

CONSERVATIVE GROUP BUDGET AMENDMENTS 2015/16

The City Council is asked to consider the following amendments to the Executive's budget proposal contained in Minute EX004/15, Executive Response to the Budget Consultation and Recommendations for the 2015/16 Budget (Key Decision).

Conservative Group Proposed Amendment No. 1

Street Cleaning – Rapid Response Team:

To provide additional non-recurring revenue funding of £42,300 in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to enhance and extend the rapid response team for cleaning up Carlisle.

An additional mobile street cleaning operative costing £22,200 will deliver improved frequency of cleaning in high profile areas such as outlying areas of the City and tourist hotspots. The operative would be a visible presence in local shopping centres building confidence in the local business community and supporting regeneration.

An additional driver costing £20,100 will provide a cost effective way of improving performance by increasing the frequency of mechanical sweeping using existing vehicle stock. This will be particularly helpful in driving up standards in areas of the district that are performing less well, notably residential housing estates and industrial estates. These are high profile public areas that influence public opinion on the cleanliness of Carlisle and whether it's a place where people want to live and work.

This proposal is to be funded by a contribution from revenue reserves in 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Proposed by: Cllr R Bloxham
Seconded by: Cllr J Mallinson

Director of Resources Comments and Impact on the Executive's budget proposals:

The consequences of accepting this amendment is that there will be an increase in the Council's non-recurring revenue budget for 2015/16 and 2016/17 of £42,300 per annum. There will be an equivalent reduction in the level of overall Council reserves available.

The proposal has no impact on the level of Council Tax increase proposed by the Executive.

The proposal has no impact on the Capital Programme proposed by the Executive.

The amendment will result in the following main changes to the Executive's Revenue Budget proposals for 2015/16 as set out in Minute EX004/15:

Schedule 4 – Non-Recurring Budget Increases

- There would be an increase in the overall level of Non- Recurring Budget Pressures, increasing by £42,300 in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to £642,300 and £492,300 respectively.

Schedule 5 – Summary Net Budget Requirement

- Total Revenue Expenditure would increase by £42,300 in 2015/16 and 2016/17. Contributions from Reserves to fund new Non Recurring Commitments would increase by £42,300 to £633,300 in 2015/16 and to £492,300 in 2016/17.

Schedule 10 – Council Reserve Projections

- There would be a reduction in overall Projects Reserve projections of £84,600 to be in a surplus position of £726,400 by 2019/20.

Conservative Group Proposed Amendment No. 2

Four yearly City Elections:

To amend the election cycle from electing one third of the Members each year with no elections in year four, and move to a full election for all Members every four years. The earliest opportunity to implement this proposal is 2016/17 which will generate a revenue saving of £155,000 over the lifetime of the MTFP; a cost of £85,000 in 2016/17 with savings of £80,000 per annum for years 2017/18 to 2019/20. The savings generated will be used to replenish revenue reserves.

Proposed by: Cllr J Mallinson

Seconded by: Cllr G Ellis

Director of Resources Comments and Impact on the Executive's budget proposals:

The consequences of accepting this amendment is that there will be no change to the 2015/16 budget as set out in the Executive's budget proposals; however there will be an increase of £85,000 in the revenue expenditure budget for 2016/17 with a reduction of £80,000 in years 2017/18 to 2019/20, generating a net saving to the Council of £155,000 over the lifetime of the MTFP. There will be a corresponding increase in revenue reserves.

The proposal has no impact on the level of Council Tax increase proposed by the Executive.

The proposal has no impact on the Capital Programme proposed by the Executive.

The amendment will result in the following main changes to the Executive's Revenue Budget proposals for 2015/16 as set out in Minute EX004/15:

Schedule 2 – Proposed Budget Reductions

- There would be increased budget reductions of £80,000 in years 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Schedule 3 – Recurring budget Increases

- There would be an increase in the recurring budget of £85,000 in 2016/17.

Schedule 5 – Summary Net Budget Requirement

- Total Revenue Expenditure would increase by £85,000 in 2016/17 and reduce by £80,000 in years 2017/18 to 2019/20.
- Contributions to reserves in respect of recurring commitments will reduce by £85,000 in 2016/17 and increase by £80,000 in years 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Schedule 10 – Useable Reserve Projections

- There would be an increase in the level of Project Reserve projections of £155,000 to be in a surplus position of £966,000 by 2019/20.

Conservative Group Proposed Amendment No. 3

Youth Zone – Outreach programme:

To provide non-recurring revenue funding of £10,000 per annum for two years to support the Youth Zone as a two year pilot and more specifically to reinstate the outreach programme and work in the rural areas. This proposal is to be funded by a contribution from revenue reserves in 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Proposed by: Cllr J Mallinson

Seconded by: Cllr S Layden

Director of Resources Comments and Impact on the Executive's budget proposals:

The consequences of accepting this amendment is that there will be an increase in the Council's non-recurring revenue budget for 2015/16 and 2016/17 of £10,000 per annum. There will be an equivalent reduction in the level of overall Council reserves available.

The proposal has no impact on the level of Council Tax increase proposed by the Executive.

The proposal has no impact on the Capital Programme proposed by the Executive.

The amendment will result in the following main changes to the Executive's Revenue Budget proposals for 2015/16 as set out in Minute EX004/15:

Schedule 4 – Non-Recurring Budget Increases

- There would be an increase in the overall level of Non- Recurring Budget Pressures, increasing by £10,000 in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to £610,000 and £460,000 respectively.

Schedule 5 – Summary Net Budget Requirement

- Total Revenue Expenditure would increase by £10,000 in 2015/16 and 2016/17. Contributions from Reserves to fund new Non Recurring Commitments would increase by £10,000 to £601,000 in 2015/16 and to £460,000 in 2016/17.

Schedule 10 – Council Reserve Projections

- There would be a reduction in the level of Projects Reserve projections of £20,000 to be in a surplus position of £791,000 by 2019/20.

Conservative Group Proposed Amendment No. 4

Tullie House:

To phase in the proposed saving for the Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust identified as a transformational saving totalling £214,000 from 2016/17. The amendment to phase in the saving over a two year period will allow the Trust to make the necessary operational changes in a timely manner to achieve the savings target. A saving target of £100,000 from 2016/17 is suggested with the full sum being achieved in 2017/18. This proposal will require the re-profiling of the transformation programme and will be funded initially from revenue reserves.

Proposed by: Cllr G Ellis

Seconded by: Cllr J Mallinson

Director of Resources Comments and Impact on the Executive's budget proposals:

The consequences of accepting this amendment is that there will be no change to the 2015/16 budget as set out in the Executive's budget proposals; however there will be an increase of £114,000 in the revenue budget for 2016/17 with a corresponding reduction in the level of overall Council reserves available.

The proposal has no impact on the level of Council Tax increase proposed by the Executive.

The proposal has no impact on the Capital Programme proposed by the Executive.

The amendment will result in the following main changes to the Executive's Revenue Budget proposals for 2015/16 as set out in Minute EX004/15:

Schedule 3 – Proposed Budget Reductions

- There would be a reduction in recurring budget savings of £114,000 in 2016/17.

Schedule 5 – Summary Net Budget Requirement

- Total Recurring Revenue Expenditure would increase by £114,000 in 2016/17.
- Contributions to reserves in respect of recurring commitments will reduce by £114,000 in 2016/17.

Schedule 10 – Usable Reserve Projections

- There would be a reduction in the level of Project Reserve projections of £114,000 to be in a surplus position of £697,000 by 2019/20.

Procedure Note:

The financial effect of each **individual** amendment is as set out in the amendment presented. However if Council proposed any **combination** of amendments to the Executive budget proposals, then there would be a cumulative effect on the budget and reserves.

Before any amendment is voted on, the Council will give the Director of Resources an opportunity to address the meeting to explain, if necessary, the effect of the proposed amendment under consideration and the cumulative impact of any previous amendments before the vote is taken. They may also agree to an adjournment to enable Members to consider the Director of Resources advice prior to the vote on any amendment.

The procedure, should any amendment be carried, is set out in full at Agenda Item 9 (5) paragraph 3.9 to 3.11.