

Agenda Item 4
Revenue Budget Proposals 2017/18

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

Adjourned Council Meeting

9 February 2017

Proposal:

That the Council formally objects to the Mayor's revenue budget proposals, as a number of members across all political groups on the Council object to some or all of the following issues:

- i) That the Council should heed the advice of our Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer, the full Senior Leadership Team and the Local Government Association by increasing the Council tax by an additional 1% for adult social care in 2017/18, which is in line with the Government's recommendations. This is to ensure that Torbay Council is able to continue to support vulnerable adults in accordance with the Council's Corporate Plan;
- ii) In light of the funding crisis facing the NHS and adult social care, the Council is very concerned on the Section 151 Officer's qualified opinion in respect of the Adult Social Care expenditure. Therefore, the Council objects to the apparent inadequate provision for the risk share agreement with the Integrated Care Organisation and the potential costs of withdrawal from the current risk share arrangement from December 2017;
- iii) That the reduction in the Youth Service funding is likely to result in uncertainty for grants given to community led youth service provision and this element of the future provision of youth services should be protected;
- iv) the continued cost to the Council of the Air Show at £100,000;
- v) the £61,000 to reduce grounds maintenance, the impact this will have and the achievability of sponsorship;
- vi) all senior officers share secretarial support and the Mayor should consider the level of his two full time support officers to release resources for priority areas elsewhere in the Council;

Continued over....

- vii) Members believe it is unsafe to increase the expected income from the Investment fund prior to securing the purchase agreed by Council in December 2016 and prior to agreeing a change in the strategy which would be beneficial in supporting the aims of increasing the scope of investment opportunities.

In accordance with the Constitution at F2.9, the Council therefore requires the Mayor to consider this objection by 17 February 2017 and 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 Thomas (D)

Seconded by Councillor Darling (S)