

## 02/02/17 Cabinet 2017/18 Budget Report

### Feedback from budget consultation meetings

#### VCS/Parishes

- We say that the "Environment" is a corporate priority – and mentioned investment in roads but what about investment in the natural environment?
- We talk about inspiring "Community Capacity" and enabling communities but there is no specific budget for this
- Divisional Funds for councillors – some concern that the funds weren't all spent
- Inherent cost in volunteering – training/recruiting volunteers and no budget for this
- Language in the budget report – one parish councillor said our recommendation about the adult social care precept re 2016/17 made it look like we were using next year's money to pay for the current year
- Language in the budget report - reference to pavements v footway v footpaths – we need to be clear what we mean
- We were asked about how we planned to bridge the gap – explained that this was being reviewed and there had been other announcements since the budget report in Dec

#### Schools

- Confirmation of additional resources going into children's social care requested
- A concern that some of the additional social care monies were only temporary
- Acknowledgement of the ESG funding and growth proposed in the Council budget for 2017/18
- Pressures experienced by schools in terms of general level of funding needs to be acknowledged
- Concerns about "losers" in the proposed new funding formula for 2018/19

#### Businesses

- Overall supportive and keen that the Council focuses on Economic Development as future income is being tied to the success of growing the Business Rates and Council Tax base locally
- Would want a focus on supportive innovation centres being developed across the County

#### Unions

- Welcomes in-house proposals around WRS and Children's Services Support Living proposals
- Queries whether the 1% pay inflation has been confirmed (agreed it has as part of the 2 year Pay Deal with Unions – 2016/17 and 2017/18)
- Queried whether mileage and travel rates should increase (reflected that rates were set when fuel costs were higher but no plans at this point)

## Appendix 17

- Queried whether Precept should be maximised at 4.99%
- Queried the level of Specific Grants still outstanding (now below £10m)
- Staff Terms and Conditions into the future
- Suggested that we should review the Council's approach to Suspensions (The Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development agreed to discuss with Unions)