

**2015/16 BUDGET PRESSURES – ALL COUNCIL SERVICES**  
**(EXCLUDING SCHOOLS)**

**DEPARTMENT FOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

**1P    Housing Benefit/Localised Council Tax Scheme Administration Grant  
- £110,000**

This Government grant income provides funding support to the Local Authority for the administrative running of the national Housing Benefit and Localised Council Tax Scheme. The Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) announces annually the Local Authority allocations for the above grant. Additionally, the DWP has announced a further reduction to support the transfer of the fraud service to the DWP's national Single Fraud Investigation Service (SFIS). Nationally the total available for distribution for this overall grant has reduced year on year and the consequent reduction in the Council's annual grant for 2015/16 has now been confirmed by the DWP as £110,000.

**Sub-total Department for Corporate Services**

**£110,000**

**DEPARTMENT FOR PEOPLE**

**2P    Transitions – £635,000**

This is a request for additional budget to fund the community support costs of transition for citizens with a Learning Disability who will reach the age of 18 and require the support of Adult Social Care to ensure that they have positive outcomes in their lives.

**3P    Demographics costs for Older People - £500,000**

This relates to a request for additional budget to cover the increased demand for care for Older People. This is due to the rise in the life expectancy of the residents in Southend who as a consequence require a 24 hour provision to reduce their social isolation and ensure that they are safe.

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**4P Staying Put - £75,000**

Additional budget required to meet statutory guidance relating to funding foster placements for children leaving care between the ages of 18 and 21.

The demand for staying put placements is growing as we have a large cohort of children aged 15 – 17 years of age. Increased demand will continue until 2017/18.

Young People Becoming 18

14/15	106
15/16	126
16/17	125
17/18	125
18/19	111

**5P Best Interest Assessments - £170,000**

This relates to a request for additional budget to cover the increased demand for Best Interests assessments. This follows a recent High Court Ruling which considerably widened the applicability of Best Interests assessments and increased the number of requests for Best Interest assessments.

As Southend has 103 care homes within our boundaries, it is expected that we will experience further significant growth in this area. Southend Borough Council is also responsible for Southend residents within all Southend NHS hospital and long term care establishments. The Council remains the Supervisory Body for Southend residents placed outside of Southend, whether the person is residing in a care home or receiving treatment in hospital.

The scope of the judgement has also expanded to include consideration of people living in supported living and domestic settings, however the Court has introduced a fast track process until 2017, when people residing in these setting will be encompassed under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

It is a statutory function of the local authority to carry out best interest assessments within prescribed timescales.

**Sub-total Department for People**

**£1,380,000**

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**DEPARTMENT FOR PLACE**

**6P Decriminalised Parking - £100,000**

This pressure relates to an under recovery in income in this area as the number of PCN's issued are lower than previous years.

**7P Waste Management base budget - £1,500,000**

This pressure results from the need to adjust the baseline waste management budget from April 2015 as a consequence of the waste PFI agreement with Essex County Council.

**Sub-total Department for Place £1,600,000**

**TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL PRESSURES £3,090,000**