

Public Document Pack

COUNCIL MEETING – 24 FEBRUARY 2016

BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND ROBUSTNESS REPORTS

This page is intentionally left blank

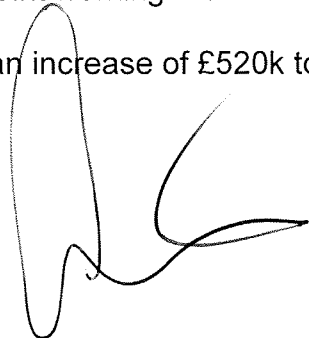
COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	1	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor Andrew Carter
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £245k in the strategic budget to be achieved through a reduction in the cost of full-time Trade Union Conveners.
- b) a reduction of £235k in the strategic budget for a Council-wide reduction in the spend on agency staffing for support, administration and managerial roles.
- c) a reduction of £40k to the Civic Enterprise budget to be achieved through savings from joint working with other public bodies in the City around transport provision.
- d) an increase of £520k to the Environment & Housing budget to fund additional PCSOs.'



Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)



COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	2	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £200k to the Strategic budget to be achieved by a directorate-wide reduction to the spend on ICT hardware and software.
- b) an increase of £200k to the Citizens and Communities to reflect a reversal of the proposed reduction to the Well Being Budget and Youth Activities .'

Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

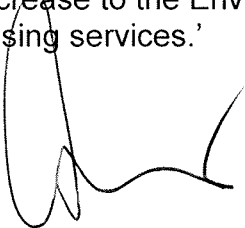
COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	3	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £155k to the Strategic budget to reflect savings from the half-year impact of the freezing of increments for Principal Officer staff.
- b) an increase to the Environment and Housing budget of £155k to fund additional gully cleansing services.'



Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)



COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	4	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £283k to the Strategic budget to reflect savings from the half-year impact of the freezing of increments for Principal Officer staff.
- b) an increase to the Adult Social Care budget of £283k to reduce the weekly Care Ring charges by £1 per week and help to address the falling demand for this service since charges were introduced in 2014.'

Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

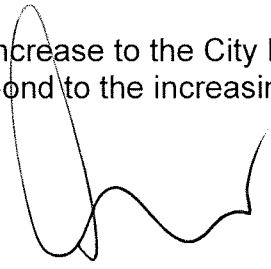
COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	5	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £100k to the Strategic budget to reflect savings from the half-year impact of the freezing of increments for Principal Officer staff.
- b) a reduction of £100k to the Strategy and Resources budget to be achieved through a reduction in the Information, Communication & Technology service.
- c) an increase to the City Development budget of £200k to fund additional resources to respond to the increasing complexity of planning appeals.'



Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)



COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	6	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £600k to the Strategy and Resources budget to be achieved through a reduction in the Information, Communication & Technology service.
- b) a reduction of £400k to the Strategic budget to reflect the half-year impact of removing overtime rates paid at double-time
- c) an increase of £1,000k to the Strategic budget to create a contingency budget to respond to potential budget pressures in Children's Services and if these funds are not drawn upon, to use the funds to create an earmarked reserve at year-end to help to manage fluctuating demand.'

Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)



COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	7	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an injection of £1m into the Capital Programme in 2016/17 for an additional road maintenance programme to be funded from re-phasing of the Capital Programme.'

Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

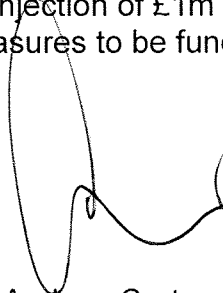
COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	8	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an injection of £1m into the Capital Programme in 2016/17 for improved flood resilience measures to be funded from re-phasing of the Capital Programme.



Councillor Andrew Carter

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	9	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor Stewart Golton
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an increase of £169k to the Environment and Housing budget to fund the implementation of kerbside glass waste collection.
- b) an increase of £1,750k to the Environment and Housing budget to fund the expansion of Food Waste Collection.
- c) an increase of £234k to the Environment and Housing budget to fund the prudential borrowing costs of the Anaerobic Digester capital scheme in 2016/17.
- d) an increase to the Strategic budget of £200k to be used to create an earmarked reserve to contribute to the capital financing costs associated with the Anaerobic Digester in 2017/18.
- e) a reduction to the Strategic budget of £880k to be achieved by implementing a pay freeze for all staff at PO1 and above.
- f) a reduction to the Strategic budget of £1,225k to be achieved by freezing increments for all staff.
- g) a reduction of £248k to the strategic budget to be achieved through a reduction in the cost of full-time Trade Union Conveners.'



Councillor Stewart Golton

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	10	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor Stewart Golton
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an injection of £13.5m into the capital programme in respect of the development and implementation of an Anaerobic Digester. Of this, £4.29m to be phased into 2016/17 for site acquisition, preparation and project development costs to be funded through additional prudential borrowing.'



Councillor Stewart Golton

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

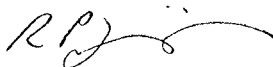
COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	11	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor Robert Finnigan
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £300k to the City Development budget to reflect the introduction of residents car parking permits.
- b) a reduction of £100k to the Environment and Housing budget representing the expansion of parking fees at district shopping centres.
- c) a reduction of £250k to the Strategic budget to reflect the expansion of parking charges at visitor attractions across the city.
- d) an increase to the Adult Social Care budget of £274k to reflect the reversal of the proposed closure of Middlecross, Siegan Manor and The Green care homes.
- e) an increase of £376k to the Environment & Housing budget to fund additional PCSOs .'



Councillor Robert Finnigan

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)



COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	12	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor Robert Finnigan
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an injection of £3m into the 2016/17 capital programme to delegate to Area Committees to support a programme of minor works across the City.
- b) delete the New Generation Transport scheme from the capital programme and release £3m of capital funding in 2016/17. '

Councillor Robert Finnigan

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	13	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor David Blackburn
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an increase in the Citizens and Communities budget of £330k representing an increase of £10k per ward to the budget for Community Committees to support local environmental projects.
- b) an increase in the use of general reserves of £330k.



Councillor David Blackburn

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

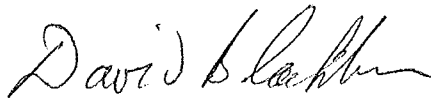
COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	14	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor David Blackburn
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) an increase in the Citizens and Communities budget of £51k reflecting the reversal of the reduction to the funding provided to Community Committees for Youth Activities.
- b) an increase in the use of general reserves of £51k.



Councillor David Blackburn

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

COUNCIL MEETING – 24th FEBRUARY 2016

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	15	19/2/16	19/2/16

Submitted by:	Councillor David Blackburn
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Chief Executive

In 5 (i) after the words 'be approved' add 'subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2016/17 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- a) a reduction of £194k in the Strategy and Resources budget to be achieved by a 28% reduction in Special Responsibility Allowances paid to members.
- b) a reduction of £136k in the Strategy and Resources budget to be achieved by a 9% reduction in the Basic Allowances paid to members.
- c) an increase of £163k to the strategic budget to provide an in-year contingency budget in respect of the refuse collection winter contingency budget and the proposed savings from the review of refuse collection. If these resources are not required in 2016/17 then use the £163k to create an winter contingency earmarked reserve.
- d) an increase to the Environment and Housing budget of £167k to reflect the expansion of the existing food collection service.



Councillor David Blackburn

* Director to provide a copy of draft reply to Kevin Tomkinson, Governance Services by: n/a

Deadlines for submission

Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 19th February 2016

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Report to Council

Date: 24th February 2016

Subject: Revenue Budget 2016/17 – Conservative Amendment

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides Members of Council with comments on the robustness of the proposals contained in the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Councillor Andrew Carter.

2. Robustness of Estimates

- 2.1 The Local Government Act (Part II) 2003 places a requirement on the Council that when making decisions on the setting of the Council's budget and the Council Tax, they must consider a report from the Council's statutory finance officer (The Deputy Chief Executive) on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves within the proposals. The report of the Deputy Chief Executive at item 5 (i) on the Council Summons includes at section 13 comments to this effect in respect of the proposed Budget Motion.
- 2.2. Given this requirement, in considering any proposed amendment to the Budget Motion, Members must also consider the comments of the Deputy Chief Executive on the robustness of the proposals. These comments supplement those contained in the main report.

3. Proposed Amendment

- 3.1 Councillor Andrew Carter's amendments to the Budget Motion set out his proposals showing areas of additional spend and the sources of funding which are largely self explanatory. In considering these amendments, the Deputy Chief Executive would wish members of Council to be aware of the following:

- (a) In amendment 1, there is a proposal for a £235k reduction in the spend on agency staffing targeted at support, administrative and managerial roles. This reduction would need to be carefully managed to ensure that there are no unforeseen impacts on front-line service delivery.
- (b) Amendments 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 propose a reduction in the funding of full-time Trade Union Conveners, a freeze on all increments for Principal Officers and above and ceasing the payment of overtime at double-time rates. As these form part of employees' terms and conditions of employment that can only be achieved either through collective agreement with the Trade Unions or through the dismissal and re-engagement of staff on new contracts of employment. The amendments assume that they could be achieved within a six month timescale.
- (c) Amendments 6 and 7 together propose a reduction of £700k to the Information, Communication and Technology service budget within Strategy & Resources. Together these amount to a 4% reduction to the gross spend of the service and it is uncertain at this stage as to what impact this level of reduction would have on service delivery.
- (d) In amendment 6, the proposed amendment is to establish a contingency budget to respond to potential budget pressures in Children's Services and if these resources are not drawn upon to create an earmarked reserve at year-end. This proposed amendment would help to mitigate the risks associated with some of the other amendments.

3.2 Should these budget amendments be approved, they will be subject to the Council's procedures for further consultation and will need to be informed by Equality Impact Assessments as appropriate.

4. Overall Conclusion

The Budget Motion to Council reflects a significant reduction in funding and as such contains savings proposals which carry varying degrees of risk. This is set out in section 13 of the main budget report and in each of the specific directorate reports attached.

In conclusion, whilst the proposals in this amendment will increase the risks associated with the delivery of the Council's budget, the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Cllr Andrew Carter will not materially impact on the overall robustness of the Council's estimates for 2016/17 or the adequacy of its general fund reserves as at 31st March 2017.

REPORT OF the Deputy Chief Executive

REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE: 24th February 2016

SUBJECT: Revenue Budget 2016/17 – Liberal Democrat Amendment

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides Members of Council with comments on the robustness of the proposals contained in the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Councillor Stewart Golton.

2. Robustness of Estimates

- 2.1 The Local Government Act (Part II) 2003 places a requirement on the Council that when making decisions on the setting of the Council's budget and the Council Tax, they must consider a report from the Council's statutory finance officer (The Deputy Chief Executive) on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves within the proposals. The report of the Deputy Chief Executive at item 5 (i) on the Council Summons includes at section 13 comments to this effect in respect of the proposed Budget Motion.
- 2.2. Given this requirement, in considering any proposed amendment to the Budget Motion, Members must also consider the comments of the Deputy Chief Executive on the robustness of the proposals. These comments supplement those contained in the main report.

3. Proposed Amendments

- 3.1 Councillor Golton's amendments to the Budget Motion set out his proposals showing areas of additional spend and the sources of funding which are largely self explanatory. In considering these amendments, the Deputy Chief Executive would wish members of Council to be aware of the following:

- a) Amendment 9 proposes a reduction in the funding of full-time Trade Union Conveners, a freeze on increments for all staff and freezing of inflationary uplifts for staff at PO1 and above. As these form part of employees' terms and conditions of employment that can only be achieved either through collective agreement with the Trade Unions or through the dismissal and re-engagement of staff on new contracts of employment. The amendments assume that they could be achieved within a six month timescale.
- b) Amendment 10 proposes an injection of £13.5m into the capital programme for an anaerobic digester to be funded through prudential borrowing. Of this, £4.29m would be phased into the 2016/17 programme. At this stage, the £13.5m cost is based on preliminary estimates and therefore would be subject to the development of a more detailed business case including an assessment of value for money and procurement.

3.2 Should these budget amendments be approved, they will be subject to the Council's procedures for further consultation and will need to be informed by Equality Impact Assessments as appropriate.

4. Overall Conclusion

The Budget Motion to Council reflects a significant reduction in funding and as such contains savings proposals which carry varying degrees of risk. This is set out in section 13 of the main budget report and in each of the specific Directorate reports attached.

In conclusion, whilst the proposals in this amendment will increase the risks associated with the delivery of the Council's budget, the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Cllr Stewart Golton will not materially impact on the overall robustness of the Council's estimates for 2016/17 or the adequacy of its general fund reserves as at 31st March 2017.

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Report to Council

Date: 24th February 2016

Subject: Revenue Budget 2016/17 – Morley Independents Amendment

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides Members of Council with comments on the robustness of the proposals contained in the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Councillor Robert Finnigan.

2. Robustness of Estimates

- 2.1 The Local Government Act (Part II) 2003 places a requirement on the Council that when making decisions on the setting of the Council's budget and the Council Tax, they must consider a report from the Council's statutory finance officer (The Deputy Chief Executive) on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves within the proposals. The report of the Deputy Chief Executive at item 5 (i) on the Council Summons includes at section 13 comments to this effect in respect of the proposed Budget Motion.
- 2.2. Given this requirement, in considering any proposed amendment to the Budget Motion, Members must also consider the comments of the Deputy Chief Executive on the robustness of the proposals. These comments supplement those contained in the main report.

3. Proposed Amendments

- 3.1 Councillor Finnigan's amendments to the Budget Motion set out his proposals showing areas of additional spend and the sources of funding which are largely self explanatory. In considering these amendments, the Deputy Chief Executive would wish members of Council to be aware of the following:

- (a) In amendment 11, there are proposals to increase income from parking fees and charges of £650k in the 2016/17 financial year. Whilst this proposal is not without risk, the amendment does recognise a part-year effect and implementation costs /issues.
- (b) In amendment 12, there is a proposal to cease the Council's financial support for the New Generation Transport scheme which would release £3m in 2016/17 and funding in future years. New Generation Transport is a strategic infrastructure scheme delivered in partnership with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and any economic and reputational impact of ending the scheme have not been assessed at this stage.

3.2 Should these budget amendments be approved, they will be subject to the Council's procedures for further consultation and will need to be informed by Equality Impact Assessments as appropriate.

4. Overall Conclusion

The Budget Motion to Council reflects a significant reduction in funding and as such contains savings proposals which carry varying degrees of risk. This is set out in section 13 of the main budget report and in each of the specific Directorate reports attached.

In conclusion, whilst the proposals in this amendment will increase the risks associated with the delivery of the Council's budget, the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Cllr Robert Finnigan will not materially impact on the overall robustness of the Council's estimates for 2016/17 or the adequacy of its general fund reserves as at 31st March 2017.

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Report to Council

Date: 24th February 2016

Subject: Revenue Budget 2016/17 – Green Amendment

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides Members of Council with comments on the robustness of the proposals contained in the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Councillor David Blackburn.

2. Robustness of Estimates

- 2.1 The Local Government Act (Part II) 2003 places a requirement on the Council that when making decisions on the setting of the Council's budget and the Council Tax, they must consider a report from the Council's statutory finance officer (The Deputy Chief Executive) on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves within the proposals. The report of the Deputy Chief Executive at item 5 (i) on the Council Summons includes at section 13 comments to this effect in respect of the proposed Budget Motion.
- 2.2. Given this requirement, in considering any proposed amendment to the Budget Motion, Members must also consider the comments of the Deputy Chief Executive on the robustness of the proposals. These comments supplement those contained in the main report.

3. Proposed Amendment

- 3.1 Councillor Blackburn's amendments to the Budget Motion set out his proposals showing areas of additional spend and the sources of funding which are largely self explanatory. In considering these amendments, the Deputy Chief Executive would wish members of Council to be aware of the following:

- (a) In amendments 13 and 14, the cumulative effect of is to increase the use of general reserves by £381k is proposed which would result in general reserves of £17m by 31st March 2017. The Council's reserves are relatively low and these proposals to reduce reserves further will reduce the Council's ability to deal with in-year variations.
- (b) In amendment 15, the proposal is to establish a contingency fund/earmarked reserve in respect of the refuse collection winter contingency budget. The effect of this would be to potentially increase the amount of earmarked reserve which could partly mitigate the proposed increased use of general reserve at (a) above.

3.2 Should these budget amendments be approved, they will be subject to the Council's procedures for further consultation and will need to be informed by Equality Impact Assessments as appropriate.

4. OVERALL CONCLUSION

The Budget Motion to Council reflects a significant reduction in funding and as such contains savings proposals which carry varying degrees of risk. This is set out in section 13 of the main budget report and in each of the specific Directorate reports attached.

In conclusion, whilst the proposals in this amendment will increase the risks associated with the delivery of the Council's budget, the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Cllr David Blackburn will not materially impact on the overall robustness of the Council's estimates for 2016/17 or the adequacy of its general fund reserves as at 31st March 2017.

This page is intentionally left blank