Dear Member

COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2018

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the Thursday, 8 February 2018 meeting of the Council, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

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Yours sincerely

June Gurry
Clerk
Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Elected Mayor’s revenue budget proposals on the basis that:

This Council notes that Torbay Council does not fund bus subsidies in Torbay from Council tax payers. This compares to local authorities such as Plymouth and Devon County Council that on the latest figures available from the campaign for better transport, fund bus services at a rate of £384,029 and £4,780,129 respectively.

The lack of subsidy has contributed in bus services being ended or suffering reductions such as the 64, 65, 67 and 32 routes.

This Council further notes that the combination of the operation of the concessionary fares scheme along with the lack of subsidy provided by this Council, could leave some current routes across Torbay vulnerable to further reductions in service, during the next financial year.

In light of the above this Council calls upon the Elected Mayor to establish a fund for subsidising buses in Torbay of £150,000.

In accordance with the Constitution at F2.9, the Council therefore requires the Elected Mayor to consider this objection by 16 February 2018 either:

a) submit a revision of the estimates or amounts as amended by the elected Mayor with the reasons for any amendments made to the estimates or amounts, to the Council for its consideration; or

b) inform the Council of any disagreement that the elected Mayor has with any of the Council’s objections and the elected Mayor’s reasons for any such disagreement.

Proposed by Councillor Doggett

Seconded by Councillor Long
Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Elected Mayor’s revenue budget proposals on the basis that:

This Council notes that at a time when:

- Child poverty has increased in Torbay to approximately 30% of children in the Bay;
- Torbay is falling behind the rest of the UK with its Gross Value Added reducing to less than 60% of the national average; and
- Torbay suffers from the highest levels of personal insolvency in England and Wales.

The Elected Mayor is proposing a £162,000 cut to the adult substance misuse service budget line over the next two years.

In light of the above this Council calls upon the Elected Mayor to passport these savings to tackling poverty in Torbay. This funding could support projects that include the funding of debt advice, support a Credit Union in Torbay, employment support for workless people or other measures to reduce poverty and improve the Bay’s economic performance.

In accordance with the Constitution at F2.9, the Council therefore requires the elected Mayor to consider this objection by 16 February 2018 either:

a) submit a revision of the estimates or amounts as amended by the elected Mayor with the reasons for any amendments made to the estimates or amounts, to the Council for its consideration; or

b) inform the Council of any disagreement that the elected Mayor has with any of the Council’s objections and the elected Mayor’s reasons for any such disagreement.

Proposed by Councillor Darling (S)
Seconded by Councillor Stocks
Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Elected Mayor's revenue budget proposals on the basis that:

This Council notes with concern the reduction in town centre footfall in Torbay.

In light of this this Council proposes a three month trial of on street car parking at 50p for one hour parking with no return within 24 hours. This is to take effect from the Easter holidays 2018 onwards or as soon as the legal timeframe (eg. statutory consultation and notice period) permits for this year.

In accordance with the Constitution at F2.9, the Council therefore requires the Elected Mayor to consider this objection by 16 February 2018 either:

a) submit a revision of the estimates or amounts as amended by the elected Mayor with the reasons for any amendments made to the estimates or amounts, to the Council for its consideration; or

b) inform the Council of any disagreement that the elected Mayor has with any of the Council’s objections and the elected Mayor’s reasons for any such disagreement.

Proposed by Councillor Pentney

Seconded by Councillor Darling (M)
Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Elected Mayor’s revenue budget proposals on the basis that:

1. £10,000 should be allocated to conduct a study into young people’s public transport needs and costs and how they could be assisted;
2. An additional £20,000 should be allocated to the Council’s Public Health budget to allow GP surgeries across Torbay to help to identify at risk patients who could benefit from taking up a physical activity and to subsidise the first weeks or months of their leisure centre subscriptions; and
3. £10,000 should be allocated to encourage the use of musical instruments owned and held in storage by the Council as well as adding to the overall instrument library. Such instrument library to be used to support schools and widen the opportunities for students who are unable to access such musical instruments themselves.

In accordance with the Constitution at F2.9, the Council therefore requires the elected Mayor to consider this objection by 16 February 2018 either:

a) submit a revision of the estimates or amounts as amended by the elected Mayor with the reasons for any amendments made to the estimates or amounts, to the Council for its consideration; or

b) inform the Council of any disagreement that the elected Mayor has with any of the Council’s objections and the elected Mayor’s reasons for any such disagreement.

Proposed by Councillor Sanders
Seconded by Councillor Dogget
Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Elected Mayor’s revenue budget proposals on the basis that:

The Elected Mayor is not fully utilising all opportunities for income generation under the Sustainable Communities Act 2007. This Act gives Local Authorities the ability to submit proposals to the Secretary of State asking for the removal of legislative and other barriers that prevent them from improving the sustainability of the local area. An example of this could be the introduction of a local levy of 8.5% of the rate on large retail outlets in their area with a rateable annual value not less that £500,000. Any such proposals requires that the revenue from this levy be retained by the Local Authority in order to be used to improve local communities in their areas by promoting local economic activity, local services and facilities, social and community wellbeing and environmental protection.

The Council notes that if such a power as outlined above was acquired this would present the opportunity to raise further revenue, resulting in a positive impact on the Council’s overall budget and generate income of approximately £800,000.

In accordance with the Constitution at F2.9, the Council therefore requires the elected Mayor to consider this objection by 16 February 2018 either:

a) submit a revision of the estimates or amounts as amended by the elected Mayor with the reasons for any amendments made to the estimates or amounts, to the Council for its consideration; or

b) inform the Council of any disagreement that the elected Mayor has with any of the Council’s objections and the elected Mayor’s reasons for any such disagreement.

Proposed by Councillor Sanders

Seconded by Councillor Darling (S)
Adjourned Council Meeting
8 February 2018

Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Elected Mayor’s Capital budget proposals on the basis that:

There is a lack of support for sports clubs within the Bay and therefore a capital fund of £50,000 be established for matched funded capital grants to sports clubs to support the purchase of capital equipment. The criteria for the fund to be developed in consultation with Sport Torbay. The outcomes and benefits from this fund, including associated Public Health benefits, to be reviewed as part capital budget setting for future financial years.

In accordance with the Constitution at F3.9, the Council therefore requires the Elected Mayor to consider this objection by 16 February 2018 either:

a) submit a revision of the estimates or amounts as amended by the elected Mayor with the reasons for any amendments made to the estimates or amounts, to the Council for its consideration; or

b) inform the Council of any disagreement that the elected Mayor has with any of the Council’s objections and the elected Mayor’s reasons for any such disagreement.

Proposed by Councillor Long
Seconded by Councillor Pentney