

Dear Sir/Madam,

These questions are aimed at identifying the strain that is being put on council services due to increased expenditure, reduced income due to Covid-19, and other funding challenges, when set against the amount of extra money granted by the government this year. **We have provided clarifications below the questions in order to make clear what it is we are asking** – if you cannot give the answers as we define them below, please give answers as close as you can while detailing the differences in your figures. If you have further questions or clarifications please send them to foilocalgovernment@unison.co.uk.

1. What is your current predicted in-year expenditure increase due to Covid-19 by the end of the financial year 2020/21?
2. What is your current predicted in-year decrease in income due to Covid-19 by the end of the financial year 2020/21?
3. What is your current predicted in-year expenditure reduction made on budgeted services by the end of the financial year 2020/21?
4. How much extra money do you predict to take from reserves over the amount that was included in the pre-year budget by the end of the financial year 2020/21?
5.
 - a. How much extra money have you received from central government in Covid-specific grants since the start of the financial year?
 - b. How much extra money do you believe the government's commitment to covering 75p on the £1 of lost income (excluding the first 5% of lost income) will be worth to your council by the end of the financial year?
 - c. How much do you believe the phased repayments of council tax and business rates deficits over the next 3 years will be worth to your council by the end of the financial year?
6. What is your current predicted funding gap by the end of the financial year 2020/21?

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Request.

The Councils response is as follows:

The position in respect of COVID 19 costs, lost income and Government funding is changing on a regular basis.

Update reports are regularly taken to Committee and information is provided on monthly Delta returns to MHCLG.

The most recent report are ones to

COVID 19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee 3/11/20 - COVID-19 Update Report

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/5550/Committee/532/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

Finance and Major Contracts Committee 30/11/20 - Financial Monitoring Report Period 6 2020-21 and Budget Update Report

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/5465/Committee/525/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

The figures are taken from the last Government return. It will include both additional costs from responding to Covid-19 pandemic and additional costs that are funded from Government to support the most vulnerable in our community such as Infection Control.

1. What is your current predicted in-year expenditure increase due to Covid-19 by the end of the financial year 2020/21? - **£64.2m**
2. What is your current predicted in-year decrease in income due to Covid-19 by the end of the financial year 2020/21? - **£7.7m**
3. What is your current predicted in-year expenditure reduction made on budgeted services by the end of the financial year 2020/21? – **Forecast position at Pd 6 is £2.5m underspend. This is not cuts to services**
4. How much extra money do you predict to take from reserves over the amount that was included in the pre-year budget by the end of the financial year 2020/21? - **£0m**
5.
 - a. How much extra money have you received from central government in Covid-specific grants since the start of the financial year? – **£79.4m General and specific COVID 19 grants e.g. Infection Control, Test & Trace, Emergency Assistance Fund, Winter Support Grant etc. Further grants have been announced but £ amounts have not yet been notified.**
 - b. How much extra money do you believe the government's commitment to covering 75p on the £1 of lost income (excluding the first 5% of lost income) will be worth to your council by the end of the financial year? – **£1.2m to the end of July 2020 and further work is required to identify what is claimable for the full year.**
 - c. How much do you believe the phased repayments of council tax and business rates deficits over the next 3 years will be worth to your council by the end of the financial year? **Our district and borough councils have indicated the estimated shortfall on CT/BR is £10m. This can be spread over 3 years rather than funded wholly in 2021/22. Recent Government announcement that 75% of this will be funded will reduce this figure.**
6. What is your current predicted funding gap by the end of the financial year 2020/21? **Prior to any savings decisions, and before any decision has been made on possible Social Care levy, the 3 year funding gap in the MTFS to 2023/24 is £50.8m**

I hope this now satisfies your request, and should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the details below.

In addition to this and for future reference Nottingham County Council regularly publishes previous FOIR,s and answers on its website, under Disclosure logs. (see link)

<http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/>

You can use the search facility using keywords.

If you wish to raise any concerns about the way your request was dealt with, then please write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk quoting the reference number above

Kind Regards

Complaints, Information & Mediation Officer.
Complaints and Information Team
Chief Executive's Dept
Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP