

**General Fund Budget Risks 2023-2024**

The General Fund Budget Risks below have been assessed for 2023-2024. As at quarter 3, it is projected that spend will be within budget, therefore as a result the overall risk has been assessed as Green for 2023-2024.

However, the level of some risks are higher when reviewed over the medium term for the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), and as such when reported with the budget and MTFS to Cabinet will be rated accordingly.

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Level of Risk</b>
Medium Term Forecasting	Risks that might materialise as a result of in-year changes to interest rates, energy costs, non-pay inflation and pay awards, uptake of pension auto enrolment, and National Living Wage.	Amber
Service Demands	Risks that might materialise as a result of in-year demands for statutory services outstretching the available resources. This particularly applies to adults and children's social care.	Amber
	Risks that might materialise as a result of in-year demands for non-statutory services outstretching the available resources.	Green
Identification of Budget Reductions	Risks that might materialise as a result of not identifying budget reductions due to limited opportunity to deliver efficiencies.	Amber
Budget Management	Risks that might materialise as a result of the robustness of financial planning and management, in addition to the consideration made with regards to the loss of key personnel or loss of ICTS facilities	Green
Transformation Programme	Risks that might materialise as a result of not delivering in-year reductions incorporated into the budget and not having sufficient sums available to fund the upfront and one-off costs associated with delivering budget reductions and downsizing the workforce.	Amber
Reduction in Income and Funding	Risks that might materialise as a result of in-year income being below budgeted levels, claw back of grant, or increased levels of bad debts.	Amber

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	The risk of successful appeals against business rates.	
Third Parties	Risks that might materialise as a result of third parties and suppliers ceasing trading or withdrawing from the market.	Amber
Government Policy	Risks that might materialise due to structural uncertainties.	Amber
	Risks that might materialise as a result of changes to Government policy including changes in VAT, taxation rules and economic measures	Red