



Walsall Council

Corporate & Public Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on: **3 JANUARY 2017 AT 6.00PM**

Your attendance is requested at the above meeting, which will be held at, the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TW.

A list of the items of business to be considered at the meeting, together with any supporting papers is enclosed. Please bring the papers with you to the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor A. Andrew (Chair)
Councillor C. Creaney (Vice-Chair)
Councillor D. Barker
Councillor M. Bird
Councillor S. Craddock
Councillor A. Nazir
Councillor M. Nazir
Councillor L. Rattigan
Councillor G. Sohal
Councillor M. Ward
Councillor R. Worrall

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

Councillor S. Coughlan – Leader
Councillor D. Coughlan – Social Care
Councillor Jeavons – Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Jones – Clean and green
Councillor J. Fitzpatrick – Community, leisure and culture
Councillor Nawaz – Personnel and business support
Councillor Shires – Agenda for Change

Walsall Council encourages the public to exercise their right to attend meetings of Council, Cabinet and Committees. Agendas and reports are available for inspection from the Council's Scrutiny Team at the Council House, Walsall (Telephone 01922 654765) or on our website www.walsall.gov.uk.

Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential nature, and reports on these are not available for the public. A guide to the types of information which are available to the public can also be found on our website or at the Civic Centre.

Democratic Services, Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TW

Contact: Craig Goodall ☎ 01922 654765 E-mail: craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk

If you are disabled and require help to and from the meeting room please contact the person above.

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ITEMS FOR BUSINESS

1.	Apologies To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Panel.	
2.	Substitutions To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Panel for the duration of the meeting.	
3.	Declarations of interest and party whip To receive declarations of interest or the party whip from Members in respect of items on the agenda.	
4.	Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.	
5.	Minutes of the previous meeting To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting that took place on 24 November 2016.	<u>Enclosed</u>

ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY

6.	Petition: Save School Crossing Patrols To consider a petition, with over 500 signatures, regarding school crossing patrols.	<u>Enclosed</u>
7.	Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2016-17 to 2019-20 To consider the four year draft revenue budget and draft capital programme, including a revised cash limit for 2016/17 and cash limits for the three years up to 2019/20.	<u>Enclosed</u>
8.	Petition scheme benchmarking To consider and comment on processes in place to deal with petitions.	<u>Enclosed</u>
9.	Community infrastructure levy and section 106 To clarify the circumstances where obligations under Section 106 of the Planning Act can be secured and the overlap between the forthcoming Community Infrastructure Levy regulations	<u>Enclosed</u>

ITEMS FOR OVERVIEW

10.	Financial Performance – Forecast Revenue and Capital Financial Outturn This report summarises the forecast revenue and capital financial position for 2016/17, based on the latest position, for services within the remit of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	<u>Enclosed</u>
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11.	Areas of focus 2016/17 To consider potential areas of focus for the committee for the year ahead. The report includes the Forward Plans of Walsall Council and Black Country Joint Executive Committee.	<u>Enclosed</u>
12.	Date of next meeting To note that the date of the next scheduled meeting will be 21 February 2017.	

The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)

Access to information: Exempt information

Part 1

Descriptions of exempt information: England

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
 - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
 - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
 - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

3 January 2017

Consider alternative funding for category 2 school crossing patrol wardens

Ward(s): All

Portfolios: Cllr A Nawaz – Personnel & Business Support

Purpose of Report:

A proposal to consider funding for category 2 school crossing patrol wardens is currently out for consultation as part of the budget consultation. Part of the response to that consultation has been a petition which has over 500 signatures. The detail of the petition is as follows:

“Walsall Council must not remove the school crossing patrol service from Category 2 crossings. Whilst we understand the increasingly difficult decisions the council are faced with to save £86million in the next three years. Compare the cost of one accident against the cost of one SCP warden (£4,709.02 per annum) ambulance, police, hospital admissions, ongoing care, rehabilitation, loss of earnings, legal prosecution costs, defence costs and courts costs. These far outweigh the cost of one SCP wage”.

The government’s own national statistics show a dramatic fall in the number of casualties and deaths at crossings with human control (see Department for Transport statistics at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reported-road-casualties-great-britain-annual-report-2015>).

This essential service saves lives, saves injury, saves families and saves money.

As the petition has more than 500 signatures it requires a hearing at Scrutiny and the Chair of Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny panel.

This report gives information relating to school crossing patrols to enable scrutiny by the panel and make any appropriate recommendations to council.

Information:

Walsall School Crossing Patrols

The council operates 83 school crossing patrols across the borough. School crossing patrols fall into two categories:

Category 1 is for a school crossing patrol warden to be on duty at specific times during school opening hours because of the potential road safety risks and is not supported by secondary crossing facilities i.e. pelican, zebra crossings etc.

Category 2 is for a school crossing patrol warden supported by secondary crossing facilities i.e. pelican, zebra crossings. Therefore these are risk-scored lower than a category 1 crossing.

School crossing patrols are not a statutory service and, if staff are not available and the relief staff are already committed, crossings are left without a school crossing patrol. This issue is managed on a risk basis with an emphasis on ensuring the high risk crossings are covered.

The need for school crossing patrols and the appropriate categorisation is undertaken by the council's Traffic Safety and Operations Department. There is a close working relationship between the council's Traffic Safety and Operations Department and the Facilities Management team which is responsible for managing school crossing patrol wardens.

School crossing patrol wardens all receive appropriate training which is refreshed on a regular basis.

There is a rolling survey programme of school crossing patrol sites which ensures a crossing is surveyed at the minimum every two years

Category 2 crossing patrols are listed in appendix (a).

Parental Responsibility

Road Safety GB (formerly Local Authority Road Safety Officers Association) are clear that "parents are responsible for ensuring their children are able to travel to school safely, whether or not the Authority is able to provide safer routes or safer crossing facilities".

Types of Crossing

Zebra crossings have two sets of flashing amber beacons (known as Belisha beacons). They have an area of road between them that is painted in black and white stripes. Drivers are legally obliged to give way to pedestrians waiting to cross. Zebra crossings do not have traffic lights but they do have a broken give-way line that you must not cross when you stop. Failing to give way to pedestrians is a criminal offence.

Pelican crossings differ from zebra crossings in that the flow of traffic is controlled by traffic lights. Pedestrians waiting at a pelican crossing are able to press a button that changes the traffic lights to red after a timed delay.

Puffin crossings are essentially the same as pelican crossings, except that a puffin crossing has its sequences controlled by sensors mounted on the lights, rather than a timer. These sensors can detect whether any pedestrians are on the crossing and control the colour of the lights accordingly. Once the control button has been pressed, the lights will only change back to green once the crossing is clear. A puffin crossing does not have a flashing amber phase; you have to wait until the lights turn green before you move off.

Toucan crossings are designed for pedestrians and cyclists to use at the same time; that is not to say that cyclists can't use zebra, pelican and puffin crossings, but they should get off their bikes and wheel them across. With a toucan crossing, the area is wider, leaving plenty of room for cyclists to ride across.

Accident Data

A link on the petition takes you to a suite of documents on the Government's website. The page is titled *Reported road casualties Great Britain, annual report: 2015*. There is a mass of data relating to road accidents and to assist the Scrutiny panel some key statistics are shown here:

- A total of 408 pedestrians were killed in 2015, down from 446 in 2014 but just above the figure of 398 in 2013.
- 4940 pedestrians were seriously injured in 2015 which is 2% down from 2014.
- In 2015 there were 25 pedestrian child fatalities aged 15 and under. This equates to 3% of road deaths.
- 25% of the 24,061 pedestrian casualties occurred in incidents between 4pm and 7pm. 29% of the 16,103 child casualties occurred between 3pm and 5pm and 39% of child casualties were pedestrians.
- Trends identified in the report *Factors affecting reported road casualties* indicate a genuine improvement in child road safety that are above and beyond changes in the child population size.
- National Travel Survey data suggests that the proportion of children travelling to school by walking is falling, implying that children's exposure to roads is decreasing.
- There is a general view that accident reporting is under-reported to police.

Feedback from Consultation

The council has undergone a public consultation on the proposal to consider alternative funding for Category 2 school crossing patrol wardens. The council has received six replies. In addition, there have been two petitions received. The first is the on-line petition:

"Walsall Council must not remove the School Crossing Patrol Service from Category 2 Crossings. Whilst we understand the increasingly difficult decisions the council are faced with to save £86million in the next 3 years. Compare the cost of one accident against the cost of one SCP warden (£4,709.02 p.a.) Ambulance, police, hospital admissions, ongoing care, rehabilitation, loss of earnings, legal prosecution costs, defence costs and courts costs. These far outweigh the cost of one SCP wage".

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casualties and deaths at crossings with human control (see Department for Transport statistics at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reported-road-casualties-great-britain-annual-report-2015>)

This essential service saves lives, saves injury, saves families and saves money.

The second is a petition from Blue Coat schools. It contains over three hundred signatures and states that the petitioners believe that the Springhill Road crossing patrols:

- Provide a vital service which keeps safe thousands of users of Walsall's transport infrastructure (pedestrians, motorists, children travelling to many different schools in the area)
- Must be coordinated and maintained by the local authority to ensure the safe movement of the population around an extremely busy area

Legal Position

School crossing patrols are a discretionary service. They were established by the School Crossing Act 1953 and instituted on 1st July, 1954 through the School Crossing Order 1954.

The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Sections 26-28) gave 'Appropriate Authorities' (defined as county councils, metropolitan district councils, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and the Common Council of the City of London) the power to appoint school crossing patrols to help children cross the road on their way to or from school, or from one part of a school to another, between the hours of 8.00am and 5.30pm.

Other Factors

A*Stars

The council already works with over 70% of Walsall's primary schools through the A*STARS road safety programme. (Active Sustainable Travel And Road Safety). The programme includes key initiatives, such as parent and child road safety training in Reception, practical pedestrian training for all Year 3 children and cycle training for Years 5/6. In addition to these key road safety initiatives, schools also select a number of other initiatives specific to their own needs and priorities, such as seatbelts, "park and stride" and cycle maintenance. These initiatives form an annual action plan on which the school is monitored. Schools which are part of the A*STARS programme also benefit from priority parking enforcement and funding for physical measures around the school, such as school zones and traffic calming.

Any schools affected by the proposed changes to the school crossing patrol service will be encouraged to join the programme if they are not already registered.

More details of the A*STARS programme can be found in appendix (b).

Schools' Finances

A report entitled a Review of Current Balance Control Mechanism was discussed at


Schools Forum on the 6th December 2016. It identified that, since implementing the current balance control mechanism in 2012/13, the total level of uncommitted balances across all maintained schools has continued to reduce – from £8.638m at the end of 2013/14, then £8.520m at the end of 2014/15, and £7.749m at the end of 2015/16.

Other Local Authorities

School crossing patrols, because it is a discretionary service, are being reviewed by many councils across the UK. Our Black Country neighbours have all reviewed or are reviewing their provision.

Contact Officer:

Paul Gordon – Head of Business Change

 07792 920257

Paul.gordon@walsall.gov.uk

Appendix (a)

CATEGORY 2 SCHOOL CROSSINGS

School	Crossing No.	Type	Signs	Hazard Lights	Post Occupation
Alumwell Infant	001	Zebra	Zebra crossing, not school signs	No	Vacant
Alumwell Junior	001	Zebra	Zebra crossing, not school signs	No	Vacant
County Bridge Primary	005	Zebra	None	No	Vacant
Croft Academy	025	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
Delves Junior	026	Pelican	Child signs	No	Occupied
Barcroft Primary	031	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
Hillary Primary	037	Pelican	Yes	No	Occupied
Palfrey Junior	053	Zebra	Humped crossing	No	Vacant
Palfrey Infant	053	Zebra	Humped crossing	No	Vacant
Old Church CE Primary	056	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
Pinfold Street Primary	056	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
New Invention Junior	067	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
Beacon Primary	067	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
New Invention Infant	067	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
Woodlands Academy of Learning	070	Humped Zebra	To south only	No	Occupied
Greenfield Primary	082	Pelican	None	No	Vacant
St James Primary	091	Puffin	None	No	Vacant
St Bernadette's Catholic Primary	091	Puffin	None	No	Vacant
St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary	109	Pelican	Yes	No	Vacant
Sunshine Infant	137	Zebra	None	No	Occupied

School	Crossing No.	Type	Signs	Hazard Lights	Post Occupation
Blakenall Heath Junior	137	Zebra	None	No	Occupied
New Invention Junior	145	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
New Invention Infant	145	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
Birchills CE Community Academy	008	Zebra	Signs	No	Occupied
Beacon Primary	011	Split Pelican	Signs and ambers	No	Occupied
St Peter's Catholic Primary	014	Pelican	Yes, and ambers to north east	Yes	Occupied
Blue Coat CE Infant	016	Puffin	Sign to south, no sign to north	No	Occupied
Blue Coat CE Junior	016	Puffin	Sign to south, no sign to north	No	Occupied
Blue Coat CE Junior	017	Puffin	Sign to south, no sign to north	No	Occupied
Blue Coat CE Infant	017	Puffin	Sign to south, no sign to north	No	Occupied
Moorcroft Wood Primary	027	Zebra	School zone signs	No	Occupied
Edgar Stammers Primary Academy	028	Zebra	None	No	Occupied
Elmore Green Primary	032	Pelican	Yes	No	Occupied
Hydesville Tower	038	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
Whitehall Nursery and Infant	040	Pelican	Only on east side, + ambers	No	Occupied
Leamore Primary	043	Pelican	School + plates	No	Occupied
Lower Farm Primary	047	Humped Zebra	Yes	No	Occupied
New Invention Junior	051	Pelican	Not needed	No	Occupied
New Invention Infant	051	Pelican	Not needed	No	Occupied
Pinfold Street Primary	055	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
Old Church CE Primary	055	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
St Giles CE Primary	060	Zebra	Yes	No	Occupied

School	Crossing No.	Type	Signs	Hazard Lights	Post Occupation
Pelsall Village Primary	094	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
St Francis Catholic Primary	101	Zebra	Signs	No	Occupied
Greenfield Primary	101	Zebra	Signs	No	Occupied
Mayfield Preparatory	121	Zebra	Yes	No	Occupied
Greenfield Primary	133	Zebra	None	No	Occupied
Hydesville Tower	139	Pelican	None	No	Occupied
New Invention Junior	144	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
New Invention Infant	144	Pelican	None required	No	Occupied
Butts Primary	147	Humped Zebra	Yes	No	Occupied
Ryders Hayes Primary	149	Zebra	None	No	Occupied



Appendix (b)

What is A*STARS

The A*STARS programme is a series of walking, cycling, scooting and road safety initiatives, along with training, expertise and support that is given to schools to help them to develop and promote safer, healthier lifestyle choices for all.

The programme promotes health and wellbeing by combining and providing road safety, health and sustainable travel education, training and awareness. It targets all educational establishments and school communities; supporting children's development at every stage from birth to adulthood.



The Benefits of the A*STARS Programme:

- Ensures that schools have access to road safety, sustainable travel, parking enforcement and other council services
- Offers a tailor made package of road safety and sustainable travel measures designed to suit an individual school's needs
- Offers free resources, training and support
- Raises awareness of road safety issues in and around school
- Provides opportunities to increase levels of physical activity
- Uses a dedicated A*STARS website to support and deliver the programme

Objectives:

- Increase the number of pupils using safer, sustainable travel to and from schools and provide evidence of modal shift
- Increase knowledge and understanding of healthy lifestyles, road safety and sustainable travel
- Provide a safer, cleaner environment in the vicinity of schools to benefit everyone
- Enable schools to take ownership of the programme and promote its key messages to parents and the wider community

Targets:

Short term

- Increase walking and cycling
- Every school to participate in one active travel/road

- Provide training/volunteering opportunities for adults
- Every school to have student advocate groups to lead the programme
- safety campaign per year
- Every school to have a dedicated school champion

Long term

- All schools registered on A*STARS programme
- Increase walking and cycling levels by 1% per annum
- Increase the number of 10-16 year olds participating in Bikeability Training in line with DfT targets
- Every primary school participating in Pedestrian Training
- Educate young adults on safer driving and sustainable travel

Achievements

Health & Sustainable Travel

- Year-on-year increase in Active Travel (walking / cycling / scooting) for A*STARS primary schools, now up to **55.9%** compared to National average of **48%**
- Cycling levels in A*STARS primary schools almost 3x higher than non A*STARS schools (**2.5%** compared to **0.9%**)
- Year-on-year increase in cycling at Walsall Secondary Schools over last 3 years, following increased Bikeability training for year 6 pupils

Environment

- Year-on-year reduction in car journeys to A*STARS Primary School over last 3 years, now **39.6%** compared to a national trend which has remained constant at **46%**
- **60%** of A*STARS Schools in a 20mph speed limit, advisory 20mph or 'safe school zone'
- Installation of new cycle shelters at A*STARS schools, resulting in a significant increase in pupils cycling to school
- **500+** School parking patrols as part of a targeted enforcement campaign outside schools



Education / Promotion

- **76% (66)** of Walsall Primary Schools (including academies, PRU's and special schools) participating in the programme
- Over **900+** pupils and parents receiving cycle maintenance training, to remove barriers to cycling
- **224** pupils trained as "Sheriffs" to be ambassadors for the programme

Road Safety



- **2086** year 3 pupils received practical pedestrian training during the last academic year to ensure 'active travel is also safe travel'
- Over **2100** Reception pupils and parents received practical pedestrian training to encourage active travel as a preferred choice from the outset
- Over **900** pupils at A*STARS schools trained to Bikeability level 2 or 3 standard during the last academic year, as part of an expanding Bikeability programme

3 January 2017

Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2019/20

Ward(s) All

Portfolio: Councillor S. Coughlan – Leader of the Council
Councillor C. Jones – Clean and Green
Councillor J. Fitzpatrick – Community, Leisure and Culture
Councillor A. Nawaz – Personnel and Business Support
Councillor L. Jeavons - Regeneration
Councillor D. Coughlan – Social Care (Money Home Job)

Executive Summary :

The draft revenue budget and draft capital programme 2016/17 to 2019/20, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2016, includes;

- the draft four year revenue budget, including the list of savings options previously reported, along with proposed investment and cost pressures;
- an update on the current financial performance for 2016/17;
- the draft capital programme for the four-year period from 2016/17 to 2019/20 for consultation
- feedback from each overview and scrutiny committee on draft savings options previously reported;
- progress update on public and stakeholder consultation.

This report refers the draft budget and draft capital programme on to each overview and scrutiny committee for consultation, and for any feedback to be considered by Cabinet in advance of the final budget recommendation to Council in February 2017.

The following provides a link to the 14 December cabinet report –
[Draft budget report to Cabinet 14 December 2016](#)

Reason for scrutiny:

To enable consultation and scrutiny of the draft revenue budget and draft capital programme for the four years 2016/17 to 2019/20.

Recommendation

The Committee are recommended to consider the draft revenue and capital budget, as reported to Cabinet on 14 December 2016, and make recommendations to Cabinet as

appropriate.

Background papers

Various financial working papers.

Citizen impact

Details of the potential impact of proposed savings relating to services within the remit of this committee, are shown within the individual policy papers previously reported to Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24 November 2016.

Environmental impact

The impact on the environment is considered in the draft revenue and capital budgets.

Performance management

Financial performance is considered alongside service performance. Managers are required to deliver their services within budget and there are comprehensive arrangements in place to monitor and manage this.

Equality Implications

Service managers have regard to equalities in delivering services. Equality impact assessments are undertaken as required prior to final recommendations being made to Council on the budget, along with any mitigating actions.

Consultation

Consultation is an integral part of the corporate budget process and arrangements are in hand to consult with a wide range of stakeholders (i.e. councillors, residents, service users, business sector, voluntary and community organisations, etc.). Feedback from consultation, including those from this Committee, will be reported to Cabinet, for Cabinet to review and revise their final budget recommendations to Council in February 2017.

Contact Officers:

Simon Neilson – Executive Director Economy and Environment ☎ 652004,

✉ Simon.Neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Julie Alderson – Interim Executive Director Change and Governance ☎ 655600,

✉ Julie.Alderson@walsall.gov.uk

Chris Knowles, Services Finance Manager ☎ 650392, ✉ Chris.Knowles@walsall.gov.uk

Cabinet – 14 December 2016

Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2019/20

Portfolio: Councillor S. Coughlan – Leader of the Council (Lead Portfolio)

Related Portfolios: All

Service: Finance – council wide

Wards: All

Key decision: No

Forward plan: No

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the four year draft revenue budget and draft capital programme, including a revised cash limit for 2016/17 and cash limits for the three years up to 2019/20.
- 1.2 Draft revenue savings proposals have previously been distributed to overview and scrutiny committees and stakeholders for consultation. The final budget, including any changes following consideration of consultation feedback and equality impact assessment, and following receipt of final allocations of government funding, will be presented to Cabinet on 8 February 2017 for recommendation to Council, and will be considered by full Council on 23 February 2017.
- 1.3 This report includes the recommendations from each overview and scrutiny committee on draft revenue budget savings options, along with a progress update from resident and stakeholder consultation.
- 1.4 The Autumn Statement / Spending Review was announced on 23 November 2016 and funding implications arising from this announcement, as far as they are known, are included in this report.
- 1.5 The draft capital programme for 2017/18 totals £48.57m. It sets out new capital investment funded from the council's own resources of £11.90m (funded by capital receipts and borrowing) and externally funded schemes of £36.67m (funded by capital grants) and represents a balanced programme for 2017/18. In addition, the report sets out a further two years of indicative proposals for 2018/19 to 2019/20.
- 1.6 Despite reductions in capital funding in recent years and going forward, the draft capital programme contains significant investment into highways, education, and into adult social care and housing to support vulnerable households through Health through Warmth and provision of aids and adaptations. A reserve list of new projects is also reported, where funding could be redirected in year if available.

2. Recommendations

Cabinet are requested to:

- 2.1 Note the latest forecast 2016/17 financial position and the impact of the 2016/17 position on the level of general reserves as set out in section 3.1, and actions to address this.
- 2.2 Note the financial assumptions and projections within the draft budget, the uncertainty around final funding and that these assumptions may change as the budget is finalised.
- 2.3 Note the provisional revenue cash limits by portfolio, and savings proposals 2016/17 to 2019/20 as outlined in the report to Cabinet on 26 October 2016 entitled 'Rebalancing the Budget: Options for Consultation', and that these saving proposals are currently out for consultation.
- 2.4 Note activity to date on public / stakeholder consultation as set out in this report and note that feedback from public consultation and equality impact assessments will be reported to Cabinet once complete, to allow Cabinet to review and revise their final budget recommendations to Council by February 2017.
- 2.5 Note a proposed council tax increase of 3.99% for each of the three years 2017/18 to 2019/20, the assumed level of reasonableness (inclusive of 2% precept for Social Care).
- 2.6 Note the funding reductions (3.3.11) and investment and cost pressures included in the draft budget (3.3.12 and Appendix 2).
- 2.7 Note the Secretary of State's confirmation that Walsall is now part of the Multi-Year Settlement offer.
- 2.8 Note the feedback from overview and scrutiny committees on revenue proposals to date and consider this feedback in preparation for final budget recommendations in February (Appendices 6a-6c).
- 2.9 Approve amendments to the 2016/17 capital programme as set out in section 3.4.1.
- 2.10 Approve the use of the 2016/17 £147k underspend to fund essential ICT works in year, as outlined in section 3.4.2.
- 2.11 Approve as a basis for consultation the current draft capital programme of £48.57m for 2017/18, and an indicative capital programme of £32.70m for 2018/19 and £32.87m for 2019/20, and refer the draft capital programme to all overview and scrutiny committees for consultation to enable their comments to be considered by Cabinet on 8 February 2017.

3. Report detail

3.1 2016/17 Corporate Financial Performance - Update

3.1.1 The 2016/17 budget was approved by Council on 25 February 2016, and is monitored and reported throughout the year to address key risks and pressures as they arise. Cabinet receives regular financial reports to allow it to oversee the financial performance of the council.

3.1.2 A number of significant risks and pressures have emerged during 2016/17 that has required action to be taken to limit the council's exposure. After corrective action, there remains a predicted variance above budget of £6.54m, after the use of reserves and assuming successful delivery of action plans (based on the October forecast). To assist in reducing the current reported overspend, an 'Every Penny Counts' initiative was endorsed by Cabinet to review expenditure and ensure only spend crucial to delivery of council priority services is incurred. To date, this has realised £4.4m of underspends which are included in the forecast.

3.1.3 The main variances are summarised as follows: -

- *Children's Services* - current forecast overspend prior to mitigating action and use of reserves is £4.89m. In year actions totalling £3.2m have been delivered to date, including the use of earmarked reserves of £1.55m and restraint on expenditure of £1.02m, resulting in a remaining forecast overspend of £1.69m. The main pressures continue to be the rising cost of looked after children including residential placements, along with one off costs associated with new adoption orders.
- *Economy and Environment* - currently forecast to be underspent by £582k after initiating the every penny counts restraint on expenditure action. This is largely due to salary underspends, particularly in libraries, and general underspends across the directorate. This is partly offset by shortfalls in markets and planning income.
- *Change and Governance* - currently predicting an overspend of £2.49m prior to corrective action. General restraint on expenditure has released £1.11m, corrective action of £677k has been delivered, and a further £563k remains to be delivered in year, reducing the overspend to £150k. The main pressures relate to a shortfall in building design fees, increased maintenance costs and welfare reforms, partly offset by underspends within support services.
- *Adult Social Care* – currently forecasting an overspend of £7.55m prior to any corrective action. The restraint on expenditure has released £330k, corrective action of £1.26m have been delivered, with a further £136k to be delivered in year, reducing the overspend to £5.82m. The main pressures relate to placement and package costs arising from the increasingly ageing population and pressure from hospital admissions.
- *Central budgets* - currently forecasting an underspend of £525k, due to savings being made ahead of 2017/18 and a reduction in central leasing costs.

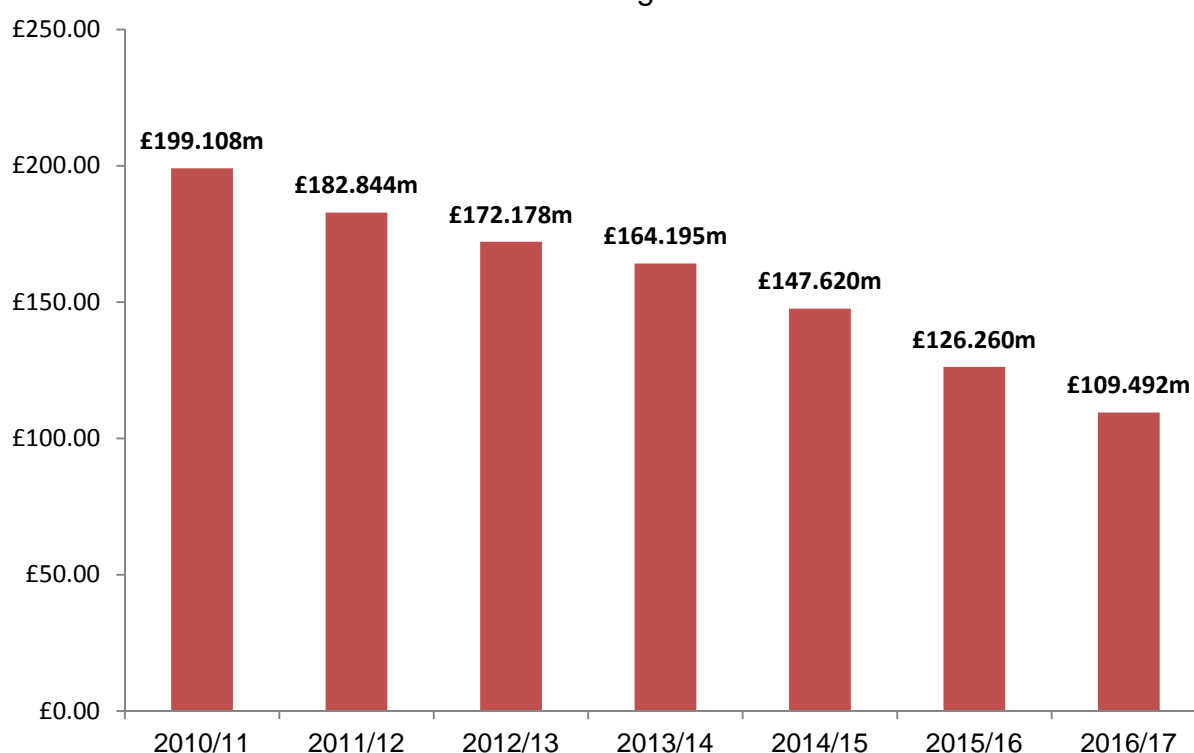
3.1.4 The above impacts on general reserve balances. General reserves were £14.131m as at 1 April 2016, of which £349k was approved by Council to be used to support the 2016/17 budget and £1.245m has been approved in year. A year end overspend of £6.545m would reduce reserves to £5.992m. The level of opening reserves, as

required by the medium term financial strategy, is c£6.2m. The maximum amount required is currently £12.4m. As the current level is forecast to be below the level required as at 1 April 2017, then replenishment will be undertaken as part of the budget setting process for 2017/18 and beyond. The final level of reserves recommended by the Chief Finance Officer will be reported to Cabinet and Council in February, and will be subject to a comprehensive and ongoing risk assessment of the robustness of budget estimates, the robustness of saving delivery plans, and an overall assessment of the level of current and future risk facing the organisation.

3.2 **Medium Term Financial Outlook - Financial Context**

3.2.1 The vast majority of Walsall's funding comes from Government grant. In 2010, Walsall received £199m of Government core funding support to deliver services, alongside income generated from council tax. Between 2010 and 2016, Government has cut funding by £90m. Alongside cost pressures over the same period savings totalling £137.5m have had to be implemented.

Government Funding 2010/11 to 2016/17



Figures have been adjusted to add back any specific grants which have rolled into general funding

By the end of the current Parliament, Walsall will be subject to a further reduction in revenue support grant of £28.21m, which, along with cost pressures, results in an additional savings requirement of £55m from 2017/18 to 2019/2020, on top of the £31m required for 2016/17 (£86m over the four years). Total forecasts for core funding are shown overleaf.

	2016/17 £M	2017/18 £M	2018/19 £M	2019/20 £M	Total (Reduction) / Increase £M
NNDR (BRR) Income adj for expected income collection	30.311	30.917	31.814	32.832	2.521
NNDR Top Up grant	33.421	34.079	35.084	36.205	2.784
Revenue Support Grant	45.759	33.757	25.687	17.551	(28.208)
Total Cash Limit	109.491	98.752	92.584	86.589	
2017/18 Reduction		(10.739)			
2018/19 Reduction			(6.168)		
2019/20 Reduction				(5.995)	
Total Reduction					(22.903)

By 2020/21 local government is expected to become fully self-funding, with core revenue support grant ceasing and the introduction of 100% localisation of business rate retention (BRR), (as opposed to the current 49%). The Government expects national increases in growth in rate yields to fully offset the reduction in core funding. The reality is that Walsall, due to its relative need and business rate yield, will be unable to fully cover this further significant funding shortfall.

In October, Cabinet approved that Walsall be part of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) 100% business rate retention (BRR) pilot. Government has indicated that this will be at 'no detriment' to participating authorities; however there remains some uncertainty as to the final impact of full BRR.

The council's next largest source of funding is council tax (16% of the council's gross spend is funded from council tax). Government has historically placed restrictions on the amount that can be raised from this income stream, previously through 'capping', and now through the referendum principles. The draft budget currently assumes council tax increases of 3.99% over the next three years, including a 2% adult social care precept, as allowed by Government.

Despite Walsall signing up to and being accepted for the multi-year settlement, future funding continues to be very challenging with significant uncertainties in future grant, including public health, better care fund, etc. Additionally, as part of BRR, the Government is consulting on transferring additional responsibilities to local authorities. This could lead to further pressures if these are not fully funded.

3.2.2 Alongside reductions in funding, the council also faces increasing cost pressures, due both to increasing demand (for example, as a result of welfare reforms reducing individuals disposable incomes further, larger numbers of older people requiring support to remain independent, etc) and new burdens imposed by Government, but without the corresponding funding. There are numerous cost pressures in the system, the most significant being;

- Looked after children numbers and costs. There were 488 in March 2011, compared to 629 in March 2016. Average costs of a care package for a looked after child at March 2016 was £497.48 per week.
- Childrens social worker post costs - arising from recruitment difficulties.

- Adult social care packages and placements costs. These have risen by £10.64m in 5 years from £56.21m in 2010/11 to £66.85m in 2016/17.

Further information on cost pressures and how these are being managed within the medium term financial outlook are outlined in the Investment section of this report (3.3.12).

3.3 Draft Revenue Budget 2016/17 to 2019/20

- 3.3.1 Revenue savings proposals for 2017/18 to 2019/20 were reported to Cabinet on 26 October 2016 entitled 'Rebalancing the Budget: Options for Consultation'. These were referred for public consultation.
- 3.3.2 This report contains the first draft revenue budget including:
- Funding assumptions and changes, including core, specific and income arising from council tax and fees and changes,
 - Provision for investment and cost pressures,
 - Revenue savings proposals as report to October Cabinet
- 3.3.3 The report includes a revised cash limit for 2016/17 and provisional cash limits for 2017/18 to 2019/20. 2016/17 has been provisionally revised to correct the current overspend situation and virements will be undertaken once approved by Council.
- 3.3.4 The 2016/17 budget has been revised to reflect ongoing changes in council demand, specifically within Adult Social Care for supporting an increased ageing population, and increased numbers of looked after children and placement costs within Children's Services. The current ongoing pressures which has resulted in this overspend are being corrected on an ongoing basis as part of the 2017/18 plus budget setting process.
- 3.3.5 The budget is an evolving process, with recognition that proposals may change as the budget develops. The council awaits publication of the draft settlement for 2017/18 (and future years following acceptance of the council's application for a Multi-Year Settlement agreement) which may have implications on the current proposals, and will be reported in the final draft budget report to Cabinet on 8 February 2017.
- 3.3.6 The 2017/18 revenue budget is constructed in accordance with the council's medium term financial strategy (MTFS), the Corporate Plan, and all relevant corporate financial protocols, using known and estimated pressures, and best professional judgements. It is recognised that these assumptions may change and assumptions are reviewed frequently, robustly risk assessed and updated as appropriate. These assumptions are underpinned by a set of core financial principles (as set out in the MTFS) which include:
- A. Our financial planning will be inextricably linked to the council's strategic and corporate planning process. Our financial plans will reflect the councils' key strategic priorities
 - B. A longer term approach to financial planning and budget setting, allowing for a more strategic focus to service re-design and savings aligned to the longer term priorities of the council
 - C. A focus on the need to deliver significant efficiencies savings over the period

- D. A prudent assessment of future resources and cost pressures, provisions and reserves required to mitigate future liabilities
- E. Maximisation of income and external funding and prompt collection of income

Key financial planning assumptions within the current MTFO include:

- Core government funding as published in February 2016, for the four year period, adjusted for actual growth in business rates retention for 2016/17
- Business rate income assumed to be inflated broadly in line with CPI, flexed each year, adjusted for estimated yields, including provision for appeals, etc,
- A council tax increase of 3.99% in 2016/17 and in each of the three years to 2019/20, of which 2% is ring-fenced to adult social care
- An annual increase in the council tax base, subject to council tax support
- Council tax collection rate of 98%
- Benchmarked increases in fees and charges, flexed for local conditions, and full cost recovery of traded services
- Inflationary increases for contractual inflation, in line with contract terms and conditions
- Full provision for pay, living wage and pension costs, including increases arising from the 2016 pension valuation and government pay policy and changes
- Provision for investment in key services, including significant provision for increasing demand in adult social care services
- Opening general reserve set at, at least the minimum required within the council's MTFS

For 2017/18, this means;

- A total draft net council tax requirement of £106.43m, with a 3.99% increase in council tax (inclusive of 2% earmarked for Social Care),
- Provision for investment, service and corporate cost pressures of £26.14m,
- Use of general and earmarked reserves of £4.86m,
- Policy and Operational savings of £25.14m

Government Funding

- 3.3.7 There remains considerable uncertainty in respect of the amount of income we will receive in Government funding from 2017/18 onwards, despite Government confirmation that Walsall is part of the multi-year settlement. The Autumn Statement was announced on 23 November 2016, however there were few key points relating to Local Government and the Chancellor reiterated that departmental spending plans remain in line with those previously published. The Government confirmed that it has changed its commitment to eliminate the current deficit by the end of this parliament. It is now forecasting a deficit of £21.9bn in 2019/20 as opposed to the surplus of £10.4bn previously forecast. There is still a commitment to return a surplus but this will now be as soon as is possible in the next parliament.
- 3.3.8 Government are expected to announce details of the financial settlement to local authorities' for 2017/18 onwards in December. Should the final allocation be less than current estimates, revised options for ensuring a balanced budget will need to be brought back for Cabinet consideration as the budget develops and information is published.

3.3.9 Uncertainty also surrounds the future treatment of the Better Care Fund (BCF) and Public Health grants, the latter currently being consulted on with respect to being subsumed within the BRR scheme by 2020. There continue to be reports (unsubstantiated so far) that BCF may reduce or be subsumed into other funding streams. The combined value of these by 2020 is £50m, therefore, any significant shift or reduction will have major consequences for the authority and require a full review of our MTFO assumptions.

3.3.10 Changes in other Specific Grants

The following specific grants are also awaited, along with the assumptions built into the draft budget

- New Homes Bonus – a predicted reduction of £1.95m over the next 3 years as the grant is expected to be paid over a reduced period from 6 to 4 years
- Public Health - a reduction of £1.4m over the next 3 years
- DSG - allocated based on schools funding formula - to be paid directly to schools from 2019/20
- Housing Benefit grant expected to reduce annually as the Benefit moves to Universal Credit
- Discretionary Housing Payments - expected reduction of 20% per annum
- Other grants are expected to continue at current levels unless informed otherwise
- Forecast £10m increase in BCF expected from 2016/17 to 2019/20

3.3.11 **Collection Fund**

The collection fund is accounted for separately to the revenue general fund and includes accounts for income collected from council tax and business rates. In January of each financial year, an in-depth appraisal is undertaken to assess the estimated level of collection (as aggregated to include that relating to the current and previous years), the likely balance of the fund and to advise the precepting authorities (Fire and Police) of their share of the council tax surplus/deficit to enable them to take this into account in their own budget calculations. The results of the assessment to be undertaken in January 2017 will be included in the final budget report to Cabinet on 8 February 2017.

- a) *Council tax* - the draft budget assumes an ongoing increase of 3.99% in council tax, to remain within existing referendum levels, 2% of which is allocated as a precept to fund Adult Social Care services. Additionally, any changes to the council tax reduction scheme impact on the collection fund.

In 2013, council tax benefit grant was replaced with a localised council tax reduction scheme to be administered by local authorities. The funding also transferred from grant to revenue support grant, and at the same time, a 10% reduction was applied. The cost of providing this is reflected in a reduced council tax base and this therefore reduces the level of income collectable from council tax. The scheme, currently offering a 25% reduction to eligible council tax payers, represents a significant cost to the council. A report on the scheme was presented to Cabinet in September and options are currently being consulted on around the level of discount applied, for inclusion as part of the budget from 1 April 2017.

- b) *Business Rates* – As mentioned earlier in the report, Walsall will participate in the West Midlands Combined Authority business rates pilot. Walsall is a significant top up authority (meaning we are a net drawer from the central element of the business rates funding, receiving £33.4m in grant in 2016/17). The pilot should allow us to assess this impact quicker than we would otherwise be able to.

The valuation office has recently published the draft rating list for the 2017 revaluation - carried out to update the valuations of assessments to reflect the changing rental market. The definition of an assessment's rateable value is an amount which reflects:

'the rent at which it is estimated the hereditament might be expected to let from year to year if the tenant undertook to pay all tenants rates and taxes and to bear the cost of the repairs and insurance and the other expenses necessary to maintain the hereditament in a state to command that rent'

For Walsall, the total of the rateable value of the new draft list is £191,269,949 compared to £175,241,999. This is a 9.1% increase, which is in line with the national average and above the West Midlands average. Although this increase has resulted in Walsall's total value increasing more than the West Midlands average, it does however result in the authority having a greater risk to its finances if this assessment was subject to any substantial successful appeal.

Comparison of actual business rates income compared with what the Government anticipate the council to collect, along with provision for appeals against rate valuations, shows that historically, actual income is lower than Government estimates. We will continue to assess the implications of the new valuation list, plus the anticipated level of appeals, and the outcome will be reflected in the final budget in February.

3.3.12 Investment and Funding of Cost Pressures

The draft budget for 2017/18 includes provision for investment and cost pressures of £26.14m, as shown in **Appendix 2**, which are proposed to address known service demand pressures linked to council priorities in the Council's Corporate Plan, and the prioritisation of key services. The following are provided for:

1 *Provision for pay and pensions;*

- 1% pay increase per annum and provision for pay increments
- Provision for the national living wage
- Impact of pension auto-enrolment and tri-annual employer pensions contributions based on the latest valuation information
- Increase in national insurance employers contributions following government policy changes

The council is awaiting the final outcome of the 2016 Pension Fund tri-annual valuation. Discussions with the Fund are ongoing and include various options for payment. These include making further pensions contributions towards the past service deficit to reduce the overall costs and secure ongoing budget reductions.

- 2 *Inflationary pressures;*
 - Provision for contractual increases including utilities, care packages, etc.
 - No provision for general inflation – services are required to manage this within existing budgets
- 3 *Demographic changes within Adult Social Care and Children's Services;*
 - Increases in placement costs for Looked after children
 - Increased social workers to manage down caseloads
 - Increased care package costs within Adult Social Care arising from an increased ageing population and the pressure from hospital admissions
- 4 *Other cost pressures;*
 - Ongoing shortfalls in income for planning, markets, and building design fees
 - Review of maintenance costs for council buildings
 - Provision for the Government imposed new apprenticeship levy to be paid from April 2017

3.3.13 The movements in the council tax requirement from 2016/17 to 2019/20 are shown in **table 1**, including any corresponding fall out of previous year's one-off use of reserves.

Table 1 : Council Tax requirement 2016/17 – 2019/20 (Movements)				
	2016/17 * £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Council tax Requirement	93.70	100.99	106.43	110.96
<i>Cost Pressures:</i>				
Investment / cost pressures (<i>see Appendix 2</i>)	26.25	26.14	14.76	12.95
Base budget adjustment	2.27	(10.28)	(4.70)	12.26
Savings approved for 2016/17 (Feb 16)	(25.11)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Policy savings (<i>see Appendix 3</i>)	0.00	(16.00)	(9.67)	(18.05)
Operational savings (<i>see Appendix 4</i>)	0.00	(9.14)	(2.86)	(3.36)
Changes to grant / income	1.30	(0.44)	(3.81)	(3.82)
<i>Funding changes:</i>				
Revenue Support Grant	15.02	12.00	8.07	8.14
Business Rates	(0.29)	(3.20)	(0.52)	(0.53)
Top Up Grant	(0.28)	(0.66)	(1.00)	(1.12)
Collection fund (surplus) / deficit	(2.89)	2.90	0.50	0.00
Use of reserves – looked after children	0.00	(1.00)	1.00	0.00
Use of reserves – growth programme	0.00	(1.27)	1.27	0.00
Use of reserves – Pension reserve	0.00	(1.84)	(0.53)	(0.50)
Use of reserves – Public Health	0.00	(0.75)	0.75	0.00
One off use of general reserves – 2016/17	(0.35)	0.35	0.00	0.00
Use of earmarked reserves – 2016/17	(2.15)	2.15	0.00	0.00
Replenishment of growth reserve	0.00	0.00	1.27	(1.27)
Use of reserves - 2016/17 overspend	(6.48)	6.48	0.00	0.00
Revised Council Tax Requirement	100.99	106.43	110.96	115.66
Council Tax Increase – General	1.99%	1.99%	1.99%	1.99%
Council Tax Increase – Adult Social Care	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%

3.3.14 The revised revenue cash limits for 2016/17 and provisional cash limits for 2017/18 to 2019/20 by portfolio are shown at **Appendix 1**, and summarised in **table 2** below.

Table 2 : Cash Limits by Portfolio				
Portfolio	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Leader of the Council	6.50	4.55	5.66	5.16
Children's Services and Education	57.94	58.25	57.68	57.11
Clean and Green	19.75	18.01	17.50	16.61
Community, Leisure and Culture	11.90	7.75	6.46	4.65
Health	0.53	0.31	0.29	(1.44)
Personnel and Business Support	4.43	2.56	2.22	2.10
Regeneration	20.41	19.33	18.45	16.65
Social Care	81.95	77.48	70.39	62.51
Net Portfolio Cash Limits	203.41	188.24	178.65	163.35
Levies	12.26	12.00	11.86	11.86
Central budgets *	(108.20)	(100.29)	(79.55)	(59.55)
Use of general reserves to fund overspend	(6.48)	6.48	0.00	0.00
Council Tax Requirement	100.99	106.43	110.96	115.66

**Central budgets include direct Government funding and business rates.*

3.3.15 Saving Proposals

Savings proposals were reported to Cabinet on 26 October 2016, split into two categories, as referred to in table 1 above:

1. *Policy Options* - with a direct impact on services, and which require an Executive decision to proceed, and which are now out for public consultation and equality impact assessment. Feedback will be reported to Cabinet to allow them to consider them and to inform Cabinet's final budget proposals. The "Policy Options" are as shown in **Appendix 3**.
2. *Operational Options* – savings which officers have delegations to implement; examples include restructures, back office savings, operational efficiencies – the list of options shown in **Appendix 4**.

3.4 Draft Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2019/20

Capital Programme 2016/17 – Amendments

- 3.4.1 The capital programme reported to Cabinet on 26 October 2016 totalled £94.4m. **Table 3** overleaf shows requested amendments, resulting in a revised programme of £94.49m, which Cabinet are asked to approve.
- 3.4.2 The council funded element of the capital programme currently shows a predicted underspend of c£147k. Cabinet are asked to endorse the recommendations of Asset Strategy Group to fund the following essential ICT schemes in 2016/17 from this underspend:
 - Service improvement - cyber security (£81k)
 - Essential investment for payment card industry data security standards (£6k)

- Essential investment replacement open source (£10k)
- Council House cellar tanking (£50k)

Table 3 : Amendments to Capital Programme 2016/17	
Project	£m
Capital programme 2016/17 per Cabinet 26 October 16	94.40
Council Funded Resources	
Pocket Parks Chuckery Green and Edible Garden	0.01
HR iTrent upgrade	0.02
Rushall Skate Park (RCCO)	(0.01)
Payroll Server	0.03
Integrated Community Equipment Service Office Accommodation	(0.03)
Externally Funded	
Black Country Enterprise Zone	0.01
Accessing Growth	0.03
Revised capital programme 2016/17	94.49

Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2019/20

- 3.4.3 Capital programme resources are limited. The financing for capital investment is heavily reliant on grants and other funding received from the Government. The success that Walsall has had in securing a wide range of external funding may be harder to achieve as many of the sources of funding may stop or reduce.
- 3.4.4 The remaining flexibility is currently through capital receipts and borrowing. Capital receipts projections however are limited, and fully dependent on when council assets are sold. Earmarking of capital receipts beyond what we are statutorily obliged to do is not recommended without overall strategic consideration of the entire capital programme. Use of unsupported borrowing incurs ongoing revenue debt charges and impacts on council tax payers.
- 3.4.5 Capital allocations and grants from Government and other sources have not yet been provided, therefore best estimates have been used, based on published information to date. Any further reduction in funding will require amendments to the draft programme.
- 3.4.6 Despite the above difficulties, significant investment is planned and funded over the three years 2017/18 to 2019/20 and the draft capital programme is balanced for each year, subject to annual review. The council is able to fund existing commitments and has, through prioritisation of bids and resources and sound treasury management, been able to support new investment into key services, and areas of capital investment need.
- 3.4.7 The capital programme is presented in three parts:
- Council funded programme - funded by the council's own resources, through borrowing, revenue contributions and receipts.
 - Externally funded programme - funded from capital grants and third party contributions.
 - Leasing Programme – funded from revenue

3.4.8 **Table 4** shows the draft capital programme against predicted available resources.

Table 4 : Draft Capital Programme				
	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
<u>Anticipated Capital Resources</u>	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>
Capital Receipts	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Borrowing	4.46	5.40	5.40	5.40
Prudential borrowing (Active Living)	1.88	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prudential borrowing (Smarter Workplaces)	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prudential borrowing (Wheeled Bins)	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prudential borrowing (Libraries)	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uncommitted 2014-15 & 2015-16 underspend	1.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Use of Reserves / Contingency	0.48	1.10	0.00	0.00
Revenue contribution to capital	1.10	0.11	0.04	0.04
Additional borrowing / receipts	0.00	3.79	4.45	0.03
Total council funded resources	11.85	11.90	11.39	6.97
External Funding	60.48	36.67	21.31	25.90
Total council funded resources	72.33	48.57	32.70	32.87
<u>Capital Bids</u>				
Prior Year Approvals	2.98	0.81	1.73	0.20
Rolling Programme Schemes	4.99	3.62	3.62	3.62
New capital bids	3.13	6.72	5.29	2.40
Council wide bids	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Total council funded schemes	11.85	11.90	11.39	6.97
Externally funded schemes	60.48	36.67	21.31	25.90
Total Draft Capital Programme	72.33	48.57	32.70	32.87
Funding shortfall (surplus)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3.4.9 The list of schemes included in the draft capital programme for 2017/18 to 2019/20 are shown by portfolio in **Appendix 5**, and summarised in **table 5** as follows:

Table 5 : Draft Capital Programme by portfolio			
Portfolio	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m	£m	£m
Children's Services and Education	10.86	6.88	6.88
Clean and Green	0.05	0.10	0.00
Community, Leisure and Culture	0.47	2.39	0.41
Personnel and Business Support	3.32	1.69	0.96
Regeneration	28.02	17.09	20.15
Social Care	5.10	3.80	3.72
Centrally held budgets *	0.75	0.75	0.75
Total draft capital programme	48.57	32.70	32.87

*Centrally held relates to funding to support essential works, including health and safety e.g. LSVT retained housing land, asbestos removal, statutory testing, legionella, fire risk, demolition of redundant buildings, planned maintenance, risk management and self insured property damage.

- 3.4.10 It is predicted that all high priority bids contained in **Appendix 5** for 2017/18 can be funded. A further review of proposed schemes will be required before capital allocations are released in year. For 2018/19 onwards, the full impact of these projects will be reviewed, and funding revisited as part of the rolling annual budget process. There may be a number of schemes that will require match funding in year to secure external resources, which will be reviewed in year and funds drawn down as projects are confirmed.
- 3.4.11 Capital receipts projections are based on professional estimates of property colleagues. Any additional receipts received in year (excluding those earmarked for specific schemes) will be considered to fund projects identified on the reserve list of schemes. Reserve list schemes are referred to in **Appendix 5**.
- 3.4.12 General borrowing is funded from the council's own resources – generated through savings, and/or paid for via the council tax. Council's are allowed to borrow in accordance with the Treasury Management Code of Practice. The current capital financing cash limit is forecast to be able to support £5.4m of additional borrowing to fund high priority items in 2017/18.
- 3.4.13 As well as those in the draft programme, there are a number of large capital schemes that are in development or planning stages. It is expected that as individual business cases are developed and considered by Cabinet and/or Council, they are then included in the latest update of the draft capital programme if they are deemed to be a high priority and affordable. Funding for these will need to be identified and may be through a combination of borrowing and/ or other contributions. Where practical, a payback agreement will be implemented, whereby projects should, wherever possible be self funded over the life of the project and beyond. These will include Sneyd, Family Contact Centre, EDC, Street Lighting, Pheonix 10.
- 3.4.14 For externally funded schemes, where a bidding process is required, it is assumed the full cost of the project is met from external grant and/or third party contributions. If it becomes clear during the process that this is not the case, the project cannot proceed if the external funds cannot be sourced.

3.4.15 Draft Leasing Programme 2017/18

Leasing minimises the call on capital resources by spreading the acquisition cost over some years. Revenue funds are needed to finance operating leases. The 2017/18 draft leasing programme is summarised in **table 6** below by portfolio and will form part of the final budget report to Cabinet. The revenue implications of the leasing programme of £1.295m for 2017/18 are already included in the draft revenue budget.

Table 6 : Draft Leasing Programme 2017/18 by Portfolio		
		Revenue
Portfolio	Asset cost	Leasing
	£m	£m
Clean & Green		
Refuse Vehicles	0.13	0.37
Light Commercial Vehicles	0.95	0.48

		Revenue
Portfolio	Asset cost	Leasing
Clean & Green	£m	£m
Tractors & Agricultural Machinery	0.05	0.19
Welfare Vehicles	0.36	0.06
Sub total	1.49	1.10
Community, Leisure & Culture		
Equipment	0.00	0.20
Total Leasing	1.49	1.30

The prudential system allows borrowing to fund the purchase of leased items. This expenditure is treated as capital expenditure and not revenue. The decision to lease or buy depends on several variables, for example, the costs of borrowing and the residual value of the asset at the end of its leased life. Before each drawdown, a review is undertaken of which financing approach is most appropriate. A rigorous evaluation is then undertaken before a decision to lease or buy is made, ensuring value for money.

The prudential system requires the setting of indicators for the likely level of capital expenditure each year. Decisions to lease or buy cause total expenditure to fluctuate during the year. Therefore regular monitoring reports to Cabinet and Corporate Management Team on the council's financial performance will include prudential indicators.

4. Council priorities

- 4.1 The Corporate Plan drives the budget process which aims to support delivery of council priorities within available resources. It aims to achieve this through the delivery of efficiencies, income reviews and service reviews and redesign to redirect existing and reducing resources to areas of high council priority.

5. Risk management

- 5.1 The budget process is governed by the overarching medium term financial strategy. Risk management is an integral part of this activity and is embedded in budget preparation, monitoring and forecasting to enable potential budget variances and risks to be identified early and addressed.
- 5.2 There is a significant amount of uncertainty around Government funding for 2017/18 and beyond, with a high likelihood that austerity measures will be tightened or extended. The medium term financial outlook will need to be updated once these measures are confirmed.
- 5.3 The budget is risk assessed and this is used to formulate the recommended level of contingencies and reserves. The outcome of this will be reported to Cabinet and Council in the final budget report, along with a recommended opening level of general reserves.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1 The council must set a balanced budget to meet its legal requirements.

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 There are a number of statutory requirements which must be taken into account when the Cabinet makes recommendations to Council on the council tax requirement for 2017/18.
- 7.2 The legal duty for a council's finances falls within s151 of the Local Government Act 1972. Arrangements for the proper administration of their affairs is secured by the s151 Officer (the Chief Financial Officer).
- 7.3 Under the Local Government Act 2003 (s25), an authority must set a council tax and balanced budget, giving 14 days notice of the council tax level prior to the date of billing. The council must set a budget before 11 March of each year. This will include the Chief Financial Officer's report that deals with the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of the reserves for which the budget provides, together with an assessment of risk.
- 7.4 Local Authority Accounting Panel Bulletin 77, issued by CIPFA in November 2008, outlines the guidance on reserves. Whilst this does not prescribe an appropriate level of reserves, leaving this to the discretion of individual authorities, it does set out a number of important principles in determining the adequacy of reserves. It emphasises that decisions on the level of reserves must be consistent with the council's MTFs, and have regard to the level of risk in budget plans, and the council's financial management arrangements (including strategies to address risk).
- 7.5 The collection fund and council tax base are governed by Statutory Instrument 2012 No.2914 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012. The council is legally obliged to set the council tax base and notify the precepting authorities by 31 January each year.
- 7.6 In addition, section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires the Chief Financial Officer to '...make a report ... if it appears to him that the Authority, a committee or officer of the Authority, or a joint committee on which the Authority is represented':
 - a) has made or is about to make a decision which involves or would involve the Authority incurring expenditure which is unlawful,
 - (b) has taken or is about to take a course of action which, if pursued to its conclusion, would be unlawful and likely to cause a loss or deficiency on the part of the Authority, or
 - (c) is about to enter an item of account the entry of which is unlawful.
- 7.7 The CFO must make a report under s114 if, in his opinion, the expenditure of the Authority incurred or about to be incurred in a financial year is likely to exceed the income available to it to meet its expenditure. The report on the robustness of the budget estimates and the adequacy of reserves, and the budget risk assessment informing decisions on the adequacy of the level of reserves to hold, are key

8. Property implications

- 8.1 Any direct property implications as a result of service redesign and revenue savings proposals will be assessed as part of the council's strategic property review.

9. Staffing implications

- 9.1 There will be staffing implications arising from this report, and consultation with employees and unions has commenced in accordance with statutory and council procedures. Approximately 430 posts are proposed to be deleted from the establishment, of which 133 are vacant. Compulsory redundancies will be mitigated as far as possible through the seeking of voluntary redundancies and through access to redeployment. Appropriate support mechanisms will be made available to all employees who are at risk of and selected for redundancy.

10. Equality implications

- 10.1 An equality impact assessment is undertaken on proposals as they develop and on the overall budget. Implications along with any required action are reported as assessments are finalised. This will give Cabinet appropriate time and opportunity to then consider any revisions required to the budget as it progresses and is finalised for inclusion in the final budget report to Cabinet on 8 February 2017.

11. Consultation

- 11.1 Section 138 of the Local Government and Public involvement in Health Act 2007 placed a general duty on every local authority in England to take such steps as it considers appropriate to secure that representatives of local persons (or of local persons of a particular description) are involved in the exercise of any of its functions, among other things by being consulted about the exercise of the function. The 2010 Equality Act whilst not imposing a specific duty to consult, lays a requirement to have due regard to the equality impact when exercising its function.
- 11.2 Consultation is an integral part of the budget process and a wide programme of consultation is underway to consult and engage with a wide range of stakeholders (i.e. councillors, council tax payers, service users, and potential service users as appropriate, Non-Domestic Rate payers, voluntary and community organisations, etc.).
- 11.3 Cabinet referred all savings proposals with a direct impact on services for public consultation in October – details of which are on the 'budget have your say' page of the council's website. Service specific consultation related to individual saving options remains ongoing and will be reported to Cabinet to allow them to consider these and to inform Cabinet's final budget recommendations to Council for February 2017.
- 11.4 All overview and scrutiny committees have received the draft revenue budget options for consultation in respect of the portfolio of services falling within their remit, and their recommendations are reported at **Appendix 6**. Committees will

receive and consider any revisions to the draft budget proposals during January 2017, with further recommendations to be reported back for Cabinet to consider in producing their final budget recommendations on 8 February 2016.

- 11.5 Since 27 October 2016, consultation on proposed changes to services has been taking place and remains ongoing. Findings along with equality impact assessments will be reported to Cabinet for their consideration and to inform Cabinet's final budget recommendations to Council in February 2017. **Appendix 7** provides more detail on the ongoing consultation process and activity to date.

Background papers: Various financial working papers.

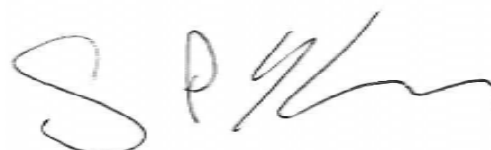
Authors

Vicky Buckley, Head of Finance, ☎ 652326, ✉ Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk

Stuart Wootton, Financial Planning Mgr, ☎ 652348, ✉ Stuart.Wootton@walsall.gov.uk



James Walsh
Assistant Director – Finance (CFO)
06 December 2016



Councillor S, Coughlan
Leader of the Council
06 December 2016

Appendices: -

- 1 Revenue cash limit 2016/17 to 2019/20 by portfolio
- 2 Summary of investments / service cost pressures
- 3 Summary of revenue policy savings by portfolio for consultation
- 4 Summary of revenue operational savings by portfolio – as approved by Cabinet
26 October 2016
- 5 Draft Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2019/20 by portfolio
- 6 Feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committees -
 - 1a Social Care and Health
 - 1b Education and Children's
 - 1c Corporate and Public Services
- 7 Summary of consultation findings to date

Revenue Cash Limit 2016/17 to 2019/20 by Portfolio

This appendix outlines the provisional cash limits by portfolio, subject to formal approval and reallocation of central costs / savings.

1. *Leader of the Council Portfolio*

Overall responsibility for Council strategy, the corporate plan, communications and public relations, emergency planning, government relations and liaison with local MPs and West Midlands leaders. Association of Black Country Authorities and Black Country Joint Committee. Strategic and operational financial management and administration, insurance, risk management, policy led budgeting. Financial Regulations, Audit, Legal and Democratic Services, Performance, Member Development.

Leader of the Council Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	6.46	6.50	4.55	5.66
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	(0.04)	(0.58)	0.03	(0.22)
Investment – see Appendix 2		0.08	1.70	0.16
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(0.04)	(0.02)	
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(1.41)	(0.60)	(0.44)
Revised cash limit	6.50	4.55	5.66	5.16

2. *Children's Services and Education Portfolio*

Services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, education services, interagency cooperation, involvement of children and young people, youth parliament, children's trust arrangements, youth offending services, youth service, schools meals commissioning, transition arrangements with Adult Social Care. Adult learning, catering services.

Children's Services and Education Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	56.25	57.94	58.25	57.68
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	1.69	(1.76)	(0.13)	(0.03)
Investment – see Appendix 2		5.50	2.07	2.80
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(1.78)	(1.68)	(2.33)
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(1.65)	(0.83)	(1.01)
Revised cash limit	57.94	58.25	57.68	57.11

3. *Clean and Green Portfolio*

Gateways and corridors, pollution control, waste strategy, refuse collection, recycling, street cleaning, parks and the Council's vehicle fleet.

Clean and Green Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	19.88	19.75	18.01	17.50
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	(0.13)	0.08	(0.03)	(0.03)
Investment – see Appendix 2		0.22	0.03	0.02
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(1.19)	(0.45)	(0.84)
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(0.85)	(0.06)	(0.04)
Revised cash limit	19.75	18.01	17.50	16.61

4. *Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio*

Area co-ordination, community engagement and consultation, community associations, voluntary and community sectors, leisure and culture services including the New Art Gallery, libraries, sports and museums. Cemeteries and crematoria. Community Safety, Safer Walsall Partnership, public protection.

Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	12.87	11.90	7.75	6.46
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	(0.97)	0.95		
Investment – see Appendix 2		0.11	0.01	0.12
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(3.82)	(0.98)	(1.53)
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(1.39)	(0.32)	(0.40)
Revised cash limit	11.90	7.75	6.46	4.65

5. *Health Portfolio*

Public health, Health and Wellbeing Board

Health Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	0.53	0.53	0.31	0.29
Base budget adjustments including funding changes		0.91	0.45	0.44
Investment – see Appendix 2				
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(1.05)	(0.47)	(2.06)
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(0.08)		(0.11)
Revised cash limit	0.53	0.31	0.29	(1.44)

6. Personnel and Business Support Portfolio

Issues relating to governance and decision making processes including the corporate plan. HR function, shared services, including ICT, procurement, facilities management.

Personnel and Business Support Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	3.35	4.43	2.56	2.22
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	1.08	(1.08)	(0.17)	
Investment – see Appendix 2		1.21		
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(0.11)		
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(1.89)	(0.17)	(0.12)
Revised cash limit	4.43	2.56	2.22	2.10

7. Regeneration Portfolio

Economic development, physical development, markets, property and asset management, Black Country Consortium, sub regional regeneration issues. Town and district centres, planning policy and local development framework. Strategic housing role. Traffic and transportation, car parks, strategic transport and highways. Business liaison and skills

Regeneration Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	20.03	20.41	19.33	18.45
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	0.38	(0.41)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Investment – see Appendix 2		0.45	0.14	0.23
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(0.50)	(0.43)	(1.53)
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(0.62)	(0.57)	(0.48)
Revised cash limit	20.41	19.33	18.45	16.65

8. Social Care Portfolio

Care services for older people and people with learning disabilities, people with physical disabilities and people with mental health needs, health partnership, community meals, supporting people, protection for vulnerable adults and transition arrangements with Children Services. Money Home, Job.

Social Care Portfolio Cash limit 2016/17 – 2019/20				
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Opening cash limit	76.95	81.95	77.48	70.39
Base budget adjustments including funding changes	5.00	(7.60)	(4.82)	(5.31)
Investment – see Appendix 2		9.88	3.68	2.95
Less: Policy Savings – see Appendix 3		(5.50)	(5.65)	(4.76)
Less: Operational Savings – see Appendix 4		(1.25)	(0.30)	(0.76)
Revised cash limit	81.95	77.48	70.39	62.51

Summary of Investments and Cost Pressures

Detail of investment / cost pressure	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
Leader of the Council Portfolio			
Democratic Services – mayoral transport income	3,964		
Capital Financing including borrowing	80,000	1,702,536	160,000
Total Leader of the Council Portfolio	83,964	1,702,536	160,000
Total Children's Services and Education Portfolio			
Looked after children caseloads - recruitment of additional social workers to reduce case loads to 12	3,800,000	200,000	
Looked after children placement costs	1,000,000		
Contractual inflation	110,000	120,000	120,000
Increase in costs relating to changes in demographics	170,000	1,140,000	1,140,000
Fall out of Education Services Grant		450,000	1,500,000
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children		150,112	
Out of borough looked after children placements	150,000		
Foster care recruitment one off cost for recruitment/advertising campaign	30,000	(30,000)	
Fall out of Youth Justice grant	40,000	40,000	40,000
Fall out of New Burdens SEND	195,188		
Total Children's Services and Education Portfolio	5,495,188	2,070,112	2,800,000
Clean and Green Portfolio			
Fall out of grant income	193,221		
Contractual Inflation	25,000	24,634	25,000
Total Clean and Green Portfolio	218,221	24,634	25,000
Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio			
Fall out of grant / correction of income levels	108,172	10,962	123,202
Total Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio	108,172	10,962	123,202
Personnel and Business Support Portfolio			
Fall out of grant – milk subsidy	12,920		
Increased maintenance costs within Integrated Facilities Management (IFM)	200,000		
Shortfall in design fee income within IFM	1,000,000		
Total Personnel and Business Support Portfolio	1,212,920	0	0
Regeneration Portfolio			
Shortfall in planning income	30,157	29,253	28,375
Contractual inflation	62,000	62,000	61,634
Fall out of ESF / ERDF grant income		29,299	32,734
Increased staffing in planning development to help meet performance requirements	80,000		
Shortfall in markets income	105,022	18,451	17,898
Continue support to Black Country Consortium	13,322		90,000
Reinstate 2016/17 saving to develop alternate income streams to cover costs not deliverable	67,200		
Reinstate 2016/17 saving for reduction in management structure	90,000		
Total Regeneration Portfolio	447,701	139,003	230,641

Detail of investment / cost pressure	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
Social Care Portfolio			
Contractual inflation including new living wage	2,087,938	2,019,626	1,960,574
Increase in costs relating to changes in demographics	1,215,495	1,433,799	974,020
Ongoing pressures in relation to cost of adults social care	4,200,000		
Joint Funding Arrangements	2,200,000		
Fall out of Housing Benefit Administration grant	100,000	81,000	
Reduction in subsidy incentive grant	18,889		15,300
Additional moderation of care – linked to savings		150,000	
Council tax reduction scheme consultancy	60,000		
Total Social Care Portfolio	9,882,322	3,684,425	2,949,894
Corporate investment			
Reinstatement part terms and conditions saving from 2016/17	1,000,000		
Contribution towards Combined Authority costs	351,045		
Increase in service demand for looked after children		2,000,000	1,000,000
Additional allocation to cover redundancy / pension costs		1,000,000	1,000,000
Allocation for revenue implications for capital programme			500,000
Apprenticeship Levy	500,000		
Pay related (to be allocated) – increment, etc.	2,313,371	2,180,344	2,159,523
Pension cost	4,529,000	1,945,000	2,000,000
Total Council Wide	8,693,416	7,125,344	6,659,523
Total investment / cost pressures	26,141,904	14,757,016	12,948,260

Summary of Revenue Policy Savings by Portfolio

These are supported by policy papers, found on the Council's consultation pages on its website and also on CMIS (26 October 2016 Cabinet meeting). Year 1 and 2 options are to be consulted on. For year 3 options, no policy document is required, as these options require further workup prior to formal consultation.

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
1	Charging for Deputyships	30,000		
2	Charging for Appointeeships		15,000	
3	Apply decrease to Members allowances at same level as decrease in staff pay. Requires a Council decision to implement.	7,055		
Total Leader of the Council Portfolio		37,055	15,000	0
4	Review and develop children centre service as part of a 0-19 Early Help locality model	208,126		
5	Review demand for transport from children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND)	100,000		
6	Review demand for SEN transport. More provision of Special School Places will reduce transport and existing travel costs			200,000
7	Review demand for Out of Borough SEN short breaks	130,000		
8	Review and reduce short breaks	100,000	100,000	
9	Reduction of spend on Looked after Children including those in Out of Borough Placements		300,000	600,000
10	Review and reduce Looked after Children numbers and associated costs	680,044	462,044	1,223,044
11	Review and reduce Children's Social Care contact service	64,000	64,000	
12	Reduce or identify alternative contribution for Children's Safeguarding Board		58,035	58,035
13	Review and reduce Youth Services and align functions to the 0-19 Early Help locality model	266,500	421,301	110,572
14	Aim to identify alternative funding to support School Improvement Services	235,599	271,198	135,599
Total Children's Services and Education Portfolio		1,784,269	1,676,578	2,327,250

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
15	Every other week bin collections – Decision approved by Cabinet 16 December 2015	460,500		
16	Reduction in Public Health investment to lifestyle services	45,000		205,000
17	Introduce charging for garden waste collections		300,000	
18	Reconfigure recycling collections to introduce 'Twin stream' collections		150,000	
19	Review HWRC site and Transfer Station provision			137,772
20	Reduction in grass cutting - large areas	27,312		
21	Consider cessation of bowling green and cricket wicket provision	58,464		
22	Reduction in herbicidal weed spraying of highways	23,750		
23a	Reduction in Street Cleansing service	250,000		
23b	Further reduction in Street Cleansing service	182,907		
24	Further review of waste collection arrangements			500,000
25	Reduce grass cutting on highway verges in rural areas	49,702		
26	Reducing green waste collection season by 1 month	30,000		
27	Reduction of one tree gang	60,000		
Total Clean and Green Portfolio		1,187,635	450,000	842,772
28	Consider withdrawal of contract with Walsall Voluntary Action (WVA)			168,795
29	Cease funding to Relate Walsall and First Base Walsall	7,500	22,500	
30	Consider withdrawing funding to Community Associations	247,900		
31	Remove Cohesion non staffing budget	74,356		
32	Option for redesign of Library service	2,900,000		
32a	Option 1 – move to a single library, home delivery and mobile service, combined with Leather Museum and Local History Centre on a single site			
32b	Option 2 – invite options for a number of libraries based on viability (cost, access, usage, social and economic need) to include home and mobile service			

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
32c	Option 3 – alternative solution within available budget			
33	Relocate Leather Museum into Lichfield Street Central Library with Local History Centre	85,720	85,715	
34	Relocate Local History Centre into Lichfield Street Central Library with Leather Museum	93,405	93,405	
35	Removal of the council's revenue subsidy to the Forest Arts	100,000	100,000	185,816
36	Removal of the council's revenue subsidy to the New Art Gallery	100,000	(20,000)	390,000
37	Additional income from Active Living to fully recover costs of Darlaston Pool and Walsall Gala baths		519,383	783,559
38	Create a Local Authority Trading company, initially to manage Active Living sports sport and leisure services	175,000	175,000	
39	Change to provision of out of hours for Community Protection service	22,370		
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		
Total Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio		3,826,251	976,003	1,528,170
41	Reduction in Public Health investment in drug and alcohol treatment services	143,000	250,000	500,000
42	Re-procurement of lifestyle services	260,000		
43	Reduction in Healthy Child 5-19 in school services	125,000		100,000
44	Re-commissioning of 0-5 services	100,000		400,000
45	Reduce scope of healthy lifestyles services			250,000
46	Cease all Public Health investment in adult weight management programmes	175,152		
47	Reduction of Public Health Stop Smoking services	200,000	200,000	
48	Cease falls prevention service			295,000
49	Reduce capacity in sexual health services			500,000
50	Reduce scope of infection control services		20,000	20,000

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
51	Reduction in the Public Health Transformation Fund investment in domestic abuse services	50,000		
Total Health Portfolio		1,053,152	470,000	2,065,000
52	Cease retirement awards	26,000		
53	Consider alternative funding for category 2 school crossing wardens	85,000		
Total Personnel and Business Support Portfolio		111,000	0	0
54	Energy saving from major street lighting invest to save		50,000	450,000
55	Reduction in the mtce of road signs	15,000		64,000
56	Reduced maintenance of road drainage following pilot on drainage and streams			72,000
57	Reduced maintenance road markings			31,500
58	Reduction in highways maintenance resulting from the re-procurement of the Highway Maintenance contract	150,000		
59	Additional reduction in Highways maintenance revenue budgets		100,000	
60	Increase cost of parking permits	6,000	6,000	6,000
61	Increasing Town Centre off street Parking Charges	15,000		
62	Introduction of an additional charge for vehicle dropped crossings to cover the costs of preparing quotations	10,000		
63	Introduction of a street and roadworks permit scheme		100,000	
64	Redesign and reduce the traffic management function		75,000	
65	Reduction in the reactive Highways maintenance budget	50,000		
66	Merge Strategic Planning team with those of other Councils		100,000	
67	Reduction in Economic Development			243,644
68	Stop cleansing after markets / collecting and disposing of market traders waste	175,000		
69	Increase district centres market fees	35,000		
70	Cessation of landscape service	40,000		
71	Removal of all economic intelligence services			60,000
72	Significant reduction in Economic Development capacity			100,000

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
73	Review of investment portfolio			500,000
Total Regeneration Portfolio		496,000	431,000	1,527,144
74	Combined Welfare Rights service, Housing Advice and Crisis Support	200,000		
75	Closure of banking hall in Civic Centre	100,000		
76	Reduction in grant to Citizens Advice Bureau	132,458	45,966	66,191
77	Consider cessation of Adult Social Care Universal Services	1,111,505	1,099,521	30,000
78	Review of respite and day services	800,048		
79a	Improving demand management for Adult Social Care	1,718,750	3,062,500	1,218,750
79b	Improving demand management for Adult Social Care		1,145,833	2,854,167
80	Housing and Care 21	137,000	295,000	590,000
81	Removal of jointly funded vacant posts	826,627		
82	Introduce an interim charge for community based services	474,894		
Total Social Care Portfolio		5,501,282	5,648,820	4,759,108
	Terms and Conditions *Approved by Personnel Committee 28 June 2016	2,000,000		
	Channel Shift – roll out of digital solutions for contacting the council			5,000,000
Total Central savings / funding changes		2,000,000	0	5,000,000
Total Policy Savings		15,996,644	9,667,401	18,049,444

Appendix 4

Summary of Revenue Operational Savings by Portfolio – as approved by Cabinet 26 October 2016 (subject to employee and trade union consultation, and equality impact assessment)

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
Leader of the Council Portfolio				
83	Increase in income by the Insurance team	40,678	26,313	
84	Dividend review – Birmingham Airport	419,835	304,453	311,437
85	Treasury management – review of debt portfolio	85,646	173,855	
86	Treasury management – rescheduling of existing borrowing	500,000	0	0
87	Review and restructure in Finance and Financial Administration	309,191	65,472	65,003
88	Review of staffing in Legal Services	45,396	31,612	62,433
89	Review of Internal Audit Contract	13,000		
Total Leader of the Council Portfolio		1,413,746	601,705	438,873
Children's Services and Education Portfolio				
90	Reduce administrative support	217,952	333,010	403,313
91	Review and reduce Early Help 0-19 model			100,000
92	Restructure business intelligent functions	100,000		
93	Review demand for SEN short breaks		23,000	140,000
94	Review and reduce Children's Social Care Provider Services	130,000		
95	Reduce agency social workers	494,000	227,000	227,000
96	De-layering Children's Services management	405,596	193,135	43,135
97	Review and reduce Children's Social Care Workforce Training & Practice Development	97,256		44,744
98	Redesign and reduce School Support Services	72,924		
99	Review and reduce Children's Youth Justice Services or identify alternative contributions		50,000	50,000
100	Increase income from traded activity within Information, Advice and Guidance Services	50,000		
101	Redesign and reduce School Support Services – charging of DBS checks	77,000		
Total Children's Services and Education Portfolio		1,644,728	826,145	1,008,192
Clean and Green Portfolio				
102	Redesign of management roles	56,216		
103	Reduction in management	37,451		
104	Removal of one post within Strategy Management	88,743		
105	W2R PFI contract income	270,000		
106	Waste collection 4 day working week over a Monday to Friday	146,190		
107	Service redesign – Operational Team Leaders	14,000	7,000	
108	Reduction of Operational Manager		48,410	
109	Efficiency savings within Clean and Green	45,000		
110	Changes to working practices – legal HGV driver maintenance checks	60,000		

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
111	Reduction in grounds winter maintenance works	120,000		
112	Fleet services redesign			40,000
113	Charging for tipping at Fryers Road transfer station – private businesses		5,000	
114	Environmental enforcement	10,000		
Total Clean and Green Portfolio		847,600	60,410	40,000
Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio				
115	Removal of post to support community development to the voluntary sector	12,058		
116	Reduce Community Safety non staffing budget	15,000		
117	Restructure Area Management and Town Centre Management	50,000		
118	Remove council subsidy to the Creative Development Team	66,998		
119	Increase bereavement fees (10% for cremations, 3% for burials)	20,000		
120	Increase Crematoria fees further (8%/6%/6%)	240,000	180,000	180,000
121	Registrars to cover all direct costs by 2018/19	20,000	20,000	30,000
122	Cemeteries management restructure			70,000
123	Additional income from the Active Living Centres	875,444		
124	The Sports Development team to become self sustaining	61,934		
125	Staff savings within regulatory / enforcement		100,000	100,000
126	Building Control management restructure	25,000	25,000	22,000
Total Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio		1,386,434	325,000	402,000
Health Portfolio				
127	Staff savings in Sports and Leisure	42,000		
128	Staff savings in Public Health	40,000		102,000
Total Health Portfolio		82,000	0	102,000
Personnel and Business Support Portfolio				
129	Management review within Integrated Facilities Management	62,392		
130	Reduce Trade Union facility time	81,000		
131	Restructure of Human Resources	546,491	101,470	102,197
132	Review of Human Resources contracts	21,000		
133	Efficiency savings within ICT	171,304	60,321	
134	Efficiency savings across Procurement	8,860	8,783	17,340
135	Contracts review	1,000,000		
Total Personnel and Business Support Portfolio		1,891,047	170,574	119,537
Regeneration Portfolio				
136	General efficiencies within Planning, Engineering and Transportation			10,000
137	Full year effect of re-procuring highways maintenance contract		50,000	
138	Restructure lighting maintenance support		14,000	

Saving reference	Detail of saving / efficiency	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £
139	Reduction in highways maintenance asset management budget	15,000		
140	Introduce new Asset Management practices		25,000	25,000
141	Reduction in the Pollution Control supplies and services budget	10,000		
142	Review charges for the naming and numbering service	10,000		
143	Review of Pollution Control service and reduction in resource	15,000		
144	Further review of Pollution Control		42,000	
145	Review arrangements for winter service salt purchase	15,000		
146	Review of parking warden contract	25,000		
147	Parking warden contract re-procurement			50,000
148	Traffic signal energy efficiencies	1,000		
149	Deletion of vacant post in highways maintenance service	42,000		
150	Lighting PFI budget one off contribution	100,000		(100,000)
151	One off use of bus lane enforcement reserve	50,000	(50,000)	
152	Use of grant reserves to replace LLPG ICT costs for one year only	20,000	(20,000)	
153	Staffing review within Development and Delivery	101,930		
154	Management reduction in Development and Delivery	61,086		
155	Reductions in services provided by Economy & Environment Directorate Support	60,000	61,000	50,000
156	Reduction in senior management capacity		100,000	100,000
157	Asset Management review	100,000	350,000	350,000
Total Regeneration Portfolio		626,016	572,000	485,000
Social Care Portfolio				
158	Review and restructure across Money Home Job	673,679	300,000	764,000
159	Removal of vacant posts and restructure of staffing across Adult Social Care	495,303		
160	Restructure of management within Safeguarding	80,212		
Total Social Care Portfolio		1,249,194	300,000	764,000
Total Operational Savings		9,140,765	2,855,834	3,359,602

Appendix 5

Draft Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2019/20 by Portfolio

Capital project	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Source of funding
Children's Services and Education Portfolio				
Two year old provision placements funded from revenue contribution from Schools DSG resources	1,097,642			Council
Basic Need - Estimated DfE allocation	4,101,269	4,101,269	4,101,269	External
Devolved Formula Capital - Estimated DfE allocation	553,772	553,772	553,772	External
Capital Maintenance - Estimated DfE allocation	2,222,387	2,222,387	2,222,387	External
Fibbersley School – rephasing school expansion project	1,915,129			External
King Charles School – rephased school expansion project	967,500			External
Total Children's Services and Education	10,857,699	6,877,428	6,877,428	
Clean and Green Portfolio				
Broadway West playing fields – improvements to car park to compliment recent remediation of playing surface, and refurbish/improve existing changing room provision	50,000	100,000		Council
Total Clean and Green Portfolio	50,000	100,000	0	
Community, Leisure and Culture Portfolio				
CCTV upgrade to equipment	250,000	100,000	100,000	Council
Improvement to Walsall Gala Baths - brine pool and filter replacement		340,000		Council
Darlaston Swimming Pool refurbishment – to provide a higher standard of customer experience, to make it more attractive to users		150,000		Council
Willenhall Lawn Cemetery extension – development of land for burials in Walsall		1,154,219	176,571	Council
Memorial Safety in Walsall cemeteries - ensuring that Walsall Council complies with statutory obligations to provide a safe environment in its eight borough cemeteries	40,000	40,000	40,000	Council
Streetly Crematorium - Installation of air conditioning units and refurbishment of public toilets		160,000		Council
Proactive repair of roads and pathways in Walsall Cemeteries		100,000	100,000	Council
Second phase of Register Office renovation		350,000		Council
Leisure management system	88,000			Council

Capital project	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Source of funding
New Art Gallery – contribution from HLF and WM&G Development Fund to upgrade of building management system and facilities	88,334			External
Total Community, Leisure and Culture	466,334	2,394,219	416,571	
Personnel and Business Support Portfolio				
Essential refurbishment of the Council's digital data storage facilities	1,224,081			Council
Essential maintenance, warranty extension and eventual replacement of Council server	75,200	229,000	229,000	Council
Essential investment to remove cyber attack vulnerabilities	98,000			Council
Essential warranty extension and replacement of hardware for Council's Financial systems	30,000		155,000	Council
Procurement of system for Human Resources management and Oracle financials	719,000		525,621	Council
Service improvement for single mobile device management solution (removal of Blackberry technology)	76,000	51,000	51,000	Council
Essential Microsoft upgrades and foundation for Office 365	102,000	225,000		Council
Essential maintenance for data storage growth	78,000			Council
Essential investment in information security classification and secure data transfer tools		55,000		Council
Service improvement initiative – Windows 10 laptop/tablet device deployment for senior managers		126,000		Council
Redesign of school kitchens to meet health and safety, food and fire regulations	250,000	250,000		Council
Council House building management system to control and monitor mechanical and electrical equipment (ventilation, lighting, power, fire and security systems)	70,000			Council
Council House photovoltaic panels to be installed on the roof of the building to utilise natural energy source		150,000		Council
Civic Centre heating	600,000	600,000		Council
Total Personnel and Business Support	3,322,281	1,686,000	960,621	
Regeneration Portfolio				
Highways maintenance improvements to uneven cobble stones at High Street	70,000			Council

Capital project	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Source of funding
Hatherton Road multi-storey car park – development of demolition plan to address structural repair issues	200,000	1,375,000		Council
Migration of existing Urban Traffic Control analogue communication network - The communications network used to control parts of the traffic signal network has been in place for over 25 years and is based on obsolete analogue technology which is in need of replacement.	185,000	155,000		Council
Traffic Signals - Replacement of obsolete traffic signal control equipment – Prior year approval - the Council has a statutory duty to maintain all its traffic signal infrastructure and this provides a programme of planned pedestrian crossing replacements to ensure the safe and efficient movement of pedestrians	200,000	200,000	200,000	Council
Provision of community dropped crossings along footways to permit access for wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters	20,000	20,000	20,000	Council
Highway Maintenance Programme – Council has a legal responsibility to maintain the highway network	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,800,000	Council
Highway Maintenance DfT Challenge Fund Local Contribution - The application for challenge funding revolved around the economic benefit of investment into the strategic highways of the region. In order to access this funding a contribution of 11% is required.	223,000			Council
Walsall Town Centre Public Realm Improvements. It is proposed that the public realm across the town centre needs to be surveyed, with specific regard to the upcoming and future town centre developments	100,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	Council
Darlaston Strategic Development Area Access Project - The project was developed in response to poor traffic access to and through the Darlaston Green area, especially for heavy goods vehicles.	300,000			Council

Capital project	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Source of funding
Highways maintenance DfT Challenge Fund – investment for strategic highway network	1,800,000			External
LTP Highway Maintenance Programme – distributed by the Integrated Transport Authority to maintain our highways network	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	External
West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan (STP) - The programme is designed to address road safety issues, progress the Council's major scheme aspirations; and resource 'local contributions' to approved major schemes	1,283,000			External
Growth Deal - The Growth Deal will create the skills, connections and locations for further high value manufacturing success and support growth in the Black Country's automotive, aerospace and construction sectors	18,440,070	9,137,422	13,728,216	External
Total Regeneration Portfolio	28,021,070	17,087,422	20,148,216	
Social Care Portfolio				
Mosaic implementation phase 3 (financials) – social care case management system	747,130			Council
Mosaic mobile working – provision of mobile tablet technology for Social Care workforce within both Adult and Children's Services to aid working practices	634,076			Council
Aids and Adaptations, Preventative Adaptations and Supporting Independence – Assists households to maintain greater independence and live in their homes for longer through providing low cost adaptations, and assistance with community projects to enable residents to access local services. Supports the statutory requirement to provide disabled facility grants (lifts, hoists)	750,000	750,000	750,000	Council
Health through warmth – continuation of project up to March 2020 – to help provide a safety net for those who can't access other funding sources, available as a loan charged on the property that is repaid upon sale or relevant transfer of their home.	75,000	75,000	75,000	Council

Capital project	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Source of funding
Willenhall Lane travellers site redesign and refurbishment of plots		85,000		Council
Disabled Facilities Grant – this project directly supports the council’s statutory requirement to provide disabled facility grants (DFGs). The project has a direct positive impact on the number and subsequent varied costs to the council from the increasing level of demand for home adaptations.	2,895,213	2,895,213	2,895,213	External
Total Social Care Portfolio	5,101,419	3,805,213	3,720,213	
Centrally held budgets				
Funding to support essential works including health and safety, and other projects that cannot be programmed at start of year e.g. Asbestos removal, statutory testing, legionella, fire risk, statutory testing of buildings, demolition of redundant buildings, general repair and maintenance	750,000	750,000	750,000	Council
Total Centrally Held budgets	750,000	750,000	750,000	
Total Draft Capital Programme	48,568,803	32,700,282	32,873,049	

Further strategic schemes will be subject to a separate business case to be reported to Cabinet in year and will be included in the latest update of the draft capital programme when confirmed. Where practical, a payback agreement should be implemented, whereby projects should, wherever possible be self funded over the life of the project and beyond.

The following summarises the reserve list of schemes, which will be released in year subject to funding being confirmed and linked to council priorities:

- Family Contact Centre provision
- Shared heating system for EDC and Rushall JMI
- Sneyd PRU / SEN project
- Increased capacity in Special Schools
- Promotion of Community Health and Safety
- Further provision for Aids and Adaptations / Preventative Adaptations and Supportive Independence as required
- Further provision for Health Through Warmth – tackling fuel poverty as required

Rebalancing the Budget: Options for Consultation - Recommendations of the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee following Budget Consultation

Summary of report

This report presents the comments and recommendations from the Social Care and Health overview and scrutiny committee following consideration of the draft revenue budget options for consultation for 2016/17 to 2019/20 at the committee's meeting on 16 November 2016. This will enable consideration by Cabinet on 14 December 2016.

All overview and scrutiny committees have received the draft revenue budget options for consultation in respect of the portfolio of services falling within their remit. Any changes to these options, following consultation, along with the draft capital programme, will be reported to a future meeting of the Committee, providing an opportunity to make further recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet are requested to consider the feedback contained within this report in formulating their draft budget proposals.

Response to the draft budget options

Savings reference 41 – Reduction in the Public Health investment in Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Concern was expressed that this should be a priority for the Local Authority. It was noted that this proposal was for the programme which delivers drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services and this should be protected. Committee members highlighted the wide ranging impact and devastating effects that drugs and alcohol have not just on the individual but their families and, sometimes, local neighbourhood.

Savings reference 44 – Re-commissioning of 0-5 Services

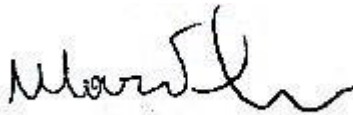
The Committee expressed concern that this may impact upon infant mortality rates. It was noted that this had always been of particular concern to the Committee.

The Panel Resolved:

The Committee note and acknowledge the savings proposals relating to Public Health and Adult Social Care, and support the approach taken to savings proposals. However the Committee expresses concern in relation to saving reference 41 and strongly recommends that Cabinet reconsider this proposal.

Author - Nikki Gough, Democratic Services Manager,
☎01922 654767
nikki.gough@walsall.gov.uk

Signed:



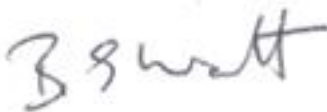
Councillor M. Longhi
Chair, Social Care and Health Overview and
Scrutiny Committee

Signed:



Paula Furnival
Executive Director
Adult Social Care

Signed:



Barbara Watt
Director of Public Health

Rebalancing the Budget: Options for Consultation - Recommendations of the Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee following Budget Consultation

Summary of report

This report presents the comments and recommendations from the Education and Children's services overview and scrutiny committee following consideration of the draft revenue budget options for consultation for 2016/17 to 2019/20 at the committee's meeting on 22 November 2016. This will enable consideration by Cabinet on 14 December 2016.

All overview and scrutiny committees have received the draft revenue budget options for consultation in respect of the portfolio of services falling within their remit. Any changes to these options, following consultation, along with the draft capital programme, will be reported to a future meeting of the Committee, providing an opportunity to make further recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet are requested to consider the feedback contained within this report in formulating their draft budget proposals.

Response to the draft budget options

Saving reference 7 – Review demand for Out of Borough Special Educational Need Short Breaks

Concern was expressed that Bluebells would not be able to meet the needs of some of the individuals currently using Out of Borough commissioned respite.

The Executive Director advised that Bluebells was an impressive facility which would be able to meet the vast majority of individuals needs. As such, if the needs of individuals could be accommodated, they would be transferred from Out of Borough short break provision. It was emphasized that a full needs assessment would be carried out before any decisions were taken. In closing, it was stated that to maximise efficiency Bluebells needed to run to capacity and at present it is not.

A Committee Member advised that there was a significant demand for the service. However, many individuals were not being assessed. The Executive Director (Children's Services) advised that this would be considered during the assessment and review process.

Saving reference 8 – Review and reduce short breaks

Concern was expressed that the level of need of individuals accessing short breaks could mean that they were unable to access term-time after school clubs and school holiday clubs. It was asked, in light of this, whether the saving of £200k was realistic.

The Executive Director (Children's Services) advised that benchmarking with other Authorities had taken place. Walsall had, historically, offered a high level of support in comparison to other authorities and the resource was no longer available to continue at that level. He advised that the saving was achievable and that support would be offered appropriately.

Saving reference 9 - Reduction in spend on Looked after Children including those in Out of Borough Placements

It was asked whether this saving was realistic and achievable.

The Executive Director (Children's Services) advised that a number of strategies were in place to deliver this saving. It is a challenge, but more must be done to discharge children from care more quickly.

Saving reference 13 – Review and reduce Youth Services and align functions to the 0-19 Early Help locality model

It was asked how the implications of implementing this saving proposal would be mitigated.

The Executive Director (Children's Services) advised that the model proposed would have some resource available to deliver focussed work. It was anticipated that the voluntary and community sector would deliver some provision in future.

The Chair expressed concern that the voluntary and community sector would be expected to fill the void as funding to them became more challenging.

Saving reference 14 – Cease or identify alternative funding for the School Improvement Service

The Committee supported the School Improvement Service and noted that it had contributed significantly to school improvement. It was suggested that support would still need to be offered to mainstream schools and so use of the word 'cease' at 2.1 on page 45 of the report as submitted was misleading.

The Assistant Director (Access and Achievement) noted the point made.

The Panel Resolved:

That the savings proposals be noted.

Author

Neil Picken

Senior Democratic Services Officer

☎01922 654369


Neil.picken@walsall.gov.uk

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Haley'.

David Haley
Executive Director
Children's Services

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Towe'.

Councillor C. Towe
Chair, Education and Children's Services
Overview and Scrutiny Committee

28 November 2016

Rebalancing the Budget: Options for Consultation - Recommendation of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee following Budget Consultation

Summary of report

This report presents the comments and recommendations from the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee following consideration of the draft revenue budget options for consultation for 2016/17 to 2019/20 at the committee's meeting on 16 November 2016. This will enable consideration by Cabinet on 14 December 2016.

All overview and scrutiny committees have received the draft revenue budget options for consultation in respect of the portfolio of services falling within their remit. Any changes to these options, following consultation, along with the draft capital programme, will be reported to a future meeting of the Committee, providing an opportunity to make further recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet are requested to consider the feedback contained within this report in formulating their draft budget proposals.

Response to the draft budget options

Clean and Green

Saving 17 – Introduce charging for garden waste collections

The Committee explored this proposal in depth. Members queried a number of areas, including the appropriateness of the fees, how the policy would be enforced in year 2 and whether or not there would be discounts for pensioners. The Committee were concerned that some residents would choose not to participate in the scheme and put their garden waste into the black bin for landfill. The view was also expressed that the introduction of a fourth wheelie-bin could cause problems for some households.

Communities, leisure and culture

Savings 32, 32a, 32b, 32c – proposals for a redesigned library service

As part of their considerations of this item the Committee heard representations from the 'Save Streetly Library' campaign.

Members were concerned about the potential impact this saving could have on local communities. Members felt that proactive engagement work with local community groups should be taking place in order to develop alternative provision should local libraries have to close. The Library Service was highly valued by the local community. The future role of libraries was discussed. It was felt more could be done to modernise the service, such as increasing electronic book loans.

Saving 36 – removal of the council's revenue subsidy to the New Art Gallery

As part of their considerations of this item the Committee heard representations from a Trustee of the New Art Gallery (NAG).

The Committee were concerned about the potential impact of the loss of funding to the NAG. Members felt that there were opportunities to work with the NAG and its supporters to preserve its future. It was noted that if the Council withdrew its grant then this could see the Arts Council choose to reduce their revenue support too. The NAG was a gallery of international standing and attracted a significant number of visitors to the area. Consideration could be given to charging for some exhibitions. A Member also suggested that consideration could be given to closing the NAG on a Sunday.

Members were concerned that no cost projections had been made regarding the storage costs of the Garman-Ryan Collection should the NAG close after not being able to meet the proposed budget savings.

Personnel and business support

Saving 53 – consider alternative funding for category 2 school crossing wardens

A Member commented that schools should consider how they can contribute to maintaining category 2 crossing wardens moving forward. It was noted that some schools had substantial reserves.

Regeneration

Saving 58 – reduction in highways maintenance resulting from the re-procurement of the highways maintenance contract

Saving 59 – additional reduction in highways maintenance

Members questioned whether the introduction of these savings would have a detrimental impact on the condition of roads in the borough and potentially increase insurance claims against the Council.

Saving 60 – Increase cost of parking permits

It was confirmed that this was an increase for staff parking charges. The view was put forward that, if not already included, Members parking fees should also be increased.

Saving 61 – increase town centre off street parking charges

Members questioned whether an increase in parking charges would encourage motorists to use non-council car parks resulting in a drop in car parks income.

Saving 68 – Stop cleansing after markets/collecting and disposing of market traders waste

Members expressed concern that this proposed saving, combined with another to reduce street cleansing, could result in noticeable reduction in cleanliness in the town and district centres.

Saving 69 – Increase district centre market fees

A Member sought confirmation, which was provided, that the increase in fees would apply to Willenhall market.

Social Care

Saving 76 – reduction in grant to the citizens advice bureau

It was noted that the Citizens Advice Bureau received grant funding from more than one Council department. Members noted the outline future commissioning model of increasing provision of online help and advice.

The Panel Resolved:

- 1) Cabinet explore opportunities to work with local residents to establish community libraries;**
- 2) The budget savings 2016/17 be noted.**

Signed:



Simon Neilson
Executive Director
Economy and Environment

Signed:



Councillor A. Andrew
Chair, Corporate and Public Services Overview
and Scrutiny Committee



Julie Alderson
Executive Director
Change and Governance

Author

Craig Goodall
Senior Democratic Services Officer
☎ 01922 654765
craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk

28 November 2016

Summary of Consultation Findings to Date

Summary of consultation process and activity to date

1. Service specific consultation

- 1.1 Consultation began on 27 October and focuses on 82 draft policy options involving a saving in 2017/18 and / or 2018/19. Policy options that include a saving in later years will be consulted on at a later date.
- 1.2 Whilst most consultation closes on 9 December 2016, some specific consultation including libraries, and proposals that involve children's services and adult social care, will continue until the end of December and in some cases continue into the New Year.
- 1.3 Consultation has been designed in order to ensure that as many people as possible have access to sufficient information to allow them to make an informed comment. Policy papers grouped by portfolio have been published on the council's website www.walsall.gov.uk/budgethaveyoursay. Alongside each policy paper is the associated saving in £s and a link to a short generic online questionnaire, or where necessary, more information about the saving option and detailed consultation documentation.
- 1.4 Printed copies of the Cabinet report of 26 October 2016 'Rebalancing the Budget: options for consultation' have been made available to view in all libraries and the council's First Stop Shop.
- 1.5 The consultation has been promoted and publicised generally via the council's front page of the website, social media, plasma screens and in emails and letters. A letter/email to key partners (Borough Management Team), head teachers, businesses and community and voluntary sector organisations was sent notifying them of the consultation and inviting them and those they work with / support to have their say. 6,000 flyers and 200 posters have been distributed to a range of community buildings and voluntary organisations.
- 1.6 Services supported by key officers are leading their own service specific consultation activity which, depending on the nature of the draft proposal, varies in scale and detail. Quantitative and qualitative consultation approaches have, as far as possible, been designed to be appropriate to the audience and to facilitate informed comment. Letters and emails have been sent to service users, officers have attended existing meetings, held special drop in sessions and conducted interviews in specific locations face to face and over the phone. In doing so particular groups and communities have been targeted and supported where necessary to understand the proposal(s) and have their say. Information has been made available in alternative formats on request.

- 1.7 Central to the consultation is to understand how the draft proposals, if approved, may impact on people / communities and to seek alternative suggestions for how the savings could be made.
- 1.8 Feedback is in the process of being gathered via a range of methods. At the time of reporting the following volume of responses had been received which are being read and collated in preparation for analysis and reporting:

Volume of responses to date

	Number of responses as at 06.12.16
(All proposals) Generic budget questionnaire	259
Ref: 5 and 6 SEND transport postal and online questionnaire	165
Ref 32, 32a, 32b, 32c, 33, 34: Libraries postal survey	1,160
Ref 32, 32a, 32b, 32c, 33, 34: Libraries online survey	157
Ref 4 and 13: Children's 0-19 early help locality model (children's centres and youth services) online survey	69
CTRS postal survey	2,315
CTRS online survey	216

Please note consultation is still ongoing. These figures do not reflect those people who have responded via meetings, forums, drop in sessions, telephone and face to face interviews.

- 1.9 Letters and emails have also been received, mostly regarding libraries, the New Art Gallery, bowling greens and the budget in general.

Petitions and other community led action

- 1.10 The following e-petitions are currently live on the council's website;

- Save Bloxwich Library - 192 signatures
- Save our School Crossing Patrol Service - 215 signatures

Date – 3rd January 2017

Petitions Scheme

Wards: All

Portfolio: All

Executive Summary

The Council adopted a Petitions Scheme on 13th September 2010 in compliance with the requirements under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. The legislation required every local authority to have an on-line petition facility under which any member of the public could set up a petition on-line, and permit members of the public to sign the said petition online. The Petition Scheme has not been reviewed since this date.

Reason for Scrutiny

To inform the committee of the processes in place to deal with petitions to allow for scrutiny of these arrangements.

Recommendations

That consultation be carried out with elected members in respect of the petition scheme, and that following consultation the council considers any proposed amendments to the said scheme.

Resource and legal considerations

The petitions scheme was funded from a grant supplied by Regional Action West Midlands in March 2010, and CMIS was upgraded accordingly. The Petitions Scheme is currently managed by staff in Legal and Democratic Services.

Citizen impact

The petitions scheme is intended to increase public access and raise awareness in respect of the Council's decision-making processes which contributes towards more open and inclusive governance.

Performance and risk management issues

None directly associated with this proposal

Equality implications

None directly arising from this report.

Consultation

The recommendation is for there to be consultation with elected members of all groups.

Author

Tony Cox

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

☎ 01922 654822

✉ tcov@walsall.gov.uk

Appendix 1 - The Council's current petition scheme

Appendix 2 – Benchmarking exercise

1. Report

- 1.1 The council's current petition scheme is set out at Appendix 1. This is contained at Part 5.15. of the council's constitution. The scheme sets out the various limits governing how petitions are dealt with at 5.15, page 5. For example a petition requires 1,500 signatures before it triggers a debate at full council. The last such petition of this nature was the one in relation to Streetly Cemetery which came before council on the September 2016.
- 1.2 The statutory requirements for councils to have petition schemes were repealed under the Localism Act 2011 with effect from the 1 April 2012. Some councils have removed or amended provisions regarding petitions from their constitutions following the repeal of the statutory requirements, while others have retained the schemes introduced under the 2009 Act.
- 1.3 The council should review its petition scheme to see if it is working effectively. The council should also review the various requirements under the scheme that have been adopted since it was approved by council on the 13 September 2010. The council have already carried out a benchmarking exercise in relation to other council's petition schemes which is attached at Appendix 2.
- 1.4 The primary purpose of introducing petition schemes was to increase public access to and awareness of the decision making process which would contribute to more open and inclusive governance.
- 1.5 The main areas for consideration in relation to amending the scheme are:
 - Requirements as to who can and cannot sign a petition.
 - The numbers required to trigger various actions under the petition scheme.
 - Any other consequential amendment to improve the petition scheme.

Petitions Scheme

The Council welcomes petitions and recognises that petitions are one way in which people can let us know their concerns.

Petitions may be presented at any meeting of the Council or its Committees by Councillors or members of the public. Petitions may also be submitted by following this link [link to be inserted]. If you would like to present your petition to the Council, or would like your Councillor to present it on your behalf, please contact the Head of Democratic Services on 01922 654366 at least 10 working days before the meeting and the process will be explained to you.

What is a petition?

The Council considers a petition to be any communication which is signed by and sent to us on behalf of a number of people. For practical purposes we normally set a requirement for at least 10 signatures or petitioners before we treat the communication as a petition.

What should a petition include?

Petitions must include:

- A clear and concise statement covering the subject of a petition. It should state what action the petitioners wish the Council to take.
- The name and address and signature of any person supporting the petition.

Petitions should be accompanied by contact details, including an address for the petition organiser. This is the person we will contact to explain how we will respond to the petition.

Petitions which are considered to be vexatious, abusive or otherwise inappropriate will not be accepted. In the period immediately before an election or referendum, we may need to deal with your petition differently – if this is the case we will explain the reasons and discuss a revised timescale. If a petition does not follow the guidelines set out above, the Council may decide not to do anything further with it. In that case, we will write to you to explain the reasons.

Procedure on receipt of a petition

Upon receipt of a petition, either presented at Council, Committee or received directly by the Council, an acknowledgement will be sent to the petition organiser within 10 working days. It will let them know what we plan to do with the petition and when they can expect to hear from us again.

If the petition has enough signatures to trigger a Council debate, or a senior officer giving evidence, then the acknowledgement will confirm this and tell you details. If the petition needs more investigation we will explain to you the steps we plan to take.

If the petition applies to a planning or licensing application or on a matter where there is already an existing right of appeal, other procedures apply, we will explain these to you and refer your petition to the appropriate place.

The process for dealing with petitions is attached as an appendix hereto.

Council debate

If a petition contains at least 1,500 signatures it will be debated at a meeting of the Council. This means that the issue raised in the petition will be discussed at a meeting to which all Councillors can attend and speak. The Council will endeavour to consider the petition at its next meeting although on some occasions this may not be possible and consideration will then take place at the following meeting. The petition organiser will be given 5 minutes to present the petition at the meeting and the petition will then be discussed by Councillors for a maximum of 15 minutes. The Council will decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting. They may decide to take the action that the petition requests; not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or to ask for further information. Where the issue is one where the Cabinet are required to make the final decision the Council will decide to make recommendations to the Cabinet. The petition organiser will receive written confirmation of this decision.

Officer evidence

Your petition may ask for a senior Council officer to give evidence at a public meeting about something for which that officer is responsible as part of their job.

If your petition contains at least 500 signatories the relevant senior officer will give evidence at a public meeting of one of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The authority has determined that the response to such petitions must be given by either the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Assistant Directors or Heads of Service. The Committee may also decide to call the relevant portfolio holder to attend the meeting.

E-petitions

The Council welcomes e-petitions which are created and submitted through our website. E-petitions must follow the same guidelines as paper petitions.

Amended 3.6.15

The petition organiser will need to provide us with their name, postal address and e-mail address. You will also need to decide how long you would like your petition to be open for signatures. There will be a maximum time allowed of 12 months but you can choose a shorter period of time.

When you create an e-petition, it may take 5 working days before it is published online. This is because we have to check the content is suitable before it is made available for signature. The Monitoring Officer will make this decision.

If we feel we cannot publish your petition for some reason, we will contact you within this time to explain. You will be able to change and re-submit your petition if you wish. If you do not do this within 10 working days, a summary of the petition and the reason why it has not been accepted will be published under “rejected petitions” section of the website.

How do I “sign” an e-petition

You can see all the e-petitions currently available for signature here [link to be inserted].

When you sign an e-petition you will be asked to provide your name, your postcode and a valid e-mail address. When you have submitted this information you will be sent an e-mail to the e-mail address you have provided. This e-mail will include a link which you must click on in order to confirm the e-mail address is valid. Your “signature” will then be added to the petition. People visiting the e-petition site will be able to see your name in the list of those who have signed, but contact details will not be visible.

What can I do if I feel my petition has not been dealt with properly

If you feel that we have not dealt with your petition properly, the petition organiser has the right to request the appropriate Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the steps taken by the Council in response to your petition. In these cases it would be helpful and can improve the prospects for a review if the petition organiser gives a short explanation of the reasons why the Council’s response is not considered to be adequate. The Committee will consider your request at its next available scheduled meeting. Should the Committee determine that the petition has not been dealt with adequately it may use any of its powers to deal with the matter. These powers include instigating an investigation, making recommendations to Cabinet or arranging for the matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council. Once the appeal has been considered, the petition organisers will be informed of the results within 5 working days.

Amended 3.6.15

Appendix

Process for dealing with petitions



<i>Type of petition</i>	<i>Acknowledge</i>	<i>Refer to appropriate Executive Director and portfolio holder for direct action</i>	<i>Refer to appropriate Executive Director and portfolio holder for information</i>	<i>Refer to Overview and Scrutiny Committee for action</i>	<i>Refer to Council for debate</i>	<i>Refer to appropriate office to form part of statutory process</i>
Less than 10 signatures						
More than 10 signatures but less than 500 signatures						
Between 500 and 1500 signatures						
1500 or more signatures						
Relating to regulatory matter e.g. licensing or planning						
Amended 3.6.15						15.5 5


Amended 3.6.15

Approved by Council 18 June 2014

5.15

1

Council Name	No. to trigger full Council Debate	Representing officer to give evidence at Overview Scrutiny Committee	At least 20 people who are residents, study or work in the area	E-petition - how long open for?
Burnley	1500 - 5 minimum to present	750		6 months
Bradford	1500 - 5 minimum total 15 minimum to debate	750		6 months
Walsall	1500 - 5 minimum total 15 minimum to debate	500	No local requirement	12 months
Barnsley	X	X	Local requirement including minors.	X
Northants	2.5% of resident population of Northants. 5 minimum to present. No limit on discussion	2000	Resident population	No requirement

			The name, address and signature of any person supporting the petition. (address can be where signatory works, resides or studies. Council will validate 10% of the signatories)	
Bolton	4000 - 5 minimum to present, no limit on debate	X		12 months
Cornwall	250 to present. 5000 minimum to debate	X		1-6 Months
Solihull	2000 minimum for debate	1000		No requirement
Worcester	1250 minimum for debate.	1250	No local requirement	6 months
Telford & Wrekin	100 +. 5% of the borough population for full debate	X	No local requirement	X
Elmbridge	50+, 3900 for full debate	2600	No local requirement	90 days
South Hams District	5% (4155) of the population for full debate	X	No local requirement	X

Cheltenham	750 for full debate	750	No local requirement	x
Gosport	1500 for full debate	750	No local requirement	12 Months
Kettering	2500	2500	No local requirement	x
Swindon	10 + for consideration. 1500 full debate. 750 2 -3 ward local issue. 350 1 ward local issue	750	No local requirement	No requirement.
Slough	10+ standard petition. 1500 full debate.	750	x	x

Community infrastructure levy and S106

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Councillor Lee Jeavons, Portfolio Holder Economy, Infrastructure and Development

Executive Summary:

To offset the impacts development may have on the surrounding environment, the Local Planning Authority may consider the use of a Section 106 agreement under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to secure contributions from developers. The obligations may be in the form of community provision including affordable housing and open space or they obligations may seek to ensure works are undertaken at a certain time or particular activities are precluded for example restriction on use of a building.

The Council is also consulting on new measures to secure community infrastructure necessary to support new development through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations. These new arrangement are intended to secure financial contributions that the Council can utilise in accordance with an agreed spending list under Section 123 of the regulations. The CIL regime nationally has been the subject of a Government review, and the results of this are due to be published with or as part of the Housing White Paper proposed for January 2017.

This paper seeks to clarify the circumstances where obligations under Section 106 of the Planning Act can be secured, the overlap between obligations and the emerging CIL regime and the process for deciding on the need for and spending of resources received..

Reason for scrutiny:

The contributions received from developers are used to provide funding for a number of projects within the Borough in particular the delivery of affordable housing and open space. Accordingly decisions on how the money raised is spent can be of considerable importance to communities in the surrounding area and a degree of transparency about this process is required.

Background papers:

Cabinet – 3rd February 2016: Walsall's Local Plan – Consultation
Cabinet – 27th July 2016: Walsall's Local Plan – Pre-Submission Modifications
Consultation on Proposed Modifications to Walsall's CIL Charging Schedule
and Section 123 List:
http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/environment/planning/planning_policy/community_infrastructure_levy.htm

Resource and legal considerations:

The management of these agreements / obligations is provided for under Section 106 of the Town And Country Planning Act 1990. Such Section 106 obligations are subject to strict tests that are set out in Section 122 (2) of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as Amended):

A planning obligation may only constitute a reason for granting planning permission for the development if the obligation is—

- (a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;*
- (b) directly related to the development; and*
- (c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.*

The CIL Regulations also govern the establishment and implementation of the CIL regime.

In terms of the resources that might be generated to be spent on infrastructure, the report to the Council's Cabinet on 27th July 2016 included the following.

The introduction of a CIL regime has been estimated by the Council's consultants (DTZ, now Cushman & Wakefield) as potentially generating £4.5-£5.6 million up to 2026 for spending on the provision and maintenance of infrastructure. It is difficult to make a direct comparison with what might otherwise be collected through s106 obligations, because Government expects that resources for infrastructure will be gathered through CIL and it has tightened the rules on the collection and use of s106s (including, as of April 2015 with restrictions on the pooling of s106 contributions). For comparison, £309,000 was secured from s106 obligations in 2014-15. Some provision (on and off-site affordable housing, and site-specific infrastructure) will still be most appropriate for funding solely through s106s, but infrastructure funded through CIL cannot also benefit from contributions through s106.

The sums involved might seem large when considered in isolation, but they are relatively modest compared to the infrastructure needs of the borough.

Both Section 106 obligations and a future CIL regime will require resources, principally staff, to implement them. Previously this was done through an arrangement whereby an officer in the directorate specialised in these matters (whilst also undertaking other work). However, pressure in the Development Management service has meant that this officer is now fully employed in the

determination of planning applications. Responsibility for Section 106 obligations is now spread between officers in Development Management. There is currently no staff resource for the implementation of CIL.

Citizen impact:

The impact of any contributions received can affect residents across the Borough. In respect of monies received for public open space; this may enable the provision of new facilities, expansion of existing facilities or maintenance of equipment. Major investment into new and existing facilities may necessitate the submission of a planning application to secure consent for the works which in turn provides an opportunity for public consultation on the merits of the scheme. Affordable housing is normally provided on site as part of any new development proposal and again, is subject to the consideration of a planning application.

Environmental impact:

The collection of s106 monies does not impinge on the environment. Significant expenditure of raised funds will be subject to consideration of a planning application which will assess the environmental impact of the development. Smaller proposals which are not deemed to be development in the context of the Town and Country Planning Act, maintenance of existing equipment for example, will need to comply with relevant environmental legislation.

Performance management:

The collection and expenditure of s106 monies is monitored through quarterly reports to the Planning Committee. Because of the significant variance in the character of each agreement, there are few examples where direct comparison can be made between in terms of their performance. The large majority of s106 agreements is associated with the determination of the host planning application and the performance of these is monitored through quarterly reports to the DCLG and Planning Committee.

Equality Implications:

Equality Impact Assessments are not undertaken on the legal agreements themselves. Where significant expenditure of obligation monies requires a planning application, the process of determining each planning submission is undertaken with regard to The Equality Act 2010 as well as in the context of Walsall's Local Plans, which are themselves the subject of equality impact assessments.

Consultation:

Consultation on each planning application is undertaken with both Statutory and local consultees and also neighbours who may be affected by the development. Expenditure of s106 monies is undertaken in accordance with strategies adopted by the relevant service areas which are subject to their

relevant consultation exercises.

The CIL regulations which are currently at the draft stage have been subject to presentation to Cabinet to approve a period of public consultation and again for subsequent modifications and further consultation in Spring and Autumn 2016.

Recommendations:

That:

That the committee note the contents of the report.

That the committee should receive a report to a future meeting should the Housing White Paper make or propose significant changes to the CIL regime.

Contact Officer:

Shawn Fleet - Group Manager: Planning
Tel. 01922 650453
Email: shawn.fleet@walsall.gov.uk

Mike Smith – Planning Policy Manager
Tel: 01922 658024
Email: Mike-E.Smith@walsall.gov.uk

1. Report

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report is to update Members on the collection and expenditure of monies collected through the Section 106 process. It also looks at the role of the forthcoming Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) regulations.
- 1.2 There have been a number of planning applications made over the last few years where the proposed development triggers a financial contribution but the development has been shown to be unviable following assessment by the District Valuer.
- 1.3 For other schemes, contributions have been made, some of which are linked to specific projects and others are more general. As a consequence of Councillor enquiry, this note has been prepared to give an overview of this topic, including an explanation of both section 106 and the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2.0 Triggers for Financial Contributions.

- 2.1 When a planning application is assessed by the planning officer, the proposal is considered against adopted planning policy both local and national. Where a policy requires affordable housing, public open space or other contribution to mitigate the impact of the development, the first option is to meet that requirement on site. If this cannot be done, a financial contribution can be provided in lieu of onsite provision, so that that offsite provision can be secured.
- 2.2 Affordable housing provision is sought under Black Country Core Strategy Policies DEL1: Infrastructure Provision and HOU3: Delivering Affordable Housing and the Council's own Affordable Housing SPD. These policies require 25% of the dwellings on sites of over 15 houses or more to be provided for affordable housing. The tenure and type of affordable units sought will be determined on a site by site basis, based on best available information regarding housing need, site surroundings and viability considerations.
- 2.3 Open Space is secured under Black Country Core Strategy Policies DEL1: Infrastructure Provision and ENV6: Open Space, Sport and Recreation and the Councils UDP Policies GP3: Planning Obligations and LC1 Urban Open Space and the SPD for Urban Open Space. The calculation for the contribution is made on the number of bed spaces provided on schemes of 10 or more dwellings.
- 2.4 **Viability Assessments:** Where a developer considers it to be unviable to provide one or both contributions, they may undertake an independent assessment into the viability of the development. This should be undertaken in line with the HCA guidance in their development appraisal toolkit, details of which are freely available on the internet. This assessment is in turn assessed by the District Valuer at the applicant's expense and they will consider the methodology and assumptions made about the development costs.

- 2.5 The audited report is then provided as evidence of viability to the planning department when the applicant is seeking to provide reduced or nil contributions. Where a development is shown following appraisal not to be viable, the decision maker must consider the acceptability of the development without the contribution and weigh this against any positive impact the development may have.
- 2.6 **Section 106 Obligations.** Developers making financial contributions in lieu of onsite provision will usually want their development to benefit from the payment made. In other words, they will usually want to see the monies spent in the vicinity of the development and within a short period of time. Many will also want to see provision for the repayment of any sums which are unspent or uncommitted after a given period of time, usually 5 or 7 years.
- 2.7 The method of securing financial contributions is by way of Agreement between the Council and the applicant or a Unilateral Undertaking provided by the applicant under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. As this involves the transfer of money, this cannot be done by condition. A section 106 obligation also enables the owner/developer to enter into binding covenants with the Council to restrict the development or use of the land in a specified way; to require specified operations or activities to be carried out or require the land to be used in a specified way as well as require a financial contribution to be paid. A s106 obligation binds those with an interest in the land and the land itself and appears as part of a legal search on a property.
- 2.8 Where an applicant fails to comply with the requirements of a S 106 Agreement this is a breach of contract and the Council may pursue the applicants for costs or damages through the Courts.
- 2.9 **Expenditure of S106 Monies:** With regard to affordable housing contributions these are often sought on site. The Housing Strategy Officer is central to the decisions on the form of tenure needed ranging from social rented housing, discounted and Right-to-Buy. Not all tenure types are suitable for each site and part of the borough and the specific requirements to ensure the development is compliant with policy will depend on the characteristics of the proposal. Where off site contributions are sought, the Housing Strategy Officer will work with Registered Providers who work within Walsall. The most notable of these for this authority is Walsall Housing Group, WHG. Together, the Housing Strategy Officer and the Registered Provider will look at the needs of local communities for new housing or improvements to existing stock and bring forward planning applications as appropriate. The merits of these schemes will be assessed through the planning process if appropriate.
- 2.10 For open space contributions, these are managed by the Environmental Improvement Manager who is based in the Council's Clean and Green service area. The identification and prioritisation of projects is managed through the Council's adopted Green Space Strategy. This document is central to determining where monies should be spent to ensure that the obligations arising from each development meet the known requirements of each community.
- 2.11 The Strategy includes details of children's outdoor play areas in the borough, youth and adult facilities, the amount of equipment available, proposed play hubs some of which have been built out, natural open space and allotments. In addition

to assessing quantity, the strategy also looks at the quality of provision across the Borough.

- 2.12 In addition to identifying existing facilities, the Strategy has also undertaken an assessment of existing demand and this will be taken into account along with any new pressures generated by new development proposals. As with affordable housing, the Clean and Green Service work in conjunction with partner organisations where appropriate to ensure S106 monies are expended as efficiently as possible.
- 2.13 **Member Involvement in assessing Expenditure:** As noted in paragraph 2.9, the delivery of affordable housing is overseen by the Council's Housing Strategy Officer. The officer has early engagement with any planning applications submitted and will work with applicants to ensure the tenure, location and form of any affordable housing meets identified needs. They will also be able to take into account representations made during the determination of any planning application to ensure the final scheme best integrates with the surrounding pattern of development.
- 2.14 Members are informed of all planning applications received in the Borough through the weekly list which is emailed to Members every Friday. In addition ward members are notified of larger schemes directly by email. From this information, Members can express their views on the form of any development during the planning consultation stage and these comments will be given due consideration. At a strategic level, Housing Services have also published its Housing Strategy which has been produced in conjunction with Registered Providers, WHG, Homes and Communities Agency, private landlords and neighbouring Authorities. In addition, the Council has a Housing Allocation Scheme which is administered by WHG. The Council is represented on the relevant area Housing Groups operated by WHG by local ward Members.
- 2.15 With regards to open space provision, Member input was provided through the Green Spaces Working Group which helped direct the Green Space Strategy which in turn is used to prioritise the provision of new facilities or improvements to existing areas. As with the consideration of affordable housing proposals, Members are informed of applications through the weekly list or via direct notification of larger proposals in their Ward. Members can contact officers with their thoughts on a proposal and where appropriate, suggestions for expenditure of any S106 monies generated by a development can be made to officers for considerations.
- 2.16 Where proposals for the expenditure of S106 monies is made to officers, it is beneficial if this can be made as soon as possible to enable officers to assess the viability of delivering the scheme within the 5 years normally allowed in the S106 process. If the scheme requires its own planning permission or there may be a risk of delivery not being achieved within the 5 years, officers will highlight this and possibly suggest other mechanisms through which any S106 monies can be utilised effectively for the benefit of the community affected by the proposed development.
- 2.17 To avoid the risk of S106 monies being lost after the 5 year period if they remain unspent, officers will caution against schemes where the viability has not been

fully explored or the risks remain un-quantified. It can therefore be difficult to agree to a specific spending proposal for example at Planning Committee where there is limited scope to confirm whether a scheme can be delivered in the necessary time scales.

2.18 CIL Payments: The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations introduced a CIL charging provision for the collection of financial contributions for “infrastructure”. Each Local Planning Authority will need to adopt a CIL Charging Schedule if it intends to collect CIL payments. In Walsall, the CIL policy is being progressed alongside the Site Allocations Document (SAD). It is intended to go before an Inspector for Examination in Public in the Spring of 2017 and, hopefully, adopted thereafter. In the interim, Walsall cannot charge CIL. Once the CIL Charging Schedule comes into force it is intended that it will collect financial contributions in respect of developments that can afford to pay it: Essentially these are all residential developments that create new dwellings and certain types of retailing (retail warehouses and foodstores) -(other kinds of development cannot be shown to be able to afford to pay CIL¹. The Council’s Draft Charging Schedule, setting out all details of the rates of charges, the type of development for which CIL will be triggered and the 5 zones set across the borough for which different charges will apply is available on the Council’s website and the latest consultation closed on 19th December 2016..

The infrastructure to be provided by CIL funds includes:

- strategic transport and highways infrastructure;
- strategic utilities infrastructure for employment sites outside the enterprise zone;
- education facilities;
- open space and outdoor leisure;
- community hubs, heritage centre and other social / community related infrastructure;
- strategic flood resilience and mitigation infrastructure;
- strategic nature conservation and environmental infrastructure; and
- strategic public realm including the historic environment and heritage assets.

2.19 Any other policy requirements which necessitate specific obligations and payments of financial contributions for purposes outside of the Regulation 123 List will continue to be dealt with by s106 agreement. These are likely to include:

- site specific highway improvements such as vehicle access, junction improvements and public transport improvements necessary to make the development acceptable;
- site specific air quality mitigation measures;
- site specific public art;
- affordable housing;

¹ The CIL regulations also apply certain restrictions and exemptions for example that to be liable developments should comprise 100 sq.m. or more of net additional floorspace, and the conversion of existing buildings, social housing a developments and self-build housing are the subject of exemptions from CIL.

- site specific education facilities where required on-site such as to meet demand for a new school as part of a large development;
- site specific improvements to, and the mitigation of adverse impacts on, the historic environment; and
- site specific flood mitigation / resilience measures; and
- mitigation measures required under the Habitats Regulations 2010 in respect of impacts on European Sites within or outside of the borough.

2.20 **S106 and CIL Together.** From April 2015, changes to the CIL Regulations limited the ability of Councils to pool more than 5 (five) s106 contributions towards a single item, project or pot, except for affordable housing provisions. In other words, once 5 contributions have been made for a particular item, project or pot, no more can be collected. The purpose of this is to place greater reliance on CIL but where no CIL Charging Schedule is yet in force, it means that greater care needs to be taken in relation to the purpose for which financial contributions are collected

2.21 Consequently, where a financial contribution is made for “Urban Open Space” with the intention that it is placed in a general pot to provide Urban Open Space in the Borough, a Council is limited to collecting only 5 contributions. After those 5 have been collected, no further collection may be made. In some instances, councils feel compelled to refuse planning permission because there is no mechanism available to address the adverse effects of the development proposal.

2.22 Many Councils, including Walsall, are therefore collecting financial contributions in a more focused way, specifying particular developments, projects or pots for which the contribution is to be used. This should however be done carefully. Infrastructure projects could be separated into regions, or phases of projects. For Urban Open Space and similar contributions, collections may be specified for particular projects or areas. However, mindful of the common requirement under s106 to repay any “unspent or uncommitted” monies after a period of years, it is key to attribute contributions to a particular project for which there is a clear plan to ensure deliverability within the period.

2.23 The Council has continued to seek to progress CIL because of the potential it might offer for increased resources and increased flexibility as to how such resources might be spent. However, the likely resources are still relatively limited and the CIL regime is complex. Concerns at a national level have led to a Government commissioned review of the operation of CIL. This was due to be published as part of or alongside the Housing White Paper in November 2016, but this has been delayed until January 2017. It remains to be seen whether significant changes to CIL might be made or proposed.

DATE: 3 JANUARY 2017

**CORPORATE AND PUBLIC SERVICES FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE – FORECAST
REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN FOR 2016/17**

Ward(s) All

Portfolio:

Councillor Sean Coughlan – Leader of the Council
Councillor Jeavons – Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Julie Fitzpatrick – Community, Leisure and Culture
Councillor Jones – Clean and Green
Councillor Diane Coughlan – Social Care
Councillor Nawaz – Personnel and Business Support

Summary of report

This report summarises the forecast revenue and capital financial position for 2016/17, based on the position to October 2016, for services within the remit of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The position is a revenue underspend of £0.430m based on a net use of reserves of £4.031m. There is also an expectation that of capital resources of £76.725m there will be capital carry forwards totalling £3.407m.

Reason for scrutiny

To inform the committee of the forecast financial position for 2016/17 to allow the scrutiny of the financial performance of the services within the panel's remit.

Recommendation

To note that the forecast 2016/17 year end financial position for services under the remit of this Panel is as follows:

1. A revenue **underspend of £0.430m**, net of the use of and transfer to earmarked reserves and implementation of action plans.
2. A capital **carry forward request of £3.406m**.

Background papers

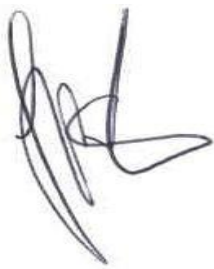
Various financial working paper

Revenue and Capital Outturn 2015/16 (Pre-Audit)

Corporate and Public Service Financial Performance – forecast revenue and capital outturn for 2016/17 (18 October 2016)

Corporate Budget Plan and Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2016/17.

Signed:

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'SN' or similar initials.

**Executive Director for Economy
and Environment:** Simon Neilson
Date: 15 December 2016

A handwritten signature in dark ink, clearly legible as 'Julie Alderson'.

**Executive Director for Change :
and Governance:** Julie Alderson
Date: 15 December 2016

Resource and legal considerations

The council is required to set a balanced budget and requires services to operate within their approved budget allocation. Any variances are required to be managed as far as is reasonably possible. The revenue and capital financial monitoring is reported quarterly to overview and scrutiny committees along with corrective action plans when variances arise. All accounting entries are undertaken in line with the required corporate and statutory accounting guidance and standards.

Citizen impact

Resource allocation is aligned with service activity and is undertaken in accordance with the council's corporate plan priorities.

Environmental impact

Services within the remit of this overview and scrutiny committee have a direct influence and impact on the environment.

Performance management

Financial performance is considered alongside service targets. Managers are required to deliver their service targets within budget, wherever possible. Corrective action plans were put in place to mitigate overspends where possible, with any remaining variances against budget identified in the report. Work continues to bring the outturn in line with the budget.

Equality Implications

Services consider equality issues in setting budgets and delivering services. Irrespective of budgetary pressures the council must fulfil its equal opportunities obligations.

Consultation

Consultation was undertaken as part of the budget setting process and throughout the financial year on the financial position and reporting thereof.

Contact Officers:

Chris Knowles, Services Finance Manager,
☎ 01922 650392, ✉ chris.knowles@walsall.gov.uk

Kelly Valente, Lead Accountant
☎ 01922 650826, ✉ kelly.valente@walsall.gov.uk

Diane Jones, Senior Accountancy Officer
☎ 01922 652332, ✉ diane.jones@walsall.gov.uk

1 Forecast Revenue Outturn 2016/17

1.1 The forecast revenue outturn for 2016/17 for the services under the remit of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee is an underspend of **£0.430m**, net of the use of earmarked reserves and implementation of action plans. This is an increase in underspend of £0.196m from the previously reported £0.234m underspend. The predicted revenue outturn shown is based on actual information from the Oracle system as at the end of October 2016, and discussions with managers regarding year end forecast and achievement of approved savings.

1.2 **Table 1** below shows the forecast outturn for each service.

Table 1 - Forecast Revenue Outturn 2016/17

Service	Annual Budget £000	Year End Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000	Net (Use)/ Transfer of Reserves * £000	Variance Net of Reserves £000
Budget Restraint	3,131	0	(3,131)	0	(3,131)
Clean and Green Services	17,617	17,561	(56)	224	168
Communities & Partnerships	1,574	1,916	342	(391)	(49)
Democratic Services	1,389	1,463	74	(34)	40
Economy & Environment Management	(5)	163	168	(68)	100
Electoral Services	494	492	(2)	0	(2)
Finance	4,013	4,173	160	(210)	(50)
Human Resources	2,957	2,925	(32)	(45)	(77)
Information, Communication and Technologies	4,566	4,808	242	(320)	(78)
Integrated Facilities Management	3,915	5,481	1,566	(136)	1,430
Internal Audit	275	275	0	0	0
Legal	1,564	1,533	(31)	0	(31)
Leisure, Culture & Operations	4,566	4,972	406	29	435
Money Home Job	5,977	7,380	1,403	(1,403)	0
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	9,057	8,930	(127)	394	267
Procurement	442	570	128	(54)	74
Programme Management	667	1,713	1,045	(909)	136
Regeneration & Development	674	1,600	926	(679)	247
Regulatory	1,469	1,549	80	10	90
Smarter Workplaces	250	263	13	(13)	0
TOTAL	64,593	67,766	3,173	(3,604)	(430)

*including windfall income and action plan

1.3 The predicted outturn includes use of reserves of **£5.293m** (where approval has been given by Cabinet for additional funds for specific services) and requests for transfer to reserves of **£1.262m**. A breakdown of reserves is detailed in **Appendix 1**.

1.4 The following provides an analysis of the primary reasons for the forecast material variances;

- Budget Restraint – A Council-wide initiative took place where budget realignments were completed to centralise all underspends forecast, including

bringing forward of operational savings. These underspends are reported within their original Directorates, but expenditure can only be approved at a Corporate level.

- Clean and Green – mainly relating to overspend in salary and agency costs in waste and grounds maintenance and under-recovery of taxi licensing testing income.
- Integrated Facilities Management – mainly shortfall in design fee income.
- Leisure, Culture & Operations – mainly income shortfall and supplies and services overspend.
- Planning, Engineering & Transportation – shortfall in planning income.
- Programme Management – overspend on agency to cover vacant posts.
- Regeneration Development – income shortfall in markets and asset management and agency costs.

Appendix 2 provides a detailed breakdown by service area of reasons for variances.

Where overspends are predicted, managers are required to identify remedial action that can be made within the service, and to report as part of an action plan. Action plans of £563k are in place for the following service areas:

- Money Home Job (£438k) to improve collection of housing benefits overpayments, release discretionary housing budgets and increased court cost income.
- Integrated Facilities Management (£125k) to increase efficiency in energy usage and reduce maintenance expenditure.

There is also £990k windfall income across several service areas - see **Appendix 1** for details.

- 1.5 **Appendix 3** details the risks associated with this forecast and the total financial exposure to risk has been calculated as **£1.125m**. Risks are items that are uncertain at present and therefore not included in the overall forecast. If circumstances change and any of these risks become probable, it will then form part of the overall forecast, and actions will need to be identified and implemented to offset any resulting pressure.
- 1.6 Included within the approved budget for 2016/17 are £7.452m of approved savings relating to services within the remit of this committee. An update on the achievement of 2016/17 approved savings is reported monthly to CMT as part of the corporate performance report. Any savings that are not forecast to be achieved in year are required to have alternative savings identified and are managed closely through the relevant service management teams and in liaison with the relevant portfolio holder.

Savings of £388k have been identified as not being achievable, as follows:

- (a) Cease operation of the creative development team unless it can become self sustaining by 2017/18 (£16k). Alternative savings have been identified.
- (b) Management restructure within Economy & Environment (£229k). This has been mitigated across the directorate and an element added as an investment requirement for 2017/18.
- (c) Integrated Facilities Management (IFM) - Review of structure (£143k). Plans are being developed to address this saving.

- 1.7 **Appendix 4** shows the forecast revenue position of each service area prior to the Budget Restraint exercise.

2 Capital Outturn 2016/17

- 2.1 The forecast capital outturn for 2016/17 for the schemes under the remit of this panel (as at the end of October 2016) is a capital **carry forward request of £3.406m**, mainly due to re-profiling of spend of Smarter Workplaces, Walsall Markets and works to the Council House into 2017/18. The position is summarised on **table 2** below.

Table 2 - Forecast Capital Outturn 2016/17

Service	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Year End Forecast	Variance	Over/ (Under) Spend)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<u>Council Funded</u>					
Clean & Green Services					
Additional bins (RCCO)	653	441	653	0	0
Allotment and community garden strategy - Borneo Street	71	0	71	0	0
Fryers Road Sprinkler System	268	0	268	0	0
Jerome K Jerome Statue	8	0	8	0	0
Leamore Park additional funding	6	0	6	0	0
Mayrise System Mobile Working	40	17	40	0	0
Rushall skatepark (RCCO)	12	12	12	0	0
Replacement of wooden trim trail at King George v playing fields	23	0	23	0	0
St Peters Church - repairs to surrounding walls	25	0	25	0	0
Pocket Parks Chuckery Green	3	3	3	0	0
Pocket Parks Edible Garden	4	4	4	0	0
Walsall Arboretum Car Park	434	10	434	0	0
Walsall Arboretum Restoration Programme - illuminated Park proposals	8	0	8	0	0
Walsall Green Pathways (RCCO)	3	2	3	0	0
Willenhall Memorial Park	23	0	4	(19)	0
Communities and Partnerships					
Improving Security in Local Partnerships	4	0	4	0	0
Finance					
Uninsured Property Damage	22	22	22	0	0
Finance Direct / Oracle	20	(2)	20	0	0
Human Resources					0
HR Itrent upgrades (RCCO)	25	3	25	0	0
Information, Communication and Technologies					
Bring your own device security layers	51	0	51	0	0
Council wide IT planned rolling replacement and upgrade	83	0	83	0	0
Data backup system replacement	220	0	55	(165)	0
Data Centre Power Backup	310	0	40	(270)	0
Essential upgrade to Blackberry Server	12	0	12	0	0
Essential upgrade of Windows	77	10	77	0	0
ICT essential software licence charges	9	0	9	0	0

Service	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Year End Forecast	Variance	Over/ (Under) Spend)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
ICT requirement to cater for transitioned services	46	1	46	0	0
Money home job core IT system (RCCO)	52	0	52	0	0
Smarter workplaces	18	4	18	0	0
Customer facing services being accessed by citizens	53	0	27	(27)	0
Wide format printer/laminator	22	22	22	0	0
Integrated Facilities Management					
Asbestos Removal	110	57	110	0	
Council Building Information Modelling	272	0	0	(272)	(272)
Planned property maintenance	170	38	170	0	0
Replace heating & ventilation system within First Stop Shop	100	0	0	(100)	0
Replace heating & ventilation system within link block	100	0	20	(80)	0
Safe water supplies	60	19	60	0	0
Solar PV panels	158	15	15	(143)	0
Statutory Testing	180	118	180	0	0
Civic Centre essential maintenance	149	5	149	0	0
Fire risk assessment	132	80	404	272	272
Improving the customer experience - Council House	773	9	50	(723)	0
Leisure, Culture & Operations					
Active Living - Bloxwich (PWLb)	514	514	514	0	0
Active Living - Oak Park (PWLb)	1,367	1,367	1,367	0	0
Bentley Community Facility	20	0	10	(10)	0
Gala baths refurbishment	388	388	388	0	0
Headstone safety in Cemeteries (RCCO)	30	18	30	0	0
Leisure Management System	51	10	51	0	0
Libraries Universal Digital Offer	66	0	0	(66)	(66)
Open Plus in Libraries	409	8	12	(397)	0
Single Library Management System	107	3	6	(101)	0
The New Art Gallery Walsall	0	(6)	0	0	0
Money Home Job					
Aids and adaptations	775	129	775	0	0
Health through warmth	387	11	387	0	0
Planning, Engineering & Transportation					
Black Country Route Highway Safety Barrier	170	167	170	0	0
Caldmore Road one way scheme	91	91	91	0	0
Challenge funding (RCCO)	198	0	198	0	0
Hatherton Road Car Park	80	0	80	0	0
Highways maintenance	3,097	2,671	3,097	0	0
Migration of Urban Traffic control analogue comm network	125	2	125	0	0

Service	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Year End Forecast	Variance	Over/ (Under) Spend)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Public Lighting invest to save LED (RCCO)	57	49	57	0	0
Replacement dev management, building control & land charge ICT system	30	0	30	0	0
Replacement of obsolete traffic signal control equipment	150	96	150	0	0
Upper Rushall Street car park repairs	100	2	100	0	0
Walsall TCTP ring road acquisition	6	0	6	0	0
Programme Management					
Darlaston SDA	266	0	266	0	0
M6 Junction 10	650	0	650	0	0
Regeneration & Development					
New Homes Bonus	277	3	277	0	0
Primark & Co-op development	21	17	21	0	0
Regenerating Walsall	223	0	100	(123)	0
Rushall Olympic Football Club	7	1	7	0	0
Shop maintenance	17	9	17	0	0
Bloxwich Market Stalls	25	12	25	0	0
Bloxwich Heritage Project	10	0	4	(6)	0
Brownhills Land Acquisition	416	415	415	(1)	(1)
Walsall Market	500	0	100	(400)	0
Smarter Workplaces					
Property (prudential)	530	1	3	(527)	0
ICT	307	0	0	(307)	0
Total Council Funded	16,275	6,868	12,811	(3,464)	(67)
<u>Externally Funded</u>					
Clean & Green					
Allotment Improvement Programme External	25	0	25	0	0
Jerome K Jerome Statue	2	2	2	0	0
Palfrey Park	7	0	7	0	0
Pocket Parks Chuckery Green	21	21	21	0	0
Pocket Parks Edible Garden	8	8	8	0	0
Reedwood Park	36	26	36	0	0
Rushall skatepark Externally funded	111	111	111	0	0
Walsall arboretum restoration programme (PRU)	425	10	425	0	0
Waste infrastructure capital grant	227	0	227	0	0
Leisure, Culture & Operations					
Active Living Bloxwich (Grant)	538	198	538	0	0
Active Living Oak Park (Grant)	1,112	55	1,112	0	0
Forest Arts Centre (Hall conversion -Arts Council)	9	9	9	0	0
Pelsall Village Centre	0	0	0	0	0
The New Art Gallery Walsall (Grant)	63	24	63	0	0

Service	Annual Budget	Actual to Date	Year End Forecast	Variance	Over/ (Under) Spend)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Money Home Job					
Aids and Adaptations contributions	10	0	10	0	0
Disabled facilities grant	2,145	1,566	2,145	0	0
Off Gas Scheme	650	58	650	0	0
Planning, Engineering & Transportation					
Capital Block DFT Fund	2,374	1,044	2,374	0	0
Challenge funding	1,599	1,071	1,599	0	0
Development of Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMPS)	61	18	61	0	0
Low emission Strategy	1	1	1	0	0
LTP including bridge strengthening 2010/11	244	50	244	0	0
LTP Yorks Bridge	100	5	100	0	0
Managing Short Trips	544	226	544	0	0
DFT Pot hole funding	140	127	140	0	0
Mill Lane Road Safety	2	1	2	0	0
Pedestrian Crossing on Northgate	19	0	19	0	0
Programme management					
Accessing Growth	243	243	243	0	0
Darlaston SDA	1,125	979	1,125	0	0
Growth Deal	45,952	6,802	45,952	0	0
Growth Deal - LTB	1,325	1,225	1,325	0	0
Local Transport Plan (LTP)	1,417	201	1,417	0	0
Regeneration & Development					
Black Country Enterprise Zone	47	46	46	(1)	(1)
Gigaport Partner Contribution	41	21	31	(10)	0
Regenerating Walsall - Private Contributions	12	4	12	0	0
Willenhall Townscape Heritage Initiative – Heritage Lottery Fund	53	42	53	0	0
Smarter Workplaces					
Police Move Civic Centre	12	0	12	0	0
Total Externally Funded	60,697	14,191	60,686	(10)	(1)
Total	76,972	21,059	73,497	(3,474)	(68)
Carry forward Request					(3,406)

Acronyms used above are listed in **Appendix 5**.

Appendix 1 - Analysis of 2016/17 Earmarked Reserves

Service / Reserve description	Total Approved Reserve	Forecast Use of Reserves	Transfer to Reserves	Net use of Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Clean & Green Services				
Additional potential waste arising for 15/16	266	(266)	0	(266)
Consultancy work related to waste collections	50	(50)	0	(50)
ICT for Greenspaces	15	(15)	0	(15)
IFRS - DEFRA - Stewardship funding	5	0	0	0
IFRS - Forestry Commission	12	0	0	0
IFRS - Natural England	44	0	0	0
IFRS - Section 106	585	0	77	77
Investment in water recycler for vehicle wash	25	(25)	0	(25)
Communities & Partnerships				
Area Partnerships NHS projects	38	0	0	0
Area Partnerships Performance Reward Grant	217	(40)	0	(40)
Area Partnerships Ryecroft Hub	10	0	0	0
Area Partnerships Six area partnership funding	203	(177)	0	(177)
Area Partnerships Strategic Resource	65	(65)	0	(65)
Borough Analyst Community Safety Grant	11	(11)	0	(11)
Business Crime Initiative	25	(23)	0	(23)
Community Development Links	5	0	0	0
Community Safety contingency	7	(1)	0	(1)
West Midlands Sexual Assault Referral Centre	15	0	0	0
Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator	6	0	0	0
Domestic Homicide Review	19	(19)	0	(19)
Funding projects in Moxley	7	(4)	0	(4)
No Cold Caller Initiative	12	0	0	0
Preventing violent extremism	124	(42)	0	(42)
Voluntary sector commissioning	16	0	0	0
Anti social behaviour	9	(9)	0	(9)
Road safety initiative	0	0	0	0
Democratic Services				
Mayors civic awards				
Funding of temporary staff	25	(25)	0	(25)
Redundancy costs linked to savings	10	(10)	0	(10)
Economy & Environment Management				
Economic Growth Programme	68	(68)	0	(68)
IFRS - Transition funding	13	0	0	0
LGF pipeline pot (was BC transport director)	43	0	0	0

Service / Reserve description	Total Approved Reserve	Forecast Use of Reserves	Transfer to Reserves	Net use of Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Finance				
Finance Direct - Qlikview	30	(30)	0	(30)
Finance Direct Restructure	47	(47)	0	(47)
Redundancy costs linked to savings	38	(38)	0	(38)
Transformation and Change	95	(95)	0	(95)
Human Resources				
HR staffing	10	(10)	0	(10)
Recruitability Scheme	29	0	0	0
Upgrade of HR system	78	(35)	0	(35)
Information, Communication & Technologies				
Funding of workstreams to deliver essential capital projects	203	(203)	0	(203)
Information Management Project	130	(74)	0	(74)
Redundancy costs linked to savings	23	(23)	0	(23)
Working Smarter	227	0	0	0
Program Delivery Contingency	21	(21)	0	(21)
Integrated Facilities Management				
Redundancy costs linked to savings	11	(11)	0	(11)
Internal Audit				
Use of temporary staff and computer audit costs	15	0	0	0
Supporting the implementation of Internal Audit contract	40	0	0	0
Legal				
Children's Improvement Plan	12	0	0	0
Fund Purchase of Case Mgt System and Heavy Duty Copier	18	0	0	0
Leisure Culture & Operations				
Building Control Fee (ring fenced)	47	0	51	51
Casual Pool Account Pension costs	20	(20)	0	(20)
Consultant review service	10	(10)	0	(10)
Festive Decorations	39	(39)	0	(39)
IFRS - Artist Development	0	(1)	7	6
IFRS - Arts Council England - dilapidations	36	0	0	0
IFRS - Arts Council England 11/12	115	0	0	0
IFRS - Arts Council England 12/13 - Regular Grant	112	0	0	0
IFRS - Bookstart	5	0	0	0
IFRS - British Council Residency	1	(1)	0	(1)
IFRS - Doorstep Sports Club	6	(2)	0	(2)
IFRS - Environmental Levy	569	0	0	0
IFRS - Exclusive Burial Rights Levy	97	(30)	21	(9)

Service / Reserve description	Total Approved Reserve	Forecast Use of Reserves	Transfer to Reserves	Net use of Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000
IFRS - Marketing Promotion Sport England 11/12 & 12/13	33	(16)	0	(16)
IFRS - NAG - ABC (Audience Black Country) Membership -	3	0	0	0
IFRS - NAG - Science Project	1	0	0	0
IFRS - NVQ Assessor	1	(1)	0	(1)
IFRS - Paul Hamlyn Foundation/Right to Read	4	0	0	0
IFRS - Walk On	11	0	0	0
IFRS - Way Forward Project	4	0	0	0
Inspired Generations (CSAF)	42	(41)	0	(41)
Pension Reserve	6	(6)	0	(6)
Storage	6	(6)	0	(6)
Tate project	86	(7)	0	(7)
Willenhall Lawn Cemetery feasibility	30	(30)	0	(30)
Money Home Job				
Additional resources	250	(250)	0	(250)
Benefits - clawback of subsidy income	425	0	0	0
Crisis Support Scheme	1,109	(582)	0	(582)
Fuel Poverty Grant	13	0	0	0
Housing improvement projects	88	0	0	0
Improve security at Rivers House	88	(80)	0	(80)
Preventing homelessness	587	(112)	0	(112)
Private housing & health safety	74	(46)	0	(46)
Repossession grant	154	(51)	0	(51)
Social care worker for exempt accommodation	47	(47)	0	(47)
Warm Homes	51	0	0	0
Redundancy costs linked to savings	107	(107)	0	(107)
Planning, Engineering & Transportation				
Bus Lane enforcement	262	(213)	0	(213)
Commuted sum Shannon's Mill	48	(6)	0	(6)
Financial Appraisals	8	0	0	0
IFRS - ABG - Sustainable school travel advisors	61	(61)	0	(61)
IFRS - Dft - Bikeability grant	8	0	0	0
IFRS - Dft - Bikeability YST 2010	16	0	0	0
IFRS - Dft - Bikeability YST 2010	29	0	0	0
IFRS - Dft - Road safety grant	39	0	0	0
IFRS - DfT Bikeability grant 2011/12	36	0	0	0
IFRS - DfT Bikeability grant 2012/13	19	0	0	0
IFRS - DfT Bikeability grant 2013/14	16	0	0	0
IFRS - DfT Bikeability grant 2014/15	38	0	0	0
IFRS - DfT Bikeability grant 2015/16	37	0	0	0

Service / Reserve description	Total Approved Reserve	Forecast Use of Reserves	Transfer to Reserves	Net use of Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000
IFRS - Driver Improvement (Dudley MBC)	15	0	0	0
IFRS - Local Road Safety 2015/16	35	0	0	0
IFRS - Midlands Air Quality funds (B'ham CC) 2012/13	30	0	0	0
IFRS - Midlands Air Quality funds (B'ham CC) 2013/14	9	0	0	0
IFRS - Post 16 Travel 2013/14 (Children's Services)	22	0	0	0
IFRS - School Strategy 2012/13 (Children's Services)	16	0	0	0
IFRS - School Strategy 2015/16 (Children's Services)	25	0	0	0
IFRS - Sustainable Drainage Grant	73	0	0	0
IFRS - Walsall PCT - Active school travel project (A stars)	50	0	0	0
IFRS-HPDG - M.B salary cost	44	0	0	0
IFRS-S106 planning	244	0	0	0
Mediation Reserve - legal fees Waverley Mast	68	0	0	0
Retirement costs	129	(129)	0	(129)
Street lighting PFI	18,543	0	865	865
Willenhall Gas Works	62	(62)	0	(62)
Procurement				
Contract review	54	(54)	0	(54)
Programme Management				
City Deal loans	2,500	0	0	0
Economic Growth Programme	2,323	(206)	0	(206)
ERDF TA Walsall contribution	9	0	0	0
Growth Hub	10	0	0	0
LGF Interest	267	0	171	171
NEW IFRS-Black Country Invest team	0	0	0	0
NEW IFRS-City Deal - Welfare Pilot	2,018	(721)	0	(721)
NEW IFRS-LEP-core funding	146	0	0	0
NEW IFRS-LEP-hestletine funding	202	0	0	0
NEW TA ERDF Partnership Contributions	0	0	0	0
North Walsall Cutting (transportation)	0	0	0	0
Redundancy accrual not required	0	0	18	18
Strategic Regeneration- SEED/GOLD	33	(12)	0	(12)
Walsall Works	564	(156)	0	(156)
Regeneration & Development				
Asset management system	48	(6)	0	(6)
Black country core strategy	74	(60)	0	(60)
DTZ - Enterprise Zones	48	(48)	0	(48)

Service / Reserve description	Total Approved Reserve	Forecast Use of Reserves	Transfer to Reserves	Net use of Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Economic Growth Programme	62	(62)	0	(62)
High St Innovation	27	(5)	0	(5)
IFRS -Contribution for participation in Pilot Scheme	9	0	0	0
IFRS-Dev & Del grant S106	69	(15)	0	(15)
IFRS-Town Team Partners	5	(4)	0	(4)
LGF Pipeline Interest	0	0	12	12
New Homes Bonus (Housing loans etc)	36	(4)	0	(4)
Old Square Development	20	0	40	40
Phoenix 10	798	(286)	0	(286)
Pleck Boxing Club	87	(19)	0	(19)
Redundancy costs	29	(29)	0	(29)
Uncapitalised expenditure	260	(193)	0	(193)
Regulatory				
Contribute to the Trading Standards Shared Services Pilot	47	(3)	0	(3)
IFRS - Tobacco funding	15	0	0	0
IFRS - BTCHA - Tobacco control	2	(2)	0	(2)
IFRS - Sniffer Dog Grant	2	(2)	0	(2)
IFRS - No Cold Calling - Trading Standards	2	0	0	0
Smarter Workplaces				
Smarter workplaces	352	(13)	0	(13)
TOTAL RESERVES	37,354	(5,293)	1,262	(4,031)
Clean & Green				
Windfall income	0	0	503	503
Integrated Facilities Management				
More efficiencies in energy usage	0	(75)	0	(75)
Stop non essential repairs and maintenance	0	(50)	0	(50)
Leisure, Culture & Operations				
Windfall income	0	0	160	160
Money Home Job				
Increase in overpayment debtor net of bad debt provision	0	(157)	0	(157)
Put further resources into recovery of housing benefit overpayments	0	(281)	0	(281)
Windfall income	0	0	310	310
Regulatory				
Windfall income	0	0	17	17
TOTAL ACTION PLAN AND WINDFALL INCOME	0	(563)	990	427
TOTAL RESERVES AS PER TABLE 1	37,354	(5,856)	2,252	(3,604)

Appendix 2 – Explanation of 2016/17 forecast Revenue Variations by Service

Service	Reason / explanation for variance	Variance
		£000
Budget restraint	Underspend to date captured as part of Council plan to address overspend	(3,131)
Clean and Green Services	Overspend in salary and agency costs in waste and grounds maintenance and under recovery of taxi licensing testing income	168
Communities & Partnership	Efficiencies in the Healthwatch contract (£31k), reduction in cohesion schemes (£11k) and (£7k) non material variances.	(49)
Democratic Services	Additional staffing costs in constitutional services following 16/17 savings	40
Economy & Environment Management	Management restructure saving not fully achieved	100
Electoral Services	Continuing spend on individual electoral registration	(2)
Finance	Underspend due to holding posts vacant	(50)
Human Resources	Underspend due to holding posts vacant	(77)
Information, Communication and Technologies	Reduced materials spending in print and design (£49k), ICT staff costs recovered from internal services (£22k), and additional income in communication (£7k)	(78)
Integrated Facilities Management	Forecast overspends on centralised maintenance (£769k), shortfall in design fees (£1.019m), redundant buildings (£100k), events (£10k) and supplies and services (£2k). Offset by forecast underspends on centralised energy (£263k), centralised rents (£90k), staffing (£34k), savings on food costs in catering (£76k) and in post room (£7k)	1,430
Legal	Underspend due to holding posts vacant	(31)
Leisure Culture & Operations	Income shortfall and supplies and services overspend	435
Money Home Job	Overspend on subsidy (£500k), temporary staff costs (£167k) and single person discount review costs (£50k) are offset by additional overpayment recovery (£300k) and additional income from increase in the overpayment debtor (£157k), additional court cost income (£130k) underspend on salaries (£130k).	0
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Shortfall in planning income (£150k) plus effects of budget constraint exercise	267
Procurement	Use of temporary staff	74
Programme Management	Overspends on agency and other workforce related budgets	136
Regeneration & Development	Markets overspend £94k mainly due to income shortfall, income shortfall in Asset Management £64k, plus agency costs to cover vacant posts (but salary budget included in budget restraint line)	247
Regulatory	Agency staff covering vacant posts, additional unauthorised encampment and funeral costs	90
TOTAL VARIANCE		(430)

Appendix 3 - Risks

Service Area	Potential Risks	Highest Cost	Total Estimated Exposure
		£000	£000
	Low Risks		
Clean and Green Services	Damage to waste to resource plant	840	168
Clean and Green Services	Increased risk of insurance claims due to lower maintenance of trees	25	5
Leisure, Culture & Operations	Bereavement – impact of a pandemic flu outbreak	30	6
Integrated Facilities Management	Energy cost forecasts are based on 2015/16 but risk that this performance may not reoccur in 2016/17 due to changing weather conditions which may lead to higher energy usage	300	60
Integrated Facilities Management	Risk of challenge from schools over level of management fee, and schools deciding not to use IFM services, including catering service, due to perceived high	193	39
Money Home Job	Quarter 2 assessment of the year end subsidy position shows further improvement. An improvement of £1m from the position first reported has been included in the forecast outturn however if improvements continue then the forecast outturn could improve even further	(500)	(100)
Regulatory	Unknown court costs arising from licensing act appeals	50	10
Regulatory	Unknown court costs arising from taxi/private hire appeals	20	4
Regulatory	Increase in the number of stray dogs due to economic conditions	5	1
Regulatory	Burial costs where there is no known family	10	2
Regulatory	Incident(s) of infectious disease either in animal health or human e.g. ecoli, legionnaires	30	6
	Total Low Risks	1,003	201
	Medium Risks		
Clean and Green Services	Possible loss of income	110	44
Clean and Green Services	Potential none achievement of income at the Arboretum Visitors Centre	30	12
Integrated Facilities Management	Review of Maintenance Framework - may not produce required efficiencies and delays could result in further costs	250	100
Integrated Facilities Management	Possible costs relating to old debts for gas supplied to Council buildings & Schools. British Gas yet to provide accurate figures but they may levy penalty charges and interest.	163	65

Service Area	Potential Risks	Highest Cost	Total Estimated Exposure
		£000	£000
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Engineering - shortfall in car parking income from reduced usage or loss of car parks	50	20
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Engineering - additional road maintenance / gulley cleaning required	125	50
	Total Medium Risks	728	291
	High Risks		
Clean and Green Services	Increase in waste arisen, or non diversion of waste	300	180
Clean and Green Services	Increased contamination of co mingled waste and fluctuating gate fees from new recycling disposal contract	135	81
Clean and Green Services	Abortive costs of works carried out at Borneo Street Allotment	66	66
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Engineering - impact of a severe winter requiring additional work and gritting	100	60
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Shortfall of planning application fee income	100	60
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Shortfall of Land Charges fee income	70	42
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	Legal fees from Willenhall Gasworks Case	60	36
Regeneration & Development	Shortfall of Markets income	80	78
Regulatory	Incursion of additional unauthorised encampments	20	12
Regulatory	Unknown court costs arising from prosecutions	30	18
	Total High Risks	961	633
	Total	2,692	1,125

Appendix 4 – Forecast position prior to Every Penny Counts

Summary by service	Outturn October 2016	Every Penny Counts Capture of Budgets	Revised Position - October 2016
	£ '000	£ '000	£ '000
Budget Restraint	(3,131)	(3,131)	0
Clean and Green Services	168	291	(123)
Communities & Partnerships	(49)	69	(118)
Democratic Services	40	22	18
Economy & Environment Management	100	0	100
Electoral Services	(2)	0	(2)
Finance	(50)	14	(64)
Human Resources	(77)	52	(129)
Information, Communication and Technologies	(78)	79	(157)
Integrated Facilities Management	1430	70	1360
Internal Audit	0	0	0
Legal	(31)	42	(73)
Leisure Culture & Operations	435	1209	(774)
Money Home Job	0	758	(758)
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	267	77	190
Procurement	74	0	74
Programme Management	136	158	(22)
Regeneration & Development	247	117	130
Regulatory	90	174	(84)
Smarter Workplaces	0	0	0
Total	(430)	0	(430)

Appendix 5 – Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Description
ABG	Area Based grant
BC	Black Country
BCBPIP	Black Country Business Property Investment Programme
CSAF	Community Sport Activation Fund
CS	Community Support
DEFRA	Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs
DFT	Department for Transport
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
GOLD	Growth Opportunities: Local Delivery
HPDG	Housing Planning Delivery Grant
HR	Human Resources
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standard
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LEP	Local Enterprise Partnership
LGF	Local Growth Fund
LTP	Local Transport Plan
NAG	New Art Gallery
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PFI	Private Finance Initiative
PRU	Prudential
PWLB	Public Works Loan Board
PV	Photovoltaic
RCCO	Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay
SEED	Supporting Employment & Enterprise Development
TA	Technical Assistance
TCTP	Town Centre Transport Planning
W2R	Waste to Resources



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

**Civic Centre,
Darwall Street,
Walsall, WS1 1TP**
www.walsall.gov.uk

5 December 2016

FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan sets out decisions that are termed as “key decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive (Cabinet). Preparation of the forward plan helps the Council to programme its work. The purpose of the forward plan is to give plenty of notice and an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The plan is updated each month with the period of the plan being rolled forward by one month and republished. The plan is available for public inspection at the Civic Centre Reception, Darwall Street, Walsall. Copies of the plan can be obtained from Democratic Services, Walsall MBC, Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW, 01922 654522. The forward plan can also be accessed from the Council’s website at www.walsall.gov.uk. The Cabinet is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the forward plan, however, a notice will be included on the agenda for the relevant Cabinet meeting which explains the reasons why.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change. Please contact the above addressee if you wish to check the date for a particular item.

Cabinet responsibilities are as follows

- Leader of the Council – Councillor S. Coughlan
- Deputy Leader and Regeneration - Councillor Jeavons
- Children’s Services and Education - Councillor Burley
- Community Leisure and Culture - Councillor J. Fitzpatrick
- Clean and Green - Councillor Jones
- Health - Councillor Robertson
- Social Care - Councillor D. Coughlan
- Personnel and Business Support - Councillor Nawaz
- Agenda for Change - Councillor Shires

The Cabinet agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public 7 days prior to the meeting of the Cabinet. The papers can be seen at First Stop Shop at the Civic Centre, Walsall. The papers are also available on the Council’s website referred to above shortly before the meeting. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Cabinet and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they are confidential. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer. These details can also be found in the forward plan.

Meetings of the Cabinet are open to the public and take place in Conference Room 2 at the Council House, Walsall. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are confidential and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. The forward plan will show where this is intended and the reason why the reports are confidential. Enquiries regarding these reasons should be directed to Democratic Services on 01922 654522.

The forward plan does not list all decisions which have to be taken by the Cabinet only “key decisions” which are those decisions which have a significant effect within the community or which involve considerable expenditure or savings. With regard to key decisions the Council’s Constitution states:

- (1) A key decision is:
 - (i) any decision in relation to an executive function which results in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant, having regard to the Council’s budget for the service or function to which the decision relates or
 - (ii) any decision that is likely to have significant impact on two or more wards within the borough.
- (2) The threshold for “significant” expenditure/savings is £250,000.
- (3) A decision taker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

Dates of Cabinet meetings 2016/17

2016	15 June
	27 July
	7 September
	26 October
	14 December
2017	8 February
	15 March
	26 April

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

JANUARY TO APRIL 2017 (5.12.16)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reference No./ Date first entered in Plan	Key decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside the Council)	Decision maker	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Contact Member (All Members can be written to at Civic Centre, Walsall)	Date item to be considered
25/16 (7.11.16)	Corporate budget plan and treasury management and investment strategy 2017/18: To approve the final budget and Council tax for approval by Council	Cabinet	Vicky Buckley 652326	Council tax payers, service users, business rate payers, voluntary and community organisations	Councillor S. Coughlan	8 February 2017 23 February 2017
18/15 (10.8.15)	Street lighting invest to save: To consider the detailed business case for the conversion of street lighting lanterns to LED technology that would be controlled by a central monitoring system	Cabinet	Paul Leighton 654695	Finance, legal, procurement	Councillor Jeavons	8 February 2017
2/16 (11.1.16)	Property Services contract – facilities management delivery: To review the contract for the provision of reactive building, mechanical and electrical repairs, statutory compliance and planning projects between Walsall MBC and the Metropolitan Borough of Solihull Private session: Report in private session contains commercially sensitive information.	Cabinet	Sarah Hart		Councillor Jeavons	8 February 2017
3/16 (11.1.16)	Major transport scheme proposals at M6 Junction 10: Approval to sign agreements with Highways England in order to proceed with the development and eventual construction of the scheme	Cabinet	Steven Edwards 654771	Legal, procurement, finance	Councillor Jeavons	8 February 2017

25/15 (9.11.15)	Walsall Councils CCTV Public Space: To consider the detailed options appraisal for the future delivery of close circuit (CCTV) services.	Cabinet	Kate Bowers 658984	Legal, procurement, finance	Councillor J. Fitzpatrick	8 February 2017
20/16 (10.10.16)	Walsall Urban Forestry strategy: To approve the urban forest strategy which sets out the strategic framework for the management of trees in the borough over the next 10 years	Cabinet	Jason Simpson 654263	Friends groups, tree wardens, engineering and transportation	Councillor Jones	8 February 2017
18/16 (10.10.16)	High Needs Funding Formula 2017/18: To approve the high needs funding formula to be used for the allocation of high needs funding to schools in Walsall for the 2017/18 financial year	Cabinet	Lloyd Haines 652340	Schools Forum	Councillor Burley	8 February 2017
19/16 (10.10.16)	Early years funding formula 2017/18: To approve the early years funding formula to be used for the allocation of early years funding to schools and settings in Walsall for the 2017/18 financial year	Cabinet	Lloyd Haines 652340	Schools Forum	Councillor Burley	8 February 2017
24/16 (7.11.16)	Children's Centres: To make a decision on the delivery model for children's centres as part of the 0-19 Early Help Locality Family Support and agree related commissioning requirements	Cabinet	Andrea Potts 654599	Service users, stakeholders	Councillor Burley	8 February 2017
26/16 (5.12.16)	Local Planning Enforcement Plan: To approve the updated local enforcement plan for managing the processing of planning enforcement cases including the prioritisation of cases, time scales for investigation and responding to informants	Cabinet	Shawn Fleet 650453	Legal, communities and public protection, regulatory services	Councillor Jeavons	15 March 2017

27/16 (5.12.16)	Replacement Wide Area Network: To award a 5 year contract (with 2 x 12 month extension periods) for the implementation of a replacement wide area network	Cabinet	Sharon Worrall 65552	Procurement, legal	Councillor Nawaz	15 March 2017
20/15 (10.8.15)	Road safety framework: To consider and approve the road safety framework for the period 2016 to 2019. The framework will set out the road safety plan to support the delivery of road safety work through the borough recognising and building on the cross department work between engineering and transportation, children's services and public health in the delivery of statutory functions emanating from the Road Traffic Act 1988 and Education and Inspections Act 2006	Cabinet	John Roseblade 654695	Risk and insurance, legal services, public health, finance	Councillor Jeavons	26 April 2017