

Public Document Pack

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15 February 2019

Dear Member,

County Council - Friday, 15 February 2019

Please find enclosed proposed amendments to the item set out below which will be debated at the meeting of the County Council to be held on Friday, 15 February 2019.

Agenda No	Item
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- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 5. | Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2022/23, Draft Revenue Budget 2019/20, Draft Capital Strategy 2019/20 to 2023/24 and Draft Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019/20 (Pages 3 - 10) |
|-----------|---|

Amendment by Dr Walsh on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group and by amendments A, B and C by Mr Jones on behalf of the Labour Group attached.

Yours sincerely

Tony Kershaw
Director of Law and Assurance

To all members of the County Council

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County Council

15 February 2019

Item 5 - Draft Revenue Budget 2019/20

Amendment by Dr Walsh

This amendment to the draft budget moves that the County Council restores proposed funding cuts to essential rural and urban bus services and preventative spending on the County Council's Public Health agenda. This amendment would allow ongoing protection for the bus subsidy budget and £200,000 of the deplorable central government cut in Public Health funding. It would also make good the remainder of the Public Health cut for 2019/20. In addition the amendment protects Housing support in 2019/20 which would allow time for District and Borough partners to implement new partnership arrangements.

	Revenue budget		
	2019/20		
	Budget reduction	Increased budget	Transfer to/from(-) reserves 2019/20
	£m	£m	£m
Ongoing changes to the budget			
Restore cut to bus subsidy budget		0.300	
Partially restore cut to Public Health budget		0.200	
30% reduction in Communications budget	0.500		
Total ongoing changes	0.500	0.500	0.000
One-off changes to budget			
Restores £1.74m cut to Housing Support budget (one year only)		1.740	
Restores remainder of cut to Public Health budget (one year only)		0.250	
Contribution from Social Care Support reserve (Opening balance £5.243m, balance after proposal £3.253m)			1.990
Total one-off changes	0.000	1.990	1.990

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County Council

15 February 2019

Item 5 - Draft Revenue Budget 2019/20

Amendment A by Mr Jones

Supporting people not cuts - (One-off changes to the budget)

This proposed amendment protects vulnerable adults by reversing the cuts affecting the homeless, working age adults with learning difficulties and those in crisis over the next two to three years. It draws on the social care grant provided by central government.

	Revenue budget			
	Growth £m	Growth £m	Growth £m	Total £m
One-off changes to budget				
Re-instate the MIG funding for the next three years (19/20, 20/21 and 21/22)	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.900
Partially reverse Supported Housing cut	1.000	1.000	1.000	3.000
Reverse cut to Local Assistance Network	0.600	0.600		1.200
Total one-off changes	1.900	1.900	1.300	5.100
To be funded from the one off social care grant received in 2019/20 for social care needs.				
Balance at the beginning of the year				5.234
Funding utilised in amendment				5.100
Balance remaining - to be held as a contingency				0.134

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County Council

15 February 2019

Item 5 - Draft Revenue Budget 2019/20

Amendment B by Mr Jones

(Invest to Support – (Capital and Revenue))

This proposed amendment reverses the investment in unproven LED street-lighting technology and cancels Operation Watershed, investing instead in 300 extra care beds for older people and increased commercial property opportunities.

The revenue impact of this is an on-going increase the base budget of £0.820 from 2021/22 going forward.

The amendment proposes also proposes ongoing changes to the revenue budget from 2019/20 by making back office cuts and instead reversing the cut to bus subsidies, re-instating the cut to the community initiative fund and investing more in re-ablement and in admin support for social workers. It also seeks to deliver an accreditation scheme to encourage more people to work in the care industry.

Capital Programme

	Remove £m	Add £m
Changes to the five-year Capital Programme		
Remove funding for LED streetlighting	22.000	
Increase Investment Property fund		13.200
Deliver up to 300 extra-care beds for older people, preferably using existing County Council assets identified and remodelled for this purpose. Gross savings range £0.75m - £1.25m from 2021/22		10.000
Cease Operation Watershed	1.200	
Total Capital Programme	23.200	23.200

Ongoing Revenue Impact arising from Changes to Capital Programme	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
	Growth	Savings	Growth	Savings	Growth	Savings
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Removal of LED street-lighting programme		0.020	0.140		0.320	
Increased investment in Property Fund		0.120		0.120		0.120

Ongoing Revenue Impact arising from Changes to Capital Programme	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
	Growth	Savings	Growth	Savings	Growth	Savings
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Ceasing Operation Watershed				0.020		0.020
Income from extra-care investment						1.000
Total Revenue Changes from Capital Programme	0.000	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.320	1.140

Revenue Budget

Changes to Revenue Budget 2019/20		
	Growth £m	Savings £m
Ongoing changes to the budget		
Reverse cut to bus subsidies	0.300	
Reverse cut to Community Initiative Fund	0.140	
Additional investment in re-ablement services to deliver better outcomes for elderly residents and prevent further residential care placements	0.250	
Provide for dedicated admin support for social workers and Occupational Therapists to enable them to spend more time using their professional skills to improve outcomes for elderly residents which will also prevent further residential care placements and improve recruitment and retention rates for these difficult to recruit positions	0.280	
Additional investment and support to develop pathways or an accreditation scheme for care workers in the County	0.250	
Delete the post of Executive Director Communities and Public Protection and have the Chief Fire Officer fulfil this role		0.200
50% reduction in costs associated with the Policy and Communications Team - to include reductions to the graphic design and print budget		0.850
50% Reduction in Lieutenancy budget		0.020
50% Reduction in Chairman's budget		0.010
Saving from capital programme changes (one year only)		0.140
Total ongoing changes	1.220	1.220

County Council

15 February 2019

Item 5 - Draft Revenue Budget 2019/20

Amendment C by Mr Jones

(Supporting staff not consultants (Re-purposing the Service Transformation Fund))

This proposed amendment demonstrates that £1m a year could be saved by this Council if it used the expertise of its existing staff instead of employing external consultants. Part of that money would be used to improve business processes and technology for our hard-working social workers to enable them to spend more time doing what they are trained to do - helping those in need of their support. It also sees the Service Transformation Fund increase by £1.5m over two years.

	Revenue budget			
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	
	Growth £m	Growth £m	Growth £m	Growth £m
Repurpose Service Transformation Fund				
Deliver transformational activity through increased staffing rather than consultants reducing the draw on Service Transformation fund		1.000	1.000	2.000
Investment in transformation improvement programme enabling improved business processes and technology for social workers reducing the administration strain on their roles		0.500		0.500
Increase in balance of Service Transformation Fund		0.500	1.000	1.500

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