

Debbie Kennard

Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities

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Andrew Barrett-Miles
Chairman, Environment, Communities
and Fire Select Committee

14 February 2019

Via Email

Dear Andrew,

Operations and Public Protection Savings Proposals

Thank you for your Committee's recommendations below on the Operations and Public Protection Savings Proposals at the meeting on 14 January 2019.

- 1) Abandons these proposed savings; or
- 2) Reviews the proposals in the light of the published conclusions of the HMICFRS Inspection report, the outcome of consultation with staff and service users and provides a further report to the Committee in June prior to taking any decisions affecting the services.

I advise that the two savings that were proposed, to reduce the Intervention and Prevention Team (£0.400m) and to reduce support from the Resilience and Emergencies Team (£0.100m), have been removed from the draft budget. Instead, these will be included as savings proposals for 2020/21.

During the next year the WSCC Commercial team are focusing on sponsorship opportunities for a number of the Fire & Rescue prevention activities, notably Safe Drive Stay Alive and also Firebreak. The opportunities for increased collaboration with neighbouring Fire & Rescue Services with regards to prevention activity are also being explored.

The delay in the proposed savings until 2020/21 is to be financed by the use of a one-off underspend on the Community Initiative Fund in 2018/19; and the use of part of the Business Rates Levy Account which the council was notified of as part of the provisional settlement in December 2018.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Debbie Kennard", written in a cursive style.

Debbie Kennard

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