

ALTERATIONS AND AMENDMENTS FOR BUDGET COUNCIL

28 FEBRUARY 2022

1. LABOUR GROUP ALTERATION

**Proposed by Councillor Janette Williamson
Seconded by Councillor Yvonne Nolan**

That the motion proposed as set out in the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee of 15 February, 2022, in minute 129, 'Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan' be subject to an alteration, in that an addition be made with a new paragraph at (1) (i), as follows (the remaining paragraphs being re-lettered):

"An allocation of £125,000 from within the 2022/23 capital programme be identified to enable the total Climate Emergency Budget to remain at £250,000 from revenue and capital for 2022/23. This is in recognition of the increasing concern over the continuing pattern of severe weather and just recently, the worst storms we have seen in decades. We have an obligation to ensure our assets can be fit for purpose and remain in good order so that when such events occur again, we can continue to operate vital council services for residents, with no or minimal disruption'

This does not affect the existing revenue saving of £125,000 already proposed."

2. LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP AMENDMENT

**Proposed by Councillor Phil Gilchrist
Seconded by Councillor Chris Carubia**

That the motion proposed as set out in the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee of 15 February, 2022, in minute 129, 'Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan' be subject to the following amendments in part (1):

(e) Delete final sentence and insert....

Brackenwood Golf Course currently proposed to cease operation as at 1 April 2022 to continue to operate until 30 September 2022 whilst expressions of interest for community asset transfer are sought and assessed which will provide a reduction of in-year savings of £55k. This will not affect the saving proposal to come into effect as at 1 April 2022, following Budget Council, for Hoylake Golf Course.

(g) (i) Delete all and insert....

Whilst it has been proposed that Greasby and Rock Ferry libraries are to remain operating for the purposes of community facility and library centres at a cost of

£162k, it remains necessary for the Committee to look at the overall picture and consider the circumstances pertaining to all the other library locations covered by the current consultation.

(g) (ii) *Delete £282k and replace with £113k.*

Insert new paragraph after "(h)Greenbelt where those sites are within it."

(i) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed "Temporary Closure and Remodelling of Bidston Tennis Centre" be amended to reduce the savings proposals so as to make sufficient monies available to enable Bidston Tennis Centre to continue to operate until 31 March 2023 whilst public consultation and further discussions take place with the Lawn Tennis Association; which will provide a reduction of in-year savings of £114k.

3. GREEN GROUP AMENDMENTS

**Proposed by Councillor Pat Cleary
Seconded by Councillor Jason Walsh**

First Amendment

That the motion proposed as set out in the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee of 15 February, 2022, in minute 129, 'Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan' be subject to the following amendments in part (1):

*Delete/amend paragraphs (i) to (iv) in item 1 (g)
Adjust the capital allocation at item 1 (g) (iii) to £750,000*

Add a new paragraph as follows:

Any efficiencies from across the Council achieved beyond the proposed savings at the end of Quarter 2 in 2022/23 and which do not conflict with existing budget provisions or contravene specific guidance or criteria will be allocated to support any successful bid to transfer an existing library facility to a community organisation up to a maximum of £250,000.

Ensure that any groups interested in the transfer of community assets are signposted as appropriate to existing, contracted for, support provided by Wirral Council via third parties to assist with the preparation and development of relevant business cases.

The amended resolution to read:

(g) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed "Reprovision of the Library Service" be amended to reduce the savings proposals so as to make sufficient monies available so as to enable:

~~(i) Greasby and Rock Ferry libraries to remain operating for the purposes of community facility and library centres at a cost of £162k ; £162K to be made available to the Tourism Communities Culture and Leisure Committee to permanently support library provision across Wirral pending a final determination further to the ongoing public consultation on the future of libraries.~~

~~(ii) expressions of interest in community asset transfer of the libraries to be supported in assisting the production and implementation of business cases at a cost of £282k ; and~~

(ii) an allocation from within the 2022/23 capital programme be identified, where necessary, to enable expressions of interest in community asset transfer of the libraries that may be closed to be supported in assisting the production and implementation of business cases at a cost of ~~£500k~~ £750k; and ensure that any groups interested in the transfer of community assets are signposted as appropriate to existing, contracted for, support provided by Wirral Council via third parties to assist with the preparation and development of relevant business cases; and

(iii) any efficiencies from across the Council achieved beyond the proposed savings at the end of Quarter 2 in 2022/23 and which do not conflict with existing budget provisions or contravene specific guidance or criteria will be allocated to support any successful bid to transfer an existing library facility to a community organisation up to a maximum of £250,000; and

(iv) libraries currently proposed to cease operation as of 1st July to continue to operate until 1st November 2022 whilst expressions of interest for their community asset transfer are sought and business cases developed and assessed, which will provide a reduction of in-year savings of £470k;

amounting to a reduction in Revenue savings of £162k for 2022/23 and future years from the budget surplus, and £470k for 2022/23 only with the use of the £3m contingency reserve to support this.

That the following additional paragraphs be inserted after (g), the remaining paragraphs to be re-lettered (m) to (o):

- (h) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed “Redesign of Youth Offer” be deleted. This will remove the proposal to withdraw £100k from the Youth Service budget and deletion of one post from the Youth Service.
- (i) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed “Increase in Charges for Waste and Environmental Services” be amended to reduce the savings proposals so as to make sufficient monies available to enable no charge to be levied for new grey bins at a cost of £35K and no additional ERIC bulky waste collection charges to be levied at a cost of £12K making a total cost of £47K.
- (j) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed “Income Increase on Allotments” be amended to reduce the savings proposals at a cost of £25K.
- (k) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed “Reduction to the Climate Emergency Budget” be amended to reduce the savings proposals at a cost of £110K amounting to a reduction in revenue savings of £282k for 2022/23 and future years from the budget surplus.

Second Amendment

That the motion proposed as set out in the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee of 15 February, 2022, in minute 129, 'Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan' be subject to the following amendments in part (1):

That the following additional paragraph be inserted after (g), the remaining paragraphs to be re-lettered as appropriate:

- (l) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed "Removal of Individual Member Budgets" be increased to £250K so as to make sufficient monies available to enable the Climate Emergency Budget for 2022/23 to be increased by £66K.

4. COUNCILLOR JO BIRD'S AMENDMENTS

First Amendment

**Proposed by Councillor Jo Bird
Seconded by Councillor Chris Cooke**

That the motion proposed as set out in the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee of 15 February, 2022, in minute 129, 'Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan' be subject to the following amendments in part (1):

Insert a new part (f) as follows, with the rest re-lettered:

- (f) That the savings proposal listed at Appendix 2 headed "Closure of Europa Fun/Leisure Pool & Enhanced Gym Offer" be amended to pause re-opening of Europa Fun/Leisure Pool & Enhanced Gym Offer, until 31 March, 2023. This will not affect the saving proposal to come into effect as of 1st April 2022, following Budget Council.

Second Amendment

**Proposed by Councillor Jo Bird
Seconded by Councillor ??**

That the motion proposed as set out in the recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee of 15 February, 2022, in minute 129, 'Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan' be subject to the following amendments in part (1):

Delete paragraphs (i) and (ii) from part (g) (becomes part (h)) and amend part (iv) (now (ii)) with the following insertions/deletions, as shown:

- (ii) libraries currently proposed to cease operation as of 1st July to continue to operate until ~~4th November 2022~~ **31st March 2023** whilst expressions of

interest for their community asset transfer are sought and business cases developed and assessed, which will provide a reduction of in-year savings of ~~£470k~~ £814K. With the use of £444,000 budget surplus and £370,000 from the £3m contingency reserve for delayed savings to support this.

~~amounting to a reduction in Revenue savings of £162k for 2022/23 and future years and £752k for 2022/23 only with the use of the budget surplus to support this.~~