

Neighbourhoods Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council has proposed three year budget plans for 2013/14 to 2015/16 in response to Government cuts and in line with the Council's budget strategy agreed by Council in September 2012.
- 1.2 The estimated levels of savings required to balance the budget, reported in the budget strategy in September 2012 was approximately £68 million over the next three years. The latest forecast requires savings of £62.2 million to balance the budget.
- 1.3 The budget proposals are currently under consultation until 4 January 2013. The outcomes from this consultation exercise and the final proposals will then be presented for approval to Council on 30 January 2013.
- 1.4 The Neighbourhoods Directorate total net controllable budget for 2012/13 was £55.552 million. The total net controllable budget for 2013/2014 is £53.506 million, and has required the Directorate to rethink historical approaches to service delivery in order to ensure that efficiency is maximised, bureaucracy is removed and front-line services are protected as much as possible.
- 1.5 The Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 document sets out detailed proposals for this budget for each of the service areas for 2013/14 and subsequent years.
- 1.6 The purpose of this report is to present the Revenue Budget Proposals for 2013/14 and subsequent years, and to allow members to scrutinise and be engaged in consultation on these budget proposals.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To discuss the content of the Revenue Budget Proposals for 2013/14 to 2015/16, and to make any recommendations to Council Cabinet on the detail of the proposed budgets.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To ensure that members are fully aware of the Revenue Budget Proposals for 2013/14 to 2015/16, and to give scrutiny members an opportunity to respond to the

budget consultation and make any recommendations to Council Cabinet as agreed by the Board.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The full Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 document has been circulated to members and can be found on Derby City Council's web site.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	N/A
Financial officer	Chloe Kenny, Head of Corporate Finance
Human Resources officer	N/A
Service Director(s)	N/A
Other(s)	N/A

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Background papers:	Derby City Council Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 There are significant financial implications arising from these proposals, with fundamental changes to budgets on a Council-wide level. Details of these changes can be found in the full Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 document.

Legal

- 2.1 The Council has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget for 2013/14, as prescribed in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and associated Regulations.

Personnel

- 3.1 There are personnel implications arising from the budget proposals, including requirements for redundancies. These personnel issues will be dealt with in accordance with normal personnel procedures and approval arrangements, including consultation with trade unions. Details can be found in the full Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 document.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The Council's budget consultation includes engagement with relevant groups that advise on equalities issues and a response to the most relevant issues arising during consultation meetings will be provided as part of the final budget report to Council Cabinet in January 2013.

A budget-wide Equality Impact Assessment will also be carried out in conjunction with a panel of advisors from minority groups.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 A review of all budget savings proposals to identify any which may have an impact under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been carried out and specific detailed assessments will be included within the planning work for any relevant savings

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 A number of budget proposals relate to issues of environmental sustainability. These are discussed in more detail in the full Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 document.

Asset Management

- 7.1 A number of the budget proposals have a significant impact on asset management as detailed in the full Revenue Budget Proposals 2013/14 – 2015/16 document. The full implications of these will be detailed as part of the planning work for each relevant saving.

Risk Management

- 8.1 A key part of the Council's budget process is the review of current levels of reserves and contingency budgets to ensure there is adequate cover for future planned needs and key financial risks it is facing over the budget period. An assessment of material risks is carried out and reserves are then set at a level that recognises these financial risks. The outcomes of this assessment will be reported separately to Council Cabinet in January 2013 as part of the Report on the Robustness of Estimates and on the Adequacy of Reserves 2013/14

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 There is a close relationship between the budget and the Council's corporate objectives. This is outlined in section 1 of the document.