



***ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY REGENERATION SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)***

10.00 am FRIDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2016

COMMITTEE ROOMS A/B - NEATH CIVIC CENTRE

PART 1

1. To receive any declarations of interest from Members

To scrutinise decisions, information and monitoring issues reported by:

Report by the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, Head of Participation and Head of Transformation

2. Consultation on Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Budget and Draft Savings 2017/18 (*Pages 3 - 12*)

Report by the Director of Environment, Head of Planning and Head of Property and Regeneration

3. Consultation on Environment Budget and Draft Savings 2017/18 (*Pages 13 - 18*)

S.Phillips
Chief Executive

**Civic Centre
Port Talbot**

Monday, 17 October 2016

Committee Membership:

Chairperson: Councillor A.Llewelyn

**Vice
Chairperson:** Councillor I.B.James

Councillors: M.Crowley, C.P.Golding, A.Jenkins, M.Jones,
D.Keogh, Mrs.M.A.Lewis, Ms.C.Morgans,
Mrs.S.Paddison, S.Rahaman and A.Taylor

Notes:

- (1) If Committee Members or non-Committee Members wish to have relevant items put on the agenda for future meetings, then please notify the Chief Executive/Chair eight days before the meeting.*
- (2) If non-Committee Members wish to attend for an item of interest, then prior notification needs to be given (by 12.00 noon on the day before the meeting). Non-Committee Members may speak but not vote, or move or second any motion.*
- (3) For pre scrutiny arrangements, the Chair will normally recommend forthcoming executive items for discussion/challenge. It is also open to Committee Members to request items to be raised - though Members are asked to be selective here in regard to important issues.*
- (4) The relevant Cabinet Board Members will also be invited to be present at the meeting for Scrutiny/ Consultation purposes.*
- (5) Would the Scrutiny Committee Members please bring the Cabinet Board papers with them to the meeting.*

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF DIRECTOR EDUCATION, LEISURE AND
LIFELONG LEARNING, HEAD OF TRANSFORMATION AND
HEAD OF PARTICIPATION**

17 OCTOBER 2016

MATTER FOR INFORMATION

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

**CONSULTATION ON EDUCATION, LEISURE AND LIFELONG
LEARNING BUDGET AND DRAFT SAVINGS 2017/18**

1. Purpose of Report

To provide Members of the Economic and Regeneration Committee with supplementary information concerning the savings proposals for the Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Budget, set out in the Cabinet Report of 28 September 2016, with a view to aiding the scrutiny of those proposals.

2. Background

On the 13 July 2016 a report was presented to Cabinet setting out the updated Forward Financial Plan Gap (FFP) for each financial year to March 2020. That report showed the various assumptions for each year including cost pressures such as pay award, inflation, new UK Government taxation in the form of an Apprenticeship Levy, together with population and specific service pressures. Further

details of the pressures and inflation/other factors built into the budget are set out in Appendices 2 and 3. The report also reviewed and confirmed that £3.8m of the previously approved savings schedule for 2017/18 remained on target to help close the projected budget gap. The following table shows the projected Gap as reported at the July meeting:

Funding Gap @ June	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Total Budget Gap	12,645	14,740	10,332
Less withdrawal of one-off budget allocated to Streetscene for 2016/17 **	-1,229	0	0
Budget Gap before Directorate Savings	11,236	14,740	10,332
Cumulative Gap	11,236	25,976	36,308
Savings @ June 2016	-3,815	-250	-250
Budget Gap @ June 2016	7,421	14,490	10,082
Cumulative Gap @ June 2016	7,421	21,911	31,993

Since 2010 this Council has already had to cut in real terms some £72m from its revenue budget and reduced its workforce by 20% through a combination of voluntary redundancies and a transfer of functions.

Neath Port Talbot Councils net revenue budget for 2016/17 is £270.9m and together with grants and income results in a gross budget or investment of some £417m in Council services across the County Borough. The Council also invests annually a further £50m+ through its capital programme.

3. **Draft Savings for consultation**

The Directorate comprises of a number of services, which are set out below with current budgets in summarised form.

Service	Budget 2016/17
Individual Schools Budget	79,616,000
School Support Services	17,438,927
Adult/Community and Other Education Services	400,690
Children & Young Person's Partnerships	445,798
Services Outside Section 52 Statement	1,550,748
Leisure & Arts Services	2,653,104
Education Support Services	1,102,733
TOTAL	103,208,000

Savings proposals 2017/18

ELLL705 (£30k) – Vacancy Management

This saving will be achieved by closely monitoring all aspects when considering replacing staff and not filling some jobs if appropriate. This has gone on for many years, and the targeted amount of £30k is modest.

ELLL706 (£30k) – Increase Income Target – Neath and Port Talbot Work Programme

Increase Income Target for the Neath and Port Talbot Work Programme through continued improvement in service delivery and monitoring of contractual income.

ELLL707 (£40k) – Reduce Subsidy Pontardawe Arts Centre

Further reduce the funding to Pontardawe Arts Centre; this could potentially have an impact in the opening times of the venue.

ELLL708 (£40k) – Reduce Subsidy – Gwyn Hall Theatre

Further reduce the funding to the Gwyn Hall Theatre, ensuring more efficient management of the Celtic Leisure contract.

ELLL709 (£39k) – Restructure Service due to changes in level of Service Provision

Re-structure existing support service functions through the innovative use of grant funding.

ELLL710 – (£100k) – Innovative Use of Grant Funding

The LA will stringently monitor and adhere to all grant conditions, whilst at the same time identifying opportunities to reduce core costs.

ELLL711 – (£5k) – Further Reduction in subsidy to Aberafan Seafront / Lifeboat Service

The subsidy for this service has been reduced in previous years. A reduction in funding may potentially make the existing service unsustainable.

4. Equality Impact Assessment

The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies to “pay due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.”

The 28th of September 2016 report identified the need for the Council to make budget savings of £11m for 2016/17 and £36m over the next three years and as such many of these will have a negative impact on services provided across the whole of the County Borough. Those proposals which have a direct impact on frontline services to the public e.g. libraries, community centres etc. will be subject to individual equality impact screening and assessments.

5. Workforce Impacts

The workforce will be impacted by the reduction in budget funding available to run services. The Council has shared this report and information with trade unions and are having and will continue to hold staff briefings over the next few months. The Council wishes to minimise compulsory redundancies and has launched its early retirement/voluntary redundancy scheme in October/November 2016.

6. Consultation

Discussions and consultation with workforce, Trade Unions, people with care and support needs, carers and key partners are underway in order that the above proposals can be progressed and incorporated or amended for inclusion in the final budget proposals for 2017/18.

7. Recommendations

It is recommended that Members review and scrutinise the savings proposals included in this report.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Draft savings for consultation

9. Background Papers

- Cabinet Report of 28th September 2016 – Draft 2017/18 Budget for Consultation
- Budget working files

10. Officer Contact

For further information on this report item, please contact:

Aled Evans – Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning

Tel: 01639 763393 E-mail: a.evans@npt.gov.uk

Andrew Thomas – Head of Transformation
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Christopher Millis – Head of Participation
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Appendix 1
Budget Saving Strategies

New Ref	Board	Description	Lead	Main Impacts	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
					£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
ELLL524	ECR	Leisure Services	Aled Evans	Reduction in Celtic Leisure contract sum via contract efficiencies	200				
ELLL604	ECR	Restructure of library service / further reduction or transfer of library provision	Andrew Thomas	Transfer of Skewen and Baglan Library to communities and other efficiencies.	54				
ELLL605	ECR	Reduction in subsidy for Cefn Coed Museum	Chris Millis	Continue consultation and working with the friends of Cefn Coed Museum to make efficiency savings. Ongoing discussions with Welsh Government in relation to their site liabilities.	10				
ELLL620	ECR	Margam Park	Andrew Thomas	Internal restructure within Margam Park has led to favourable income generation	75				
ELLL705	CYPE / ECR	Vacancy Management	ADT / CM	Additional workload for staff. Prioritised workloads.	30				
ELLL706	ECR	Increase Income Target - NPT Works	CM	Continued improvement in service delivery.	30				
ELLL707	ECR	Reduce Subsidy - Pontardawe Arts Centre	ADT	Further reduction in funding to theatres, possibly a reduction in opening times	40	40	40		
ELLL708	ECR	Reduce Subsidy - Gwyn Hall	ADT	More efficient management of CeliticLeisure contract.	40	40	40		

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

21st OCTOBER 2016

SECTION A – MATTER FOR SCRUTINY

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

CONSULTATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATES BUDGET AND DRAFT SAVINGS FOR 2017/18

1. Purpose of Report

To provide Members of the Economic and Community Regeneration Scrutiny Committee with supplementary information concerning the savings proposals for the Environment Directorate Budget for 2017/18 , with a view to aiding the scrutiny of those proposals.

2. Executive Summary

The Environment Directorate has made considerable savings over the last few years and has reduced large numbers of staff, particularly front line staff who deliver a broad range of public facing services which the Directorate delivers across the County Borough on a daily basis.

The Directorate budget is currently £31.458m, which includes the £1.2m top sliced towards savings and is currently 11% of the total Authority's net budget. The Directorate has made significant contributions towards the Authority's saving targets to date and has lost a significant number of staff.

3. Draft Budget 2017/18

On the 28th of September 2016 the Council's Cabinet approved to commence public consultation on its budget and draft savings proposals for 2017/18. It is projected that financial savings of £11.2m are required to set the balanced budget for the next financial year and £36m over the next three financial years.

This report sets out for Members scrutiny further details on the savings proposals required of the Environment Directorates budget.

4. Draft savings for consultation

Attached at appendix 1 is a schedule of proposals which are out to public consultation for the Environment Directorate and affect this committee. Please find below specific information from each Head of Service relating to the draft savings proposals for 2017/18:-

Savings proposals 17/18

Savings items starting with "ENV6**" where reported in last year's report, so have not been repeated except where there has been a change as follows:

	£'000
Total Environment Directorate Savings targets reported previously	895
New target ENV637 (E&H Committee)	260
Saving Strategies removed – E& H Committee	44
Saving Strategies removed – details below	169

Revised total	942

The following saving strategies have been removed, because they have been identified as at risk and have been replaced :

ENV513 (£75K) – Non-replacement of staff on retirement. Any savings of this nature will be shown against the service in future instead of as a general savings target

ENV628 (£61K) — It is not considered feasible to further decrease the staff with the Estates section, given the volume of staff that have previously left this service area and the increased work and activity necessary with Tata, the Enterprise Zone and the Swansea Bay City Region

ENV630 (£33K) — It is not considered feasible to reduce staff costs further within the Employment Support Section, given the volume of staff that have previously left this service area and the increased work and activity necessary with Tata, the Enterprise Zone and the Swansea Bay City Region.

The following new savings targets are proposed:

ENV707 (£? K) – Service reviews of both the coffee shops and the building cleaning services are underway to ascertain if additional savings are feasible.

ENV708 (£?) - It is planned to carry out a service reviews of the Planning service. Any savings will be reported once the review is completed.

5. Equality Impact Assessment

The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies to “pay due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.

The 28^h of September 2016 report identified the need for the Council to make budget savings of £11.2m for 2017/18 and as such many of these will have a negative impact on services provided across the whole of the County Borough. Some of the

proposals included above do not directly impact on frontline services to the public. Those that have a direct impact are subject to individual equality impact screening and assessments.

6. Workforce Impacts

The workforce will be impacted by the reduction in budget funding available to run services. The Council has shared this report and information with trade unions and are having and will continue to hold staff briefings over the next few months. The Council wishes to minimise compulsory redundancies.

7. Consultation

The savings proposed in this report form part of the Corporate consultation procedures recently approved by Cabinet.

8. Recommendations

It is recommended that Members review and scrutinise the savings proposals included in this report.

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Draft savings for consultation

10. Background Papers

Budget working files

11. Wards Affected

All

12. Officer Contact

For further information on this report item, please contact:

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New Ref	Board	Description	Lead	Main Impacts	2017/18
					£000
ENV508	E&H/ECR	Workforce Strategy Savings	All ENVT	Implement new grading structure	14
ENV531	ECR	Reduce security contract for Authority Estate	S Brennan	Reduce security contracts	20
ENV533	ECR	Property increase income and reduce expenditure	S Brennan	2017/18 Proposal	50
ENV534	ECR	Reduce Building Maintenance expenditure	S Brennan	Will reduce maintenance work on County's buildings	50
ENV603	ECR	Planning	N Pearce	Revised table of charges for pre-applications	10
ENV605	ECR	Gypsy	S Brennan	Increase rent income and reduce expenditure, following the extension of Caegarw	25
ENV606	ECR	Civic Building	S Brennan	Additional Income at Pontardawe one stop shop	8
ENV612	ECR	Sandfields Young Business Centre	S Brennan	Increase Income	10
ENV614	ECR	Planning	N Pearce	Reduce car allowances, professional fees, advertising costs	12
ENV615	ECR	Building Control	N Pearce	Reduce office and general expenditure	8
ENV616	ECR	Planning Policy	N Pearce	Reduce office and general expenditure	2
ENV618	ECR	Property Division	S Brennan	Running cost savings re asset management, strategic development and land acquisition	33
ENV623	ECR	Energy Management/Business Support Fund	S Brennan	Decrease Professional Fees Budget	9
ENV644	ECR	Building Maintenance	S Brennan	Reduction in building maintenance budget	50
ENV626	ECR	Planning	N Pearce	Reduce staff costs	36
ENV629	ECR	Civic Building	S Brennan	Reduce staff costs	20
ENV707	ECR	Catering and Cleaning	S Brennan	Service Review	TBA
ENV708	ECR	Planning	N Pearce	Service Review	TBA