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Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Department for Corporate Services

John Williams - Head of Legal & Democratic Services

Our ref: RH/Council Agenda

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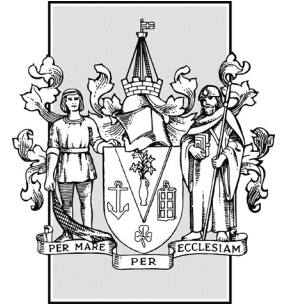
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Date: 29th February 2016

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Dear Councillor

THE COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2016

Please find enclosed, for consideration at the next meeting of the The Council taking place on Thursday, 25th February, 2016, the following report(s) that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No Item

8. Council Budget 2016/17 – Amendments 1 and 2 (Pages 1 - 4)

Yours faithfully

Robert Harris

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Council Budget – 2016/17

Budget amendment 1 to the proposed 2016/17 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Budget

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Proposed by Councillor Flewitt and Seconded by Councillor Courtenay

	<u>£'s</u>
1. <u>Budget Amendment</u>	
<u>HRA rental Income</u>	65,000
Amend the HRA budget for 2016/17 to reduce the rent levels on Sheltered Housing Units by 1%, to ensure equality across all of the Council's housing stock.	
Total of budget amendment	65,000

That the annual loss in income of £65,000 be offset as follows;

2. <u>New Funding Proposal</u>	
<u>Capital investment reserve</u>	(65,000)
The financing of the loss in rental income would be met annually by a reduction in the appropriation to the capital investment reserve for housing investment purposes.	
Total of funding proposal	(65,000)

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

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

Joe Chesterton,

Head of Finance and Resources (S151 Officer)

23rd February 2016

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Council Budget – 2016/17

Budget amendment 2 to the proposed 2016/17 General Fund Revenue Budget

Proposed by Councillor Lamb and Seconded by Councillor Courtenay

Supported by: Councillors Arscott, Buckley, Butler, Byford, Cox, Davidson, Evans, Flewitt, Folkard, D Garston, J Garston, Habermel, Hadley, Holland, Jarvis, Phillips, Robertson, Salter and Walker

£'s

1. Budget Amendment

PL7 – Parking Charges 200,000

That the current proposal (to increase parking charges in seafront car parks) does not proceed, resulting in a loss of income of £200,000.

PE15 – School Improvement 150,000

That this proposed expenditure saving does not proceed, resulting in an annual loss in savings of £150,000.

PE22 – Teenage Pregnancy 67,000

That this proposed expenditure saving does not proceed, resulting in an annual loss in savings of £67,000.

CS1 & CS3 – Cremation Fees & Cemetery Burial Fees 63,000

That these proposed increases in income do not proceed, resulting in an annual loss of income of £63,000.

Total of budget amendment 480,000

That the annual loss of income/savings of £480,000 be offset as follows:

2. New Funding Proposals

Senior Management Team (SMT) restructure (200,000)

The senior management team, Head of Service and above, be restructured to deliver £200,000 worth of savings. That the Head of Paid Service be charged with proposing a new SMT structure working with Group Leaders to ensure wide member support for the new structure. To allow the Head of Paid Service sufficient time to design a new structure and undertake the necessary consultation and risk assessment only a part year saving be expected for 2016/17 and full year savings thereafter, and £100,000 be used from the Business Transformation Reserve to allow for the full year saving in 2016/17. This proposal is also likely to incur other one-off costs in

terms of potential redundancy and pension strain costs, depending upon the changes needed, of up to approximately £350,000 and that these costs also be taken from the Business Transformation Reserve.

Council-wide Vacancy Factor (200,000)

Increase the council wide vacancy factor by £200,000 (approximately 0.3% of the total salaries budget), over and above the current vacancy factors that individual service areas have. It is intended that the vacancy factor is applied as evenly as possible across the whole council, but that the exact distribution be delegated to the Head of Paid Service.

Local Government Association (LGA) & East of England LGA (56,000)

To withdraw from the above bodies and therefore payment of the annual subscriptions. Both of these subscriptions require a year's notice to withdraw and therefore £56,000 be used from the Business Transformation Reserve to allow for the full year saving in 2016-17.

Contingency budget (14,000)

Reduce the Council's General Fund contingency budget.

Catering hospitality (10,000)

Reduce the amount spent on Catering Hospitality (reducing tea, coffee and biscuits provided 'free of charge' at public council meetings), by £10,000, leaving a sum of £6,000 in this budget.

Total of funding proposal (480,000)

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

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

Joe Chesterton,

Head of Finance and Resources (S151 Officer)

23rd February 2016