

COUNTY COUNCIL: 11TH FEBRUARY 2020

Agenda Item No. 7 – Council’s Business Plan and Budget Proposals 2020-21 To 2024-25 – Labour Amendment

Proposals:

The aim of this amendment is to prevent further reductions in services by rescinding the proposed cuts in the budgets for Adults and Children’s services.

To produce a balanced budget, funds will be used from redirecting the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) top-up and the Transformation Fund and by an increase in Council Tax of 1.99% in addition to the 2% increase in the Adult Social Care precept.

AMENDMENT

Proposed by Councillor Whitehead, Seconded by Councillor Meschini

Delete recommendations 1, 2 and 3:

- ~~1. Approves the Service/Directorate budget allocations as set out in each Service/Directorate table in section 3 of the Business Plan.~~
- ~~2. Gives consideration to a total county budget requirement and precept level~~
- ~~3. Gives consideration to a Council Tax for each Band of property, based on the number of “Band D” equivalent properties notified to the County Council by the District Councils as set out in section 2, Table 6.4 of the Business Plan.~~

Replace recommendations 1, 2 and 3 as follows:

- 1a Approve the Service/Directorate budget allocations as set out in each Service/Directorate table in Section 3 of the Business Plan, to be balanced and amended with the following adjustments:

Revised budget gap as proposed £000		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Permanent change by year £000		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
b	Apply Transformation Funding to close the budget gap	-4,029	+4,029	-	-	-
Revised budget gap after funding applied		0	8,865	7,831	10,910	10,689
<i>Labour spending commitments</i>						
c	£116k capital funding for two additional Local Highways staff	+1	+7	+13	+18	+23
d	£2m capital funding for repairs to roads, footpaths and cycleways	+20	+89	+88	+87	+86
e	Funding to support implementation of the ‘Health in All Policies’ Agenda	+80	-	-	-	-

Revised budget gap after Labour spending commitments		101	8,961	7,932	11,015	10,798
<i>Removal of Adults savings</i>						
f	Learning Disabilities Commissioning	+250	-	-	-	-
g	Adults Positive Challenge Programme	+3,800	-	-	-	-
h	Review of commissioned domiciliary care	+300	-	-	-	-
i	Client Contributions Policy Change	+1,400	-	-	-	-
Revised budget gap after Adults savings removed		5,851	8,961	7,932	11,015	10,798
<i>Removal of Children's savings</i>						
j	Youth Justice / Youth Support	+30	-	-	-	-
k	Children in Care - Placement composition and reduction in numbers	+3,134	-	-	-	-
l	Early Help offer within Children's services	+750	-	-	-	-
m	Children in Care Stretch Target - Demand Management	+1,500	-	-	-	-
n	Children's Disability 0-25 Service	+50	-	-	-	-
o	Utilisation of Education Grants	+50	-	-	-	-
p	Review of Education support functions	+171	-	-	-	-
q	Home to School Transport	+600	-	-	-	-
Revised budget gap after Children's savings removed		12,136	8,961	7,932	11,015	10,798
<i>Financing adjustments</i>						
r	Increase Council tax by 1.99% in 2020-21 instead of 0%	-5,847	-392	-226	-233	-233
s	Permanent allocation of MRP to the budget gap	-2,000	-	-	-	-
t	Apply Transformation Funding to close the budget gap	-4,289	+4,289	-	-	-
Revised budget gap after financing adjustments		0	12,858	7,706	10,782	10,565

The application of £8.3m Transformation Funding to close the 2020-21 budget gap will leave an estimated Transformation Fund balance of £15.0m as at March 2021. The current value of outstanding commitments on the Transformation Fund is £3.3m.

- 2a Approve a total county budget requirement in respect of general expenses applicable to the whole County area of £841,479,000 as set out in Section 2 Table 6.1 of the Business Plan.**
- 2b Approve a recommended County Precept for Council Tax from District Councils of £315,077,617.44, as set out in Section 2, Table 6.3 of the Business Plan (to be received in ten equal instalments in accordance with the fall-back provisions of the Local Authorities (Funds) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1995).**

- 3 Approve a Council Tax for each Band of property, based on the number of “Band D” equivalent properties notified to the County Council by the District Councils (230,927.6), as set out in Section 2, Table 6.4 of the Business Plan reflecting a 2% ASC precept increase and a 1.99% increase in the Basic Council Tax precept:

Band	Ratio	Amount (£)
A	6/9	909.60
B	7/9	1,061.20
C	8/9	1,212.80
D	9/9	1,364.40
E	11/9	1,667.60
F	13/9	1,970.80
G	15/9	2,274.00
H	18/9	2,728.80

- 4 Increase the current capital programme by adding the following to recommendation 4:
- Increase capital expenditure by £116k per year from 2020-21 to 2024-25 to fund two additional Local Highways staff
 - Increase capital expenditure by £2m in 2020-21 to fund repairs to roads, footpaths and cycleways