

North Lanarkshire Council Report

Finance and Resources Committee

Does this report require to be approved? Yes No

Ref EK/KS

Date 26/02/25

Review of 2024/25 to 2026/27 Budget Savings

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Executive Summary

This report provides the Finance and Resources Committee with an update on the achievement of the three-year financial savings total of £28.778m approved as part of the 2024/25 budget setting process (£21.667m 2024/25, £5.893m 2025/26 and £1.218m 2026/27).

It is projected that £20.245m of the savings (93%) will be delivered within the financial year, with replacement savings of £1.422m identified to fully address the shortfall.

In addition, it is currently anticipated that there will be no recurring savings gap arising from the 2024/25 to 2026/27 approved savings.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Finance and Resources Committee:

- (1) Acknowledge the contents of this report.

The Plan for North Lanarkshire

Priority All priorities

Ambition statement (25) Ensure intelligent use of data and information to support fully evidence based decision making and future planning

1. Background

- 1.1. At its meeting of 15 February 2024, the Council approved a General Fund Revenue Budget of £1,016.750m which included spend offset by ring fenced grants of £15.290m. Additional funding has since been confirmed as part of the Scottish Government budget setting resulting in an overall total budget of £1,008.867m.
- 1.2. Net savings totalling £28.096m over the financial years 2024/25 to 2026/27 were agreed within the budgets set on 23 February 2023 and 15 February 2024, with £21.195m incorporated into the 2024/25 budget and the balance £6.901 over 2025/26 and 2026/27. In addition, base budget adjustments of £0.682m have also been agreed

over the three-year period, £0.472m of which relates to 2024/25, giving total savings in year of £21.667m.

- 1.3. Services are required to monitor the delivery of their target savings to ensure they remain within approved budgets and provide periodic progress updates within individual Service revenue monitoring reports, identifying alternative solutions to any in-year shortfall envisaged. In addition, Services are required to monitor whether the original approved saving has been implemented and if not, provide an explanation along with alternative action required to ensure the recurring financial saving will be achieved going forward.
- 1.4. This report summarises the progress in achieving approved savings for the three-year period 2024/25 to 2026/27.

2. Report

Update on Approved 2024/25 to 2026/27 Savings

- 2.1 A summary of the three-year approved savings is provided at appendix 1 along with the current forecast of savings achievable for each of the years.
- 2.2 It is currently anticipated that £20.245m (93%) of approved 2024/25 savings of £21.667m will be achieved in the current financial year, leaving an in-year savings gap of £1.422m. Replacement savings and funding has been identified to fully address the shortfall, which includes management action such as control of vacancies, curtailment of expenditure and the use of Earmarked Reserves. More information on the savings unachievable within 2024/25 are detailed at appendix 2, with more information reported to the relevant service committee. It should be noted that there is no anticipated recurring budget impact as a result of the in-year savings gap.
- 2.3 In relation to future years, net income generation of £0.200m in relation to provision of external MOTs which was anticipated for 2025/26 is now expected to be achieved within 2026/27 due to a delay in setup and staffing of the new Bellshill Fleet depot. At this stage there are no further anticipated delays or shortfall expected in relation to future year savings, however these will continue to be monitored with updates reported to Committee as appropriate.

3. Measures of success

- 3.1 The Council continues to operate within approved budgeted resources.

4. Supporting documentation

Appendix 1 Approved 3 Year Savings Summary
Appendix 2 Budget Savings by Exception 2024/25



Elaine Kemp
Chief Officer (Finance)

5. Impacts

<p>5.1 Public Sector Equality Duty and Fairer Scotland Duty Does the report contain information that has an impact as a result of the Public Sector Equality Duty and/or Fairer Scotland Duty? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p> <p>If Yes, has an assessment been carried out and published on the council's website? https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/your-community/equalities/equality-and-fairer-scotland-duty-impact-assessments Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.2 Financial impact Does the report contain any financial impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant financial impacts been discussed and agreed with Finance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.3 HR policy impact Does the report contain any HR policy or procedure impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant HR impacts been discussed and agreed with People Resources? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.4 Legal impact Does the report contain any legal impacts (such as general legal matters, statutory considerations (including employment law considerations), or new legislation)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant legal impacts been discussed and agreed with Legal and Democratic? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.5 Data protection impact Does the report / project / practice contain or involve the processing of personal data? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, is the processing of this personal data likely to result in a high risk to the data subject? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, has a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) been carried out and e-mailed to dataprotection@northlan.gov.uk Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

<p>5.6</p>	<p>Technology / Digital impact Does the report contain information that has an impact on either technology, digital transformation, service redesign / business change processes, data management, or connectivity / broadband / Wi-Fi? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p> <p>Where the impact identifies a requirement for significant technology change, has an assessment been carried out (or is scheduled to be carried out) by the Enterprise Architecture Governance Group (EAGG)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.7</p>	<p>Environmental / Carbon impact Does the report / project / practice contain information that has an impact on any environmental or carbon matters? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.8</p>	<p>Communications impact Does the report contain any information that has an impact on the council's communications activities? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.9</p>	<p>Risk impact Is there a risk impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the key risks and potential impacts, highlighting where the risk(s) are assessed and recorded (e.g. Corporate or Service or Project Risk Registers), and how they are managed?</p>
<p>5.10</p>	<p>Armed Forces Covenant Duty Does the report require to take due regard of the Armed Forces Covenant Duty (i.e. does it relate to healthcare, housing, or education services for in-Service or ex-Service personnel, or their families, or widow(er)s)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the provision which has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the particular needs of the Armed Forces community to make sure that they do not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public services.</p>
<p>5.11</p>	<p>Children's rights and wellbeing impact Does the report contain any information regarding any council activity, service delivery, policy, or plan that has an impact on children and young people up to the age of 18, or on a specific group of these? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact and the provision that has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).</p> <p>If Yes, has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) been carried out? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Appendix 1
North Lanarkshire Council
Approved 3 Year Savings Summary
Service Savings Monitoring

Service	2024/25				2025/26				2026/27				TOTAL			
	Approved Saving £m	Projected Savings £m	In-year Savings Gap £m	Recurring Gap £m	Approved Saving £m	Projected Savings £m	In-year Savings Gap £m	Recurring Gap £m	Approved Saving £m	Projected Savings £m	In-year Savings Gap £m	Recurring Gap £m	Approved Saving £m	Projected Savings £m	In-year Savings Gap £m	Recurring Gap £m
Chief Executive's	1.707	1.707	0.000	0.000	0.593	0.593	0.000	0.000	0.734	0.734	0.000	0.000	3.034	3.034	0.000	0.000
Enterprise & Communities	3.649	3.564	0.085	0.000	0.557	0.357	0.200	0.000	0.266	0.466	(0.200)	0.000	4.472	4.387	0.085	0.000
Education, Children & Families	9.595	8.258	1.337	0.000	4.743	4.743	0.000	0.000	0.218	0.218	0.000	0.000	14.556	13.219	1.337	0.000
Other Corporate	6.716	6.716	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.716	6.716	0.000	0.000
Total Service Savings	21.667	20.245	1.422	0.000	5.893	5.693	0.200	0.000	1.218	1.418	(0.200)	0.000	28.778	27.356	1.422	0.000

Appendix 2
North Lanarkshire Council
Review of Budget Savings by Exception 2024/25

Service	Division	Saving Detail	2024/25			
			Approved Saving £m	Projected Savings £m	In Year Savings Gap £m	Recurring Gap £m
E&C	Community Operations	Charging for Recycling Bins	0.210	0.175	0.035	0.000
E&C	Community Operations	Income Generation - Fleet Tachograph	0.050	0.000	0.050	0.000
ECF	Early Years	Review of ELC: Single Status Employee Resources	2.000	0.750	1.250	0.000
ECF	Education Services HQ	Contracts and Provisions (Under-utilised budgets)	0.045	0.000	0.045	0.000
ECF	Community Learning	Review of CLD delivery service, including the provision of youth diversionary activities	0.163	0.121	0.042	0.000
Total Savings			2.468	1.046	1.422	0.000