

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS

MOTION

- 2.1 That the General Revenue Account Estimates for 2016/17 set out in Appendix B of the Council report be approved, subject to the changes set out below.
- 2.2 That the GRA reserves policy set out in Appendix A to the Council report be approved.
- 2.3 That delegated authority be given to the Acting Chief Executive and Interim Heads of Service to take all necessary action to implement the changes resulting from the budget proposals.

BUDGET SUMMARY FOR 2016-17

£000

A	Budget gap as per Cabinet / Council report	838
B	Detailed budget proposals shown overleaf	182
C	Less allowance for budget proposals contained in estimates	-125
D	Savings from decisions made on the Policy Options report	-174
E	Management Restructuring Savings	-104
F	Additional business rate income above medium term financial forecast	-188
G	Budget saving from investment in Solar PV in first year	-60
H	Additional council tax income for increases in the tax base and current year performance	-58
I	Financial impact of decisions made on the Member Allowances scheme report	-2
J	Increase in council tax level of 1.75% in line with government guidance	-108
K	Introduce a 34 week Seasonal Green Waste Collection service from March to October subject to consultation or else fund from Reserves	-85
L	Additional grant funding from government	-7
M	Funding required from the current year favourable budget variance	<u>109</u>

CREATION OF NEW STRATEGIC INVESTMENT RESERVE

The £2.3m of available reserves identified in paragraph 5.3 of the Council report will be put into a new Strategic Investment Reserve that can be used to finance Economic Regeneration Initiatives and the Leisure Strategy. Allocations from this Reserve will be agreed by Council and administered by the Borough Treasurer.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The budget proposals contained in this report have either been the subject of previous reports to Committee, are currently at a high level where more detail needs to be worked out, or would not have an adverse impact on the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Consequently no equality impact

assessments have been produced for these proposals at this time.

LABOUR BUDGET PROPOSALS	2016-17 £000	2017-18 £000	2018-19 £000
Community Services			
1 Home Care Link - reduction in contract income	30.0	30.0	30.0
2 Dog Control Orders (one year only)	10.0	0.0	0.0
3 Health Strategy Development / Implementation	43.0	43.0	43.0
4 Health and Wellbeing Strategy Fund (one off amount)	100.0	0.0	0.0
Fund from Major Projects Reserve	-100.0	0.0	0.0
5 Access to Arts & Culture Skelmersdale project (2 years funding)	4.0	7.0	0.0
6 Junior Summer Swimming - reduced cost Aqua fun sessions (one off amount)	3.0	0.0	0.0
Corporate Services			
1 Increase in Motor insurance costs	23.0	23.0	23.0
2 Increase in Insurance Premium Tax from 6% to 9.5%	8.0	8.0	8.0
3 Modern.Gov Implementation - Data Load (one off amount)	10.0	0.0	0.0
4 Replacement CRM & telephony system - revenue implications	8.3	8.3	8.3
5 Public Involvement at Meetings	6.0	6.0	6.0
6 Funding of Voluntary Organisations Working Group recommendations (one year only)	1.8	0.0	0.0
Housing and Regeneration			
1 Repairs to Council car parks (temporary three year programme)	20.0	15.0	15.0
2 Culvert Maintenance in Skelmersdale	7.5	7.5	7.5
Planning			
1 Reduced Building Control income	100.0	42.0	42.0
Fund from Planning Income Equalisation Reserve in 2016/17	-58.0	0.0	0.0
2 Ecology Advice Contract	10.5	10.5	10.5
3 Additional Development Control income (one year only)	-45.0	0.0	0.0
Street Scene			
1 Potential reduction in LCC funding of the Waste Partnership agreement from 2018-19 (currently worth £950,000 per year) to be considered	0.0	0.0	950.0
Total	182.1	200.3	1,143.3

Note

There is the potential for a significant reduction in County Council funding for Public Realm and Grounds Maintenance works in 2016/17. This will be managed as an in year issue as the financial impact is not yet clear, on the basis that the Borough Council will not look to replace any funding reductions from its own resources.

The following items will be funded from Central Contingencies if required

By elections, public health funerals, any appropriate cases of Japanese Knotweed on Council owned land and any additional IER costs that are not covered by government grant