

The following questions are for the forthcoming CAHW Policy Development Scrutiny panel in relation to the Budget consultation 2024 to 2025 which is currently out for consultation:

Becky Brooks from 3SG

1. Is the Panel aware of what individual contracts make up the £802,000 saving within the Community Support Contracts outlined in the budget consultation papers?

Panel Member Response

The panel is aware of the proposal to deliver community support contract savings and the current contract providers in scope for the review. Also, the providers of impacted contracts will be consulted on following the adoption of this savings proposal by full Council. Attached are the list of the community services providers.

Cabinet Member / Officer response

As a council we have reviewed saving opportunities on several contracts across the provider sector and this make up the £802k. The commissioning of the housing support contracts worth 552k and the ASC contract are worth £250k with HCRG Care Group and if following the consultation decision is to reduce the contract value to HCRG Care Group in the Direct Award, we will work with HCRG Care Group to help achieve the £802k savings.

2. Is the Panel aware that the average saving being asked of Council departments is around 4.9% and that the expected saving of £802,000 equates to a 21.4% cut in funding to the Third Sector and is the highest expected cut within the total budget?

Panel Member Response

The panel is aware of the difference and has been presented with a range of savings plans within the Adults Services portfolio, these total £2.3m for 2024/25, the Council's finance team have confirmed this is 3.84% of the current net revenue budget of £60.3m for the Cabinet Portfolio.

Cabinet Member / Officer response

We have applied the budget setting process principles set out in the consultation paper consistently across all council services and budgets. We prioritised available limited resources to provide budget growth for services delivering statutory responsibilities. In developing savings proposals, we prioritised looking at discretionary services.

3. Given that the average cut being asked of all Council departments is 4.9%, would the Panel agree that it is more appropriate to reduce Community Support contracts by this amount and ask for the additional savings to be met by the 10

other Council departments making an additional £62k saving each? This would be without adding any further burden on Children or Adult Services.

Panel Member Response

The panel will scrutinise the budget proposals that have been put forward and its summary findings will be shared with the Cabinet.

Cabinet Member / Officer response

Proposals for alternative options to meet significant financial challenges set out in the consultation and produce a balanced budget are welcome and would be considered fully as part of the consultation. Outcome of the consultation would inform the budget setting decisions planned in February.

Roanne Wootten from Julian House

1. What will be the impact, if a third of these services are cut? In addition to the obvious human impact, has the financial impact been considered? Given that widespread research shows that the cost of preventing and solving homelessness is less than the cost of doing nothing at all. [Cost of homelessness | Crisis UK | Together we will end homelessness](#)

To clarify the consultation proposals include reducing the total housing support contract value by a third rather than cutting a third of services. That said, the Council acknowledges that this scale of reduction cannot be achieved without significant impacts on providers and service users. It is also acknowledged that on an individual level preventative action is more cost effective than doing nothing at all. It can be challenging to attribute a robust downstream financial saving to a particular prevention service. As such the Council would welcome providers supplying any evidence or comments on the prevention savings provided by their commissioned service.

2. Cutting accommodation and support for homeless individuals will likely lead to a surge in rough sleeping, worsen health outcomes, and overwhelm already stretched statutory services. What plans does the authority have to mitigate the consequences of the cuts to vital services for homeless people? Given the 15th of January consultation deadline, when will the Equality Impact Assessment be made public?

At this stage, the Council is consulting on the proposals to reduce funding and no decisions have yet been made. If funding reductions are agreed, then it is anticipated that any such reductions will be targeted to ensure that services meeting the Council's wider strategic housing ambitions and statutory responsibilities are prioritised and commissioners will work with providers on a revised delivery models. As stated above, the Council acknowledges that this

scale of reduction cannot be achieved without significant impacts on providers and service users.

3. B&NES experiences unique challenges with exceptionally high housing and rental costs; is cutting housing-related support for homeless individuals the most strategic budget reduction? Why target this crucial area, as opposed to others, when it will exacerbate an already challenging situation?

We recognise that the local housing sector is experiencing significant financial and operational pressures. Making significant financial savings is challenging and this is one area of the Council's business that is being considered alongside all other areas. To protect statutory services attention has been focused on discretionary services.

Rosie Phillips, Chief Executive Officer, DHI

1. What is the Council's rationale for cutting preventative housing related services when a lack of stable accommodation impacts many key outcomes, including health inequalities, and has a particularly detrimental and lifelong impact on children? A child brought up in temporary accommodation is more likely to experience poorer educational achievement, be excluded from school, suffer poorer physical and mental ill health, misuse drugs and alcohol and be more likely to become an offender in later life.

At this stage, the Council is consulting on the proposals to reduce funding and no decisions have yet been made. If service reductions are agreed, then it is anticipated that any such reductions will be targeted to ensure that services meeting the Council's wider strategic housing ambitions and statutory responsibilities are prioritised, and commissioners will work with providers on revised delivery models.

2. Are you able assure us that short term government grants are not being used in the rationale for savings on long term contracts?

The Council has not used short term government grants in the rationale for developing savings proposals on long term contracts.

3. Accepting the very difficult decision the Council is faced with, how are you ensuring you get the most effective balance i.e., one that takes account of supporting a small number of visible rough sleepers, a much larger number of homeless families and individuals, while preventing people from becoming homeless and requiring accommodation and support in the first instance?

The Council is required to make significant financial savings as documented in the consultation and making any saving is challenging. To protect statutory services attention has been focused on discretionary services. The Council acknowledges that this scale of reduction cannot be achieved without significant

impacts on providers and service users. and if funding reductions are agreed, commissioners will work with providers on revised delivery models.

Beth Hendry, Director of Operations, DHI

1. What would happen to any homeless people who desire detox and abstinence-based accommodation to turn their lives around if Burlington Street is no longer available?

At this stage it is the consultation process about potential savings from these budgets. Should these proposals be approved, the Council would move on to develop plans on how these savings would be delivered.

2. Have the Council considered the financial impact for blue light and other statutory services if such a facility is not available? Has the ICB or police been involved in this decision-making process?

As stated above, it is the consultation process and decisions about savings have not been taken yet.

Service Provider	Community Service Providers
Bath Mind	Community Based Mental Health Pathways - Mosaic Mental Health Support
Bath Mind	Community Based Mental Health Pathways - Safe Haven
Creativity Works	Community Based Mental Health Pathways - Creative Links
Soundwell Music Therapy Trust	Community Based Mental Health Pathways - Music Therapy
Soundwell music therapy trust as part of St Mungos block	Community Based Mental Health Pathways - Social enterprise project (SP) (St Mungos)
St Mungos	Community Based Mental Health Pathways -Mulberry House & Mews
West of England Community Care	Community Equipment- Home Safety Equipment Scheme - Public Health
The Carers Centre	Adult Carers Support Service - New Carers Centre
Alzheimer's society	Living Well and Staying Well (Prevention and Self Management) - Day Services
Peggy Dodd	Living Well and Staying Well (Prevention and Self Management) - Day Services
Alzheimer's society	Alzheimer's Society - Dementia Support Worker Service
RICE	Research Institute for the Care of Older People - Dementia Assessment service
WECIL	Direct Payments Support
Curo	Extra Care Housing Services - Extra Care Schemes
Curo	Extra Care Housing Services - Step Down Beds
Guinness	Extra Care Housing Services - Avondown House
Knightstone	Extra Care Housing Services - Rockhall House
Knightstone	Extra Care Housing Services - The Orchard
Knightstone	Extra Care Housing Services - The Paddocks

Methodist Homes	Extra Care Housing Services - Walcot Court
Age UK	Regaining Health & Independence - Dementia Support Worker Service
Age UK	Regaining Health & Independence - Home Response
The Carers Centre	Regaining Health & Independence - Dementia Support Worker Service
Dorothy House	End of Life Care
Bath Mind	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Marlborough Lane low level MH accommodation & support
Curo	Homelessness & Housing Support - Temporary Accommodation - Somer
Curo	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services -Temporary Accommodation - Dartmouth
DHI	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Developing Health and Independence - 1 Barton Buildings
DHI	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Developing Health and Independence - Reach
DHI	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services -Developing Health and Independence - Burlington Street (EX Stall street)
DHI/Julian House	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - DHI & Julian House - Assertive Outreach Service
Julian House	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Julian House - Barnabas House and Annex
Julian House	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Julian House - Henrietta Street
Julian House	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Julian House - Manvers Street
Julian House	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Julian House - Peter House
Second Step Housing Association	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - BANES Floating Support Service
Solon South West Housing Association	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Rackfield House
Stonham	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Newbridge Road
Stonham	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - The Paragon
Curo	Positive Accommodation and Support Pathway - Bath Foyer
Curo	Positive Accommodation and Support Pathway - Mediation Service

Curo	Positive Accommodation and Support Pathway - Pathways
Curo	Positive Accommodation and Support Pathway - Young Parents Service
Curo	Independent Living Service - including Older People
Curo	Independent Living Service - Livewell formerly Sheltered
Curo	Independent Living Service - Rural Dementia Service
Community Pharmacies	Integrated Sexual Health Service - Pharmacy Sexual Health
General Practices	Integrated Sexual Health Service -General Practice - LARC including fitting of IUD's
General Practices	NHS Health Checks
Freeways	Adults with a learning disability and their families - Freeways - PSI/LD New FS service
Keyring	Adults with a learning disability and their families - Keyring - Living Support Networks - Bath Keyring Network
Swallow Ltd	Adults with a learning disability and their families - Hawthorns
Swallow Ltd	Adults with a learning disability and their families - Redfield Road
Swallow Ltd	Adults with a learning disability and their families - Training for Independent Living
Stroke Assoc	Specialist Neurology and Stroke Services (Adults) - Communication Support Service
Stroke Assoc	Specialist Neurology and Stroke Services (Adults) - Community Stroke Co-ordinator
Community Pharmacies	Substance Misuse Services - Community Pharmacies - Pharmacy Needle Exchange
DHI	Substance Misuse Services - Integrated Drug & Alcohol Treatment Service
DHI	Substance Misuse Services - Young People& Substance Misuse Service
GP Practices	Substance Misuse Services - General practice - Drugs Misuse GPs
Age UK	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - - Older People's Information Service
Age UK	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Day Services
Bath Ethnic Minority Senior Citizens Association	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Day Services for B&OME NB + £5,200 rent deducted at source

Clean Slate	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Worklessness
Community Pharmacies	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Pharmacy Smoking
Counterweight Ltd	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Counterweight Services
Deaf Plus	Deaf, Deaf Blind and Visually Impaired Equipment and Support Service
DHI	Stop Smoking - DHI (activity-based payment)
General Practices	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Smoking in general practice
Julian House	Homelessness Prevention Pathway Services - Julian House - Travelling Community Support Worker
RUH	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Health in pregnancy
Village Agents	Wellness Service - Village Agents
Wiltshire Community Health	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Counterweight Services
Writhlington	Writhlington
DHI	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Social Prescribing
Quartet	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Community Fund (MH)
St Mungos	Regaining Health and Independence (Early Intervention and Targeted) - Building Bridges / Peer Mentoring