


Public Document Pack

Southend-on-Sea City Council

Executive Director (Strategy, Change and Governance):

Stephen Meah-Sims

 Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 6ER

 01702 215000

 www.southend.gov.uk



24 February 2023

THE COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY, 2023 SUPPLEMENTARY PACK: COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS, BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND AMENDED APPENDIX 3(IV) (FEES AND CHARGES)

Please find enclosed, for consideration at the next meeting of the The Council taking place on Thursday, 23rd February, 2023, the following items that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda Item No

5 Questions from Councillors (Pages 3 - 4)

Question and answer sheet attached

**7 Prioritising Resources to Deliver Better Outcomes 2023/24 to 2027/28
(Pages 5 - 14)**

Budget Amendments pack and amended Appendix 3(iv) (Fees and Charges) attached

Robert Harris
Principal Democratic Services Officer

Questions from Councillors

1. Question from Councillor Woodley to the Leader of the Council

Question

In the document 'Budget Savings and Income Generation Initiatives at reference SOC-09 it is shown that savings of £60k can be achieved by 2024/25. To achieve this objective, consultation with the bowls clubs will be essential. When will discussions start and what process does the Council plan to adopt?

Answer

Further to agreement by the full Council, it is anticipated that discussions will commence via the Bowls Circle and with individual bowls clubs, depending on specific needs, as soon as possible. The process will be open and transparent, and the Park Department will work with the bowls community to ensure the outcomes are achieved.

This page is intentionally left blank

Council Budget – 2023/24 to 2027/28

7

Budget amendment to the proposed 2023/24 General Fund Revenue Budget

Proposed by Councillor Woodley and Seconded by Councillor Cowdrey

Revenue Budget Amendment - Fees & Charges

	<u>£'s</u>
Southend Pass (IGC-05)	25,000
To amend the proposed annual charge of £120 to £112 in line with the general 10.1% increase proposed for all other fees and charges, or £10.00 per month on an annual contract. In addition, to ensure that the contract conditions of the Southend Pass are fully enforced.	
Charging for car parks that are currently free (IGC-12)	25,000
Remove the proposal to charge in the 4 identified car parks which are currently free.	
Tradesperson Permit (Fees and Charges schedule)	5,000
To delete the proposed Tradesperson Permit for £1,100 and to replace with a £350 permit only.	
Total of revenue budget amendment	55,000

Funding Proposal

That potential decrease in lost income arising from the proposed deletion of the above income generating proposals of £55,000 be offset as follows.

Car Parking Zone 1a	(55,000)
----------------------------	-----------------

To include the Shorefield Road Car Park and Cliffs Pavilion Car Park in Zone 1a charging from 6pm to 9pm.

In addition, to ensure that residents living above and behind the Zone1a charging area are protected from increased parking stress especially at night with anti-social noise and disruption when people go back to their vehicles.

Total of funding proposal	(55,000)
----------------------------------	-----------------

Net Overall Impact	0
---------------------------	----------

Chief Finance Officer (S151 Officer) statement pursuant to Standing Order 10.1(e)

I can confirm that as the Council's S151 Officer, I am able to state that the overall budget proposed is still sufficiently robust but challenging including this proposed amendment for approval by the Council.

For the Southend Pass and Tradespersons permit, it is difficult to assess the full scale of take up and parking behaviours but overall given the performance to date of the Southend Pass and the minor numbers that have taken up the Tradespersons Permit these proposed changes do not pose a significant risk to the Council budget in the context of the overall parking Income budget and therefore the potential range of risk would not produce an **unbalanced** or **unsound** budget.

Joe Chesterton

Executive Director - Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

22nd February 2023

Council Budget – 2023/24 to 2027/28

Budget amendment to the proposed 2023/24 General Fund Revenue Budget

Proposed by Councillor Woodley and Seconded by Councillor Cowdrey

Revenue Budget Amendment - Expenditure

	<u>£'s</u>
Street lights	300,000
To reinstate all street lights to 100% brightness.	
Total of revenue budget amendment	300,000

Funding Proposal

That the additional increase in net revenue expenditure arising from the proposed additional investment in street lights be offset as follows.

Creation of additional car parking spaces (300,000)

To create potential additional parking spaces in a range of different locations across the City such as:

Eastern Esplanade, Marine Parade, Western Esplanade, Leas Parade, Clifftown Parade, Grand Parade etc

These proposed additional spaces would need to be delivered in line with the current parking strategy and will require consultation, engagement and procurement to deliver the additional spaces which may impact on the date of commencement.

The amount shown here as an additional income is assuming that these possible spaces are in place by 1st September and income received per bay remains in line with current parking behaviours.

Total of funding proposal (300,000)

Net Overall Impact 0

Chief Finance Officer (S151 Officer) statement pursuant to Standing Order 10.1(e)

I can confirm that as the Council's S151 Officer, I am able to state that the overall budget proposed is still sufficiently robust but challenging including this proposed amendment for approval by the Council and therefore in my opinion would not produce an **unbalanced** or **unsound** budget.

Joe Chesterton

Executive Director - Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

22nd February 2023

Council Budget – 2023/24 to 2027/28

Budget amendment to the proposed General Fund Capital Budget

Proposed by Councillor Woodley and Seconded by Councillor Cowdrey

Capital Investment Programme

	<u>£'s</u>
1) Footways & Highways	0
<p>To consider bringing forward £6m of investment for footways and highways back into the subject to viable business case section of the Capital Programme for 2023/24 from the currently proposed 2027/28 financial year.</p>	
2) Public Toilet Provision	0
<p>To allocate the current capital budget of £699,000 to toilet refurbishment schemes for Eastern Esplanade and Southchurch Hall and to provide new Public Toilet provision at Blenheim Park against the existing approved capital investment programme for 2023/24.</p>	
3) Southchurch Park Pavilion	0
<p>To allocate the refurbishment of this scheme against the existing capital investment programme 2023/24 budget for Priority Works of £600,000.</p>	
Total of capital budget amendment	0
Total of funding proposal	(0)
<p>Not currently required - as proposal 1 is requesting to bring forward consideration against the 'subject to viable business cases' section of the capital programme and proposals 2 and 3 are requesting to allocate funding to schemes from existing approved capital budgets.</p>	
Net Overall Impact	(0)

Chief Finance Officer (S151 Officer) statement pursuant to Standing Order 10.1(e)

I can confirm that as the Council's S151 Officer, that these proposals would not produce an unbalanced or unsound budget and that I am still able to state that the overall budget package proposed is still sufficiently robust but challenging for approval by the Council.

In coming to this conclusion I have had regard to the following;

1) Footways & Highways – the proposal is to bring £6m investment forward from the financial year 2027/28 to 2023/24. The classification of 'subject to a viable business case' development would remain and no additional financing costs will be incurred at this stage. Given the national economic and financial situation is showing signs of improvement it is expected that during the latter part of 2023/24 this sum could move into the main programme but would need to be in line with the Council's overall budget situation at that time.

2) Public Toilet Provision – the total budget would be utilised against the three schemes and unless additional budget is provided no other public toilet provision schemes would be feasible.

3) Southchurch Park Pavilion - utilising the Priority works budget of £600,000 for this one scheme would mean that there would then be no budget for any other in-year emergency/priority works to the Councils operational and administrative buildings.

Joe Chesterton

Executive Director - Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

22nd February 2023

Council Budget – 2023/24 to 2027/28

Budget amendment to the proposed 2024/25 savings proposals

Proposed by Councillor Woodley and Seconded by Councillor Cowdrey

Revenue Budget Amendment of 2024/25 savings proposals

	<u>£'s</u>
Parking Charges for Parks (IGC-17)	0
To delete the proposal to commence charging at four main parks in 2024/25, which could generate an estimated £50,000 from 2024/25.	
Bowling Greens Review (SOC-09)	0
To delete the proposal to review and consolidate underused bowling greens and eliminate the subsidy, which would generate an estimated expenditure saving of £60,000 from 2024/25 to allow time for a wider comprehensive review of all subsidies across discretionary Sports and Leisure Services.	
Total of revenue budget amendment for 2023/24	0
 Funding Proposal	
Not required for 2023/24	(0)
 Total of funding proposal	(0)
 Net Overall Impact	0

Chief Finance Officer (S151 Officer) statement pursuant to Standing Order 10.1(e)

I can confirm that as the Council's S151 Officer, I am able to state that the overall budget proposed is still sufficiently robust but challenging including this proposed amendment for approval by the Council and would not produce an **unbalanced** or **unsound** budget.

In coming to this conclusion, the proposals would mean creating a further budget gap of £110,000 however this could be offset in the main by the wider comprehensive review of subsidies across all other discretionary sports and leisure services. This would need to be developed and be implemented as part of the budget setting for 2024/25.

Joe Chesterton

Executive Director - Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

22nd February 2023

Parking Charges 2023/24

Location/Description	Unit	Zone 1a 8am - 9pm	Zone 1b 8am - 6pm	Zone 2 8am - 6pm	Zone 3 8am - 6pm	Description of change
On-Street Pay and Display *applies to Electric vehicles & bays	Up to 1 hr	£2.80	£1.20	£1.10	£0.00	Average increased charge 10%
	Up to 2 hrs	£5.50	£2.40	£2.20	£2.20	
	Up to 3 hrs	£8.30	£3.60	£3.30	£3.30	
	Up to 4 hrs	£11.00	£4.80	£4.40	£3.90	
	Up to 5 hrs	£13.80	£6.10	£5.50	£5.00	
	Up to 6 hrs	£16.50	£7.30	£6.60	£6.10	
	Up to 10 hrs	£19.30	£13.20	£13.20	£11.00	
	Up to 13 hours	£22.00				
Off-Street (Car Parks) *applies to Electric vehicles & bays (VAT applicable)	Up to 1 hr	£2.80	£1.20	£1.10	£0.00	Average increased charge 10%
	Up to 2 hrs	£5.50	£2.40	£2.20	£2.20	
	Up to 3 hrs	£8.30	£3.60	£3.30	£3.30	
	Up to 4 hrs	£11.00	£4.80	£4.40	£3.90	
	Up to 5 hrs	£13.80	£6.10	£5.50	£5.00	
	Up to 6 hrs	£16.50	£7.30	£6.60	£6.10	
	Up to 10 hrs	£19.30	£13.20	£13.20	£11.00	
	Up to 13 hours	£22.00				
Parks & Open Spaces - where applicable. Refer to signage in car park (VAT applicable)	Up to 1 hr	£2.80	£1.20	£1.10	£1.10	Average increased charge 10%
	Up to 2 hrs	£5.50	£2.40	£2.20	£2.20	
	Up to 3 hrs	£8.30	£3.60	£3.30	£3.30	
	Up to 4 hrs	£11.00	£4.80	£4.40	£3.90	
	Up to 5 hrs	£13.80	£6.10	£5.50	£5.00	
	Up to 6 hrs	£16.50	£7.30	£6.60	£6.10	
	Up to 10 hrs	£19.30	£13.20	£13.20	£11.00	

This page is intentionally left blank