

AMENDMENTS

ITEM 2.1: POLICY AND RESOURCES STRATEGY 2017/18 – 2019/20 REVENUE BUDGET (see pages 1 - 150 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor Catherine Rose

Seconded: Councillor Evelyn Akoto

Following recommendation 3 **insert** new recommendations:

School funding

4. Council assembly welcomes the contribution from Schools Forum from the Dedicated Schools Grant to fund the shortfall in Education Support Grant (ESG) services in 2017/18, but notes its concern about the ending of ESG, which funds the important work that the council's school improvement team undertakes working with local schools.
5. Council assembly notes that this change comes alongside a proposed new national funding formula, which will have a damaging and disproportionate impact on schools in Southwark by reducing funding by 2.7%, alongside existing additional budget pressures.
6. Council assembly believes that at a time when some schools in Southwark could be losing £1,000 per pupil in funding, it is more important than ever that the council is able to continue supporting schools to improve opportunities for Southwark children.
7. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to work with schools in Southwark to protect school improvement, continue to encourage school-to-school support and increase collaboration within the Southwark family of schools.
8. Council assembly also calls on councillors to support the Southwark campaign for fair funding, and to work with schools, parents and other London boroughs to campaign against cuts to funding for London schools.

AMENDMENT B

Moved: Councillor Michael Mitchell

Seconded: Councillor Jane Lyons

In Recommendations point 3, after £274.3m add:

"as further amended by this amendment attached as Appendix 1".

APPENDIX 1

Dept	Description	Conservative Proposal £'000	Conservative improvement £'000	Reason
Environment & Leisure	Increase proactive maintenance of highways	100	100	The Council must do more to maintain and enhance the highways.
Environment & Leisure	Take up the offer from MOPAC for additional police resources at a reduced cost to the borough	200	200	The addition of extra officers in the south west cluster is a significant confidence boosting measure for the Dulwich area and demonstrates the council's commitment to reducing crime and anti social behaviour.
Environment & Leisure	Additional resources to combat graffiti	50	50	The Council must work more effectively with other agencies to reduce the level of graffiti in the south of the borough.
Environment & Leisure	Mitigate the adverse impact on service delivery of the proposed changes to road sweeping and litter picking.	50	50	The proposed changes in the budget are not spelt out and it may be necessary to have additional resources available if the reality proves to be environmentally harmful.
Chief Executive	Cease the publication of "Southwark Life"	(108)	(108)	Cease publication of this superfluous magazine
Housing and Modernisation	Council employees paid for trade union activities	(100)	(100)	The Council needs to take steps to reduce this burden on the council tax payer.
Chief Executive	Savings made from the merging of back office services with other local authorities	(192)	(192)	6 years on and the Council has failed to make the savings enjoyed by other boroughs through more joint working with other agencies.
Total net changes on the budget		0	0	

AMENDMENT C

Moved: Councillor Rosie Shimell

Seconded: Councillor Ben Johnson

Insert new paragraphs 1-5:

1. **Southwark Liberal Democrats will stop Labour's council tax rise** which hits the poorest the hardest. Instead, we will balance the books by reducing council waste, increasing fees for developers and making polluters pay.
2. **Fighting for the rights of everyone**
Labour is increasing people's council tax bills while slashing vital social care support for older and disabled residents and people with learning disabilities. We will stop these short-sighted cuts while we ask the people who are most affected how the Council can best support them while spending residents' money wisely.
3. **Fighting for local democracy**
Labour's lack of consultation with local people over the services which affect their lives is shameful. We will work with service users, the voluntary sector and the NHS to design alternative proposals for services which Labour wants to cut.
4. **Fighting for a cleaner, greener Southwark**
Labour's £16 bulky waste collection charge has contributed to increased flytipping on Southwark's streets and estates while discriminating against residents without access to a car or on lower incomes. We will scrap this unfair waste tax and instead crack down on businesses and individuals who engage in illegal flytipping.
5. **Fighting for more homes**
Southwark desperately needs more homes, but the Labour council allows too many developments that don't provide enough housing that local residents can afford. We will reverse Labour's proposed cuts to the planning team and invest to:
 - ensure officers spend as much time talking to residents as they do to developers;
 - train planning lawyers to fight residents' corner and stand up to developers;
 - speed up the construction of affordable homes Southwark residents need.

Recommendation 1:

Delete:

"...increase the Southwark element of the council tax for 2017-18 by 1.99%"

and **replace** with:

"...freeze the Southwark element of the council tax for 2017-18."

Recommendation 3:

Delete:

"Agrees the recommendations of the 7 February 2017 cabinet for a general fund budget requirement (after specific grants and use of reserves) for 2017-18 of £274.3m"

and **replace** with:

"Agrees a general fund budget requirement (after specific grants and use of reserves) for 2017-18 of £274.3m subject to the changes detailed in the following schedules being made to appendices of the cabinet report and to make any necessary consequential amendments to the reports and tables in items 2.1 and 3.1 as a result of the above."

Savings

APPENDIX 2

Item	Description	2017/18 £ 000
Delete two Cabinet posts and all four Deputy Cabinet member posts	<i>Labour council bosses have not seen any cuts to their own salaries. Liberal Democrats will cut two Cabinet and all four Deputy Cabinet Member posts.</i>	81
Scrap the 'golden goodbye' policy for Cabinet Members .	<i>It is not acceptable at a time when the council budget is under such pressure that Cabinet members who retire, are sacked or who stand down from the Council are rewarded financially.</i>	8
Cut council propaganda	<i>We will scrap the Southwark Life magazine for residents.</i>	108
Cut council catering	<i>It is not right that the council continues to spend money on catering and refreshments for meetings and events. The Liberal Democrats will scrap this budget and explore opportunities for sponsorship when refreshments are absolutely necessary.</i>	69
Cut the cost of contracts	<i>The council contract for cleaning, repairs and security is scheduled for re-negotiation in 2018. We will look to secure savings of 25% in awarding the new contract to be realised from February 2018.</i>	275
Total savings		541

Income

Increase council tax collection rate	<i>Council Tax performance in 2017-18 should be anticipated to be higher than the collection rate agreed by Cabinet in December 2016. The budget proposals include £900k for this, to be managed in-year by careful monitoring and consequential accounting transactions.</i>	900
Impose levies on bars and pubs operating late at night	<i>Bars and pubs should not disturb their neighbours, so the Liberal Democrats will impose a levy on those operating after midnight.</i>	60
Increase planning fees	<i>We will make developers pay more for their schemes and the impact of works in Southwark to help pay for local services.</i>	290
Use the Council's powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices to drivers who leave their vehicle engines running	<i>It is time to treat tackling air pollution as a priority and to stop expecting only others to take action. The Council has powers it can use but chooses not to.</i>	50
Issue fines to businesses and individuals engaged in flytipping in the borough	<i>Flytipping is increasing in Southwark. The Council should use its enforcement powers much more like other London councils to catch individuals and businesses that dump rubbish in our streets and on our estates.</i>	50
Roll out the emissions-based resident parking permit scheme	<i>It is time to treat tackling air pollution as a priority and to stop expecting only others to take action. The Council has powers it can use but chooses not to.</i>	175
Increase fees for development work licences	<i>We will make developers pay more for their schemes and the impact of works in Southwark to help pay for local services.</i>	50
Make registry office and registrar fees fairer	<i>We will make the charges for getting married in Southwark fairer.</i>	100
Introduce a diesel surcharge on the most polluting vehicles through the resident parking permit scheme	<i>It is time to treat tackling air pollution as a priority and to stop expecting only others to take action. The Council has powers it can use but currently chooses not to.</i>	150
Pilot workplace parking levy scheme in the borough to discourage unnecessary journeys by car and reduce air pollution levels in the borough.	<i>It is time to treat tackling air pollution as a priority and to stop expecting only others to take action. The Council has powers it can use but chooses not to.</i>	100
Total income		1,925
Total income + savings		2,466
	Savings + income - commitments	0

Commitments

APPENDIX 3

Item	Description	2017/18
		£ 000
Fighting for the rights of everyone	• We will reverse Labour's unfair council tax increase.	1,800
Fighting for the rights of everyone	• Labour is increasing people's council tax bills while slashing vital social care support which helps older and disabled residents and people with learning disabilities to remain independent. We will stop these short-sighted cuts while we ask the people who are most affected their views on how the Council can best support them while spending public money wisely.	316
Fighting for local democracy	• Labour's lack of consultation with local people over the things which affect their lives is shameful. We will work with service users, the voluntary sector and the NHS to co-produce workable, person-centred proposals for those services which Labour wants to cut.	100
Fighting for more homes	• Reverse Labour's cuts to the Planning Team to: - ensure officers spend as much time talking to residents as they do with developers - train planning lawyers to fight residents' corner and stand up to developers - speed up building the affordable homes Southwark residents need	75
Fighting for a cleaner, greener Southwark	• Re-introduce free bulky waste collections	175
Total commitments		2,466

AMENDMENT D

Moved: Councillor Anood Al-Samerai

Seconded: Councillor James Okosun

Council assembly recognises the invaluable contribution made by migrants and refugees living and working in Southwark, including citizens of fellow European Union countries.

Council assembly further recognises that since the EU referendum on 23 June 2016, there has been a rise in reported hate crime in London and many refugees and EU citizens have become increasingly anxious about their status and how they are perceived.

Council assembly notes the report “*Am I Welcome*” produced by Citizens Advice Southwark on the barriers facing refugees and migrants in Southwark in accessing statutory services and building successful new lives in our borough.

Council assembly also notes the report on the Resettlement of Syrian Refugee Households considered by cabinet on 13 December 2016, outlining the council’s commitment to rehouse 25 Syrian refugee families over 5 years.

Council assembly further notes that Special Responsibility Allowances for councillors have not been reduced since 2010 and that the Policy and Resources Strategy 2017-18 proposes a combined increase in council tax of 4.99% across the borough.

Insert after paragraph 3:

4. Council assembly amends the budget as follows:

- **Insert** the following budget line into Appendix C (Commitments):

Making Southwark a refugee-, migrant- and EU citizen-friendly borough, working with the voluntary sector to support new and existing communities in building successful lives in our borough - £29,000

- **Insert** the following budget line into Appendix D (Efficiencies and Improved Use of Resources):

Reduce Special Responsibility Allowances for all councillors by 4.99% in line with the proposed combined increase in council tax - £29,000