

**NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY –  
TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2024**



<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>DRAFT 2025/26 COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY BUDGET</b>
<b>Presented by</b>	Anna Crouch Head of Finance
<b>Background Papers</b>	<a href="#">General Fund and Council Tax 2024/25</a> Council – 22 February 2024
<b>Financial Implications</b>	It is a statutory requirement that the Council approves a balanced budget. Special expenses are part of the Council’s budget and therefore must also have a balanced budget. The report provides a proposed draft balanced budget. <b>Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes</b>
<b>Legal Implications</b>	There are no legal implications arising directly out of this report <b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes</b>
<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	There are no staffing and corporate implications arising directly out of this report. <b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes</b>
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To present the draft 2025/26 budget to the Coalville Special Expenses Working Party.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>FOR THE COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES BUDGET FOR CONSIDERATION BY CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 7 JANUARY AND CABINET ON 9 JANUARY 2025.</b>

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 This report provides an opportunity for the Working Party to provide comments on the draft budget for Coalville Special Expenses before it is presented to Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 7 January 2025 and Cabinet on 9 January 2025.

**2. DRAFT BUDGET POSITION 2025/26**

- 2.1 As part of the budget setting process, the Coalville Special Expenses precept needs to be reviewed each year to make sure there is sufficient funding to cover future expenditure requirements.
- 2.2 The Coalville Special Expenses budget presented within this report may change to that presented. At the time of writing this report, the Council Tax Base has not yet been calculated. An estimated increase of 72 band D properties has been included in the draft budget for Coalville based on historical trends. Any updates will be provided at the relevant meeting.

2.3 The budget includes a five-year Planned and Preventative Maintenance (PPM) programme which should provide sufficient budget to cover future planned maintenance along with a programme for play equipment replacement. The PPM programme has been updated as part of the budget preparation.

Budget Requirement

2.4 To enable consultation to commence, a draft budget requirement covering the period 2025/26 to 2029/30 has been produced and is available at Appendix A. Table 1 below shows the change in budget requirement from the current year budget to 2025/26.

Table 1: Budget Comparison 2024/25 to 2025/26

	<b>2024/25 Budget</b>	<b>Budget Movements</b>	<b>2025/26 Budget</b>
Cemetery	(14,440)	14,890	450
PPM (Cemetery)	12,090	17,360	29,450
Other Expenses	5,000	0	5,000
Parks, Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces	292,140	20,080	312,220
PPM (Parks/Recreation Grounds)	24,400	(9,950)	14,450
Events	96,860	1,480	98,340
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>416,050</b>	<b>43,860</b>	<b>459,910</b>
Service & Committee Management	90,030	2,680	92,710
<b>Net Cost of Services after Recharges</b>	<b>506,080</b>	<b>46,540</b>	<b>552,620</b>

2.5 Analysis of the budget movements from the 2024/25 to the 2025/26 budget are detailed in Appendix B. Key budget movements are:

- Reduction in burial fee income of £13.5k;
- Inflationary increases to Grounds maintenance and other internal recharges of £16k; and
- Increase in PPM budgets of £16k.

Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM)

2.6 The proposed PPM budget for 2025/26 is £43,900 and the planned maintenance is detailed in Table 2 below. Appendix C details the five-year planned maintenance programme.

Table 2: 2025/26 Planned Preventative Maintenance

	<b>2025/26 Budget</b>
<b>Greenhill Recreation Ground (Cropston Drive) Pavilion</b>	
External and Internal Renovation of Changing Rooms	9,000
<b>London Rd, Coalville - Closed Cemetery</b>	
Tree works	1,050
Pedestrian footpath repair & levelling	10,000
<b>Meadow Lane (Broomley's), Coalville - Cemetery</b>	
Tarmac driveway and footpath repairs	12,000
Tree works	1,930
Path works - sealing	4,470

<b>Play Areas</b>	
Stadium Close - replacement equipment	2,450
Staples Drive - new entrance gates	3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43,900</b>

### Financing the Budget

- 2.7 The Council is required to set a balanced budget for each special expenses account. It is also good practice to have a minimum level of balances, which is recommended at circa 10% of reoccurring expenditure. Table 3 below shows the proposed funding of the 2025/26 budget and the estimated reserves position.

Table 3: Financing the 2025/26 Budget

	<b>2025/26 Budget</b>
<b>Funded By:</b>	
Contribution to Reserves	15,707
Precept (Council Tax)	568,327
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>584,034</b>
<b>Reserves:</b>	
Forecasted Balance as at 01 April 2025	53,794
Contribution from Reserves	15,707
<b>Forecast Balance as at 31 March 2026</b>	<b>69,501</b>

- 2.8 It is proposed to increase the Council Tax for Coalville Special Expenses by £3.16 to £82.14 per annum for Band D equivalent. The table below shows the increase in Council Tax, split the increase in properties and the increase in precept.

Table 4: Council Tax

	<b>Band D Equivalents</b>	<b>Band D Precept</b>	<b>Council Tax</b>
<b>2024/25 Precept</b>	<b>6,847</b>	<b>78.98</b>	<b>540,776</b>
Increase in Band D Equivalents	72	78.98	5,687
4% increase in Precept	6,919	3.16	21,864
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>6,919</b>	<b>82.14</b>	<b>568,327</b>

- 2.9 The proposed draft 2025/26 budget is balanced and allows for a contribution of £15,707 to reserves. The forecast reserves position at the 31 March 2026 is 14% of recurring expenditure. The indicative budget for 2026/27 onwards is currently unbalanced and requires sufficient savings, the PPM programme is unsustainable. Further work will be undertaken during 2025/26 to balance the budget for future years.

## **3. BUDGET APPROVAL PROCESS**

- 3.1 The Coalville Special Expenses Budget is approved as part of Council's budgets and will follow the process detailed below:

**Coalville Special Expenses Working Party – 10 December 2024**

- considers the draft budget for Coalville Special Expenses

**Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 7 January 2025**

- to consider the draft budget and proposals

**Cabinet – 9 January 2025**

- to consider the draft budget and approve the consultation launch

**Cabinet – 28 January 2025**

- considers consultation responses and recommends final budget and council tax to Council

**Council – 25 February 2025**

- approves the revenue and capital budgets for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Special Expenses and sets the Council Tax.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	A well-run council
Policy Considerations:	Not applicable
Safeguarding:	Not Applicable
Equalities/Diversity:	Equality impact assessments will be conducted by services on relevant proposals during the consultation period. These will be available on request.
Customer Impact:	Customers are likely to be impacted by the changes to fees and charges and special expenses precepts as set out in this report.
Economic and Social Impact:	Not Applicable
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	Not Applicable
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Coalville Special Expenses Committee – 10/12/24 Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 07/01/25 Cabinet – 09/01/25 Public Consultation – 10/01/25 – 24/01/25 Cabinet – 28/01/25
Risks:	A balanced budget is not set by the statutory deadline.
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