

FOI REF:	14292
RESPONSE SENT:	13/05/2024

Request:

I am interested in gaining insight into the operational challenges faced by the council finance team in years:

2023/24

2024/25 (ytd) and

expected to come up (if you are aware) from April 2025-March 2028.

So would like to request a list of operational issues encountered and expected by the council's finance teams during these periods.

Specifically, I would appreciate information on the key operational challenges, obstacles, and concerns that have impacted the efficient functioning of the finance teams within the Council. This may include, but is not limited to, issues related to resource constraints, efficiency, data management, procurement, risk management, financial reporting, and stakeholder engagement.

If available, I would also be grateful for any documents, reports, or records that outline or discuss these operational issues in detail.

Response:

All the information you are seeking is disclosed in the public domain on our Website, Link https://www.winchester.gov.uk

There is a lot of information you can read and a wealth of committee reports. Anything presented to Cabinet and/or Full Council can be found within the councillors and committee service area, <u>Councillors & Committees - Winchester City</u> <u>Council</u>

You will be able to read all the associated reports for both General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account at the respective Cabinet and Full Council meetings.

The latest Medium Term Financial Strategy was approved at Full Council after being endorsed by Cabinet in Feb 24. This is the link that will show you the reports / minutes for GF and HRA and includes Capital and Treasury Management strategies. Agenda for Council on Thursday, 22nd February, 2024, 6.30 pm - Winchester City Council

The latest Finance and Performance Monitoring (CAB3441) report for Quarter 3 (to the end of December) was presented at March Cabinet. There is normally a 3-month lag between quarter end and presenting results to Cabinet. <u>Agenda for Cabinet on</u> <u>Thursday, 14th March, 2024, 9.30 am - Winchester City Council</u>

We also have Audit (External and Internal) review our financial performance. The latest Audit and Governance committee was in Feb 24. This also included our External Auditors (Ernst & Young) value for money report on the previous year's financial accounts. No significant risks or weaknesses were identified. <u>Agenda for Audit and Governance Committee on Thursday, 29th February, 2024, 6.30 pm -</u> Winchester City Council

If you would like to view our annual Financial accounts these can be accessed here <u>Annual Financial Report - Winchester City Council</u>

Our External Audit Reports can be accessed here <u>External Audit - Winchester City</u> <u>Council</u>