

Council Assembly Council Tax Setting Meeting

Wednesday 29 February 2012
7.00 pm
Town Hall, 31 Peckham Road, SE5 8UB

Supplemental Agenda No.2

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Date: 28 February 2012

ITEM 2.1: POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY - 2012/13-2014/15 - REVENUE BUDGET

QUESTIONS ON THE REPORT

1. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

How much is this budget spending on free lunches for children who live outside of Southwark or for those parents that earn more than £25,000?

2. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MCNALLY

Given that bringing the call centre in house would save the council £4.5 million, will he join me in calling for officers to pursue this as a matter of urgency following Vangent's failure to deliver £1.3 million of savings and being taken over by an American arms dealer?

3. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE BOWMAN

Given the budget cuts made to the noise team, how many visits have the noise team made, in response to calls, on Saturday nights, after 1.00am, since March 2011? Please provide a monthly breakdown?

4. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN MITCHELL

What has been the total cost of the democracy commission? What has been the total cost of council assembly for 2011/12 and how does this compare to the savings made to community councils for 2012/13? Please include the cost of hall hire, officer time, and any other miscellaneous expenditure.

5. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

The leader announced an additional £4 million for improving cycling facilities, please can you provide a breakdown of what the £4 million is being spent on? How much of this £4 million has been newly assigned to creating segregated cycle lanes?

6. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR GEOFFREY THORNTON

Why has Southwark Council cut its bike to work scheme but retained an officer to arrange leased cars for staff? How much does the council spend on the provision of leased cars?

7. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIAKOU

Please can the cabinet member provide a break down by current community council areas, of how many hanging baskets were there on Southwark's streets in 2010/11 and 2011/12 and what is the projected number for 2012/13?

8. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR COLUMBA BLANGO

In preparation for the council assembly meeting on 6 July 2011, the cabinet member for culture, leisure, sports and the Olympics wrote to all members asking for suggestions on how to improve sporting opportunities for young people in which the Liberal Democrat group tabled a number of suggestions. Please can the cabinet member outline what has been included in this year's (2012/13) revenue budget that was not included in the previous year's budget as a result of that meeting?

9. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON

Following the 'Colour Thief' debacle, have you yet learnt the lesson that events budgets should be devolved to community councils in order to get the right event wanted by the local community?

10. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK

Is it fair that councillors are receiving increases of inflation in their allowances while council staff face pay freezes?

11. WITHDRAWN

12. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

Will he support the Liberal Democrat proposal to fund the Southwark mediation centre? If not, will he ensure that the Southwark mediation centre will be named in contracts to be used in all future disputes for every new external contract the council makes?

13. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK

How many people attended day care centres for each month in 2009/10 and 2010/11 and for each month since your 100% cut to their funding?

14. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

The cabinet have taken the decision for SASBU to only deal with 'critical cases'. Please can the cabinet member list a) the types of cases it will now deal with, b) the types of cases it will no longer deal with, and c) how much do you anticipate to save?

15. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER

After the meeting of Bermondsey community council which you attended, will you now listen to the democratic views expressed, retain the current boundaries and allow each community council to manage its own budget?

16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

When will you present any concrete evidence to council assembly that spending £8 million on free lunches has resulted in a reduction in obesity levels in Southwark? Have you received any evidence from the universal programme in Islington that there has been a reduction in obesity?

17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

Given the budget cuts made to cash limit the fostering rates, how many adoptions were made in 2011/12? How does this compare to the number of adoptions made in 2009/10 and 2010/11?

18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK HILTON

Are you telling the people of Dulwich that the only way they can have safe roads for their children is for the community council to spend its devolved revenue budget for lollipop patrol officers rather than using the money to introduce new services as community councils in other areas will be able to do?

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL

Given the budget cuts made to after school clubs, what are the projected attendance figures for 2011/12? How many children attended Southwark Council run after-school clubs in 2009/10 and 2010/11?

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

Given that you now support giving additional revenue money to community councils, will you now go one step further and support the Liberal Democrat's community chest proposal?

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

In 2010 Southwark had the 3rd cleanest streets in London. How is this currently being measured? Where does Southwark currently stand in the league tables and will you reverse the cuts to the night cleaning and street cleaning teams?

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

What will the grades be of the new 21 director posts that the leader is currently proposing? How will this impact on the budget?

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

Can the cabinet member for resources confirm that "merge management and redesign two council run day centres for older people" is not code for closing one or more of the remaining 2 council run day centres for older people?

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

Will the cabinet member spend £8,000 on a lollipop person instead of deputy cabinet members?

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET

How much revenue funding for community councils has been provided for community councils for 2012/13? How much was allocated in 2009/10 and 2010/11? Please include the community fund as part of your answer

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON

In the light of the proposal to use £4.4 million of balances to support the 2012/13 revenue budget (up from £3.4 million in 2011/12 and up from £2.8 million in the indicative 2012/13 budget approved by council assembly on 22 February 2011) would the cabinet member for resources and community safety explain why the cabinet has not followed the advice of the finance director set out in paragraphs 39 ("the finance director recommends the retention of contingency and maintenance of balances,,") and 194 of the report to cabinet, and what assurances can he provide to council assembly that the cabinet's budget proposal is prudent and robust?

27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY

With reference to the proposed saving of £50,000 on school crossing patrols (p60, council assembly agenda) would the cabinet member for resources and community safety refer to:

- (a) the letter dated 13 January 2012 from the cabinet member for transport, environment and recycling to Councillor Lewis Robinson in which:
 - (1) it is stated: "The £50,000 reduction in the school crossing patrol service budget at light controlled crossings in 2012/13 will be confirmed and the crossings affected are set out in the attached schedule"; and
 - (2) the attached schedule includes "Dulwich Hamlet: Dulwich Village/Turney Rd"; and
- (b) the letter dated 27 February 2012 from the head of community engagement to Councillor Lewis Robinson in which it is stated: "The crossing patrol at Dulwich Village/Turney Rd will continue and Councillor Hargrove has also confirmed that this was his understanding";

and would he therefore explain why, and under what powers, there was between 13 January and 27 February a decision to depart from the policy on light-controlled crossings in respect of Dulwich Village/Turney Rd, and not in respect of the two other Dulwich crossings mentioned in the schedule to the 13 January letter, namely "Alleyns/JAGS: East Dulwich Grove/Townley Rd" and "Dulwich Village: Dulwich Village/Village Way"?

28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL

With reference to the proposed growth (p52, council assembly agenda) of £210,000 for a Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) revenue fund and to the proposed saving of £50,000 on school crossing patrols (p60, council assembly agenda) would the cabinet member for resources and community safety refer to:

1. The letter dated 5 December 2011 from the leader of the council, in which it is stated: "There is no reason why the patrols should be subject to an annual bidding process - Dulwich councillors would be entitled to make a spending commitment through to 2014 if they so desire";
2. the leader's e-mail dated 27 January 2012 which has had wide public circulation and which refers to a "guarantee" of CGS revenue funding until "at least 2014"; and
3. the letter dated 27 February 2012 from the head of community engagement to Councillor Lewis Robinson in which it is stated: "It is therefore the intention that the funding carries on for more than one year. This is of course subject to the annual decision-making process on CGS revenue that each community council will carry out....";

and would he therefore explain why the wordings of (1) and (2) above have not been reflected in the definitive guidance on CGS revenue procedures?

AMENDMENTS

2.1. POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY 2012/13-2014/15 REVENUE BUDGET (see pages 1 - 78 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor Tim McNally
Seconded: Councillor Anood Al-Samerai

Insert new paragraphs 1 – 5:

1. Southwark Council recognises that the economic mess left by the last Labour government means there are difficult decisions to be made. This document sets out the alternative choices that the council should make to ensure it protects the most vulnerable people in our community and preserves effective delivery of basic council services.
2. Savings should be made by ending the unnecessary free lunches programme for those who don't qualify or live outside of Southwark; bringing the customer service centre back in-house; putting only the necessary amount into a contingency pot rather than stashing our cash and cutting five posts from the cabinet and deputy cabinet. These simple savings would allow the council to get the basics right and protect the most vital services and vulnerable people in Southwark.
3. Funding should not be cut to projects that keep Southwark's streets clean or for the anti-social behaviour unit and noise teams. The council should protect funding for school crossing patrols; for day centres and lunch clubs; for housing services and for voluntary sector projects. Schemes to tackle worklessness and support local businesses should be invested in to help reignite growth in our economy and get people back to work. Local residents should benefit from the legacy of the London Olympics by building on the successful Community Games to deliver outreach sports projects in our estates and community centres.
4. The council should stop hoarding power and recognise the value that local people can play in taking decisions about their communities. The budget for community councils should be safeguarded with individual areas identifying savings and the council should protect funding for scrutiny to ensure that council blunders can be halted and reversed. Residents should have a real influence in council spending in their area through a 'Community Chest' of £50,000 per ward.
5. These alternative choices protect the basic services that make a real difference to local people; ends the scandal of Southwark Council squandering its cash on unnecessary give-away policies; and devolves power into the hands of the local communities who know their area the best.

Renumber subsequent paragraphs

Existing paragraph 1 (new 6) – **Add** at end "subject to the changes detailed in the following schedules being made to appendices of the cabinet report."

Liberal Democrat Budget 2012-13

Description	2012-13 £ 000s
Growth	
Cycling Team	(£134)
Support for Start-up businesses	(£250)
Southwark Mediation Service	(£200)
Provide Free School Meals for only those children who qualify, not universally	£2,179
	<u>£1,595</u>
Commitments	
Set contingency at new level of £3 million per annum	£2,500
	<u>£2,500</u>

Description	2012-13 £ 000s
Additional Income	
Cut funding equivalent to two Cabinet posts and Deputy Cabinet Members	£85
<p>The overall 25% cuts in costs across the Council, and the lowering of the staffing levels within the Council also need to be reflected in the Cabinet. The Community Safety post has already been combined into the Finance & Resources portfolio and we would cut the funding equivalent to two further posts moving the responsibilities into other portfolios. We would also cut the funding for three Deputy Cabinet Member posts and the additional councillor allowances which Labour created in 2011.</p>	
Bring Customer Service Centre contract back in-house	£0
<p>The call centre operator has failed to deliver the £1.3 million saving demanded by their contract - they have also been taken over by a large US defence contractor. We believe that the Council should exercise its right to bring the Customer Service Centre back in-house. It is inappropriate for our call centre to be owned by a large US defence company and the benefits of bringing services back in-house through quality of service, management control and quality of jobs means that a saving of £4.5 million could be made over the next three years. We would redeploy the CSC to offices in Peckham near to the new Council office there.</p>	
Total additional income	£85
Total Money Identified and Saved	£ 000s £4,180

Description	2012-13 £ 000s	
Savings Impacting on Service Delivery		
Health & Community Services		
Voluntary Day Centres - Restore shortfall of Day Centre and lunch-club funding in 2012-13 and work with centres to identify savings of 25% in 2013-14 onwards	This funding is for far more than simple lunch clubs. We would restore funding to these invaluable front line services for some of our most vulnerable residents, as personal budgets have not delivered adequate funding to the centres and this would address the shortfall. We would continue funding this year and work with the organisations to move towards a more sustainable future with a 25% savings target to be delivered in subsequent years.	(£500)
Older People - Day Centres	Maintain the current Council Day Centre service at the current level in order to continue to support and protect the most vulnerable. We do not agree with plans to close a council-run Day Centre.	(£100)
Mental Health - Drug & Alcohol Service	To not make the cut to the Drug & Alcohol Service.	(£60)
Mental Health - Redesign of Mental Health Day Services	To not make the cuts to the Mental Health Day Services.	(£200)
Communities Law & Governance		
Community Engagement	Do not cut the voluntary sector grants programme. The voluntary sector has been the subject of much higher percentage cuts than internal council services, and we would not make any further cuts in 2012-13.	(£122)
Housing Services		
Temporary Accommodation	Do not cut funding for emergency furniture for resettlement clients.	(£14)
Housing Options	Do not cut staff from the Housing Options service - with Southwark's housing list growing by 1800 per year the assistance provided to residents needing accommodation is increasingly important. We would prioritise tackling underoccupiers as 6000 people on the housing list are in some form of overcrowding.	(£38)
Deputy Chief Executive		
Economic Development & Strategic Partnership	Do not cut the commissioning budget for projects which tackle worklessness in Southwark by 130k. We would instead increase the commissioning budget by another £70k, targeting spending at those projects which deliver the best results and largest number of new jobs. We would recognise the excellent work done by organisations such as Red-Kite Learning, Southwark Works and Walworth Garden Farm and support them in their activities.	(£200)

Description	2012-13 £ 000s
Environment Community Safety & Culture	
School crossing patrol service - Do not cut lollipop men and ladies	(£50)
The lollipop ladies and men in Southwark help keep our children and young people safe and are much loved members of our communities. Even on signal controlled crossings there is a high level of non compliance from impatient motorists and the school crossing patrollers are important to ensure children have the full time to cross.	
Sports Development - Restore Community Games funding	(£238)
The Southwark Community Games are a highly effective and popular way of getting more children and young people involved in sport. Tackling childhood obesity is a priority in Southwark and the Community Games are popular with schools and with the young people who take part. We would restore their funding to the levels previously set by the Liberal Democrats and which Labour cut in 2011. In an Olympic Year we would create 21 new posts to have an out-reach sports worker in each ward (10.5 FTE), thus creating employment, promoting sports including cycling, with new posts liaising with TRAs, youth clubs and other community organisations to promote grass roots sport.	
Preserve and extend funding to Southwark Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (SASBU)	(£135)
The Southwark Antisocial Behaviour Unit is one of the country's leading examples of efficient ways to tackle ASB. We would restore SASBU to previous levels and would listen to residents' suggestions for how to further improve the team. The administration plan to reduce SASBU to solely assisting in high risk cases means that the cases of low level ASB that affect a large number of Southwark's residents would not be addressed. By reversing last year's cut we would fund the team so they can prosecute more than just the four cases of ASB taken to court this year.	
Noise Team - restore weekday night-time noise team	(£250)
We do not agree with the move to a weekend only night-time noise service. The night-time noise service is more important than a daytime service and particularly in the Summer this is needed all week round.	
South London Gallery Do not cut Reactive Street maintenance	(£10) (£200)
Do not cut funding to the South London Gallery. Southwark's streets and pavements need proper maintenance. Pot holes are dangerous to cyclists and uneven pavements can cause accidents and injuries to the elderly and people with mobility issues. We would not cut the street maintenance programme further in 2012/13.	
Mechanical Sweeping Service	(£100)
We would not reduce the mechanical sweeping service as the cleanliness of Southwark's streets has fallen dramatically in the past year.	
Street Cleansing - Restore daily litter picking	(£300)
Southwark's streets under the Liberal Democrats were the 3rd cleanest in London. Residents value the clean streets and we therefore would restore removal of litter to a daily service.	

Description	2012-13 £ 000s
Street Cleansing - Restore night sweeping service	(£120)
The night sweeping service keeps many of our busiest streets clean and addresses the litter from the night-time economy. We would reverse this change as it has led to dirtier town centres and streets.	
Street Cleansing - Restore fortnightly detritus cleaning	(£460)
As with the other Street Cleansing items we would restore the detritus cleaning on a fortnightly basis as monthly does not keep Southwark's streets among the cleanest in London.	
Efficiencies & Use of Resources	
Communities Law & Governance	
Support local communities and their voice in the council - Protect and empower Community Councils	(£178)
Liberal Democrats strongly believe in truly local democracy and decision making. We would make economies in terms of school governor appointments (11k), general savings identified by the "democracy commission" (70k) and by reducing neighbourhood support (85k) but would retain this money for the eight community councils but would expect them to do more and spend more money on local priorities (see next item) allowing our residents to have more say in the decisions which affect their lives. We would use the powers in the new government's Localism Act to give communities more say over planning, development and the long term vision for their local area. We would retain eight community councils in the present form and give them additional spending powers. We would not remove Planning from local Community Councils.	
Community Chest	(£840)
Local people know best what services they need. We would devolve £50,000 per year to each ward for local people to decide which council services or voluntary sector services they would fund. For example, one area may choose to invest in extra police SNT sergeants or community support officers while another may wish to fund a local community centre. We do not believe that Labour's £10,000 per ward "CGS Revenue" fund is sufficiently ambitious in devolving expenditure to local communities, particularly after Labour cut £1.6 million from the main Cleaner Greener Safer fund when compared to levels of funding under the Liberal Democrats.	
Scrutiny	(£65)
Retain funding for Scrutiny at the current level as Scrutiny is the effective check-and-balance for the executive function of the Council. Scrutiny is now more important than ever as Southwark's decision making is being centralised further and further.	
Total	(£4,180)
(Shortfall)/Surplus	£0

LATE AMENDMENT B

Moved: Councillor Toby Eckersley
Seconded: Councillor Michael Mitchell

Insert new paragraph:

This council notes that the number one traffic safety priority in Dulwich Village is the retention of school crossing patrols. It further notes that the main demand of the campaigners for the retention of the threatened school crossing patrols is secure long term funding for the patrols and that the Dulwich community council unanimously supported them in that demand. This council concurs with the view that the best way of securing long term funding is to include the budgeted cost within the mainstream core funding of the council, and to that end it supports the following amendment to the budget motion:

In paragraph 1 after "£308.2m" **insert** "except that £18,000 be vired from the cleaner greener safer revenue fund reserved for the Dulwich community council, to the environment and leisure public realm budget for the purpose of retaining school crossing patrol services in the Dulwich village area".

Note: Council assembly will need to move a procedural motion to suspend council assembly procedure rule 2.11(3) Deadline for receipt of amendments, to allow the late amendment to be considered.

LATE AMENDMENT C

Moved: Councillor Michael Mitchell
Seconded: Councillor Lewis Robinson

In paragraph 1 **delete** all after 2012/13 and **insert** ", except as amended by the attached schedule to give a figure of £305.8m and a 2.6% council tax reduction for 2012/13, attached as Appendix 1."

Note: Council assembly will need to move a procedural motion to suspend council assembly procedure rule 2.11(3) Deadline for receipt of amendments, to allow the late amendment to be considered.

Conservative Budget 2012/13

Dealing with 2012/13 only

All references are to Council Assembly Agenda 29 February 2012

Appendix and Page	Dept	Sub Dept	Description	Proposal in Paper £'000	Conservative Proposal £'000	Conservative Change £'000	Reason
Appendix A Page 52	Children	Children	Free school meals	1,414	(765)	(2,179)	Not only don't extend, but reverse as far as practically possible last year's introduction as well.
Appendix A Page 52	Environment	CLLL - Culture	Additional Olympic costs	444	244	(200)	This is only a provision and the budget should be tightened to discourage waste.
Appendix A Page 52	Corporate	Corporate	Community Restoration Fund	1,000	500	(500)	A lower figure, properly targetted will achieve a very similar outcome.
Appendix A Page 53	Corporate	Corporate	Implementation of the European Directive on Agency workers and other outsourced pay arrangements	1,375	875	(500)	This is an excessively cautious provision and the budget should be reduced to reflect what will actually be achieved in 2012/13.
Appendix B Page 54	Environment	Culture	Kingswood House feasibility study	45	0	(45)	No feasibility study required.
Appendix B Page 54	Environment	Culture	Restore Kingswood House revenue budget	0	60	60	Allows the marketing, promotion and maintenance of this valuable community facility.
Appendix C Page 57	Communities	Community Councils	Cut 3 Community Councils, remove planning powers and appointment of school governors from the remaining 5 Community Councils	(344)	0	344	This proposal centralises previously devolved powers unnecessarily, a better solution can be achieved which retains more powers closer to local people, at the same cost (see below).
Appendix C Page 57	Communities	Community Councils	Cut 1 Community Council, retain planning powers and appointment of school governors with the 7 Community Councils	0	(344)	(344)	This proposal maintains Southwark as a flagship council for devolving power to local community councils, whilst at the same time meeting the financial constraints.
Appendix E Page 59	Health	All Client Groups	Adult Social Care services	(881)	(631)	250	A measure designed to protect frontline services, most particularly some of the poorest and most vulnerable in our community.
Appendix E Page 60	Environment	Public Realm	Maintain Road repairs	(200)	0	200	Roads must not be allowed to fall further into disrepair.
Appendix E Page 60	Environment	Public Realm	Save School Crossing Patrols	(50)	0	50	Crossing Patrol Staff must be permanently funded from mainstream resources.
Table 6 Page 17	Corporate		Contribution (from) balances	(4,400)	(3,900)	500	A prudent measure supporting the finance director's comments in Paras 39 and 194.
	Corporate	Personnel	Council employees paid for trade union activities	0	(100)	(100)	The Council currently spends £250,000 centrally and steps need to be taken to reduce this burden on the council tax payer.
				(1,597)	(4,061)	(2,464)	

The reduction in spending will allow the Council to reduce the Council Tax by approx 2.6%

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