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Worthing budget crisis: More housing and parking charge increases among considerations amid bankruptcy threat



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Updated 9 October 2023 · 5-min read



A drone image of Worthing. Photo: Eddie Mitchell

A [forecast £1.8million overspend](#) by Worthing Borough Council has left services and assets under review.

The council's cabinet reported the figure to a meeting of the joint strategic sub-committee, on September 19, for the 2023/2024 budget – about a 12.9 per cent overspend of the set budget.

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Worthing Town Hall. Picture: Google

The issue was discussed during a media briefing at Worthing Town Hall last week.

John Turley, cabinet members for resources, said: "We were given the bad news that we have a deficit of £1.8m. It's a combination of expenditure being above budget and income being below.

"The day-to-day spend and income isn't balanced. That was always the case when we came in but that deficit has grown in 2022.

"It's mainly due to the economic situation, inflation and energy costs going up.

"Homelessness has increased as a result of the cost of living crisis. More people coming to us presenting themselves as homeless. We have to house them as a statutory duty requirement.

"The cost per case has gone up as well. We have to house them in emergency and temporary accommodation that we normally wouldn't want to use.

"It's crucial that we generate more emergency and temporary accommodation of our own and not just paying for people to stay in Travelodges.

"Millions can be saved if we can acquire our own accommodation. Homelessness situation isn't going to get

He added: "We need more funding from central government and more certainty. We would like to see three or five year settlements so we can plan ahead. It's very difficult to plan

Story continues



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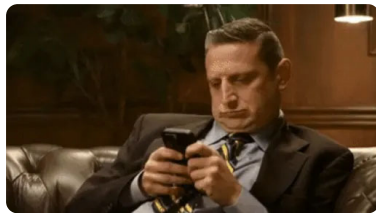
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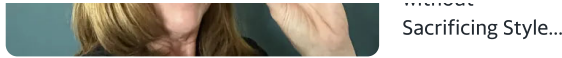
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