees and charges - increase library hire and lettings by 5%	(761)	0	0	0	(761)
<b>Total Education, training &amp; skills enable people to contribute to their community &amp; our economy</b>		<b>(260,954)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(260,954)</b>	
<b>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	OP16	Enhancement of Darlaston Pool - implement new water features to improve teaching pool facilities and attract 'new business' - linked to capital investment	(15,000)	0	0	0	(15,000)
	OP17	Development of Oak Park office space to create more functional fitness space to expand classes - linked to capital investment	(50,000)	0	0	0	(50,000)
	OP18	Improvement to Direct Debit collection processes	(10,000)	0	0	0	(10,000)
	OP19	Review of coffee shop operations	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	0	(30,000)
	OP20	Develop new concessions in more parks	(5,000)	0	0	0	(5,000)
	OP21	Increase rental income from Park Lodges	(5,000)	0	0	0	(5,000)
	OP22	Above inflation increase to fees and charges	0	(20,000)	0	0	(20,000)
	OP23	Income generation review of fees & charges - increase bereavement charges by 5%, registrars & interment fees by 3%	(187,292)	0	0	0	(187,292)
OP24	Income generation review of fees & charges - increase active living by 5%; dry sports by 2%	(52,182)	0	0	0	(52,182)	
<b>Total People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing &amp; quality of life</b>		<b>(334,474)</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(374,474)</b>	

Directorate	Ref No	Detail of Operational Proposals by Outcome	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total
<b>Our communities will be more resilient and supportive of each other</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	OP53	Income generation review of fees and charges - increase Arts Centre hire and lettings by 12%; bar commission fees by 15%	(7,463)	0	0	0	(7,463)
	<b>Total Our communities will be more resilient and supportive of each other</b>		<b>(7,463)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(7,463)</b>
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>							
Economy, Environment & Communities	OP54	Charge developers for travel plans (this was approved in 2022/23 budget and deferred for 1 year only)	(30,000)	0	0	0	(30,000)
	OP55	Street lighting energy savings	(728,000)	(263,000)	0	0	(991,000)
	OP56	Increase recycling rates and reduce contamination	(452,523)	0	0	0	(452,523)
	OP57	Additional Trade Waste Income	0	(68,350)	0	0	(68,350)
	OP58	Increase domestic dropped crossing charges by 20%	(4,000)	0	0	0	(4,000)
	OP59	Increase s.38 and s.278 fees	(45,000)	0	0	0	(45,000)
	OP60	Increased bus lane/ bus gate enforcement	(50,000)	0	0	0	(50,000)
	OP61	Trade waste income realignment	(130,200)	0	0	0	(130,200)
	OP62	Waste to recycling review	(300,000)	0	0	0	(300,000)
	OP63	Income generation review of fees and charges - increase grounds maintenance, trees and arboretum rents by 5%; domestic waste and street cleansing by 10%; sale of bins by 22%; vehicle testing by 2.16%; vehicle goods and services by 20%	(55,102)	0	0	0	(55,102)
	OP64	Income generation review of fees and charges - increase traffic management by 10%; street naming and numbering and skip permits by 2%	(8,944)	0	0	0	(8,944)
OP65	Income generation review of fees and charges - increase regulatory licences and permits by 28%	(5,155)	0	0	0	(5,155)	
<b>Total The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>			<b>(1,808,924)</b>	<b>(331,350)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,140,274)</b>
<b>Total Operational Proposals relating to the remit of this Committee</b>			<b>(2,413,200)</b>	<b>(361,350)</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,784,550)</b>

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	Total £
<b>Total Savings Proposals</b>					
A - Policy Proposals	(920,774)	0	0	0	(920,774)
B - Operational Proposals	(2,413,200)	(361,350)	(10,000)	0	(2,784,550)
<b>Total Savings Proposals relating to the remit of this Committee</b>	<b>(3,333,974)</b>	<b>(361,350)</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(3,705,324)</b>

## Draft Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2026/27 – Council Funded Schemes relating to the remit of this Committee

## Rolling Programme Schemes

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	Memorial Safety Management in Cemeteries	The continued inspection and making safe of memorials in Walsall cemeteries and to discharge the council's duty of care within the cemeteries. Increased safety of memorials benefits the residents of Walsall by delivering a safer environment within Walsall cemeteries.	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	Traffic Signals Infrastructure	The council has a statutory duty to maintain all its traffic signal infrastructure. This programme of planned pedestrian crossing replacements will ensure the safe and efficient movement of pedestrians across the borough (Traffic Management Act 2004). Also supports delivery of the council's carbon reduction targets.	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
	Provision of Community Dropped Crossings	These are dropped kerbs at strategic points along footways which permit access for wheelchairs, pushchairs, mobility scooters etc. to cross roads. The investment will allow the council to provide a rolling programme of community crossing points.	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
	Promotion of Community Health and Safety	Ongoing funding of road safety schemes, to address local community concerns, which fail to achieve the strategic priorities associated with the Local Transport Plan funding in terms of casualty reduction. In supporting the delivery of these local schemes it is possible to improve local quality of life and safety creating safer communities.	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
	Highways Maintenance Programme	As Highway Authority the council has a legal responsibility to maintain the highway network. Failure to do so inevitably leads to a deterioration of our roads, increasing the likelihood of accidents and would ultimately expose the council to increased risk of third party claims.	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,800,000
<b>Total Rolling Programme Schemes</b>			<b>3,160,000</b>	<b>3,160,000</b>	<b>3,160,000</b>	<b>3,160,000</b>

## Prior Year approval schemes

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	Enterprise Zones	Required for the Council to cash-flow borrowing costs associated with capital investment into the Enterprise Zone. Financial modelling forecasts that these costs are expected to be recovered from future business rates generated from within the zone, although the Black Country LEP are the decision making body in relation to where business rates within the zone are invested. Therefore, on the basis that the BCLEP approve that costs on Walsall sites can be recovered through the business rates mechanism, then the Council will only be required to cash-flow these costs.	387,213	6,897,852	2,435,472	0
	Future High Streets Fund	To invest in Walsall to deliver a much-needed boost to our high street at this challenging time (External funding announced by MHCLG (now DLUHC – Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities) on 26 December 2020.). The additional £4.49m has been added from previously reports for the refurbishment of the Saddlers Centre including the transformation of the public realm area from the centre to the bus station with additional works to the train station concourse. This will be part of the transformative investment in Walsall Town Centre around the rail and bus stations. £4.49m increase - £3.471m in 2024/25, £1.02m in 2025/26.	7,517,372	14,657,776	1,020,000	0
Resources and Transformation	Towns Deal	In 2021/22, Walsall and Bloxwich were successful in being awarded £21.3m from DLUHC for each town. Working with the Town Deal Board and partners, a project confirmation table has been submitted for each project, with an underwriting requirement from the Council of £5.48m as the Council's share of the shortfall compared to the awarded allocation.				
		Walsall Towns Deal - council contribution.	780,520	0	0	0
		Bloxwich Towns Deal - council contribution.	1,650,000	425,000	600,000	0
<b>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	Children's Play Equipment	Installation of 6 new outdoor gyms and the improvement of 13 main play sites at a total cost of £1.644m to enhance the quality of play and fitness provision for young people and adults. This will be funded from S106 monies (£229k) and £1.07m council funded and seek to find the remaining fund externally. £580k in 2023/24 is the remaining amount out of £1.07m approved as council contribution.	580,000	0	0	0

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>						
Economy, Environment & Communities	Yorks Bridge (Top Up)	Yorks Bridge is currently the subject of a 7.5 tonne weight limit. Replacement scheme funded using council capital funding and the Department for Transport Maintenance Block.	750,000	0	0	0
	Waste Management Strategy	Strategic acquisition of property to support the future delivery of the council's waste management strategies.	2,069,970	0	0	0
	Capitalisation of wheeled bin stock	Linked to revenue savings option. Wheeled bin stock capitalisation	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000
<b>Total Prior Year Approval Schemes</b>			<b>13,915,075</b>	<b>22,160,628</b>	<b>4,235,472</b>	<b>180,000</b>

## Development Investment

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>						
Economy, Environment and Communities	High Streets Fund - further match funding	This project was approved by Cabinet 21 April 2021 - To part match fund external/council funds to invest in Walsall to deliver a much-needed boost to our high street. Originally £3,727,171 in 2024/25 and £1,067,476 in 2025/26. Rephased to 2025/26 and 2026/27. Further £315,353 also rephased from 2022/23	0	0	4,042,524	1,067,476
	Willenhall Masterplan	Willenhall Garden City Phase 1 is part of a housing-led regeneration programme with public sector intervention in land assembly and gap funding required to support private sector delivery of new homes.	6,420,927	0	0	0
<b>People are supported to maintain or improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life</b>						
Economy, Environment and Communities	Active Public Places	To deliver the full project scope of public realm works, canal bridge and basin works (approved by Cabinet)	0	1,000,000	744,000	0
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>						
Economy, Environment and Communities	Regional Materials Recycling Facility	Contribution towards the scheme approved by Cabinet on 4 September 2019 - Joint Working Arrangement with 5 partner councils in order to facilitate the delivery stage of a local authority owned Materials Recycling Facility. Approved contribution by Cabinet 17 March 2021.	929,054	0	0	0

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Economy, Environment and Communities	HWRC station - Middlemore Lane	This is additional budget required to cover the uncontrollable increased inflationary / construction pressures on the existing project. To provide a new Waste Transfer Station (WTS) and large Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) at Middlemore Lane in Aldridge.	7,599,919	9,775,472	0	0
	Street Lighting	Approved contribution by Cabinet 16 June 2021 - To deliver a modern, energy efficient street lighting solution that provides the ability to finely control light output whilst significantly reducing energy consumption and contributing to the Council becoming carbon neutral by 2050.	4,280,112	0	0	0
<b>Total Development Investment</b>			<b>19,230,012</b>	<b>10,775,472</b>	<b>4,786,524</b>	<b>1,067,476</b>

### New Capital Schemes

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>						
Economy, Environment and Communities	Development Team capitalisation of posts	The Development Team structure is currently a Team Leader and 4 officers. Capitalising posts will enable further capacity to be introduced to the team to support delivery of the pipeline.	327,649	327,649	327,649	327,649
Resources and Transformation	Saddlers Project- Car Park/New toilets and other works to support Connected Gateways	Car Park Surfacing works, Electric Vehicle charging, Changing Places and toilets plus further capital works to units during/post connected gateway scheme.	800,000	350,000	150,000	150,000
	Bosty Lane Farm	Remediation works at Bosty Lane Farm to allow disposal.	300,000	0	0	0
<b>Our communities will be more resilient and supportive of each other</b>						
Economy, Environment and Communities	Expansion of Park Hall	Resilient Communities capital schemes including potential expansion of new facility at Park Hall CA by creating another linked classroom on site and modular build at Alumwell.	580,000	0	0	0

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>						
Resources and Transformation	Pilot Changing Places/Public Toilets	Bloxwich and Willenhall groundworks at £125k each.	250,000	0	0	0
Economy, Environment and Communities	Regional Materials Recycling Facility	Joint Working Arrangement with 8 partner councils in order to facilitate the delivery stage of a local authority owned Materials Recycling Facility. Approved contribution by Cabinet 17 March 2021.	600,000	0	0	0
<b>Total New Capital Schemes</b>			<b>2,857,649</b>	<b>677,649</b>	<b>477,649</b>	<b>477,649</b>
<b>Total Draft Capital Programme – Council Funded Schemes within the remit of this Committee</b>			<b>39,162,736</b>	<b>36,773,749</b>	<b>12,659,645</b>	<b>4,885,125</b>

#### **Development Schemes – consideration and funding subject to business case approval**

- **Electric Vehicle charging points installation** - Installation of 844 charging points across Walsall's council owned assets to retain and operate to generate future income stream in conjunction with the removal of new petrol and diesel cars being sold by 2030.
- **Moat Street/Villiers Street** - Phase 1 of the Willenhall Framework Plan comprising the delivery of 111 new homes.
- **Willenhall Framework Plan future phases** - identifies three potential further phases where council intervention may be required to support delivery of new housing given ownership and viability issues.
- **Gasholders** - This Council owned site is located in the Black Country Enterprise Zone and forms a key part of Walsall's employment land supply. Work is being undertaken to provide an up to date site appraisal but previous work has indicated a need to fund a viability gap.
- **Anson Road** - The site is owned by Severn Trent and is not a priority for delivery due to viability and delivery issues. Severn Trent have indicated they are willing to consider disposal. The site forms a key part of Walsall's employment land supply and funding would support acquisition and delivery costs.
- **Walsall Gateway** - The sites are in multiple private ownerships and has been identified as an opportunity to bring forward new residential development in a sustainable location. A Strategic Delivery Plan is due to be prepared to inform future stages which are likely to focus on land acquisition, addressing abnormal costs and procuring a developer.

- **Challenge Block** - A new medical centre is currently being delivered on part of the Challenge Block site and work has commenced to identify the most suitable use for the balance. The council has a significant landholding but funding will be required to undertake land assembly to enable a comprehensive approach to future development.
- **Saddlers Quay** - Public sector intervention likely to be required to bring forward the site for development and address the ongoing issues. "Total Homes" to build 222 flats. Council to balance the viability gap.
- **Station Street Town Centre Living** - The site is in multiple private ownerships and has been identified as an opportunity to bring forward new residential development in a sustainable location. Due diligence work has been undertaken and a proposed delivery approach identified focused on land acquisition, addressing abnormal costs and procuring a developer.
- **Development of Oak Park office space** - To create additional functional fitness spaces to expand classes and generate extra income.
- **North Walsall Cemetery-concrete rafts** - Block installation of concrete foundation rafts at North Walsall Cemetery.
- **Pro-active repair and maintenance of roads and pathways at all cemeteries** - The council has an obligation to minimise health and safety risks for all staff and cemetery users. In addition to that, it is legally required to keep the cemeteries in good condition.
- **New Art Gallery** - Refurbishment works including LED (light emitting diode) and audio recording equipment, solar panel installation, digital infrastructure, footfall monitoring, heating and ventilation works, toilet and library refurbishment in support of external funding.
- **Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC)** - Fryers Road - to provide a new Waste Transfer Station (WTS) and large Household Waste Recycling Centre at Fryers Road.
- **In house operation of HWRC's** - The operating model for HWRCs is being reviewed in parallel with the construction of the new Middlemore Lane site. There may be revenue savings from bringing this contract in house. The council would need to purchase equipment for the site.
- **York Bridge** - review of scheme being undertaken and potential additional requirements to deliver the scheme.
- **Traffic Signals Infrastructure** - additional funding to replace obsolete traffic signals infrastructure. Existing rolling budget £200k.
- **Highways Maintenance** - additional request on top of rolling budget due to current inflationary pressures and increased labour and material costs – in addition to the existing rolling budget as the council has a legal responsibility to maintain the highway network.
- **Creative Industries Enterprise Scheme** - A cultural development funding bid has been submitted to support the additional £3m required and there are other external funding options available but the business case requires approval back to Government prior to any known outcomes and council underwriting, should other external funding not be successful, is required to take this forward.
- **Nottingham Drive Car Park** - Car park improvements on land being purchased by WMBC. Planning permission is in place but construction must commence by January 2023.
- **Brown Jug Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO)** - This is a derelict site, with the potential to CPO to facilitate housing (c up to 10-15 units maximum). There is currently no scheme currently to quantify, hence only the land CPO costs have been included plus legal/tax and contingency.
- **Remediation works at the Gasholders site on Darlaston Road to allow disposal**

**APPENDIX 4**

**Draft Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2026/27 – External Funded Schemes relating to the remit of this Committee**

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
<b>Supporting a dynamic, resilient and diverse economy where businesses invest and everyone has the right jobs and the right housing in the right place</b>						
<b>Economy, Environment &amp; Communities</b>	High Streets Fund	To invest in Walsall to deliver a much-needed boost to our high street at this challenging time, as announced by MHCLG (now Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities - DLUHC) on 26 December 2020.	4,783,964	0	0	0
<b>Resources and Transformation</b>	Towns Deal	In 2021/22, Walsall and Bloxwich were successful in being awarded £21.3m from DLUHC for each town. A grant offer has been received, which has been accepted by the signing of a Heads of Terms. Working with the Town Deal Board and Partners, a Project Confirmation Table has been submitted for each project, with an underwriting requirement from the Council of £5.48m as the Council's share of the shortfall compared to the awarded allocation. This is subject to formal completion of a full business case for all of the projects.				
		Walsall Towns Deal - Council contribution.	3,020,316	6,129,952	2,463,731	0
	Bloxwich Towns Deal – Council contribution.	6,356,604	8,662,988	4,929,408	0	
	Changing Places Toilets (CPT)	S31 Funding from DLUHC to invest in Council owned or facilities owned by others. CPTs are disabled toilet facilities for those with complex needs including a hoist.	171,650	0	0	0
<b>The people of Walsall feel safe in a cleaner, greener Borough</b>						
<b>Economy, Environment &amp; Communities</b>	LTP Highway Maintenance Programme	This capital funding, known as the maintenance block, is distributed by the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA). As the Highway Authority we have an extremely high profile duty to maintain our highway network. This money is provided by the Department for Transport via the ITA with the condition that it should be spent on the classified road network. Includes allocation for potholes and bridge strengthening.	3,568,700	3,568,700	3,568,700	3,568,700

Directorate	Capital Scheme	Detail of Capital investment	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Economy, Environment & Communities	Integrated Transport Block Funding	The Government provides each locality with grant funding to help implement the Local Transport Plan in their area. The grant is used for the implementation of small scale capital schemes; development of major capital schemes and to part fund major schemes implementation costs. The programme is designed to address road safety issues, progress the Council's major scheme aspirations; and resource the required 'local contributions' to approved major schemes. (Department for Transport / West Midlands ITA).	1,563,100	1,563,100	1,563,100	1,563,100
	Walsall Urban Tree Challenge Fund	Working in partnership with Trees for Cities - a joint application was made to the Forestry Commission. The project will plant 360 extra heavy standard trees in wide verges or small open spaces. The grant covers 50% of the cost of tree purchase and 50% of maintenance costs.	46,437	15,734	0	0
<b>Total Draft Capital Programme – External Funded Schemes within the remit of this Committee</b>			<b>19,510,771</b>	<b>19,940,474</b>	<b>12,524,939</b>	<b>5,131,800</b>