

Scrutiny Committee
15 February 2023

Item 4

Public Questions

Question from Wendy Smith

Please could you provide the details about which services you are proposing to cut and how you have come to this decision?

Are there any services that you're not proposing to cut?

Response from the Chair:

- 1. Thank you for your question. It is not the Scrutiny Committee's role to propose the Council's Budget, rather the Committee reviews and scrutinises the budget proposals put forward by Cabinet to Full Council for approval in order to report on these, or make recommendations as appropriate. The kind of questions you are asking are what the Scrutiny Committee may well ask Cabinet insofar as they are not clear from the budget papers or need further interrogation. As Scrutiny Committee Chair, I am not therefore in a position to provide details about the impact of budget proposals or Cabinet's decision making process. However, I would draw your attention to the Budget papers considered by Cabinet and published for this Scrutiny Committee meeting, which set out the available details of proposals in tables 26-31 starting on page 104. Further information about the approach to and the anticipated impact, is provided within the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) in Appendix 6 (page 291). The appended Cabinet budget papers also provide a summary of the approach to developing the Budget and the decision making process in section 4 (page 49). Final decisions on the budget are made at Full Council having regard to the recommendations of Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee discussions, the outcomes of public consultation, and the EQIAs.**
- 2. Please see response to Question 1.**

Question from Sophie Ciurlik Rittenbaum

- 1. Which services will close/be reduced as a result of cuts and what will be the impacts?**
- 2. If any services will be reduced, how will they be reduced?**

Response from the Chair

1. ***Thank you for your question. It is not the Scrutiny Committee's role to propose the Council's Budget, rather the Committee reviews and scrutinises the budget proposals put forward by Cabinet to Full Council for approval in order to report on these, or make recommendations as appropriate. The kind of questions you are asking are what the Scrutiny Committee may well ask Cabinet insofar as they are not clear from the budget papers or need further interrogation. As Scrutiny Committee Chair, I am not therefore in a position to provide details about the impact of budget proposals or Cabinet's decision making process. However, I would draw your attention to the [Budget papers considered by Cabinet and published for this Scrutiny Committee meeting](#), which set out the available details of proposals in tables 26-31 starting on page 104. Further information about the approach to and the anticipated impact, is provided within the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) in Appendix 6 (page 291). The appended Cabinet budget papers also provide a summary of the approach to developing the Budget and the decision making process in section 4 (page 49). Final decisions on the budget are made at Full Council having regard to the recommendations of Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee discussions, the outcomes of public consultation, and the EQIAs.***
2. ***Please see response to Question 1.***