

Council

Date: **Monday 11 February 2019**
Time: **10.00 a.m**
Venue: **Council Chamber, County Hall, Norwich**

Supplementary Agenda

5. **Supplementary Information to Item 5 – Norfolk County Council Revenue and Capital Budget 2019-20 to 2021-22**

Amendments submitted by:

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|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. The Labour Group | (Page A2) |
| 2. The Liberal Democrat Group | (Page A3) |
| 3. The Independent Group | (Page A4) |
| 4. Councillor Kemp | (Page A5) |

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Labour Group: County Council Budget Amendment 2019-20

1. Apply £1.000m from the Council's Adult Social Care Business Risk Reserve in 2019-20 in order to defer into 2020-21 the proposed saving from the revision to the Council's charging policy for working age adults to apply the government's minimum income guarantee amounts (ASC046) [County Council [agenda](#) page 107]. As part of 2020-21 budget planning, review the resulting total saving requirement of £4.000m in 2020-21 in light of the Social Care Green Paper to consider the scope for the proposed revision to the Council's charging policy to be removed.
2. Mitigate the proposed savings in the redesign of Early Childhood and Family Services (CHL041) [County Council [agenda](#) page 109] by providing resources of £1.300m in 2019-20 and £3.000m in 2020-21 in order to:
 - facilitate the implementation of the redesigned strategy;
 - meet potential demands for additional hubs; and
 - maximise staff to meet the demand for services in rural and urban areas.

To be funded in:

- a. 2019-20 by allocating £0.500m from the 2019-20 Norfolk Futures transformation budget and bringing forward £0.800m of income from the 2019-20 Business Rates Pilot; and
- b. 2020-21 by allocating £3.000m from the 2019-20 Business Rates Pilot.

Advice from Section 151 Officer:

The deferral of the proposed saving ASC046 reduces the balance available in the Adults Risk reserve which has already been assumed to support the budget in future years. This would result in an additional pressure of £1.000m to be addressed in 2020-21 budget planning.

Were Council minded to remove the proposed saving ASC046 entirely in 2020-21, this would represent a budget pressure of £4.000m in the event that other resources are not provided following the Social Care Green Paper, Comprehensive Spending Review, Fair Funding Review, or other government funding.

The proposal to mitigate the impact of saving CHL041 would significantly impact on the ability to undertake work to support the delivery of the Norfolk Futures programme, some of which has already been planned. The use of funding from the Business Rates Pilot would result in an additional pressure to be addressed in the 2020-21 budget of £3.800m. There would be a minimal risk in making use of £0.800m of additional Pilot resources in 2019-20 in advance of the final actual levels of growth being confirmed in May 2020.

Liberal Democrat Group: County Council Budget Amendment 2019-20

1. £1.000m to be added to the CHL041 Redesign of Early Childhood and Family Services [County Council [agenda](#) page 109] budget to maintain the level of front line early years support to be funded by £1.000m from the Provisional Settlement and Autumn Budget funding: Business Rates Pilot.
2. £0.500m to be added as a new item to fund a public transport innovation fund to encourage organisations to come up with new ways to improve public transport in rural areas to be funded by £0.500 from the Norfolk Futures transformation budget.
3. £1.000m be removed from the saving for ASC046 minimum income guarantee [County Council [agenda](#) page 107] to ensure that those adults who require care and support have enough income to cover their living costs and to remain at an appropriate Norfolk level to be funded by: £0.150m from Councillors Allowances; £0.500m from the Provisional Settlement and Autumn Budget funding: Business Rates Pilot and £0.350m from rephasing the Adult Social Care Business Risk Reserve.

Advice from Section 151 Officer:

With the exception of the ongoing Councillors' Allowances budget, the use of one-off resources to support ongoing revenue budgets in 2019-20 (proposal 1 and 3) will result in a pressure of £1.850m to be addressed in 2020-21.

In addition, the use of funding from the Business Rates Pilot would result in an additional pressure to be addressed in the 2020-21 budget of £1.500m. There would be a minimal risk in making use of £1.500m of additional Pilot resources in 2019-20 in advance of the final actual levels of growth being confirmed in May 2020.

The rephasing of the use of the reserve reduces the balance available in the Adults Risk reserve which has already been assumed to support the budget in future years. This would result in an additional pressure of £0.350m to be addressed in 2020-21 budget planning.

The one-off proposal (2) for establishment of a public transport innovation fund does not represent a financial pressure as it reallocates one-off Norfolk Futures budgets. However, it would significantly impact on the ability to undertake work to support the delivery of the Norfolk Futures programme, some of which has already been planned.

In aggregate the proposed amendments therefore represent a £3.700m increase in the budget gap to be closed in 2020-21.

Independent Group: County Council Budget Amendment 2019-20

Implementation of single use plastics proposals

That £0.025m be taken from the Norfolk Futures Consultancy Budget (reduce from £0.500m to £0.475m) to fund actions arising from the deliberations of the EDT Task & Finish Group.

Advice from Section 151 Officer:

The proposal reflects a reprioritisation of revenue resources within the existing budget plans and as such there are no significant financial implications. There would be a small impact on the ability to commission work to support the delivery of the Norfolk Futures programme.

The Norfolk Futures budget has been provided for 2018-19 and 2019-20 only. As this is a one-off proposal, it does not give rise to any ongoing pressures to be accommodated in 2020-21.

Councillor Kemp: County Council Budget Amendment 2019-20

Equality of opportunity, regional strategic infrastructure, economic growth and social mobility

Revenue

Use £1.000m from the Adult Social Care Business Risk Reserve in 2019-20 in order to defer by one year the proposed £1.000m saving from the revision to the Council's charging policy for working age adults to apply the government's minimum income guarantee amounts (ASC046) [County Council [agenda](#) page 107].

Commission officers to:

1. Identify options to deliver additional savings of £4.000m in 2020-21 to enable the proposed revision to the Council's charging policy to be fully removed from budget planning.
2. Identify alternative options to deliver the proposed employment and financial advice offer at no cost to the Council – this advice to be delivered with volunteers instead, particularly retired financial services employees who could set up their own charity as a vehicle to provide it.

Capital

Remove £5.500m from the proposed £6.000m included in the 2019-22+ Capital Programme for the Accommodation Rationalisation Programme (profiled as £3.000m in 2019-20, £2.000m in 2020-21 and £1.000m in 2021-22) [County Council [agenda](#) page 328]. This funding to instead be used to support and promote equality of opportunity, regional strategic infrastructure, economic growth and social mobility through the following capital projects:

1. £0.100m to enable and improve disabled access to St George's Guildhall in King's Lynn, to include a stairlift and other necessary equipment to support offering employment opportunities for all.
2. £0.400m to support disabled access improvements for the West Lynn Ferry, to provide:
 - a. £0.240m for the installation of two floating pontoons; and
 - b. £0.160m for the purchase of a wheelchair accessible catamaran to be leased to the ferry operator by Norfolk County Council.
3. £5.000m to provide Norfolk County Council's contribution towards the construction of the West Winch relief road, which will reduce congestion, improve access and enable economic growth.

Advice from Section 151 Officer:

Revenue

The deferral of the proposed saving reduces the balance available in the Adults Risk reserve which has already been assumed to support the budget in future years. This would result in an additional pressure of £1.000m to be addressed in 2020-21 budget planning. In the event that officers are not able to identify alternative saving options of £4.000m to replace the proposed revisions to the charging policy, the budget gap in 2020-21 would be increased. In aggregate the proposed amendment therefore represents a £5.000m increase in the budget gap to be closed in 2020-21.

In addition, the feasibility of finding volunteers to provide the employment and financial advice service is uncertain and there would be a risk that this service could not be delivered or would result in a further cost pressure arising.

Capital

The proposal reflects a reprioritisation of capital resources within the existing budget plans and as such there are no immediate financial implications. Any timing implications from a different profile of capital spend would be addressed in the 2020-21 Capital Programme.

Removing funding for the Accommodation Rationalisation Programme as set out in the Capital Programme 2019-22+ would mean that minor capital refurbishment works in various buildings, for example, Priory House, Attleborough and several others being planned as part of the rationalisation programme to support co-locating various teams, under the LSS or related strategies, either could not take place or would be delayed. This would increase the risk of unplanned or additional remedial works being required in the future. In addition, savings from the release of other buildings being closed and the associated capital receipts would not be achieved.