

**BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Special Council**  
**Thursday 27 February 2025**

**Decision Report – Request to amend the Budget for 2025/26**

**1 BUDGET 2025/2026**

**This report may be subject to change following the decision of the Environment Committee on the 27 February 2025**

**Recommendation**

**The Environmental Committee request an additional £24K be approved by the Council for the Partnership Services budget 2025/26.**

**Ward**

All.

**Risk Analysis**

A budget and precept must be set for the next financial year to ensure the finance available for services. The Council agreed its budget for 2025/26 on the 9 January 2025, based on information known at that time. Since then, revised costs have been received from Northumberland County Council (NCC), which require an increased budget in order to achieve the Council's objectives. Adequate reserves are available to finance this request.

**Crime Prevention**

This does not impact crime prevention.

**Objective**

To promote good governance of the Town Council by adopting transparent practices and promoting public participation.

**Report**

The preparation of the Environment Committee budget for 2025/26 was based upon the estimate of costs provided by NCC to achieve the new

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agreement between the 2 Councils. Since then, final figures have been received which require an additional budget of £24k.

The Council's reserves can meet this request as given below.

### Position of Reserves

	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
	<b>Probable</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1 April B/F	1,114,983	1,055,319
From/(To) Reserves	59,664	2,533
31 March C/F	1,055,319	1,052,786

Note the level of reserves, include earmarked reserves, and therefore usable reserves are much lower as previously discussed at the January Council.

The earmarked reserves include those set for a Council of this size of £400k and for asset replacement re self-insurance of £330k.

With these in mind, the useable reserves are in the area of £95k, which is the smallest variance between the "years" included in the financial model to 2030/31.

**Malcolm Wilkinson**  
**Town Clerk**

**20 February 2025**