

COUNTY COUNCIL

21st February 2018

Revenue Budget Strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21

EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT COUNTY COUNCIL APPROVE:

- 1.1. the Budget Strategy for 2018/19 subject to the following amendments:-
 - 1.1.1. The proposed reduction of £50k in the budget for Inclusion services be removed;
 - 1.1.2. The proposal for the Care and Support Day Services be revisited resulting in a reduction in the proposed efficiencies of £50k for 2018/19 and a further £25k for 2019/20;
 - 1.1.3. The Respite Centre proposal be reviewed and the department give further consideration to service provision options resulting in a reversal in budget of £200k in 2018/19 and £200k in 2019/20;
- 1.2. That the Band D council Tax for 2018/19 be set at £1,196.60 (an increase of 4.45% for 2018-2019).
- 1.3. That a School Development Fund of £0.5m be established from the "one-off" funding made available in 2018-19 and it be operated on a similar basis to the General Development Fund;
- 1.4. That the allocation of the £148k one-off funding balance identified in paragraph 3.23 and the £77k identified in paragraph 7.1 of the report be utilised in full to support the proposed amendments and proposals detailed above;
- 1.5. That the provisional medium term financial plan be approved as a basis for future years planning

Reasons: To enable the Authority to set its Revenue Budget for the Council Fund and resultant Council Tax for 2018-2019.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: YES

Exec Board Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required YES

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. David Jenkins

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Directorate: Corporate Services | Designations: | Tel No. 01267 224121 |
| Name : Chris Moore | Director of Corporate Services | E Mail Addresses: CMoore@carmarthenshire.gov.uk |
| Report Author: Owen Bowen | Strategic Finance Officer | OBowen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

County Council

21st February 2018

Revenue Budget Strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21

1.2. Executive Board on 5^h February 2018 considered the Revenue budget strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21 report following extensive consultation on the original budget proposals. The report indicated a council tax increase of 4.12% for 2018-19.

1.3. The full report considered by the Executive Board is appended to this report as follows:

| Appendix | Document |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Report on Revenue Budget Strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21 |
| 1(1) | Table 1 – Council Fund Summary |
| 1 (ai and aii) | Consultation and Equality Impact Assessments |
| 1 (b) | Cost reduction proposals |
| 1 (c) | Recession, Demographic, Legislative or continuing pressures. |

1.4. The Executive Board considered a number of amendments to the proposals detailed, following the consultation exercise, and proposed the following amendments to the report:

1.4.1. The proposed reduction of £50k in the budget for Inclusion services be removed;

1.4.2. The proposal for the Care and Support Day Services be revisited resulting in a reduction in the proposed efficiencies of £50k for 2018/19 and a further £25k for 2019/20;

1.4.3. The Respite Centre proposal be reviewed and the department give further consideration to service provision options resulting in a reversal in budget of £200k in 2018/19 and £200k in 2019/20;

- 1.5. That the Band D council Tax for 2018/19 be set at £1,196.60 (an increase of 4.45% for 2018-2019);
- 1.6. That a School Development Fund of £0.5m be established from the “one-off” funding made available in 2018-19 and it be operated on a similar basis to the General Development Fund;
- 1.7. That the allocation of the £148k one-off funding balance identified in paragraph 3.23 and the £77k identified in paragraph 7.1 of the report be utilised in full to support the proposed amendments and proposals detailed above;
- 1.8. Based on the Executive Board recommendations to County Council the table below summarises the latest proposed position:

| | 2018-19 £'000 | 2019-20 £'000 | 2020-21 £'000 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Original net budget | 345,505 | 346,480 | 346,550 |
| Inclusion service | 50 | | |
| Care and Support for Day Services | 50 | 25 | |
| Respite Centres | 200 | 200 | |
| Schools Development Fund | 200 | | |
| Allocation of one-off funding | -225 | | |
| Other/validation movement | -2 | 9 | 9 |
| Net increase in previous year base | | 273 | 507 |
| NET BUDGET | 345,778 | 346,987 | 347,066 |
| Band D Tax | 1,196.60 | 1,241.83 | 1,287.46 |
| Council Tax Increase | 4.45% | 3.78% | 3.67% |

Table 1 (Appendix 2, attached) also provides the latest position

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ? | YES |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Chris Moore

Director of Corporate Services

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities YES | Legal NONE | Finance YES | ICT NONE | Risk Management Issues NONE | Staffing Implications NONE | Physical Assets NONE |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

1. Policy and Crime & Disorder

The budget has been prepared having regard for the Council's Corporate Strategy 2015-2020, and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Equalities Impact Assessments have been undertaken on the budget proposals in order to consider and assess the potential impact with respect to protected characteristic groups. All budget proposals considered to have an impact on front line services have undergone a period of public consultation. The Equalities Impact Assessments will be further developed following consideration of possible mitigation measures..

2. Finance

Council Fund

Final financial implications will be dependent upon the budget approved by County Council, however the implications on the latest proposals are as follows:

Proposed Net County Council Budget of £345,778k

Proposed Council Tax increase of 4.45% for 2018-2019 - Band D tax of £1196.60

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Chris Moore

Director of Corporate Services

1. Scrutiny Committee – Not applicable

2. Local Member(s) – Not applicable

3. Community / Town Council – Not applicable

4. Relevant Partners – Consultation with relevant partners undertaken and results contained within the report.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Consultation undertaken and results contained within the report.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

| Title of Document | File Ref No. | Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---|
| 2018/19 3 year Revenue Budget | | Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen. |
| WG Provisional & Final Settlement | | Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen. |