

Public Document Pack

Amendments 1 – 19 for the Budget Meeting – 26th February 2014.

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 1	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a) substitute £565.777m with £561.033m and delete “with a 1.99% increase in the Leeds’ element of the Council Tax for 2014/15” and substitute with “with no increase in the Leeds element of the Council Tax for 2014/15”.

In 5 (i) a), after the words "be approved" add “subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate to reflect the £4.744m reduction in Council Tax income”

- (a) an increase of £2.789m in grant income in the Strategic budget in respect of accepting the 2014/15 Council Tax Freeze Grant.
- (b) a reduction in the Strategic budget of £0.230m to be achieved through a reduction in Trade Union facilities time
- (c) a reduction of £0.435m in the strategic budget through a reduction in agency staffing for support, administration and management
- (d) a reduction in the Strategic budget of £0.150m to be achieved by implementing a moratorium on purchasing furniture
- (e) an increase in income in the Strategic budget of £0.150m to reflect additional revenue generated from increased charges to schools for support services
- (f) a reduction in the Environment and Housing budget of £0.07m to reflect reduced cover for Trade Union meetings within the refuse service
- (g) a reduction of £0.25m in the City Development budget representing a 50% reduction in the void property budget
- (h) a reduction in the Communication Team staffing budget of £0.25m within Citizens and Communities
- (i) an increase in Advertising income of £0.2m within City Development for new hoardings
- (j) a reduction in the Citizens and Communities and Environment and Housing budgets of £0.2m in total to reflect staffing savings within those directorates.
- (k) a decrease in the Environment and Housing of £15k budget for the immediate roll out of in cab technology in the refuse service”



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
(including references back)

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

*Usually the Monday of the week prior to a Wednesday meeting.

Distribution: Lord Mayor, Group Leaders, Whips, Deputy Leader, Executive Councillors, Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Strategy and Customer Access), City Solicitor, Deputy Chief Executive, Relevant Chair and Director.

COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 2	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (iii) a), after the words “be approved” add:

“subject to an amendment to the capital programme as set out below:

- (a) an increase of £4m in the Council House building programme within the Housing Revenue Account to be funded by unsupported borrowing”



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
 - Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
 - Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
- (including references back)

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*Usually the Monday of the week prior to a Wednesday meeting.

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 3	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- (a) additional income of £0.4m in the Environment and Housing budget, generated from additional parking spaces at the International Pool site
- (b) a reduction in income of £0.4m in the Environment and Housing budget from the removal of on street evening and weekend parking charges"



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 4	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £0.2m representing the reversal of the reduction to the Well Being budget
- (b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £0.2m"



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
 Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
 (including references back)

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 5	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 Environment and Housing budget of £0.2m, reinstating cost reductions in the Enforcement and Anti-Social behaviour teams
- (b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £0.2m"



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 6	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 Children's Services budget of £0.3m to reverse savings within the Transport budget
- (b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £0.3m"



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
- Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
- Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
(including references back)

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 7	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £180k in the Environment and Housing budget to provide for an additional food waste route
- (b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £180k"



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
 - Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
 - Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
- (including references back)

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 8	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 Strategic budget of £120k for the unsupported borrowing costs of delivering shared ownership homes with housing associations

(b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £120k"

and in 5 (iii) a), after the words "be approved" add:

"subject to the injection into the capital programme of £2m for an unsupported borrowing scheme to deliver shared ownership homes with housing associations"



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
- Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
- Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and
Page 15

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 9	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (iii) a), after the words “be approved” add:

“subject to an amendment to the capital programme as set out below:

- (a) the injection into the capital programme of £2.5m for an additional road maintenance programme to be funded from increased asset sales and the rephasing of the ICT essential services programme into 2015/16”



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
- Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
- Amendments - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 10	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate

- (a) the establishment of an earmarked reserve for £0.3m for one-off projects
- (b) a reduction of £0.3m in the Strategic budget to reflect the half year impact of freezing all increments for Principal Officers and above."



Councillor Andrew Carter

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

Deadlines for submission

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| White Papers | - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons |
| Questions | - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting |
| Budget Amendments | - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014 |
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 11	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate"

- (a) the provision for 1% pay award for all Council staff (excluding schools) will not be implemented. Instead provision will be made for a flat rate pay increase of £242 for staff at spinal point 49 and below
- (b) an increase of £2.3m in the Strategic budget for the introduction of the living wage to bring all non-school staff up to a minimum pay level of £7.65 per hour
- (c) a reduction in the Strategic budget of £238k to be achieved through a reduction in Trade Union facilities time
- (d) a contribution from general fund reserves of £2.062m"



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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments	- 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
Amendments (including references back)	- 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting

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Distribution: Lord Mayor, Group Leaders, Whips, Deputy Leader, Executive Councillors, Chief

COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 12	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a) substitute £565.777m with £561.033m and delete “with a 1.99% increase in the Leeds’ element of the Council Tax for 2014/15” and substitute with “with no increase in the Leeds element of the Council Tax for 2014/15”.

In 5 (i) a), after the words "be approved" add “subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate to reflect the £4.744m reduction in Council Tax income”

- (a) an increase of £2.789m in grant income in the Strategic budget in respect of accepting the 2014/15 Council Tax Freeze Grant.
- (b) a reduction of £1.15m in the Strategic budget to reflect the half year impact of freezing all increments.
- (c) a contribution from general fund reserves of £0.805m”



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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
- Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
- Amendments (including references back) - 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting

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Distribution: Lord Mayor, Group Leaders, Whips, Deputy Leader, Executive Councillors, Chief

COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 13	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £420k in the City Development budget for additional investment in cycling facilities
- (b) a reduction of £210k in the Strategic budget to be achieved by restricting council car mileage allowances to the HMRC maximum levels from October 2014
- (c) a contribution from general fund reserves of £210k"



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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments	- 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
Amendments (including references back)	- 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A14	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £430k in the Children's Services budget to supply all children from the age of 6 months up to their 4th birthday with 'Healthy Start vitamins' to be funded from the Public Health budget"



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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments	- 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A 15	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £387k in the Children's Services budget to reverse the increase of £3 per day for charges at Children's Centres
- (b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £387k"



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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
- Budget Amendments - 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014**
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A16	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £203k in the Environment and Housing budget to convert a fortnightly waste collection round to include a weekly food waste collection
- (b) a reduction of £79k in the Environment and Housing budget to remove the provision to cover the estimated additional cost of sickness in the refuse service
- (c) a contribution from general fund reserves of £124k"



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

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A17	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 £100k in the Environment and Housing budget to reverse the reduction in the Allotments budget and
- (b) an increase of £98k in the Environment and Housing budget to reverse the reduction in the Bowling Green's budget

both of the above to be funded from the Public Health budget"



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

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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A18	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 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 Strategic budget of £135k for the unsupported borrowing costs of establishing an earmarked fund of £2m to invest in purchasing land under threat of house building or commercial development and ensuring its long term continuation as open space for the use of the local community

(b) a contribution from general fund reserves of £135k"

and in 5 (iii) a), after the words "be approved" add:

"subject to the injection into the capital programme of £2m for an unsupported borrowing scheme to invest in purchasing land under threat of house building or commercial development and ensuring its long term continuation as open space for the use of the local community"



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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers - *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
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COUNCIL MEETING – 26th FEBRUARY 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
Amendment to the Budget Motion	A19	21/2/14	21/2/14

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

In 5 (i) a), or 5 (i) a) as amended, after the words "be approved" add "subject to amendment to the Council's budget for 2014/15 as set out below and adjustments to the figures at 5 (ii) 2 a to f and accompanying tables as appropriate"

- (a) a change to the City Development budget to remove provision for the revenue costs of proceeding with the residential element of the street lighting switch off, which is cost neutral in 2014/15"

and in 5 (iii) a), after the words "be approved" add:

"subject to the removal of the capital programme provision for the residential element of the street lighting switch off scheme"



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

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Budget Amendments	- 10.00 am on Friday 21st February 2014
Amendments (including references back)	- 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting

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

*Usually the Monday of the week prior to a Wednesday meeting.

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REPORT OF the Deputy Chief Executive

REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE: 26th February 2014

SUBJECT: REVENUE BUDGET 2014/15 – 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 8 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 a freeze on the Council Tax may have an impact on the income base of the Council going forward and the freeze grant is only certain for the next two years.
- (b) Amendments 1 and 10 propose a reduction in the funding of full time union convenors and trade union meetings and a freeze on all increments for Principal Officers and above. As these form part of employees' terms and conditions of employment they can only be achieved either by agreement with the Trade Unions or through the dismissal and reengagement of staff on new contracts of employment. The amendments assume that they could be achieved within a six month timescale. Amendment 10 also assumes that when implemented, the remaining six months of increments are removed from Principal Officer staff who received them in April 2014.
- (c) In amendment 1, there are proposals for reductions in running costs totalling £400k. These are in addition to reductions already contained in the proposed budget. In addition, the amendment proposes a reduction in spend on agency staff targeted at support, administrative and management levels, and £435k represents around 15% of anticipated agency staffing spend in these areas. A reduction of this size would therefore need careful management to prevent any adverse impact on service delivery.
- (d) Amendment 1 also proposes an increase in advertising income which will require new sites to be identified and will be subject to planning and highways consideration and market demand.
- (e) In amendment 3, additional car parking income is assumed, although this is subject to ensuring this proposal complies with planning policies.
- (f) Amendment 9 proposes an injection into the capital programme on the basis of additional capital receipts being generated and therefore additional expenditure should not be committed until the receipts have been realised.
- (g) In amendments 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 the cumulative effect is to increase the use of general fund reserves by £1m which would result in general fund reserves of £20.7m as at 31st March 2015, which is within the tolerance limit under the risk based reserves strategy.

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 8 of the main budget report and in each of the specific Directorate reports attached.

In conclusion, whilst the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Cllr Andrew Carter imply further risks to the main proposals, they will not materially impact on the overall robustness of the Council's estimates for 2014/15 or the adequacy of its general fund reserves as at 31st March 2015.

REPORT OF the Deputy Chief Executive

REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE: 26th February 2014

SUBJECT: REVENUE BUDGET 2014/15 – LIBERAL DEMOCRATS 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 8 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 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) In amendments 11, 12 and 13 the payment of a flat rate pay increase up to spinal point 49 rather than an across the board pay award, an increase in non-school staff pay to bring them up to a minimum pay level, a reduction in the funding of full time union convenors, a freeze on all increments and a restriction on car mileage allowances are proposed. As these form part of employees' terms and conditions of employment they can only be achieved either by agreement with the Trade Unions or through the dismissal and reengagement of staff on new contracts of employment. The amendments assume that they could be achieved within a six month timescale. Amendment 12 also assumes that when implemented, the remaining six months of increments are removed from staff who received them in April 2014.

It should also be noted that there may be consequent implications for the minimum pay level of some school based staff, the cost of which would need to be met from within the Dedicated Schools Grant.

- (b) In amendment 12 a freeze on the Council Tax may have an impact on the income base of the Council going forward and the freeze grant is only certain for the next two years.
- (c) In amendments 11,12, 13, 15, 16 and 18 the cumulative effect is to increase the use of general fund reserves by £3.7m which would result in general fund reserves of £18m as at 31st March 2015, which is within the tolerance limit under the risk based reserves strategy. This would be considered reasonable on the understanding that savings would be identified to replenish reserves in future years.
- (d) In amendment 17 the funding from Public Health will be subject to a clear demonstration that this meets the conditions of the Public Health ring-fence.

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 8 of the main budget report and in each of the specific Directorate reports attached.

In conclusion, whilst the amendments to the Budget Motion in the name of Cllr Stewart Golton imply further risks to the main proposals, they will not materially impact on the overall robustness of the Council's estimates for 2014/15 or the adequacy of its general fund reserves as at 31st March 2015.