

ADULTS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Committee feedback on Business Plan and Budget 2026-27 – 2028-29

Meeting held 22 January 2026

The Business Plan and Budget was discussed in full by the Committee.

The Committee undertook scrutiny of the business and budget plan presented, with key areas of focus including:

- Suitable modelling and provision for providers, including the real living wage (RLW) and impact on the market
- Use of the Public Health (PH) Grant, including substitutions
- Position of adult social care (ASC) and PH Reserves, and suitability for future needs
- Ambition of accommodation and future capital programme
- Confidence in savings/efficiency proposal
- Current phrasing of ambitions and mental health (MH) plans, to ensure positive focus
- Use of the Public Health Ringfenced Grant
- The Learning Disability Pool position and reported overspend.

Officers provided clarity on these matters, and as a result of the debate **the Committee have not identified any issues to flag to Strategy, Resources and Performance Committee in relation to the budget**, although a request was made around ensuring the ambitions – mental health enablement as an example – are framed positively.

In summary, the Chair noted that the adult social care and health landscape remains very challenging, due to increased costs, complexities and sustained pressures on services. The current approach from Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) is safe, lawful and compassionate, and a focus on prevention and early intervention, especially in mental health, is essential to achieve long-term sustainability across our services, health services and our communities.