



TRAFFORD
COUNCIL

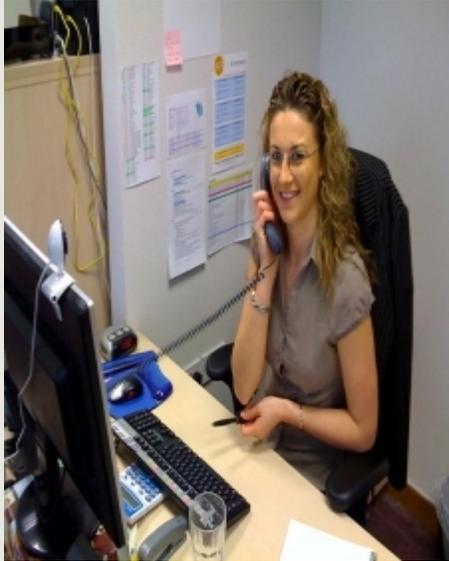
Adult Social Care Finance and Digital Development

Report to Health Scrutiny 25 July 2024

Nathan Atkinson

Corporate Director Adults and Wellbeing

Financial Overview



2024/5 budget and movement from 2023/4

2024/25 Adult Social Care budget

Table 1

Service Area	2024/25 Budget £'000
ICB FUNDING, GRANTS AND CONTINGENCY	(40,859)
CLIENT COSTS	81,751
SOCIAL SUPPORT	309
ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY	1,125
SOCIAL CARE STAFFING	15,407
INFORMATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION	341
COMMISSIONING	1,268
NET ADULTS TOTAL BUDGET	59,342

- Table 1 provides details of the breakdown of the net Adult Social Care budget.

Table 2

Gross Clients Budget	2024/25 Budget £'000
SUPPORTED LIVING	20,594
DIRECT PAYMENTS	9,915
RESIDENTIAL CARE	28,572
NURSEING CARE	16,354
HOMECARE	23,175
DAYCARE	1,100
RESIDENTIAL RESPITE	1,159
OTHER AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS	15
EXT REABLEMENT	560
GROSS CLIENT BUDGET TOTAL	101,442

- Table 2 is a breakdown of the 2024/25 Gross Clients budget. This is exclusive of income from client contributions etc.

Adult Social Care budget movements between 2023/24 and 2024/25

- The adjacent table shows a high-level summary of the budget movements between 23/24 and 24/25.
- The net movement in the budget was a £1m budget reduction.
- To help the Council achieve a balanced budget ASC has been required to contribute c. £2m in budget savings and efficiencies.
- Despite the significant budget challenges the Council has maintained its commitment to the External care market with £5.8m invested in Care provider fee uplifts.

Category	£m
(Increase)/decreases in grant funding	(8)
Savings and efficiencies	(2)
Inflation	0.2
Employee related costs	0.4
Other Pressures/Movements	1.0
Adults Client Demography	1.2
Investment in Care Provider Fee uplifts	5.8
Net Budget Movement	(1)

Adult Social Care 2023/24 Financial position

	2023/24 Budget £'000	Expenditure as at 31/03/24 £'000	Variance £'000
Adult Social Care	60,439	59,124	(2,130)

- The Adult Social care budget reported an underspend of **£2.130m** at the end of the financial year.
- **£389k** favourable variance on Adults Clients budgets.
- **£1.125m** favourable variance due to the additional Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund announced on the 28 July 2023.
- **£616k** favourable variance on staffing and running costs broken down as follows;-
- **£269k** favourable variance on Assistive Technology and equipment.
- **£481k** favourable variance on staffing costs and minor variations.
- **£134k** adverse variance in the DoLS service, this is an area of increasing concern due to continual growth in demand for Best Interest Assessments.

It is important to note that the 2023/24 position benefited from several streams of temporary funding including £130k of funding from Homes for Ukraine, £458k contribution from reserves and £59k from the Urgent and Emergency care fund.

2024/25 Planned Expenditure from Better Care Fund (BCF)

- The total value of the Pooled Better Care Fund amounts to **£35.840m** for 24/25.
- The resources are split out as follows.

Headlines

- **£2.7m** Investment in Disabled Facilities Grant schemes.
- **£3.8m** Investment in Hospital Discharge activity.
- **£3.5m** on the provision of Intermediate Care.
- **£1.9m** on Early Supportive Discharge Schemes.
- **£11m** on Social Care packages.
- **£3.7m** on Community Nursing.
- **£1.5m** on Palliative Care.
- **£1.2m** Ageing Well.
- **£1m** on the One Stop Resource Centre equipment service.

Funding Sources	Income	Expenditure
DFG	£2,694,131	£2,694,131
Minimum NHS Contribution	£20,494,280	£20,494,280
iBCF	£8,224,415	£8,224,415
Additional LA Contribution	£0	£0
Additional ICB Contribution	£587,556	£587,556
Local Authority Discharge Funding	£1,921,750	£1,921,750
ICB Discharge Funding	£1,918,000	£1,918,000
Total	£35,840,132	£35,840,132

Existing 2024/25 Adult Social Care Savings Programmes

Savings Project Title	Value	Progress Narrative
ASC Bad Debt Provision Review	£50k	The achievement of this saving is dependent upon the level of ASC debt at the end of the financial year. In year reviews will take place to assess the likelihood of achieving the saving. The achievement of this saving is contingent on achieving a minimum of breakeven outturn position on the Adults client's budget.
Living Your Best Life – Learning Disability	£300k	Some savings have been achieved to date. However, there is a dependence on the Community Learning Disability team to carry out assessments of client needs to facilitate step downs. There is limited capacity within the team, so activity needs to be targeted. In-house provider services are revising the timelines for implementation of changes to two schemes. Commissioning colleagues appraising future options for new supported living schemes and opportunities for conversions.
TEC Enabled Care	£250k	This project has seen delays in implementation but has now commenced. Early days so challenging to pinpoint evidence of TEC leading to savings.
Reablement Review	£600k	Data shows that there has been an improvement in performance in this area however this needs to remain constant throughout the financial year to achieve the outcomes required to reach the savings target.
Carer Resilience	£336k	This is a new project which requires management action throughout the financial year.

2024/25 P2 Forecast Outturn

Budget Category	Projected Outturn Variation £000
Adults Clients Budget	470
Staffing & Running Costs	291
Total Projected Variation	761

The forecast outturn variation at P2 is an overspend of £761k.

- £470k is attributable to the Adults Client budget.
- There is £1.1m contingency included within the forecast to mitigate increasing costs throughout the remainder of the financial year.
- Savings target included in the budget for 2024/25 of c. £1.7m. This is a significant challenge to the service and risk to the financial position. Close monitoring will be applied throughout the financial year.

- £291k is attributable to staffing and running costs.
- £147k relates to the DoLS service as demand continues to rise. The absence of new legislation is a cause for concern as without it the financial pressure will continue to rise.
- £79k due to additional costs in the One Stop Resource Centre relating to PAT testing and £65k due to minor variations.

Liquid Logic (LAS) – Adult Social Care Case Management System

Developments to the Adult Social Care Case Management system

The logo for Liquidlogic is displayed on a dark purple rectangular background. The word "Liquidlogic" is written in a white, sans-serif font. The letters "i", "u", and "i" in "Liquid" are stylized, each featuring a small white dot above it.

Liquidlogic

Liquid Logic - LAS

- Liquid Logic is the Adults Social Care case management solution used by social workers.
- It is an end to end system covering contacts, referrals, assessments, the setting of personal budgets, reablement plans, the planning of care and support, and commissioning of services for funded adults and self-funders, safeguarding s.42 enquiries, organisational safeguarding, DoLS, provider management, financial management and financial assessment.
- It integrates with the ContrOCC finance module and to the GM Shared Care Record
- There are over 300 LAS Users
- There are also linked client and delegation portals which integrate into the system. These are used for safeguarding contacts and self-assessments
- Annual Budget for LAS is £118K

New Developments in LAS

- The Directorate is looking to enhance our tools aligned to adult social care workflow, focusing on identifying and encouraging the use of strengths and community assets to maximise independence.
- The specialist tools (Imosphere) will provide Adult Social Care Service with two-part self-assessment form, suite of integrated forms aligned to adult social care workflow and the most accurate and locally configurable Resource Allocation System (RAS) known as Formulate.
- Formulate supports providing Adult Social Care clients an accurate, equity and sustainability Personal Budget allocation as part of a strengths-based approach.
- Some local authorities have found that by implementing the self-assessment tools has led to a 20-30% reduction in initial contact requests leading to a full s.9 Care Act assessment. Further, 20% of all completed self-assessments resulted in no further action. If the local authority completes an average of 2800 assessments in a year, and it takes 7 hours to complete each assessment, this would be a saving of 3,920 hours.

Other Key Developments

- **Resource Allocation System (RAS)** - Currently not fit for purpose- last updated in 2016 and not being used in the system
- **Delegation Portal – Individual Placement Agreement, Telecare, Online Financial Assessments**
- **Safeguarding system changes**
- **DoLs enhancements**
- **Assessment and referral changes**
- **Direct Payment Workspace**
- **Retention - Currently switched on in UAT with 27.5K records requiring cleansing**

Customer Defined Workflows CDW+

CDW+ functionality enables the Council to build our own workflows within the LAS application, thus reducing the number of bespoke systems/processes that were being managed 'off system'.

The CDW functionality has enabled other local authorities to consolidate their IT estate within adult social care, and, more importantly, promote information sharing and visibility of data to support a more cohesive approach within the Council.

Possible use cases:

- Sensory Assessments
- Welfare Rights services case work
- People in a Position of Trust (PIPOT) safeguarding processes
- Direct Payments
- Community Link Workers case work