

Minutes of: **JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR TEACHERS**

Date of Meeting: 4 February 2026

Present: Councillor G McGill, (in the Chair)
Councillors L Smith, J Southworth, R Bernstein, D Duncalfe and D Berry

Also in attendance: Catherine Ainsley, NASUWT, Joanne Burns NASUWT
Councillor Thorpe - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation, Ben Dunne - Director, Education & Skills, Phil Herd – Finance Business Partner,

Public Attendance: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor J Lancaster

1 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies of absence are listed above.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor McGill declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration in view of his wife holding a role as an NEU Trade Union representative in Rochdale.

3 COUNCIL'S 2026/2027 REVENUE BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Councillor Thorpe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation gave an overview of the Council's 2026/27 Revenue Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy for 2027/28 through to 2028/29. Councillor Thorpe, gave thanks to Neil Kissock, Director of Finance and the Finance Service for producing the documents presented before the Committee.

Philip Herd Finance Business Partner (CYP & Schools) also attended the meeting in relation to specific schools related finance.

Members were advised that the reports are based on many variables including income through Council Tax, Fees and Charges and other Grant monies available. Members were given an overview of budget saving measures, such as internal transformation, investing in commissioning expertise and proposes increase income from Place Directorate.

Concerns were raised in relation to falling numbers within schools and the impact on budgets and it was explained that some schools were looking at reduced their PAN or restructuring. Ben Dunne, explained that the Finance Improvement Groups are being established to offer support to school leaders in relation to budgeting and options available for repurposing classrooms etc.

Ben also explained that a review of provision across the boroughs schools would be undertaken to map what provision was available and where there were gaps. This would ensure that future provision needs were provided for with as much as possible provided in house rather than outsourced.

It was agreed:

That the report be noted

4 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2026/2027 & RENT SETTING

Councillor Thorpe, Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented the report that was circulated in advance of the meeting. The report provided the proposed rent levels and increases for various charges. The report proposes a 4.8% increase for Council Housing, Dwelling and Garage rents, Sheltered Support, Management, Service and Heating charges, and Furnished Tenancy charges.

It was agreed:

That the report be noted

5 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

6 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the JCC Teachers will be held on 26 March 2026.

COUNCILLOR MCGILL
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.00 pm)