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To: All Members of the Borough Council

You are requested to attend the meeting of the Charnwood Borough Council to be held in the Loughborough University Campus, James France Building (CC021) on Monday, 27th February 2023 at 6.30 pm for the following business.

Chief Executive

Southfields
Loughborough

24th February 2023

AGENDA

6. BUSINESS RESERVED TO COUNCIL

To consider the following matters reserved to Council in accordance with Section 5 of the Constitution:

- 6.1. GENERAL FUND AND HRA REVENUE BUDGETS AND COUNCIL TAX 2023/24 3 - 15

A report of the Cabinet, setting out the proposed General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Budgets for 2023/24 and proposed Council Tax levy for consideration and approval.

The full Council Tax Recommendations, which the Council must consider in order to set a Council Tax Levy and General

Fund and HRA Revenue Budgets for 2023/24, is **attached**.

10. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

16 - 21

To deal with the following questions on notice, submitted under Full Council Procedure 9.9(a):

COUNCIL – 27TH FEBRUARY 2023

Supplementary Report of the Cabinet

Part A

2023/24 GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT REVENUE BUDGETS AND SPECIAL EXPENSES – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Purpose of the Supplementary Report

To enable the Council to adopt a General Fund Revenue Budget, a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget and a Council Tax levy for 2023/24 in line with legislative requirements.

Policy Context

The budget is essential to all policies of the Council and the setting of a Council Tax levy is a legal requirement of the Council. The rents should be within specified parameters set by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Recommendations

1. That the expenses incurred by the Council in performing in Loughborough a function performed elsewhere in its area by a parish council or the chairman of a parish meeting be treated as special expenses for the purposes of Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, to the extent provided in minute 72(C)1 of Council February 2008.
2. That:
 - a. the Original Budget for 2023/234 be £19,245,129
 - b. the base Council Tax be set at £140.47 at Band D; and
 - c. the Loughborough Special Rate be set at £81.11
3. That the amounts below be approved as the Council Tax Base for 2023/24:
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 59,186.3 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates

Part of the Councils Area

	Council Tax Base
Anstey	2,676.50
Barkby / Barkby Thorpe	157.90
Barrow-Upon-Soar	2,552.70
Beeby	44.50
Birstall	4,592.80
Burton-on-the-Wolds, Cotes, & Prestwold	560.90
Cossington	219.50
East Goscote	931.70
Hamilton Lee	282.20
Hathern	892.60
Hoton	145.20
Mountsorrel	3,047.70
Newtown Linford	537.10
Queniborough	1,225.50
Quorndon	2,532.70
Ratcliffe-on-the-Wreake	86.90
Rearsby	489.80
Rothley	2,346.80
Seagrave	282.60
Shepshed	5,130.20
Sileby	2,956.40
South Croxton	135.70
Stonebow Village	5.30
Swithland	157.10
Syston	4,383.50
Thrussington	252.90
Thurcaston & Cropston	944.90
Thurmaston	2,865.40
Ulverscroft	62.10
Walton-on-the-Wolds	130.00
Wanlip	88.80
Woodhouse	989.90
Wymeswold	623.30
	42,331.10
Loughborough (Special Expenses)	16,855.20
Total	59,186.30

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, as

the amounts of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

4. That the following amounts be calculated for the year in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - a) the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2023/24 (excluding Parish precepts) is £9,681,025.
 - b) £62,489,865 being the gross expenditure which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - c) £48,242,875 being the gross Income which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.
 - d) £14,246,990 being the amount by which the aggregate at 5(b) above exceeds the aggregate at 5(c) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
 - e) £240.71 being the amount at 5(d) above (Item R), all divided by Item T 4(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
 - f) £5,933,090 being the aggregate amount of Loughborough special items and Parish precepts referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
 - g) £140.47 being the amount at 5(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 5(f) above by Item T (4(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

h) Part of the Council's Area:

Part of the Council's area

<u>Parish, etc</u>	<u>District Band D Charge</u>
Anstey	266.59
Barkby and Barkby Thorpe	227.5
Barrow-upon-Soar	236.58
Beeby	140.47
Birstall	245.39
Burton-on-the-Wolds / Cotes / Prestwold	198.41
Cossington	215.19
East Goscote	212.27
Hamilton Lea	140.47
Hathern	194.81
Hoton	232.34
Mountsorrel	322.55
Newtown Linford	251.47
Queniborough	194.54
Quorndon	268.24
Ratcliffe-on-the-Wreake	174.99
Rearsby	190.97
Rothley	227.79
Seagrave	214.36
Shepshed	220.67
Sileby	232.93
South Croxton	227.07
Stonebow Village	140.47
Swithland	173.57
Syston	280.6
Thrussington	193.85
Thurcaston & Cropston	195.32
Thurmaston	322.39
Ulverscroft	140.47
Walton-on-the-Wolds	178.93
Wanlip	185.52
Woodhouse	234.57
Wymeswold	216.08
Loughborough Special Expense Area	221.58

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 5(g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 4(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate

Parish	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Anstey	177.727	207.344	236.972	266.59	325.836	385.071	444.317	533.18
Barkby and Barkby Thorpe	151.667	176.944	202.222	227.5	278.056	328.611	379.167	455
Barrow-upon-Soar	157.717	184.004	210.292	236.58	289.156	341.731	394.297	473.16
Beeby	93.6467	109.254	124.862	140.47	171.686	202.901	234.117	280.94
Birstall	163.597	190.854	218.122	245.39	299.926	354.451	408.987	490.78
Burton-on-the-Wolds / Cotes / Prestwold	132.277	154.314	176.362	198.41	242.506	286.591	330.687	396.82
Cossington	143.457	167.374	191.282	215.19	263.006	310.831	358.647	430.38
East Goscote	141.517	165.094	188.682	212.27	259.446	306.611	353.787	424.54
Hamilton Lea	93.6467	109.254	124.862	140.47	171.686	202.901	234.117	280.94
Hathern	129.877	151.514	173.162	194.81	238.106	281.391	324.687	389.62
Hoton	154.897	180.704	206.522	232.34	283.976	335.601	387.237	464.68
Mountsorrel	215.037	250.874	286.712	322.55	394.226	465.901	537.587	645.1
Newtown Linford	167.647	195.584	223.532	251.47	307.356	363.231	419.117	502.94
Queniborough	129.697	151.304	172.922	194.54	237.776	281.001	324.237	389.08
Quorndon	178.827	208.634	238.432	268.24	327.846	387.461	447.067	536.48
Ratcliffe-on-the-Wreake	116.657	136.104	155.542	174.99	213.876	252.761	291.647	349.98
Rearsby	127.317	148.534	169.752	190.97	233.406	275.841	318.287	381.94
Rothley	151.857	177.174	202.482	227.79	278.406	329.031	379.647	455.58
Seagrave	142.907	166.724	190.542	214.36	261.996	309.631	357.267	428.72
Shepshed	147.117	171.634	196.152	220.67	269.706	318.741	367.787	441.34
Sileby	155.287	181.164	207.052	232.93	284.696	336.451	388.217	465.86
South Croxton	151.377	176.614	201.842	227.07	277.526	327.991	378.447	454.14
Stonebow Village	93.6467	109.254	124.862	140.47	171.686	202.901	234.117	280.94
Swithland	115.717	134.994	154.282	173.57	212.146	250.711	289.287	347.14
Syston	187.067	218.244	249.422	280.6	342.956	405.311	467.667	561.2
Thrussington	129.237	150.774	172.312	193.85	236.926	280.001	323.087	387.7
Thurcaston & Cropston	130.217	151.914	173.622	195.32	238.726	282.131	325.537	390.64
Thurmaston	214.927	250.744	286.572	322.39	394.036	465.671	537.317	644.78
Ulverscroft	93.6467	109.254	124.862	140.47	171.686	202.901	234.117	280.94
Walton-on-the-Wolds	119.287	139.164	159.052	178.93	218.696	258.451	298.217	357.86
Wanlip	123.677	144.294	164.902	185.52	226.746	267.971	309.197	371.04
Woodhouse	156.377	182.444	208.502	234.57	286.696	338.821	390.947	469.14
Wymeswold	144.057	168.064	192.072	216.08	264.096	312.111	360.137	432.16
Loughborough Special Expense Area	147.717	172.344	196.962	221.58	270.816	320.061	369.297	443.16

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 5(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in the valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- That it be noted that the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire ('PCCL') and the Combined Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local

Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.

	REQUIREMENTS							
	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
LEICS COUNTY COUNCIL and Adult Social care	1016.9753	1186.4712	1355.9671	1525.4630	1864.4548	2203.4466	2542.4383	3050.9260
COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY	52.8600	61.6700	70.4800	79.2900	96.9100	114.5300	132.1500	158.5800
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER	182.1535	212.5124	242.8713	273.2302	333.9480	394.6658	455.3837	546.4604
CHARNWOOD BOROUGH	93.6467	109.2544	124.8622	140.4700	171.6856	202.9011	234.1167	280.9400
TOTAL	1345.6355	1569.9080	1794.1806	2018.4532	2466.9984	2915.5435	3364.0887	4036.9064

The split between the County Council precept and the additional Adult Social Care precept is shown in the table below.

	REQUIREMENTS (TO 2 DECIMAL PLACES)							
	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
LEICS COUNTY COUNCIL	882.87	1030.02	1177.16	1324.31	1618.60	1912.89	2207.18	2648.62
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	134.10	156.45	178.80	201.15	245.85	290.55	335.25	402.30
COMBINED CHARGE	1016.97	1186.47	1355.96	1525.46	1864.45	2203.44	2542.43	3050.92

6. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table overleaf as the amounts of Council Tax for 2023/24 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings:

	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
	6/9	7/9	8/9	1	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
ANSTEY	1429.72	1667.99	1906.29	2144.57	2621.15	3097.72	3574.29	4289.15
BARKBY / BARKBY THORPE	1403.66	1637.59	1871.54	2105.48	2573.37	3041.26	3509.14	4210.97
BARROW-UPON-SOAR	1409.71	1644.65	1879.61	2114.56	2584.47	3054.38	3524.27	4229.13
BEEBY	1345.64	1569.9	1794.18	2018.45	2467	2915.55	3364.09	4036.91
BIRSTALL	1415.59	1651.5	1887.44	2123.37	2595.24	3067.1	3538.96	4246.75
BURTON-ON-THE-WOLDS, COTES & PRESTWOLD	1384.27	1614.96	1845.68	2076.39	2537.82	2999.24	3460.66	4152.79
COSSINGTON	1395.45	1628.02	1860.6	2093.17	2558.32	3023.48	3488.62	4186.35
EAST GOSCOTE	1393.51	1625.74	1858	2090.25	2554.76	3019.26	3483.76	4180.51
HAMILTON LEA	1345.64	1569.9	1794.18	2018.45	2467	2915.55	3364.09	4036.91
HATHERN	1381.87	1612.16	1842.48	2072.79	2533.42	2994.04	3454.66	4145.59
HOTON	1406.89	1641.35	1875.84	2110.32	2579.29	3048.25	3517.21	4220.65
MOUNTSORREL	1467.03	1711.52	1956.03	2200.53	2689.54	3178.55	3667.56	4401.07
NEWTOWN LINFORD	1419.64	1656.23	1892.85	2129.45	2602.67	3075.88	3549.09	4258.91
QUENIBOROUGH	1381.69	1611.95	1842.24	2072.52	2533.09	2993.65	3454.21	4145.05
QUORNDON	1430.82	1669.28	1907.75	2146.22	2623.16	3100.11	3577.04	4292.45
RATCLIFFE-ON-THE-WREAKE	1368.65	1596.75	1824.86	2052.97	2509.19	2965.41	3421.62	4105.95
REARSBY	1379.31	1609.18	1839.07	2068.95	2528.72	2988.49	3448.26	4137.91
ROTHLEY	1403.85	1637.82	1871.8	2105.77	2573.72	3041.68	3509.62	4211.55
SEAGRAVE	1394.9	1627.37	1859.86	2092.34	2557.31	3022.28	3487.24	4184.69
SHEPSHED	1399.11	1632.28	1865.47	2098.65	2565.02	3031.39	3497.76	4197.31
SILEBY	1407.28	1641.81	1876.37	2110.91	2580.01	3049.1	3518.19	4221.83
SOUTH CROXTON	1403.37	1637.26	1871.16	2105.05	2572.84	3040.64	3508.42	4210.11
STONEBOW VILLAGE	1345.64	1569.9	1794.18	2018.45	2467	2915.55	3364.09	4036.91
SWITHLAND	1367.71	1595.64	1823.6	2051.55	2507.46	2963.36	3419.26	4103.11
SYSTON	1439.06	1678.89	1918.74	2158.58	2638.27	3117.96	3597.64	4317.17
THRUSSINGTON	1381.23	1611.42	1841.63	2071.83	2532.24	2992.65	3453.06	4143.67
THURCASTON & CROPSTON	1382.21	1612.56	1842.94	2073.3	2534.04	2994.78	3455.51	4146.61
THURMASTON	1466.92	1711.39	1955.89	2200.37	2689.35	3178.32	3667.29	4400.75
ULVERSCROFT	1345.64	1569.9	1794.18	2018.45	2467	2915.55	3364.09	4036.91
WALTON-ON-THE-WOLDS	1371.28	1599.81	1828.37	2056.91	2514.01	2971.1	3428.19	4113.83
WANLIP	1375.67	1604.94	1834.22	2063.5	2522.06	2980.62	3439.17	4127.01
WOODHOUSE	1408.37	1643.09	1877.82	2112.55	2582.01	3051.47	3520.92	4225.11
WYMESWOLD	1396.05	1628.71	1861.39	2094.06	2559.41	3024.76	3490.11	4188.13
LOUGHBOROUGH (SPECIAL EXPENSES)	1399.71	1632.99	1866.28	2099.56	2566.13	3032.71	3499.27	4199.13

7. That the original HRA Budget for 2023/24 as outlined in Appendix A5 of the General Fund and HRA Revenue budget report of the Cabinet be approved.
8. That the HRA weekly rents be amended in line with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) guidance.
9. *to amend the non-HRA dwelling properties in line with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) guidance.*
10. That the HRA service charges be approved in accordance with the MHCLG guidance.
11. That shop rents retain their current rents in accordance with the assessment by the Valuation Office.
12. *to approve that garage rents, retain their current rents in accordance with an assessment by the Valuation Office*
13. That the Leasehold Management and Administration charge increases to £160.46 per annum Leasehold flats, and £115.29 for Leasehold shops.
14. That the Lifeline weekly charge is increased in line with MHCLG guidance.
15. That it be determined that the basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 is not excessive according to the principles set out by the Secretary of State.
16. That the NNDR tax base for 2023/24 will be £46,625,276.
17. That the Loughborough Special Levy at £81.11, a 1.99% increase on 2022/23 rate.

Reasons

1. To set the definition of the Loughborough Special Expenses in accordance with Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
2. To ensure that the necessary finance would be available to carry out services in 2023/24 and to set the Council Tax and Loughborough Special Expenses in accordance with legal and statutory requirements.
3. To set the Council's 2023/24 Council Tax Base in accordance with the regulations made under Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 4-6. To set a Council Tax in accordance with legal and statutory requirements.
7. To ensure sufficient funding for the Housing Revenue Account in 2023/24.
8. To comply with social housing rents guidance for 2023/24.
9. To reflect the greater flexibility for rental options for non-HRA dwellings.

10. To ensure the correct alignment of costs and service charges for tenants in accordance with best practice.
11. So that shop rents remain affordable and are charged in line with the assessment by the Valuation Office.
12. To increase the rent generated for this asset.
13. So that there is sufficient recovery of the costs associated with operating the leasehold flat and shop services.
14. That there is sufficient recovery of the costs associated with operating the Lifeline service.
15. To comply with the requirements of section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
16. To set the Council's NNDR tax base in accordance with statutory requirements.
17. To ensure sufficient funding to the Loughborough Special budget in line with overall £5.00 increase in Council Tax.

Policy Justification

The budgets are essential to all policies of the Council and the setting of a Council Tax levy is a legal requirement of the Council and the rents should be within guidance issued by CLG. Similarly, the Council Tax Base is required to be set by statute.

Implementation Timetable

The new budgets, rents, service charges, etc. will become effective on or after 1st April 2023.

Report Implications

Financial Implications

Without the agreement of budgets, rents, service charges, etc. the Council would be acting illegally and would not be able to function for any length of time.

Risk Management

There are no direct risks in approving the recommendations of this report and the inherent risk elements of the budgets, etc. are covered by the main budget report to the Cabinet on 9th February 2023.

Key Decision: Yes

Background Papers: None

Officers to Contact:

Lesley Tansey
Head of Finance
01509 634828
Lesley.tansey@charnwood.gov.uk

Simon Jackson
Director of Finance, Governance & Contracts, &
Procurement
01509 634699
Simon.jackson@charnwood.gov.uk

Part B

Background

1. A report of the Head of Finance setting out the proposed General Fund and HRA Revenue Budgets for 2023/24 has been circulated as part of the Council agenda for 27th February 2023. The budgets set out in that report represent the financial spending plans for all services of the Council and it is a legal requirement to set a balanced budget each financial year.
2. Appendix 1 shows a General Fund budget figure of £19,245,129
3. Council is requested to consider the full Council Tax Resolution, set out in the recommendations and reasons above, in order to set a Council Tax levy and General Fund revenue budget and Housing Revenue Account budget for 2023/24.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Final version of Appendix 1 of the General Fund and HRA Revenue Budgets report submitted to Cabinet on 9th February 2023.

Appendix 2 - Final version of Appendix 2 Council Tax Analysis report submitted to Cabinet on 9th February 2023, has been amended to include approved precept information.

Actual 2021/22 £000	General Fund Budget Summary	Original Budget 2022/23 £000	Draft Budget 2023/24 £000	Final Budget 2023/24 £000	Variance Draft vs Final £000
16,108	Net General Fund Service Expenditure	19,141	19,088	19,221	(133)
0	Less MRP & Interest & Commercial Reserve	(929)	(929)	(929)	0
0	Service (Ongoing Savings)	(1,010)	(417)	(417)	0
0	Service (One Off Saving)	(81)	0	0	0
0	Savings to be determined	(250)	0	0	0
0	Service Pressures Ongoing	184	1,984	1,931	53
0	Service Pressures One Off	127	595	579	17
16,108	Net Service Expenditure	17,182	20,320	20,384	(64)
645	Revenue Contributions to Capital	0	0	0	0
583	MRP Charge	729	604	604	0
230	Interest Paid	240	230	230	0
(281)	Less: Interest on Balances	(300)	(2,000)	(1,500)	(500)
17,285	Total Borough Expenditure	17,851	19,154	19,718	(564)
(96)	Contribution (from)/to Reinvestment Reserve	0	500	500	0
749	Contribution(from)/to Working Balance	(311)	(1,892)	(1,297)	(595)
2	Contribution (from)/to Collection Fund	122	0	0	0
(524)	Contribution(from)/ to Capital Plan Reserve	0	0	0	0
543	Contribution(from)/to Commericalisation Reserve	200	324	324	0
242	Contribution (from)/to Other Reserves	0	0	0	0
18,202	Precept Requirement	17,862	18,086	19,245	(1,159)
4,547	NNDR	5,200	5,400	6,400	(1,000)
0	RSG	174	0	329	(329)
7,640	Council Tax Receipts	7,981	8,381	8,314	67
1,311	Loughborough Special Levy	1,346	1,392	1,367	25
3,000	New Homes Bonus	1,631	0	373	(373)
1,418	Lower Tier Services Grant	1,112	0	0	0
283	General Government Grants	296	2,913	2,462	451
2	Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit)	122	0	0	0
18,202	Precept Income	17,862	18,086	19,245	(1,159)
£000	REVENUE BALANCES	£000	£000	£000	£000
Actual 2021/22		Original Budget 2022/23	Draft Budget 2023/24	Final Budget 2023/24	Variance Original vs Draft
5,816	Working Balance at 1 April	4,969	6,211	6,211	0
751	Transfer from/(to) General Fund	(189)	(1,892)	(1,297)	(595)
0	Transfer from/(to) Reinvestment Reserve	(167)	(500)	(500)	0
6,567	Balance at 31 March	4,613	3,819	4,414	(595)
591	Reinvestment Reserve Balance at 1 April	333	328	328	0
0	Allocated balance	0	(328)	(328)	0
(96)	Transfers from/(to) General Fund	167	500	500	0
495	Balance at 31 March	500	500	500	0
2,433	Capital Plan Reserve Balance at 1 April	2,233	1,695	1,695	0
(524)	Transfer from/(to) General Fund	0	0	0	0
1,909	Balance at 31 March	2,233	1,695	1,695	0
7,346	NDR Deficit COVID Reserve	7,346	3,052	3,052	0
(4,294)	Funding of NDR COVID Deficit	(7,346)	(3,052)	(3,052)	0
3,052	Balance at 31 March	0	0	0	0
2,015	Other Revenue Reserve Balances at 1 April	2,015	3,343	3,343	0
1,328	Transfers from/(to) General Fund	200	324	324	0
3,343	Balance at 31 March	2,215	3,667	3,667	0
15,366	TOTAL BALANCES	9,561	9,681	10,276	(595)

COUNCIL TAX ANALYSIS 2023/24					
2022/23			2023/24		%
58,819.0		TAX BASE (at CBC collection rate)	59,186.3		Change
					Per Band D
16,923.1		LOUGHBOROUGH TAX BASE	16,855.2		0.62
£	£ p		£	£ p	%
17,862,933	303.69	TOTAL BUDGET REQUIREMENT	19,245,129	325.16	7.07
(1,345,894)	(22.88)	Less: Loughborough Special Levy	(1,367,125)	(23.10)	0.95
16,517,039	280.81		17,878,004	302.06	7.57
(1,631,447)	(27.74)	New Homes Bonus	(373,187)	(6.31)	(77.25)
(5,200,000)	(88.41)	NNDR	(6,400,000)	(108.13)	22.31
0	0.00	Funding Guarantee	(2,295,397)	(38.78)	0.00
(1,111,902)	(18.90)	Lower Tier Services Grant	0	0.00	(100.00)
(295,932)	(5.03)	Services Grant	(166,753)	(2.82)	(43.95)
(174,268)	(2.96)	Revenue Support Grant	(328,767)	(5.55)	87.32
8,103,490	137.77		8,313,900	140.47	1.96
(122,340)	(2.08)	Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	0	0.00	(100.00)
7,981,150	135.69	BASIC BOROUGH PRECEPT	8,313,900	140.47	3.52
		Other Precepts			
4,250,109	72.26	Parishes	4,565,965	77.15	6.77
85,461,673	1,452.96	Leicestershire County Council	90,286,510	1,525.46	4.99
4,369,664	74.29	Combined Fire Authority	4,692,882	79.29	6.73
15,188,842	258.23	Police & Crime Commissioner for Leics	16,171,485	273.23	5.81
109,270,288	1,857.74		115,716,842	1,955.13	5.24
1,345,894	79.53	SPECIAL LEVY (LOUGHBOROUGH)	1,367,125	81.11	1.99
118,597,332	2,016.31	TOTAL REQUIREMENT	125,397,867	2,118.70	5.08
117,251,438	1,993.43	AVERAGE PARISH PRECEPT	124,030,742	2,095.60	5.13
114,347,223	2,000.70	LOUGHBOROUGH PRECEPT	120,831,902	2,099.56	4.94

COUNCIL – 27TH FEBRUARY 2023

ITEM 10 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

10.1 Councillor Ranson – Nanpantan Cemetery

- When will the new cemetery on Nanpantan Road be open?
- Who can be buried there?
- Is it just for residents of Loughborough?
- When will the Plots become available to be purchased?
- Who do they contact if they wish to purchase?

The Leader or his nominee will respond:

The Nanpantan Cemetery will open on 8th March and plots will be available to purchase from this date. It is available to anyone, regardless of their residency, however the charges are graduated to reflect how the maintenance of the cemetery is paid for. Residents of Loughborough will have the lowest fees.

The cemetery has been developed in phases with this first phase including space for over 5,000 burials which will last for 100 years on current burial trends. Natural burials will be available for the first time at a Charnwood Borough Council owned cemetery.

Around 200 new trees and 400 metres of new beech hedging has been planted have been planted during this first phase as well as a wide range of plants and shrubs, all of which will combine to provide food and habitat resources for wildlife.

The town can be proud of the new facility which will also provide a place of reflection and offer fantastic views of the Outwoods. Free Parking is available at the Cemetery and Nanpantan Rd Sport Ground Car Park for easy access to the Outwoods via the Public Rights of Way network.

Vehicles can access Nanpantan Road Cemetery via Nanpantan Road. The access road to the sports facility has been extended towards the site.

The Council is planning to hold a formal open day later this year to enable local residents to visit the new Nanpantan Road Cemetery and find out more about the facility.

Plots can be purchased after the 8th March. Enquiries should be made to the Cemeteries Team at Cemetery@charnwood.gov.uk

10.2 Councillor Draycott – Lightbulb Project

Would the Cabinet Lead for Private Housing explain:

- Why after agreeing in 2017 and continuing this new arrangement in 2018, 2019 & 2021 last year CBC decided to Review the service with Blaby Council, reverting to LCC delivering these functions again?
- How much has been spent from 2017 to date on this unsatisfactory service?
- When were all elected Councillors to be told formally of this change?
- How are residents now being told who to contact if in need of a disabled adaptation?

The Leader or his nominee will respond:

No decision has been made in respect of a change to the delivery model for the service within Charnwood. A review is being carried out in order to inform a decision about the future delivery model for the service within Charnwood from 1st April 2024.

Charnwood Borough Council has always delivered the housing support coordinator assessments, technical assessments, grant approvals and payments. Leicestershire County Council has always delivered the aspects of the adaptations services relating to Occupational Therapy assessments and recommendations. There are currently 2 x Leicestershire County Council employed Occupational Therapists who cover the Charnwood area and work with the Charnwood Lightbulb Team to deliver adaptations services to residents.

The total cost of delivering the service (excluding grants awarded to customers) up to period 10 has been:

<i>Staffing related costs</i>	<i>£1,001,492.78</i>
<i>Internal recharges</i>	<i>£61,371.75</i>
<i>Other costs</i>	<i>£295.97</i>
<i>Contribution to Blaby District Council for Lightbulb Central Hub</i>	<i>£157,468.37</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£1,220,628.87</i>

No change has been made to the delivery model for the service within Charnwood and therefore it was not necessary to inform elected Councillors. A review is being carried out in order to inform a decision about the future delivery model for the service within Charnwood from 1st April 2024.

Residents should still contact Leicestershire County Council if they require adaptations. Leicestershire County Council triage contacts and

determine whether cases should be allocated to a Leicestershire County Council Occupational Therapist (where major adaptations are likely to be required) or to a Charnwood Borough Council Lightbulb Housing Support Coordinator (where only stairlifts or minor adaptations are likely to be required).

Details of how to request an assessment are available on the following webpages:

https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/adaptations_for_tenants_with_disabilities

<https://lightbulbservice.org/disabled-facility-grant/>

10.3 Councillor Draycott – Disabled Facilities Grant

For the Cabinet Lead for Private Housing-

- Does the Cabinet Lead for Housing accept responsibility for yet another year of underspend of Government monies of £1,396,000.00 plus?.
- Does he accept responsibility for people in such need waiting for "multiple years for work to be carried out?
- Whose fault it is that this work, that can make some one's quality of life so much better, has failed to be delivered?
- Why are the 133 outstanding cases being rejigged so that quick wins are going to be worked on before more complicated cases?

The Leader or his nominee will respond:

There are various challenges associated with the delivery of disability adaptations, including factors beyond the Council's control such as vacancies within the Leicestershire County Council Occupational Therapy service, and internal recruitment and retention challenges relating to the Charnwood Borough Council Technical Officer role.

Notwithstanding these challenges, the principal factor behind the current cumulative underspend is a backlog created by the Covid-19 pandemic, due to issues such as risks relating to home visits. This is illustrated as follows:

<i>DFG funding brought forward from 2021/2022</i>	<i>£1,577,000</i>
<i>DFG funding award 2022/23</i>	<i>£1,063,000</i>
<i>Total DFG funding available 2022/23</i>	<i>£2,640,000</i>
<i>DFG expenditure to Period 10</i>	<i>£346,000</i>
<i>Projected DFG expenditure at year end</i>	<i>£707,000</i>
<i>Projected DFG expenditure as a proportion of 2022/23 grant</i>	<i>67%</i>

Whilst delivery of the DFG programme generally, and the reduction of the underspend backlog in particular, is challenging the above figures demonstrate that current disabled adaptations are now being delivered much more in line with funding being received.

There are some aspects of delivery which are outside of Charnwood Borough Council's control, for example changes to applicant's condition and adaptation needs, variation between recommended works and applicant preferences in relation to works, which result in a need for reassessment and ultimately impact on the timeline for the completion of the adaptation works.

There are currently 127 outstanding cases. (Please note that a further 90 cases are awaiting an initial assessment by an Occupational Therapist and have not yet been referred to the Charnwood Lightbulb Team).

The status of the 127 cases are:

<i>Awaiting assessment by CBC Technical Officer</i>	<i>46</i>
<i>Awaiting reassessment by LCC Occupational Therapist</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Awaiting quotes from customer</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Awaiting supporting documents from customer</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>DFG approved (awaiting works / invoices)</i>	<i>32</i>

The waiting times for the 127 cases (from referral receipt date) are:

<i>Less than 6 months</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>6 to 12 months</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>More than 12 months</i>	<i>27</i>

Average DFG completion time during 2022/2023 (from referral receipt date to absolute completion date) is 19 weeks..

It is not realistic to assign blame to any individual or service for issues arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, or issues arising from key staff vacancies and capacity issues across organisations.

It should be noted that during 2022/2023 Charnwood Borough Council have approved the following numbers of grants and made the following number of final grant payments for completed works:

<i>DFGs approved</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>DFGs paid</i>	<i>64</i>

It is not the case that more complex cases are being deprioritised. Cases are prioritised in date order based on referral receipt date, with some discretion applied to prioritise the most urgent cases (for example where a customer is terminally ill).

Cases can only be progressed when all of the necessary information has been received from Leicestershire County Council's Occupational Therapy service and from the customer. All of the outstanding cases have been reviewed in order to identify those cases where there is sufficient information available to progress.

More complex cases will normally take longer to fully complete as they often involve multiple works, major works, planning applications and/or more detailed assessments.

10.4 Councillor Grimley – Rent Collections and Rent Arrears

Can the Lead Member confirm what the current rent collection rate is for our housing stock, whether tenant arrears are rising or falling and what measures are in place to help residents who find themselves in rent arrears?

The Leader or his nominee will respond:

The current in year rent collection rate is 98.87%. The value of rent arrears and rent arrears expressed as a % of the total annual projected rent roll have fallen year on year. The positive trends are set out in the tables below.

Year	Arrears % and Value
2022/23	2.99% and £644K
2021/22	3.39% and £717K
2020/21	3.41% and £719K
2019/20	3.63% and £688K

Rent Collected (in year)	
22/23	98.87%
21/22	98.80%
20/21	98.77%
19/20	98.23%

The Council has a dedicated Tenancy Support and Financial Inclusion Team. Support with welfare benefits, debt, and charity applications forms the core work of the team. The team is on course to generate over £100k (£91k generated to the end of January 23) worth of additional rental income this year, helping tenants to live successfully in their homes.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE TO COUNCIL – PROCEDURE

- Councillors are required to submit a question on notice in writing by 12noon on the eighth working day prior to Council, the title of the question is published on the Council Agenda.
- Questions and responses will be published at the end of the previous working day (usually the Friday prior to a Council meeting on a Monday) and will be available at the Council meeting for Councillors, the press, and the public.
- After the questions and responses are published **Councillors may indicate that they wish to ask a supplementary question by noon on the day of the Council meeting.**
- The Mayor will invite those Councillors who have indicated that they wish to do so to ask a supplementary question.
- The Leader (or relevant Lead Member on behalf of the Leader) or Chair of the Committee is able to respond.
- The total time each person can speak on a single question is time limited.