

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 8 February 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

in a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor S. Coughlan	Leader of the Council
Councillor Jeavons	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Burley	Children's services and education
Councillor J. Fitzpatrick	Community, leisure and culture
Councillor Jones	Clean and green
Councillor Robertson	Health
Councillor S. Coughlan	Social care
Councillor Nawaz	Personnel and business support
Councillor Shires	Agenda for change

3578 Minutes

Resolved

- (1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2016 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.
- (2) That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2016 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record, subject to Councillor J. Fitzpatrick being substituted for Councillor Robertson in minute 3571.

3579 Declarations of interest

The undermentioned members declared an interest in the items indicated:

Councillor S. Coughlan	}	Children's Centre services
Councillor D. Coughlan	}	Early years funding formula 2017/18
Councillor Nawaz	}	
Councillor Robertson		Section 75 arrangements with Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust

3580 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985

Resolved

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items set out in the private part of the agenda for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

3581 Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

3582 Questions

There were no questions.

3583 Forward plan

The forward plan as at 6 February 2017 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the forward plan be noted.

Having declared an interest Councillors S. Coughlan, D. Coughlan and Nawaz left the room during consideration of the following item. Councillor Jeavons took the chair for the item.

3584 Redesign of Children's Centre services and sites

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the report recommendations, following consideration of statutory consultation feedback as outlined in section 3.4 in the report, to deliver Children's Centre services within a new 0-19 Early Help locality operating model as set out in more detail within section 3.5 of the report, as of 1 April 2017.
- (2) That in relation to the Birchills site:
 - (a) Cabinet approve the undertaking of a competitive procurement process to determine the most suitable provider(s) for the provision of childcare and early learning and to commence delivery from early Autumn 2017;
 - (b) Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Director of Economy and Environment and the Portfolio Holders' for Children's Services and Regeneration, to consider offers received from the market and to enter into a lease of up to a maximum length of 15 years, potentially including leases at less than best consideration, for which the annual rent may exceed £50,000, which represent the most favourable terms for the Council;
 - (c) Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services to accept bids and award agreements on the best possible terms to enable the alternative model of childcare and early learning delivery by external providers and to authorise the sealing of any contracts, deeds or other related documents for such provision.
- (3) That, subject to full Council approval of the 2017/2018 budget, Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, to approve the award of transitional contractual agreements relating to Palfrey Community Association for the delivery of 0-19 locality services (including Children's Centres services) in the South of Walsall for an initial 6 month period from 1 April 2017 with the option to extend for an additional period of up to 6 months, to give sufficient time for pre-market engagement and an appropriate procurement process to be undertaken for the Central and South 0-19 Early Help locality service (including Children's Centre Services).
- (4) That Cabinet approve the undertaking of a competitive procurement process to determine the most suitable provider(s) for the delivery of 0-19 Early Help Locality services (including Children's Centre services) in Central and South Walsall for a period of up to 4 years which will contain appropriate break points.

3585 **Corporate financial performance 2016/17**

Councillor S. Coughlan presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the revenue forecast position of £2.49m above budget and the reasons as set out be noted.
- (2) That Cabinet note the continuing and emerging risks to the forecast, and actions taken to manage these.
- (3) That the impact of the "*Making Every Penny Count*" expenditure restraint exercise in section 3.2.3 be noted.
- (4) That Cabinet approve the write off of debt as detailed in section 3.4.
- (5) That Cabinet note that revised cash limits will be presented to Cabinet tonight and subsequently Council, for approval, within the Revenue Budget report 2016/17 to 2019/20 to ensure a balanced 2016/17 outturn.
- (6) That Cabinet note the level of general reserves as detailed in section 3.5. and the requirement for replenishment.
- (7) That Cabinet note the capital underspend of £2.18m, after carry forwards, and approve the carry forward of £1.57m of this to support the 2017/18 draft capital programme, and changes to capital allocations in 2016/17 as outlined in 3.8.
- (8) That the financial health indicator performance as set out in Appendix 1 be noted.

3586 **Corporate Plan**

Councillor S. Coughlan presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That any proposed changes which emerge following Cabinet be agreed and finalised with the Leader prior to Council on 23 February 2017.

Resolved to recommend to Council

That the updated and refreshed Corporate Plan 2017-2020 – “Reducing Inequalities, Maximising Potential” be approved.

3587 Corporate budget plan and treasury management and investment strategy 2017/18

Councillor S. Coughlan presented the report:

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Coughlan pointed out that since the despatch of the report, further grant changes had been received which required the statutory determinations to be amended and that the final levy figures from the Environment Agency and West Midlands Combined Authority (transport levy) had also been received. Accordingly, a revised set of recommendations were circulated which replaced paragraph 2.3 in the report (including 2.3.1, 2.3.2, and 2.3.3) which incorporated those changes. In addition, a slight amendment to the valuation bands had been made (3fH should read £233.10 and 3fG should read £3,488.08).

Cabinet members discussed the key issues in the report and it was:

Resolved

(1) That Cabinet note:

- (a) That at the time of despatch of this report, the precepting authorities (fire and police) had not formally notified the authority of their final council tax levels. (The council has been advised that they will both be approved following meetings scheduled for early February, final figures will therefore be provided prior to or at the Council meeting of 23 February 2017).
- (b) That at the time of despatch of this report, the levy authorities (Environment Agency and West Midlands Combined Authority) had not formally notified the authority of their final demand. Current estimates have been used for Environment Agency and Transport Levy based on informal communication, but these are subject to formal approval. (The final levies are expected to be approved early February, and will be included within the final papers to Council).

- (c) That the council tax base, set by the Chief Finance Officer, under his delegations is 69,074.69.
 - (d) The feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the revenue and capital proposals.
 - (e) That Members must have due regard to consultation feedback and the public sector equality duty (section 149 of the equality act 2010) when making budget decisions.
- (2) That Cabinet approve:
- (a) The attached report titled Section A: The Findings from Budget Consultation: Financial Year 2017/18+ (part 1, 2 and 3) and Cabinet Responses and that Members have had regard to their duties in relation to consultation, and in relation to the public sector equality duty, in forming their budget recommendations.
 - (b) Investment of £22.66m to cover demand, income shortfalls and cost pressures as follows:
 - Adult Social Care £9.78m
 - Children's Services £6.62m
 - Other inflationary pressures £0.34m
 - Other services £5.92m
 - (c) The revised budget for 2016/17 and the allocation of revenue resources for 2017/18 as set out in Section B: Part 1 "The Revenue and Capital Budget Plan", and delegate authority to the relevant executive directors to implement the 2017/18 savings.
 - (d) Policy service changes as set out below and instruct executive directors to implement these:

Table 1 : Summary of Revised Savings and the Executive (Cabinet) decision

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
Leader of the Council Portfolio					
1	Charging for Deputyships	30,000			Approve a charge for Deputyships in accordance with Part 19 of the Court of Protection Rules 2007(Practice Direction B – Fixed Costs in the Court of Protection – Remuneration of public authority deputies)
2	Charging for Appointeeships		15,000		Approve further consultation and report back to Cabinet
3	Apply decrease to Members allowances at same level as decrease in staff pay.	7,055			Approve, recognising this requires a Council decision to implement
52	Cease retirement awards	26,000			Approve
Total Leader of the Council Portfolio		63,055	15,000	0	
Children's Services and Education Portfolio					
4	Review and develop children centre service as part of a 0-19 Early Help locality model	208,126			Approve, subject to decision by Cabinet 8 February (see reported on Children's Centres)
5	Review demand for transport from children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND)				Withdraw this proposal (£100,000 in 2017/18)
6	Review demand for SEN transport. More provision of Special School Places will reduce transport & travel costs			200,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
7	Review demand for Out of Borough SEN short breaks				Withdraw this proposal (£130,000) and replace with a reduced operational saving of £102,000 arising from improved commissioning and young adults coming of age.

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
8	Review and reduce short breaks				Withdraw this proposal and replace with operational savings in 2017/18 of £100,000 and 2018/19 of £100,000, arising from efficiencies and improved commissioning arrangements
9	Reduction of spend on Looked after Children including those in Out of Borough Placements		300,000	600,000	Approve
10	Review and reduce Looked after Children numbers and associated costs	680,044	462,044	1,223,044	Approve
11	Review and reduce Children's Social Care contact service	64,000	64,000		Approve
12	Reduce or identify alternative contribution for Children's Safeguarding Board				Withdraw this proposal (£58,035 in 2017/18 and £58,035 in 2018/19)
13	Review and reduce Youth Services and align functions to the 0-19 Early Help locality model	266,500	421,301	110,572	Approve and instruct officers to continue to work with the Voluntary Sector to identify and secure alternative external funding to continue to deliver youth work across the localities
14	Aim to identify alternative funding to support School Improvement Services	235,599	271,198	135,599	Approve
Total Children's Services and Education Portfolio		1,454,269	1,518,543	2,269,215	
Clean and Green Portfolio					
15	Every other week bin collections	460,500			None required (Decision approved by Cabinet 16 December 2015)
16	Reduction in Public Health investment to lifestyle services	105,000		145,000	Approve revised proposal (Additional £60,000 brought forward from 2019/20 to 2017/18)

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
17	Introduce charging for garden waste collections		300,000		Approve that further consultation and equality impact assessment takes place on this proposal
18	Reconfigure recycling collections to introduce 'Twin stream' collections		150,000		Approve that further consultation and equality impact assessment takes place on this proposal
19	Review HWRC site and Transfer Station provision			137,772	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
20	Reduction in grass cutting - large areas	27,312			Approve
21	Consider cessation of bowling green and cricket wicket provision				Withdraw this proposal (£58,464 in 2017/18, replaced by an operational saving)
22	Reduction in herbicidal weed spraying of highways	23,750			Approve
23a/b	Reduction in Street Cleansing service	257,907			Approve the revised saving (reduced by £175,000 for reinstatement of 7 environmental operatives, and replaced by an operational saving), and that these 7 environmental operatives target areas of most need in the Borough
24	Further review of waste collection arrangements			500,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
25	Reduce grass cutting on highway verges in rural areas	49,702			Approve
26	Reducing green waste collection season by 1 month				Defer this proposal (£30,000 in 2017/18, replaced by an operational saving) and review the collection season alongside the proposal to introduce charging for green waste collections (saving reference 17)

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
27	Reduction of one tree gang				Withdraw this proposal (£60,000 in 2017/18, replaced by an operational saving)
Total Clean and Green Portfolio		924,171	450,000	782,772	
Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio					
28	Consider withdrawal of contract with Walsall Voluntary Action (WVA)			168,795	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
29	Cease funding to Relate Walsall and First Base Walsall				Withdraw this proposal (£7,500 in 2017/18 and £22,500 in year 2) and instruct officers to liaise with these charities to discuss ways in which they might be able to reduce the need for Walsall Council funding support in the future
30	Consider withdrawing funding to Community Associations				Withdraw this proposal (£247,900 in 2017/18)
31	Remove Cohesion non staffing budget				Withdraw this proposal (£74,356 in 2017/18)
32	Redesign of Library service	1,800,000			<p>Cabinet approve a redesigned library service (saving amended from £2.9m to £1.8m) that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walsall Town Centre “Hub” (including the Local History Centre & Archive) • The Leather Museum will remain “as is” at the Wisemore factory • Five District libraries (Aldridge, Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston and Willenhall) • One Mobile Library and a Home Delivery Service, the mobile service route to be redesigned to meet Marmot objectives and greatest need, and • A Community Library at Streetly, augmented with community volunteer support.

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
32	Redesign of Library service (continued)	See above			<p>Cabinet approve that the following sites do not form part of the Council's redesigned statutory library service, and therefore that the statutory Library Service on these sites will cease from 30 June 2017; Beechdale, Blakenall, New Invention, Pelsall, Pleck, Pheasey, Rushall, South Walsall, and Walsall Wood</p> <p>Cabinet authorises the Executive Director, in consultation with the portfolio holder for community, leisure and culture, to enter into discussions with the community in the areas where there will no longer be a statutory library service on site, for the community to take on these sites as local book exchanges or venues for community centres, run by volunteers</p> <p>Cabinet approves that, subject to the above, if no alternative use is agreed for individual sites, that these sites be designated as surplus to requirements, and considered for disposal.</p>
33	Relocate Leather Museum into Lichfield Street Central Library with Local History Centre				Withdraw this proposal (£85,720 in 2017/18 and £85,715 in 2018/19)
34	Relocate Local History Centre into Lichfield Street Central Library	93,405	93,405		Approve
35	Removal of the council's revenue subsidy to the Forest Arts		100,000	185,000	Approve, with amendment (£100,000 removed in 2017/18)
36	Remove the council's revenue subsidy to New Art Gallery	100,000	(20,000)	50,000	Approve, with amendment (£390,000 in 2019/20 reduced to £50,000)

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
37	Additional income from Active Living to fully recover costs of Darlaston Pool and Walsall Gala baths		519,383	783,559	Approve
38	Create a Local Authority Trading company, initially to manage Active Living sports sport and leisure services				Withdraw proposal (£175,000 removed in both 2017/18 and 2018/19 due to recent European legal ruling)
39	Change to provision of out of hours for Community Protection service	22,370			Approve
40	Review of the operation of the council's pest and animal control service to control demand, target resources more effectively and increase income	20,000			Approve
Total Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio		2,035,775	692,788	1,187,354	
Health Portfolio					
41	Reduction in Public Health investment in drug and alcohol treatment services	143,000	250,000	500,000	Approve 2017/18 and 2018/19 proposals, consult further on the 2019/20 proposal
42	Re-procurement of lifestyle services	260,000			None required (Decision approved by Cabinet 27 April 2016)
43	Reduction in Healthy Child 5-19 in school services	125,000		100,000	Approve, subject to contract award
44	Re-commissioning of 0-5 services	100,000		400,000	None required (Decision approved by Cabinet 14 December 2016)
45	Reduce scope of healthy lifestyles services			250,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to review of the contract, consultation and equality impact assessment as appropriate)

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
46	Cease all Public Health investment in adult weight management programmes	175,152			Approve
47	Reduction of Public Health Stop Smoking services	200,000	200,000		Approve
48	Cease falls prevention service			295,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
49	Reduce capacity in sexual health services			500,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
50	Reduce scope of infection control services		20,000	20,000	Approve
51	Reduction in the Public Health investment in domestic abuse services	50,000			Approve, subject to decision by Cabinet 8 February (see reported on Domestic Abuse Service tender)
76 pt	Reduction in Public Health grant to Citizens Advice Bureau	75,000			Approve
Total Health Portfolio		1,128,152	470,000	2,065,000	
Personnel and Business Support Portfolio					
53	Consider alternative funding for category 2 school crossing wardens	85,000			<p>Approve saving of £85,000, amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delete vacant category 2 school crossing patrol posts that have been vacant for more than six months • Instruct officers to work with the remaining Schools which have a Category 2 crossing patrol on risk assessing their crossings and identifying alternative funding sources, seeking to reduce the cost to the Council by 50%, including opportunities for sponsorship

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
Total Personnel and Business Support Portfolio		85,000	0	0	
Regeneration Portfolio					
54	Energy saving from major street lighting invest to save		50,000	450,000	None required (A separate options appraisal on this proposal will be reported to Cabinet during 2017)
55	Reduction in the mtce of road signs	15,000		64,000	Approve 2017/18 saving of £15,000, consult further on 2019/20 proposal
56	Reduced maintenance of road drainage following pilot on drainage and streams			72,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
57	Reduced maintenance road markings			31,500	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
58	Reduction in highways maintenance resulting from the re-procurement of the Highway Maintenance contract	150,000			Approve
59	Additional reduction in Highways maintenance revenue budgets		100,000		Approve
60	Increase cost of parking permits	6,000	6,000	6,000	Approve an increase in charges by £1 per month
61	Increasing Town Centre off street Parking Charges	15,000			Approve an increase in charges by 10p per parking charge band
62	Introduction of an additional charge for vehicle dropped crossings to cover the costs of preparing quotations	10,000			Approve a charge of £110 for vehicle dropped crossings
63	Introduction of a street and roadworks permit scheme		100,000		Officers are instructed to undertake the necessary consultation and equality impact assessment and Cabinet will review this prior to any decision on implementation.

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
64	Redesign and reduce the traffic management function		75,000		Approve
65	Reduction in the reactive Highways maintenance budget	50,000			Approve
66	Merge Strategic Planning team with other Councils				Withdraw proposal (£100,000 in 2018/19)
67	Reduction in Economic Development				Withdraw proposal (£243,644 in 2019/20)
68	Stop cleansing after markets / collecting and disposing of market traders waste				Withdraw proposal (£175,000 in 2017/18)
69	Increase district centres market fees				Withdraw proposal (£35,000 in 2017/18)
70	Cessation of landscape service	40,000			Approve
71	Removal of all economic intelligence services				Withdraw proposal (£60,000 in 2019/20)
72	Reduction in Economic Development capacity				Withdraw proposal (£100,000 in 2019/20)
73	Review of investment portfolio			500,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
Total Regeneration Portfolio		286,000	331,000	1,123,500	
Social Care Portfolio					
74	Combined Welfare Rights service, Housing Advice and Crisis Support	200,000			Approve
75	Closure of banking hall in Civic Centre	100,000			Approve

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
76 pt	Reduction in grant to Citizens Advice Bureau		57,458	45,966	Withdraw the 2017/18 proposal and retain the core grant funding of £57,458 in 2017/18. Instruct Officers to liaise with the CAB to explore the potential for cost efficiencies of £57,458 in 2018/19 and £45,966 in 2019/20 to enable the Council's contribution to the CAB's funding to be further reduced in the future
77	Consider cessation of Adult Social Care Universal Services	757,843	1,032,729		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Review of Assistive technology (Telecare / Telehealth / Call Handlers and Fitting) and the Responder element.</u> Cabinet approve the re-tender of the service and re-consult on the charging process, with a view to saving £110,000 in 2018/19. <u>Response Services</u> Cabinet approve the re-tender of the service and re-consult on the charging process, with a view to saving £190,000 in 2017/18 and £267,000 in 2018/19. <u>Mental Health Staffing (Access and Welfare Rights)</u> Cabinet approve the proposal to delete these posts, saving £39,000 in 2017/18 and £54,000 in 2018/19. <u>Broadway North Recovery College</u> Cabinet approve the ceasing of this service, with support given to service users to set up their own support group and help to access other activities elsewhere, saving £75,000 in 217/18 and £78,000 in 2018/19.

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
77	Consider cessation of Adult Social Care Universal Services (Continued)	See above	See above		<p>5. <u>Neighbourhood Community Officers</u></p> <p>Cabinet approve a reduction in 8 posts from 13 to 5, saving £99,000 in 2017/18 and £139,000 in 2018/19, the remaining posts to be focussed on the locality element of Walsall Together.</p> <p>6. <u>Independent Living Centre</u></p> <p>Cabinet approve permission to end the lease, cease Shop mobility and short term wheelchair loans service and to relocate the blue badge service to the Money, Home, Job service, saving £30,000 in 2017/18 and £61,000 in 2018/19.</p> <p>7. <u>Sensory Support Social Work Team</u></p> <p>Cabinet approve permission to reduce the team to the statutory minimum to support sensory impaired adults, saving £154,000 in 2017/18 and £216,000 in 2018/19.</p> <p>8. <u>Sons and Daughters of Rest Rates Subsidy</u></p> <p>Cabinet approve the ending of the rates subsidy, saving £21,000 in 2017/18.</p> <p>9. <u>Wilbraham Court</u></p> <p>Cabinet withdraw the proposal to cease support (saving of £180,000 in 2017/18).</p>

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
77	Consider cessation of Adult Social Care Universal Services (Continued)	See above	See above		<p>12. & 13. Empowerment Engagement and Decision Making – Physical Disabilities (Contract numbers 1241, 1242), and 14. Empowerment Engagement and Decision Making – Autism (Contract 1243)</p> <p>Cabinet approve the ending of these contracts and approve that the Executive Director of Adult Social Care retenders one empowerment, engagement and decision making contract, in line with the Care Act statutory duty, at a saving of £25,000 in 2017/18.</p> <p>15. Short Term Crisis and Advocacy – Learning Disabilities (Contract 1221), and 16. Short Term Crisis and Advocacy – Physical and Sensory Disabilities (Contract 1224)</p> <p>Cabinet approve the ending of these contracts and approve that the Executive Director of Adult Social Care retenders one short term crisis and advocacy contract, in line with the Care Act statutory duty, at a saving of £27,000 in 2017/18.</p> <p>17. Midland Mencap Social Club (Contract 1154), and 18. Mary Elliott social Club (1156), and 19. Older People's Project (Contract 4411), and 20. Gateway SE Social Club (Contract 1157), and 21. Gateway NW Social Club (Contract 1155)</p> <p>Cabinet withdraw the proposal to cease funding the above services. (saving of ££9,792 in 2017/18 and £9,792 in 2018/19).</p>

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
77	Consider cessation of Adult Social Care Universal Services (Continued)	See above	See above		<p>22. <u>Befriending Autism</u></p> <p>Cabinet intend to withdraw this proposal (saving of £43,333 in 2017/18 withdrawn).</p> <p>23. <u>Community Outreach – Breakthrough Service (Contract 1252)</u></p> <p>Cabinet withdraw the proposal to cease support (saving of £50,000 in 2017/18 withdrawn).</p> <p>24. Eye Clinic Liaison and Register for the Blind (ECALO and RILs) (Contract 1239), and</p> <p>25. Befriending Service (physical and sensory impairment) (Contract 1220)</p> <p>Cabinet approve the reconfiguring of these services to meet statutory guidance around eligibility, saving £24,000 (contract 1239) and £43,250 (contract 1220) in 2017/18.</p> <p>26. Concessionary Travel, and</p> <p>27. Disability Hub (Contract 1215), and</p> <p>28. Supporting Employment, and</p> <p>29. Summer Scheme (Contract 1214), and</p> <p>30. Parents Project (70LD)</p> <p>Cabinet withdraw these proposals (saving of £33,000 in 2017/18 and £57,000 in 2018/19 for disability hub; £25,5128 for concessionary travel in 2017/18; £30,000 in 2019/20 for supporting employment; £22,500 in 2018/19 and £32,303 in 2017/18 for Parent's project are withdrawn).</p>

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
77	Consider cessation of Adult Social Care Universal Services (Continued)	See above	See above		<p>31. Walsall Society for the Blind – Lease payment arrangement Cabinet instruct officers to review the lease arrangements and report back to Cabinet on options to save £24,000 in 2018/19.</p> <p>32. Seed Money for low level services, and</p> <p>33. Housing Support Services. Cabinet approve the ending of these contracts, saving £75,000 (seed money) in 2017/18 and £20,000 (housing support service) in 2018/19.</p>
78	Review of respite and day services	400,024	400,024		<p>Cabinet approve that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respite services at Fallings Heath cease as soon as is practicable, and that those people who access respite should be supported to transfer to other providers. 2. All respite users will be subject to a formal review process to decide upon their eligibility (in terms of short breaks), or their carers need based upon a carers assessment (If it is replacement care) under the Care Act, to determine their level of respite going forwards. 3. Consultation on Day Opportunities will be carried out during February to August 2017 with a final decision about eligibility, choice and location to close, based upon that further process, to be brought back to Cabinet. <p>In light of the above, the saving has been reprofiled.</p>

Saving ref	Policy Saving Consulted on	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Executive (Cabinet) Decision
79a	Improving demand management for Adult Social Care	1,718,750	3,062,500	1,218,750	Approve
79b	Improving demand management for Adult Social Care		1,145,833	2,854,167	Approve
80	Housing and Care 21	137,000	295,000	590,000	Approve 2017/18 proposal of £137,000. Year 2 & 3 proposals will be subject to further consultation
81	Removal of jointly funded vacant posts	826,627			Approve
82	Improved charging and collection arrangements for community based services (Previously was “ <i>introduce an interim charge for community based services</i> ”)	474,894			Approve, subject to a re-designed charging policy to be presented to Cabinet in March 2017
Total Social Care Portfolio		4,615,138	5,993,544	4,708,883	
Central savings					
	Terms and Conditions	2,000,000			None required (Approved by Personnel Committee 28 June 2016)
	Channel Shift – roll out of digital solutions for contacting the council			5,000,000	None at this stage (this is a year 3 proposal, and therefore subject to further consultation and equality impact assessment)
Total Central		2,000,000	0	5,000,000	
Total Policy Savings		12,591,560	9,470,875	17,136,724	

- (e) Where, in accordance with table 1 of this report, further consultation is required on service change, that officers be instructed to begin consultation arrangements for next stage, and report back to a future Cabinet meeting on the outcomes of that consultation and equality impact assessments, where required.
- (f) That delegated authority be given to the Chief Finance Officer to make any necessary amendments, in consultation with the Leader (portfolio holder for finance), to take account of the final levies and precepts; changes required arising from the final Settlement; final grant allocations and final technical guidance or legislation on the budget, and to make any necessary amendments to the statutory determinations and council tax bands to take account of those changes and the resulting final analysis of the budget and for these amendments to be submitted and therefore recommended to Council at its meeting on 23 February 2017.
- (g) That delegated authority be given to the Chief Finance Officer to agree payments for the pensions triannual valuation for 2017/18 to 2019/20, and to make arrangements to cover cash flow requirements as appropriate.
- (h) An allocation of £2m to support the transformation agenda, and delegate the allocation of such to the Chief Finance Officer, for revenue purposes only, in conjunction with the Leader (portfolio holder for finance).
- (i) The leasing programme set out at 2.3.2 and delegate authority for approval of in year expenditure to the Head of Finance (up to a cumulative value of £500k) and the Chief Finance Officer (above £500k).
- (3) That Cabinet approve **and recommend to Council**, subject to receipt of final precepts and levies, receipt of the final settlement, technical/legislative guidance and final specific grant allocations (*substitute figures and resolution to be provided to Council by the Chief Finance officer, to take account of any changes arising from these*):
- (I) Revenue
 - a) The revised revenue estimates for 2016/17 and the allocation of revenue resources for 2017/18 as set out in Section B: Part 1 “The Revenue and Capital Budget Plan”.
 - b) A Walsall Council net council tax requirement for 2017/18 of £108.47m – with a 4.99% increase in council tax, 3% of which is earmarked for Adult Social Care.
 - c) That the recommendations of the S151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer) in respect of the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the budget calculations and the adequacy of reserves **be approved**, including the levels of central contingency and an opening general reserve of not less than £12.4m, as set out in **Annex 8** of the budget plan.

- d) The (estimated) levies below for outside bodies and Cabinet **approve** that the final figures **be substituted** for these provisional ones once they are available at the Council meeting on 23 February 2017. (An estimate has been used within this report based on informal notification from the authorities).

LEVY	AMOUNT (£)
West Midlands Combined Authority (Transport) Levy	11,842,796
Environment agency	79,020

- e) The following statutory determinations (references are to the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 as amended), and subject to any final changes arising from receipt of final precepts and levies, receipt of the final Settlement, technical/legislative guidance and final specific grant allocations, **and Cabinet approve that these will be substituted** at the Council meeting on 23 February 2017 for the final figures once received:

- I. **£623,528,149** being the aggregate gross expenditure, which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act.
- II. **£515,056,710** being the aggregate income which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) (a) to (d) of the Act.
- III. **£108,471,439** being the amount, by which the aggregate at (e) (I) above exceeds the aggregate at (e) (II), calculated by the council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year.
- IV. **£1,570.35** being the amount at (e) (III) above, divided by the council tax base of **69,074.69**, calculated by the council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year (average council tax at band D).

V. Valuation bands

Being amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) (iv) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Local Government Act 1992, is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the council in accordance with Section 30 and 36 of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

A	B	C	D
1,046.90	1,221.38	1,395.86	1,570.35
E	F	G	H
1,919.31	2,268.28	2,617.25	3,140.70

- f) The draft precept from the Fire and Rescue Authority and the precept for the Police and Crime Commissioner, issued to the council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below and Cabinet **approve** that the final figures **be substituted** once they are available at the Council meeting on 23 February 2017.

PRECEPTING AUTHORITY	VALUATION BANDS			
Police And Crime Commissioner	A	B	C	D
	77.69	90.65	103.59	116.55
	E	F	G	H
	142.45	168.35	194.24	233.10
Fire & Rescue	A	B	C	D
	38.09	44.44	50.79	57.14
	E	F	G	H
	69.84	82.53	95.23	114.28

- g) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (e) (v) and (f) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts of council tax for 2017/18 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below and Cabinet **approve** that the final figures **be substituted** once the final precepts are available at the Council meeting on 23 February 2017.

A	B	C	D
1,162.68	1,356.47	1,550.24	1,744.04
E	F	G	H
2,131.60	2,519.16	2,906.72	3,488.08

- h) That notice **be given** of the council tax within twenty-one days of it being set by publishing details of the same in the “Walsall Advertiser” newspaper circulating in the Authority’s area.
- i) That the Chief Financial Officer **be instructed** to take all necessary action in relation to council tax, community charge and national non-domestic rates, including, where appropriate, the signing of all documents, the giving of notices and the taking of necessary steps to ensure collection thereof.
- j) That the Chief Finance Officer **be given authority** to make transfers to and from reserves in order to ensure that reserves are maintained as necessary and in particular, adjusted when reserves are no longer required, or need to be replenished; and to reflect any final changes arising from the final Settlement, if not received by the date of full Council, to ensure that the council tax requirement and council tax bands to be approved by Council are as set out.
- k) That, pursuant to Section 52ZB and 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the relevant basic amount of council tax for the Council is not excessive in relation to determining whether a referendum is required.

(II) Capital

- a) The allocation of capital expenditure plans as set out in Section B: Part 1 “The Revenue and Capital Budget Plan”.

- b) That the capital and leasing programme set out in the following tables **be approved** bearing in mind the principle that unless affordable from within current resources, specific projects funded by borrowing will not be commenced until a payback agreement is in place. Schemes funded from grant will commence when final allocations are published. Reserve list items will only commence should funding become available during the financial year.
- c) That the Chief Finance Officer be **given delegated authority** to determine how each source of finance is used to fund the overall capital programme and to alter the overall mix of financing as necessary, to maximise the flexibility of capital resources used and minimise the ongoing costs of borrowing to the Council.
- d) That the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader (portfolio holder for finance), **be given delegated authority** to release capital resources held back for any contingent items that may arise (earmarked capital receipts for essential or emergency spend), and also for any match funding requirements that may be required of the Council in order to secure additional external capital funding (e.g. bids for government or other funding).

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18	
MAINSTREAM (COUNCIL FUNDED) SCHEMES	Estimated Value £
<i>Prior Year Approvals</i>	
Hatherton Road multi-storey car park – development of demolition plan to address structural repair issues	200,000
Migration of existing Urban Traffic Control analogue communication network	185,000
Traffic signals – replacement of obsolete equipment	200,000
Highways maintenance DfT Challenge Fund local contribution	223,000
<i>Rolling Programme Schemes</i>	
Preventative / Aids and Adaptations and Supporting Independence	750,000
Health Through Warmth – Safety Net support	75,000
Highway Maintenance Programme	2,800,000
Funding to support essential works including Health & Safety	750,000
<i>New Capital Bids</i>	
Two year old provision placements funded from revenue contribution	1,097,642
Looked after children out of borough placements – building related works	150,000
Broadway West playing fields – improvement to car park	50,000
CCTV upgrade to equipment	250,000
Memorial Safety in Walsall cemeteries	40,000
Leisure management system	88,000
Essential refurbishment of the Council's digital data storage facilities	1,224,081
Essential maintenance, warranty extension and eventual replacement of council server	75,200
Essential investment to remove cyber attack vulnerabilities	98,000
Essential warranty extension and replacement of hardware for Council's financial systems	30,000
Procurement of system for Human Resources management and Oracle financials	719,000

Service improvement for single mobile device management solution	76,000
Essential Microsoft upgrades and foundation of Office 365	102,000
Essential maintenance for data storage	78,000
Redesign of school kitchens to meet health and safety, food and fire regulations	250,000
Council House building management system to control and monitor mechanical and electrical equipment	70,000
Civic Centre heating	600,000
Highways maintenance improvements to uneven cobble stones at High Street, Walsall	70,000
Provision of community dropped crossings for ease of use	20,000
Walsall Town Centre Public Realm improvements	100,000
Darlaston Strategic Development Area access project	200,000
Mosaic implementation phase 3 Social Care case management system	747,130
Mosaic mobile working – provision of mobile technology to aid work practices	634,076
Library redesign	2,160,000
Council House rewiring	1,000,000
Acquisition of Reservoir Place to support the Phoenix 10	775,000
Total	15,887,129

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18	
NON-MAINSTREAM CAPITAL PROGRAMME – SCHEMES FUNDED FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES 2017/18	Estimated Value £
Basic Need school allocation	4,101,269
Devolved Formula Capital school allocation	553,772
Capital Maintenance school allocation	2,222,387
Fibbersley School – rephased school expansion project	1,915,129
King Charles School – rephased school expansion project	967,500
New Art Gallery – contribution from HLF and WM&G Development Fund to upgrade of building management system and facilities	88,334
Highways Maintenance DfT Challenge Fund	1,800,000
Local Transport Plan - Highway Maintenance Programme	2,400,000
West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan (STP)	1,283,000
Growth Deal – creation of skills, connections for manufacturing	18,440,070
Disabled Facilities Grant	2,895,213
Total	36,666,674

CAPITAL PROGRAMME RESERVE LIST ITEMS 2017/18	
MAINSTREAM (COUNCIL FUNDED) SCHEMES	Estimated Value £
Family Contact Centre provision	TBC
Shared heating system for EDC and Rushall JMI	TBC
Sneyd PRU / SEN project	TBC
Increased capacity in Special Schools	TBC
Promotion of Community Health & Safety	240,000
Further provision for Preventative / Aids and Adaptations and Supporting Independence	750,000
Further provision for Health Through Warmth – tackling fuel poverty	75,000
Total	1,065,000

LEASING PROGRAMME 2017/18	
	Expenditure £
Refuse vehicles	370,000
Light commercial vehicles	480,000
Tractors and agricultural machinery	190,000
Welfare vehicles	60,000
Community equipment	200,000
Total	1,300,000

(III) Treasury Management

- a) That Section B – Part 2 – The Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2017/18, including the council's borrowing requirement, borrowing limits, and the adoption of the prudential indicators, **be approved**.
- b) That decisions to effect movements between conventional borrowing and other long term liabilities, such as leases, **be delegated** to the Chief Financial Officer.
- c) That decisions to use capital receipts or borrowing within the framework of approved prudential indicators **be delegated** to the Chief Financial Officer.

3588 **Role of the Black Country Joint Committee**

Councillor S. Coughlan presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet delegate to the Black Country Executive Joint Committee the power to make decisions relating to funding applications into and funding received through or from the West Midlands Combined Authority and that the Councils representation on the Black Country Executive Joint Committee be the Leader of the Council with the Deputy Leader acting as substitute.
- (2) That approval be given to the widening of the scope of the Black Country Executive Joint Committee Constitution by amending the current Annex A - Terms of Reference; Functions of Black Country Executive Joint Committee, as revised and included as Appendix A to this report.
- (3) That Cabinet approve entering into the Black Country Executive Joint Committee Collaboration Agreements Deed of Variation, included as Appendix B and delegate the Executive Director for the Economy and Environment authority to make any minor amendments prior to its sealing as a Deed.

- (4) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for the Economy and Environment in consultation with the portfolio holder to negotiate the conditions for and accept once agreed all future funding allocated by the West Midlands Combined Authority on behalf of Walsall Council acting in its role of Accountable Body on behalf of the Black Country Executive Joint Committee.
- (5) That Cabinet approve the holding and ring fencing of all interest generated by the funding allocations received for use in supporting the delivery of the Accountable Body functions associated with this programme.
- (6) That Cabinet note the successful development, delivery and governance of the Growth Deal programme so far, placing the Black Country into the top tier of LEP areas as assessed by Government and the benefits this brings.

3589 Urban Forestry Strategy for Walsall 2016 to 2026

Councillor Jones presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Urban Forestry Strategy as detailed in this report be approved.

3590 Black Country Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document

Councillor Jeavons presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Black Country Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) be approved for adoption.

Having declared an interest Councillors S. Coughlan, D. Coughlan and Nawaz left the room during consideration of the following item. Councillor Jeavons took the chair for the item.

3591 Early years funding formula 2017/18

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the Early Years Funding Formula for 3 and 4 year olds (set out in Table 3 of the report) that was recommended by Walsall's Schools Forum at their meeting on 10 January 2017.
- (2) That Cabinet note that no changes are currently required to the existing early years funding formula in relation to financial arrangements for 2 year olds.

3592 Five year sufficiency strategy plan

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Five-Year Sufficiency Strategy Plan be approved and adopted as a working document detailing the approach to Pupil Place Planning in Walsall.

3593 School admission arrangements 2017/18

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the proposed schemes as set out in Appendix A for inter-authority primary and secondary co-ordinated admissions for 2018/19 be approved.
- (2) That the admission arrangements for primary community and voluntary controlled schools for the academic year 2018/19, be determined as set out in Appendix B of this report.
- (3) That Walsall Council informs all consultees of the determination of the admission arrangements for the 2018/19 academic year.

3594 Statement of purpose for Children's homes

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Statements of Purpose for each of the five Children's Homes operated by Walsall Council be approved.

3595 Walsall Adult and Community College

The item was withdrawn.

3596 Domestic abuse service tender

Councillor D. Coughlan presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet delegates authority to award the contract for the provision of Domestic Abuse services, for a period of two years, with the option to extend on an annual basis for a further period of up to two years, to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care. To ensure continuity of service, delegated authority is being requested because there will not be sufficient time within the procurement timeline to obtain cabinet approval following tender evaluation.
- (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care, to enter into the contract for the provision of Domestic Abuse services and to subsequently authorise the sealing of any deeds, contracts or other related documents for such services.

3597 Private Session

Exclusion of public

Resolved

That during consideration of the remaining item on the agenda, the Cabinet considers that the item for consideration is exempt information by virtue of the appropriate paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, and accordingly resolves to consider the item in private.

Having declared an interest Councillor Robertson took no part in the discussion or voting on the following item.

3598 Section 75 arrangements with Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust

Councillor D. Coughlan presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet note a proposed change to the plan for the delivery of mental health services for the residents of Walsall currently provided by a section 75 agreement entered into on 25 February 2013 with the Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust following a desk top strategic review of the services since the Cabinet meeting on 27 July 2016.
- (2) That Cabinet approve, for the current section 75 agreement with the Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust:
 - (i) an extension of the term for a period of up to 12 months from 1 April 2017; and
 - (ii) a revised termination provision, from 6 months' notice to 2 months' notice at any time during the extended term.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

The meeting terminated at 6.48 p.m.

Chair:

Date: