

**POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**2 FEBRUARY 2023**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**QUESTION FROM DAVID WEBB TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE MATTERS & PERFORMANCE DELIVERY**

**The proposed Joint Administration Budget for 2023-2024 shows an income of £138 million. To what extent will this budget support our most vulnerable residents, who are suffering the cost of living and energy crisis.**

Thank you for your question Mr Webb. It is difficult to estimate the exact proportion of the proposed budget for 2023/24 that goes directly towards supporting 'Vulnerable Residents' as the comprehensive range of Council services delivered every day are made up of a combination of targeted services for specific needs/support and universal services that all residents receive or benefit from.

It is estimated that around 65% of the Council's overall total general fund revenue budget is concentrated on a range of activities and support for residents that primarily would fall into a 'vulnerable/elderly' category, particularly around social care, special needs and health support for adults, families and children. At Section 11 (Ongoing Support and Commitment to our Most Vulnerable Residents) within the Budget report that was considered by Cabinet on 12 January 2023, there is a series of paragraphs that summarise the multi-million pound package of initiatives and support specifically designed to help with the local impact of the cost of living and energy crisis for our most vulnerable residents in Southend-on-Sea.