

## COUNCIL – 27 FEBRUARY 2023

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/24

#### 1. PORTFOLIO LEVEL UPDATES

- 1.1 Using the same figures prepared by Officers for the administration as the starting point, with the following areas of focus and financial amendments as follows;

##### 1. Planning & Regeneration

Proposal	Resource Implication
Review Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans	Existing Staff
Regeneration Strategy aligning to the benefits from the freeport development	Existing Staff
Clear transport infrastructure strategy in partnership with HCC	Existing Staff
Community regeneration strategy	Existing Staff

##### 2. Partnership & Wellbeing

Proposal	Resource Implication
Youth Hubs Seed Corn Capital Funding	£100,000 (Capital)
Crime Prevention Officer	£50,000 (Revenue)
Feasibility study of funding in partnership with Town and Parish Council an ACSO service	Existing Staff

##### 3. Business, Tourism & High Street

Proposal	Resource Implication
Introduction pack to running a business in the New Forest	Existing Staff
Business development role	Existing Staff
Tourism - employ a marketeer to deliver events	Existing Staff
Tourist App (self-funding)	Existing Staff

##### 4. Environment & Coastal

Proposal	Resource Implication
Focus on the coastline east of Lymington	Existing Staff

Free 2 hours parking in town centre car parks for New Forest Residents – <b>1 yr pilot, subject to review.</b>	£1.2million (Revenue)
Feasibility study into turning NFDC car parks into covered solar panelled to generate electricity for charging electric vehicles and sell excess power to subsidise car parking costs	£50,000 (Revenue)

## 5. Housing & Homelessness

Proposal	Resource Implication
Detailed strategy for reducing the number of empty homes in the district by redesignating for residential in the local plan	Existing Staff

## 6. Finance, Investment & Corporate Services

Proposal	Resource Implication
A feasibility study and costed strategy into developing current empty buildings in New Forest towns for commercial use	Existing Staff
An enhanced programme to bring in additional revenue to subsidise council tax from commercial developments	Existing Staff
Working with other agencies and providing a grant contribution of £500,000 over 2 years aimed reducing child poverty in the New Forest District	£500,000 (Revenue)

## 7. People & Places

Proposal	Resource Implication
Cleaner streets strategy	Existing Staff
Community bus strategy working with HCC and Town and Parish councils	Existing Staff
Wild Planting including in-between cemetery plots Bio diversity	Existing Budget
Creative spaces – <b>1 yr pilot, subject to review</b>	£50,000 (Revenue)

## 2. A SUMMARY OF THE ALTERNATIVE BUDGET AND FUNDING PROPOSALS

2.1 Table 1 and Table 2 demonstrate the aggregate total of the proposed budget adjustments as above, and includes a summary on how these adjustments are to be funded:

**Table 1 – Total Adjustments REVENUE**

	<b>One-off £</b>	<b>Ongoing £</b>
<b>PROPOSAL:</b>		
- Crime Prevention Officer		+50,000
- 2 hrs free resident parking	+ 1,200,000	
- Solar Feasibility Study	+ 50,000	
- Reducing Child Poverty	+ 500,000 (total over 2 years)	
- Creative Spaces	+ 50,000	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>+ 1,800,000</b>	<b>+50,000</b>
<b>FUNDING:</b>		
- Equalisation Reserve	- 600,000 (total over 2 years)	
- Removal of GF contribution to Capital Programme	- 700,000	
- Increase in Metered Parking Charges	- 500,000	- 500,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>- 1,800,000</b>	<b>- 500,000</b>

2.2 The revenue proposals require a total £600,000 contribution from the Council's Budget Equalisation Reserve over 2 years, which would still retain a sufficient balance to support the MTFP. We would supplement this reserve with yearend budgetary underspends, if they occur.

2.3 The Liberal Democrat budget would require the Council's Capital Programme to be self-financing, and not supported by a revenue budget contribution.

2.4 The 2 hour free resident household parking pilot would be used as leverage to increase metered charging, meaning that if the pilot didn't continue indefinitely, the Council would have an additional annual income of £500,000.

**Table 2 – Total Adjustments CAPITAL**

	<b>One-off £</b>	<b>Ongoing £</b>
Summary of Proposals	+ 100,000	NA
<b>Funding:</b>		
Use of Equalisation Reserve	- 100,000	

2.5 The capital proposals require a £100,000 one-off contribution from the Council's Budget Equalisation Reserve, which would still retain a sufficient balance to support the MTFP.

## MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2022-2026

## ALTERNATIVE GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2023/24

## PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

	2023/24 £'000's	2023/24 £'000's	2023/24 £'000's
	Administration Budget	Lib. Dem. Budget Changes	Lib. Dem. Budget
Business , Tourism and High Streets	393		393
Environment and Coastal Services	4,241	+50+1200-550	4,941
Finance, Investment and Corporate Services	3,653	+250	3,903
Housing and Homelessness Services	3,136		3,136
Leader	923		923
Partnering and Wellbeing	3,464	+50	3,514
People and Places	4,083	+50	4,133
Planning, Regeneration and Infrastructure	2,958		2,958
	22,851	1,050	23,901
Reversal of Depreciation	-1,823		-1,823
Contribution to/(from) Earmarked Revenue Reserves	-283	-350	-633
<b>NET PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>20,745</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>21,445</b>
Minimum Revenue Provision	1,876		1,876
Contribution to Capital Programme Financing (RCCO)	700	-700	0
Interest Earnings (Net)	-837		-837
New Homes Bonus	-16		-16
<b>GENERAL FUND NET BUDGET REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>22,468</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,468</b>
<b><u>COUNCIL TAX CALCULATION</u></b>			
Budget Requirement	22,468	0	22,468
Less:			
Settlement Funding Assessment			
Lower Tier Services Grant	0		0
Services Grant	-155		-155
Guarantee Grant (MHCLG)	-699		-699
Business Rates Baseline	-4,147		-4,147
	-5,001	0	-5,001
Locally Retained Business Rates	-3,575		-3,575
Estimated Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit Business Rates	390		390
Estimated Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit Council Tax	-262		-262
<b>COUNCIL TAX</b>	<b>14,020</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,020</b>
<b>TAX BASE NUMBER OF PROPERTIES</b>	<b>72,271.70</b>		<b>72,271.70</b>
<b>COUNCIL TAX PER BAND D PROPERTY</b>	<b>193.99</b>		<b>193.99</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE 31 MARCH</b>	<b>3,000</b>		<b>3,000</b>

## MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2022-2026

## ALTERNATIVE CAPITAL PROJECTS REQUIREMENTS WITH FINANCING

	Portfolio	PROJECT REQUIREMENTS £			ORIGINAL 2023/24 PROJECT FINANCING £			
		2022/23 £ Budget Revised (Nov. Cabinet)	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	NFDC Resources / Loan	Better Care Fund	Grant / Income
Sustainability Fund - Unallocated	LEADER / ALL	300,000	250,000	250,000	250,000			
Sustainability Fund - Crow Lane Solar Panels	LEADER / ALL	200,000						
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	LEADER / ALL		42,000	181,000			42,000	
Rural England Prosperity Fund	B,T&HS		240,000	300,000			240,000	
Disabled Facilities Grants	HOU (GF)	900,000	1,300,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,300,000		
Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring (22-27)	ENV & COAST	1,775,000	2,631,000	1,811,000	2,216,000		2,631,000	
Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring (18-21)	ENV & COAST	363,000						
Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring (12-17)	ENV & COAST	12,000						
Barton Horizontal Directional Drilling Trials	ENV & COAST	50,000	10,000	230,000	15,000		10,000	
Milford Promenade Handrail	ENV & COAST	115,000						
Hurst Spit Beach Shingle Source Study	ENV & COAST	15,000	100,000	35,000			100,000	
Milford Beach and Cliff Study	ENV & COAST		10,000	280,000			10,000	
Waste Strategy Container Roll Out	ENV & COAST		592,000		4,908,000	592,000		
Public Convenience Modernisation Programme	PEOPLE & PL	12,000	300,000	300,000	300,000			
Public Convenience Refurb Scheme - Lym Quay Enhancem	PEOPLE & PL	230,000						
Public Convenience Refurb Scheme - Barton-on-Sea	PEOPLE & PL	200,000						
Public Convenience - Changing Places - Brockenhurst	PEOPLE & PL		43,000				43,000	
Public Convenience - Changing Places - Ringwood	PEOPLE & PL		112,000				112,000	
Public Convenience - Changing Places - Hythe	PEOPLE & PL		64,000				64,000	

CAPITAL PROJECTS REQUIREMENTS WITH FINANCING		PROJECT REQUIREMENTS £				ORIGINAL 2023/24 PROJECT FINANCING £			
		2022/23 £ Budget Revised (Nov. Cabinet)	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	NFDC Resources / Loan	Better Care Fund	Grant / Income	DC / CIL
	Portfolio								
Health & Leisure Centres	PART & WELL	2,014,000							
Seed Capital - Youth Hubs	PART & WELL		100,000			100,000			
New Depot Site: Hardley	F,I & CS	500,000	4,875,000	1,625,000		4,875,000			
V&P; Replacement Programme	F,I & CS	1,800,000	3,062,000	1,309,000	996,000	3,062,000			
V&P; Replacement Programme - Waste Strategy	F,I & CS		150,000		5,840,000	150,000			
Smarter Working; Future Delivery	F,I & CS	75,000							
Economic Sustainability & Regeneration Projects	F,I & CS								
- Platinum Jubilee Business Park, Ringwood	F,I & CS	5,667,000	250,000			250,000			
- Station Road, New Milton	F,I & CS	5,500,000							
Open Space Schemes	P&I	730,000							
Mitigation Schemes	P&I	680,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000				1,000,000
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>		<b>21,138,000</b>	<b>15,131,000</b>	<b>8,821,000</b>	<b>17,025,000</b>	<b>9,579,000</b>	<b>1,300,000</b>	<b>3,252,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
									<b>15,131,000</b>
<b>LOAN FINANCED</b>					<b>V&amp;P</b>	<b>-3,062,000</b>			
					<b>80% of Economic Regeneration</b>	<b>-200,000</b>			
<b>RESIDUAL NFDC RESOURCES</b>						<b>6,317,000</b>			