

Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Date: Tuesday 17th March 2026

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

Councillors: Robin Moss, Toby Simon, Malcolm Treby, Colin Blackburn,
Duncan Hounsell, Jess David, Gavin Heathcote and Stuart Bridge



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NOTES:

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Papers are available for inspection as follows:

Council's website: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

2. **Details of decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, details can be obtained by contacting as above.

3. **Recording at Meetings:-**

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now allows filming and recording by anyone attending a meeting. This is not within the Council's control.

Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators.

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Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel - Tuesday 17th March 2026

at 4.00 pm in the Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 6.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

- (a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.
- (b) The nature of their interest.
- (c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** or an **other interest**,
(as defined in Part 4.4 Appendix B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

7. MINUTES (Pages 7 - 14)

8. CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

The Cabinet Member will update the Panel on any relevant issues. Panel members may ask questions on the update provided.

9. AI UPDATE (IN RESPONSE TO COUNCIL MOTION)

The Panel are asked to discuss the next steps regarding a Council motion agreed on 20th November 2025 regarding AI policies.

The Council motion requested that '*...this issue be referred to the Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel to review current operational AI practices & policies and consider whether a comprehensive AI policy (strategic & operational) should be developed and, if so, recommend what factors it should address*'.

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=35768>

10. QUARTER 3 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT (Pages 15 - 50)
11. CORPORATE STRATEGY PERFORMANCE (Pages 51 - 54)
12. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 55 - 58)

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel. Any suggestions for further items or amendments to the current programme will be logged and scheduled in consultation with the Panel's Chair and supporting officers.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Michaela Gay who can be contacted on michaela_gay@bathnes.gov.uk, 01225 394411.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL MEETING

Tuesday 3rd February 2026

Present:- **Councillors** Robin Moss, Toby Simon, Malcolm Treby, Colin Blackburn, Duncan Hounsell, Jess David and Hal MacFie (in place of Stuart Bridge)

Apologies for absence: Councillors: Gavin Heathcote

185 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including:

Councillor Dine Romero (Chair of the Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development Panel and

Councillor Andy Wait (Chair of the Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development Panel

The Chair noted that the order of items will be changed so that item 11, 10 and 9 will be considered in that order.

186 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

187 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Councillor Bridges sent his apologies and was substituted by Councillor Hal MacFie.

Councillor Heathcote sent his apologies.

188 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

189 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was none.

190 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

There were none

191 MINUTES

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chair.

192 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

The Cabinet Member confirmed that their updates would be contained within items on the agenda.

193 HERITAGE SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN

Councillor Paul Roper, Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development, introduced the presentation which covered the following:

- Vision
- Strategic Priorities
- Heritage Services 2025/26
- Key Project Information
- 2026/27
- Key Activity

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor MacFie asked about the fluctuation in the Roman Baths targets. The officer explained that there was a jump from 2025/26 to 2026/27, various reasons including that the next financial year has 2 Easters. There are a number of strategies in place to arrest the slight decline. We have taken a prudent approach to projections in future years as we will need to assess the market.

Councillor Treby thanked the Cabinet Member for the positive report and asked if visitor numbers for the Roman Baths are down this year compared to other attractions. The officer explained that numbers are in line with the attraction sector as a whole in the UK. People are taking shorter stays. ALBA will soon release figures. He noted that some organisations drive footfall at the expense of yield so we have to use caution in comparing visitor numbers.

In response to a question from Councillor Treby regarding yield per visitor, the officer explained that he is happy with this currently. Retail is slightly down and likely caused by the cost of living. In response to a question from Councillor Treby regarding the Fashion Museum predictions, the officer explained that higher numbers are expected in the opening year and then a level off. He explained the opportunities to cross sell with the Roman Baths (joint ticket).

Councillor Simon noted universal credit concession ticket and asked about the possibility of introducing a pension credit ticket. The officer stated that he would take this back to the team.

Councillor Blackburn asked what the ticket cost came down to in terms of revenue for the Council as residents' money is being used for this. The officer explained that the Fashion Museum has a comprehensive business case. It will overall run on a surplus but break even when factoring in borrowing costs. He added that there is no

real disadvantage to residents, all capital is looking to be repaid from Heritage Services. The Council will eventually own the attraction.

Councillor Blackburn asked about headwinds over the next 12/24 months. The officer acknowledged the potential destabilising factors such as ticket prices rising due to the World Cup and possible political instability.

Councillor Blackburn asked about the square outside the fashion museum – when this was included and implications for the road network. The Cabinet Member explained that this had been part of the extensive consultation over the whole district.

Councillor Moss asked if international visitor numbers had been affected by global political/economic changes – particularly from North America. The Cabinet Member stated that Visit West will publish the numbers.

Councillor Moss asked about the potential tourism levy, collected by WECA and impact on the number of visitors. The Cabinet Member stated that this will all be spent on public realm improvements.

Councillor Blackburn stated that in Germany, the café is a tourist information centre which is a good cross sell. The officer explained that there is a World Heritage Centre in York Street and all front-line staff are trained.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member and officer.

194 CORPORATE ESTATE ASSET MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2025-2030

Councillor Paul Roper, Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development, introduced the item. There was a presentation which covered the following:

- Purpose of our Corporate Estate
- What is the Asset Management Framework?
- How the Framework Fits Together
- Why are we doing it now?
- What will be different?
- Key Outcomes by 2030
- Corporate Estate Asset Management Policy 2025-30
- Supporting Corporate Objectives
- Strategic Delivery
- Corporate Estate Asset Management Policy
- Corporate Estate Asset Management Strategy 2025-30
- Mission
- Future Impact
- Our Corporate Estate as an Enabler
- Operating as a Corporate Landlord
- Our Corporate Landlord
- Challenging Our Assets
- Delivering the Corporate Asset Management Policy

- Our Plan on a Page
- Performance and Governance
- Governance
- Milestones

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Moss stated that this was a useful overview. He stated that key outcomes and future impact are missing and asked to see some KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) with figures from past/present/future. The officer confirmed that this information is being prepared.

Councillor David asked about public engagement in terms of assets that could be of community value. She also asked when the Action Plan would be published. The Cabinet Member explained that community groups can register an expression of interest. The officer explained that there is an asset management process – every asset is assessed in terms of: keep/invest/housing/disposal. The process includes potential for community asset transfer. He further explained that an Action Plan is being developed.

Councillor Simon stated that he would like to see ‘community solidarity’ as a priority included under ‘Corporate Estate as an Enabler’.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member and officer.

195 DRAFT BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2026/27 AND FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Councillor Mark Elliott, Cabinet Member for Resources, introduced the item.

Councillor Dine Romero gave the following feedback as Chair of the Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development Panel.

Children’s Services and Adult Social Care are under significant and increasing pressure. Demand is rising, needs are becoming more complex, and inflation continues to strain budgets. Without government reform of social care funding, the situation is likely to continue this trajectory.

The panel looked at proposed savings related to increased Care Act reviews, short-term care pathways, enablement, and universal services. Concerns were raised about potential negative impacts and that cost-driven decisions might disrupt essential support. Officers provided reassurance that reviews will remain person-centred, based on eligibility and outcomes.

The panel discussed co-production in recommissioning learning disability services, reflecting on last year’s engagement work. They emphasised the importance of early, meaningful engagement with individuals and families.

Concerns were expressed about joint working between the Council and the Integrated Care Board (ICB), especially as the ICB expands and may lose focus on B&NES. There was reassurance that there will still be a dedicated Place Director.

Funding disputes for people with complex needs were also highlighted, and the panel welcomed a commitment to bring forward joint reports on dispute resolution.

The Panel reviewed the “top 25 contracts” and asked for more transparency. Positively, it was noted that Children’s Services are concentrating on slowing growth rather than finding new savings. SEND pressures were discussed, with early signs of improvement in EHCP timeliness and fewer complaints.

The panel still had questions about how some savings—particularly relating to transitions from high-cost residential placements to supported tenancies—would be achieved without reducing support. The Panel is committed to ongoing scrutiny to ensure vulnerable residents’ needs remain central to decision-making.

Councillor Andy Wait gave the following feedback as Chair of the Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development Panel

This Panel has fewer statutory pressures and a focus on steering the Council’s future direction. Officers described the current year’s budget as “benign”, a view the panel broadly shared.

A major concern was the potential reduction in opening hours at the Bath and Midsomer Norton recycling centres. The panel welcomed the decision not to proceed, noting that cuts would have increased mileage to the Keynsham depot. Members also raised issues about kerbside waste route revisions, but were reassured that operational adjustments were manageable.

Parking enforcement and active travel were also discussed, particularly blocked dropped kerbs and whether enforcement could be carried out using electric cycles—currently limited by technology. Misuse of Park & Ride sites as general car parks was highlighted, prompting conversations about improving monitoring technology.

The panel examined funding for school streets, supported bus services and community travel initiatives, and was reassured these were supported through earmarked reserves or WECA-related funding. They welcomed plans for electric refuse vehicles from 2026, and sought clarification about associated costs.

Concerns were raised about Clean Air Zone operational deficits and parking charge increases affecting small businesses. Officers noted that reserves were available for the CAZ and that evidence does not show a direct link between parking charges and high street health, though the Council will continue monitoring.

Finally, members emphasised the need for clear communication around waste, recycling, and transport changes so residents understand the rationale behind them. Overall, the panel was supportive of the budget and commended the work undertaken by officers.

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Hounsell stated that the assumption made by Government regarding the Fair Funding Formula was 100% Council Tax collection rate and asked what our

collection rate is. The officer responded that it was approximately 98.5%. Councillor Hounsell commended the Cabinet Member and officers on the collection rate figure.

Following a question from Councillor David, it was explained that B&NES has the third lowest core spending power among unitary authorities, partly due to incorrect assumptions in the funding formula.

Councillor MacFie asked if social housing funding came under Capital Schemes. The Cabinet Member explained that major housing delivery is typically grant-funded rather than borrowing-funded.

Councillor Blackburn raised concerns about limited trend data and context in the report, making scrutiny difficult. The Cabinet Member stated that previous year's figures are given, portfolio cash level reporting shows budget lines so you can see movement from one year to the next. He asked that the Panel raise queries about this type of information in October time when the report is being prepared.

Councillor Blackburn pointed to the figure of 7.5% down regarding homelessness but asked what this was down from. The Cabinet Member will follow up with data on this. **Councillor Blackburn asked what underpins the £250k yellow box enforcement estimate. The Cabinet Member stated that it is based on departmental estimates and explained that enforcement aims to improve traffic flow. Councillor Blackburn asked why CIL money is being used for the new waste centre and cemetery. The Cabinet Member stated that the corporate CIL pot is there to serve infrastructure needs linked to development.**

Councillor Romero asked if the income from Heritage Services and parking mitigates what we lose in terms of HMOs on Council Tax. The Cabinet Member stated that it makes up some of the difference but not all.

Councillor Moss asked if the £150 per (band D) household from Heritage Services mitigates the effect of the Heritage status of the city on housing overall. The Cabinet Member did not accept the premise. Councillor Moss stated that we are proud of Bath and the tourism generated but it comes with a consequence in that a lot of people who work in Bath, live in North East Somerset and a lot of industry has moved to South Gloucestershire. He added that he believes the focus has been lost in that the tourism industry is to the detriment of North East Somerset and that he did not believe this budget has the vision to reduce the trend. The Cabinet Member stated that there are economic development plans in the budget and that some of this discussion is around Local Plan issues.

Following a question from Councillor Hounsell, the Cabinet Member stated that the relationship with WECA (West of England Combined Authority) is positive.

Councillor Hounsell asked for an update on BOB (Being Our Best programme). The Cabinet Member stated that 67% got a pay rise and nobody's pay was reduced. **Councillor Simon asked why the corporate contingency has reduced. The Cabinet Member explained that last year's contingency was unusually high due to uncertainty and that levels are now normal.**

Councillor Treby asked why there are not more savings proposed this year in order to mitigate the effect of the Fair Funding Formula in subsequent years. The Cabinet Member explained that many other Council's would be pleased at our budget proposals and we will always protect frontline services. We now have a 3-year settlement and time to plan.

Councillor Treby stated that some Council's have used moving traffic offence enforcement as a revenue source and asked for reassurance that we will not do that. The Cabinet Member stated that it will be used for what it is there for which is improving traffic flow.

Councillor Blackburn asked for an update on the Commercial Estate. The Cabinet Member stated that he is happy to come to the Panel to talk about this at a future meeting and it is on the future workplan.

Councillor Moss referenced the comment about it being difficult to scrutinise the figures as the Government settlement comes so late – he suggested that an item on budget scrutiny be added to the workplan so that Panel members can look at questions they want to ask and information they need in future years.

Councillor Moss stated that he was pleased to hear that recycling centre opening times have been addressed and that the Discovery Card will not have a charge and was pleased with the ability to look at differentiation of costs for residents and tourists. The Cabinet Member stated that he looked forward to proposals regarding the Tourism Levy which can hopefully be used to mitigate some of the effects of tourism.

Councillor Moss asked if the contract savings target are achievable. The Cabinet Member stated that yes this was achievable as it represents under 1% per contract and is supported by new contract management tools. Councillor Moss stated that some of the highest value contracts are in the health and care sector.

Councillor Moss asked about delivery of the Capital Programme, the Cabinet Member stated that he does have confidence in this but noted that it is never spent entirely due to allowances for contingency.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member, officers and Panel Chairs.

196 PANEL WORKPLAN

Panel members noted the future workplan and the following suggestions:

- Discussion on budget consultation – July TBC
- AI item (referred from Council) – March TBC
- Quarterly Performance Report – May TBC
- Council Tax Reduction Scheme Update

The meeting ended at 6.18 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING:	Corporate Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel
MEETING:	17th March 2026
TITLE:	Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring, Cash Limits and Virements – April 2025 to December 2025
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Appendix 1 - Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring, Cash Limits and Virements – April 2025 to December 2025 Cabinet Report</p> <p>Annex 1: Revenue Monitoring Commentary</p> <p>Annex 2: Key Scheme Capital Monitoring Commentary</p> <p>Annex 3: Revenue Savings Monitor</p>	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The report was considered by the Cabinet at their 12th February 2026 meeting. It presents the April 2025 to December 2025 revenue and capital budget monitoring for 2025/26.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to;

- 2.1 Note and discuss the Revenue & Capital Q3 2025/26 Monitoring Report.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring report and supporting main detailed appendices are included as the appendices to this report and for Panel consideration.
- 3.2 The summarised Council budget monitoring position is as follows, full details are included in the main report (Appendix 1):
- 3.3 The net revenue forecast position for 2026/27 is £1.659m over budget, which is an improvement of £0.764m from the position reported at Quarter 2. Managers across the Council continue to prioritise cost control measures to bring the budget back to a balanced position before year-end.
- 3.4 Children’s Services are forecasting the largest cost pressure, £7.400m in total, which is primarily due to high-cost packages required to support the most vulnerable and complex young people in the area. Adult Services and Corporate

Estate are also forecasting significant expenditure pressures, while staffing costs across the organisation have increased because of the pay and grading review associated with the Being Our Best programme.

- 3.5 Income is lower than budgeted for both the Roman Baths and the Commercial Estate, however Parking Services are seeing income exceed expectations. Lower borrowing costs and strong treasury management performance are also helping offset the adverse financial position.
- 3.6 The £1.659m forecast over budget position includes the use of £9.830m budgeted contingencies and £1.721m use of the Job Evaluation and Pay Structure Reserve.
- 3.7 It should be noted that circa £1m worth of invoices that were raised in 2024/25 and currently remain unpaid are being reviewed in advance of year end and there is a risk that some may need to be written off. A decision will be made at year-end but this adds a further risk to the financial outturn position.
- 3.8 Savings of £14.012m were included in the 2025/26 budget. At present £9.149m (65%) savings are forecast as delivered, with the remainder either being mitigated through alternative measures, or flagged as delayed or undeliverable. On-going budget pressures are being considered through the Council's budget setting process to ensure they do not continue to create financial pressures in 2026/27.
- 3.9 In the event the above budget position cannot be fully mitigated a combination of specific service reserves (such as the Adult Social Care Reserve) and the Council's Revenue Budget Contingency Reserve will need to be utilised, subject to approval. Should this be required there would be a requirement to replenish these reserves in future years, putting further pressure on meeting the medium-term budget gaps.
- 3.10 The current position of the 2025/26 Capital Programme is a forecast of £94.321m against the revised budget of £149.537m. Of the variance of £55.216m, £55.046m is anticipated will be rephased into future years.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The annual Medium-Term Financial Strategy and planning process allocates resources across services with alignment of these resources towards the Council's corporate priorities. This report monitors how the Council has performed against the budget and Capital Programme set in February 2025.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 These are contained throughout the attached report and appendices.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The substance of this report is part of the Council's risk management process. The key risks in the Council's budget were assessed by each Director, with these risks re-assessed regularly as part of the budget monitoring process.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE

7.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy and budget process aligns resources towards the corporate priorities and objectives set out in the Corporate Strategy, which includes tackling the climate emergency. This report monitors the Council's financial performance against those budgets.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation on the Cabinet Report was carried out with the Cabinet Member for Resources, Directors, Section 151 Finance Officer, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer.

Contact person	<i>Gary Adams – Head of Financial Management</i> Gary_Adams@bathnes.gov.uk <i>Stuart Donnelly - Director of Finance (S151 Officer)</i> Stuart_Donnelly@bathnes.gov.uk
Background papers	Revenue and Capital Budget Setting reports;
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

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APPENDIX 1
Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	12th February 2026	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 3652
TITLE:	Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring, Cash Limits and Virements – April 2025 to December 2025	
WARD:	All	

AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

List of attachments to this report:

Appendix 1 – Revenue Monitoring Commentary

Appendix 2 – Key Scheme Capital Monitoring Commentary

Appendix 3 (i) & 3 (ii) – Proposed Revenue Virements & Revised Revenue Cash Limits

Appendix 4 (i) & 4 (ii) – Capital Virements & Capital Programme by Portfolio

Appendix 5 – Revenue Savings Monitor

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

a) Revenue Budget

The Revenue budget outturn is currently forecast to be £1.659m over budget, which is an improvement of £0.764m from the position reported at Quarter 2 (the Quarter 3 forecasts and movements in variance from Quarter 2 are set out by Portfolio in Appendix 1). Managers across the Council continue to prioritise cost control measures to bring the budget back to a balanced position before year-end.

Children’s Services are forecasting the largest cost pressure, £7.400m in total, which is primarily due to high-cost packages required to support the most vulnerable and complex young people in the area. Adult Services and Corporate Estate are also forecasting significant expenditure pressures, while staffing costs across the organisation have increased because of the pay and grading review associated with the Being Our Best programme.

Income is lower than budgeted for both the Roman Baths and the Commercial Estate, however Parking Services are seeing income exceed expectations. Lower borrowing costs and strong treasury management performance are also helping offset the adverse financial position.

The £1.659m forecast over budget position includes the use of £9.830m budgeted contingencies and £1.721m use of the Job Evaluation and Pay Structure Reserve.

It should be noted that circa £1m worth of invoices that were raised in 2024/25 and currently remain unpaid are being reviewed in advance of year end and there is a risk that some may need to be written off. A decision will be made at year-end but this adds a further risk to the financial outturn position.

Savings of £14.012m were included in the 2025/26 budget. At present £9.149m (65%) savings are forecast as delivered, with the remainder either being mitigated through alternative measures, or flagged as delayed or undeliverable. On-going budget pressures are being considered through the Council's budget setting process to ensure they do not continue to create financial pressures in 2026/27.

In the event the above budget position cannot be fully mitigated a combination of specific service reserves (such as the Adult Social Care Reserve) and the Council's Revenue Budget Contingency Reserve will need to be utilised, subject to approval. Should this be required there would be a requirement to replenish these reserves in future years, putting further pressure on meeting the medium-term budget gaps.

b) Capital Budget

The current position of the 2025/26 Capital Programme is a forecast of £94.321m against the revised budget of £149.537m. Of the variance of £55.216m, £55.046m is anticipated will be rephased into future years. A summary by Portfolio is provided in Table 4 and by Scheme in Appendix 4(ii).

c) Council Tax and Business Rates

The current forecast on Council Tax is an in-year collection fund surplus of £0.37m. The Council's share of the surplus is £0.31m and this represents a positive variance of 0.2% against the 2025/26 budgeted income.

The current in year forecast for the Business Rate element of the collection fund is a deficit of £0.81m, of which the council's share is £0.77m and this represents a negative variance of 1.2% against the 2025/26 budgeted net rates.

d) Council Reserves

The Council holds general unearmarked reserves of £12.6m, this is held corporately to manage in year financial pressures that cannot be mitigated within existing budget levels.

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report presents the financial monitoring information for the Council for the 2025/26 financial year, using information available up to the end of December 2025.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked:

- 2.1 To note the 2025/26 revenue budget position detailed within the report (as at the end of December 2025).
- 2.2 To note and approve where required the revenue virements listed in Appendix 3(i).
- 2.3 To note the capital year-end forecast detailed in paragraph 3.32 (Table 4) of this report.
- 2.4 To note the changes in the capital programme including capital schemes that have been agreed for full approval under delegation listed in Appendix 4(i).

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Budget Management Scheme requires that the Cabinet consider the revenue and capital monitoring position four times per year.

REVENUE BUDGET

- 3.2 The financial landscape for Local Government continues to be challenging. The 2025/26 Budget was agreed by Council in February 2025, which outlined the significant budget risks the organisation was facing.
- 3.3 Service Directors have been asked to outline the actual expected outturn for the year and the reasons to date for over / under budget forecasts. For revenue budgets which are forecast to be over budget, the Directors are expected to seek compensating savings to try and bring budgets back to balance.
- 3.4 A summary by Portfolio of the revenue position as at the end of the third quarter is shown in the table below:

Table 1. Revenue Budget Quarter 3 Forecast by Portfolio

Portfolio	Revised Budget £'m	Year End Forecast £'m	Variance Over / (Under) £'m
Leader of Council	(1.000)	(1.000)	0.000
Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset	3.439	3.18	(0.021)
Resources – Services	32.907	33.818	0.911
Resources – Corporate	4.797	2.164	(2.633)
Resources – Corporate Contingencies	9.830	0.00	(9.830)
Resources – Being Our Best Programme	(4.200)	0.00	4.200
Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	(9.203)	(6.068)	3.136
Adult Services	64.157	64.708	0.551
Children’s Services	31.219	38.619	7.400
Communications and Community	5.210	5.614	0.403
Sustainable Transport Strategy	(8.781)	(9.189)	(0.408)
Sustainable Transport Delivery	19.647	19.715	0.068
Built Environment and Sustainable Development	4.079	3.683	(0.396)
Total	152.101	155.481	3.380
<i>Job Evaluation and Pay Structure Reserve</i>	0.000	(1.721)	(1.721)
Quarter 3 Forecast Outturn Variance	152.101	153.760	1.659

- 3.5 The current year-end forecast is a £1.659m over budget position, after the use of £9.830m contingency and £1.721m pay reserve.
- 3.6 It should be noted that circa £1m worth of invoices that were raised in 2024/25 and currently remain unpaid are being reviewed in advance of year end and there is a risk that some may need to be written off. A decision will be made at year-end but this adds a further risk to the financial outturn position.

Portfolio Commentary

- 3.7 Key forecast variances and associated planned mitigating actions by Portfolio are as follows (a more detailed breakdown can be found in Appendix 1):

Leader of the Council (*breakeven*)

This portfolio only contains the Housing Delivery Vehicle (Aequus), of which a breakeven position is forecast.

Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset (*£0.021m favourable variance*)

Parks and Open Spaces have a small income shortfall, which is more than offset by over-recovery of staff time to projects with the Environmental Monitoring team.

Resources – Services (*£0.911m adverse variance*)

Rental income shortfall within the Commercial Estate is one of two key areas of pressure within the portfolio, although increased service supported borrowing costs and the cost of legal representation are also forecast to be contributing to increased costs within the service, totalling £0.390m.

The second material forecast adverse variance is a pressure of £0.379m within Housing Benefit Subsidy where housing benefit claims for residents in temporary

accommodation are up 53% compared to the same period last year. The pending Renters Rights Bill has partially driven the increase with a rise in non-fault evictions before the law is implemented in May. Increases in council temporary accommodation has offset this pressure, which is a big positive for the organisation.

Staffing pressures exist across Waste and Fleet Services, Legal Services and Project Delivery team, while HR and Procurement services staffing underspends help partially mitigate these pressures

Resources – Corporate (£2.633m favourable variance)

Interest rates have been favourable when compared to what was expected at budget setting on both borrowing and cash balances, resulting in an estimated £1.4m benefit to the council.

Some of the council's capital programme needs to be reprofiled into future years, resulting in less borrowing requirement in year (£1.2m). This was also the case last financial year, resulting in a lower Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge in this year's accounts (£0.2m).

Corporate contingencies and Being Our Best programme financial implications follow in the next section of the report.

Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development (£3.136m adverse variance)

A total of 993k visitors came to the Roman Baths in 2024/25, with an increase to 1.1m visitors budgeted for 2025/26. Based on current demand data, visitor numbers are expected to fall short of budget, a trend that reflects what's happening across the sector, particularly in sites with high international visitor numbers. Visitor numbers are estimated at 972k for 2025/26.

Lower retail sales linked to lower visitor numbers and cost pressures linked to the vacation of the Culverhay site are adding to the financial challenge this year, which is estimated at a £2.172m overspend. A variety of cost mitigations are being pursued, as well as extra focus on wider income generating products.

The Corporate Estate service also ended last year with a financial pressure which continues into 2025/26. The key reason is undelivered budgeted savings linked to rationalising the estate, which has not progressed as quickly as anticipated. Staffing and maintenance costs are being actively managed to help offset the pressure. The net forecast overspend is £0.506m for the service.

The Regeneration service currently holds the budget for Bath Quays South (BQS), which at present is not fully let and as such is leading to a shortfall in budgeted income to the value of £0.481m.

Adult Services (£0.551m adverse variance)

Increased activity was seen in 2024/25 with demand for package placements increasing on average by 16%. The cost of care also continued to increase during the year due to the economic and market factors experienced through 2024/25 and the increasing complexity in care needs.

The overbudget positions seen in the Older Peoples and Learning Disabilities services in 2024/25, have continued into 2025/26. The current forecast for the

Older Peoples services is £1.310m over budget and in line with the reported position at the last quarterly reporting period. Residential Care and Home care are the areas of pressure within the older people's service, the number of residential placements stood at 153 as at the end of December 2025, compared to 154 at September 2025 and 137 at December 2024. This rapid rise of over 10% year on year, continues to create budget pressure. Homecare hours stood at 4,581 as at December 2025, compared to 4,701 hours in September 2025 and 4,113 hours in December 2024. Whilst the increased use of homecare is in line with the services strategy, the continued increase in residential placements is impacting on overall costs.

The review of the pooled arrangements within the learning disabilities service was concluded in 2024/25, and new agreed joint funding arrangements are now in place. These arrangements now replace the previous long standing pooled funding arrangements with Bath & North East Somerset, Swindon & Wiltshire Integrated Care Board (BSW ICB). However, budget pressure in residential and Supported living services has continued into 2025/26, with the service currently forecasting a £0.979m overspend.

Both services continue to work to reduce the budget pressures and be assured of costs. Arrangements for hospital discharges have continued into the current year enabling close working with BSW ICB to ensure effective and efficient discharge of clients. We continue to work closely with BSW ICB on both these areas to ensure appropriate funding is agreed.

The other areas within the service are forecasting to be balanced or under budget by a total of £1.738m, which will leave the net service forecast at an over budget position of £0.551m.

Children's Services (£7.400m adverse variance)

Children's Services closed the 2024/25 financial year with a £4.78m overspend, largely driven by rising demand and Residential placement costs. At quarter 1 a risk range of £4m to £8m was projected. The Quarter 3 forecast position is an over budget position of £7.400m. This is split as £7.011m across Children's Social Care and £0.389m from Education pressures.

Despite increased budget provision for 2025/26, a late-year increase of eight additional Residential placements (Q4 2024/2025) resulted in a £2.7m pressure rolling forward. These pressures increased further during Q1 of 2025/26 following a further 4 additional placements required to safeguard vulnerable young people, increasing the pressure in Residential placements by a further £1.4m. Q3 has seen 3 further additional placements increasing the Residential pressure by £0.5m, with extensions to existing placements leading to a total Residential pressure now of £5.4m. Most of the additional Residential placements have been a result of stepping across from lower levels of support as identified needs have increased, rather than being completely new to B&NES.

Residential placements are increasingly expensive due to upward cost pressure from the market fuelled by lack of sufficiency, combined with higher cost packages required to support the most vulnerable and complex young people.

Ongoing pressures also stem from the supporting young people being cared for at home, a total of £0.5m pressure and £1m salary pressure from agency usage to cover vacancies and respond to demand.

In Education, Teachers' pension costs, and historical reduced income pressures continue from 2024/25 totalling £0.2m, along with agency staffing pressures from the Education Psychology Team £0.2m.

To mitigate these pressures Children's Services are delivering a targeted response through an enhanced Transformation Programme and detailed scrutiny of all areas of activity and spend, including but not limited to children's residential placements. This has included a focused placements taskforce responsible for cost assurance and ensuring that young people's needs are met through the most effective and sustainable means possible. This process will lead to reductions in cost for the financial year 2026/27. Other workstreams major on placement sufficiency and amending the market structure. These workstreams will deliver reduced costs over the medium term.

Schools (Dedicated Schools Grant)

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) overspent for 2024/25 by £10.53m taking the cumulative to deficit at the end of 2024/25 to £32.795m.

Additional overspend for 2025/26 is anticipated circa £13.8m. This overspend is due to the costs associated with supporting pupils with SEND needs (High Needs) and is £2m above the Safety Valve plan in place currently. The Safety Valve plan seeks to address the built-up deficit of overspend of the DSG and bring spend in line with the grant allocation by the end of the Safety Valve term in 2030/31. The Department for Education's anticipated White Paper is expected to set out changes to the funding of High Needs and establish the framework for future years budgeting. It is hoped that the paper will also set out clarity over funding of the cumulative deficit.

Communications and Community (£0.403m adverse variance)

Income is lower than expected in Bereavement Services (£0.095m), and Licensing and Pest Control services (£0.223m), whilst undelivered savings and staffing pressures are generating an adverse position in Customer Services too (£0.158m).

Sustainable Transport Strategy (£0.408m favourable variance)

Parking income is exceeding budgeted levels (£0.506m), while a shortfall in staffing time recharged to projects within the Transport Strategy service is partially offsetting this (£0.098m).

Sustainable Transport Delivery (£0.068m adverse variance)

Staffing underspends and increased income across Network and Traffic Management have resulted in a £0.240m favourable variance, partially offset by a small £0.034m cost pressure within the Highways Maintenance service.

Home to School Transport has a forecast pressure of £0.274m as demand levels continue to rise across a higher volume of schools. This has led to increased routes and increased costs. This position is the net pressure post implementation of planned savings initiatives, which have been a success.

Built Environment, Housing & Sustainable Development (£0.396m favourable variance)

The majority of the favourable variance is as a result of increased income across the Development Management service area, with underspends across Building Control and Housing also contributing.

Budgeted Contingencies

3.8 When setting the 2025/26 budget, in recognition of the significant budget risks associated with national insurance changes, demand on statutory services rising above modelled levels, alongside savings delivery risk, the following contingencies and provisions were included in the budget:

- Corporate Contingency (£3.0m) for savings delivery risk and slippage
- Contract Inflation Provision (£2.6m) for the impacts of Employer National Insurance on supplies and services and contract spend across services.
- High Risk Service Demand and Cost Increase Provision (£4.2m)

All £9.830m of budgeted contingency has been released within the Quarter 3 forecast position to partially offset pressures as outlined across council services in section 3.7 and savings shortfalls outlined in section 3.9.

Savings Performance

3.9 The 2025/26 revenue budget approved savings of £14.01m. Delivery of these savings will be monitored throughout the year, with £9.15m forecast as achieved at the end of September, representing 65% delivery. Of the £4.86m not currently achieved, £2.04m are being mitigated through savings, contingency or income elsewhere in the respective service, while £0.68m of savings are currently delayed until 2026/27 and £2.15m are forecast as unachievable, resulting in material forecast pressures.

Being Our Best Programme

3.10 Included within the approved savings target is £2m of additional cost reductions relating to the organisation's Being Our Best programme. The programme was budgeted to deliver a £4.5m reduction in organisation staffing costs by 2025/26. As at the end of 2024/25, £0.5m had been delivered. Currently it is forecast that a further £1m will be delivered in year, resulting in a shortfall against the budgeted target of £2.5m.

3.11 The pay and grading review across the organisation has resulted in a net increase in salary costs. The increase has exceeded the budget by £1.721m and as such is creating both an in-year and on-going pressure. A Job Evaluation and Pay Structure reserve was created last financial year to cover any one-off impacts from the programme. It is recommended that this reserve is used to cover the in-year pressure (on top of estimated pay protection costs of £0.12m) and has been included as a direct mitigation in the quarter 3 summary table.

Budgetary Control and Management Action Plans

- 3.12 The Council has a positive record of strong financial management. Directors are actively developing mitigation plans for the service areas which are in an over budget position to manage the financial position in year and bring the Council back into a balanced position.
- 3.13 In the event the above budget position cannot be fully mitigated a combination of specific service reserves (such as the Adult Social Care Reserve) and the Council's Revenue Budget Contingency Reserve will need to be utilised, subject to approval. Should this be required there would be a requirement to replenish these reserves in future years, putting further pressure on meeting the medium-term budget gaps.

REVENUE BALANCES AND RESERVES

Key Reserves

- 3.14 The following table shows the balances of key reserves at the beginning of the year, planned use, and expected balance at the year-end based on current forecast:

Table 2. Key Reserves

Reserve Title	Balance as at 01/04/2025 £'m	Projected Use / Commitments £'m	Estimated Balance 31/03/2026 £'m
Revenue Budget Contingency	2.97	(0.59)	2.38
Financial Planning and Smoothing	6.67	(3.02)	3.65
Transformation Investment	4.53	(1.34)	3.19
Restructuring & Severance	4.83	(1.00)	3.83
Job Evaluation and Pay Structure	3.00	(1.85)	1.15

Flexible Capital Receipts

- 3.15 Flexible Capital Receipts are being utilised for revenue spend that results in ongoing revenue savings. The February 2025 Budget Report – Efficiency Strategy confirmed a continued £11.500m allocation of capital receipts for this purpose. This has now been updated to reflect the re-profiled requirement and re-phasing into 2026/27 as follows:

Table 3. Flexible Capital Receipts

	Actual Usage 2017/18 to 2024/25 £'m	Forecast Usage 2025/26 £'m	Forecast Usage 2026/27 £'m	Forecast Total Usage £'m
Flexible Capital Receipts	11.115	0.035	0.350	11.500

- 3.16 Unapplied capital receipts of £3.380m were carried forward from 2024/25, with £0.349m received in 2025/26 so far and further forecast if £1.3m against £3.8m budgeted, with the sale of Lewis House now expected in 2026/27. This reprofiling is partly offset by other new identified sales.

General Fund Un-Earmarked Reserve

- 3.17 The General Fund Un-Earmarked Reserve is retained to meet the Council's key financial risks. The risk assessment has set a range of between £11.8m and £13.0m to meet those risks in the 2025/26 financial year. The reserve has a current uncommitted balance of £12.6m in line with the level reported in the 2025/26 Budget Report.

Revenue Budget Virements

- 3.18 Any revenue budget virements which require Cabinet approval are listed in Appendix 3(i). Technical budget adjustments are also shown in Appendix 3(i) for information purposes, as required by the Budget Management Scheme.

COUNCIL TAX, COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT AND BUSINESS RATES

Council Tax & Council Tax Support

- 3.19 The 2025/26 Council Tax Base allowed for the same number of Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) recipients as at the end of November 2024 to continue into 2025/26. The budget estimate of costs of LCTS were set at £11.0m. The current cost estimate is £0.6m under budget at £10.4m with 6,232 working age claimants and 3,317 Pensioner claimants.
- 3.20 The actual outturn position on LCTS and the impact on the Council Tax collection fund will depend on a number of variables, including the change in number of claimants and the period claimants remain eligible for support whilst seeking employment and this will continue to be monitored closely during the year.
- 3.21 The current overall forecast on Council Tax is an in-year collection fund surplus of £0.37m. This is mainly due to the favourable trend against budget in LCTS costs and single person discount, partly offset by less than budgeted second homes and long-term empty properties where a premium is charged, and an increase in students occupied properties. The Council's share of the surplus is £0.31m and this represents a positive variance of 0.2% against the 2025/26 forecast income.
- 3.22 Combining the in-year projection with the Council's share of the decreased 2024/25 Council Tax Collection Fund final outturn position of £0.34m, as reported to Cabinet in July, gives an overall forecast deficit position of £0.39m.

Business Rates

- 3.23 The Government announced, as part of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement in November 2023, that the retail, hospitality, and leisure business rate relief scheme would be extended for a sixth year into 2025/26, but with a reduction in the level of relief from 75% to 40% whilst maintaining the cap on the relief at £110,000 per business.
- 3.24 The Council continues to be recompensed for the reduction in business rate income arising from this relief via a s31 compensation grant. The current level of retail business rate relief granted is £5.1m which is £0.8m above the £4.3m originally estimated for 2025/26.

- 3.25 Gross rates after reliefs is currently £1.3m adverse mainly due to the £0.8m adverse retail relief, £0.3m adverse small business relief and £0.1m adverse improvement relief against budget.
- 3.26 These adverse impacts on the collection fund are partially offset by a favourable forecast in relation to the provision for appeals, which is currently forecast to be £0.5m lower than budget. This is mainly due to some releases in respect of the 2017 rating list provision.
- 3.27 The current overall in year forecast for the Business Rate element of the collection fund is a deficit of £0.81m, of which the council's share is £0.77m.
- 3.28 The overall forecast position for the Council's share on the Collection Fund for Business rates, including the reduced surplus carried forward from the 2024/25 outturn position reported to Cabinet in July 2025 of £1.12m, is for a projected deficit of £1.88m. This has been factored into the 2026/27 Budget Report.
- 3.29 The forecast overall impact on the business rates collection fund position including reliefs and appeals will continue to be reviewed during the remainder of the year.
- 3.30 Section 31 grant income from Business rate compensation grants is currently forecast to be £0.69m above budget, this relates to increased relief granted in respect of Retail Relief, Small Business Rate Relief and Improvement Relief. This is currently planned to be transferred to the Business Rate Reserve.

CAPITAL BUDGET

- 3.31 The current position of the 2025/26 Capital Programme is a forecast of £94.321m against the revised budget of £149.537m. Of the variance of £55.216m, £55.046m is anticipated will be rephased into future years.
- 3.32 The following table shows a summary of the current position by Cabinet Portfolio. The full breakdown of the Capital Programme by Portfolio can be found in Appendix 2(ii) with key scheme commentary in Appendix 2. Appendix 4(i) sets out budget changes actioned since the February Budget setting report.

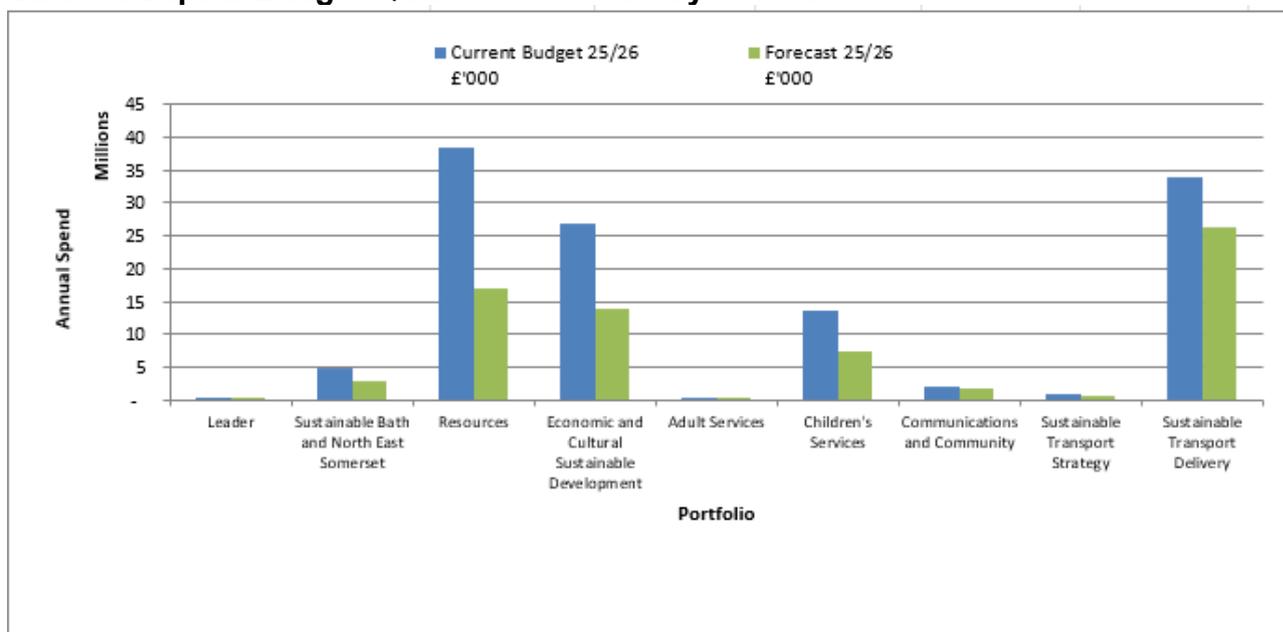
Table 4. Capital Budget Quarter 3 Forecast by Portfolio

Portfolio Summary Monitor	Annual Current Budget 2025/26	Forecast 2025/26	In-Year Variance 2025/26	Forecast Re-phasing to Future Years
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Leader	60	60	0	0
Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset	4,978	3,020	1,959	1,959
Resources	38,413	17,074	21,339	21,282
Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development	26,907	13,875	13,031	12,996
Adult Services	293	247	46	46
Children's Services	13,509	7,332	6,177	6,177
Communications and Community	2,023	1,904	119	95
Sustainable Transport Strategy	886	591	295	295
Sustainable Transport Delivery	33,826	26,324	7,502	7,447
Built Environment, Housing and Sustainable Development	28,643	23,894	4,749	4,749
Grand Total	149,537	94,321	55,216	55,046

Note: Some of the figures in this table are affected by rounding

The graph below illustrates the forecast against budget for all in year capital budgets by Cabinet Portfolio:

Chart 1. Capital Budget Quarter 3 Forecast by Portfolio



Capital Commentary

3.33 The key in-year programme variances are as follows:

Resources: £21.339m favourable variance, with £21.282m rephasing to future years

- Commercial Estate Programmes - Refurbishment £2.663m, Fire Safety £1.792m, Re-Investment /Jollies £2.302m - arising from resource constraints.
- Orange Grove £0.806m – paused to review repair options.
- Neighbourhood Services Vehicles £6.038m – including 6 electric Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) on order for delivery in June 2026.
- Waste Infrastructure Modernisation £4.254m – re-phased in line with signed contracts. On track for completion in September 2026.
- Property Company Investment £2.816m – lower forecast Aequus loan drawdowns.

The £0.057m favourable variance that is not proposed to be rephased relates to where St Michaels Surgery have withdrawn their bid for CIL funding.

Economic & Cultural Sustainable Development: £13.031m favourable variance, with £12.996m rephasing to future years

- Corporate Planned Maintenance £2.535m – a review undertaken on the progress of orders & historic performance has refined estimates.
- Heritage Collections Centre £0.515m – the withdrawal of Bath Spa University has stopped current project; alternative site options are being explored.
- Somer Valley Enterprise Zone £6.649m – land assembly is now expected later than previously forecast.
- Bath Quays North £0.746m and Bath City Centre Renewal £0.487m – projects continuing into future years.

Built Environment & Sustainable Development: £4.749m favourable variance, with £4.749m rephasing to future years

- Social Rent – £1.485m - Danes Lane delivery being key scheme in 2025/26.
- Bath Western Riverside 2 - £1.445m – focus is currently on £18m grant funded remediation activity with site planning permissions to be advanced in 2026.
- Disabled Facilities Grants - £0.600m no catch-up on past carry-forwards.
- Local Authority Housing Fund - £0.257m saving with all properties purchased within government grant.

Children's Services: £6.117m favourable variance, with £6.117m rephasing to future years

- Small Residential Unit (Charlton House) – £4.000m Project was paused whilst Ofsted registration was clarified but has now restarted.
- SEND (Special Education Needs & Disability) Capital Programme - £1.470m
- Capitalised Maintenance - £0.566m Programme delivery updated after summer repair programme.

Sustainable B&NES: £1.959m favourable variance, with £1.959m rephasing to future years

- Parks Improvements £0.551m – multiple S106 projects rephased.
- Bath River Line £0.500m

- Renewable Energy Development Fund £0.294m - realigned with delivery of Solar projects to increase capacity towards the 12kw target set for the corporate estate.

Sustainable Transport Delivery: £7.502m favourable variance, with £7.447m rephasing to future years

- Various City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) schemes including Manvers Street £2.978m, Bath City Centre £1.416m, Liveable Neighbourhoods £0.704m and Cycling and Walking Bath Quays Links £0.604m
- Clean Air Zone £0.369m – Queen Square Wayfinding has been delayed.
- Local Active travel £0.689m – s106 funded Public Right of Way Schemes now programmed into 2026/27.

The £0.055m favourable variance that is not proposed to be rephased relates to grant funded Cycle Hangers.

RISKS

3.34 The key risks to the budget were outlined in the Council's 2025/26 Budget Report, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance. These have been reviewed and are listed below, along with any additional emerging risks:

Table 5. Risks

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Update
Operational budget pressures due to rising demand	Likely	High	There is the high-risk of unplanned and unbudgeted growth in demand on Council services, particularly in Adult and Children's Social Care. Budgeted contingencies are in place to help mitigate the risk.
Contract inflationary pressure	Likely	High	With increase in wage, energy and fuel costs, and the Employers National Insurance increase, Council contracted services are at risk of above budget price increases. This is an economic risk that has been recognised in the budget with a contract inflation risk provision for potential areas that cannot be mitigated through activity management. Capital Schemes may need to be paused due to unfunded viability gaps due to increased supply chain costs.
Volatility and uncertainty around business rates	Likely	High	The impacts of the current economic challenges will increase the volatility and uncertainty around business rate income. In 2025/26 this risk has been partly offset by the extension of the business rate relief scheme for Retail, Leisure and Hospitality businesses, although the level of relief has reduced. We continue to monitor arrears, Company Voluntary Arrangements (CVAs), and liquidations with a specific reserve held to manage in-year volatility.
Changes to Government Policy	Likely	High	New government policy and funding reforms that are planned for implementation from 2026/27 are

that affects future funding			likely to have an impact on resourcing of Council services and priorities. This have been assessed against available information but will not be fully understood until December 2025 when the Local Government Finance Settlement is announced.
Viability risk on the Councils Commercial Estate assets held for income generation.	Possible	High	Current asset reviews have identified that due to the age and complexity of the Councils Commercial Estate, some assets operating costs and capital investment needs may exceed annual rental income values. This will be managed through a detailed asset review that informs a programme of prioritisation for investment in the estate.
Reinstated government restrictions in the event of a new pandemic.	Possible	High	This is certainly a material risk, whilst not one the Council has direct control over, every step would be put in place to follow government guidance following the recommendations of our Director of Public Health.
Impact on Reserves	Possible	High	Without additional government grant funding in recognition of unfunded pressures there is the risk that Council reserve levels are not enough to manage in-year and future years risk.
Capital projects not delivered resulting in revenue reversion costs or liabilities from underwriting agreements	Possible	High	The Council has a number of projects within this category. These risks will continue to be monitored and reported. An assessment is made as part of the budget process to ensure that revenue reserves are sufficient to meet these risks. The capital programme methodology looks to de-risk projects wherever possible.
Interest rates increase	Possible	Medium	A reserve is available for borrowing to manage market risk and long-term borrowing costs have been factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Long term borrowing rates remain elevated due to market concerns around fiscal stability both in the UK & the US.
Funding pressures through West of England Combined Authority (WECA), ICB and other partners	Possible	Medium	Ensure good communication links with partner organisations.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The annual medium-term financial planning process allocates resources across services with alignment of these resources towards the Council's corporate priorities. This report monitors how the Council is performing against the financial targets set in February 2025 through the Budget setting process.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 The financial implications are contained within the body of the report.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The substance of this report is part of the Council's risk management process. The key risks in the Council's budget are assessed annually by each Director, with these risks re-assessed regularly as part of the budget monitoring process.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 7.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy and budget process aligns resources towards the corporate priorities and objectives set out in the Corporate Strategy, which includes tackling the climate emergency. This report monitors the Council's financial performance against those budgets, and therefore does not include any decisions that have a direct impact on Climate Change.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 None.

9 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Cabinet Member for Resources, Directors, Section 151 Finance Officer, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer.
- 9.2 Consultation was carried out at meetings and via e-mail.

Contact person	<i>Gary Adams – Head of Financial Management</i> Gary_Adams@bathnes.gov.uk <i>Paul Webb – Senior Finance Manager</i> Paul_Webb@bathnes.gov.uk <i>Stuart Donnelly - Director of Finance (S151 Officer)</i> Stuart_Donnelly@bathnex.gov.uk
Background papers	<i>Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 and Financial Outlook (E3590)</i> <i>Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring, Cash Limits and Virements – April to June 2025 (E3625)</i> <i>Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring, Cash Limits and Virements – April to September 2025 (E3651)</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

Portfolio Number and Description	Cashlimit Number and Description	Current Budget £000	Actuals to date 31/12/2025	Forecast £000	Change from previous Quarter Forecast Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan
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Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Leader of Council

P04	Leader of Council	1112	Housing Delivery Vehicle	(1,000)	(182)	(1,000)	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P04	Leader of Council			(1,000)	(182)	(1,000)	0	0		

Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset

P39	Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset	1127	Environmental Monitoring (Air Pollution)	228	106	171	(6)	(57)	Over recovery of staff time against projects is the key reason for the favourable variance	Not applicable
P39	Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset	1137	Green Transformation	701	917	701	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P39	Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset	1147	Parks & Open Spaces	2,510	2,006	2,545	(45)	36	Income pressures within the service, are being mitigated through vacancy management and a reduction in expenditure across the service.	Any opportunities for vacancy management or stopping discretionary spend will be actioned where possible.
P27	Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset Total			3,439	3,028	3,418	(51)	(21)		

Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Resources - Services

P19	Resources	1032	Information Technology	8,743	8,331	8,749	(194)	6	No material variance reported	All upcoming contract renewals are being scrutinised to reduce where possible.
P19	Resources	1040	Finance	3,374	3,368	3,434	(0)	60	Staffing pressures across financial systems and financial services teams.	Vacancy management in conjunction with optimising staffing resources charged to projects will be prioritised.
P19	Resources	1041	Revenues & Benefits	2,433	3,385	2,427	(118)	(6)	No material variance reported	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1042	Risk & Assurance Services	1,792	1,264	1,792	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1047	Human Resources & Organisational Development	3,079	2,770	3,007	28	(72)	Staffing underspends across the service.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1053	Council Solicitor & Democratic Services	3,454	2,990	3,542	(40)	88	Under recovery of staff time to projects and cost pressures associated with recent by-elections are generating a forecast pressure.	Prioritising staff recharges to projects to ensure cost recovery where possible.
P19	Resources	1054	Hsg / Council Tax Benefits Subsidy	405	593	784	379	379	As of week 38, our department has experienced a significant increase of 53% in housing benefit claims for residents in temporary accommodation compared to the same period in 2024/25. One of the main factors contributing to this surge is the upcoming implementation of the Renter Rights Bill on 1st May 2026, which is leading to a rise in non-fault evictions before the new law takes effect. Additionally, there's some good news on the funding front. Due to an increase in council-owned temporary accommodation, we have received 7% more funding, which attracts 100% compared to the same period last year.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1081	Commercial Estate	(12,025)	(9,828)	(11,636)	(500)	390	The review and streamlining of working practices and processes has resulted in the increase in the income forecast but the overall rental income shortfall is still the key area of pressure, although increased service supported borrowing costs, the cost of legal representation and external charges are also forecast to be contributing to the reported adverse position.	Two additional posts in the maintenance team are being funded to provide the required resource to expediate works to buildings to enable us to offer the letting to the open market. This may not result in a full years rental income in this financial year (due to possible rent free periods) but it will ensure there is an ongoing income stream from the property for future years.
P19	Resources	1101	Neighbourhoods & Environment - Waste & Fleet Services	18,909	14,875	19,061	(16)	152	Operational services are continuing to see pressures on staffing costs, due to covering sickness, leave and vacancies with temporary staff to avoid service failure. This is an unbudgeted cost, although there is an improvement on sickness costs from last year. This has been offset by increased income, including trade waste, garden waste, reuse shop, and additional third party income from Pixash. Savings on maintenance at Pixash depot and waste treatment and disposal costs also help mitigate the staffing pressures.	Any opportunities to increase income or stopping discretionary spend will be actioned where possible.
P19	Resources	1118	Procurement & Commissioning	406	1,127	324	37	(82)	Vacancies within the service are creating an underspend on staffing costs.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1132	Business Change	780	754	780	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1143	Corporate Office	1,817	1,126	1,677	(56)	(139)	Underspends on staffing and contract budgets.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1145	Capital Programme and Project Delivery	(260)	94	(124)	136	136	Current analysis of staff time against projects is projecting a shortfall in recovery of costs over the year.	Work will be ongoing to encourage the team to ensure accurate recharges to projects to mitigate this adverse position.
P19	Resources - Services Total			32,907	30,849	33,818	(345)	911		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2025/26

Portfolio Number and Description		Cashlimit Number and Description		Current Budget £000	Actuals to date 31/12/2025	Forecast £000	Change from previous Quarter Forecast Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Resources - Corporate										
P19	Resources	N/A	Being Our Best Programme - Savings	(2,479)	0	0	0	2,479	Slippage in delivery of programme savings for 2025/26	Directors and Heads of Service have been tasked with increasing the pace of delivery to ensure the financial pressure is minimised where possible.
P19	Resources	N/A	Being Our Best Programme - Pay and Grading Review	(1,721)	0	0	233	1,721	Increase in staffing budgets as a result of pay and grading review and role profile mapping	Use of reserves to cover the increased costs are recommended and will be considered at year-end.
P19	Resources	N/A	Corporate Contingency	9,830	0	0	0	(9,830)	Release of corporate contingency to offset organisational budget pressures	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1055	Capital Financing / Interest	5,476	(794)	3,939	(700)	(1,537)	The forecast under budget position is due to a combination of £1,100k from lower rates achieved on new borrowing when compared to budgeted rates, £250k from higher rates earned on investments than budgeted, and a £187k lower Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge, reflecting the rephasing of capital projects reported in the 2024/25 capital outturn report.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1056	Unfunded Pensions	1,388	1,030	1,388	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1057	Corporate Budgets including Capital, Audit and Bank Charges	(8,232)	(7,909)	(9,327)	(285)	(1,095)	Lower corporately supported borrowing (CSB) costs of £1.2m associated with capital schemes with spend to be reprofiled into future years in line with current delivery forecasts. The Apprenticeship Levy charge is forecast to be £55k over budget, based on the latest Payroll. There is also a £50k over budget position due to the under-recovery of Pension Deficit costs from services.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1058	Magistrates	12	0	12	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1059	Coroners	575	284	575	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1060	Environment Agency	268	268	268	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1061	West of England Combined Authority Levy	5,309	5,309	5,309	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P19 Resources - Corporate Total				10,427	(1,812)	2,164	(752)	(8,263)		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development										
P33	Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1018	Heritage Services	(14,192)	(11,484)	(12,020)	(170)	2,172	The revised forecast is based on an extrapolation of trends observed between September and December. This reduction in visitors would have resulted in a £272k shortfall had the Service not implemented mitigating actions	Price Increases (£70k). A more aggressive approach to pricing for the travel trade than assumed in the Q2 forecast. Service-wide Savings (£75k). A series of savings across the Service in response to reduced visitor numbers. Note: These are in addition to significant savings identified earlier in the year. Marketing (£35k) The Service has not cancelled planned marketing activity, this would be commercially unwise given the visitor shortfall. The forecast reflects greater certainty over Q4 spend.
P33	Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1038	Corporate Estate Including R&M	4,964	3,579	5,469	(187)	506	Budgeted savings have not yet been achieved due to slippage in rationalising the estate through disposal or redeployment, and the delay in the adoption of the Corporate Landlord model. Property costs are high due to assets being held void. We have increased the mitigation available through recharging staff time to projects and holding posts vacant whilst smarter structures are implemented. There is also a balance to be struck in managing this year's financial position and further impacting future years' costs. Overall, the forecast overspend has been reduced to £505k	Ongoing prioritisation of revenue spend across the estate, recharging of time to projects, alongside vacancy savings from mid-year recruitment are being adopted to mitigate the estimated overspend.
P33	Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1052	Regeneration	(518)	928	(37)	40	481	Unlet floor space at No.1 Bath Quays South is resulting in a shortfall against the budgeted income target.	Market sentiment and demand continues to be challenging given wider national and global macro-economic pressures. No.1 Bath Quays is now the only quality Grade A, EPC A, accommodation in the City and the remaining vacant accommodation sits well within general occupational needs, meaning the accommodation is well suited to tenant requirements as the market improves.
P33	Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1109	World Heritage	128	88	129	0	1	No material variance reported	Not applicable
P33	Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1128	Business & Skills	415	553	391	(10)	(24)	Income generation opportunities relating to staff recharges have produced this favourable variance.	Not applicable
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development Total				(9,203)	(6,336)	(6,068)	(327)	3,136		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2025/26

Portfolio Number and Description		Cashlimit Number and Description		Current Budget £000	Actuals to date 31/12/2025	Forecast £000	Change from previous Quarter Forecast Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Adult Services										
P20	Adult Services	1019	Leisure	302	992	314	12	12	One off legal costs linked to deed of variation on leisure contract is higher than budget. The new contract arrangements will help to deliver savings in 2026-27 and future years.	Review of non essential expenditure
P20	Adult Services	1036	Adults Substance Misuse (DAT)	82	(1,620)	82	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1073	Adults & Older People-Mental Health Commissioning	8,395	6,355	7,904	(267)	(491)	Forecast continues to be under budget and includes all known current demand. All reviews/requests for funding remain scrutinised at the joint forums with Health.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1086	Adult Care Commissioning	6,052	4,161	5,973	(67)	(79)	Restructure of Adult and Children commissioning have delivered a mix of one off in year and recurrent savings. Forecast saving includes achievement of savings of £75K.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1088	Older People & Physically Disabled Purchasing	14,307	12,446	15,617	(59)	1,310	Demand has risen for all older people services during 2025-26. The Acute and Community Hospitals have been in critical incident throughout December. Demand for both residential and home care support is more than 10% higher in December 2025 than in December 2024. 20% of people who require Adult Social Care funding had previously been funding their own care.	Strong controls have been put into place to ensure packages of care are reviewed and appropriate before sign off.
P20	Adult Services	1091	Learning Disabilities Commissioning	19,614	14,839	20,593	(196)	979	Continued Demand for services, the level of need and the number of young people transitioning into adult services is resulting in an over budget forecast.	Continued scrutiny of packages of care, applications for CHC and joint funding from the BSW ICB Health colleagues continues to be a priority as well as the review of packages of care,
P20	Adult Services	1093	Physical Disability, Hearing & Vision	3,957	2,576	3,912	305	(45)	Forecast continues to be under budget and includes known transitions of young people to adult services. All reviews/requests for funding remain scrutinised at the joint forums with Health.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1094	Public Health	0	(2,640)	0	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1110	Better Care Fund	(9,259)	(11,055)	(9,259)	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1113	CCG B&NES CHC and FNC Payments	0	822	0	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1114	Community Equipment	244	512	253	9	9	Demand pressures are being met from funding earmarked to support hospital discharge and maintaining independence within the Better Care Fund (BCF).	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1123	Safeguarding Adults	(1,912)	(2,305)	(1,908)	16	4	One off agency costs necessary to cover essential safeguarding posts.	Review of non essential expenditure
P20	Adult Services	1124	Community Resource Centres & Extra Care Income	8,792	6,238	8,340	(58)	(451)	Action has been taken in 2025 to improve occupancy and enable self-funders to stay in Council run facilities where appropriate. As a result, fee income is forecast to exceed budget by £360k. The balance of £91k is a mix of one-off savings on non-staff budgets and slippage in finding an alternative to care planning system for extra care.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1141	Social Care	9,703	7,060	9,285	(109)	(418)	Staffing restructure came into effect from 1.10.25. Under budget position is due to vacancies, these are now all in progress to be recruited to. Agency staff have been used on an interim basis to cover some of the posts.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services	1146	Provider Services	3,880	2,604	3,602	(26)	(278)	Salary savings due to staff turnover.	Not applicable
P20	Adult Services Total			64,157	40,984	64,708	(440)	551		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2025/26

Portfolio Number and Description	Cashlimit Number and Description	Current Budget £000	Actuals to date 31/12/2025	Forecast £000	Change from previous Quarter Forecast Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan
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Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Children's Services

P21	Children's Services	1076	Children, Young People & Families	22,265	22,849	29,354	1,363	7,089	The main driver of pressure is £6m Demand Budgets, with Residential placements being the main area of overspend at £5.4m. Additional placements and step across placements from other areas of support have been required to safeguard young people, these additional placements have often been at increased cost due to the increasing complexity of need that young people are presenting with, and the continued lack of sufficiency in the placement sector. The other main pressure is salary at £1m which is due to agency staffing usage to both cover vacancies that are difficult to recruit to and to respond to the demand within the service. This position includes full delivery of the budgeted £2.3m savings targets for 25/26.	In addition to the established review panels for new and existing placements and packages of care, a detailed review of all placements and packages of care is near completion, allowing for detailed service actions plans and responsive financial modelling. Agency usage reduction will be targeted where possible with urgency. A service redesign is underway to align with the Government's Families First initiative and is part of transformation activity overseen by the Children's Transformation Board. Other workstreams target placement sufficiency and market structure. Transformational outcomes will be delivered over the medium term.
P21	Children's Services	1077	Inclusion & Prevention	3,304	2,184	3,203	(20)	(100)	Improved savings position is a result of a staff vacancy which will not be filled this financial year and additional one-off income from desk rentals that was not anticipated.	Not applicable
P21	Children's Services	1078	Education Transformation	5,577	3,248	5,966	73	389	£0.15m pressure from Teacher Pension costs. £0.1m pressure due to historical income pressures. Balance of overspend due to staffing pressures as a result of agency use in the Education Psychology Team due to service demands. This pressure was £0.3m but has been significantly mitigated by holding vacancies elsewhere.	Plan to hold vacancies where possible until the new financial year, and stop any discretionary spend that is possible.
P21	Children's Services	1079	Schools Budgets	(1,506)	2,208	(1,506)	0	0	Although no variance reported there is an underlying overspend of the Dedicated School Grant (DSG) this year forecast of circa £13.8m. This is £2m higher than the planned overspend position held within the Safety Valve plan. The Safety Valve plan seeks to address the built-up deficit of overspend of the DSG and bring spend in line with the grant allocation by the end of the Safety Valve term in 2030-31.	The historical deficit and in-year overspends are being addressed via the Safety Valve plan in conjunction with the Department for Education (DfE) over a 6 year period. The DfE's anticipated White Paper is expected to set out changes to the funding of High Needs and establish the framework for future years budgeting. It is hoped that the paper will also set out clarity over funding of the cumulative deficit.
P21	Children's Services	1116	Integrated Commissioning - CYP	1,580	848	1,602	2	22	Over budget position is as a result of spend on Children's and Young People's equipment.	This spend is primarily contracted, however any opportunity for spend reduction in non contracted areas will be pursued.
P21	Children's Services Total			31,219	31,338	38,619	1,418	7,400		

Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Communications and Community

P36	Communications and Community	1089	Community Safety	402	539	408	18	6	No material variance reported	Not applicable
P36	Communications and Community	1044	Communications and Marketing	320	209	319	0	(1)	No material variance reported	Not applicable
P36	Communications and Community	1115	Registrars Service	(73)	(228)	(118)	(45)	(45)	Over-achievement of income target has generated a favourable forecast position	Not applicable
P36	Communications and Community	1119	Emergency Planning	770	528	742	(2)	(27)	An underspend on contract expenditure due to being in the early stages of the CCTV maintenance contract are more than offsetting pressures on staffing.	Not applicable
P36	Communications and Community	1121	Events and Active Lifestyles	432	(174)	428	(11)	(4)	No material variance reported	Not applicable
P36	Communications and Community	1122	Customer Services (Including Libraries)	3,144	2,316	3,302	(63)	158	A 2024/25 savings target around reducing customer related costs across the organisation is still unachieved. Staffing and materials pressures are also contributing to the projected overspend.	Investment in digital solutions across customer interactions and postage costs will bring down the costs of running the service in the medium term.
P36	Communications and Community	1139	Public Protection	1,389	1,203	1,612	9	223	Pressures on licensing income is the main contributor to the adverse forecast variance, along with smaller income pressures in other areas, pressures on staffing and water monitoring costs. These pressures have been reduced by vacancy management and expenditure savings across the service.	Limited scope to find savings within the service to offset income shortfall. Expenditure being closely monitored and any savings opportunities will be realised.
P36	Communications and Community	1144	Park and Ride	(546)	1,895	(546)	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P36	Communications and Community	1148	Bereavement Services	(629)	(347)	(534)	(30)	95	Pressures on cremation income at Haycombe Crematorium, have reduced slightly. These pressures have also been offset by some small savings in expenditure.	Any opportunities for vacancy management or stopping discretionary spend will be actioned where possible.
P34	Communications and Community Total			5,210	5,941	5,614	(124)	403		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2025/26

Portfolio Number and Description		Cashlimit Number and Description		Current Budget £000	Actuals to date 31/12/2025	Forecast £000	Change from previous Quarter Forecast Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Sustainable Transport Strategy										
P37	Sustainable Transport Strategy	1103	Transport & Parking Services - Parking	(9,099)	(7,908)	(9,606)	(0)	(506)	Parking income is continuing to remain above budgeted levels, but we are seeing some pressures on permit income. The overall position has been reduced by £210k due repayment of borrowing for a resident parking zone (RPZ) implementation.	Not applicable
P37	Sustainable Transport Strategy	1129	Clean Air Zone	0	(512)	0	0	0	No variance reported.	Not applicable
P37	Sustainable Transport Strategy	1135	Transport Strategy	319	1,552	416	(36)	98	Income targets for Transport Strategy have proved not to be fully achievable based on activity delivered. This will be addressed through an adjustment to base budget from 26/27. A shortfall in staff recharges to projects alongside a shortfall in transport monitoring recharges result in this adverse position, which has been mitigated in year through reductions to programme spend.	Staff are being encouraged to complete timesheets in a timely fashion and more accurately. This could result in an increase in recharges to projects. Due to structural changes, budgets have been moved out of Transport Strategy which limits our opportunities to mitigate some of these adverse situations.
P05	Sustainable Transport Strategy Total			(8,781)	(6,868)	(9,189)	(36)	(408)		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Sustainable Transport Delivery										
P38	Sustainable Transport Delivery	1133	Network & Traffic Management	1,055	650	815	(65)	(240)	Income is over and above budgeted levels, this combined with staffing underspends are generating the favourable variance.	Not applicable
P38	Sustainable Transport Delivery	1134	Highway Maintenance	7,157	4,353	7,192	5	34	Pressure on gulley emptying due to an increase in costs since the introduction of the third tanker. Pressures on the staffing due to recruitment issues in the structures team and team manager post. This overspend is reduced due to a reduction in the annual electricity price for street lighting.	Any opportunities for vacancy management or stopping discretionary spend will be actioned where possible.
P21	Children's Services	1142	Home to School Transport	11,435	7,672	11,709	253	274	The service are continuing to see increases in cost largely relating to demand for the service which is creating a financial pressure in delivering the statutory home to school transport service. However, the savings implemented by the service have reduced this position significantly. The forecast is based on April to November data but modelled on the increase in demand that the service are currently predicting.	Any opportunities for vacancy management or implementing further route savings will be actioned where possible.
P05	Sustainable Transport Delivery Total			19,647	12,676	19,715	194	68		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Built Environment and Sustainable Development										
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development	1029	Housing	2,453	722	2,349	(83)	(104)	Domestic abuse service expenditure has been maintained within the grant allocation and therefore hasn't relied on budgeted contingency, whilst there are small staffing underspends across the service, which combined are more than mitigating a shortfall in income on Homesearch implementation fees.	Not applicable
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development	1106	Development Management	1,542	1,201	1,292	34	(251)	Planning income over and above budgeted levels, combined with staffing underspends are generating the favourable variance.	Not applicable
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development	1138	Building Control	84	(78)	42	(19)	(42)	Staffing vacancies alongside increased income generation are driving the favourable variance	Not applicable
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development Total			4,079	1,846	3,683	(68)	(396)		
Council Total				152,101	111,466	155,481	(531)	3,380		
	Use of Job Evaluation and Pay Structure Reserve			0	0	(1,721)	(233)	(1,721)	Recommended use of reserve to mitigate costs of implementing new organisational pay and grading structure.	Not applicable
Revised Council Total				152,101	111,466	153,760	(764)	1,659		

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FINANCE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTERLY DASHBOARD - April to December 2025

CAPITAL APPENDIX 2 - KEY SCHEME VARIANCE ANALYSIS

		Sum of 25/26 Forecast £'000	Sum of 25/26 Total Current Budget £'000	Sum of 25/26 Variance £'000	Re-phasing to Future Years £'000
Children's Services					
Basic Needs - School Improvement / Expansion	<p>Programme Highlights:</p> <p>St Keyna Primary: An expansion by one form entry to enable a 420-place school, with a new 6-classroom block built to Passivhaus standard: Due to complete by end of February 2026 within budget.</p> <p>Oldfield School Technical Block - Now occupied from June 2025 with costs currently being finalised .</p> <p>Keynsham East, Two Rivers playing field - The timing of delivery is controlled by external parties, therefore details are currently to be confirmed.</p> <p>Newbridge: Masterplanning Feasibility & Development is underway.</p> <p>A feasibility & development budget is held, also for delegated approval, when new projects arise.</p>	3,129	3,229	100	100
Schools Capital Maintenance Schemes	<p>Schools Condition Grant provides for a programme of repair and maintenance works to Council's Maintained Schools. The Current programme of works includes: Newbridge Primary: Various ongoing maintenance works with some due to complete by Q4. Completed works include: Rewire and LED lighting & removal of Music block. Twerton Infants: Rewire & LED lighting completed. Roof works being completed across 4 phases, with phase 1 now complete and phase 2 started, all progressing well. St Keyna Primary: LED lighting upgrades to be carried out on completion of the expansion project. Paulton Juniors: Wall repairs now complete, pending final payments. Other: We also hold a budget for emergency works, minor works and radon work for ad hoc issues as they arise.</p>	1,435	2,002	566	566
SEND (Special Education Needs & Disability) Capital Programme	<p>Projects to provide Resource Bases and SEND adaptations at schools and colleges across B&NES. Current projects are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) 20-place Resource Base (RB) new build at Ralph Allen is now occupied. £50k underspend will be returned to provisional budget for reallocation. 2) ASD 20-place RB remodelling at St Mark's - project completed and occupied. 3) Abbott Alphege separation works, adaptations and remodelling for Alternative Provision (AP) relocation from the Culverhay site. Nearing completion with some IT works outstanding. 4) Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH), 10-place RB new build standalone building at Mulberry Park Primary. Planning submitted and contractor tender specification published. Completion due for September 2026 occupation. 5) IKB Feasibility & development is complete pending approval. 6) General Feasibility and Development (F&D) budget has pending approval for Roundhill. 7) Margaret Coates Centre 48 place Resource Centre - Scheme completed. 8) The St Gregory RB to be realigned to 2026-27 and with the Culverhay plans. 	1,792	3,262	1,470	1,470
New Residential & Day School (Charlton House)	<p>Charlton House provision of two separate children's homes, each for 4 children to be co-located with a separate 30-place SEND school. A budget increase of £660k was now been approved from Council contingency, to be repaid in future from expected placement savings. Consultation is on-going and design and construction tenders received and being evaluated. Lease agreements with three operating bodies are also progressing.</p>	668	4,668	4,000	4,000

FINANCE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTERLY DASHBOARD - April to December 2025

CAPITAL APPENDIX 2 - KEY SCHEME VARIANCE ANALYSIS

		Sum of 25/26 Forecast £'000	Sum of 25/26 Total Current Budget £'000	Sum of 25/26 Variance £'000	Re-phasing to Future Years £'000
Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development					
Bath Quays North	Project spend reflects current negotiations with the University of Bath (UoB) and expected to continue for 6 to 9 months more. A route map is agreed with UoB that sets clear objectives and timelines for progress and informs the forecast budget.	612	1,358	746	746
Corporate Estate Planned Maintenance	Due to long-term staffing constraints, the focus has been on essential maintenance and commercial estate work to maintain income-generation. At the time of writing orders have £1.1m, with and £724k out to tender. Completed works include Care Home repairs to a retaining wall and new hydraulic lift controls, works to various closed burial grounds, resurfacing and non-highway bridge remedials and new LED lighting at the Civic Centre.	3,033	5,567	2,535	2,535
Somer Valley Enterprise Zone - Infrastructure	The Somer Valley Enterprise Zone (SVEZ) project requires land acquisition to enable the delivery of the scheme. Land negotiations and preparations for a potential Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) are ongoing. Due to the time required to acquire the land, expenditure has been reprofiled into 2026/27.	2,248	8,897	6,649	6,649
Milsom Norton High Street Renewal Programme	Final evaluation and project wrap-up are underway, with spend to budget and project completed in March 2026.	200	357	157	157
Bath City Centre Renewal Programme	WEMCA have approved reprofiling of the project into 2026-27 .	641	1,128	487	487
Milsom Quarter Masterplan Delivery	Full Business Case for £11m submitted in November 2025 to WEMCA, with decision pending. Fashion Museum and Public Realm schemes are fully designed to RIBA 3 standards using funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) grant ; Broad St Yards scheme completed to feasibility stage (RIBA 2) and the Council is now seeking a Joint Venture partner. Due Diligence on Walcot Gateway proposals complete.	337	613	276	276
Radstock Regeneration	Funding awarded to Radstock Town Council via a Service Level Agreement with scheme now on site . Phase 1 is due for completion in March 2026.	423	423	-	-
Fashion Museum Renovation	The project is currently on budget and schedule. RIBA 3 design is complete, and has passed with National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Development Review and the second round application to NLHF is due at the end of February 2026. An application for funding has been submitted to WEMCA for joint funding with the Public Realm scheme. The applications for Planning and Listed Building Consent on the scheme have been submitted. £223k slippage into 2026/27 reflects committed costs to June 2026.	1,700	1,923	223	223
High Street Recovery	Construction has commenced with completion due by end of March 2026.	1,126	1,126	-	-
Corporate Estate Decarbonisation Programme	Work is in progress to deliver decarbonisation & solar schemes and improve data and Building Management System. Feasibility for a possible Pulteney Wier hydro-electric power scheme is in progress. Installation of ground source heat pumps at Carrswood Day Centre and Keynsham Civic Centre is in progress, with government grant support.	255	346	91	91
Guildhall Roof Refurbishment	Major £4m refurbishment with completion of design and specification in Q3, along with working towards Listed Building consents.	50	190	140	140

FINANCE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTERLY DASHBOARD - April to December 2025

CAPITAL APPENDIX 2 - KEY SCHEME VARIANCE ANALYSIS

		Sum of 25/26 Forecast £'000	Sum of 25/26 Total Current Budget £'000	Sum of 25/26 Variance £'000	Re-phasing to Future Years £'000
Resources					
Commercial Estate Refurbishment Programme	A programme is underway to repair and improve vacated commercial properties for new lettings. Resource challenges impacted progress in Q1 and Q2, but additional specialist support now engaged.	3,285	5,948	2,663	2,663
Property Company Investment - Council (Loan): Developments Orange Grove	The Aequus loan requirements arise from Business Cases to develop homes for rent. The variance reflects an updated forecast of loans re-aligned to the new January 2026 Business Plan. The repair project is currently paused as the asset has been recommended for disposal. Current spend is minimal.	1,000	3,816	2,816	2,816
Pixash Site Redevelopment	Whilst the main project is now complete, there are still final works to be carried out including snagging, operational equipment (a new belt and optical sorting) & highways works. Overage and retention expected to be determined by March 2026.	113	919	806	806
Waste Infrastructure Modernisation	Recycling Centre (RC) in Locksbrook Road (South) will replace the existing site at Midland Rd, which will close in 2026 for redevelopment. Cleansing Services will also co-locate with the Transport Depot at Locksbrook Road (North). The contractor now appointed, and started on site on 1st December 2025. Works completed to date include demolition of Unit 1 Locksbrook Road North and award of Flood Risk Activity Permit. Rephasing reflects refinement of the programme.	332	332	-	-
Commercial Asset Re-Investment	Structural defects and back propping issues have delayed Phase 1 by 6 weeks, with a drag on cashflow of £450K. Contingency spend moved forward to 2026-2027. Initial store opening has been rescheduled to the end of August 2026 and remaining phases are in line with original contract dates.	1,794	6,048	4,254	4,254
Commercial Estate Fire Safety Works	Works completed to date have indicated a greater complexity than envisaged which will extend the timescales into future years .	4,025	6,327	2,302	2,302
		660	2,452	1,792	1,792

FINANCE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTERLY DASHBOARD - April to December 2025

CAPITAL APPENDIX 2 - KEY SCHEME VARIANCE ANALYSIS

		Sum of 25/26 Forecast £'000	Sum of 25/26 Total Current Budget £'000	Sum of 25/26 Variance £'000	Re-phasing to Future Years £'000
Sustainable Transport Delivery					
CAZ - Clean Air Zone	The CAZ-Public Realm residual budget is being spent on the Queen Square Wayfinding project.	458	827	369	369
Highways Maintenance Block	Progression on most projects is on track and updates have been captured by the latest forecast. Projects which will be carried forward into are 2026/27: Ford Fuel Spill (TC1093) and A37 Temple Cloud-S (TC1098) after delays to construction; and East Harptree highway drain improvement (TC1027) and Grosvenor Footbridge (TC1476).	10,096	10,379	283	283
CRSTS Liveable Neighbourhoods	<p>A Full Business Case fully identifying proposed interventions for 11 Liveable Neighbourhood (LN) areas was approved by WEMCA in September 2024, releasing the remaining CRSTS grant to deliver these schemes before 31 March 2027.</p> <p>Under the programme, 5 trials of through-traffic restrictions have been conducted using Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs). The schemes in Southlands, Weston, Queen Charlton Lane, Whitchurch and Church Street, Widcombe were made permanent in 2024. More recently, the trial in Sydney Road was made permanent following Public Consultation in October 2025. A decision on the remaining trial in Lower Lansdown is pending.</p> <p>8 LN schemes are now in the delivery phase, and the first, a modal filter at Southlands, Bath has been completed in December 2025. Two schemes have been paused at this time Pulteney Estates Area (including London Road and Snow Hill) and the scheme in Lower Lansdown will await the outcome of the decision on the trial schemes before proceeding.</p>	2,513	3,217	704	704
CRSTS Manvers Street Remediation	This is a WEMCA funded budget released for Manvers Street Remediation. The Preliminary design is complete, confirming full refurbishment of the road section. Project is now at detailed design stage with contractor agreement in progress and works forecast rephased for completion by December 2026.	1,282	4,260	2,978	2,978
CRSTS Somer Valley Links (SVL)	This project aims to improve travel between Midsomer Norton, Radstock, Westfield and Bath via the A367, the A37 and the A362 link road between them. The project seeks to provide better bus infrastructure and enable more walking and cycling through a variety of interventions such as quiet routes, travel hubs and segregated cycle tracks. Following the public consultation which was undertaken in Spring 2025, the project has now been split into 3 overall phases, each of which will be supported by a Business Case. The first of these will be submitted to WEMCA by March 2026 with construction to begin during 2026/27.	2,278	2,278	-	-
Local Active Travel Safety Programme (LATS)	The budget of 18 projects among 87 is to be rephased to 2026/27, although most schemes are in detailed design stage. Completed schemes are: Crossing at Monkedale Road/Sandpits Park, Widcombe Hill, Bathampton plus Church Hill/North Road Junction Safety Improvements.	2,769	3,457	689	689
CRSTS - Scholars Way Delivery	The scheme is funded through £2m CAZ funding, £3m CRSTS funding, awarded in Summer 2025, along with £370k Local Active TRacel Scheme (LATS) funding for the Oakley & Copseland crossings. Construction has begun on the Western Section, Combe Down to Odd Down. Scholars Way East scope is due to commence in April 26 with works at Rainbow Woods followed by Oakley and Copseland in summer/autumn 2026.	2,205	2,205	-	-

FINANCE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTERLY DASHBOARD - April to December 2025

CAPITAL APPENDIX 2 - KEY SCHEME VARIANCE ANALYSIS

		Sum of 25/26 Forecast £'000	Sum of 25/26 Total Current Budget £'000	Sum of 25/26 Variance £'000	Re-phasing to Future Years £'000
School Streets	The aim of School Streets is to improve the environment directly outside schools at the start and end of the school day by restricting access for most motorised vehicle traffic. The selected schools are St Phillips Primary School, Widcombe Infant and Primary Schools and St Stephen Primary School. Utilising funding of £250k CAZ reinvestment reserve, one-off revenue funding of £87k, with potential to attract grant funding opportunities, progress to date has mainly been Revenue works developing proposals with schools and assessing feasibility. Planned delivery is due early in 2026/27.	110	250	140	140
Built Environment, Housing and Sustainable Development					
BWR Phase 2	The Homes England funded budget will be fully spent this financial year, which includes staff charges. The remaining underspend will be carried forward to continue resourcing the team and to fund planning activities up to the point of submitting a full planning application. Additionally, some of these funds will be allocated to support land investigation surveys at Midland Road.	17,115	18,560	1,445	1,445
Disabled Facilities Grant	Forecast spend to be broadly in line with the level of 2025-26 Government Grant allocation, with carry-forward of previously unused grant also reflected in this budget, explaining underspend.	1,684	2,284	600	600
Englishcombe Lane Supported Housing	Scheme to provide 16 homes for neurodivergent clients with Learning Difficulties and Autism. Business Case was for £10.9m approved by Single Member Decision E3633 on 11th September, with delegated decision on 19th December to approve funding drawdown and to appoint contractor.	275	371	96	96
Local Authority Housing Fund (Ukrainian/Afghan homes)	The Local Authority Housing Fund Round 3 programme is completing in Q4 and the final property purchase is proceeding. A LAHF 4 bid has been submitted.	924	1,181	257	257
Social Rent Programme (Phase 1 of BANES Homes)	Works continues on site to deliver ten affordable, energy efficient, apartments in Dane's Lane, Keynsham. Feasibility work being undertaken for proposals at Redfield Road and land adjacent to Sainsbury's car park in Midsomer Norton.	3,176	4,661	1,485	1,485

FINANCE BUDGET MONITORING QUARTERLY DASHBOARD - April to December 2025

CAPITAL APPENDIX 2 - KEY SCHEME VARIANCE ANALYSIS

		Sum of 25/26 Forecast £'000	Sum of 25/26 Total Current Budget £'000	Sum of 25/26 Variance £'000	Re-phasing to Future Years £'000
Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset					
Bath River Line	Bath River Line aims to create a linear park following the River Avon. Phase 1A is largely complete: including, implementation of Wayfinding, Sustainable Urban Drainage System & Seating at Midland Bridge North. Interpretation signage is due to complete Q4. Phase 1B is about to commence with rephasing into 2026-27 of £500k.	1,221	1,721	500	500
Parks Improvements Programme	<p>Projects highlights :</p> <p>1) Weston: Plan to deliver picnic benches, social seating, path and entrance works. The access audit and designs have been commissioned and consultation with Active Weston is imminent.</p> <p>2) Hedgmead: This project has been moved to 2026-27.</p> <p>3) Sullis Meadows: Plans to deliver S106 agreement are emerging</p> <p>4) Linear Park: Completed planned works. There is some residual budget funded Third contribution (Your Parks). There are no plans for further works in 2025-26, so will rephase.</p> <p>5) Foxhill: The design works at Hawthornes for allotments have been completed. RIBA stage 4 works are ready to go to tender. Grove, Backstones and Springfields are progressing to RIBA stage 3. £250K will be rephased</p> <p>6) Manor Rd: Completed bridge to cover a ditch at one of the entrances. Further works are planned for next season when the ground is drier/firmer with possible vegetation clearance, rephasing £45k.</p> <p>7) Abbots Wood: Completed Ground investigation and design works, with delivery moved now in 2026-27. Rephase £150k.</p> <p>8) Teviot Park : Grant made to Keynsham Town Council for improvements from S106 funding.</p> <p>9) Allotments: New allotments at the Hawthorne site will now 2026-27, rephase of budget £156K .</p> <p>10) Paulton : Grant made to Paulton Parish Council from S106 for Paulton Infants's Forest School, a school garden project, and a community orchard to be planted in the Miners Welfare Recreational ground.</p>	472	1,022	551	551

Savings Proposal Title	Description	Cash Limit	Cash Limit Description	Exp / Income	Permanent Saving Value £000	One-Off Saving Value £000	Permanent Savings Delivery Forecast	One-Off Savings Delivery Forecast	Total Savings Delivery Forecast	Total Savings Forecast Variance	Saving delayed until 2026/27	Saving mitigated by one-off underspend or income	Saving mitigated on an on-going basis	On-going budget pressure	Variance Commentary
Portfolio: Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset															
Fees and Charges	Inflationary increases in discretionary fees	1147	Parks and Open Spaces	Income	(7)	0	(7)	0	(7)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Sustainable Bath and North East Somerset Total					(7)	0	(7)	0	(7)	0	0	0	0	0	
Portfolio: Resources															
Being Our Best Programme	Targeted staffing savings from Being Our Best Programme through the planned review and rationalisation of the council's management and operating structures.	1047	Human Resources & Organisational Development	Exp	(2,000)	0	0	0	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0	Delays to the programme has a knock-on impact to service smarter structure proposals. The programme will partially deliver against the £2.5m built into the budget for 2024/25, but will not deliver the additional £2m in the 2025/26 budget
Household Support Fund Grant	Recover admin costs from Household Support Fund grant	1041	Revenues & Benefits	Exp	(50)	0	(50)	0	(50)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
City Region Deal Business Rates Pool - Tier 3 income	Increased income from the City Region Deal Business Rates Pool	1057	Corporate Budgets incl. Capital, Audit & Bank Charges	Income	(1,000)	0	(1,000)	0	(1,000)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Commercial Estate - Increased Income	Deliver additional income by refurbishing empty commercial properties more quickly so they can be let.	1081	Commercial Estate	Income	(200)	0	0	0	0	200	200	0	0	0	The commercial estate income forecast currently comprises revenue from assets within both the Commercial and Corporate Estates. As at Quarter 3 there is an expected shortfall of £153k on the rental income target and therefore it is not anticipated that the budgeted increase in income will be achieved this year.
Recycling Income	Income growth projected for 25-26 due to market prices and optical sorting at new facility.	1101	Waste & Fleet Services	Income	(450)	0	(450)	0	(450)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecasting as fully delivered, however this is subject to market fluctuations so remains a risk
Green Waste Fees and Charges Uplift	Increase garden waste fees from £57 to £70 per year to cover the increasing collection costs of running the service, so that subscribers contribute more to the cost of the service.	1101	Waste & Fleet Services	Income	(350)	0	(350)	0	(350)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Income From New Fees and Charges For Businesses	Introduction of new chargeable services for commercial customers in our fleet workshop and charge developers for waste & recycling containers to be provided for each new build property.	1101	Waste & Fleet Services	Income	(77)	0	(37)	0	(37)	40	0	40	0	0	Pressures on achieving commercial income, mitigated by increased income across waste services
Fees and Charges	Inflationary increases in discretionary fees	1101	Waste & Fleet Services	Income	(48)	0	(48)	0	(48)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Resources Total					(4,175)	0	(1,935)	0	(1,935)	2,240	200	2,040	0	0	
Portfolio: Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development															
Heritage Business Plan	Update to projected surplus to reflect visitor projections, updated income forecasts and service efficiencies	1018	Heritage Services	Income	(2,148)	0	0	0	0	2,148	0	0	0	2,148	As a result of a continuation of visitor numbers below the budgeted 1.1m at the Roman Baths, the Service has put forward an adjustment to the MTFs and does not anticipate delivering this savings target. At Quarter 3 there is an expected shortfall of £2.172m on the net income target of the service.
Corporate Estate & Development – Corporate Landlord	Reducing Corporate Estate size and holdings and reduce energy costs through investment in renewables and retrofit.	1038	Corporate Estate Including R&M	Exp	(275)	0	0	0	0	275	275	0	0	0	Although some properties / land have been identified for disposal, they have minimal impact on the reduction of our running costs. With more assets being identified, this saving could materialise over the next few years.
Bath Quays South Lettings	New lettings secured for Bath Quays South (BQS) offices over and above previous financial projections.	1052	Regeneration	Income	(150)	0	0	0	0	150	150	0	0	0	BQS is partially vacant so not earning rental income. All spaces are due to be filled in May 26, therefore we hope to achieve the full rental income for the 26/27 financial year.
Visit West	WECA funding has now replaced Unitary Authority contributions and no commitment is required at a Council level from 25/26 onwards.	1126	Visit Bath	Exp	(75)	0	(75)	0	(75)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Income Generation From New Regeneration Assets	Potential income stream to Corporate Estates team from joint projects with Regeneration to unlock under used assets and support with grant funded activities.	1052	Regeneration	Income	(50)	0	0	0	0	50	50	0	0	0	Both new and historic savings targets are challenging to meet until the estate is rationalised and running costs of existing assets are reduced.
Business and Skills: Recharge Officer Time To Projects	Provide Business and Skills services to employers through external grant funded activity only and reduce additional Council support.	1128	Business & Skills	Income	(6)	0	(6)	0	(6)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development Total					(2,704)	0	(81)	0	(81)	2,623	475	0	0	2,148	

Appendix 5 - Revenue Savings Monitor

Savings Proposal Title	Description	Cash Limit	Cash Limit Description	Exp / Income	Permanent Saving Value £000	One-Off Saving Value £000	Permanent Savings Delivery Forecast	One-Off Savings Delivery Forecast	Total Savings Delivery Forecast	Total Savings Forecast Variance	Saving delayed until 2026/27	Saving mitigated by one-off underspend or income	Saving mitigated on an on-going basis	On-going budget pressure	Variance Commentary
Portfolio: Adults Services															
Adult Social Care Commissioning	This proposal will be achieved through maximizing the use of the Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund to protect social care expenditure.	1110	Better Care Fund	Income	(650)	0	(650)	0	(650)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Adult Social Care Commissioning	This proposal will be achieved through efficient management of contracts for services and optimisation of commissioning resources.	1086	Adult Care Commissioning	Exp	(75)	0	(75)	0	(75)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Review of Care Packages	The approach to social care reviews under the Care Act will ensure people's needs are being met, their outcomes are being achieved and that support when needed is provided in the most cost effective way. Savings have been identified through matching levels of care to people's needs.	1073 & 1088	Adults & older People, Adults & Older People Mental Health	Exp	(900)	0	(900)	0	(900)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Technology Enabled Care	This proposal will be achieved by using technology enabled care to reduce social care resource requirements. Technology enabled care products such as personal alarms and pendants, bed and chair sensors, pills dispensers and door sensors support people to undertake daily living tasks and enable independence.	1091	Learning Disabilities	Exp	(50)	0	(50)	0	(50)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Provider Services Income Opportunities	As a provider of Learning Disabilities Day Services, Community Resource Centres - Residential Care Homes and an Extra Care Service the council has always offered a service to self-funders. This proposal seeks to increase the level of income generated from self-funders, placements commissioned by other local authorities and Integrated Care Board (ICB) by charging the actual cost of delivering care.	1124 & 1146	Provider Services	Income	(250)	0	(250)	0	(250)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Prevention and Early Intervention in Adult Social Care	Deliver savings through efficiencies from services, recommissioning services within existing budget and maximising alternative funding sources for housing related support.	1086	Adult Care Commissioning	Exp	(402)	0	(402)	0	(402)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
RVP Leisure Facilities	New contract in place for the operation of the leisure facilities in RVP including tennis courts, adventure golf, events spaces and café.	1019	Leisure	Income	(15)	0	(15)	0	(15)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Adult Services Total					(2,342)	0	(2,342)	0	(2,342)	0	0	0	0	0	

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Appendix 5 - Revenue Savings Monitor

Savings Proposal Title	Description	Cash Limit	Cash Limit Description	Exp / Income	Permanent Saving Value £000	One-Off Saving Value £000	Permanent Savings Delivery Forecast	One-Off Savings Delivery Forecast	Total Savings Delivery Forecast	Total Savings Forecast Variance	Saving delayed until 2026/27	Saving mitigated by one-off underspend or income	Saving mitigated on an on-going basis	On-going budget pressure	Variance Commentary
Portfolio: Children's Services															
Reunifications	The savings will be delivered by an increase in family reunifications and step downs from residential placements.	1076	Children, Young People & Families	Exp	(1,400)	0	(1,415)	0	(1,415)	(15)	0	0	0	0	Additional achievement is offsetting under achievement for the Early Help Saving in cashlimit 1116 Integrated Commissioning - CYP.
Specialist Commissioning Saving	These savings will reduce reliance on high-cost placements, particularly out-of-area or unregulated provisions, promoting stability and better outcomes for children. However, achieving these savings requires a careful balance to ensure cost reductions do not compromise the quality, safety, or suitability of placements, which are essential for meeting the complex needs of Children Looked After.	1076	Children, Young People & Families	Exp	(923)	0	(923)	0	(923)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Home to School Transport Savings	Reduced costs as a result of investment in internal provision.	1142	Home to School Transport	Exp	(600)	0	(600)	0	(600)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Early Help	Early help in B&NES aims to provide children, young people and families with the right support at the right time by the right service as soon as needs are identified to prevent them getting worse.	1116	Integrated Commissioning - CYP	Exp	(150)	0	(135)	0	(135)	15	0	0	0	0	Under achievement is offset by over achievement for the Reunifications saving in cashlimit 1076 Children, Young People & Families.
Children's Services Total					(3,073)	0	(3,073)	0	(3,073)	0	0	0	0	0	
Portfolio: Sustainable Transport Delivery															
Parking Services - Income Rebasing	Increased income rebasing across Highways and Parking Services	1103	Transport & Parking Services - Parking	Income	(560)	0	(560)	0	(560)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Parking Charges Review	Income generated from the implementation of a parking review and emissions-based pay and display	1103	Transport & Parking Services - Parking	Income	(334)	0	(334)	0	(334)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Parking Permit Charges Review	Income generated from a review of the baseline charge for on street parking permits, including emissions-based resident parking permits	1103	Transport & Parking Services - Parking	Income	(172)	0	(172)	0	(172)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Parking Reinvestment Fund	Budget saving by not spending the Reinvestment Fund in Parking Services (one-off 2025/26 only).	1103	Transport & Parking Services - Parking	Exp	0	(210)	0	(210)	(210)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Fees and Charges	Inflationary increases in discretionary fees	1134	Highway Maintenance	Income	(2)	0	(2)	0	(2)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Fees and Charges	Inflationary increases in discretionary fees	1133	Network & Traffic Management	Income	(11)	0	(11)	0	(11)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Sustainable Transport Delivery Total					(1,079)	(210)	(1,079)	(210)	(1,289)	0	0	0	0	0	
Portfolio: Communications and Community															
Registrars	Increased income forecast for the service	1115	Registrars Service	Income	(45)	0	(45)	0	(45)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Park and Ride	Updated income forecast for the Park and Ride	1144	Park & Ride	Income	0	(200)	0	(200)	(200)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Fees and Charges	Inflationary increases in discretionary fees	1148	Bereavement Services	Income	(7)	0	(7)	0	(7)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Neighbourhood Services Total					(52)	(200)	(52)	(200)	(252)	0	0	0	0	0	
Portfolio: Built Environment, Housing and Sustainable Development															
Housing	Housing - reprofile work on Housing delivery - (25/26 one off saving)	1029	Housing	Exp	0	(75)	0	(75)	(75)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Housing	Budget for capital delivery of housing programme to match pipeline (25/26 one-off saving)	1029	Housing	Exp	0	(75)	0	(75)	(75)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Fees and Charges	Inflationary increases in discretionary fees	1138	Building Control	Income	(20)	0	(20)	0	(20)	0	0	0	0	0	Forecast as fully delivered
Built Environment, Housing and Sustainable Development Total					(20)	(150)	(20)	(150)	(170)	0	0	0	0	0	
Council Total					(13,452)	(560)	(8,589)	(560)	(9,149)	4,863	675	2,040	0	2,148	

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Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	17 March 2026	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	Quarter 3 Corporate Strategy Performance	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 This report contains information and background on performance metrics collected as part of the Council’s monitoring of Corporate Strategy priorities. In-year reports examine only indicators which have changed during the period in question.

2 RECOMMENDATION

Panel / is asked to;

2.1 Consider the findings of the performance report and recommend any follow-up actions or information requirements.

3 THE REPORT

3.1 Indicators on target

- **% of household waste disposed in landfill (last complete rolling 12 months): 3.27%** disposed at landfill during the last 12-month rolling period (Nov 24 - Dec 25), meeting the target of **15%**. The trend is stable and aligns with ongoing efforts to minimise landfill waste.
- **% of household waste reused, recycled, composted or recovered: 96.7%** for Q3, based on the last 12-month rolling period (Nov 24 - Dec 25), on target with a positive trend in recycling and recovery.

- **Residual waste per household (kg): 352.2kg** per household for Q3, within the target of **400kg**, demonstrating effective waste reduction strategies.
- **% of household waste recycled/composted: 60.66%** for Q3, exceeding the target of **60%**, continuing the consistent achievement of the target.
- **% of repeat referrals in 12 months (children & young people):** the current rate (**20%**) remains below both national and statistical neighbour averages, with fluctuations linked to school holidays. High quality decision making in Triage Service is being maintained.
- **Adult Social Care: Care Home admissions per 100k: 110.02** (as of Dec 2025), well below the target of **163.90**, reflecting improved performance. Counting rules have been amended to reflect newly published national methodology.
- **Key Stage 4 Average Attainment for all pupils:** Attainment dropped slightly from the previous year to 47.8 but remains above regional and national averages.

3.2 Indicators off target and outside accepted tolerances

- **Total installed renewable energy capacity on B&NES Council's estate (MW): 1.76MW** against a target of **12MW**. While **0.09MW** was added at Bath Sports and Leisure Centre in Q4 24/25, progress is incremental.
- **% of B&NES Council owned commercial estate with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of A-C: 59%** against a target of **100%**. The emerging corporate estate strategy will include mitigations to improve building efficiency.

3.3 Indicators off target but within accepted tolerances

- **% of B&NES Council owned residential properties with an EPC rated A-C: 59%** against a target of **62%**. Performance is slightly below target but within tolerance. There have been no additional certificates issued since the last reporting period, so the rate remains unchanged.
- **Proportion of people with an up-to-date Adult Social Care review: 71%** against a target of **80%**. The waiting list is managed amid high demand, with additional resources aligned to each team as part of the Adult Social Care improvement plan.
- **Households in temporary accommodation: 84** against a target of **79**. Despite being above target, the recent trend is downward, and performance remains positive given national and local demand challenges. Counting rules and historic data have been updated as a review of performance information indicated that previous results included cases that did not lead to a stay in temporary accommodation.
- **Average estimated CO₂ emissions per residential property:** Gradual and steady progress down to **3.3** tonnes per year, but not in line with decarbonising housing stock by 2030. Residents can access Retrofit West's services, and the Council is preparing to work with private landlords to meet new legislative requirements.
- **Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support:** The rate (**65%**) remains above the national average despite a reduction of 4% compared to the previous year.

3.4 All other indicators

- **Estimated % of land managed for nature in the B&NES Council estate:** Slight increase due to more land managed as cut and collect, and funded management plans being developed for Foxhill and Colliers Way in Radstock.

- **% of B&NES district residential properties with an EPC rating of A-C:** the rate continues to increase, with 38% of properties rated A – C.
- **Children on Education Health & Care Plans (EHCP):** The number continues to increase (to 2,682 in December 2025), in line with the Safety Valve Plan. Reduction in EHCP assessment requests is attributed to the Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Advice and Inclusion Service, which supports early intervention.
- **Median wage for B&NES residents: £40,448** in 2025, higher than the UK average of **£39,039**.
- **Median wage for people who work in B&NES: £38,040**, up 5% in the period, but still lower than the English average. Workplace wages are consistently lower than resident wages; economic strategy aims to increase the number, and resilience, of businesses in B&NES.
- **Road traffic collisions resulting in personal injury:** down 11% to 233 in 2025. The council aims to support a reduction in these through engineering, education, and infrastructure improvements.
- **Traffic volumes at key sites:** B&NES saw a **0.7%** increase in traffic volumes, which is lower than the national 0.9% rise. While rising, it remains below pre-pandemic levels.
- **Child in Need Plan closures (step-downs):** Rate of **75%** in Q3. Regular reviews ensure step-downs are implemented as need and risk reduce. Children who have been subject to a plan for over 2 years are being reviewed, with this cohort usually (but not exclusively) includes children living with ongoing neglect. We continue to monitor our practice, impact and outcomes for this group of children.
- **Child Protection Plans stepped down or closed:** Q3 rate is higher than Q2 by 5%, with trends in line with previous data, evidencing decision making based on reduced risk.
- **Children looked after per 10k:** Rate of **60.5** remains below national and statistical neighbour averages, with overall numbers fluctuating due to entries and exits from care plus the small numbers in the cohort.
- **Children on Child Protection plan per 10k:** Increase in Q3 to 42.5 (+37%), linked to more families with 3+ children and unborn babies being considered at Child Protection Conference.
- **Early Years Foundation Stage Achievement Gap:** although 2023/24 saw the largest increase in performance (39%) for the EY Disadvantage cohort in 10 years, 24/25 results returned to previous levels at **40%**. Data analysis is ongoing to understand the decline.
- **% of mothers known to be smokers at the time of delivery:** apparent increase to 10% (+3%) is due to data submission errors by acute trusts, not a real increase. Data was calculated at Integrated Care Board (ICB) level, giving each Local Authority the same prevalence figure.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 N/A

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 N/A

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 Inequalities measures are included as part of the performance framework.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 Climate change measures are included as part of the performance framework.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 S151 & Monitoring Officer

Contact person	Jon Poole
Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

CORPORATE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best assessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or, Democratic Services (). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.

Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website.

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
17TH MARCH 2026				
17 Mar 2026	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring Report		Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
17 Mar 2026	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	AI Council Motion TBC		
Page 54	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Performance Indicators Quarterly Report TBC		
12TH MAY 2026				
	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Library IT System Update TBC		Executive Director - Chief Operating Officer
	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	People Strategy TBC		
21ST JULY 2026				

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
21 Jul 2026	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Inclusion Strategy		
21 Jul 2026	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Budget consultation discussion TBC		Director of Financial Services, Assurance & Pensions
29TH SEPTEMBER 2026				
29 Sep 2026	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Council Tax Reduction Scheme TBC		
17TH NOVEMBER 2026				
FUTURE ITEMS				
17 Mar 2026	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Aequus Full Year Update	Simon Martin Tel: 01225 477407	Executive Director - Sustainable Communities
	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Commercial Property Update	Richard Long Tel: 01225 477075	Executive Director - Resources

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
	Corporate Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Annual Complaints Performance & Service Improvements Report	David Langman Tel: 01225 477013	Executive Director - Chief Operating Officer

The Forward Plan is administered by **DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:** Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk