

# ITEM 4a

## Draft Budget Recommendations

### Recommendation from Community Commission Meeting held on 20 January 2000

#### S56 Opening of New Energy Shop including additional staff.

##### Recommendation 1

That Council Cabinet reconsider the proposal to open an energy shop.

##### Reasons for recommendation:

Two to five years ago city centre shop front premises would have a clear merit in raising awareness amongst the Derby public about the issues of climate change and the practical steps householders could take to reduce their carbon foot print and save on domestic fuel bills. However, the Commission cannot see the benefit in such an initiative in 2009. Energy saving light bulbs etc are available in all high street retailers and the out-of-town supermarkets. Furthermore, understanding of the issues has advanced across the population. £70,000 is a considerable amount of public money and in the very tight budgetary circumstances facing the Council could be used to better effect.

### Recommendation from Scrutiny Management Commission Meeting held on 27 January 2009

- a) That Council Cabinet note and adopt the recommendation of the Climate Change Commission to reconsider the proposal to open an energy shop
- b) That the expenditure saved by not opening an energy shop be used to offset the costs incurred by keeping the cash office in the Council House open for a further period.

##### Reasons for recommendation:

- a. For the reasons given in Recommendation 1 of the Community Commission.
- b. To enable the cash office to be kept open longer in order to give more customers an opportunity to adopt other methods of payment.