

**CABINET  
DECISION RECORDING LOG**

**DECISION DETERMINED ON: 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015**

**DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015**  
**(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)**

**SUBJECT: REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2015/16– FINAL PROPOSALS SUBJECT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION AMENDMENTS**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

1. To update Cabinet with the consultation responses so far to the budget proposals issued by them on the 5th November 2014 in respect of the Capital and Revenue budgets.
2. To update members with implications arising from the Final Settlement announcement of the Welsh Government.
3. To make recommendations to Council on the Capital and Revenue budgets and level of Council Tax for 2015/16.
4. To receive the Responsible Financial Officer's Prudential Indicator calculations for capital financing.
5. To receive the statutory report of the Responsible Financial Officer on the budget process and the adequacy of reserves.

**DECISION:**

1. To consider the responses to consultation so far and subject to 2.2 below recommends to Council:
  - The 2015/16 revenue budget as attached in Appendix I
  - The 2015/16 to 2018/19 capital programme as attached in Appendix J1 including the additional schemes and funding noted in 3.2.3 and 3.2.4
  - 4.95% increase in the Band "D" equivalent Council Tax to apply for County purposes in 2015/16
2. That the public consultation responses are considered in the final recommendations to Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015.

3. To approve the necessary saving proposals and the release of £1.234 million from earmarked reserves to deliver the changes required and support the 2015/16 budget.
4. To recommend Council to dispose of assets identified in the exempt background paper at best value, and to approve the associated costs of disposal.
5. To consider the Responsible Financial Officers report on the robustness of the budget process and the adequacy of reserves issued under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 2003.
6. To adopt the Responsible Financial Officers report on Prudential Indicators.
7. To formally note that Schools based expenditure is currently protected at cash flatline (taking account of reducing pupil numbers), resulting in the WG protection targets over a 5 year period being met.
8. To approve the following:
  - Further work is undertaken on the schedule of savings over the 3 year period 2016/17 to 2018/19 outlined in Appendix E.
  - Regular review of the MTFP to ensure it remains up to date

### **REASONS:**

1. To make appropriate recommendations to Council on the revenue and capital budgets for 2015/16, and the resultant Council Tax recommended to be set for County purposes, subject to the results of the public consultation in early January.
2. To sustain the Capital programme and establish capital resources to support the 21<sup>st</sup> century schools programme by the sale of surplus assets.
3. As required by statute, to consider the Responsible Financial Officers provisional conclusions on the robustness on the budget process and the adequacy of reserves going forward.
4. To approve the Prudential Capital Indicators calculated by the Responsible Financial Officer.

### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

As identified within the report and appendices.

### **CONSULTEES:**

Cabinet,  
Strategic Leadership Team

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

County Councillor R.J. Higginson declared a personal interest, pursuant to the Members Code of Conduct, as a Member of Durand Primary School Governing Body.

**AUTHOR:**

Joy Robson – Head of Finance

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

Tel: 01633 644270

Email: [joyrobson@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:joyrobson@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

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**(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)**

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE AUTHORITIES FEES AND CHARGES PROPOSED FOR INCLUSION WITHIN THE 2015-16 BUDGET**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To review all fees and charges made for services across the Council and identify proposals for amending them in advance of the 2015/16 financial year.

**DECISION:**

1. That the proposed fees and charges for 2015/16 identified for each type of chargeable service made, as outlined in Appendix 1, be adopted.
2. That the increase in charges takes effect at a date no later than 1st April 2015, with any pressures resulting from increases taking place after this date to be managed by Chief Officers within their respective directorate budget allocations.
3. That Chief Officers effectively manage the budget pressures highlighted by services not increasing charges in line with the 2.5% increase assumed in the 2015-19 MTFP. Consideration should also be given to the cost effectiveness and administrative costs that result from implementing small increases to existing charges.

## **REASONS:**

1. To identify the charges to be adopted for 2015/16 financial year.
2. To ensure that resultant pressures are also identified in order to allow them to be managed by Chief Officers within their respective directorate budgets.
3. To identify scope for increasing charges beyond the 2.5% increase modelled in the draft revenue budget proposals, or to consider charging where there is scope to charge for services for which there is currently no charging regime.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

1. Proposed charges are taken into account in the budget proposals that are out on consultation by Cabinet from its meeting on 05<sup>th</sup> November 2014.
2. Some charges cannot be increased in line with the medium-term financial planning assumption of 2.5%, as a result of there being specific restrictions imposed on the level of charges. Some income budgets are also suffering strain during 2014/15 and it is anticipated that this pressure will carry into 2015/16. The above pressures and other smaller pressures, as outlined in appendix 1, will need to be managed within directorates' 2015/16 revenue budget proposals and as part of the ongoing budget setting process.
3. Any other budget pressures that may be generated as a result of fees and charges identified by the MTFP model (and subsequently being increased by 2.5% by the model) not being contained in appendix 1, possibly as a result of them not falling within a charging regime, will also need to be managed within directorates' 2015/16 revenue budget proposals.

## **CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team  
All Cabinet Members  
Head of Legal Services  
Head of Finance

## **CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Joy Robson – Head of Finance

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

Email: [joyrobson@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:joyrobson@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

Tel: 01633 644270

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**SUBJECT: WASTE BUDGET MANDATE – WASTE COLLECTION CHANGES**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To seek approval for:

- a) Changes to the residual waste policy as approved by Council on 26th April 2013 by removing the requirement for household residual waste to be placed out in Council provided grey bags. The requirement will now be for residents to supply their own bags but still only be restricted to two per fortnightly collection.
- b) The revised MCC Residual Waste Policy as contained in Annex 1;
- c) Changes to the frequency of nappy/hygiene collections. A move from weekly to fortnightly and for this waste to be collected with householder residual waste but still collected in Council provided yellow/black bags; and
- d) The MTFP entry for a £180k saving for 2015-16 from the two above actions be noted prior to Council agreeing the budget on 22nd January 2015.

**DECISION:**

To agree that:

- The policy changes on grey bags and nappy/hygiene collection frequency be approved; and
- The budget in 2015-16 reflect the £180k saving proposed.

## **REASONS:**

1. The restriction on residual waste has been a huge success and this is down to the compliance and adoption of the initiative by the residents of Monmouthshire. The grey bags gave a strong message of the change required. Given the level of compliance and high recycling performance combined with a need to reduce expenditure it is proposed that the provision of grey bags be removed to release a saving of £80k.
2. The changes to the nappy/hygiene collection frequency is to save £100k as a result of a reduction in 3 vehicles and 3 operatives from the workforce.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The actions will deliver a total saving of £180k. Within the budget mandate it is identified that £10k will be required to fund a communications campaign. This is to be covered from the existing education and awareness expenditure line within the waste budget.

## **CONSULTEES:**

Cabinet  
Senior Leadership Team  
Head of Service  
Chief Internal Auditor  
Head of Finance  
Head of Legal Services  
Strong Communities Select Committee (budget mandate review 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014)

## **CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

## **OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and Powell.



**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Rachel Jowitt, Head of Waste & Street Services

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

Tel: 01633 738326/ 07824 406356

E-mail: [racheljowitt@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:racheljowitt@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

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**SUBJECT: WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS BILL**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To make Cabinet members aware of the forthcoming Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill and its implications for Monmouthshire County Council, and make members aware of the work we will be undertaking as part of the WLGA's Early Adopters programme.

**DECISION:**

1. That officers take forward our work in becoming an Early Adopter of the Bill.
2. That Members note the report and the implications of the Future Generations Bill, and support our work as Early Adopters.

**REASONS:**

1. The aim of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act is to ensure that the governance arrangements of public bodies for improving the wellbeing of Wales take the needs of future generations into account.
2. The Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill will become a statutory requirement for Monmouthshire County Council and we want to be as prepared as we can be.
3. Our Single Integrated Plan has sustainability at its heart, with "sustainable, resilient communities" as its overarching aim. This, alongside the aspirations of the new Bill, will enable us to be at the forefront of sustainable decision making.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

Currently work towards the Future Generations Bill will be carried out within existing officer time.

**CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team  
Cabinet

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Hazel Clatworthy, Sustainability Community Officer

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

**Tel:** 01633 644843

**E-mail:** [hazelclatworthy@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:hazelclatworthy@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

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**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF SERVICE DELIVERY IN PUBLIC PROTECTION DEPARTMENT**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: ALL**

**PURPOSE:**

To consider the impact on service delivery and performance across the Public Protection department, further to the cost reductions implemented in April 2014.

**DECISION:**

1. To receive and comment on the accompanying report entitled a Review of Service Delivery and Performance in Public Protection and associated comments of the Strong Communities Select Committee.
2. Noting the continually changing legislative landscape in the future, it was decided Strong Communities Select Committee would receive six monthly performance reports on Public Protection services.

**REASONS:**

In March 2014 Cabinet approved a report outlining proposed actions to address reductions in the Public Protection budget for 2014-15, and asked for a follow up report on subsequent service delivery and performance after a further 6 months.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

None proposed in this report.

**CONSULTEES:**

SLT

Cabinet Members

Chairs of Select Committee

Head of Regulatory Services

Strong Communities Select Committee (Comments appended)

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Graham Perry Public Protection Manager

Dave Jones, Head of Regulatory Services

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**SUBJECT: PROPOSED 50MPH MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT B4598 PENPERGWM - USK AND R64 LLANVIHANGEL GOBION - RAGLAN**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: BRYN Y CWM, CENTRAL; LLANOVER, LLANBADOC, RAGLAN**

**PURPOSE:**

To consider the proposed Order subsequent to representations received following advertisement in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

**DECISION:**

1. Not to hold an inquiry into the proposal.
2. To approve the proposed Order as consulted and advertised and to implement the Order.

**REASONS:**

1. The new Traffic Regulation Order is considered desirable to provide a more appropriate speed limit on the B4598 and R64 routes and enhance the level of road safety for all highway users.
2. Regulation 9 of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 enables the Council to hold a public inquiry into the proposal if there are unresolved objections. The purpose of such an inquiry would be for the proposal to be explained and subjected to examination; and for the public to be given the opportunity to make their views known. Should a public inquiry be held then it would not be possible for it to be implemented for at least six months.

3. Officers consider that in view of the fact that the objections received have been considered and addressed as set out in the appendix, that the Council's proposals do not warrant the holding of any inquiry.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The costs of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order, road markings and signage would be funded by Monmouthshire County Council from the current road safety and traffic management budget.

**CONSULTEES:**

Senior Leadership Team  
County Councillor B. Jones, Cabinet Member for County Operations  
County Councillor Mrs S. Jones  
County Councillor Mrs V. Smith  
County Councillor Mrs. P. Jones

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Paul Keeble Traffic & Network Manager

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

E-mail: [Paulkeeble@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:Paulkeeble@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01633 644733

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**THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS REPORT AS EXEMPT INFORMATION WOULD BE DISCLOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH 16 OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF WHICH A CLAIM TO LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE COULD BE MAINTAINED IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.**

**SUBJECT: ORACLE LICENSE COMPLIANCE AUDIT**

**DIVISION//WARD AFFECTED: NONE**

**PURPOSE:**

As contained within the Cabinet report.

**DECISION:**

As agreed at Cabinet meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**REASONS:**

As contained within the Cabinet report.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

As contained within the Cabinet report.



**CONSULTEES:**

Strategic Leadership Team  
Cabinet members  
Chief Operating Officer, SRS

**CABINET MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors G. Burrows, P. Fox, R. Greenland, E. Hackett Pain, P. Hobson, G. Howard, B. Jones and P. Murphy

**OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT:**

County Councillors D. Batrouni, P. Farley, R. Harris, R.J. Higginson, S. Howarth and M. Powell.

**INTEREST DECLARED:**

None

**AUTHOR:**

Sian Hayward

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

Tel: 07971893998

E-mail: [sianhayward@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:sianhayward@monmouthshire.gov.uk)