

Cabinet

Thursday, 8 February 2018, 10.00 am, County Hall, Worcester

Membership: Mr S E Geraghty (Chairman), Mr A T Amos, Mr A I Hardman,
Mr M J Hart, Mrs L C Hodgson, Ms K J May, Mr A P Miller,
Dr K A Pollock, Mr A C Roberts and Mr J H Smith

Agenda

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Agenda produced and published by Simon Mallinson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP

To obtain further information or a copy of this agenda contact Nichola Garner, Committee & Appellate Officer on Worcester (01905) 843579 or email: ngarner2@worcestershire.gov.uk

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Feedback from Consultation Meetings Budget 2018/19

Consultation meetings took place on the following dates:

17th January 2018 - Unions

18th January 2018 - Schools inc Governors

24th January 2018 - Voluntary and Community Sector/Parish Councils

24th January 2018 - Local Enterprise Partnership Business Board

Feedback Received:

Unions:

- Confirmation of proposed pay award being included in the draft budget
- Noted uncertainties around adults/childrens services – challenge of funding the gap longer term
- Sought clarity on the Council reserves
- Sought clarity on the discretionary inflation for contracts
- Raised issue with Babcock cutting services
- Council should recognise positive approach of the workforce

Schools/Schools Forum

- Acknowledgement of the ESG funding/growth proposed
- Pressures experienced by schools in terms of general level of funding
- Concerns about "losers" in the proposed new funding formula

Voluntary and Community Sector/Parish Councils

- Acknowledged really difficult position the Council finds itself in
- Described the increase in council tax as "brave"
- Noted adults services demand – was the amount put in the budget for demographics enough? (A number of comments saying the same thing)
- Raised the demands on carers
- Lobbying needed for better deal on Adult social care funding
- Wanted recognition of the costs of volunteering

Businesses

- Really supportive of working with Children Families and Communities to support mentoring / shadowing / apprenticeships to help to combat the inter-generational issues with looked after children
- Would like the Council to invest in initiatives like "Be your own boss" - this supported young adults to develop employability skills and was particularly aimed at vulnerable young people which helped to reduce the number of NEETs
- Liked the idea of Revolving Investment Fund, and would like to understand more and whether this idea could be developed further

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