

## **Council 24 February 2016**

### **Agenda Item 4 – Revenue and Capital Budgets and Council Tax 2016/2017**

#### **Proposed Amendments**

The current proposed budget includes a Cabinet recommended proposal of a 1.99% increase in council tax 2016/17

Having reviewed the current presented budget and proposed a number of areas where we had concern and alternative initiatives we wish to amend this budget for 2016/17

#### **Tax increase of 1.5% resulting in a band D council Tax of £179.58**

This will result in a number of amendments that have been considered by our Chief Financial Officer (CFO) officer as shown in the attached document Appendix A

In working with the Executive Director / Resources and Support Services, we have identified a need for a reduction of £31,000 to enable a balanced budget to be set.

We looked at many ways to achieve the above reduction and we were advised that to make any major changes to the budget which we had presented to the CFO we would have to consider the impact on producing a balanced budget and the officer time to do so at this stage.

We propose to only put forward to achieve this reduction minor alterations to the revenue budget.

#### **Proposal.**

#### **To cease production of the Councils Reporter newspaper from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 saving £31,000.**

This mode of reporting council achievements has become a luxury item that can be replaced through professional use of local press articles.

#### **To reduce the General Fund budget contribution to the Revenue Investment Fund by £31000.**

This will result in a number of amendments to Appendix B as shown in the attached document.

The above savings taken together give more than the required amount of £31,000 and the remainder ie £31,000 should be used to support vulnerable families in our borough who would make better use of the support than both the above items.

**Proposed by Cllr David Loades**

**Seconded by Cllr Stephen Sweeney**