

OFFICERS' COMMENTS ON ALTERNATIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL BY THE PATH BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The following sets out comments by the Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer on a proposal offered up in the budget amendment. Members of the Council should take this advice into consideration when considering and debating the amendment in question.

Comments of the Chief Financial Officer

The proposals are considered to be cost neutral in 2018/19 and over the MTFS period 2018/21.

The proposal includes utilising £4.4m of reserves within the budget to fund the reversal of savings proposals. The current forecast of £36.3m savings required by 2021 is predicated on annual recurrent savings being delivered rather than one-off adjustments through the use of reserves.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

The process for submitting and considering amendments to the Administration's Budget Motion are set out in the Council's Constitution (Council Procedure Rules). I can confirm that the process that has been followed for the submitted amendments meets those requirements.

Pursuant to Section 32 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 the Council is required to set a balanced budget. The indicative figures set out in these proposed amendments appear to meet that requirement however, if approved any of the amendments be are adopted by Council, officers will need to undertake further work to determine whether the proposals can be achieved at the savings/expenditure levels set out.