

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013**

**AGENDA ITEM 14 (b)**

**FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2014/17**

**AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED BY THE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY & HEALTH CONCERN  
GROUP**

The Independent Community and Health Concern Group, having re-considered the Financial Strategy 2014/17 as recommended on 19 November 2013, ***RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL:-***

**1. THREE YEAR BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK 2014/17**

1.1 The content of the report of the Chief Executive/Chief Financial Officer on the Three Year Budget and Policy Framework 2014/17 approved by Cabinet on 19 November 2013 be ***DEFERRED*** to allow full consideration of ***REVISED PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN APPENDIX 1*** including sufficient time for officers to cost the revised ICHC proposal in relation to the Leisure Future Project to establish if it is financially and otherwise viable. The revised proposals do not include the Cabinet Proposals in relation to Civica and Staff Terms and Conditions. The financial impact of these Alternative Proposals (excluding the ICHC Leisure Future Proposal) is shown in Appendix 1.

**2. COUNCIL TAX AND FINAL CONFIRMATION OF THE BUDGET**

2.1 The Council Tax will be set and all details of the budget confirmed, including final Budget Proposals (including or excluding the ICHC Leisure Future proposal), in February 2014, when the Government Grant Settlement and final position on the New Homes Bonus Top-Slice is known.

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL  
INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY & HEALTH CONCERN GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS 2014/2015 ONWARDS**

Cost Centre	ACTIVITY AND DESCRIPTION OF CABINET PROPOSAL	KEY	CHANGE IN RESOURCES			
			2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	After 31/03/2017 £
<b>SECURING THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF THE DISTRICT</b>						
R705	<b>Economic Regeneration Activities</b> Seek funding from the single local growth fund from 2015/16 for economic regeneration activities. *(Staffing Implications TBC - dependant on funding from LEPs)	C R S*	- - -	- 200,000 CR -	- 200,000 CR -	- 200,000 CR -
R704	<b>Redevelopment of Council Assets for Housing / Major Investment Fund</b> Redevelopment of some of the Council's assets for housing and production of more income by creating a major investment fund.	C R S	- - -	5,000,000 39,000 CR -	- 71,500 CR -	- 71,500 CR -
R686	<b>Homelessness</b> Additional funding for strategic housing services.	C R S	- 90,000 -	- 90,000 -	- 90,000 -	- 90,000 -
<b>DELIVERING TOGETHER, WITH LESS</b>						
Various	<b>External Income</b> Raise external income by a variety of business cases Less: Blue Badge income projected for car parks meter income (£10,000 p.a.)	C R S	- 32,000 CR -	- 60,000 CR -	- 80,000 CR -	- 100,000 CR -
Various	<b>WFF further tranche of savings</b> A further tranche of savings under the Wyre Forest Forward programme proposed.	C R S	- 300,000 CR 12 CR	- 350,000 CR 14 CR	- 500,000 CR 20 CR	- 500,000 CR 20 CR
R637 R638	<b>Shared Services</b> Reduce funding for existing shared services in particular Worcestershire Regulatory Services.	C R S	- 37,000 CR -	- 75,000 CR -	- 112,000 CR -	- 112,000 CR -
Various	<b>Costs of Property</b> Reduce the cost of property the Council occupies. ** (Capital Costs TBC)	C** R S	- 95,000 CR -	- 145,000 CR -	- 172,000 CR -	- 172,000 CR -
Various	<b>Management Restructure</b> To undertake a further restructure of senior management exploring the potential for alternative delivery of the role of the Chief Executive	C R S	- 82,000 CR -	- 82,000 CR -	- 82,000 CR -	- 82,000 CR -
R405	<b>Implement IRP Full Recommendation</b> Reduce Members Allowances in line with the recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel	C R S	- 48,000 CR -	- 48,000 CR -	- 48,000 CR -	- 48,000 CR -
<b>IMPROVING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING</b>						
R216	<b>Kidderminster Town Hall</b> A more commercial approach to managing and operating the Town Hall.	C R S	- - -	- 25,000 CR -	- 35,000 CR -	- 50,000 CR -
R095 R160	<b>Community Asset Transfers for Sport and Play Facilities</b> Stop providing subsidy for playing pitches including bowling greens. Consider transfer or responsibility for maintaining them to sports clubs or community groups, or radically reduce maintenance on them. Strategy for Paddling pool sustainability.	C R S	- 85,000 CR 1.75 CR	- 85,000 CR 1.75 CR	- 85,000 CR 1.75 CR	- 85,000 CR 1.75 CR
R175, R050 R055, R075 R123, R125	<b>Arts, Events, Sport and Leisure Development</b> Develop a strategy for the future sustainability of Arts, Play, Sports and Events *(Staffing Implications TBC)	C R S*	- 10,000 CR -	- 15,000 CR -	- 20,000 CR -	- 20,000 CR -
R035	<b>Public Conveniences</b> Reduce the cost of public conveniences. This would include replacing WFDC provision with 'community toilet schemes', and closure of some less well-used sites	C R S	- 39,390 CR 1.00 CR	- 39,390 CR 1.00 CR	- 39,390 CR 1.00 CR	- 39,390 CR 1.00 CR
R080, R085	<b>Future Leisure Provision</b> To refurbish Glades and Stourport leisure centres, and then to continue their operation by progressing Community Asset Transfers or working in partnership with suitable third parties. This would mean ceasing the current development of the new Leisure Centre. As the full financial information for this ICHC proposal is currently unavailable, further work is needed to develop a business Case. This would include exploration of all external funding opportunities. The only costs currently known are abortive capital costs incurred so far and the historic data on costs of refurbishment so more information is needed before this can be fully costed. The position regarding the new Local Development Framework is noted.	C R S	TBA TBA	TBA TBA	TBA	TBA
	<b>TOTALS EXCLUDING LEISURE FUTURE</b>	C R S	- 638,390 CR 15 CR	5,000,000 1,073,390 CR 17 CR	- 1,354,890 CR 23 CR	- 1,389,890 CR 23 CR

**KEY - Changes in Resources**

- C Capital  
R Revenue  
S Staffing - Stated in FTEs

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY AND HEALTH CONCERN GROUP PROPOSALS 2014/15 ONWARDS**

**APPENDIX I**

<b>INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY &amp; HEALTH CONCERN GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS</b>				
<i>(Excluding Leisure Future Proposal)</i>				
	<b>Revised 2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
Net Expenditure on Services	<b>12,557,260</b>	<b>12,016,280</b>	<b>12,616,210</b>	<b>12,393,480</b>
Less				
Cabinet Proposals as revised		(638,390)	(1,073,390)	(1,354,890)
Net Expenditure	12,557,260	11,377,890	11,542,820	11,038,590
Contribution (from)/to Reserves	(272,340)	176,850	(713,780)	(550,080)
<b>Net Budget Requirement</b>	<b>12,284,920</b>	<b>11,554,740</b>	<b>10,829,040</b>	<b>10,488,510</b>
Less				
Government Support	5,128,450	4,281,330	3,562,330	3,101,330
Council tax localisation Grant	1,050,670	1,050,670	1,050,670	1,050,670
Homelessness Prevention Grant	408,650	108,650	0	0
Community Right to bid/Challenge	16,400	16,400	0	0
Council Tax Transition Grant	28,630	0	0	0
Council Tax Income	5,952,120	6,097,690	6,216,040	6,336,510
WFDC Council @ just under 2% increase 2014/15 onwards	<b>197.62</b>	<b>201.45</b>	<b>205.36</b>	<b>209.34</b>

<b>STATEMENT OF UNALLOCATED RESERVES</b>	<b>Revised 2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
<i>(Excluding Leisure Future Proposal)</i>	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Reserves as at 1 April	2,168	1,896	2,073	1,359
Contribution (from)/to Reserves	(272)	177	(714)	(550)
Reserves as at 31 March*	1,896	2,073	1,359	809

**\*Further work is needed to cost the Leisure Proposal before it can proceed.**

<b>CABINET PROPOSALS FOR COMPARISON</b>				
	<b>Revised 2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
Net Expenditure on Services	<b>12,557,260</b>	<b>12,016,280</b>	<b>12,616,210</b>	<b>12,393,480</b>
Less				
Cabinet Proposals		(828,390)	(1,345,390)	(1,631,890)
Net Expenditure	12,557,260	11,187,890	11,270,820	10,761,590
Contribution (from)/to Reserves	(272,340)	366,850	(441,780)	(273,080)
<b>Net Budget Requirement</b>	<b>12,284,920</b>	<b>11,554,740</b>	<b>10,829,040</b>	<b>10,488,510</b>
Less				
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<b>STATEMENT OF UNALLOCATED RESERVES</b>	<b>Revised 2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Reserves as at 1 April	2,168	1,896	2,263	1,821
Contribution (from)/to Reserves	(272)	367	(442)	(273)
Reserves as at 31 March	1,896	2,263	1,821	1,548