

County Council -14 February 2017

Additional Papers

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Agenda Item 9



Date: 9 February 2017

**Corporate Services
County Hall
New Road
Oxford OX1 1ND**

**Deborah Miller
Law & Governance
Democratic Services**

Dear Councillor

Additional Papers for Council – 14 February 2017

I enclose the following additional papers in relation to item 9 (Service & Resource Planning 2016/17):

Amendments by the Labour, Liberal Democrat and Green Groups (CC9 Labour), (CC9 Lib Dem) and (CC9 Green).

Please note that with CC9 Lib Dem there is a supplementary report from the Director of Finance.

Paper copies will be provided to all Members on the morning of the meeting.

Yours faithfully

Deborah Miller
Committee Officer
For and on behalf of Nick Graham
Director of Law & Governance & Monitoring Officer

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Labour Group Budget Amendments 2017 Leader of the Opposition Overview

Once again Lorna Baxter and her staff have worked tirelessly with staff across the Directorates to deliver a Budget which is balanced and within the restraints put on Local Government by Central Government. This has been done against a backdrop of over £300m of cuts, 2/3 of which were re-invested in services to meet the rising demand for Adult Social Care and Children's Services. Our staff has also had to cope with re-organisation and the transformation of how services are delivered. Through all of this they have kept the needs of the most vulnerable people in this County at the heart of what they do and for that we thank them.

This year the Government agreed that Adult Social Care needed extra funding and allowed Local Authorities to increase Council Tax by 6% over the next 2 years rather than 3 years. The Cabinet has agreed to recommend the Council to use this freedom to increase the Council Tax this year by 3% to fund the widening gap in the increasing needs of the spiraling number of Older People and others who rely on Adult Social Care. As the Adult Social care precept is only available for 2 years and beyond that the precept is limited to increases of only 1.99% additional money will need to be found and this will be a risk unless governance arrangements in Oxfordshire change and the new authority uses its power to fund these crucial services. The Labour Group supports the use of this additional freedom to raise the precept, but believe that Local Government should be freed from the diktat of Central Government in relation to how it raises the money to meet the needs of the community it serves. If Oxfordshire were able to raise the tax on the top 2 bands of property, remove the single person's discount for those who are not on any form of benefit and increase the tax on second homes, the income would go a long way to alleviate some of the enormous budget pressures in Adult Social Care and that would be real devolution. But the problem in Adult Social Care in Oxfordshire is not just financial.

The economy in Oxfordshire is thriving. Thousands of new jobs will be created this year in 2 developments alone; the Westgate Shopping Centre and expansion of Bicester Village. These attractive additional jobs and the fact that there is a chronic shortage of places for people to live, mean we are simply not able to recruit the number of carers we need. This is also true in the Health Service. This has been a major threat to Adult Social Care for some time and is getting worse. Home Care Companies have closed down because of their inability to retain Carers and not being able to fill their many vacancies. Using money from the higher precept to create a better work environment for carers is welcome, but this needs to go further. Oxfordshire should be employing its own carers. As a large employer Oxfordshire would be able to offer better terms and conditions of employment, ensure that progression and continuous professional development is in place and so raise the status of Carers, hopefully resulting in more recruits to this crucial work.

A further threat to Adult Social Care is the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) for the area covering Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and West Berkshire (BOB). These plans are convoluted and opaque. There is no clear accountability for delivery or for responsibility if it goes wrong. Oxfordshire has one of the largest pooled budgets with Health and in any transition we must be able to ensure the money put in for Social Care does not get sucked into Health Care, leaving vulnerable people in the community without the support they need. The Health Service is a National Service, accountable to the Secretary of State for Health and various quangos. It is free at the point of delivery which makes it very different from Adult Social Care which is means tested and part of Local

Government. There is, however, a real need for the 2 services to work together at local level. The joint work done to reduce the number of people stuck in hospital unnecessarily is testament to that. The STP will remove £200m from the Budget of Health and will reduce the beds available at a time when people are lying on trolleys in corridors. The fear that treatments could be rationed, as hip and knee replacements have been in other areas, will lead to further groups of older people losing their independence and needing carers. Oxfordshire Adult Social Care Services are judged externally to be better than those available in other areas within the BOB. The Labour Group will be resolute against any threat the STP poses to these services and to the wellbeing of Oxfordshire residents.

The change to Chief Executive and 3 Strategic Directors, (one of which is the Chief Executive) has delivered some £500k savings already. We hope that the new structure will result in better joint work and therefore further economies. This could be better achieved if the Cabinet Posts reflected the roles of the Strategic Directors. This would also save money. We need to look further at that budget. Councillors not only get paid an allowance which is to support them in their role as Councillors but they are also given equipment, broad -band access at home and consumables including paper etc. A Councillors Reference Group should be asked to bring forward proposals to cut the rest of the councillors overall budget by 10% and this would produce £210k of savings in total which could be used towards additional funding to support Children, Young People and Families within the new service which has been set up as a result of the closure of Children's Centres and the Early Intervention Hubs. In particular this would support open access sessions at such places as Donnington Doorstep and open access sessions for young people.

There are massive pressures in Children's Social Care: the new Children's Homes which Oxfordshire has established will start hopefully to reduce the high cost of Out County Placements which some vulnerable children and young people need. Even with this new provision, we will not have the ability to meet the needs of the most vulnerable who because of emotional and behavioral problems need to be in secure accommodation. There is a need for such accommodation and Oxfordshire could use some of its land to set up such a facility which could also offer places to other authorities struggling in the same way as Oxfordshire in providing for this group of children and young people.

Homelessness and an adequate supply of Housing are interlinked. There is a need at all levels to ensure that there is housing available which meets in particular the needs of vulnerable young people, young families and older people who need care. We welcome the work that has been done as a result of stopping the cut to the Homeless Pathway budget last year and in particular that this has resulted in the District Councils beginning to recognise that they need to put money in - however frugally. Oxfordshire could use some of its land, including land on school sites, to meet some of the shortfall in housing, by setting up a Land Development Trust. The assets and work which has already been done in the Districts/City would enhance such an initiative. There is also a need to find ways to put together housing and education projects for the majority of young people who do not go to University. We are not meeting the basic needs of these young people and many are living in overcrowded homes as they struggle to navigate their way into adulthood. Most go completely under the radar. Many of these young people end up on the streets. Co-production of projects has worked well for other groups. There may be some benefit of working with the wide range of people with differing needs who find themselves on the streets to find solutions to this problem. One size doesn't fit all and early intervention could go some way to try to alleviate the suffering of those who only have a doorway to call home.

Every County Councillor hears several times a week about potholes in their area. A small amount of money made available for potholes could enable councillors to identify those in need of urgent filling in the next financial year. In the longer term we need to find the money to invest in the technology and equipment now available to identify and mend potholes.

We propose to use £690k from the additional business rates and saving on inflation in addition to the £210k identified in a cut to the Councillors Budget. This would fund £170k in relation to potholes, £640k for open access sessions to support those young people and families who used the old Early Intervention Service including Donnington Doorstep and £90k would go towards the Homelessness Pathway and a co-production plan, which will enable users to be involved in designing early intervention services for those at risk of homelessness.

In setting the Budget there are many challenges for Oxfordshire. The Labour Group are well aware that without structural change these challenges cannot be met and the blame culture which has existed between the various public bodies and in particular the local authorities will continue while the majority of those living in our local communities carry on with their lives largely unaffected. It is those with the greatest need, who rely on their carer to get them out of bed, the child who needs to be protected from neglect and violence, the youngster without any structure or stability in their lives, the family living in poverty in overcrowded housing, and the lonely and isolated who suffer. These people living in urban areas and in the towns and villages across Oxfordshire need to be at the heart of what politicians do.

Recommendations

The Council is RECOMMENDED (in respect of revenue) to:

- approve a budget for 2017/18 and a medium term financial plan for 2017/18 – 2020/21 as amended in Labour Group Annex 1;

Liz Brighthouse
Leader of the Labour Group and the Opposition
Oxfordshire County Council

Labour Budget Amendments to Cabinet Proposals

REVENUE	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total All
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Net Pressures/Savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Do not add funding back into contingency (18CM7)	-0.690				-0.690
Saving on Members Budget	-0.210				-0.210
Potholes funding	0.170				0.170
Open access sessions to support young people and families who used the Early Intervention Service including Donnington Doorstep	0.640				0.640
Homelessness Pathway and co-production plan for early intervention services for those at risk of homelessness.	0.090				0.090
Revised Net Pressures/Savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT BUDGET STATEMENT FEBRUARY 2017

Over several years, the Conservative-led administration have responded to Government under-funding by cutting front-line services to the bone, often without the broader thinking that could have led to less painful solutions. The possible long-term impact on future budgets has been lost in the need to get the immediate years' figures to balance. We are yet to see the full impact of cuts to Children's Centres on the Children's Services budget as more families fall into vulnerability. In the haste to achieve the "savings" targets set for Children's Services and Adults Services, the potential impact on and difficulties for the Communities Directorate budget of lost staff and lost rent (never mind the damage to the reputation of the Council) was overlooked.

Some of the savings achieved fall into the realm of Tory accountancy wizardry. How realistic they are remains to be seen in the next few years.

With the latest IFS predictions that austerity will continue for many years to come, it is timely to remind Council that, but for the Liberal Democrat Group's insistence that in last year's budget a firm commitment to go for Unitary Government as soon as possible should be included, the outlook would have been gloomier still. More cuts, more pain management, more anxiety, more pessimism. For the first time in many years, and whilst others have no option but to continue to "manage decline", there is now a very real prospect of Unitary government in this County. We now have the opportunity to "get ahead of the curve" – and to become the largest rural County Unitary making the greatest savings allowing real alternatives in policy.

Whilst congratulating our officers for helping us to produce balanced budgets year after year, we believe that some of the pain could have been avoided, with more imagination and we welcome the apparent change in attitude of the current administration in relation to better management of the Council's large property portfolio. We welcome a more entrepreneurial attitude, buying as income-generating investment, disposal of unneeded, inefficient and expensive assets, and borrowing to invest whilst interest rates are low. As with the Unitary issue, we want to see this happening and happening fast.

Specific Actions within the Liberal Democrat Group amendments

Communities Directorate

There has been, over many years a policy of asking the Communities Directorate budget to take more and more of the pain. All councilors will agree that a large proportion of their time is now taken up with trying to manage increasing casework loads around traffic and transport, drainage and highways. An ever smaller team of officers with fewer and fewer resources is buried in work. Much of the bad PR that

this council has incurred in recent years surrounds the responses, and in many cases, lack of response to highways issues. The Liberal Democrat proposals are designed to address the problems of E&E, namely:

To retain 4 Area stewards at an extra cost of £150K, funded in 2017/18 from the £250k allocated to the proposed new Community Fund. The remaining £100K for 2017/18 will be put towards development work on the investment strategy.

To borrow £10m to fund the cost of highway asset improvements (including posts to enable more income) Note: second Dragon patch repairer is already on order in the contract with Sanska.

By doing this, Oxfordshire, far from managing further decline in its road system, could aspire to the fewest, most rapidly-filled potholes in the country with all the benefits to reputation that that would bring.

With regard to new development, we also call on Council to demand, via CIL or s106 that any development planned in or close to an established Air Quality Management Area should contribute towards a fund to be used to offset the impact of that development on Air Quality.

Children's Services

To address the problems and dreadful PR around asking volunteers to take over Children's Centres and in some cases "rewarding them" by charging rent. We believe that communities struggling to set up alternative children's services following the closure of most Children's Centres need more time to do this and should have access to an extra fund to which they can apply for a grant to help them become sustainable. We have therefore allocated an extra £500k in the year 2018/19 which should be open to bids from all groups working to set up viable children's services, on top of any carry forward of the original £1m which can be applied to in 2017/18.

Adult services

The administration's proposals for the use of the additional funding for Adult Social Care (ASC) worry us greatly. The money that government has allowed us to raise to support the ASC budget should be additional support, ring-fenced for that purpose, and that purpose alone and not set against existing spend in order to release savings. Oxfordshire has a proud reputation for supporting ASC and we would like to continue to preserve this. We propose to do this by:

Ensuring that all new funding (precept and one-off grant for 2017/18) is used as new money within ASC and used flexibly to help meet pressures across the system and

keep people well at home. In addition, Restore adult demography (£5m) included in the existing Medium Term Financial Plan to base budget.

In 2017/18 this will be funded by borrowing from earmarked reserves and repaid over five years from 2019/20. The on-going funding from 2018/19 will be achieved through a combination of additional Transformation Programme savings and Investment strategy savings;

We propose that the restored funds within ASC should be used as follows:

Daytime support (esp rural transport)	£1.000m
Carers' budgets (remove cut)	£0.586m
Prevention of hospital admissions	£3.414m (intermediate care & community prevention covering 6 budget headings (SCS1 – 6))

Miscellaneous

Delete one Cabinet post, saving £20k.

The Liberal Democrat Group believes that these amendments improve what is currently proposed, and make a start at repairing some of the reputational damage caused by austerity cuts. We want Council to be able to look forward to better times of a forward-looking, optimistic and unified county.

Recommendations

The Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Have regard to the supplementary report of the Director of Finance – Liberal Democrat Group budget amendments in approving recommendation b below:
- b) (in respect of revenue) approve:
 - a budget for 2017/18 and a medium term financial plan for 2017/18 – 2020/21 as amended in Liberal Democrat Group Annex 1;
- c) (in respect of capital) approve:
 - A Capital Programme for 2016/17 to 2020/21 as amended in Liberal Democrat Group Annex 2.

Richard Webber Cllr
On Behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group

Liberal Democrat Budget Amendments to Cabinet Proposals

REVENUE	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total All
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Net Pressures/Savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<u>Corporate Measures</u>					
Contribution to Transition Fund (Children's centres)		0.500	-0.500		0.000
Use of Budget Reserve	0.020	-0.550	0.500		-0.030
Prudential Borrowing Costs for £10m (Capitilised)		0.400			0.400
Additional Savings from Transformation Programme and Investment Strategy		-5.500	-1.000		-6.500
Repayment of earmarked reserves (over 5 years)			1.000		1.000
<u>Adult Social Care</u>					
Do not use the new Social Care Grant and Precept to fund demography (18SCS22 & 18CM5)	5.000	-2.302			2.698
Borrow from earmarked reserves to fund the removal of new social care funding from demography	-5.000	5.000			0.000
Use the restored additional funding from Social Care Grant and Precept (18SCS20 & 18SCS21) to fund the following areas:	-5.000	2.302			-2.698
Daytime Support including rural transport	1.000				1.000
Do not make the saving on Carers Support (18SCS14)	0.586				0.586
Intermediate care & community prevention to enable people to stay well at home (Budget Book lines SCS1-6)	3.414				3.414
<u>Communities - Environment & Economy</u>					
Do not create the Communities Fund (18EE16)	-0.250	0.250			0.000
Retain 4 Area Stewards (for local highways advice)	0.150				0.150
Developing the Investment Strategy	0.100	-0.100			0.000
<u>Resources - Corporate Services</u>					
Delete one Cabinet Post	-0.020				-0.020
Total	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Liberal Democrat Budget Amendments - Capital

<u>Amendments to the Capital Programme</u>	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	TOTAL £m
Highways Maintenance	8.000				8.000
Asset Improvement	2.000				2.000
Total amendments to the Capital Programme	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Supplementary Report by the Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer) – Liberal Democrat Group budget amendments

Introduction

1. In expressing my opinion on the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves, I take into account the financial risks facing the Council.
2. It is my view that the budget amendments proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group are sufficiently different in financial terms, from the budget proposed by Cabinet, upon which my original report is based, that it is necessary for me to produce a supplementary report.

Financial Risks

3. My main report refers to the further savings in the existing Medium Term Financial Plan totalling £60m which include £15m from the Fit for the Future Programme. I have referred to the need for close monitoring of the programme to ensure the savings are delivered within the one-off resources available.
4. The budget amendments proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group increase the savings required from the Fit for the Future Programme (including investment strategy opportunities) from £15m to £20m in 2018/19. The proposals also increase the one-off funding available for implementing the programme, however it is only proposed to be increased from £3.5m to £3.6m.
5. The Cabinet's proposed MTFP assumes that there will be one-off funding available in the budget reserve in 2018/19 of £6.8m, although the budget amendments proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group reduce this to £6.3m. This means that some of the savings required could be deferred until 2019/20, but the majority will be required in 2018/19. Use of this reserve will also be dependent on the other risks and pressures identified as part of the Service & Resource Planning process next year.

Robustness of the budget

6. There is an increased risk that the additional savings required will either not be achieved, be delivered after 2018/19, or require more funding to implement than is currently available. This would need to be addressed as part of the Service & Resource Planning process next year.
7. However, having identified that there is an increased risk in future years, I am satisfied that the budget proposals for 2017/18 recommended by the Liberal Democrat Group are robust.

Lorna Baxter
Director of Finance
8 February 2017

The Green Budget 2017

A More Compassionate Oxfordshire

This is election year and as expected to try to fool the electorate there are relatively few extra cuts (£2.2m) to the budget for the forthcoming year 2017-2018.

However the devastating cuts, on a massive scale, from previous years are being implemented and if the Tories are re-elected their announced target of cutting **£377m** will be implemented by 2021. That means effectively that another **£77m** of reductions in the budget will be made after the elections are over.

The cuts commenced in earnest in 2010/11 with a cut of **£35m**. In 2011/12 that grew to **£54.6m**. Another **£37.2 m** was taken out in 2012/13 followed by **£42.5m** in 2013/14. They continued to slash services in 2014/15 with another **£34.5m** followed by **£42.8m** in 2015/16 and culminating with a massive **£52.5m** in last year's 2016/17 budget. Altogether over **£300m** million has been cut from the budget so far largely focus on Adult Social Care. Two thirds of this has been reinvested into the services with the greatest increase in demand but even this has still meant over **£125m** of direct unmitigated cuts to the elderly, the sick, special needs children, the disabled and the homeless.

In putting forward a budget we are showing that there is an alternative, that you don't have to keep bringing forward Austerity budgets that turn their backs on the most needy. Legally and financially, despite reductions in Central Government funding, it is possible to devise a budget based on compassion and building a better society all that is needed is the political will.

In devising the Green Budget our policy has always been a dented shield focused on protecting the most vulnerable. By restoring the cuts for special education needs, providing enough money to ensure the remaining Community Children's Centres can run effectively rather than close, (this includes Donnington Doorstep) plus putting back the services for families with disabled children our commitment to help children in need is clear. Our proposal to restore grants to SEN children's theatre and establish the mobile library service to schools is further evidence of our commitment to the next generation.

For the elderly where the cuts have been the deepest, our budget sees the restoration of the Falls Service, dementia care and the return of the much needed respite care and support for carers. Carers, who give thousands of hours

every week to the sick and disabled, need support. The Green budget also stops the closure of 47 much needed Health and Wellbeing and Learning Disability Day Care Centres for senior citizens.

Rather than abandon the growing number of homeless the Green budget will put back the million pound cut made over the last few years. Restoring Funding for the Advice Centres who provide help for the most disadvantaged to navigate the complex benefits system is also an essential part of our Green Budget.

A massive range of organisations and charities that do so much to help those who cannot help themselves, are struggling now as a result of seemingly endless cuts. We have set aside £2.6m in a special Crisis Fund to assist them in their work and stop them collapsing. The reliance on the Third Sector is now overwhelming and this emergency reserve is critical.

The increase in the Council Tax we have calculated to restore most of the most direct recent cuts focused on Adult Social care is **7%**. That is only **2% more** than the Cabinet plan to raise in Council Tax and amounts to **50p per** household per week, only 20p per ratepayer extra. Something affluent Oxfordshire could afford and something that could easily be won in a referendum.

Our budget also seeks to stop the relentless attack on public transport by restoring the subsidies to rural bus services and supporting community transport schemes not leaving people isolated in Oxfordshire villages. Our strategy is to fund this restoration by small increases in a range of car park charges and a £2 per day charge on Park and Rides. Congestion is eased, pollution reduced and people are not left stranded in the countryside.

In paying for the Green budget we have also taken away the obscene 19% increase in Councillors allowances in 2016 and make a slight cut in very senior officer salaries. The Council can manage with fewer portfolio holders and it's time for the Council offices to be available for commercial lettings especially in the evening. We would also add in half a million from reserves. If there were ever a time to use reserves this is it.

Working a financial balance within the system is one way to protect the environment. We can generate the money towards a European cycle safety scheme known as the Benelux System by way of implementing a Large Employer's Parking Levy.

Although only a tiny amount, appointing a Cycle Planning officer and Wildlife Specialist could actually make the implementation of new policies promoted by the Greens adopted as Council policy recently a reality. We have also

earmarked small amounts of money for feasibility studies into buy outs of NHS PFI contracts, an Electronic Road Pricing scheme and new energy saving street lighting systems successfully operating in Hampshire.

Again we have included a large scale insulation scheme not simply to cut Council energy bills but to take advantage of matched funding projects that are on offer from Energy Companies meaning the Council can have three times the value invested.

The Green budget is a symbol of hope that we can have a local government with a human face that puts compassion first, that focuses on the most disadvantaged that helps preserve a more humane Oxfordshire. By asking those who can pay just a tiny percentage more just 2% , it can be done. It is not too much to ask and we believe it is the type of local services that are needed and which the people of Oxfordshire want to see.

We have also set out (in Annexes 4 & 5) what we would do if the referendum was not successful, we would still be able to support Community Children's Centres and daytime support for the elderly.

Recommendations

The Council is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) (subject to a successful referendum):**
 - 1. (in respect of revenue) approve:**
 - i. a budget for 2017/18 and medium term financial plan for 2017/18 – 2020/21 as amended in Green Group Annex 1;**
 - ii. the council tax and precept calculations for 2017/18 set out in Annex 3 and in particular:**
 - a. a precept for 2017/18 of £334,302,355; and**
 - b. a council tax for Band D equivalent properties of £1,371.35**
 - 2. (in respect of capital) approve:**
 - i. a Capital Programme for 2016/17 to 2020/21 as amended in Green Group Annex 2**
- b) (in the event that the Council Tax increase in a 1 (ii) is not approved as a result of the referendum):**
 - 1. (in respect of revenue) approve:**
 - i. a budget for 2017/18 and medium term financial plan for 2017/18 – 2020/21 as amended in Green Group Annex 4;**

2. (in respect of capital) approve:
 - ii. a Capital Programme for 2016/17 to 2020/21 as amended in Green Group Annex 5.

Cllr David Williams
Leader of the County Green Group

Green Group Budget Amendments - Revenue

	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	Total All £m
Cabinet Net Pressures/Savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Changes to proposed budget					
<u>Corporate</u>					
Additional income from a 7% council tax increase	-6.280	-0.448	-0.248	-0.258	-7.234
Cost of referendum	0.638	-0.638			0.000
Create a trading arm of the Council to include services such as Legal, Finance & HR		-0.100	-0.100	-0.050	-0.250
Hire out rooms in County Hall for meetings and private functions in the evenings and weekends	-0.050				-0.050
Reduce pay budgets of Senior Staff	-0.100				-0.100
Employers Parking Levy			-2.250	-2.250	-4.500
Contribution to Capital to fund a Benelux Style Cycle network (see also capital programme amendments below)			2.250	2.250	4.500
Prudential Borrowing costs for Insulation Scheme (borrow £7m)		0.300			0.300
Contribution from Reserves		0.500	-0.500		0.000
Use of Budget Reserve		-0.217	-0.052	0.308	0.039
<u>Children, Education and Families</u>					
Ongoing Support for Community Children's Centres	1.940				1.940
Grant to Donnington Family Centre	0.060				0.060
Retain Early Years SEN inclusive teachers provision (17CEF6)	0.100				0.100
Retain contracts for services to disabled children and families (17CEF12)	0.250				0.250
<u>Adult social care</u>					
Do not implement the day services review	0.604	2.620			3.224
Re-instate the falls service	0.273				0.273
Retain funding for carers (17SCS8)	0.160				0.160
Retain funding for Information and Advice (17SCS9)		0.120			0.120
Retain funding for Carers Respite (17SCS10)	0.100				0.100
Retain funding for Intervention and Preventative Services (17SCS25)			0.400		0.400
Funding for Homeless Services		0.500	0.500		1.000
Crisis Fund for Vulnerable people impacted by the cuts	2.590	-2.590			0.000
<u>Environment & Economy</u>					
Funding for Bus Subsidies and Community Transport	0.656				0.656
Increase park & ride charges £2 per day	-0.700				-0.700
Increase other parking charges and CPZ Permits plus new income from additional CPZ	-0.250				-0.250
Increase in other general charges	-0.060				-0.060
Savings in energy costs from insulation scheme on Council properties	-0.050				-0.050
Biodiversity Specialist	0.035				0.035
County Cycling Planning Advisory Officer	0.035				0.035
Feasibility Study of an Electronic Road Pricing scheme	0.050	-0.050			0.000
Feasibility Study of a Street Lighting Energy Saving scheme	0.050	-0.050			0.000
<u>Corporate Services</u>					
Reduce the number of Members on the Cabinet by three	-0.060				-0.060
Reduce the level of Members Allowances	-0.100				-0.100
Commission a feasibility study to assist NHS PFI buyouts	0.039	-0.039			0.000
Libraries - Mobile School Library	0.070				0.070
Maintain funding to the Arts		0.092			0.092
Revised net pressure/savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Green Group Budget Amendments - Capital

<u>Amendments to the Capital Programme</u>	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	TOTAL £m
Capital receipt generated from sale of County Heritage assets	-0.100				-0.100
<u>Transport Programme</u>					
Benelux Style Cycle Network and Improvements to Dangerous Roads			2.250	4.500	6.750
<u>Environment & Economy Programme</u>					
Insulation Scheme	7.000				7.000
Total amendments to the Capital Programme	6.900	0.000	2.250	4.500	13.650

Council Tax and Precepts 2017/18

Council Tax Data

1. In order to set its budget for 2017/18, the council needs to calculate its council tax requirement. This is the amount that the council needs to raise from council tax to meet its expenditure after taking account of the income it will accrue from the following
 - (a) the amount to be received from specific grants.
 - (b) the amount to be received from Revenue Support Grant and the Business Rates Top Up under the Business Rates Retention Scheme.
 - (c) the amount to be received for the County Council's share of Non-Domestic Rating Income.
 - (d) any surpluses/shortfalls on the council tax collection funds for earlier years and the estimated position for the current year.
 - (e) the amount expected to be received from fees, charges and contributions.

2. In order to set its council tax for the forthcoming year, the council needs to calculate its council tax requirement and have available the council tax base, expressed in terms of Band D equivalent properties.

3. Based on the final information on funding and assuming a council tax requirement of **£334,302,355** as shown in the proposed Medium Term Financial Plan (Section 4.1) as amended by Annex 1 to this report the calculation of the Band D Council Tax for 2017/18 is as follows:

Council Tax Calculation 2017/18

	£m
County Council net expenditure after specific grants	428.769
Less: Revenue Support Grant	-18.665
Business Rates Top Up	-37.821
Non-Domestic Rating Income	-31.165
Council Tax Collection Fund Adjustments	-7.277
Business Rates Collection Fund Adjustments	0.461
Council Tax Requirement (R)	334.302
Council Tax Base (assuming losses on collection) (T)	243,776
Band D Council Tax (R/T)	£1,371.35

The calculation of the council tax for the other bands is shown below in Table 1. Table 2 analyses the tax base over each district council area and allocates the estimated County Council precept to each area relative to their tax base.

Table 1

Council Tax by Property Band for Oxfordshire County Council

Assuming a Band D council tax of £1,371.35, the council tax for other bands is as follows:

Property Band	Property Values	Band D Proportion	2017/18 £ p
A	Up to £40,000	6/9	914.23
B	Over £40,000 and up to £52,000	7/9	1,066.61
C	Over £52,000 and up to £68,000	8/9	1,218.98
D	Over £68,000 and up to £88,000	9/9	1,371.35
E	Over £88,000 and up to £120,000	11/9	1,676.09
F	Over £120,000 and up to £160,000	13/9	1,980.84
G	Over £160,000 and up to £320,000	15/9	2,285.58
H	Over £320,000	18/9	2,742.70

Table 2

Allocation of Precept to Districts

The County Council precept (£334,302,355) is the sum of the council tax income required to fund the Council's budget.

District Council	Tax Base Number	Assumed Precept Due
		£
Cherwell	51,639.50	70,815,828.33
Oxford City	44,623.40	61,194,299.59
South Oxfordshire	55,557.20	76,188,366.22
Vale of White Horse	49,406.00	67,752,918.10
West Oxfordshire	42,550.00	58,350,942.50
TOTAL	243,776.10	334,302,354.74

Formal approval is required under the council tax legislation for:

- The County Council's precept, allocated to district councils pro rata to their share of the council tax base for the County Council;
- The council tax figures for the County Council for a Band D equivalent property and a calculation of the equivalent council tax figure for all other bands.

The information must be given to district councils by 1 March 2017.

Green Group Budget Amendments - Revenue

Changes to proposed budget if referendum is not successful

	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	Total All £m
Cabinet Net Pressures/Savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Changes to proposed budget if referendum is not successful					
<u>Corporate</u>					
Cost of referendum	0.638	-0.638			0.000
Create a trading arm of the Council to include services such as Legal, Finance & HR		-0.100	-0.100	-0.050	-0.250
Hire out rooms in County Hall for meetings and private functions in the evenings and weekends	-0.050				-0.050
Reduce pay budgets of Senior Staff	-0.100				-0.100
Employers Parking Levy		-2.250	-2.250		-4.500
Contribution to Capital to fund a Benelux Style Cycle network (see also capital programme amendments below)		2.250	2.250		4.500
Use of Budget Reserve	-0.068	-0.082	0.100	0.050	0.000
<u>Children, Education and Families</u>					
Ongoing Support for Community Children's Centres	0.800				0.800
<u>Adult social care</u>					
Reduce the savings required on Daytime Support		0.820			0.820
<u>Environment & Economy</u>					
Increase park & ride charges £2 per day	-0.700				-0.700
Increase other parking charges and CPZ Permits plus new income from additional CPZ	-0.250				-0.250
Increase in other general charges	-0.060				-0.060
Savings in energy costs from insulation scheme on Council properties	-0.050				-0.050
<u>Corporate Services</u>					
Reduce the number of Members on the Cabinet by three	-0.060				-0.060
Reduce the level of Members Allowances	-0.100				-0.100
Revised net pressure/savings	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Green Group Budget Amendments - Capital

Changes to proposed capital programme if referendum is not successful

<u>Amendments to the Capital Programme</u>	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	TOTAL £m
Capital receipt generated from sale of County Heritage assets	-0.100				-0.100
<u>Transport Programme</u>					
Benelux Style Cycle Network and Improvements to Dangerous Roads			2.250	4.500	6.750
Total amendments to the Capital Programme	-0.100	0.000	2.250	4.500	6.650