

COMMUNITY COMMISSION 14 January 2008

Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Services

Revenue Budget Proposals 2008/09 to 2010/2011

RECOMMENDATION

1. To consider and comment on Revenue Budget proposals 2008/09 to 2010/2011 that fall within the remit of the Community Commission.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council Cabinet issued a summary for the budget proposals for 2008/09 to 2010/2011for consultation on 10 January. It is expected that he full document of the proposals will be made available on the Council's website in due course.
- 2.2 The remit of the Community Commission covers a wide range of services including Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy; Leisure and Direct Services; Housing Management as shown in appendix 2.
- 2.3 Some of the key areas members may wish to examine shown in the budget summary are:
 - D20 Reduction in Housing Benefit Administration grant following change of methodology requires £149k in 2008/2009 with a further £48k in 2009/2010 and £90k in 2010/2011.
 - D21 Continue to provide neighbourhood working and anti-social behaviour provision currently funded by Government through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. There will be no Government funding at all by 2010/2011 which will create a budget pressure of £1.1m to continue the services. These service areas are also currently funded from partner contributions and other external funding. Future levels of funding are currently under review.
 - S26 Review sports grants to individuals and voluntary groups £74k in 2008/2009.

2.4 The Commission is expected to consider and comment on the budget proposals.

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Background papers: None

List of appendices: Appendix 1 - Implications

Appendix 2 – Community Commission Portfolio Appendix 3 – Budget Summary 2008/9 – 2010/2011

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. Budget proposals for 2008/09 to 20010/11.

Legal

2. None arising from this report.

Personnel

3. None arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4. Effective scrutiny is to the benefit of all Derby people.

Corporate Priorities

- 5. This report links with Council's priority for 2006-09 to:
 - make us proud of our neighbourhoods
 - create a 21st Century city centre

Appendix 2

Items falling within the Community Commission Portfolio

Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy

Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordination, including Area Panels

Community Development

Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy

External Regeneration Funding

New Deal for Communities

Customer Services

Housing Strategy and Development

Private Sector Housing

Housing Options/Homelessness

Social Cohesion

Housing and Council Tax Benefits

Community Legal Services

Derby Advice

Leisure and Direct Services

Arts and Libraries

Assembly Rooms/Guildhall

Museums/Art Gallery

Festivities

Outdoor Events

Sports including Grants

Leisure Centres and Coaching

Housing Management

Housing Management – Client

The Council's Buildings of Heritage and Importance

Appendix 3

Introduction

This is a summary document of the main proposals for the Council's three year budget plans for 2008/2009 to 2010/2011. It highlights the areas where:

- the Council is looking to spend more in some areas to develop services
- there is pressure on the budget for various reasons
- it needs to make savings to make sure these developments and pressures are met and make efficiency savings as required by central government
- there are links to the Council's corporate plan and priorities

Background

The Council is funded through Government grants and the Council Tax, which is paid by residential householders.

The proposals contained within this document are based on an assumed Council Tax rise of five per cent. This level of rise was first indicated in July 2007 in the Council's budget strategy for 2008-2011. The Cabinet will recommend the exact percentage increase, along with the finalised budget proposals, to full Council on 3 March 2008.

The Council's budget strategy, published in July 2007, identified the following key budget planning issues...

- A forecast starting position for budget planning purposes of a balanced budget for 2008/2009 and 2009/2010 but a budget gap of £3.1m for 2010/2011. This is before the inclusion of new budget pressures.
- Uncertainty over the level of central government funding. At the time we were awaiting the outcome of the Government's review of funding public services for 2008/2009 to 2010/2011.
- Uncertainty over the continuation of the £4.3m Neighbourhood Renewal funding beyond 2007/8. One service area the fund supports is neighbourhood working.
- Emerging major budget pressures and risks in Adult Social Services, pension fund contributions and waste disposal.
- The need to focus on making efficiency savings through improved ways of working and making best use of recent major investments in computer systems.

If Council Tax levels were to rise by five per cent next year, the Council would have just under £177 million available to spend in 2008/2009, excluding schools. This is an increase of £9.6 million – or 5.7% – on the 2007/2008 budget. We are currently estimating increases to the budget of £7.8 million in 2009/2010 and £7.6m in 2010/2011. This assumes a 5% Council Tax increase.

Changing the level of Council Tax rise by one per cent changes the amount of money available to the Council by £0.7 million. Derby City Council always tries to minimise Council Tax increases. Council Tax rates in Derby are still among the lowest in the region. However, the Council must consider, as it does each year, that the lower the

rise, the less it can make improvements to services and the more pressure there is on the budget in future years. The Council's costs, for example fuel and energy bills, continue to increase.

The Council is also rated as an excellent, 'four-star' authority by the Audit Commission – the top rating there is.

The budget proposals

The overall financial impact of the budget developments and savings proposals over the next three years are shown in the table below and covered in more detail in the remaining pages of this document.

	Total 2008/2009 £million	Total 2009/2010 £million	Total 2010/2011 £million
Planned developments and improvements to services and pressures on the budget	+12.9	+7.7	+6.3
Approved inflation increases	+4.9	+5.2	+5.6
Savings proposals to meet planned savings levels, costs of service developments and pressures and to make a further 3% efficiency saving in 2010/11	-8.2	-5.1	-4.3
Overall change	+9.6	+7.8	+7.6

These proposals deliver a balanced budget for 2008/2009 and the following two years based on a 5% Council Tax rise. The third year budget, 2010/2011, does however include some challenging savings proposals. There are £0.7m of efficiency savings targets for which specific proposals have yet to be put forward.

Each of the Council's Cabinet Members has responsibility for a portfolio of Council services and their budgets. The proposals have been put together by Cabinet portfolio. They cover proposals for 2008/2009 2009/2010 and 2010/2011. Though summarised in this document, you can read more detail in the full budget proposal document published on our website at www.derby.gov.uk/budget08.

Some of the proposals include the restructuring of services and business units at the Council. These, together with other proposals, are likely to lead to some reductions in the number of posts. However, it is proposed to handle these, as much as possible, through managing vacancies as staff leave or by redeploying employees to other posts.

General proposals for the city

The proposals include an investment fund in 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 to continue the modernisation of the city in line with the Council's £100m Public Realm Strategy. The East Street repaying project and the ongoing major improvements in the Cathedral Green area have been part of this strategy.

Looking forward, the fund may be used to finance loan repayments, should the Council decide to borrow money to pay for projects like:

- G1 Major improvements to the Full Street area.
- G2 'Castleward Boulevard' scheme where there will be major new construction and redevelopment of route between the city centre and the railway station.
- G3 Funding to support the major upgrading of the Silk Mill museum.
- G4 Victoria Street area improvements including public art, paving and service provision and building façade illuminations.
- G5 Shop front and Theatre Walk improvements
- G6 'Time and Place' themed series of public art pieces across the city centre.

These projects could amount to over £38 million of capital investment from the Council budget over the coming three years. Where possible this will be supplemented by external funding.

The Council is committed to further phases of investment in the Public Realm Programme to deliver the Public Realm Strategy. We will consider creating further investment funds in future years as part of future budget planning.

Adult Services

Service developments and pressures include:

- D1 We have an ageing population wanting to remain independent which means there are more people needing Home Care. This creates a budget pressure of £2.3m in 2008/2009 with a further £0.3m in 2009/2010 and a further £0.4m in 2010/11
- D2 The Council will develop specific Dementia Care Services which require investment of £250k in 2008/2009 and a further £250k in 2009/2010.
- D3 Continue the provision of preventative equipment for older people following the end of previous external funding requires £150k in 2008/2009
- D4 Mental Health residential care is costly and there is a high volume of placements needed requires £647k in 2008/2009.
- D5 Continue the provision of a falls prevention service following the end of external funding requires £75k in 2008/2009
- D6 Savings built into the 2007/2008 budget not fully achieved requires £765k in 2008/2009
- D7 Continue a 'boys and young men' youth scheme in the Derwent area following the end of external funding requires £49k in 2008/2009

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels and pay for additional pressures include:

- S1 Identifying income generation opportunities. The budget assumes an income level of £0.5m in 2008/2009 with a further £1.5m in 2009/2010.
- S2 A redesign of current processes and management will provide savings in physical disability and elderly service and assessment and care management £150k in 2008/2009 and a further £150k in 2009/2010.
- S3 Re-design physical disabilities day services £100k in 2008/2009.
- S4 Reduction of placement costs and assessment and care management costs for Mental Health care provision £150k in 2008/2009 and a further £100k in 2009/2010.
- S5 By identifying non care elements of service provision, seek increased contribution from the Supporting People grant for Home Care £320k 2008/9 and a further £325k in 2009/2010.
- More packages for Continuing Care will be funded by the NHS in line with new guidance £360k in 2008/2009.
- S7 Full-year savings from the revised Direct Payments rate introduced in July 2007 £160k in 2008/2009.
- S8 Re-configure the home care service £125k in 2008/2009 and a further 125k in 2009/2010.
- S9 Savings from front line Youth Services in 2010/2011 of £175k.
- S10 Reduction in support services budgets £113k in 2008/2009 and a further £125k in 2009/2010.

Children and Young People

These budgets support our services to children and young people in the city. These services have undergone significant changes to link the work of all agencies more closely and ensure better outcomes for children and young people.

Much of the budget for the Children and Young People's Department comes from external grants rather than the general Council budget. This is the case for the schools budget, which is now funded by a ring-fenced grant called the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This grant funds not only budgets delegated to schools but also a number of central services. These include the Pupil Referral Unit, special educational needs budgets including independent special school fees, early years payments to private and voluntary providers and school admissions.

In previous years the schools budget has experienced a consistent increase year on year, much higher than the general Council budget. However, this growth is slowing down and the grant levels for the next 3 years see increases of 4.3%, 3.6% and 4.1% compared to previous increases of over 6.6% for each pupil.

Pressures on the Schools Budget include;

 £667k for the creation of a new special school and the re-designation of Moorfields Children's Home

- Payments to the private and voluntary sector for 3 and 4 year olds free nursery entitlement due to increased take up £135k
- Funding the non statutory function of the Education Psychology service £291k The proposals below relate to non-schools services.

Service developments and pressures include:

- D8 Cost of placing looked after children with specialist independent sector providers means a budget pressure of £547k in 2008/2009 with a further £133k up to 2010/2011.
- D9 Continue the rapid response team after the end of external funding £198k in 2008/2009.
- D10 Cost of financing and rolling-out an Integrated Children's system £112k 2008/9.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels, fund additional pressures and achieve a further 3% efficiency saving in 2010/2011 include:

- S11 Full-year savings from the re-designation in 2007/8 of Moorfields Children's centre as a pupil referral unit (PRU), and an equivalent part of the PRU as a special school with a delegated school budget £667k in 2008/2009.
- S12 Placing looked after children in the independent sector service efficiency savings of £112k in 2008/2009.
- S13 Education Psychology service provision costs re-categorised as falling within schools budgets £291k in 2008/2009.
- S14 Introducing means testing for home-to-school transport to faith schools £20k in 2008/2009 with a further £110k up to 2010/2011.
- S15 Neighbourhood nurseries no subsidy from 2008/9 £170k in 2008/2009.
- Savings in external placements costs with the provision of a new home for autistic children £60k in 2009/2010 and a further £150k in 2010/2011.
- S17 Removal of residential care facility for post 16's £296k in 2010/2011.
- S18 Reduce assessment and care planning resources £248k in 2010/2011.
- S19 Reduce reception and hospital service resources £108k in 2010/2011.
- S20 Reduce family support resources £134k in 2010/2011.

Community Safety and e-Government

- D11 The Community Safety Partnership works in communities to improve the local quality of life in priority neighbourhoods. The Partnership takes a neighbourhood approach to providing reassurance, tackling crime and antisocial behaviour, and engaging its services in delivering safer and stronger communities. The Council budget will continue to support the Community Safety Partnership.
- S21 Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels and fund additional pressures include potential savings from the re-specification and re-tender of the Council's ICT contact, subject to the outcome of the contract.

Corporate Policy

D12 The budget proposals include a budget pressure of £600k relating to the Local Government pension scheme as a result of an expected increase in the employer's contribution rate.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels, fund additional pressures and achieve a further 3% efficiency saving in 2010/2011 include:

- S22 Review of structures and management levels across the Resources Department £131k in 2009/2010.
- S23 Review of structures and services across the Corporate and Adult Services Department £301k in 2010/2011.
- S24 Cross Council review of Financial Services £179k 2010/2011.

Enforcement

Service developments and pressures include the cost of continuing services after the end of external funding:

- D13 Abandoned vehicles £85k from 2008/2009.
- D14 Copyright enforcement £20k from 2008/2009.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels and fund additional pressures include:

An increase to income levels and reduction of costs on the Environmental Health and Trading Standards service - £80k in 2008/9 and a further £80k in 2009/2010.

Housing Management

There are currently no identified service developments, pressures or savings for this portfolio area as this relates to services provided to Council house tenants, which are not funded from Council Tax.

Leisure and Direct Services

Service developments and pressures include:

- D15 Reduction to the expected income levels for burials and cremations requires £56k from 2008/2009.
- D16 Golf operations requires £70k from 2008/2009.
- D17 Running costs for Springwood Leisure Centre increase by £72k from 2008/2009
- D18 New Libraries running costs of £100k in 2008/2009 and a further £69k in 2009/2010.
- D19 Budget growth for waste disposal to meet additional disposal costs and provide for the joint waste disposal project with Derbyshire County Council £2m in 2008/2009 with a further £1m in 2009/2010 and £1.2m in 2010/2011.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels, fund additional pressures and achieve a further 3% efficiency saving in 2010/2011 include:

- S27 Cease provision of a Children's mobile library service £60k from 2008/9.
- S28 Reduce cost to Council for operating the Assembly Rooms and Guildhall through a review of fees and charges and a revised business model £34k in 2008/2009 and a further £58k in 2009/2010 and £25k in 2010/2011.
- S29 Efficiency savings:
 - a. Arts and Museums £21k in 2008/2009 and a further £11k in 2009/2010 and £49k in 2010/2011
 - b. Libraries £99k in 2008/2009 with a further £40k in 2009/2010 and £117k in 2010/2011.
- S30 Rationalise the provision of Council run city centre public conveniences and negotiate the use of other city centre facilities £147k in 2008/2009 and a further £250k in 2009/2010.
- S31 Close recycling 'bring sites' following implementation of the recycling strategy £100k in 2009/2010 and a further £100k in 20010/2011.
- S32 Other efficiency savings within the waste service £106k in 2008/2009 and a further £72k in 2009/2010.
- S33 Review sports grants to individuals and voluntary groups £74k in 2008/2009.
- S33 Review and rationalise the provision of Council-run community centres £59k in 2009/2010 and sports centre facilities £90k in 2009/2010.
- S34 Increased contribution of Trading activities profit £180k in 2008/2009.

Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy

Service developments and pressures include:

- D22 Reduction in Housing Benefit Administration grant following change of methodology requires £149k in 2008/2009 with a further £48k in 2009/2010 and £90k in 2010/2011.
- D23 Continue to provide neighbourhood working and anti-social behaviour provision currently funded by Government through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. There will be no Government funding at all by 2010/2011 which will create a budget pressure of £1.1m to continue the services. These service areas are also currently funded from partner contributions and other external funding. Future levels of funding are currently under review.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels, fund additional pressures and achiever 3% efficiency saving in 2010/2011 include:

- S35 Efficiency savings from a review of ways of working and better systems within Customer Services £123k in 2008/2009 with a further £36k in 2009/2010 and £25k in 2010/2011.
- S36 Derby Advice reduction in employment rights staffing £30k in 2008/2009.
- S37 A review of structures within Housing and Advice service £30k in 2010/2011.

Personnel, Performance Management and Economic Development

Service developments and pressures include:

D22 Review of income levels from the letting of Friargate studios - £27k in 2008/2009.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels, fund additional pressures and achieve a further 3% efficiency saving in 2010/2011 include:

- S38 Efficiency savings within the Personnel Division £47k in 2008/2009 and a further £35k in 2009/2010
- S39 Economic development service savings from partner contributions, promotions and project budgets £21k in 2008/2009 and a further £49k in 2009/2010.
- Seek other external funding to continue the Supporting Normanton and Supporting Derby schemes following the end of the current external funding support £142k in 2009/2010.
- S41 General reduction in the planned building maintenance budget £80k in 2008/2009 and a further £134k in 2009/2010.

Planning and Transportation

Service developments and pressures include:

- D23 Concessionary fares potential pressure (awaiting outcome of legal claims by bus operators) £1m in 2008/2009.
- D24 Increased cost of bus station operations requires £25k in 2008/2009 and a further £75k in 2009/2010
- D25 Increased cost of home-to-school transport above standard inflation levels requires £47k in 2008/2009
- D26 Provide resources for the Public Realm Programme £60k in 2008/2009.
- D27 Providing resources for the Climate Change programme £100k in 2008/2009.

Savings proposals to achieve the planned savings levels, fund additional pressures and achieve a further 3% efficiency saving in 2010/2011 include:

- S42 Efficiency savings in managing parking £40k in 2008/2009 and a further £30k in 2009/2010.
- S43 Nationally agreed planning fee increase £160K in 2008/2009.
- S44 Development Control fee increases £135k in 2009/2010
- S45 Restructure CCTV Service £171k in 2008/2009
- S46 Restructure the Planning and Development Control service provision to match the levels of fee income and government grant funding £222k in 2009/2010.

Link with the Council's priorities

The proposals also link closely with the Council's six priorities for 2008/9 which are:

- making us proud of our neighbourhoods
- creating a 21st century city centre
- leading Derby towards a better environment
- supporting everyone in learning and achieving
- helping us all to be healthy and active and independent
- giving you excellent services and value for money.

The budget proposals include the following major budget increases which will support the delivery of the corporate priorities...

- Priority 1 On-going Council budget provided for neighbourhood working service when external funding ends.
- Priority 2 £38M fund from 2009/2010 to 2010/2011 to continue the investment in the Public Realm programme and the city's assets.
- Priority 3 Investment in waste disposal.
- Priority 4 Children looked after placements providing safe effective care for some of our vulnerable young people supporting their health learning and achievement.
- Priority 5 Addressing budget pressures in Adult Social Services, particularly the increased demand in the Home Care Service.
- Priority 6 Proposals across the whole budget to deliver efficiency savings and reshape service delivery through new ways of working and making best use of computer systems.

We consult residents on an ongoing basis on key service developments and savings proposals. The results from some recent consultations which have affected these budget proposals are summarised below.

Residents told us	Result
Priority 1: Two public events in	These proposals, when finalised, will
Spondon have helped shape	be part
proposals to address traffic and	of the 2008/2009 Highways and
parking issues in the area.	Transport work programme.
Priority 2: Initial ideas on the design	The designs have since been refined
for the Cathedral Green	to include more green space – work is
redevelopment generated comments	now underway.
from 1,485 people.	
Priority 3: Feedback from the Derby	We aim to work with Pub and Club
Pointer Panel told us you were	Watch to give venues across the city
concerned about the amount of fly-	a better way of promoting events.
posting of posters and leaflets.	This will be within existing budgets.

Priority 4: We asked for your help in putting together a bid for funding for new libraries – you told us what sort of facilities you wanted. Priority 5: Many older people and organisations gave feedback about the Older People's Plan over the summer.	The bid was successful with £2 million coming from the Big Lottery Fund. The Council will pay for ongoing running costs. We are now incorporating this feedback into business plans which will have an effect on budgets in future years.
Priority 6: You told us that proposed increases to charges for home-to-school transport were too high. Priority 6: We use an Opionmeter in our customer receptions. This tells us how well you think we have dealt with you as a customer.	We are now proposing lower charges and looking to enable payment by regular instalments, which the majority of you preferred. Dealing with you quickly and efficiently saves you time and saves the Council money.

Feedback on budget proposals 2008 - 2010

If you have any comments about the proposals contained in this document, please complete the feedback form at the end of this document and send it to Budget Proposals 2008/2009, Consultation Support Team, Derby City Council, FREEPOST MID21851, Derby, DE1 2BR.

You can also email your comments to yourcityyoursay@derby.gov.uk

We need your comments by **6 February 2008**.

Your comments and feedback will be given to the Council's Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday 19 February 2008 to be considered by them when making their recommendations on the budget and level of Council Tax to the Full Council. As part of this process we are also seeking the views of Councillors and other stakeholders through a variety of meetings. Full Council meets on 3 March 2008 to agree the budget and Council Tax levels. You are welcome to attend both meetings or can view the webcasts at www.derby.gov.uk.

If you want further details about the proposals, please go to www.derby.gov.uk/budget08 where you will be able to find the full budget documents. For further details about the results and outcome please go to www.derby.gov.uk/yourcityyoursay

If you need additional copies of the Budget proposal document or feedback form, please contact the Consultation Support Team on 01332 258412.

Feedback on Council Budget Proposals 2008 - 2010

Please complete and return his feedback form if you have any comments about the proposals contained in the Council Budget proposals document by **Wednesday 6 February 2008**. All of the information that you provide will be treated in confidence.

For sections 1, 2 and 3, in the first column please indicate which issue number in the above proposals your feedback relates to. For each issue you highlight, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the proposal as outlined in the document, and your comment about this issue if you have one.

1. General Proposals within the document

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All information provided will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will only use this information to provide feedback to Council Cabinet on the Budget Proposals 2008/09.

Thank you for your feedback. Please return your completed form by **Wednesday 6 February 2008** to Budget Proposals 2008/2009, Consultation Support Team, Derby City Council, FREEPOST MID21851, Derby, DE1 2BR.