

Agenda Item 3
Revenue Budget 2018/2019

Liberal Democrat Objection to Revenue Budget
(Constitution Reference: Budget and Policy Framework Standing Order F2.9)

Adjourned Council Meeting

8 February 2018

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 than £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)