

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

13 FEBRUARY 2013

GENERAL FUND BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

ALTERNATIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL BY COUNCILLOR PAUL SNAPE

LEADER CONSERVATIVE GROUP

An alternative General Fund Budget, as proposed by the Conservative Group, is detailed below and, in light of this alternative budget, Council is recommended to refer back the Cabinet's Budget recommendations for further consideration.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2013-14 TO 2015-16

The Alternative Budget is attached and includes an additional Annex (1A - Savings Options) with Annex 3 replacing Cabinet's Annex 3.

The changes to the Cabinet's Budget can be summarised as follows:

Proposals for Savings (Annex 1A)

The Conservative Group proposes that the following savings options are implemented:

- The Shared Service initiative is extended to Front Line Services with a Phase 2 to be implemented in 2014-15.
- A charge of 10% is made for the collection of Union Subscriptions
- Additional procurement savings are made on Consumable budgets
- The post of Corporate Improvement Portfolio Holder on the Cabinet is deleted.
- The provision for Town Centre Toilets is deleted
- A Senior Management Structure is implemented with effect from October 2013

In proposing the above options, provision has been made for indicative severance costs arising from the Shared Services and Senior Management Restructure options.

The overall proposal will result in on going savings to the Council of £592,300 from 2016-17.

Council Tax Increases

In light of the above proposals, the Conservative Group proposes to introduce a Council Tax freeze for 2013-14 and 2014-15, but at this stage pending further efficiency proposals, maintain the indicative increase of 2% in 2015-16.

Budget Proposal (Annex 3)

As a result of the above, the Conservative Group proposes the three year budget for 2013-14 to 2015-16 as set out at Annex 3.

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012-13 AND RESOURCES 2012-13 to 2015-16

Proposals for Service Developments (Annex 4)

The Conservative Group proposes a revised Annex 4 is approved with the following change to the Service Development proposals:

- The option for the Stadium Development Fund is deleted.

As a result of this change the Conservative Group proposes the three year Capital Programme Budget for 2013-14 to 2015-16 as Annex 5 attached.

Annex 1A

Financial Plan 2013-14 to 2015-16

Conservative Group Budget

Savings Options

Option	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£	£	£
Shared Services - Phase 2 Front Line services		153,100	401,080
Collection of Union subscriptions	5,000	5,000	5,000
Procurement savings	50,000	50,000	50,000
Deletion of Corporate Improvement Portfolio	8,030	8,030	8,030
Community Toilet Scheme	20,000	20,000	20,000
Senior Management Restucture	42,600	85,200	85,200
Potential Severance Costs	-127,800	-229,700	-372,000
Inflation		6,430	23,000
Total	<u>-2,170</u>	<u>98,060</u>	<u>220,310</u>

General Fund Revenue Budget 2012-13 to 2016-17					Annex 3	
Conservative Group Recommendation to Council						
				Forecast	Standstill	Standstill
				Outturn	Budget	Budget
				2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
				£m	£m	£m
Original Budget 2012-13				12.021		
Standstill Budget 2013-14 to 2016-17					11.690	12.006
Supplementary Estimates since Original Budget Approval						
				0.010		
				0.003	0.003	0.003
Approved Budget						
Committed Changes						
					0.066	0.066
				0.066	0.066	0.066
				-0.034	-0.034	-0.034
				0.030		-0.078
				0.004	0.042	0.042
				-0.004	-0.042	-0.042
				-0.020		0.020
Likely Additional Commitments						
				-0.012	-0.012	-0.012
				0.040	0.040	0.040
				-0.171	-0.167	-0.130
					-0.095	-0.095
				0.009	0.009	0.009
Inflation						
						-0.040
						-0.080
Total Base Budget				11.876	11.500	11.832
						11.911

General Fund Revenue Budget 2012-13 to 2016-17				
Conservative Group Recommendation to Council				
	Standstill Budget 2012-13 £m	Standstill Budget 2013-14 £m	Standstill Budget 2014-15 £m	Standstill Budget 2015-16 £m
Financing				
Anticipated Grant Income, Use of Balances & Reserves				
Balances	-0.316	0.149	0.765	0.080
Regeneration & Invest to Save Reserve				
Actuarial Valuation	0.053			
Stabilisation	0.061	0.116	0.116	
Interim use	0.034	-0.261	-0.151	-0.008
Reserves		0.124		
Collection Fund Surplus	0.065	0.065		
Business Rates Growth			0.474	0.483
<i>Government Funding</i>	5.843			
Revenue Support Grant		3.909	2.972	2.376
Business Rates - Baseline Funding		2.661	2.742	2.797
Council Tax	6.027	5.162	5.214	5.371
Council Tax Compensation Grant	0.299	0.061	0.061	
Total Grant Income, Use of Balances & Reserves	12.066	11.987	12.193	11.099
Amount to be found from Council Tax	6.027	5.162	5.214	5.371
	30,590	26,204	26,466	26,730
Estimated Council Tax Level	197.01	197.01	197.01	200.95
Estimated Council Tax Increase	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.00%
Balances				
Opening Balances at 1 April	1.392	1.708	1.558	0.794
Use of Balances to Support Budget	-0.316	0.149	0.765	0.080
Closing Balances at 31 March	1.708	1.558	0.794	0.714
Saving Requirement				
Required Balances	0.741	0.729	0.702	0.714
Cumulative Surplus	0.967	0.829	0.092	0.000

Annex 5

General Fund Capital Budget - Recommendation to Council
Conservative Group Budget
2013-14 to 2015-16

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	Budget	Budget	Budget
	£	£	£
Bevan Lee Play Area	3,990	0	0
LF Hednesford Park *	100,000	1,148,770	1,148,770
Chase Leisure Centre Enhancement	134,000	0	0
Disabled Facility Grants *	634,790	530,980	575,000
Affordable Housing *	545,800	355,520	300,000
Private Sector Decent Homes	161,290	0	0
Town Centre Improvement	359,260	0	0
Mill Green	880,400	2,641,200	0
Elizabeth Road	12,880	0	0
Home Security	55,240	36,000	36,000
Stile Cop Cemetery Phases 1 & 2	295,000	0	0
Cemetery Land	1,500,000	0	0
Total Budget	<u>4,682,650</u>	<u>4,712,470</u>	<u>2,059,770</u>