

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Council held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 20 February 2018**

Present:

Members: Councillor T Skipper (Chair)

Councillor F Abbott	Councillor J Lepoidevin
Councillor N Akhtar	Councillor A Lucas
Councillor P Akhtar	Councillor P Male
Councillor R Ali	Councillor K Maton
Councillor A Andrews	Councillor T Mayer
Councillor R Auluck	Councillor J McNicholas
Councillor S Bains	Councillor C Miks
Councillor J Birdi	Councillor K Mulhall
Councillor J Blundell	Councillor J Mutton
Councillor K Caan	Councillor M Mutton
Councillor J Clifford	Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor G Crookes	Councillor G Ridley
Councillor G Duggins	Councillor E Ruane
Councillor D Gannon	Councillor T Sawdon
Councillor M Hammon	Councillor P Seaman
Councillor L Harvard	Councillor B Singh
Councillor J Innes	Councillor R Singh
Councillor B Kaur	Councillor D Skinner
Councillor L Kelly	Councillor H Sweet
Councillor D Kershaw	Councillor K Taylor
Councillor T Khan	Councillor R Thay
Councillor A Khan	Councillor C Thomas
Councillor R Lakha	Councillor S Walsh
Councillor R Lancaster	Councillor D Welsh
Councillor M Lapsa	Councillor G Williams

Honorary Alderman: J Gazey  
J Wright

Apologies: Councillor R Bailey, L Bigham and R Brown

### **Public Business**

**97. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2018**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2018 were signed as a true record.

**98. Coventry Good Citizen Award**

On behalf of the City Council, the Lord presented Mr Madhan Jasal with the Good Citizen Award. His citation read:

*“Since 2006 Madhan has managed and organised the inaugural ‘Meggitt Football Championships’, a weeknight 11 a side football competition for businesses within Coventry and Warwickshire, with the aim to raise money for charities such as Prostate Cancer UK, Alzheimer’s Society, Guide Dogs for the Blind and many other prestigious charities . Every year, Madhan gives up his weeknights, from May through to September, in order to voluntarily run the inter-company charity football tournament. His time and efforts have allowed many teams to enjoy playing and this has resulted in raising over £57,000 for charity since the tournament started. His management not only benefits the charity of choice but also promotes healthy living between Coventry businesses through sport.*

*Madhan provides an opportunity for employees from different companies to meet, socialise and participate in a competitive sport while in a pleasant and respectful environment. In addition to this Madhan arranges the fixtures, books the pitches and referees the majority of the matches himself. In the 2017 Championship’s Madhan refereed over 40 matches, amounting to over 100 hours of his own time spent working tirelessly to raise money for the charities.*

*The organisation of the tournament alone each year is a considerable undertaking for one person with 2017’s tournament consisting of over 60 games, raising over £8,000 for the British Heart Foundation. It is evident that through Madhan’s voluntary work he has shown tremendous commitment to the people of Coventry, his actions properly reflect his character and he is a worthy recipient of this Good Citizen Award.”*

99. **Correspondence and Announcements of the Lord Mayor**

(a) Feedback on Civic Visit to Volgograd

The Lord Mayor provided feedback on a civic visit to Coventry’s twin city, Volgograd undertaken earlier this month by himself, Councillor Khan and the Dean of Coventry on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Battle of Stalingrad.

(b) Cyrille Regis MBE

The Lord Mayor referred to the service to be held at Coventry Cathedral on Sunday 4 March at 4.00 pm, to celebrate the Life and Legacy of Cyrille Regis MBE.

(c) Coventry Fibromyalgia

In order to raise awareness for sufferers of fibromyalgia, the Lord Mayor reported that he had recently attended the monthly meeting of the Coventry Fibromyalgia Group, the Group supported those who suffered from fibromyalgia. Contact details could be obtained from the Lord Mayor’s Office.

100. **Petitions**

**RESOLVED:**

**That the following petitions be referred to the appropriate City Council bodies:**

- (a) Request to take action on parking issues along Hollyfast Road, Westhill Road, Gaveston Road and surrounding areas – 73 signatures, presented by Councillor Williams.**
- (b) Request for yellow lines and disabled bays outside St Albans Church, Mercer Avenue – 90 signatures, presented by Councillor Bains.**
- (c) Request that the City Council consider making the “lay-by” style parking bays on Cannon Hill Road between the junctions of Orlescote Road and Atherstone Place Residential Parking Scheme/permit holders only.**

101. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

102. **2017/18 Third Quarter Financial Monitoring Report (to December 2017)**

Further to Minute 113 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), which set out the forecast outturn position for revenue and capital expenditure and the Council’s treasury management activity as at the end of December 2017.

The report had also been considered by the Audit and Procurement Committee at their meeting scheduled held on 19 February 2018.

The headline revenue forecast for 2017/18 was an overspend of £1.8m. This had decreased since the Quarter 2 position, when it stood at £3.1m. At the same point in 2016/17, there was a projected overspend of £4.8m. Notwithstanding the relative improvement since Quarter 2, and the equivalent position last year, the reasons for the overspend represented some concerning trends for the Council. At a time of continued tightening of local authority resources, the current position still represented one that demanded a strong focus on addressing the underlying issues. However, it was still anticipated that tight budgetary control and utilisation of any one-off areas of flexibility would reduce the projected overspend and achieve a near balanced position by year-end.

The current position continued to reflect areas of budgetary overspend reported previously, including services for looked after children and the costs of homelessness. In addition, a shortfall existed in delivering savings targets set in previous budgets. Where relevant, the likely anticipated cost of these pressures would be incorporated into the forthcoming 2018/19 budget report.

The report indicated that it was proposed to allocate a 2017/18 windfall Coventry and Solihull Waste Disposal Company dividend of £1.8m to Council reserves to part meet the Council's commitment to fund UK City of Culture 2021 costs.

The Council's Capital spending was projected to be £121.0m for the year, a net increase of £1.1m on the position reported at Quarter 2. Appendix 3 of the report submitted provided an analysis by directorate of the movement since Quarter 2.

The report also set out the current position in relation to treasury management activity in 2017/18, including interest rates; long term (capital) borrowing; short term (temporary) borrowing; external investments and the prudential indicators and prudential code.

**RESOLVED that the City Council approve the use of a windfall dividend of £1.8m from the Coventry and Solihull Waste Disposal Company as detailed in Section 5.1 of the report, to fund commitments including those set out in the City of Culture 2012 report to Council on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

103. **Motion Without Notice**

In accordance with the Constitution, a motion without notice was moved by Councillor M Mutton, seconded by Councillor S Walsh and adopted that agenda items 8 (2018/19 Council Tax Report) and 9 (Budget Report 2018/19) be considered together.

It was noted that a recorded vote would be taken in respect of all decisions relating to matters the subject of Minutes 104 and 105 below (including any amendments)

104. **2018/19 Council Tax Setting Report**

Further to Minute 127 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), which calculated the Council Tax level for 2018/19 and made appropriate recommendations, consistent with the Budget Report 2018/19.

The report indicated that some of the figures and information set out within the report were identified as provisional as the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire and Rescue Authority precepts had not been confirmed at the time of publication. The Police and Crime Commissioner met on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and the \*Fire and Rescue Authority met on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and the figures within the report were now confirmed (\*see Note 2 at the end of this minute)

The report incorporated the impact of the Council's gross expenditure and the level of income it would receive through grants, fees and charges. This resulted in a Council Tax requirement, as the amount that its expenditure exceeded all other sources of income.

The report included a calculation of the Band D Council Tax that would be needed to generate this Council Tax requirement, based on the City's approved Council Tax base. The 2018/19 Band D Council Tax that was calculated through this process had increased by £74.18 from the 2017/18 level.

As part of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement (November 2015) it was announced that councils which provided social care to adults would be allowed to increase their share of Council Tax by up to an extra 2%, provided that the additional resources were all used to fund the increasing costs of adult social care. This additional Council Tax charge was known as the 'Adult Social Care (ASC) precept'. The Government indicated that authorities could include this additional 2% precept in each year of the four year period: 2016/17 to 2019/20.

In December 2016 the Government announced that Councils could opt to bring forward some, or all, of the potential 2% ASC precept available in 2019/20 to earlier years. However the maximum increase in any one year was limited to 3%, and the total over the three year period 2017/18 to 2019/20 was limited to the original total increase of 6%.

Coventry City Council made use of this additional flexibility in 2017/18 and increased its Council Tax by a total of 4.9%. This was made up of a basic 1.9% increase plus a further 3% ASC precept. In keeping with this approach, and in order to maximise the resources available to fund ASC services in the City, the recommendations within the Budget Report 2018 were passed on a proposed increase in Council Tax of 4.9%. As in 2017/18, this was again made up of a basic 1.9% increase plus a further 3% ASC precept.

It was noted that the recommendations followed the structure of resolutions drawn up by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, to ensure that legal requirements were fully adhered to in setting the tax. As a consequence, the wording of the proposed resolutions was necessarily complex.

In accordance with the Constitution, Councillor J Mutton moved the Recommendations with the following specified alterations (in italics):

*2018/19 Council tax Setting Report*

*That recommendations 2(a) and 2(b) be amended as follows:-*

*(2) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31A, 31B and 34 to 36 of the Act :*

*(a) ~~£726,922,000~~*

*£727,029,000 being the aggregate of the amounts that 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 (Gross Expenditure and reserves required to be raised for estimated future expenditure);*

*(b) ~~£599,669,103~~*

*£599,776,103 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. (Gross Income including reserves to be used to meet the Gross Expenditure but excluding Council Tax income);*

**RESOLVED that the City Council:**



$$(f) \quad \text{£1,574.23} \quad = \frac{(2)(d) - (2)(e)}{(1)(a)} = \frac{\text{£1,574.61} - \frac{\text{£30,870}}{80,815.4}}$$

being the amount at 2(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 2(e) above by the amounts at 1(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 the area to which no special item relates. (*Council Tax at Band D for the City excluding Parish Precepts*);

(g)

Coventry Unparished Area	£1,574.23
Allesley	£1,599.12
Finham	£1,587.99
Keresley	£1,581.37

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2(f) 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 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate. (*Council Taxes at Band D for the City and Parish*).

(h)

Valuation Band	Parts to which no special item relates £	Parish of Allesley £	Parish of Finham £	Parish of Keresley £
A	1,049.49	1,066.08	1,058.66	1,054.25
B	1,224.40	1,243.76	1,235.10	1,229.95
C	1,399.32	1,421.44	1,411.55	1,405.67
<b>D</b>	<b>1,574.23</b>	<b>1,599.12</b>	<b>1,587.99</b>	<b>1,581.37</b>
E	1,924.06	1,954.48	1,940.88	1,932.79
F	2,273.89	2,309.84	2,293.77	2,284.20
G	2,623.72	2,665.20	2,646.65	2,635.62
H	3,148.46	3,198.24	3,175.98	3,162.74

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2(g) 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

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 dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

3. To note that for the year 2018/19 the Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands and West Midlands Fire Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

Valuation Band	Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands £	West Midlands Fire Authority £
A	85.70	39.23
B	99.98	45.77
C	114.27	52.30
<b>D</b>	<b>128.55</b>	<b>58.84</b>
E	157.12	71.92
F	185.68	84.99
G	214.25	98.07
H	257.10	117.68

4. That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2(h) and 3 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Act, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2018/19 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Band	Parts to which no special item relates £	Parish of Allesley £	Parish of Finham £	Parish of Keresley £
A	1,174.42	1,191.01	1,183.59	1,179.18
B	1,370.15	1,389.51	1,380.85	1,375.70
C	1,565.89	1,588.01	1,578.12	1,572.24
<b>D</b>	<b>1,761.62</b>	<b>1,786.51</b>	<b>1,775.38</b>	<b>1,768.76</b>
E	2,153.10	2,183.52	2,169.92	2,161.83
F	2,544.56	2,580.51	2,564.44	2,554.87
G	2,936.04	2,977.52	2,958.97	2,947.94
H	3,523.24	3,573.02	3,550.76	3,537.52

5. That the Council determines that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Sections 52ZC and 52ZD of the Act.

Notes: (1) In accordance with the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken in respect of the Recommendations with the specified alterations.



The Councillors voting for and against the Recommendations were as follows:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Councillors:	Councillors:	
F Abbott	G Williams	
N Akhtar		
P Akhtar		
R Ali		
A Andrews		
R Auluck		
S Bains		
J Birdi		
J Blundell		
K Caan		
J Clifford		
G Crookes		
G Duggins		
D Gannon		
M Hammon		
L Harvard		
J Innes		
B Kaur		
L Kelly		
D Kershaw		
A Khan		
T Khan		
R Lakha		
R Lancaster		
M Lapsa		
J Lepoidevin		
A Lucas		
J McNicholas		
P Male		
K Maton		
T Mayer		
C Mijs		
K Mulhall		
J Mutton		
M Mutton		
J O'Boyle		
G Ridley		
E Ruane		
T Sawdon		
P Seaman		
B Singh		
R Singh		
D Skinner		
H Sweet		
K Taylor		
R Thay		
C Thomas		

S Walsh  
Lord Mayor

Result: Carried

For: 49  
Against: 1  
Abstentions: 0

(2): At the meeting, Councillor J Mutton indicated that the Fire and Rescue Authority had notified the City Council that their precept figures may be incorrect and may be subject to change, however, shortly after the meeting they confirmed that the figures as detailed in the report were correct.

#### 105. **Budget Report 2018/19**

Further to Minute 128 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), which set out proposals for the Council's final revenue and capital budget 2018/19.

The report followed on from the Pre-Budget Report approved by Cabinet on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017, which had been subject to a period of public consultation. The proposals within the report now submitted formed the basis of the Council's final revenue and capital budget for 2018/19 incorporating the following details:

- Gross budgeted spend of £727m (£24m and 3% higher than 2017/18).
- Net budgeted spend of £235m (£2m higher than 2017/18) funded from Council Tax and Business Rates less a tariff payment of £9.5, due to Government.
- A Council Tax Requirement of £127.3m (£8.7m and 7% higher than 2017/18), reflecting a Council Tax increase of 4.9% detailed in the separate Council Tax Setting report on today's agenda.
- A number of expenditure pressures caused by the impact of demographic pressures on Council Services.
- A Capital Programme of £262.5m (£141.5m and 117% more than the latest estimated 2017/18 programme) including expenditure funded by Prudential Borrowing of £93m.
- An updated Treasury Management Strategy.

The Council's gross and net budget figures had increased compared with 2017/18 but this still represented a real-terms reduction in resources available to the Council after taking account of inflation.

The report indicated that the financial position in the report was based on the Final 2018/19 Government Finance Settlement and incorporated reductions in funding over the next 3 years. This position was particularly uncertain for financial year 2020/21 which could be subject to the combination of a new national Spending Review, a revised allocation model within the Local Government sector and a new national 100% Business Rates model. As a result, there was huge uncertainty around Local Government funding which made it impossible to provide a robust financial forecast at this stage. Nevertheless, initial assumptions and existing trends are sufficiently firm to indicate that there will in all certainty be a substantial

gap for that year. The view of the Council's Director of Finance and Corporate Services was that the Council should be planning for such a position.

Along with the other 6 West Midlands Councils, Coventry was taking part in a 100% Business Rates Pilot scheme. This enabled the Councils to retain 99% of Business Rates income including any growth against an historic baseline which would otherwise have been returned to Government. The financial model and assumptions that support the Pilot had been incorporated within the position reported.

The Pre-Budget Report was based on flexibility to increase Council Tax by up to 2% without holding a local referendum on the matter and further flexibility, up to a maximum of 3%, recognising the increasing pressure on Adult Social Care (ASC) services across the country. The Government had subsequently announced that the Council Tax Referendum limit had been raised to 3%. However, the budget recommended in the report submitted and the associated Council Tax proposals in the report that accompanied it, did not incorporate this flexibility. As a result the budget was being proposed on the basis of increasing Council Tax by 4.9%. This proposed increase would be the equivalent of around a pound a week for a typical Coventry household.

The Council's medium term financial position included the impact of reductions in Government funding that had already been anticipated and savings programmes that had been approved previously. At the start of the 2018/19 Budget Setting process the Council faced a financial gap of £12m after taking into account a temporary delay in the likely achievement of some savings and the emergence of new expenditure pressures. In broad terms, the Budget had been balanced by additional Council Tax and Business Rates resources and savings in contingency budgets, capital financing costs and several other largely technical areas. All these proposals were set out in detail in Appendix 1 of the report submitted. Where these were different to the proposals that were included in the Pre-Budget Report, this had been indicated in the Appendix.

The proposals had been designed to provide the Council with a robust medium-term position and subject to the recommendations being approved, the Council would have a two-year balanced budget.

The report highlighted that, given the forthcoming national proposals for local government finance to be based on a 75% Business Rates Model from 2020/21, the vibrancy and growth of the City was vital to ensure a secure level of Business Rates income. Proposals within the recommended Capital Programme were designed to help achieve this and amounted to £262m in 2018/19. These represented an ambitious approach to investing in the City and included the near-completion of the Council's new city centre leisure facility, progression of the City Centre South, Connecting Coventry and Coventry Station Master Plan schemes and establishment of the joint venture vehicle to accelerate a programme of building at Friargate. Over the next 5 years, the Capital Programme was estimated to be £921m and represented the largest ever investment by and through the City Council.

It was noted that Coventry's success in being announced in December 2017 as the UK City of Culture for 2021 would lead to some exciting developments and

events across the City over the next few years. This included an impetus to implement some of the Council's capital projects on an accelerated basis and planning had already begun to examine the scope for and implications of this.

The annual Treasury Management Strategy was also set out, incorporating the Minimum Revenue Provision that was revised in 2016/16 and covered the management of the Council's investments, cash balances and borrowing requirements. The Strategy and other relevant sections in the report submitted reflected the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy (CIPFA) updated Treasury Management Code and Prudential Borrowing Code for Capital Finance insofar as they relate to 2018/19.

In accordance with the Constitution Councillor J Mutton moved the Recommendations with the following specified alterations (in italics):

*Budget Report 2018/19*

*The wording of all recommendations still stands.*

*In respect of Recommendation 1, that additional expenditure of £107,000 be approved to be added to the Street Cleansing Budget for 2018/19 only, funded by an equivalent contribution from reserves.*

*That an additional line (19c) [page 75] be inserted into Appendix 1 and the amendments be made to line 27 [page 77] as follows:*

19c	<i>Street Cleansing (change to pre-budget report)</i>	<i>Increase to street cleansing budget incorporating one neighbourhood cleansing team and two barrow operatives. Proposed initially for a one-off basis funded from a contribution from reserves (line 27) and subject to review for 2019/20 Budget Setting.</i>	107	0	0
27	<i>Reduce Contribution to Reserves (Change to Pre-Budget Report)</i>	<i>Adjusts the medium term strategy set out at 2017/18 Budget Setting. This proposes reducing the contribution to reserves in 2018/19 and corresponding balance available to balance 2019/20. Separately includes funding for the costs set out on line 19b above and identified within the 2017-18 Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring Report <b><u>and the costs set out on line 19c.</u></b></i>	(2,150) <b><u>(2,257)</u></b>	1,850	0

*That the additional expenditure and contribution from reserves be reflected in a revised Appendix 3 [page 89] shown below.*

## Revenue Budget

## Appendix 3

2017/18 Restated * £'000	CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS	Budget Decisions Brought Forward £'000	Pre-Budget and Final Budget Changes £'000	2018/19 Final Budget £'000
2,392	Policy and Leadership	2,080	(6)	2,074
7,387	Policing and Equalities	7,168	296	7,464
6,934	Strategic Finance and Resources	5,426	3,393	8,819
72,061	Children and Young People	67,029	7,050	74,079
14,457	Education and Skills	15,432	(211)	15,221
(5,177)	Jobs and Regeneration	(4,828)	456	(4,372)
27,539	City Services	28,205	(32)	28,173
80,316	Adult Services	76,044	(110)	75,934
2,819	Public Health and Sport	2,472	(65)	2,407
6,987	Community Development	7,054	162	7,216
<b>215,715</b>	<b>TOTAL CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS</b>	<b>206,082</b>	<b>10,933</b>	<b>217,015</b>
24,085	Borrowing and Investments	24,815	0	24,815
(18,665)	Contingencies & Corporate Budgets	(15,472)	(4,293)	(19,765)
14,904	Levies From Other Bodies	15,147	(574)	14,573
30	Parish Precepts	30	0	30
2,070	Revenue Contribution to Capital Spend	3,369	0	3,369
(5,657)	Contributions to / (from) Reserves	(2,453)	(2,794)	(5,247)
<b>232,482</b>	<b>NET BUDGET AFTER SPECIFIC GRANTS, FEES &amp; CHARGES</b>	<b>231,518</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>234,790</b>
Financed by:				
0	Central Government Resources	0	0	0
(118,494)	Council Tax	(125,100)	(2,153)	(127,253)
(113,988)	Business Rates	(106,419)	(1,118)	(107,537)
<b>(232,482)</b>	<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>(231,519)</b>	<b>(3,271)</b>	<b>(234,790)</b>

\* Restated to reflect changes in portfolios between years

2017/18 Restated * £'000	CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS	Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	2018/19 Final Budget £'000
2,392	Policy and Leadership	2,207	(133)	2,074
7,387	Policing and Equalities	12,960	(5,496)	7,464
6,934	Strategic Finance and Resources	128,646	(119,827)	8,819
72,061	Children and Young People	81,184	(7,105)	74,079
14,457	Education and Skills	218,612	(203,391)	15,221
(5,177)	Jobs and Regeneration	17,123	(21,495)	(4,372)
27,539	City Services	54,669	(26,496)	28,173
80,316	Adult Services	120,571	(44,637)	75,934
2,819	Public Health and Sport	25,049	(22,642)	2,407
6,987	Community Development	14,823	(7,607)	7,216
<b>215,715</b>	<b>TOTAL CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS</b>	<b>675,844</b>	<b>(458,829)</b>	<b>217,015</b>
24,085	Borrowing and Investments	26,143	(1,328)	24,815
(18,665)	Contingencies & Corporate Budgets	2,814	(22,579)	(19,765)
14,904	Levies From Other Bodies	14,573	0	14,573
30	Parish Precepts	30	0	30
2,070	Revenue Contribution to Capital Spend	3,369	0	3,369
(5,657)	Contributions to / (from) Reserves	4,256	(9,503)	(5,247)
<b>232,482</b>	<b>NET BUDGET AFTER SPECIFIC GRANTS, FEES &amp; CHARGES</b>	<b>727,029</b>	<b>(492,239)</b>	<b>234,790</b>
Financed by:				
0	Revenue Support Grant	0	0	0
(118,494)	Council Tax	0	(127,253)	(127,253)
(113,988)	Retained Business Rates	0	(107,537)	(107,537)
<b>(232,482)</b>	<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(234,790)</b>	<b>(234,790)</b>

\* Restated to reflect changes in portfolios between years

An amendment, as detailed in the Appendix to these minutes, was moved by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Ridley and lost.

**RESOLVED that the City Council:**

- 1. Approve the spending and savings proposals in Appendix 1 of the report with the specified alterations as detailed above.**
- 2. Approve the total 2018/19 revenue budget of £727m in Table 1 and revised Appendix 3 as detailed above, established in line with a 4.9% City Council Tax increase and the Council Tax Requirement recommended in the Council Tax Setting Report considered on today's agenda.**
- 3. Note the Director of Finance and Corporate Services' comments confirming the adequacy of reserves and robustness of the budget in Sections 5.1.2 and 5.1.3.**
- 4. Approve the Capital Programme of £262.5m for 2018/19 and the future years' commitments arising from this programme of £659.4m between 2019/20 to 2022/23 detailed in Section 2.3 and Appendix 4.**
- 5. Approve the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2018/19 and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement in Section 2.4 of the report, the Investment Strategy and Policy at Appendix 5 and the Prudential Indicators and limits described in Section 2.4.11 and summarised in Appendix 6.**

Note: (1) In accordance with the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken in respect of the amendment, moved by Councillor Taylor and seconded by Councillor Ridley.

The Councillors voting for and against **the amendment** were as follows:

<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Councillors:	Councillors:	
A Andrews	F Abbott	
J Birdi	N Akhtar	
J Blundell	P Akhtar	
G Crookes	R Ali	
M Hammon	R Auluck	
M Lapsa	S Bains	
J Lepoidevin	K Caan	
P Male	J Clifford	
T Mayer	G Duggins	
G Ridley	D Gannon	
T Sawdon	L Harvard	
D Skinner	J Innes	
K Taylor	B Kaur	
G Williams	L Kelly	
	D Kershaw	
	A Khan	

T Khan  
F Lakha  
R Lancaster  
A Lucas  
J McNicholas  
K Maton  
C Miks  
K Mulhall  
J Mutton  
M Mutton  
J O'Boyle  
E Ruane  
P Seaman  
B Singh  
R Singh  
H Sweet  
R Thay  
C Thomas  
S Walsh  
Lord Mayor

Result: Lost

14 for  
36 against  
0 abstentions

(2) In accordance with the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken in respect of the Recommendations including the specified alterations.

The Councillors voting for and against **the Recommendations** were as follows:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Councillors:	Councillors:	
F Abbott	A Andrews	
N Akhtar	J Birdi	
P Akhtar	J Blundell	
R Ali	G Crookes	
R Auluck	M Hammon	
S Bains	M Lapsa	
K Caan	J Lepoidevin	
J Clifford	P Male	
G Duggins	T Mayer	
D Gannon	G Ridley	
L Harvard	T Sawdon	
J Innes	D Skinner	
B Kaur	K Taylor	
L Kelly	G Williams	
D Kershaw		
A Khan		
T Khan		
R Lakha		

R Lancaster  
A Lucas  
J McNicholas  
K Maton  
C Miks  
K Mulhall  
J Mutton  
M Mutton  
J O'Boyle  
E Ruane  
P Seaman  
B Singh  
R Singh  
H Sweet  
R Thay  
C Thomas  
S Walsh  
Lord Mayor

Result: Carried

For: 36

Against: 14

Abstentions: 0

106. **Consultation Response: Fair Funding Review: A Review of Relative Needs and Resources**

Further to Minute 129 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), which set out a proposed consultation response to the Fair Funding Review.

The Government issued a consultation document on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017 entitled "Fair Funding Review: a review of relative needs and resources. Responses were required by 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The fair funding review would set new baseline funding allocations for local authorities by delivering an up-to-date assessment of their relative needs and resources. The new funding allocations were expected to take effect from financial year 2020/21, at the same time as a new 75% Business Rates retention model.

Given the significance of the outcome of such a consultation it was important for the Council to add its own response, which was set out at Appendix 1 of the report submitted. The expectation should be that such review results in a system that is evidence based and fair and the proposed responses to the consultation questions are intended to be technical in nature and/or framed in such a way that they were directed at achieving a rational and fair outcome.

The response incorporated the following broad elements:-



- Simplicity and fairness were both appropriate principles for establishing a needs assessment but fairness was the paramount objective.
- Agreeing the principle of using population projections in the distribution methodology including flexibility to adjust for annual shifts in population.
- Proposing that the relative needs assessment should be refreshed annually with the results applied the year after the forthcoming year.
- Agreeing that rurality and deprivation should be included in cost drivers in the needs assessment to the degree that the evidence demonstrates a significant link between these factors and expenditure pressure. Rurality should not be double counted in the Area Cost Adjustment.
- The weight of different funding formulas should be evidence based, supported by statistical analysis of actual spend levels not the judgement of central Government.
- A preference for techniques that minimise the roles of judgement and opposition to models such as outcome based regression in which authorities are funded according to the success in delivering outcomes.
- Outliers identified during the statistical analysis may warrant a separate approach, which could include the allocation of specific grants.
- Agreement that the service specific cost drivers set out in the consultation appeared to be broadly appropriate.

**RESOLVED that City Council approve the attached consultation response to be sent to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.**

**107. Leader's Exercise of Executive Powers**

The Leader reported that, in accordance with the Constitution, he had exercised executive powers in relation to the portfolio for the Cabinet Member for Community Development on 30 January 2018 due to Councillor Bigham's absence

**108. Statement - Progress on the Combined Authority**

The Leader of the Council made a statement in respect of "Progress on the Combined Authority".

Councillor Ridley responded to the statement.

**109. Debates**

The following Motion was moved by Councillor Lucas and seconded by Councillor Walsh:

"This Council supports the staff of HMRC in their campaign to stop the closure of a local office in the City.

The closure of the Coventry Office will mean a loss of 300 quality jobs, of which 70% are carried out by female workers, the loss of these jobs will have a detrimental impact on the City's economy.

We call upon HMRC to think again and to cease the widespread local office closure programme which will reduce HMRC offices to just 13 sites to service the whole of the UK"

**RESOLVED that the Motion as set out above be unanimously adopted.**

(Meeting closed at 5.50 pm)