



# BUDGET

# MEMORANDUM

Regarding the Nairobi County Draft County Fiscal Strategy  
Paper 2019/2020

**Presented To the County Executive and the County  
Assembly of Nairobi County**

By **Right Here Right Now Kenya** and  
**Network for Adolescents and Youth of Africa (NAYA Kenya)**



**RIGHT HERE  
RIGHT NOW**

**WE**, The Right Here Right Now Kenya, a platform of 15 undersigned organizations working on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people in Kenya;

**DESIROUS** of a Kenya where Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people are protected, respected and fulfilled with focus on freedom from stigma, discrimination and violence; access to comprehensive youth friendly services; access to comprehensive information and space for young people's voices;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the progressive policy and legal environment on health and sexual and reproductive health and rights espoused by the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the Health Act 2017, the Kenya Health Policy 2014-2030, the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health policy 2015 and its implementation framework 2017-2021, The National Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services Guidelines 2016, Adolescent Package of Care Guidelines 2015, the Education Sector Policy on HIV/AIDS 2013;

**RECALLING** Kenya's regional and international commitments including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Convention on Elimination on All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), African Charter on Women's Rights and the Maputo Protocol, Eastern and Southern Africa Ministerial Commitment on Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Common Africa Position Paper on ICPD Beyond 2014 and the Sustainable Development Goals;

**UNDERLINING** the constitution of Kenya which guarantees every individual the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which include the right to health care services including reproductive health care and Kenya's commitment to Universal Health Coverage as per the President's Big Four Agenda;

**INVOKING** the provisions of Article 201 (a) under the Public Finance Management principles and Public Finance Management Act. 2012 which stresses on openness, accountability and meaningful public engagement in governance including finance management;

**RECOGNIZING** the efforts of Nairobi County to improve the health status in the county including through development of Family Planning Costed Implementation Plan 2018-2021, Nairobi County Adolescent Health Framework and prioritization of health through budget allocation and its ongoing efforts to engage young people including through the Youth Advisory Council and the Adolescent Health Technical Working Group

**APPRECIATING** Nairobi County commitment to public participation including through availing of key documents;

**CONCERNED** that adolescents and young people continue to post poor sexual and reproductive health indicators and are disproportionately affected by sexual and reproductive health challenges including teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, maternal mortalities and unsafe abortions among others;

**AWARE** that young people below 25 years in Nairobi County occupy more than half of the total population as per the County Integrated Development Plan and **CONVINCED** that their health is critical in realizing county goals and Vision 2030;

**REAFFIRMING** that young people and adolescents are not homogenous and have different needs and experiences; and that there are more vulnerable sub populations within this group;

**CONSCIOUS** that meaningful and long-lasting solutions to the recurrent youth challenges cannot be solved without the meaningful participation of the young people themselves;

**SUBMIT** this memo highlighting the sexual and reproductive health challenges affecting young people and women and opportunities for realizing the right to the highest attainable standard of healthcare;

# Fiscal Strategy Paper Highlights

Summary of Proposed Sector Ceilings:

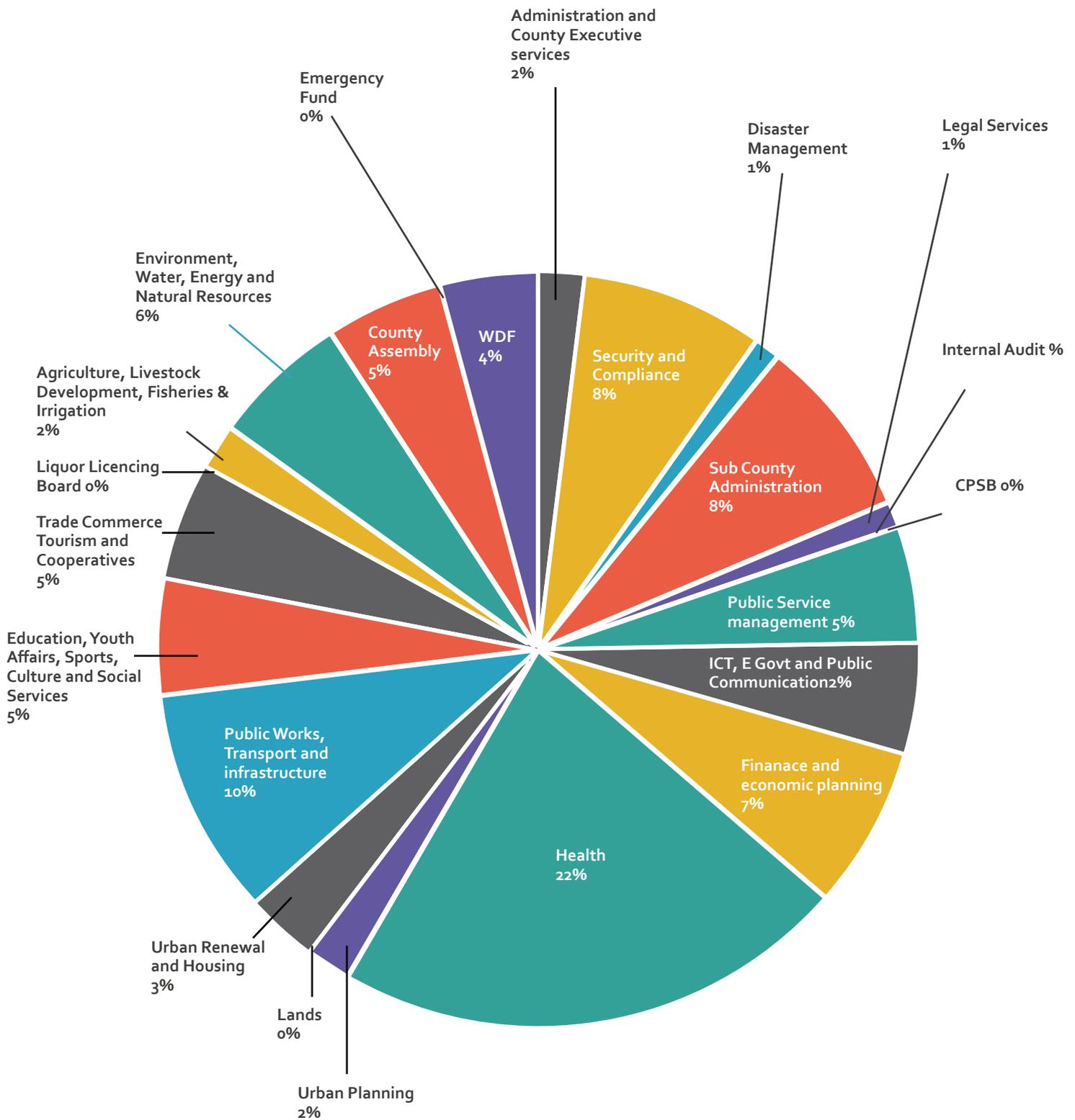
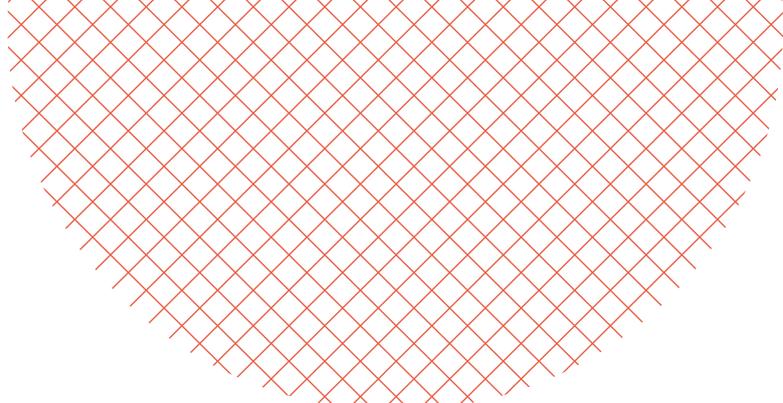


Fig 1: 2019/2020 sector ceilings (Source Draft Nairobi County FSP)



Health is among the propriety issues for the county according to the draft county fiscal strategy paper, receiving the highest proposed allocation at twenty-two (22%) . In line with devolved functions, the prioritization of health through resource allocation is a critical factor to laud.

The draft county fiscal strategy paper also highlights key achievements in health in the previous budgetary allocation among them enhancing the level and quality of preventive, diagnostic and curative services targeting key drivers of morbidity in the County, by growing the number of clients on ARVs by 21% in 2017/18 compared to performance in 2016/17 and increasing number of people counseled and tested for HIV grew by 25% from 0.8 M to 1.0 M people in 2017/18 in order to address the high HIV prevalence rate of 6.1 % in the County.

However, major concerns emerging from analysis of the fiscal strategy paper.

It is worth noting that the total county budget has been declining over the years with the proposed total budget of 2019/2020 being the lowest in four years. Whereas the county explains that this is recommended, in an effort to ensure a balanced budget, and a response to the slow growth of internal revenues, it still regrettable that critical services have to be reduced in line with the new financial reality including the health sector that has a reduced budget of 2.4%.

The CFSP also mentions strengthening public participation but does not mention tangible structures for public participation that innovatively involve young people, women and persons with disabilities who are mostly excluded from decision making process as identified in the County integrated Development Plan 2018-2022.

The County Fiscal strategy paper also highlights the commitment of the county to high quality free maternity services in all facilities in the county, yet this is not commensurate with the budgetary allocation particularly to development expenditure. The proposed allocation of 95.6% to recurrent expenditure and 4.9% to development expenditure is not only but a great impediment to county health plans. How can the county realize the vision in the health sector strategic plan, the county fiscal strategy paper and the county integrated development plan if the development expenditure remains below 5%?

The County Integrated Development Plan recognizes high youth population as a major challenge but also a critical opportunity to tap into. Youth (15 - 29 years) represents 38.75 per cent of the total population in the County. The CIDP however recognizes that youth face several challenges including HIV/AIDS and other STDs. The county further recognizes Reproductive health of the youth as a major challenge in Nairobi leading to teenage pregnancies and abortion. The county commits to provide youth friendly services in the health care facilities in order to enhance access by this age group.

Further, the CIDP in Pillar Seven on Youth, Women, People Living with Disabilities and Social Protection, the county identifies Lack of resource centres i.e. ICT, WIFI centres, High prevalence of STIs and HIV/AIDS Teenage pregnancies, Low access to quality health services e.g. maternity and family planning and seeks to among others increase resources for reproductive health services and construct and equip resource centres. This is further reinforced in Pillar 3 on Education and Health where the county commits to among others Prevent and manage HIV /AIDS and STIs through; promoting safe sex; preventing mother to child transmission; screening of blood and safe use of medical instruments and strengthen county capacity to respond to AIDS epidemic through improved funding, training, sensitization and awareness campaigns.

The CIDP also further commits to striving for commodity security in the health sector.

# Key Policy Recommendations:



We therefore call upon the county executive and assembly:

**1. Invest in Youth friendly services in line with County CIDP and National Guidelines on Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services, 2016**

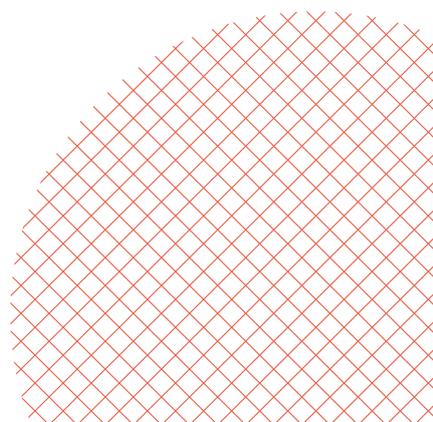
Establish and equip at least one youth friendly center per sub county and integrate youth friendly services within facilities in line with county CIDP and Universal Health Care to address key issues affecting young people as such high HIV prevalence rate, high cases of unsafe abortion, teenage pregnancies major cause of maternal and child mortality in the county.

**2. Increased budgetary allocation to development expenditure to at least 30% as recommended in the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 in order to address and support critical programs such as youth friendly services as per the CIDP**

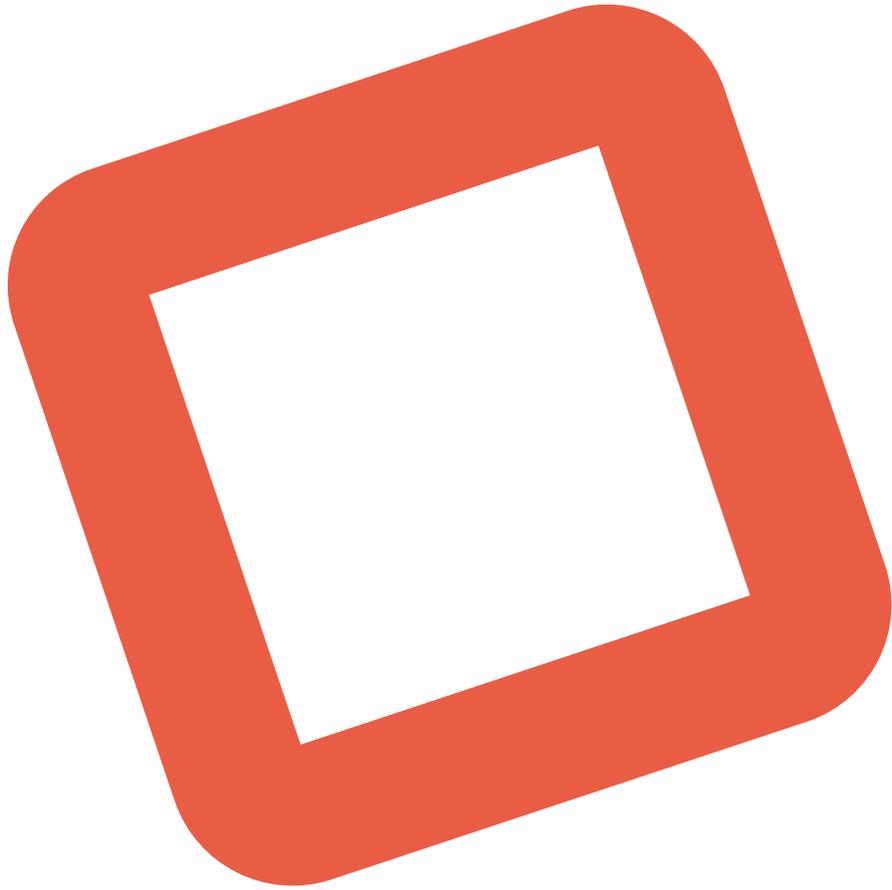
**3. Strengthen public participation** for all including young people as per the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 by availing key documents including the County Fiscal Strategy paper, informing the public in time through media most accessible by Nairobi residents, using available youth structures in mobilization for public participation and convenient days for all young people and application of innovative platforms including online communication platforms. Further, there is need for the county to strengthen feedback mechanisms and provide justifications for decisions made.

**4. Align the fiscal strategy paper and the budget with key national and county documents** including the County Development Integrated Plan 2018-2022, County Annual Development Plan and County Annual Work Plans

**5. Allocate resources for commodities to ensure commodity security in line with county documents including the Adolescent Health Framework and the Family Planning Costed Implementation Plan. 2018-2021**







# **Something Needs To Change**

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Right Now