



Mayor and Cabinet

Addendum to 2023/24 Budget Report

Date: 8 February 2023

Key decision: Yes

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Katharine Nidd, Head of Strategic Finance, Planning and Commercial Finance

This addendum corrects a minor date and cross-referencing errors in Item 4 – 2023/24 Budget Report. These changes do not impact on decision making, nor do they alter the intent of the legal implications.

The following paragraphs of the main report require amendment:

Section 14: Legal Implications, paragraphs 14.11, 14.13, 14.15 and 14.16.

The replacement text is below, with the changes in **bold**:

Balanced Budget

- 14.11 In accordance with the Local Government Act 1992 the Council must set its Council Tax for **2023/2024 before 11 March 2023**. By law it may not set the Council Tax before receipt of confirmation of the precept from the precepting authority, the GLA which is anticipated on **23 February**. A report will be prepared for the Council meeting on **1 March 2023** on the basis of indications from the GLA but the report will be despatched before their final decision. The Executive Director for Corporate Resources will update the Council accordingly before it makes its decision.
- 14.13 Members have a duty to ensure that the Council acts lawfully. It must set and maintain a balanced budget each year. The Council must take steps to deal with any projected overspends and identify cuts or other measures to bring the budget under control. If the Capital Programme is overspending, this may be brought back into line through cuts, slippage, or contributions from revenue. The proposals in this report are designed to produce a balanced budget in **2023/24**.

An annual budget

- 14.15 By law, the setting of the Council's budget is an annual process. However, to enable meaningful planning, a number of cuts proposals for 2023/24 were anticipated in the course of the budget process. **These cuts were approved by Mayor and Cabinet on 7 December 2022. They are listed in Appendix Y1 and Appendix Y2 respectively of this report.** This report is predicated on taking all of the agreed and proposed budget cuts and those budget cuts being successfully implemented. If not, any shortfall will have to be met through adjustments to the annual budget in this report with the use of reserves.
- 14.16 The body of the report refers to the various consultation exercises (for example with tenants and businesses) which the Council has carried out in accordance with statutory requirements relating to this budget process. Mayor and Cabinet must consider the outcome of that consultation, **contained within section 12**, of this report with an open mind before reaching a decision about the final proposals to Council.

Is this report easy to understand?

Please give us feedback so we can improve.

Go to <https://lewisham.gov.uk/contact-us/send-us-feedback-on-our-reports>