

## REPORT TO CABINET

<b>Open</b>		Would any decisions proposed:		
<b>Any especially affected Wards</b>	Mandatory/	(a) Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide	YES	
	Operational	(b) Need to be recommendations to Council	NO	
		(c) Be partly for recommendations to Council and partly within Cabinet's powers –	NO	
<b>None</b>				
Lead Member: Councillor Chris Morley E-mail: cllr.chris.morley@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: All Cabinet		
		Other Members consulted:		
Lead Officer: Carl Holland E-mail: carl.holland@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616432		Other Officers consulted: Senior Leadership Team, Service Managers.		
Financial Implications YES	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications (incl S.17) YES	Equal Opportunities Implications NO	Risk Management Implications YES

**Cabinet Date: 23 April 2026**

## BUDGET MONITORING QUARTER 3 2025/2026

### Summary

This report provides an assessment of the council's financial performance against its 2025/2026 approved budget, incorporating key financial risks, issues, and opportunities since 1 April 2025 for revenue and capital items. The year-end forecasts take into consideration emerging data from service managers along with actual income and expenditure from 1 April 2025 to 31 December 2025.

Revenue	Approved Budget 2025/2026	Forecast Position 2025/2026	Forecast Variance 2025/2026
	£	£	£
Borough Spend	26,128,470	26,054,806	(73,664)
Financing	(26,128,470)	(26,640,470)	(512,000)
Contributions to/(from) General Fund Reserve	0	585,664	585,664

The current forecast position is estimating a £585,664 transfer to the General Fund Reserve. This is a favourable movement against the original budget which will result in an increased balance in the General Fund Reserve as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 of £10,604,234.

The forecast has moved favourably from Quarter 2 by £202,294 to a favourable position of £585,664 compared to the original balanced budget.

Appendix A to the report includes detailed key changes to the forecast. Summary key movements to the forecast include:

<b>Forecast Variances</b>	<b>2025/2026 £</b>
Members allowances and National Insurance	136,000
Development Control income forecast to be higher than plan	(210,900)
External Legal fees provision increased	125,000
Crematorium fees lower than expected	200,000
Refuse - Chargeable Disposals Costs grant lower than planned	417,800
Forecast over achievement of turnover target savings	(1,362,730)
Unbudgeted level of discretionary benefit payments to those in temporary and supported accommodation	670,600
Additional revenue from Council Tax and Drainage Board Levy Grant	(512,000)
Other	86,566
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>(585,664)</b>

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Note the forecast outturn for Revenue and Capital monitoring position as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 for 2025/2026.
2. Agree to update the Capital Programme as set out in section 3 of the report.

### **Reason for Decision**

To keep Cabinet informed of performance against budget for Capital and Revenue 2025/2026 based on Quarter 3 data.