
POLICY SAVINGS FOR 2018-19

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Members with information on policy savings that have been identified between 2018-19 and 2020-21. The savings total £1.997m in 2018-19 rising to £5.765m by 2020-21. The savings have policy implications and in some cases could result in redundancies.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to:-
- (a) Consider the policy savings identified;
 - (b) Note that even if all the savings options were to be accepted, there would still be a revenue funding gap for 2018/19 and subsequent years as per the Head of Strategic Finance's Budget Outlook report;
 - (c) Agree the options to be recommended to the Council for further development.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The Council at its budget meeting on 23 February 2017, approved a one year budget for 2017-18 and approved indicative budgets for 2018-19 and 2019-20. The indicative budgets noted savings were required amounting to £3.559m in 2018-19 rising to £9.330m in 2019-20.
- 3.2 The latest budget outlook report outlines that the estimated mid-range funding gap over the three year period 2018-19 to 2020-21 is £20.286m. The estimated mid-range gap for 2018-19 is £3.908m.
- 3.3 In view of future savings requirements, a Transformation Board was established to oversee all the Council's transformational opportunities. The Board is chaired by the Executive Director of Customer Services and membership consists of a number of Senior Managers across the Council as well as Trade Union representation.
- 3.4 A significant area of work for the Board over the short to medium term has been to challenge services to deliver savings. Phase 1 is for front line services to consider savings via four operating principles: business cost reduction, income maximisation, service re-design and self-funding. Each service was given a savings target taking into consideration savings already delivered via service choices.

- 3.5 Officers have been working on identifying savings for their service to match the minimum target set by the Transformation Board. The aim was for the savings options to be transformational in nature. The options coming forward now are the first stages of an ongoing programme and the Board will remain charged with increasing the pace and scale of transformation, impact, and SMT is currently looking at how this can be augmented.
- 3.6 Some of the savings options identified by the Transformation Board have no policy implications, will not result in voluntary or compulsory redundancy and are in effect management/operational savings that management will go ahead and implement as part of normal business. These are dealt with in the separate report from the Head of Strategic Finance. Other options, which do have policy implications are detailed within Appendix 1.

Those policy savings which affect posts will be subject to statutory consultation with employees and the recognised Trade Unions.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Policy savings have been identified that total £1.997m in 2018-19 rising to £5.765m by 2020-21.

5. IMPLICATIONS

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| 5.1 | Policy – | Various. |
| 5.2 | Financial - | Savings options identified will reduce the budget gap for 2018-19. |
| 5.3 | Legal - | None identified at this stage. |
| 5.4 | HR - | HR implications have been identified for each saving option. |
| 5.5 | Equalities - | Risks in relation to equalities have been identified where appropriate, however, EQIAs will be carried out as required. |
| 5.6 | Risk - | Risks have been identified for each saving option. |
| 5.7 | Customer Service - | Impact on service delivery has been identified for each saving option. |

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director – Customer Services

22 September 2017

Appendix 1 – List of Policy Savings 2018-19 to 2020-21

Councillor Rory Colville – Policy Lead for Corporate Services