
ITEM 2.1: POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY - 2011/12 - REVENUE BUDGET (THE BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor Tim McNally

Seconded: Councillor Anood Al-Samerai

Insert new paragraphs 1-4

1. Southwark Council recognises that the country is facing the worst peace-time deficit in history. However, rather than spend time attacking the current government and the previous government, this council needs to make decisions about how to make savings. We welcome the fact that consultation with residents has taken place, particularly as this confirms that there are different options which can be taken.
2. The following document sets out the detail of the alternative choices which the council should make. Savings should be made from a number of areas, including not introducing free school meals for families who do not need them; not putting £5.5 million into contingency this year; and making the most of the new government's New Homes Bonus. These proposals are responsible and put in place a system which would make sure that the borough replaced contingency funds and reserves over the next few years.
3. With these simple savings, far more could be done to protect Southwark residents, young and old, and the environment in which we all live. Funding should not be cut for older people's day centres, early years services, the community games, the disabled person's taxi card and youth services. Genuine community engagement should be protected and encouraged through supporting community councils and cleaner, greener and safer projects. Our streets should be kept clean and our libraries should not be closed.
4. This council should trust residents to make their own decisions about how their money is spent. That is why we have proposed devolving £1.2 million to the community chest. This programme would give each community council about £150,000 to spend however they wish. For example, Camberwell Community Council might wish to spend it on their library or Walworth Community Council might choose to invest in extra police community support officers or youth workers. This would genuinely allow local communities and their elected councillors to make decisions about which of their local services are protected.

Renumber subsequent paragraphs

Existing paragraph 1 (new 5) – **Add** at end “, subject to the changes detailed in the following schedules being made to Appendices A-E of the cabinet report.”

Existing paragraph 2 (new 6) – **Add** at end “, subject to the changes detailed in the following schedules being made to Appendices A-E of the cabinet report.”

Existing paragraph 3 – renumber as new 7.