

CIVIC CENTRE,
SUNDERLAND
18 January 2016

TO THE MEMBERS OF SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

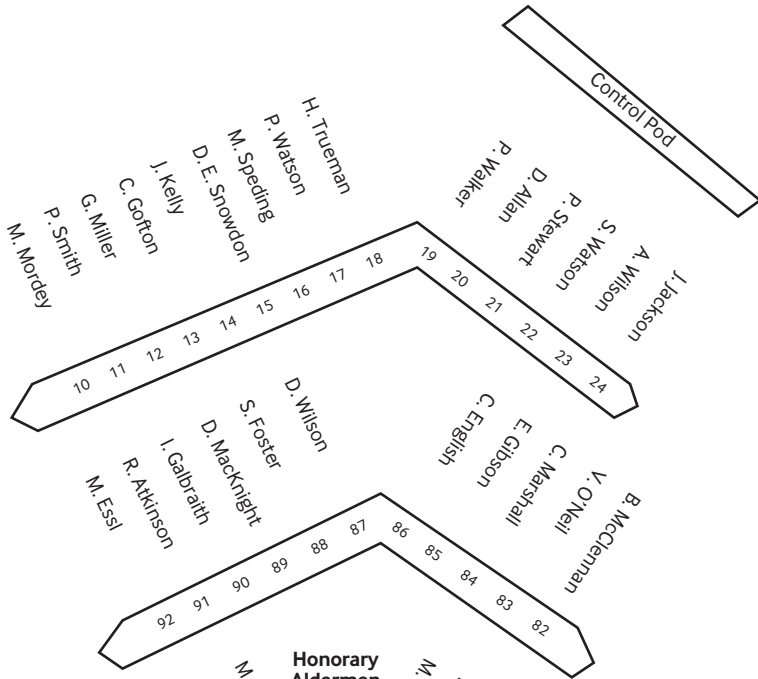
YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING of Sunderland City Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Sunderland, on **WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016** at **6.00 p.m.**, at which it is proposed to consider and transact the following business:-

Item	Page
1. To read the Notice convening the meeting.	-
2. To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 25 November 2015 (copy herewith).	1
3. Receipt of Declarations of Interest (if any).	-
4. Announcements (if any) under Rule 2(iv).	-
5. Reception of Petitions.	-
6. Apologies.	-

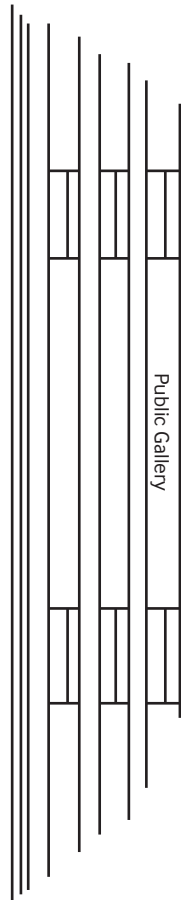
7.	Report of the Cabinet (copy herewith)	13
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9.	Written Questions (if any) under Rule 8.2.	
10.	To consider the attached motions (copy herewith).	171
11.	To consider the following reports:-	
(i)	Report on Special Urgency Decisions – report of the Leader (copy herewith).	177
(ii)	Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies – report of the Head of Law and Governance (copy herewith).	179

Sitona

INTERIM HEAD OF PAID SERVICE



- 29 A. Lawson
30 G. Walker
31 P. Tye
32 P. Gibson
33 D. Turner
34 J. Blackburn
35 J. Cummings
36 J. Heron
37 W. Turton
38 D. Dixon
39 G. Galbraith
40 S. Porthouse

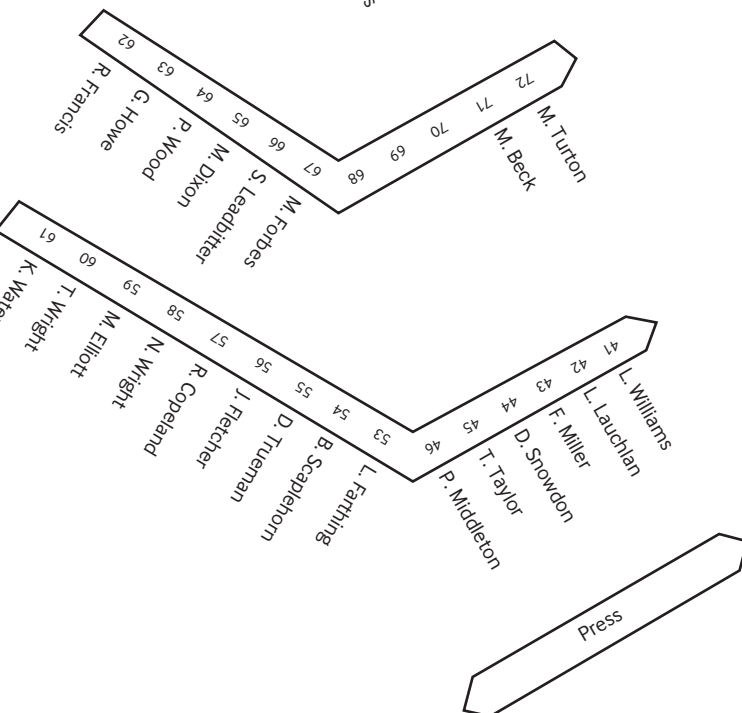


Head of Law
and Governance
E. Waugh

Mayor
B. Curran

Head of Paid Service
S. Tognarelli

Deputy Mayor
A. Emerson



Minutes

Sunderland City Council

At a meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 2015 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Emerson) in the Chair

Councillors	Allen	Foster	Middleton	Trueman, H.
	Atkinson	Francis	Miller, F.	Turner
	Ball	Galbraith, G.	Miller, G.	Turton, M.
	Beck	Galbraith, I.	Mordey	Turton, W.
	Bell	Gibson, E.	O'Neil	Tye
	Blackburn	Gibson, P.	Porthouse	Walker, G.
	Cummings	Gofton	Price	Walker, P.
	Davison	Heron	Scanlan	Waters
	Dixon, D.	Jackson	Scaplehorn	Watson, P.
	Dixon, M.	Kay	Smith, P.	Watson, S.
	Elliott	Kelly	Snowdon, D.	Williams
	English	Lauchlan	Snowdon, D.E.	Wilson, A.
	Essl	Leadbitter	Speding	Wilson, D.
	Farthing	Marshall	Taylor	Wood
	Forbes	McClennan	Trueman, D.	Wright, T. H.

Also Present:-

Honorary Aldermen: - M. Arnold and M. Greenfield

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Minute's Silence

A minute's silence was observed by Members and Officers in remembrance of those who had lost their lives in the recent terrorist attacks in Paris.

Minutes

23. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 23 September, 2015 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared an interest as follows: -

Item 11 – Notice of Motion (Redistribution of Public Funding)	Councillors E and P Gibson	Family Member works in Public Health.
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Announcements

(i) Northern Design Awards 2015

At the invitation of the Deputy Mayor, the Cabinet Secretary, Councillor Speding informed Members of the receipt of the prestigious trophy for Keel Square which was a recent winner of the Northern Design Awards 2015 in the Public Square Category.

The success meant that the Council's in-house Landscape Architects Team in Design Services had now won at the Northern Design Awards on three occasions in a row.

The trophy was handed over by designer Wayne Hemingway at a ceremony in Liverpool and the TV presenter and native of Washington, Mr. George Clarke was one of the judges who joined the team on stage to celebrate the success.

Other short listed projects had included Stockton High Street, Little Haven Promenade and Seawall, South Tyneside and Drapers Courtyard, Manchester Metropolitan University.

(ii) National Recognition of Commitment to Work with the Armed Forces

At the invitation of the Deputy Mayor, the Deputy Leader, Councillor H. Trueman informed Members that at the SABRE event held on 18th November, 2015 he had been honoured to be presented with the National Recognition of Commitment to Work with the Armed Forces on behalf of the Council.

(iii) Britain in Bloom

At the invitation of the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mordey informed Members that he had been presented with an award from the Royal Horticultural Society in recognition of the events and hospitality provided in relation to the Britain in Bloom awards ceremony.

(iv) Death of former Councillor Margaret Anne Brown

The Deputy Mayor paid tribute to former Councillor Margaret Anne Brown who had recently passed away.

Members and Officers stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

Reception of Petitions

24. RESOLVED that the under-mentioned petitions, submitted by the Councillors named, be received and referred for consideration in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme:-

Councillor Francis – Petition from residents to request that Sunderland City Council make urgent repairs to the pavements and road surface at Melbury Court, Fulwell – Executive Director of Commercial Development.

Councillor Francis – Petition from residents to request that Sunderland City Council repair the pavements in Wingrove Avenue, Fulwell, without damage to the trees – Executive Director of Commercial Development.

Councillor Francis – Petition to request the provision of indoor recreational facilities at Seaburn Seafront – Executive Director of Commercial Development.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Allan, Copeland, Curran, Ellis, Farr, Gallagher, Howe and N. Wright and from Honorary Alderman M. Smith.

Report of the Cabinet

The Cabinet reported and recommended as follows: -

The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015

That the Cabinet have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Commercial Development (copy circulated) which:-

- (a) sought approval to amend the Council's Constitution to reflect the authorisation of the Executive Director of Commercial Development to exercise the Council's full enforcement powers under the Draft "Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations", made under section 150(1)-(6) and (10) of the Energy Act 2013 and paragraph 3(a) of Schedule 4 to the Housing Act 2004 once those Regulations have been brought into force;
- (b) would ensure that the Council, as Local Housing Authority, was able to undertake its statutory duties in relation to the said Regulations; and
- (c) sought approval for the statement of principles which the Council would follow in determining the amount of a penalty charge related to a breach of the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations.

The Cabinet approved the statement of principles which the Council would follow in determining the amount of a penalty charge related to a breach of the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations and accordingly it recommended the Council to amend the Council's Delegation to Chief Officers in Part 3 of the Constitution as follows as from the date upon which the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 come into force:-

Section 2 – Executive Director of Commercial Development - Paragraph 2.46 to be amended to read as follows:- "To exercise the functions of the Council under the Building Act 1984, the Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961, Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, Environmental Protection Act 1990, Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Acts 1976 and 1982, Prevention of

Damage by Pests Act 1949, and The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 in so far as they relate to housing conditions and to the management of housing.”

Capital Programme Second Capital Review 2015/2016 (including Treasury Management)

That they have given consideration to a report of the Director of Finance on the Capital Programme Second Review 2015/2016 including Treasury Management which set out:-

- reprofiling of projects since the First Capital Review for 2015/2016 was approved in June 2015;
- the inclusion of additional schemes and revisions to costs and resourcing for 2015/2016 since the First Capital Review was reported;
- the progress in implementing the Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/2016.

In accordance with the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules, Cabinet may authorise variations to the Capital Programme provided such variations are within available resources and consistent with Council policy.

The attached Appendix A set out the relevant extracts from the Cabinet Report which outlined the variation to schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000 in 2015/2016 and future years.

They referred the relevant extracts to the Scrutiny Committee to note the proposed variation to the Capital Programme for 2015/2016 to include additional schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000. The Scrutiny Committee noted the report, being satisfied with the proposed variation to the Capital Programme.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to note the proposed variation to the Capital Programme for 2015/2016 to include additional schemes and variations with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000. In relation to the Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators, the Cabinet recommended to Council to approve the revised 2015/2016 Prudential Indicators for both the Authorised Borrowing Limit for External Debt of £516.048m and the Operational Boundary for External Debt Limit of £442.196m to reflect changes arising from the Joint Waste Disposal (PFI) arrangement with Gateshead and South Tyneside Councils.

Revenue Budget Second Review 2015/2016

That they have given consideration to a report of the Director of Finance on the overall Revenue position following the second review for 2015/2016 including proposed contingency transfers for the second quarter of 2015/2016.

In accordance with the Council’s Budget and Policy Framework certain transfers require Council approval. The following extract refers to those transfers of funds;

‘At this stage savings are anticipated in respect of capital financing charges as a result of slippage on the capital programme, and additional income from interest on investments of approximately £6m at year end. It is proposed that these amounts and any further underspendings arising from unspent contingencies at the end of 2015/2016 are earmarked to support the overall 2015/2016 position and to meet transitional costs arising in 2015/2016 and future years.’

They also referred the above extract of the budgetary transfers to the Scrutiny Committee, for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the transfer of funds and any further underspendings arising from unspent contingencies at the end of 2015/2016 to support the overall position and transitional costs arising in 2015/2016 and future years and supported the Cabinet recommendation that the transfer be submitted to Council for approval.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the transfers as set out in the above extract.

Budget Planning Framework 2016/2017 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/2017-2019/2020

That they have given consideration to a report of the Interim Head of Paid Service and Director of Finance (copy circulated) outlining the key factors influencing the development of the Council's financial plans into the medium term and setting out the budget planning framework for the Council for 2016/2017 and the headlines and context for the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/2017 to 2019/2020.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for its comments in the context of the approved consultation arrangements for the Council's budget. The Scrutiny Committee was satisfied with the information provided and supported the Cabinet recommendation that the proposed Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Strategy were submitted to Council for approval.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to:-

- (i) approve the proposed Budget Planning Framework summarised at Section 11 of the report which would guide the preparation of the Revenue Budget for 2016/2017, and
- (ii) note that the full Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/2017 to 2019/2020 would be presented to Cabinet in February.

Gambling Act 2005 – Approval of the Council's Statement of Principles

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Commercial Development (copy circulated) to be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 25 November 2015. The report sought approval to the statement of principles to be published under the Gambling Act 2005.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the proposal that Council be recommended to approve the statement of principles for publication under the Gambling Act 2005.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the statement of principles attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Licensing Act 2003 – Approval of the Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Commercial Development (copy circulated) to be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 25 November 2015. The report sought approval to the statement of licensing policy to be published under the Licensing Act 2003.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the proposal that Council be recommended to approve the statement of licensing policy for publication under the Licensing Act 2003.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the statement of licensing policy attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor P. Watson, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor H. Trueman, moved the report of the Cabinet.

Upon the report of the Cabinet being put to the Council it was:-

25. RESOLVED that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted.

Report of the Audit and Governance Committee

The Audit and Governance Committee reported and recommended as follows:-

Review of the Remit and Effectiveness of the Audit and Governance Committee 2015/16

The Audit and Governance Committee have reviewed their remit and the effectiveness of their work. As a result, it is considered that the Terms of Reference of the Committee be updated in relation to the arrangements for the Chairing of Committee meetings when both Co-opted members are not available.

Accordingly, the Committee recommended Council to approve the updated Terms of Reference for the Audit and Governance Committee.

Councillor Farthing, duly seconded by the Councillor O’Neil, moved the report.

Upon the report of the Audit and Governance Committee being put to the Council it was:-

26. RESOLVED that the report of the Audit and Governance Committee be approved and adopted.

Written Questions under Rule 8.2

Pursuant to Rule 8.2 of the Council Rules of Procedure, Members of the Council asked questions of the Leader and Members of the Executive.

Action Taken on Petitions

The Council received and noted the report below which detailed the action taken in relation to the following petition which had been presented to Council at its meeting held on 26th November, 2014.

(i) **Petition requesting the resolution of the issue of organic matter falling from trees into properties of Blencathra, Albany**

The above petition was forwarded to the Executive Director of Commercial Development and a range of options to address the issue were considered including; removing all trees; removing additional trees beyond those removed previously; and reducing the height of the trees by a third.

Analysis of the options revealed that these options were either too cost prohibitive to introduce and/or would contribute to an increase in noise pollution for the residents. It was also determined that the options outlined above would not fully eradicate the issue. It was therefore decided that no action would be taken.

Councillor Dorothy Trueman and the Lead Petitioner had been advised of the decision taken in relation to the petition.

Notice of Motion

Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor G. Miller, moved the following motion:-

(i) **Redistribution of Public Health Funding**

This Council calls upon the Government to stop the redistribution of public health funding from the North of England to the South of England, and to cancel their plans to slash Public Health budgets.

Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor M. Dixon, proposed the following amendment:-

After “the Government to” remove “stop the redistribution of public health funding from the North of England to the South of England, and to cancel their plans to slash Public Health budgets.” and replace with “give further consideration to the distribution of Public Health funding within England to

ensure that the particular needs of the north-east are fully taken into account in any new funding formula.”

So that the amended motion would read:-

“This Council calls upon the Government to give further consideration to the distribution of Public Health funding within England to ensure that the particular needs of the north-east are fully taken into account in any new funding formula.”

Upon being put to a vote by a show of hands the amendment was defeated with 5 Members voting in favour, viz:-

M. Dixon Forbes	Francis	Leadbitter	Wood
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52 Members voting against, viz:

Councillors	Allen	Foster	Miller, G,	Turner
	Atkinson	Galbraith, G.	Mordey	Turton, M.
	Ball	Galbraith, I.	O'Neil	Turton, W.
	Beck	Gofton	Porthouse	Tye
	Bell	Heron	Price	Walker, G.
	Blackburn	Jackson	Scanlan	Walker, P.
	Cummings	Kay	Scaplehorn	Waters
	Davison	Kelly	Smith, P.	Watson, P.
	Dixon, D.	Lauchlan	Snowdon, D.	Watson, S.
	Elliott	Marshall	Snowdon, D.E.	Williams
	English	McClennan	Taylor	Wilson, A.
	Essl	Middleton	Trueman, D.	Wilson, D.
	Farthing	Miller, F.	Trueman, H.	Wright, T. H.

And no Members abstaining.

Therefore the original motion was put to the vote and was carried with 52 Members voting in favour, viz:

Councillors	Allen	Foster	Miller, G,	Turner
	Atkinson	Galbraith, G.	Mordey	Turton, M.
	Ball	Galbraith, I.	O'Neil	Turton, W.
	Beck	Gofton	Porthouse	Tye
	Bell	Heron	Price	Walker, G.
	Blackburn	Jackson	Scanlan	Walker, P.
	Cummings	Kay	Scaplehorn	Waters
	Davison	Kelly	Smith, P.	Watson, P.
	Dixon, D.	Lauchlan	Snowdon, D.	Watson, S.
	Elliott	Marshall	Snowdon, D.E.	Williams
	English	McClennan	Taylor	Wilson, A.
	Essl	Middleton	Trueman, D.	Wilson, D.
	Farthing	Miller, F.	Trueman, H.	Wright, T. H.

No Members voting against, and 5 Members abstaining, viz:-

Dixon, M. Forbes	Francis	Leadbitter	Wood
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Accordingly, it was:-

27. RESOLVED that:-

“This Council calls upon the Government to stop the redistribution of public health funding from the North of England to the South of England, and to cancel their plans to slash Public Health budgets.”

Report on Special Urgency Decisions

The Leader of the Council submitted a quarterly report (copy circulated) on executive decisions which had been taken as a matter of special urgency.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

There were no such instances to report.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor P. Watson, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor H. Trueman, moved the report.

28. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

(Signed) A. EMERSON,
Deputy Mayor.

Report of the Cabinet

The CABINET reports and recommends as follows:-

1. Annual Audit Letter 2014/2015

That they submit for consideration by Council a report of the Interim Head of Paid Service and Director of Finance (copy attached) on the Annual Audit Letter from the external Auditors Mazars, covering the year 2014/2015 together with a copy of the Audit Letter which summarises findings from the audit of the Council's financial statements and the results of the external auditor's work undertaken as part of the assessment of the Council's arrangements for securing value for money in its use of resources.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to note the contents of the report.

2. Council Tax Base 2016/2017

That they have given consideration to a report of the Director of Finance (copy attached) seeking approval to the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2016/2017 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and recommend to Council that:-

- (i) The report for the calculation of the Tax Bases for the City Council and Hetton Town Council for 2016/2017 be approved.
- (ii) That pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended by Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2012 the amount calculated by Sunderland City Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2016/2017, shall be £67,556 and for the area of Hetton Town Council shall be £3,451.

3. Revenue Budget 2016/2017 Proposals and Provisional Revenue Support Settlement 2016/2017

That they have given consideration to a report of the Interim Head of Paid Service and Director of Finance (copy attached) on the provisional budget proposals 2016/2017 and provisional Revenue Support Settlement, as a basis for the continuation of consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for further advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee resolved that it was satisfied with the information provided on the Revenue Budget Proposals and Revenue Support Settlement. The Committee recognised the difficult

financial situation that the Council was facing and wished to acknowledge the work of Members and Officers and in particular that of the Finance Team in preparing the provisional budget proposals.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to approve the provisional budget proposals, as a basis for the continuation of budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2016/2017.

4. Capital Programme - Third Capital Review 2015/2016, Provisional Resources 2016/2017 and Treasury Management Review 2015/2016

That they have given consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which detailed the re-profiling of projects since the Second Capital Review for 2015/2016 was approved in October 2015, the inclusion of additional schemes and revisions to costs and resourcing for 2015/2016 since the Second Capital Review was reported, the allocation of capital resources for 2016/2017 subject to any adjustments required when final resource announcements are made, and the progress in implementing the Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/2016.

They referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee to note the variation to the Capital Programme 2015/2016 with an estimated cost variance of £250,000 or more, details of which are set out in the attached extract Appendix A. The Scrutiny Committee resolved that it was satisfied with the capital budget scheme variations and had no additional comment to make.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommends the Council to note the variation to the Capital Programme for 2015/2016.

5. Local Council Tax Support Scheme

That they have given consideration to a report of the Director of Finance (copy attached) on an update on the consultation results for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme and to recommend that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme set out in the report be implemented with effect from 1 April 2016.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommends the Council to:-

- (i) Consider feedback received during the consultation period from the public,
- (ii) Approve the Council's Local Council Tax Support Scheme as set out in the report for the financial year 2016/17, which is unchanged from the current scheme, and

- (iii) Authorise the publication of the approved Scheme on the council's website and in any additional manner determined by the Director of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Secretary.

6. Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

That they have given consideration to a joint report of the Assistant Chief Executive, the Executive Director of Commercial Development and the Head of Law and Governance (copy attached) on the new powers available to the Council and other bodies under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act), the authorisation of officers to exercise powers under the Act, including the issue of fixed penalty notices and to set the level of the fixed penalty notices.

The Cabinet authorised the use of the full range of powers available under the Act as set out in the Report and also agreed that the level of the fixed penalty notices issued under Section 52 and 68 of the Act be set at £75 (discounted to £50 if paid within 10 days).

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommends the Council to authorise the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Leader, to amend the Constitution to reflect the delegation of functions set out in paragraph 8 of the Report and to make such other consequential amendments as are appropriate.

Cabinet Meeting – 16th December 2015

ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2014 - 2015

Report of the Interim Head of Paid Service and Director of Finance

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report details the external auditors (Mazars) Annual Audit Letter (AAL) covering the year 2014/2015. A copy is attached.

2.0 Description of Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- Note and comment on the contents of this report, and
 - Refer the report to Council for their consideration.

3.0 Introduction

- 3.1 The Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice requires auditors to prepare an AAL and issue it to each audited body. The purpose of preparing and issuing an AAL is to communicate to the audited body and key external stakeholders, including members of the public, the key issues arising from the auditors' work, which auditors consider should be brought to the attention of the audited body.
- 3.2 The AAL summarises the findings of the 2014/15 audit, which comprises of two key elements:
- An audit of the Council's financial statements
 - An assessment of the Council's arrangements to achieve value for money in the use of its resources

4.0 Summary Position

- 4.1 The AAL is positive overall, providing a strong endorsement of the financial management and governance arrangements in place across the Council.
- 4.2 The Auditor issued an unqualified audit opinion on the Council's financial statements and in this respect the report confirms that the Council:
- Produced "good quality" accounts for 2014/15, within the statutory timescales and that gave a true and fair view of the council's financial position;
 - Produced an accurate Annual Governance Statement which was found to be consistent with the views of the auditor;
 - Received no questions or objections to the accounts;
 - Accurately reported its financial performance to government via the Whole of Government Accounts process.

4.3 The Auditor also issued a qualified audit opinion on the Council's Value For money Conclusion however they noted that, in all significant respects, the council had proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness of its use of resources, "except for" the areas that were assessed as inadequate by Ofsted in their report on children's services published in July 2015. This issue is fully set out on page 6 of the Auditors correspondence.

4.4 For information the opinion noted that the Council:

- Was financially resilient and had robust systems and processes to manage financial risks and opportunities effectively, and to secure a stable financial position that enables it to continue to operate for the foreseeable future;
- Was prioritising its resources within tighter budgets by achieving significant cost reductions and by improving efficiency and productivity;
- Continued to manage its financial position very well as both budget setting and close budget monitoring were considered robust which had culminated in a small underspend of £0.6m despite having to successfully deliver continued significant financial savings of over £36m in respect of cuts in government funding and other cost pressures in the financial year;
- Had already delivered £171m of savings for the period 2010/2011 up to the end of 2014/2015 and had made significant changes to secure its future viability as a community leadership council, through implementing alternative models of service delivery (eg Sunderland Care and Support Ltd), working with partners (most notably establishing the Better Care Fund with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group and finalising the local asset backed vehicle (LABV) via Siglion to accelerate economic regeneration in the city);
- Invested in infrastructure (through its ambitious capital programme) which includes the City Deal and the creation of a new International Advanced Manufacturing Park; the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor including the new Wear bridge; and development of the Vaux site and St Mary's Boulevard aimed at reinvigorating the city centre;
- Has also made other significant transformational changes to deliver challenging savings targets whilst improving service delivery;
- Is aware of the continued and significant further grant reductions it is likely to face (estimated at £149m for the period 2015/16 to 2019/20) and is therefore continuing to identify ways of improving service efficiencies and ways of working to further improve service delivery and outcomes within this very challenging environment with fewer resources.

5. Alternative Options

5.1 Not applicable as the report is for information only.

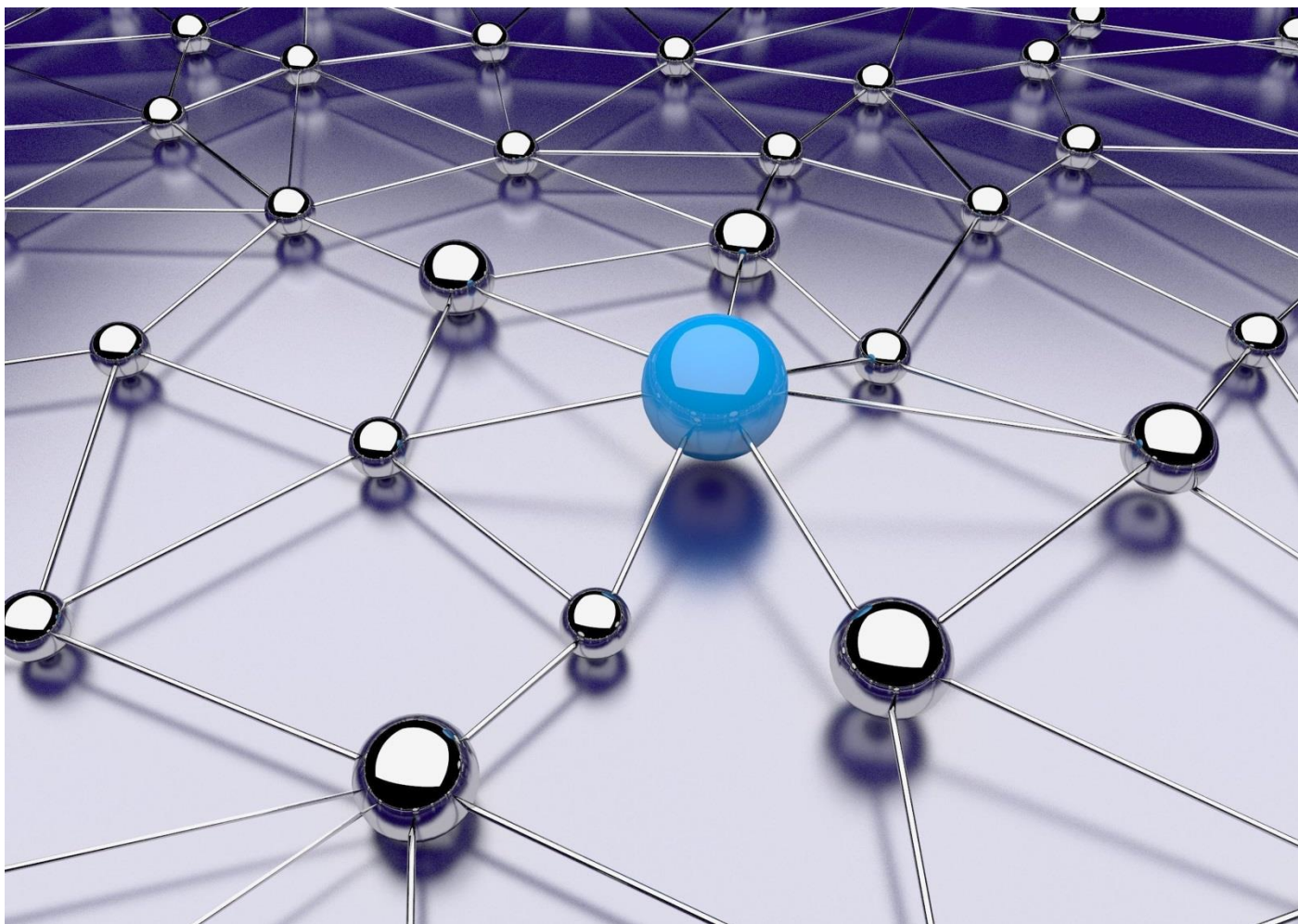
6. List of Appendices

6.1 Appendix A - Sunderland City Council Annual Audit Letter 2014/2015.

Annual Audit Letter 2014/15

Appendix

Sunderland City Council



Sunderland
City Council

October 2015

Mazars LLP
Rivergreen Centre
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TS

Members
Sunderland City Council
Civic Centre
Burdon Road
Sunderland
SR2 7DN

30 October 2015

Dear Members

Sunderland City Council - Annual Audit Letter 2015

I am delighted to present to you Sunderland City Council's (the Council's) Annual Audit Letter. The purpose of this document is to summarise the outcome of the audit of the Council's 2014/15 annual accounts and our work on our value for money conclusion.

We carried out the audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice for Local Government bodies as issued by the Audit Commission and delivered all expected outputs in line with the timetable established by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 and the National Audit Office.

2014/2015 has been another challenging year for the Council and like most other authorities in the North East, Sunderland City Council made some tough decisions on its spending priorities and plans for the future. We reflect on these matters in the value for money and future challenges sections of this letter.

Given the difficult circumstances we were pleased to issue an unqualified opinion on the statement of accounts. In relation to value for money, we concluded that, in all significant respects, the Council had made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources except for the areas that were assessed as inadequate by Ofsted in their report on children's services in July 2015. We explain this further in the value for money part of this letter.

I would like to express my thanks for the assistance of the Council's finance team, as well as senior officers and the Audit and Governance Committee; the continued constructive approach to our audit is appreciated.

If you would like to discuss any matters in more detail then please do not hesitate to contact me or my senior manager Gavin Barker on 0191 383 6300.

Yours faithfully

Mark Kirkham
Partner
Mazars LLP

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Our reports are prepared in the context of the Audit Commission's 'Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies'. Reports and letters prepared by appointed auditors and addressed to Members or officers are prepared for the sole use of the Council and we take no responsibility to any Member or officer in their individual capacity or to any third party.

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01 Key messages

Our Annual Audit Letter provides a summary of our work and findings for the 2014/15 audit period for Members and other interested parties.

In 2014/15 our audit of the Council included the following main elements:

- auditing your financial statements; and
- assessing arrangements for achieving value for money (VFM) in your use of resources.

We reported the detailed findings from our audit work to the Audit and Governance Committee in our Audit Completion Report on 25 September 2015.

The key conclusions for each element are summarised below.

Our audit of the statement of accounts

We issued an audit report including an unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements on 30 September 2015.

Our VFM conclusion

We carried out sufficient, relevant work, in line with the Audit Commission's guidance, so that we could conclude on whether you had in place, for 2014/15, proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

We were required to consider two specified criteria:

- the Council has proper arrangements in place for securing financial resilience; and
- the Council has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

We issued our VFM conclusion on 30 September 2015. This included an 'except for' qualification which is explained further in section 3 of this report.

Whole of Government Accounts

We provide assurance to the National Audit Office (NAO), as the auditor of central government departments, in relation to the consistency of your WGA consolidation pack with the audited statement of accounts. We reported that your consolidation pack was consistent with the audited statement of accounts on 30 September 2015.

Our other responsibilities

As the Council's appointed external auditor, we have other powers and responsibilities as set out in the Audit Commission Act 1998. These include responding to questions on the accounts raised by local electors as well as a number of reporting powers such as reporting in the public interest. We did not receive any questions or objections in relation to your 2014/15 accounts from local electors, nor did we exercise our wider reporting powers.

02 Financial statements

Audit of the financial statements

We audited your financial statements in line with auditing standards and we reported our detailed findings to the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee on 25 September 2015. We issued an audit report, including an unqualified opinion, on the statement of accounts on 30 September 2015.

Preparation of the accounts

The Council presented us with draft accounts in accordance with the national deadline. The production of the statement of accounts is a significant technical challenge involving a great deal of work by the Council's officers. We appreciate the cooperation of management and the patience, courtesy and assistance shown to us in the completion of our work. The working papers supporting the statement of accounts were of good quality and officers were responsive in following up the queries we raised.

Issues arising from the audit of the accounts

We highlight the following key points:

- officers prepared good quality draft statements and working papers;
- we identified very few errors requiring adjustment in the financial statements;
- there were no unadjusted errors and no errors impacting on the Council's general fund balance or earmarked reserves;
- we recorded no significant deficiencies in internal control (noting our work is not intended to express an opinion on the effectiveness of the system of internal control); and
- the positive outcome of the audit and in particular the continued constructive and responsive approach of officers is noteworthy.

Annual Governance Statement (AGS)

The AGS is drafted by the Council to provide assurance to the reader over how it is managed and how it has dealt with risks in the year. We reviewed the AGS to see whether it complied with relevant guidance and whether it was misleading or was inconsistent with what we know about the Council. We found no areas of concern to report.

03 VFM conclusion

We performed our work in line with the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice for Local Government bodies and the guidance on the VFM conclusion for 2014/15.

Our work in this area focused on the two criteria specified by the Audit Commission namely:

Criteria	Focus of the criteria
The Council has proper arrangements in place for securing financial resilience.	The Council has robust systems and processes to manage financial risks and opportunities effectively, and to secure a stable financial position that enables it to continue to operate for the foreseeable future.
The Council has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.	The Council is prioritising its resources within tighter budgets, for example by achieving cost reductions and by improving efficiency and productivity.

As part of our work, we also:

- review your Annual Governance Statement;
- review the work of other relevant regulatory bodies or inspectorates to the extent the results of the work have an impact on our responsibilities; and
- carry out any risk-based work we determine to be appropriate.

We are not required to consider, nor have we, all aspects of the Council's arrangements. We adopt a risk based approach, designed to identify any significant issues that might exist. We report if significant matters come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Council has put in place proper arrangements.

In the Audit Strategy Memorandum we identified a significant risk relevant to the value for money conclusion. We carried out work to address this risk area.

There was one report by other regulatory bodies or inspectorates that was relevant to our work this year. This was the Ofsted report in relation to the Council's children's safeguarding services.

Like other public sector bodies, the Council faces a number of challenges and in light of these we reviewed the Council's arrangements for managing financial risks and securing a stable financial position. We included the results of our review of arrangements for securing VFM in a separate report to the Audit and Governance Committee on 25 September 2015.

Overall conclusion

Our audit report included a conclusion that, in all significant respects, the Council had proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources except for the areas that were assessed as inadequate by Ofsted in their report on children's services in July 2015.

Significant risk

VFM risk

Description of the risk

The Council faces financial pressures from reduced funding and continues to identify plans to deliver future savings. Without robust budgetary control and delivery of its action plans, the Council's financial resilience and service performance could deteriorate.

How we addressed this risk

We reviewed budget monitoring and reporting, focusing on areas where action plans are in place to make savings and seek to minimise any adverse impact on service delivery. We reviewed the plans that were developed to deliver savings.

Conclusion

There is strong evidence of the Council's delivery of savings. Over the five year period from 2010/11 to 2014/15 the Council has achieved savings of £171m. In 2014/15, the Council delivered significant savings and still achieved a small net budget underspend of £0.6m. The Council has identified the need for significant future savings and plans are in place or are being developed to address these challenges.

Financial resilience and securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness

The Council has a strong track record of delivering savings and keeping within budget. The Council also has a reputation for strong leadership and innovation. Measures taken have included:

- significant changes in the way the Council provides services including new models of service delivery, for example, establishing Sunderland Care and Support Ltd, and closer working with partners, for example, with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group through the Better Care Fund;
- investment in regeneration including the establishment of Siglion LLP, a local asset backed vehicle, as a joint venture with the private sector to accelerate investment in the City; and,
- other investment in infrastructure including: the City Deal and the creation of a new International Advanced Manufacturing Park; the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor, including the building of a new Wear Crossing; and development of the Vaux site and St Mary's Boulevard aimed at reinvigorating the city centre.

The future looks even more challenging. The Government has not yet clarified how much funding levels will reduce but the outlook for the Council is that resources available will not be sufficient to pay for the services it currently provides. The Council forecasts that the savings requirements in the next 5 years from 2015/16 to 2019/20 will be a further £149m and shows an understanding of what these challenges will mean:

"The outlook is therefore extremely challenging and it is clear that as more savings are required the ability to protect frontline services will become increasingly difficult.

The Council continues to plan for these further significant reductions and risks. As set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy, the achievement of savings will be through a programme of activity based around the council's Community Leadership approach. The Council's role will increasingly shift from delivering services to enabling individuals, communities and other organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors to work together to address the needs of the city and to encourage people to be more self-supporting."

Source: Explanatory Foreword, Sunderland City Council Financial Statements 2014/15

Ofsted inspection

In seeking to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, we have considered reports issued by other regulators.

In July 2015, Ofsted reported the results of an inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after, care leavers and adoption performance. Ofsted concluded that these services and their leadership, management and governance were inadequate. Ofsted also concluded that the arrangements in place to evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the Council and its partners to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, through the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board, were inadequate.

We have identified much good practice in the Council's overall corporate arrangements, however, the Ofsted assessment of children's safeguarding services as 'inadequate' provides evidence of a significant service failure. We note that corporate management had identified that there were significant issues that needed to be addressed, had already taken action and planned further improvement measures. This provides some evidence of the Council's corporate arrangements operating effectively in terms of identifying risks and seeking to address them. Progress with the actions to date, however, has not yet led to the improved outcomes that are needed.

The Ofsted report, although acknowledging some of the measures that have been taken, concluded that they have not yet improved practice or outcomes for young children. The issues raised by Ofsted focus on "widespread, systematic poor practice" in the management of social work for children, which has left significant numbers of cases that have not been fully assessed or progressed, issues over the stability of the workforce and high caseloads, and issues over partnership working, performance management and quality assurance and oversight. Ofsted describe this as "a corporate failure by senior leaders and management that leaves children and young people unsafe."

Our response to the conclusions reached by Ofsted, was to incorporate an 'except for' qualification into our VFM Conclusion. In effect, based on the required scope of our work, our conclusion was that the Council, in all significant respects, put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015 'except for' the areas that have been highlighted as inadequate in the Ofsted report.

The Council is addressing the issues raised in the Ofsted inspection, and has appointed an Interim Director with experience of leading improvement. Following the inspection, the Government appointed a Commissioner for Children's Services in Sunderland to work with the Council to advise on improvements and to inform ministers about progress.

04 Future challenges

Financial challenges

The Council has made good progress in addressing its biggest challenges to date and has a proven track record of strong budget management and delivering planned budget reductions. The Council's budget for 2014/15 reflected £36m of savings, and overall there was an underspend of £0.6m against the original budget.

The Council identified that significant savings of £39.8m are required in 2015/16, and forecasts that the savings requirements in the next 5 years from 2015/16 to 2019/20 will be £149m.

Other challenges

Improving children's safeguarding services is a key priority for the Council, and is being closely monitored.

The wider difficulty of maintaining good service performance levels at the same time as reducing budgets is recognised by the Council. The Council is exploring a number of options including alternative models of service delivery.

The Council faces a number of other challenges in the coming year which include:

- Better Care Funding and associated pooled budgets;
- joint working with health and others; and
- the ongoing impact of the Welfare Reform Act.

With a financial outlook that is increasingly challenging, to develop locally responsive services that maintain standards of access and quality, the Council will need to continue to:

- carefully forecast and effectively monitor budgets;
- identify and address financial pressures as they emerge;
- deliver a long term financial strategy that addresses immediate pressure while allowing scope for strategic service change;
- maintain effective arrangements for public engagement; and
- use constructive relationships with partners to safeguard service quality and resilience.

We will focus our 2015/16 audit on the risks that these challenges present to your financial statements and your ability to maintain proper arrangements for securing value for money.

We will also share with you relevant insights that we have as a national and international accounting and advisory firm with experience of working with other public sector and commercial service providers.

In terms of the technical challenges that officers face around the production of the statement of accounts, we will continue to work with them to share our knowledge of new accounting developments and we will be on hand to discuss any issues as and when they arise. A key area in this respect includes liaising with officers as they make preparations for the change in valuation basis for transport infrastructure required by the accounting Code. This will require significant changes in the 2016/17 financial statements and we are already working with both finance and highways officers to ensure all required systems are in place.

05 Fees

As outlined in our Audit Strategy Memorandum presented to the Audit and Governance Committee on 27 March 2015, the Audit Commission sets a scale fee for our audit and certification work. The fees applicable to our work in 2014/15 are summarised below.

Element of work	2013/14 Final Fee	2014/15 As previously reported	2014/15 Final Fee
Code audit work	£183,802	£181,032	£181,032
Certification work	£12,412	£10,300	£10,300
Non-audit work	£35,500	£7,955	£16,870
Total	£231,714	£199,287	£208,202

All fees are shown excluding VAT

The fee outlined above in relation to certification work is an estimate as we are yet to complete our work on certifying the Council's Housing Benefit claim.

Analysis of non-audit work for 2014/15:

Non-audit services	2014/15 Actual Fee
2013/14 Teachers' Pensions Return (included in 2014/15 fees due to the timing of this work)	£2,750
2013/14 Review of s256 Agreements (included in 2014/15 fees due to the timing of this work)	£5,205
2014/15 Teachers' Pensions Return	£2,750
Officer attendance at Mazars' accounting workshops relating to Transport Infrastructure Assets and Group Accounting	£300
Tax advisory services	£865
Advisory review of Better Care Fund plans for health and social care integration	£5,000 ¹
Total fee	£16,870

All fees are shown excluding VAT

¹ Plus travel expenses

Mazars is also the auditor of Sunderland Care and Support Ltd, one of the Council's trading companies. In addition, the firm provides accounts preparation and taxation services to the company.

Should you require any further information on this letter or on any other aspects of our work, please contact:

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Cabinet – 13th January 2016

Council Tax Base 2016/2017

Report of the Director of Finance

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To detail the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2016/2017 and to seek approval to recommend to Council the Council Tax Base for 2016/2017 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2012.

2. Description of Decision

Cabinet is recommended to recommend to Council:

- 2.1. The report for the calculation of the Tax Bases for the City Council and Hetton Town Council for 2016/2017 be approved.
- 2.2. That pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Sunderland City Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2016/2017, shall be 67,556 and for the area of Hetton Town Council shall be 3,451.

3. Background to the Calculation of the Council Tax Base

- 3.1 The Council Tax Base is the estimated number of properties in each valuation band adjusted to take account of the estimated number of discounts, disregards and exemptions. The Council levies a Council Tax on the basis of properties in band D and thus the numbers for each valuation band are adjusted to the proportion which their number is to band D. The Council must then estimate its level of collection for the year and apply this figure to arrive at the Council Tax Base figure.
- 3.2 The Council Tax Base must be calculated for both the Billing Authority and Hetton Town Council (a local parish precept). The Billing Authority's Tax Base will be used to calculate the Council Tax for the City Council (including any social care precept) and as the basis for the major precepting authorities (Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority) to determine their precept requirements.
- 3.3 The calculations also take into account all additional legislative changes that have been made by the government. These include:
 - Council Tax (Reductions for Disabilities) Regulations 1992 in respect of properties adapted to meet the needs of a disabled person as these

properties are charged at a rate equal to the next lowest valuation band (for Band A properties a Disabled Band A based on 5/9ths is applied);

- Technical adjustments to Council Tax Discounts and Exemptions applied from 1st April 2013;
- Localisation of Council Tax Benefit Scheme (LCTBS) also introduced from 1st April 2013.

3.4 For information the Technical adjustments have had a positive impact on the Tax Base calculations of the Council and these have to be included separately within the detailed calculations in accordance with the regulations, which are detailed in Appendix 1 for information.

3.5 The introduction of the LCTBS from 1st April 2013 means that the council must approve annually its proposed Council Tax Support scheme. The impact of the scheme is recognised within the calculations as a council tax discount which is referred to as Item Z. The proposed 2016/2017 Scheme is set out elsewhere on today's agenda and remains unchanged from that operated in 2015/2016. The Tax Base of the Council for 2016/2017 includes the full impact of the Scheme as required by the regulations.

3.5.1 The Council Tax Base has increased from last year by 1,556. The increase is primarily due to the number of new homes built across the city over the last year and the anticipated number of new homes expected to be built over the next twelve months has increased.

4. Calculations of the Billing Authority's Council Tax Base

4.1 This calculation is in two parts – 'A' - the calculation of the estimated adjusted band D properties and 'B' - the estimated level of collection.

4.2 The calculation of 'A' - the relevant amounts for each band is complex and includes a number of calculations which are shown at Appendix 1.

4.3 The relevant amounts 'A' as calculated in Appendix 1 are shown below:

BAND	RELEVANT AMOUNT
	'A'
	£ p
Disabled (A)	68.69
A	31,249.32
B	11,161.17
C	12,804.06
D	7,781.78
E	3,501.75
F	1,389.24
G	951.23
H	<u>27.50</u>
	<u>68,934.74</u>

4.4 Calculation of Item 'B' - Estimate of Collection Rate

This element of the formula is to reflect the level of collection anticipated. Last year an anticipated collection rate of 98% was assumed. On the basis of current collection levels it is suggested that the collection rate should remain at 98% for 2016/2017.

4.5 Calculation of Council Tax Base

The Council's Tax Base is therefore: 'A' £68,934.74 x 'B' 98% = £67,556.05
(for comparison the previous years Tax Base was £66,000.04)

Appendix 2 shows, for Members information, the Tax Base for each property band.

5. Calculation of Council Tax Base for Hetton Town Council - Local Precept

5.1 The rules for calculating the Council Tax Base for the area covered by Hetton Town Council are similar to those used in calculating the Billing Authority's Tax Base. These detailed calculations are shown in Appendix 3.

5.2 The amounts calculated for each band are shown below:

BAND	RELEVANT AMOUNT 'A'
	£ p
Disabled (A)	5.12
A	1,947.05
B	691.90
C	450.59
D	245.22
E	97.17
F	51.64
G	31.25
H	1.00
	<u>3,520.94</u>

5.3 The same collection rate is required to be used for Parish precepts as for the Billing Authority. The Tax Base for Hetton Town Council is therefore:

'A' x 'B' (where 'B' is the estimated collection rate) £3,520.94 x 98% = £3,450.52.
(for comparison the previous years Tax base was £3,300.85)

Appendix 2 shows, for Members information, the Tax Base for each property band.

6. Reasons for Decision

6.1 To comply with statutory requirements.

7. Alternative Options

7.1 No alternative options are proposed.

8. Impact Analysis

8.1 There are no implications.

9. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Calculation of the Billing Authority's Council Tax Base

Appendix 2 - Council Tax Base - City of Sunderland / Hetton Town Council

Appendix 3 - Calculation of the Council Tax Base for Hetton Town Council - Local
Precept

Calculation of the Billing Authority's Council Tax Base

- 1.1 Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (S.I. 1992 No. 612) and amended by (S.I. 2012 No. 2914) states that a Billing Authority's Council Tax Base for a financial year shall be calculated by applying the formula -

$$'A' \times 'B'$$

Where 'A' is the total of the relevant amounts for each of the Valuation Bands which are shown or likely to be shown in the Authority's Valuation List as at 30 November in the year prior to the year in question and where 'B' is the Authority's estimate of its collection rate for that year.

- 1.2 As stated above the Council is required to approve the calculation of both items 'A' and 'B' in arriving at its Tax Base.

Calculation of Item 'A' - relevant amounts for each Valuation Band:

- a) Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, states that item 'A' should be calculated by applying the following formula:

$$((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$$

- where H = number of chargeable dwellings
 Q = is a factor to take account of discounts of Council Tax payable. It is calculated as $Q = (R \times S)$
 R = number of discounts estimated to be payable in respect of these dwellings
 S = the percentage relating to each discount classification
 E = is a factor to take account of premiums to be added to the Council Tax Base
 J = adjustment (whether positive or negative) in the numbers of dwellings or discounts during the period
 Z = the amount that the authority estimates will be applied in respect of the Council Tax reduction scheme
 F = the relevant prescribed proportions for each Band
 G = the relevant prescribed proportion for Band D

- b) The calculation of each of the above items is, where appropriate, to be made in accordance with paragraph 2-13 of Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012. The different items are to be calculated as follows:

Item H - the number of chargeable dwellings is the sum of:

The number of dwellings listed in each Band in the copy of the Valuation List on the relevant day less an estimate of the number of such dwellings which were exempt on that day.

Item Q – a factor to take account of the discounts to which the amount of Council Tax payable was subject to on the relevant day. It is calculated by taking the aggregate of amounts found by multiplying, for each different relevant percentage, R by S, where:

Item R – the number of dwellings for which the amount of Council Tax payable for the relevant day was reduced. For 2016/2017 the following reductions are to be applied:

- a) Single Person Discount – awarded to properties with only one adult resident
- b) Single Disregard – awarded to properties in which all but one resident has been disregarded
- c) Double Disregard – awarded to properties in which all residents have been disregarded
- d) Class A Discount – Awarded to properties that cannot be occupied throughout the year (for example beach huts) – there are currently no such properties within the city area
- e) Class B Discount – awarded to furnished, unoccupied properties
- f) Class BE Discount – awarded to properties left furnished and unoccupied because the Council Tax payer is working away from home
- g) Class C Discount 1 – awarded to substantially unfurnished properties vacant for less than one month
- h) Class C Discount 2 – awarded to substantially unfurnished properties vacant for more than one month, for a maximum period of 6 months
- i) Class C Discount 3 – awarded to substantially unfurnished properties vacant for more than 6 months
- j) Class D Discount - awarded to vacant properties requiring or undergoing structural alteration or major repair, for a maximum period of 12 months
- k) Class E Discount - awarded to members of the armed forces living in accommodation provided by the Secretary of State
- l) Class F Discount – awarded to annexes forming part of a single property which the resident is using as their sole or main residence

Item S - the relevant percentage. For 2016/2017 the relevant percentage is as follows:

a) Single Person Discount	-	25%
b) Single Disregard	-	25%
c) Double Disregard	-	25% x 2 (50%)
d) Class A Discount	-	0%
e) Class B Discount	-	0%
f) Class BE Discount	-	50%
g) Class C Discount 1	-	100%
h) Class C Discount 2	-	25%
i) Class C Discount 3	-	0%
j) Class D Discount	-	25%
k) Class E Discount	-	50%
l) Class F Discount	-	0%

The relevant percentage for items a) to c) above, is calculated in accordance with Section 11 Local Government Finance Act 1992. The relevant percentage for item d) to f) is calculated in accordance with the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) Regulations 2003, and Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. The relevant percentage for items g) to l) is calculated in accordance with the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) Regulations 2012, Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Local Government Finance Act 2012.

Item E - the amount of any additional premium charged on all long term empty properties which have remained unoccupied for a period of greater than 2 years. The amount of the premium is 50% of the amount of the Council Tax charge for that property. This means that properties are charged at a 150% rate.

Item J - the amount of any adjustment in respect of this item is equal to an estimate of dwellings not listed in H above but which will be listed during part or all of the year less an estimate of the number of dwellings listed in H above but which will not be listed for all or part of the year.

Item Z - the amount of support provided under the Council Tax reduction scheme. This is the scheme that has replaced Council Tax benefit. The support is shown as a discount and the reduction in the base is equivalent to the level of Council Tax that will not be collected because of awards made under the Council Tax reduction scheme

Item F - the relevant prescribed proportions for each band are set out in Section 5 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as follows:

Band	(A)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Proportion	5	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18

Item G - the relevant prescribed proportion for Band D is 9 (as above).

c) The calculation $((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$

The results of these calculations are shown below.

1.3 Tax Base Calculation $((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$

	Disabled Band(A)	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Item H	179	77305	17406	16053	8249	3006	1022	619	17
Item Q	11.25	9321.75	1417	1055.75	396.25	131.75	48.75	46.25	3.75
Item E	0	193.50	24.50	17.50	6	3	1.50	2.50	0.50
Item J	0	-42	222	228	133	45	2	2	0
Item Z	44.10	21260.77	1885.42	838.18	209.97	57.18	14.97	6.51	0
Item F	5	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18
Item G	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

1.4 Applying the figures in section 1.3 to the calculation $((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$ produces a relevant amount for each Valuation Band - Item A in Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012 as follows:

BAND	RELEVANT AMOUNT
	'A'
	£ p
Disabled (A)	68.69
A	31,249.32
B	11,161.17
C	12,804.06
D	7,781.78
E	3,501.75
F	1,389.24
G	951.23
H	27.50
	<u>68,934.74</u>

Council Tax Base - City of Sunderland Council / Hetton Town Council

a) Council Tax Base - City of Sunderland Council

Band	Item 'A'	Item 'B'	Tax Base
	£ p		'A' x 'B'
(A)	68.69	98	67.32
A	31,249.32	98	30,624.33
B	11,161.17	98	10,937.95
C	12,804.06	98	12,547.98
D	7,781.78	98	7,626.14
E	3,501.75	98	3,431.71
F	1,389.24	98	1,361.46
G	951.23	98	932.21
H	27.50	98	26.95
	<u>68,934.74</u>		<u>67,556.05</u>

b) Council Tax Base - Hetton Town Council

(A)	5.12	98	5.02
A	1,947.05	98	1,908.11
B	691.90	98	678.06
C	450.59	98	441.58
D	245.22	98	240.31
E	97.17	98	95.23
F	51.64	98	50.61
G	31.25	98	30.62
H	1.00	98	0.98
	<u>3,520.94</u>		<u>3,450.52</u>

Calculation of the Council Tax Base for Hetton Town Council - Local Precept

1.1. The rules for calculating the Council Tax Base for any part of a Billing Authority's area (e.g. Local Parish) are the same as the rules contained in Appendix 1 except that chargeable dwellings and discounts are to be taken for only those dwellings and discounts relating to the area for which the Council Tax Base is to be calculated.

1.2. As in Appendix 1 the rules require the calculations of items 'A' and 'B'.

Item A is calculated by the formula:

$$((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$$

1.3. The calculations detailed above have been carried out in respect of the Hetton Town Council for each relevant band and the result of the calculations is shown below:

1.4. Tax Base Calculation - Hetton $((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$

	Disabled Band (A)	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Item H	14	4745	998	501	241	88	39	19	1
Item Q	1	559.50	68.75	31.50	11.50	5.50	3.25	2.25	0.50
Item E	0	20	3	0	1	0.50	0	0	0
Item J	0	-11	23	50	22	0	0	2	0
Item Z	3.78	1273.93	65.66	12.59	7.28	3.50	0	0	0
Item F	5	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18
Item G	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

1.5 Applying the figures in section 1.4 to the calculation $((H - Q + E + J) - Z) \times (F/G)$ produces a relevant amount for each Valuation Band - Item A in Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2003 as follows:

BAND RELEVANT AMOUNT

	'A'
	£ p
Disabled (A)	5.12
A	1,947.05
B	691.90
C	450.59
D	245.22
E	97.17
F	51.64
G	31.25
H	1.00
	<u>3,520.94</u>

CABINET

13th JANUARY 2016

**REVENUE BUDGET 2016/2017 PROPOSALS AND PROVISIONAL
REVENUE SUPPORT SETTLEMENT 2016/2017**

Report of the Interim Head of Paid Service and Director of Finance

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report sets out the provisional budget proposals for 2016/2017 including the impact of the Provisional Revenue Support settlement, as a basis for the continuation of budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2016/2017.

2. Description of Decision

- 2.1 Members are requested to approve the provisional budget proposals, as a basis for the continuation of budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2016/2017.

3. National and Economic Context to the 2016/2017 Budget

- 3.1 The Chancellor confirmed in the Spending Review 2015 statement (SR15) on 25th November 2015 that Government economic policy remains unchanged, with the economy forecast to continue to grow by circa 2.4% on average over the next 5 year period. A budget surplus of £10.1bn is now expected in 2019/2020.
- 3.2 As reported to Cabinet in December 2015, the SR15 included key announcements affecting Local Government funding through to 2020 including a 'flat' cash settlement for councils by comparing 2019/2020 with 2015/2016 after taking into account grant funding and locally raised income.

However the 'flat cash settlement by 2019/20 uses assumptions on the level of income growth that councils can generate locally through business rates and council tax, with an assumed average 21.9% increase over the period. This will be difficult for councils with low tax bases such as Sunderland to achieve.

4. Provisional Local Government Settlement for 2016/2017

The Provisional Local Government Settlement for 2016/2017 announced on 17th December 2015 has provided further detail on certain aspects of the SR15. The key features of the settlement are set out at section 4.1 (national position) and 4.2 (Sunderland position) below.

The provisional settlement includes a consultation paper with a deadline for responses to Government by January 15th 2016. Officers are preparing the proposed response in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

4.1 Provisional Local Government Settlement - National position

- 4.1.1 The settlement announcement includes a '4 year settlement' showing the provisional settlement for 2016/2017 and indicative funding levels for each year up to 2019/2020. The Settlement consultation document states:

Government is making a commitment to provide central funding allocations for each year of the Spending Review period, should councils choose to accept the offer and if they have published an efficiency plan.

It is not yet clear exactly what the Government mean by the 'offer', what the 'acceptance' entails, or what form / period of cover the efficiency plan which must be published has to take.

While the Government have published indicative figures through to 2019/20, figures beyond 2016/2017 take no account of the proposed Business Rates Review and the move to 100% Retained Business Rates. The indicative figures, and the Governments 'offer' therefore need to be treated with extreme caution at this stage until further details are known.

- 4.1.2 The government has introduced a revised Spending Power measure known as the Core Spending Power. This new measure now includes:

- Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) comprising:
 - Revenue Support Grant (RSG);
 - Retained Business Rates;
 - Top Up Grant;
- New Homes Bonus;
- Local Government element of the Improved Better Care Fund (from 2017/2018);
- Rural Services Delivery Grant;
- Council Tax Income (assuming increases of CPI and that the 2% precept to support social care is taken up in full).

The removal of a number of specific grants from the Spending Power measure, including NHS Pooled Better Care Funding and Public Health Funding is welcomed, given their inclusion previously distorted comparative data.

Core Spending Power will reduce by an average 2.8% nationally in 2016/2017 and by an average 0.5% over the four year period.

- 4.1.3 The Settlement Funding Assessment (including RSG, Retained Business Rates and Top up grant) will reduce by an average 31.8% nationally over the four years and an average 12.5% in 2016/2017.

This demonstrates that local government funding is being reduced by more than the headline figures contained within the SR15.

- 4.1.4 A number of previous specific grants have transferred into the Revenue Support grant. These include:

- Council Tax Freeze Grant 2015/2016
- Lead Local Flood Authority Grant
- Care Act Funding 2015/2016 (notionally adjusted)
- Efficiency Support Grant

Taking the above transfers into account, Revenue Support Grant is to reduce nationally by an average 78.6% over the 4 year period and by 27.6% in 2016/17.

Revenue Support Grant is the key needs based element of local government funding and this is being significantly cut over the four year period.

- 4.1.5 The government has amended the grant distribution methodology to apply equal percentage reductions in settlement core funding for each type of Authority with the aim of ensuring councils delivering the same set of services receive the same percentage change to their Settlement Core funding .

The move by Government to reinstate a fairer methodology to the allocation of the cuts is welcomed.

- 4.1.6 As trailed in the Spending Review, Social Care authorities are to receive £1.5bn of additional Better Care Funding (BCF) by 2019/20. The allocations however are to back loaded with very limited additional funding in the first 2 years:

- 2016/17 Nil
- 2017/18 £0.105bn
- 2018/19 £0.825bn
- 2019/20 £1.500bn

Of the £1.5bn, £0.8bn is a transfer from a review of the New Homes Bonus grant funding system and is therefore not additional funding to the total quantum available to local authorities.

The method to distribute the improved BCF funding is to be consulted upon but the government has indicated that it will be targeted towards those authorities with lower council tax bases to ensure a fairer distribution of the grant in future.

4.1.7 Social Care councils will be able to levy an additional ringfenced social care precept at 2%. This would mean assumed council tax rises in each of the next 4 years of up to 4% for social care councils.

4.1.8 Government confirmed previously announced proposals to change the way local government is funded which will see 100% retention of business rates, an ending of Revenue Support Grant by 2019/20; and a transfer of new responsibilities (such as Public Health) which will need to be funded from the retained business rates. The Government will consult in the spring.

The outcome of this review will be critical to the future sustainability of Council services for Sunderland.

4.1.9 New Homes Bonus (NHB) will remain unchanged for 2016/17. Beyond this it is to be continued although it is to be reviewed in order to divert £0.8bn of funding to Better Care Fund authorities. The government is consulting on delivering a revised Scheme in the spring.

Government will also reduce its contribution to the NHB scheme by £40m pa, to £210m with the remaining funding to come from top slicing existing local authority funding.

4.1.10 Government have issued guidance on the proposed flexible use of capital receipts. This allows councils to use capital receipts (from the sale of assets generated between 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2019) to fund revenue costs of projects designed to make on-going revenue savings and / or transform service delivery to reduce costs or to improve the quality of service delivery in future years. In order to qualify the council must prepare and publish an annual efficiency strategy listing all qualifying projects and proposed receipt usage which must be approved by full council.

4.2 Provisional Local Government Settlement - Impact for Sunderland in 2016/2017

4.2.1 Appendix 1a sets out the Core Spending Power measure for Sunderland (which includes income raised locally from council tax). This demonstrates a cut of £9.9m (4.3%) for 2016/2017 which is higher than the national average cut of 2.8%. This reflects that although government actions to allocate the cuts more fairly have had some positive effect, the actions have not gone far enough to offset the inability for councils with low council tax bases to raise significant additional income locally.

4.2.2 Appendix 1b sets out the Settlement Funding Assessment for Sunderland (including Revenue Support Grant, Retained Business Rates and Top up grant). Although Government have moved to improve the methodology for allocating the cuts for 2016/2017 there is a further net 9.9% reduction. However this is lower than the national average cut of 12.5% and reflects some positive impact arising from the Governments actions to allocate the cuts on a fairer basis.

- 4.2.3 Within the Settlement Funding Assessment, Government funding through Revenue Support Grant for Sunderland is reducing in 2016/2017 by 21.4% (£15.5m). This compares to the national average cut of 27.6%, again reflecting some positive impact from the Governments actions to allocate the cuts on a fairer basis.

Government attempts to share the cuts more fairly are welcomed, however:

- the council is still faced with a significant funding cut in 2016/17 and in each of the next four years;
- the approach adopted has not addressed the historic impact on the council's core baseline funding as a result of the inequitable cuts in recent years.

- 4.2.4 Detailed analysis of the component elements which underpin the Revenue Support Grant is set out at Appendix 1b. It is of concern that there are significant cuts to Revenue Support Grant needs based funding (which includes children's services funding) in addition to an 8% p.a. cut to the Early Intervention component at a time when demand for the council's children's services is increasing.

- 4.2.5 A number of other grants are yet to be announced including Pooled Better Care Fund, Public Health grant and Housing Benefits Administration. The impact of the allocations once received will be factored into the February Budget report.

4.3 Indicative data for four years to 2019/20

- 4.3.1 While the Government have published figures for four years through to 2019/20, figures beyond 2016/2017 need to be considered with extreme caution as they take no account of the proposed Business Rates Review and the move to 100% Retained Business Rates.

- 4.3.2 In addition, as set out at paragraph 4.1.1 clarity is required of exactly what the Government mean by the 'offer' of a four year settlement, what the 'acceptance' entails, and what form / period of cover the required efficiency plan must take.

- 4.3.3 Appendix 1c sets out initial analysis of the published figures which indicates for Sunderland:

- Core Spending Power will reduce by 2.79% over the period which is higher than the national average reduction of 0.5%. This reflects the inability for councils with low council tax bases to raise significant additional income from council tax.

It is noted however that this position includes the Councils share of the improved better care fund of £14m by 2019/20:

- As this funding is to be partly funded by a review of New Homes Bonus funding, only around half of the £14m can be considered as additional funding available to the council;
- Government indicated in the spending Review that the funding was to enable councils to increase payments to care providers and meet the cost of the National Living Wage. As the National

Living Wage is estimated to cost the council an additional £16m p.a. by 2019/20, and only around half of the £14m improved Better Care fund allocation is new funding to the council, it is evident there remains a significant gap of around £9m by 2019/20.

- Settlement Funding Assessment will reduce by 25% over the period compared to a national average reduction of 32%;
- Within the Settlement Funding Assessment, Revenue Support Grant will reduce by 62% (£45m) compared to a national average reduction over the period of almost 79%.

However this position is masked by the netting off within the RSG of additional Care Act Funding of £1.228m by 2019/20. If this sum is excluded Sunderland's RSG reduces by 64% over the period.

- 4.3.4 Work is continuing to understand the underlying implications of the data released thus far, the detail of the government 'offer' and how this links to the Business Rates Review. An update will be reported as part of the Medium Term Financial Planning update report to February Cabinet.

4.4 Outlook for the Medium Term

- 4.4.1 While Government actions to allocate the cuts on a fairer basis are welcomed, the underlying historic inequity remains. Ultimately the Council is still faced with reductions in RSG of 62% or £45m by 2020 in addition to the need to meet significant unavoidable spending pressures. While some provision is included in the Spending Review for meeting pressures arising from social care and the National Living Wage, at this stage this appears to be significantly short of the amount required to maintain services in the future. The prognosis therefore remains bleak into the medium term.
- 4.4.2 The impact of the proposed changes to the local government funding system as a result of the Business Rates Review will be critical to understanding the future sustainability of services within Sunderland. All opportunities will be taken to influence government thinking in this regard.
- 4.4.3 It is clear that funding of local government over the medium term will be subject to significant change both in terms of sustained reduced funding from central government and the shift towards local self-sufficiency. It is clear that significant cuts are likely to continue resulting in fundamental change to the way the council operates.

5. 2016/2017 Budget - Detail of Key Funding Elements for 2016/2017

5.1 For 2016/2017 the key funding elements to support the revenue budget comprise:

5.1.1 Retained Business Rates

The forecast income from Business Rates for 2016/2017 which will be retained by the Council is reported elsewhere on this agenda.

5.1.2 Revenue Support Grant

The amount of Revenue Support grant to be received by Sunderland announced as part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement is £57.231m.

5.1.3 Top up Grant

The amount of Top-up grant to be received by Sunderland announced as part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement is £36.247m.

5.1.4 Section 31 Grant - Cap on Business Rates RPI increase

The Government capped the annual increase on Business Rates at 2% instead of RPI in both 2014/2015 and 2015/2016. The Government is to continue to compensate Councils for the on-going consequential shortfall in income through provision of a Section 31 Grant. For 2016/2017 this is estimated to be £1.147m.

5.1.5 Other Core Grant and Revenue Funding

The core and revenue grants of significant value which have been confirmed as part of the provisional settlement are:

- **The New Homes Bonus Grant**
The level of grant awarded is based on the increase in housing stock through new build properties and through returning empty properties back into use. Each year's allocation is awarded for a 6 year period with 2016/17 being the final year. Government have confirmed New Home Bonus is to continue with consultation on proposed changes in the spring.

The provisional total allocation for 2016/2017 of £4.367m comprises:

2011/12 - year 6 of allocation	£0.575m
2012/13 - year 5 allocation	£0.577m
2013/14 - year 4 allocation	£0.551m
2014/15 - year 3 allocation	£0.522m
2015/16 - year 2 allocation	£0.946m
2016/17 - Year 1 allocation (prov)	£1.196m

Support to Housing investment initiatives will continue to be addressed via the Capital Programme and revenue budget as required.

The Settlement also confirms the council will receive £0.188m in returned New Homes Bonus funding from the expected total top slice surplus that is projected by government for 2016/17.

- Other Grants

The following significant grants are yet to be announced:

- Pooled NHS Integrated Health and Social Care
- Public Health Grant
- Department of Health Revenue Grant (including Local Reform and Community Voices Grant)
- Housing and Council Tax Benefit Administration and Local Council Tax Support Administration Grant, and Council Tax Support New Burdens Funding
- Independent Living Fund.

5.1.6 Council Tax

- Capping Powers and Reserve Powers

The Localism Act provides for the provision of referendums to veto excessive council tax increases. This effectively places a limit on council tax increases and if councils exceed Government limits then the public will be able to vote to agree or veto any increase considered 'excessive'.

- In the Provisional Settlement the Government announced that the referendum threshold for 2016/2017 is 2%.
- In addition Social Care councils are able to levy an additional ringfenced social care precept at 2%.
- Together this means assumed council tax rises in each of the next 4 years of up to 4% for social care councils.

The government is to allow Shire District Council and Police and Crime Commissioners with relatively low council tax level (in the lowest quartile) to increase Council Tax by 2% or by a flat rate £5 increase at Band D, whichever is the higher in the next 4 years.

- Local Council Tax Support Scheme

Proposals for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2016/2017 are set out elsewhere on today's agenda. No Changes are proposed to the current scheme for 2016/2017.

5.2 Schools Funding

5.2.1 Dedicated Schools Grant

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is defined across three separate blocks as set out below. A new National Funding Formula will be introduced from 2017, with consultation to begin in early 2016.

- **Schools Block**
Based on the October 2015 census data pupil numbers have increased by 110 pupils, with funding increased by £0.540m, to £160.076m.

The Government is to continue to apply a national protection arrangement for schools whereby no school will see a per pupil reduction compared to its 2015/16 budget (excluding sixth form funding) of more than 1.5 per cent before the pupil premium.

- **High Needs Block**
The high needs block supports provision for pupils and students with SEN and disabilities, from their early years to age 25, and alternative provision for pupils who cannot receive their education in schools.

An additional £92.5 million has been provided nationally in 2016/17 for this block, with Sunderland receiving an additional £0.435m increasing total funding to £23.613m. This will support the increase in the number of pupils receiving Education, Health and Care Plans and requiring specialist education provision.

- **Early Years Block**
The early years block comprises funding for the 15-hour entitlement for 3 & 4 year-olds; participation funding for 2-year-olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds; and the early years pupil premium. The rates per child are to be maintained at their 2015/16 level. The provisional allocation for 2016/17 is £15.776m including £0.333m pupil premium allocation.

5.2.2 Pupil Premium Funding

The Pupil Premium level for Sunderland Schools and Academies is estimated to be £15.224m, based on October 2015 census data. The final allocation will be based on the January 2016 pupil census and will not be confirmed until September 2016 by the Education Funding Agency.

5.2.3 Education Services Grant (ESG)

The ESG is allocated on a simple per-pupil basis to local authorities and academies according to the number of pupils for whom they are responsible.

The retained duties rate will remain at £15 per pupil and the general funding rate for 2016/17 will reduce from £87 per pupil to £77 per pupil, with continued protections for academies affected by the reduction. The Government will consult in the New Year on further reductions in order to reach the £600 million reduction announced in the 2015 Spending Review.

Provision has been included within the Budget Planning Framework for the impact of reduction in funding and academy transfers.

6. 2016/2017 Budget - Provision for Spending Pressures and Commitments

6.1 When the Budget Planning Framework was approved in October 2015 Cabinet agreed that the following spending commitments would be taken into account:

- provision in respect of a pay-award;
- price increases on the basis of prudent assumptions in respect of energy and contractual arrangements;
- the impact of the Actuarial review of the Local Government Pension Scheme 2013, the impact of the Pensions Act 2008 (pension scheme auto enrolment) and the impact of the Pensions Act 2014 (abolition of NI contracted out rate);
- the impact of workforce transformation;
- provision for spending commitments in respect of debt charges and interest receipts;
- the impact of demographic changes in respect of adult social care;
- pressures relating to safeguarding;
- service pressures as a result of the economic position;
- replacement of one off resources utilised in setting the 2015/2016 budget where pressures are of an on-going nature e.g. the Intelligence Hub.

6.2 In this context it is proposed to make provision to address a number of spending commitments and pressures as set out below:

6.3 Cabinet Secretary

The following proposals are made:

6.3.1 Capital Financing

Prudential borrowing has been provided for within the medium term financial position in relation to known investments over that period, together with a provision to provide future flexibility to enable strategic priorities of the Council to be addressed.

6.3.2 Workforce Transformation

The latest financial implications associated with workforce transformation have been factored into the budget planning. The position will be kept under review.

6.3.3 National Living Wage

The government's proposal to implement the National Living Wage of £7.20 rising to £9.00 by 2020 represents a significant additional cost pressure for councils as external contract suppliers seek to pass the cost on through increased contract prices. While there will be some limited Government additional Better Care Funding available to support this pressure from 2017/2018, the National Living Wage impacts from April 2016. Provision has therefore been included in the budget planning for the estimated first year impact. The MTFS will be updated to reflect any forecast additional gap compared to available government funding from 2017/2018. A further update will be reported to February Cabinet.

6.4 Adults Health and Housing

The following proposals are made:

6.4.1 People - Adult Services Demand / Demographic Issues

The increasing longevity of the national and specifically, the city's, population continues to place significant pressure on Adult Social Services budgets. In addition, client expectations and increasing demand to support clients with complex cases to enable clients to maintain independent living, is requiring reconfigured services and additional investment.

A sum of £2.49m for cost pressures has been factored into the 2016/2017 budget.

6.5 Children's Services

The following proposals are made:

6.5.1 People - Children's Safeguarding

Provision has been included in the 2016/2017 budget in respect of the continued demand pressures in relation to Safeguarding and Looked After Placements reflecting the latest improvement plan requirements. This position will be kept under review.

6.6 Summary Pressures Position

The table below summarises the spending pressures in 2016/2017

	2016/17 £m
On-going Spending Pressures	
Pay, Prices and Other Pressures	6.48
Living Wage Contract Inflation	4.00
NI - End of contracted-out rate	2.46
People - Adults Demand Pressures	2.49
People - Children's Demand Pressures External Placements	6.38
Intelligence Hub	0.50
Living Wage and Workforce Transformation	2.50
Capital Financing	1.00
Total Estimated On-going Pressures	25.81
Safeguarding Pressure (One-Off)	5.79
Total Pressures	31.60

7. Summary Funding Gap 2016/2017 to 2019/2020

- 7.1 When spending pressures and commitments are taken alongside the current forecast reduction in funding, the overall gap to be addressed in 2016/2017 through to 2019/2020 is summarised as follows:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m	Total £m
Government Grant Changes	15.00	13.11	8.84	5.68	42.63
Total On-going Spending Pressures	25.81	20.00	10.68	10.82	67.31
Total On-going Funding Gap	40.81	33.11	19.52	16.50	109.94
Safeguarding Pressure (One-Off)	5.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.79
Pressure from Use of One-Off Balances	0.00	5.35	0.00	0.00	5.35
Total Funding Gap	46.60	38.46	19.52	16.50	121.08

Further update to the medium term position will be provided as part of the February Cabinet Budget Report.

- 7.2 Proposals to address the funding gap for 2016/2017 are detailed at section 8 below.

8. Proposals to Meet the Funding Gap 2016/2017

- 8.1 As part of the Budget Planning Framework for 2016/2017, Cabinet agreed in October 2015 to meet the funding gap by progressing the existing savings programme and developing a further programme of activity taking into account the strategic vision of the council's role in the future and reflecting the Councils Community Leadership role and the Improvement Framework key principles. This involves further transforming service delivery, reducing service standards and

commissioned activity and prioritising resources to support statutory requirements and key priorities:

- People - protecting and supporting the most vulnerable adults and children in our communities;
- Place - keeping our communities as safe, clean and well maintained as possible within the resources available;
- Economy - continuing support to the economic regeneration of the city by encouraging businesses and jobs into the city.

8.2 For all service areas this has included consideration of:

- Ensuring resources are targeted on statutory services and protecting key priority services;
- Redesigning and reshaping services to deliver required outcomes at least cost;
- Reduced commissioning and service standards;
- Pressing forward with new alternative models of service delivery (ASDMs) at reduced cost and increasing commercialisation;
- Continued focus on progressing Regeneration, Funding Leverage & Commercial Opportunities.

8.3 Summary of Proposed Plans To Meet the Funding Gap

Proposals to fully meet the funding gap for 2016/2017 are summarised below together with an indication of plans for 2017/2018;

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Total Estimated Pressures and Grant Reductions	46.60	38.46
Proposals to Meet the Funding Gap		
Other Services (Appendix 2.1)	-4.93	-2.57
Contingencies and Central Resources (Appendix 2.2)	-11.14	-1.10
Place and Economy Services (Appendix 2.3)	-6.32	-4.73
People Services - Adults (Appendix 2.4)	-7.42	-10.35
People Services - Children's (Appendix 2.5)	-2.70	-3.18
Total On-going Savings Programme	-32.51	-21.93
Use of One-Off Balances	-8.94	0.00
Collection Fund Surplus - Council Tax	-2.00	0.00
Net position after Proposals	-43.45	-21.93
Remaining Gap	3.15	16.53

Further work is continuing to develop a full suite of proposals to meet the 2017/2018 funding gap of circa £17m as well as the further savings forecast to be required through to 2019/2020.

Further updates will be provided to Cabinet in due course and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016-2020 will be refined and updated as this work progresses.

8.4 Detail of Proposals for Reduction 2016/2017

The proposals for reduction are summarised below with further detail set out for each at Appendix 2:

8.4.1 Other Services (£4.932m 2016/2017 and £2.574m 2017/2018). Further details at Appendix 2 cross referenced to the table below.

Ref	Proposed Reduction	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
1.1	Full Year Impact of previous years decisions – ICT Rationalisation	0.300	0.000
1.2	Review of democratic function, member support, community leadership and electoral services	0.271	0.000
1.3	ICT Further Rationalisation	0.150	0.754
1.4	Review of Business Support arrangements	0.848	0.848
1.5	Review of Transformational Change Team	0.244	0.000
1.6	Integration of the Strategy Team and Partnership Team	0.289	0.050
1.7	Review of HR and OD services	0.300	0.100
1.8	Review of Corporate Affairs and Communication arrangements	0.836	0.038
1.9	Review of Tourism arrangements	0.024	0.000
1.10	Review of Events Core Programme funding arrangements and income generation	0.150	0.100
1.11	Review of Legal Services and Governance Services	0.213	0.037
1.12	Assurance, procurement and Projects review, including income maximisation	0.329	0.145
1.13	Review of Financial Resources arrangements, including Transactional services	0.328	0.502
1.14	General Review of Management Arrangements	0.650	0.000
	Total	4.932	2.574

8.4.2 Contingencies and Central Resources (£11.135m 2016/2017 and £1.100m 2017/2018). Further details at Appendix 2 cross referenced to the table below.

Ref	Proposed Reduction	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
2.1	Review of Corporate Allocations - Debt Charges Provision	6.619	0.000
2.2	Business Rates Growth	0.700	0.500
2.3	Council Tax Base Growth and New Homes Bonus Grant	2.178	0.600
2.4	NECA – ITA Transport Levy Reduction	0.569	0.000
2.5	Review of Corporate Allocations - Contingencies	1.069	0.000
	Total	11.135	1.100

8.4.3 Place and Economy (£6.323m 2016/2017 and £4.726m 2017/2018)
Further details at Appendix 2 cross referenced to the table below

Ref	Proposed Reductions	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
3.1	Full Year Impact of Previous Years Decisions	1.207	0.000
3.2	Place Management – ASDM Cost Reductions	1.025	1.075
3.3	Place Management – ASDM Business Growth	0.097	0.350
3.4	Responsive Local Services – reduced frequency / volume of service through new commissioning arrangements	2.350	0.000
3.5	Parking Services – parking strategy implementation	0.080	0.350
3.6	Highways Maintenance – reduction to reactive maintenance	0.150	0.150
3.7	Bereavement – annual increase in fees and increased range of options for memorialisation services.	0.040	0.150
3.8	Security Services rationalisation and reduction within the city	0.078	0.094
3.9	Pest Control and Dog Wardens – increased fees or service reduction	0.060	0.000
3.10	Place Shaping – ASDM Cost Reduction	0.000	0.790
3.11	Place Shaping – ASDM Business Growth	0.100	0.100
3.12	Highways, Transport and Network Management – maximisation of fee earning and rationalise school crossing provision.	0.150	0.240
3.13	Building Control - greater commercial focus including extending the geographical coverage of the service	0.100	0.100
3.14	Development Control – greater commercial focus including more emphasis on pre-application services.	0.100	0.100
3.15	Public Protection and Regulatory Services review, with integration of housing related functions.	0.105	0.090
3.16	Asset Management – review of statutory responsibility	0.050	0.050
3.17	Miscellaneous land and Property Review – increased income opportunities	0.050	0.050
3.18	Waste Disposal – increased recycling, including in trade waste	0.085	0.311
3.19	Registrars – annual increase in fees	0.050	0.050
3.20	Port of Sunderland – Business Growth	0.100	0.100
3.21	Street Lighting – introduction of LEDs onto main highways	0.000	0.150
3.22	Business Investment, incl International Development – phased reduction of SME grants	0.196	0.176
3.23	Fleet and Transport Review – further reduction in vehicle numbers	0.150	0.250
	Total	6.323	4.726

8.4.4 **People – Adults** (£7.418m 2016/2017 and £10.345m 2017/2018). Further details are shown at Appendix 2 cross referenced to the table below:

Ref	Proposed Reductions	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
4.1	Full Year Impact of previous years decisions – implementation of Care and Support Business Plan	0.553	0.000
4.2	Adults Social Care – support for older people through extra care provision	(0.336)	0.289
4.3	Support for Vulnerable Clients – Home Care support within Localities	0.447	0.424
4.4	Reablement at Home – contract review	0.200	0.000
4.5	Community Equipment Service – review to allow for direct purchasing and better signposting	0.200	0.200
4.6	Adults with Learning and Physical Disabilities – support for those living in Residential Care and receiving short breaks	0.451	0.292
4.7	Adults with Learning and Physical Disabilities – review of day care opportunities	1.500	1.041
4.8	Adults with Learning and Physical Disabilities – review and reduction of unit costs	1.000	0.000
4.9	Review of Staff Requirement in Adult Social Care	0.000	0.250
4.10	Review of Grant funding to VCS to ensure aligned to agreed outcomes	0.200	0.000
4.11	Demand Pressure for all client groups to be absorbed within base budgets	1.991	2.507
4.12	Culture and Activity – Development of a cultural offer for the city	0.987	2.598
4.13	Housing Related support review	0.000	2.539
4.14	Review of Specialist advice function	0.225	0.205
	Total	7.418	10.345

8.4.5 **People – Children’s** (£2.703m 2016/17 and £3.180m 2017/18). Further details are shown at Appendix 2 cross referenced to the table below:

Ref	Proposed Reductions	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
5.1	Children remaining with Families - Integrated model of delivery across early help and child protection	1.000	0.317
5.2	Children in the Care of the LA - Review of the Looked after Strategy and reduction in numbers	1.427	2.003
5.3	Services for Disabled Children – review of delivery and staffing	0.150	0.300
5.4	Youth Provision – review of provision and commissioned contracts	0.000	0.560
5.5	Review of School Improvement Service	0.100	0.000
5.6	Derwent Hill – review of costs and maximisation of income opportunities	0.026	0.000
	Total	2.703	3.180

8.5 Use of One Off Resources

At this stage it is proposed to utilise one off funding of £8.940m to meet pressures on a one off basis to support the overall budget position.

In addition it is proposed to utilise £2m of Council Tax Collection fund surplus to support the budget in 2016/2017 on a one off basis. This position will be reviewed and updated as part of the Budget proposals in February 2016.

It also is anticipated that some further use of transitional funding will be required in 2016/2017 to allow for the full implementation of some savings plans and the final impact of workforce transformation. This position will be kept under review and updated as part of the Budget proposals to Cabinet in February 2016.

8.6 Other Resources

After taking account of total on-going programmed savings and use of one off resources for 2016/2017 there remains a funding gap of £3.150m. At this stage it is proposed this gap will be met from either council tax increase or use of transitional funding held in balances on a temporary basis.

9 Outstanding Uncertainties

9.1 At this stage there are a number of uncertainties still to be resolved in relation to next year's budget, including:

- the outcome of the final Local Government Revenue Support Grant Settlement for 2016/2017 and related grant announcements;
- Grants announcements in relation to some specific grants including Better Care Fund, Public Health Grant and Housing and Council Tax Benefit Administration;
- transitional costs in relation to the implementation of savings proposals;
- the forecast Income from Business Rates;
- the final Collection Fund position for both Council Tax and Business Rates.

In addition, it will be necessary to consider the outcome of further consultation to take place on the budget.

10 Budget Consultation

- 10.1 The Budget and Policy Framework procedure rules contained within the Constitution of the Council requires consultation on budget proposals to take place. In October 2015 Cabinet approved proposals regarding the consultation strategy and framework for the budget for 2016/2017 and proposed briefings to the following stakeholders:
- Trade Unions;
 - North East Chamber of Commerce / Representatives of Business Ratepayers;
 - Voluntary Sector;
 - Children's Trust Advisory Network;
 - Schools Forum, Head Teachers and Governors.
- 10.2 In addition to the above stakeholder consultation, a survey was undertaken to gain an understanding of priorities for the council in terms of how we will spend money on services and the acceptability of approaches to addressing the budget cuts.
- 10.3 To supplement the survey, a number of area based events were undertaken using established Area arrangements and open to local residents, in the five areas of the city which sought to maximise engagement with stakeholders, residents and VCS organisations.
- 10.4 Initial findings of the survey and discussions at the workshops demonstrate general support for the overall approach.
- 10.5 To date budget consultation with these groups has concentrated on the overall approaches to meeting the budget challenge. Further detailed consultation in relation to the proposals will be undertaken, as appropriate, when the proposals are developed, or service review takes place. The results of this consultation will, in turn, inform the Equality Analysis of the proposals.
- 10.6 At each stage in the budget preparation process Scrutiny Committee is being consulted.
- 10.7 This report will become the basis for second stage consultation. Elements of the consultation undertaken to date, which has not yet been fully analysed, together with the results of the second stage of consultation will be considered in framing the final budget proposals to be submitted to Cabinet in February, 2016.

11 Equalities Impact Assessment

In accordance with the approach followed in previous years the Council continues to fully consider the impact of its plans by following a robust approach to equalities analysis. Appendix 3 sets out the approach adopted to the budget setting process.

The full Equality Analyses that have been undertaken to date can be found as supplementary information on the agenda, by using the following link:

<http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm15/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/8596/Committee/1890/Default.aspx>

Members must read these documents as having regard to them will assist members in complying with the public sector equality duty when considering the proposals. Copies have also been deposited in the members' group rooms.

12 Crime and Disorder

- 12.1 Consideration has been given to the options for savings with regard to their potential impact on crime and disorder, (Section 17 Duty), and it has been identified that item 3.8 (appendix 2), in relation to Security Services rationalisation and reduction within the city may have a negative impact. The service will seek to mitigate this risk as appropriate through communication plans, and seeking to involve community and other groups in the service provision where possible.

13 General Balances

- 13.1 A Statement of General Balances is attached at Appendix 4.
- 13.2 As reported at the Second Revenue Review Report to Cabinet, some savings have been generated in 2015/2016 from Interest on Balances and Debt Charges, and unutilised contingency provisions. Any savings generated will be required to fund one off spending pressures and additional costs associated with implementing the budget proposals for 2015/2016 and to support the 2016/2017 Revenue Budget as part of a prudent and robust approach to budget setting.
- 13.3 The balances position will be updated / reviewed as the budget is progressed. A full risk analysis will be presented with the final budget proposals to the February meeting of Cabinet.

14 Suggested Reason for Decision

- 14.1 To enable constitutional requirements relating to the development of the revenue budget to be met.

15 Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected

- 15.1 There are no alternative options recommended for approval.

Background Papers

Budget and Planning Framework 2016/2017 (October 2015 Cabinet)

Local Government Finance Settlement 2016-17:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/provisional-local-government-finance-settlement-england-2016-to-2017>

Provisional Revenue Support Settlement 2016/2017

Core Spending Power 2016/2017 compared to 2015/2016 adjusted

Ref Spending Power Components	Adjusted Core Spending Power 2015-16	Provisional CSP 2016-17	Changes for 2016-17 compared to the Adjusted 2015-16	
	£m	£m	£m	%
Council Tax Requirement excluding parish precepts	78.273	80.461	2.188	2.79%
1 Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA)	150.706	135.817	-14.889	-9.88%
1 Efficiency Support Grant	0.000	0.000	0.000	
1 Lead Local Flood Authorities	0.000	0.000	0.000	
1 Council Tax Freeze Grant 2015-16	0.000	0.000	0.000	
1 Adult Social Care New Burdens (Care Act)	0.000	0.000	0.000	
2 Social Care Council Tax precept	0.000	1.589	1.589	100.00%
2 Improved Better Care Fund	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Provisional New Homes Bonus	3.426	4.555	1.129	32.95%
New Homes Bonus: returned funding	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Sunderland Total Core Spending Power	232.405	222.422	-9.983	-4.30%

Memorandum - national position

-2.80%

Notes

1. Grants in 2015/16 that have been transferred into the 2016/17 Settlement Funding Assessment

Lead Local Flood Authorities

Council Tax Freeze Grant 2015/16

Adult Social Care Act Funding

Efficiency Support Grant (not applicable to the Council)

2. New Funding included in Core Spending Power

Social Care Council Tax precept (Social Care Authorities only)

Improved Better Care Fund for Social Care Authorities only

Other Changes**3 Grants removed from the Core Spending Power measure - to be paid by specific**

SFA Section 31 grant is to be paid separately outside of the SFA reference to Funding

Local Council Tax support and Housing Benefit Admin

Department of Health Revenue Grant (renamed)

Public Health Grant (Ring-fenced)

Better Care Fund (NHS)

4. Funding removed from Spending Power- currently position unknown

Council Tax Support Funding to Parishes

Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authorities

Council Tax Support New Burdens Funding

Provisional Revenue Support Settlement 2016/2017

Settlement Funding Assessment and Revenue Support Grant 2016/2017

	Adjusted 2015-16 Settlement Funding assessment	Provisional 2016-17 Settlement Funding Assessment	Variation between 2016/17 and 2015/16 adjusted	Variation between 2016/17 and 2015/16 adjusted %
	£m	£m	£m	%
Upper-Tier Funding	99.614	87.417	-12.197	-12.24%
Lower-Tier Funding	17.974	15.714	-2.260	-12.57%
Total (Needs based funding)	117.588	103.131	-14.457	-12.29%
Other Funding Components				
2011-12 Council Tax Freeze Compensation	2.357	2.357	0.000	0.00%
Early Intervention Funding	9.699	8.921	-0.778	-8.02%
Homelessness Prevention Funding	0.138	0.138	0.000	0.00%
Lead Local Flood Authority Funding 2013-14	0.118	0.120	0.002	1.69%
Lead Local Flood Authority Funding 2015-16	0.025	0.025	0.000	0.00%
Learning Disability and Health Reform Funding	14.906	15.221	0.315	2.11%
2013-14 Council Tax Freeze Compensation	0.979	0.979	0.000	0.00%
2014-15 Council Tax Freeze Compensation	0.964	0.964	0.000	0.00%
Local Welfare Provision	1.081	1.081	0.000	0.00%
2015-16 Council Tax Freeze Grant	0.990	0.990	0.000	0.00%
Social Care Act Funding reform	1.850	1.880	0.030	1.62%
Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems	0.009	0.009	0.000	0.00%
Carbon Monoxide and Fire Alarm Grant	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.00%
Sunderland Total SFA	150.705	135.817	-14.888	-9.88%
SFA split				
RSG(including funding transfers in 2016/17)	72.769	57.231	-15.538	-21.35%
Baseline Funding (Top Up Grant)	35.948	36.247	0.299	0.83%
Assumed Business Rates	41.988	42.339	0.351	0.84%
Sunderland Total SFA	150.705	135.817	-14.888	-9.88%

Memorandum - National Position

-12.50%

APPENDIX 1c

Provisional Revenue Support Settlement 2016/2017

Core Spending Power 2016/2017 to 2019/20

Ref Spending Power Components	Adjusted Core Spending Power 2015-16	Provisional CSP 2016-17	CSP 2017-18	CSP 2018-19	CSP 2019-20	Changes over 4 year period 2015/16 to 2019/20	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	%
Council Tax Requirement excluding parish precepts	78.273	80.461	83.119	85.948	88.961	10.688	13.65%
Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA)	150.706	135.817	124.844	118.653	112.640	-38.066	-25.26%
1 Efficiency Support Grant	0.000	0.000					
1 Lead Local Flood Authorities	0.000	0.000					
1 Council Tax Freeze Grant 2015-16	0.000	0.000					
1 Adult Social Care New Burdens	0.000	0.000					
2 Social Care Council Tax precept	0.000	1.589	3.306	5.173	7.204	7.204	100.00%
2 Improved Better Care Fund	0.000	0.000	1.802	8.544	14.346	14.346	100.00%
Provisional New Homes Bonus	3.426	4.555	4.580	2.877	2.761	-0.665	-19.41%
New Homes Bonus: returned funding	0.000	0.000					
Totals	232.405	222.422	217.651	221.195	225.912	-6.493	-2.79%

Memorandum National Position

-0.50%

SFA can be analysed as follows	Adjusted Core Spending Power 2015-16	Provisional CSP 2016-17	CSP 2017-18	CSP 2018-19	CSP 2019-20	Changes over 4 year period 2015/16 to 2019/20	
Top Up Grant	35.948	36.247	36.960	38.051	39.267	3.319	9.23%
Business Rates Share	41.989	42.339	43.172	44.445	45.866	3.877	9.23%
Revenue Support Grant	72.769	57.231	44.712	36.157	27.507	-45.262	-62.20%
Total	150.706	135.817	124.844	118.653	112.640	-38.066	-25.26%

1. Other Services Proposals (Saving £4.932m 2016/17 and £2.574m 2017/18)

1.1 Full Year Impact of previous year's decisions (Saving - £0.300m 2016/17)

The ICT Unit will continue the consolidation of applications and associated licences, reducing the external spend on application support. This will be coupled with service redesign that will focus on demand management through increased self-service and improved service delivery processes.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The savings will predominantly be delivered through a review of internal processes, internal support arrangements and restructuring of the workforce in these areas, therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	

1.2 Undertaking a review of the democratic decision function, member support, community leadership and electoral services arrangements (Saving - £0.271m in 2016/17)

A review of the democratic decision making model in line with Future Council 2020 thinking and member support is underway and proposals will be implemented that will ensure robust, integrated and effective governance arrangements are in place that will deliver the required savings. This will involve: the grouping of member Support Functions to rationalise ways of working and staffing structures,

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The savings will predominantly be delivered through a review of internal processes, internal support arrangements and restructuring of the workforce in these areas, therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	

1.3 Corporate ICT – Review of arrangements between ICT and Intelligence functions and seeking out commercial opportunities (Saving - £0.150m in 2016/17 and £0.754m in 2017/18)

A review of the ICT structure, its assets, processes and how it integrates with the Intelligence Function will be undertaken to not only generate the savings required but also cultivate an organisation where information, data and insight flows into and from the council to support the council in fulfilling its key community leadership purpose and has an overall “Service orchestration-type” function connecting demand and supply, underpinned by customer insight and intelligence.

Managing the relationship with the Intelligence and ICT partners (and other commissioned capacity or capability) and the ability to trade will serve the core council and the wider eco-system of public to private enterprise to enable the following:

- Development of a new operating model that ensures the council has a robust and fit for purpose ICT service.
- Development of a new city blueprint - a framework of the essential digital and data skills, innovation processes and technology components.
- Maximisation of integration opportunities with the intelligence work; the developing software market in the city, the alignment with other key partners work in the city.
- Providing a robust business model which represents VFM.
- Ability to attract the right calibre of partner/s to the procurement exercise.
- Developing a strong client unit in the council.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This efficiency is based upon staffing changes, which will be considered as part of workforce planning arrangements, and increased income generation by delivering services to a wider range of customers therefore it is considered that no additional equality analysis is required.	

1.4 Review of Business Support arrangements (Saving - £0.848m in 2016/17 and £0.848m in 2017/18)

A full service review of business support arrangements is underway to ensure that they are streamlined to reflect the business support requirements that the future council will require. The review focusses on how to improve internal processes, deliver lower cost alternative delivery methods, manage demand and increase self-service, and reduce the service catalogue and resource ratios all of which will deliver the required efficiency savings.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project.	

1.5 Review of the Transformational Change Team (Saving - £0.244m in 2016/17)

A review of the Transformational Change Team is underway with a view to transforming it into a model that best serves the requirements of the future council. The service will be redesigned to focus resource on high value/risk priorities and will therefore no longer support low value/risk activity.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project. In developing future lists of projects that the Transformation Change Team are involved in, due consideration will be given to the impact of each project in relation to the protected characteristics.	

1.6 Integration of the Strategy Team and Partnership Team (Saving - £0.289m in 2016/17 and £0.050m in 2017/18)

A review will be undertaken to redesign a smaller, leaner Policy, Strategy and Partnership Team which can work more collaboratively with partners to maximise the efficiency, skills and value of the participating organisations whilst sourcing external expertise if needed. It will provide clear direction and common purpose and delivery support through the formulation of partnership-based strategy and relevant performance management arrangements within the council through to action and evidenced results.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Some of the savings will need to come from the service review to redesign a smaller and leaner team, these workforce changes will need to be considered as part of the Organisational Workforce Planning arrangements. Some of the savings will need to come from non-staffing costs such as partnership and community safety activity, corporate subscriptions and the commissioning of specialist consultants, for example, for economic studies. The equality impact of stopping partnership and community safety activity will require equality analysis. There may be opportunity to realise positive equality impacts through aligning our work with the work of our partners and the Equality Forums, this will be explored as part of the Equality Analysis process.	

1.7 Migration of HR and OD into separate delivery model (Saving - £0.300m in 2016/17 and £0.100m in 2017/18)

It is proposed that HR and OD will transfer initially into a LATC which will allow it to trade in the private sector. By definition, ASDMs will be more commercially minded and will be focussed on growing the business beyond the core commission. In addition to increasing income, the creation of the LATC will assist in reducing future costs. Recognising that the Council transfer of assets such as staff, systems and knowledge will be critical in actually forming the business, it is assumed in return that increased income generated by any new ASDM through business growth for the period up to 2020 will be passported back to the authority by way of a reduction in the value of the core commission.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: It is considered that an equality analysis is required as this efficiency will be achieved through the creation of a new delivery model for HR&OD services focussing on savings from changes to staffing arrangements and conditions. The equality analysis will be carried out at an appropriate time when options for future terms and conditions can be considered alongside the make up of the workforce that would be TUPE transferring (N.B. any revised terms and conditions will only affect new starters).	

1.8 Review of Corporate Affairs and Communication arrangements (Saving - £0.836m in 2016/17 and £0.038m in 2017/18)

By 2020 the council will need a different sort of Corporate Affairs and Communications service to reflect its smaller size and its changed role of being more of a facilitating and enabling commissioner of services. In order to ensure the Council continues to have an effective media relations, corporate communications and reputation and influencing corporate affairs resource, going forward, the team will be re-organised with responsibilities being realigned. We will also start to devolve the People, Place and Economy marketing communications to the service areas in readiness for moving to alternative delivery models. In addition to the restructure a proportionate reduction in non-staff spend reflecting changing priorities / size and shape of the future council will be managed out.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project.	

1.9 Review of Tourism arrangements (Saving - £0.024m in 2016/17)

A proportionate reduction in non-staff spend, i.e. marketing and publicity materials will be implemented in order to contribute to savings targets.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: As the modest saving relates to publicity and marketing materials it is felt that no equality analysis is required.	

1.10 Review of Events Core Programme funding arrangements and income generation (Saving - £0.150m in 2016/17 and £0.100m in 2017/18)

The Sunderland Live Team has been in existence for three years now and it is felt that the organisation is now mature enough that the Council's contribution to the Events Core Programme can be reduced. The reduction in the Council contribution will be matched by external funding arising from greater encouragement of event sponsorship and also increased income opportunities.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment The saving is based upon reducing the funding that the Council contributes towards the Events Core Programme by increasing the level of external funding sourced for events and also maximising income generation opportunities through the events themselves therefore it is felt that no equality analysis is required.	

1.11 Review of Legal Services arrangements and Governance Services (Saving - £0.213m in 2016/17 and £0.037m in 2017/18)

A review of Legal & Democratic Services is under way to ensure the team is organised to support the on-going requirements of the council, through the transformation process and beyond, at the same time ensuring we can ensure compliance with legal requirements and reduce the risk of legal challenge. This review will therefore focus on a structural review of the Legal Services teams and further integration of work.

A review of the Governance Service function has been undertaken and has identified that savings can be generated by reducing the types of meetings that are serviced by the Governance Services Team to only formal Cabinet, Council, Committee, etc. Meetings, combining support to the corporate complaints and information governance functions, and on-going income generation. In addition to this, consideration will be given to how the number of meetings and the decision making and recording process could also be streamlined. These changes will be accommodated in a reconfiguration of Governance Services, Information and Complaints functions.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project.	

1.12 Assurance, Procurement and Projects Review (Saving - £0.329m in 2016/17 and £0.145m in 2017/18)

The service will reduce the level of audit, risk and project support available for transformational change and service delivery. Alongside the reduction in audit and risk support, managers across the Council will have access to further guidance so that they are able to self-serve for those areas that have not been prioritised. In addition to resource reductions, the service area will seek to further increase income generated for liability claims handling for external organisations.

In order to generate savings, the procurement service will look to greater use of national and regional framework procurement contracts which will reduce the resource required on developing and managing Council procurement exercises. The level of procurement support offered to commissioners \ managers will also be reviewed whilst at the same time additional focussed support on contract management will be provided. All central support and oversights for procurements up to £10,000 will be removed and managers across the Council will be expected to self-serve in line with corporate guidelines. Increased income will be generated from procurement rebates received from NEPO contracts.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project. There is an element of income generation covered within the proposal but this has no impact on front line services therefore it is considered that equality analysis is not required. Equality is already written into the procurement process and managers will be expected to continue to follow this process	

1.13 Review of Financial Resources arrangements, including transactional services (Saving - £0.328m in 2016/17 and £0.502m in 2017/18)

Financial Resources will reconfigure the service to reflect the reducing customer base (e.g. leisure JV and other potential ASDMs), and the increased focus on commissioning services. A core team will be developed in Financial Resources which ensures that the Council benefits from any savings prior to the likely creation of ASDMs. This approach will also ensure that a sustainable, quality, flexible and efficient resource is in place whilst ensuring financial stability and minimising the risk to the Council in the future.

The Council has been extremely successful in applying for external funding streams from both the Government and the European Union. It is envisaged that the success that the Council has enjoyed will continue and as a consequence management fee income for the External Funding Unit are expected to increase.

A review of Transactional Services will lead to a restructured service based upon the following key areas:

- Reviewing and improving processes around the whole procure to pay cycle including the use of technology to automate activity and maximise efficiency.
- Considering level of support that the reduced Council will require.
- Increasing officer self-service relating to the ordering function.
- Reviewing and improving processes around the whole sales to cash cycle including the use of technology to automate activity and maximise efficiency.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project. One saving relates entirely to increased management fees arising from successful grant applications therefore it is considered that no equality assessment is required.	

1.14 General Review of Management Arrangements (Saving - £0.650m 2016/17)

Review of structures to ensure meets needs going forward.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: A significant element of the above savings relates to staffing changes which will be considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project.	

2. Contingencies and Central Resources (£11.135m 2016/17 and £1.100m 2017/18)

2.1 Review of Corporate Allocations - Debt Charges Provision (£6.619m in 2016/17)

A review of debt charge provision based on existing capital programme, and reflecting the on-going work to accelerate capital receipts realisation to support the capital programme which also facilitate private sector residential and commercial development in the city.

In addition, consistent with many other Local Authorities, a new approach to the annual repayment of borrowing - the minimum revenue provision - is being considered. The proposed approach would change the repayment to an annuity basis, from the current practice of Equal Instalment of Principal repayments. Not only is this change deemed more prudent, it also generates savings in the early years of the switch.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This reduction has no service provision or internal workforce impact and as such no equality analysis is deemed necessary	

2.2 Business Rates Growth (£0.700m 2016/17 and £0.500m 2017/18)

The anticipated increase in Business Rates growth over and above normal inflationary increases, taking into account planned developments in the city, RPI adjustments and Section 31 grant income provided as a consequence of various government reliefs introduced. The exact amount of growth will be confirmed upon completion of the NNDR1 form for 2016/17.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This reduction has no service provision or internal workforce impact and as such no equality analysis is deemed necessary	

2.3 Council Tax Growth and New Homes Bonus (£2.178m 2016/17 and £0.600m 2017/18)

Increase in Council tax Base and New Homes Bonus), reflecting known and planned increases to residential property in the city.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This reduction has no service provision or internal workforce impact and as such no equality analysis is deemed necessary	

2.4 NECA – ITA Transport Levy (£0.569m in 2016/17)

This saving will arise through the proposed reduction to the Tyne and Wear Transport Levy for Sunderland in 2016/2017.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This reduction has no service provision or internal workforce impact and as such no equality analysis is deemed necessary	

2.5 Review of Corporate Allocations - Contingencies (£1.069m in 2016/17)

A review of contingencies has freed up savings, particularly in relation to utilities and fuel. The current low oil and gas prices, couple with extensive property rationalisation and energy efficiency work, has allowed for the release of contingencies earmarked for utility and fuel inflation. In addition, further in depth review of contingencies, has freed up further resource no longer required.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This reduction has no service provision or internal workforce impact and as such no equality analysis is deemed necessary	

3. Place and Economy (Saving - £6.323m 2016/17 and £4.726 2017/18)
3.1 Full Year Impact of previous year's decisions (Saving - £1.207m 2016/17)

Proposals Agreed as part of last year's budget setting, in relation to:

Street Scene Citywide - £0.842m

Continuation and introduction of a range of measures to maximise income from waste collection, including through reviewing existing charges and introducing new charging, specifically in relation to garden waste.

Reducing demand to enable the reduction of staff through natural turnover and workforce planning.

Increased income from Bereavement Service to be realised by increasing charges by 5%, which, analysis of neighbouring authorities charges, highlights will still be comparable.

Street Scene Highways, Transportation and Network Management - £0.005m

Increased fee income associated with skip permits and Traffic Regulation Orders.

Street Scene Responsive - £0.350m

Continued savings following the service re-design undertaken during 2015/2016 that reduces the cost of operational supervision with staff released through workforce planning with fixed term staff and apprentices integrated into core to facilitate continuity of service.

Continual reduction and transfer of responsibility to the community / community organisations focussed on horticultural activity.

Design Services – review of operational costs / income - £0.010m

The maximisation of income earning opportunities will be delivered, with the emphasis on project management and building management, to a range of clients including through increased charges to the capital programme and schools.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓ (3)
No Equality Analysis Required	✓ (1,2,4)
<p>Additional Comment:</p> <p>These savings represent the full year effect of savings commenced part of the way through a year. Equality Analysis was undertaken as part of the 2015/16 budget setting process regarding these proposals the most notable of which revealed the following:</p> <p>1 Waste Collection income - The Council collects garden waste from approximately 80,000 residential households on a fortnightly basis. It is proposed that residents will have the option to pay an annual fee to continue with the service or they can opt out of the service but will be able to use either alternative free recycling services (self-serve delivery) or use their green residual waste bin which will continue to be collected free of charge. Assisted collections for aged and infirm residents in relation to garden waste will continue and refuse collection frequencies will not change.</p> <p>2 Other Waste Collection initiatives— A number of initiatives do not require Equality Analysis as they are either back office functions, changes to existing work practices to extract more value across the board price increase for existing trade waste customers, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased recycling by improved investment in waste communications • More in house waste skip reductions <p>3 Review of RLS operations - A significant element of this saving relates to staffing changes which were considered as part of the Workforce Planning Project.</p> <p>4 A review of income earning potential has been undertaken in Design Services which has revealed that income can be increased through a greater emphasis on project management and building management, to a range of clients including through increased charges to the capital programme and schools. This element of proposal does not affect any front line service users therefore no Equality Analysis is required.</p>	

3.2 Place Management - Cost Reductions through ASDM (Saving - £1.025m in 2016/17, £1.075m in 2017/18)

It is proposed that Place Management related services will transfer initially into a LATC which will allow it to trade in the private sector and beyond Sunderland's boundaries. In addition to increasing income, the creation of the LATC will assist in reducing future costs in these broad areas:

- Improved productivity – An element of employee ownership or interest is proven to lead to improved productivity growth and efficiency resulting in a smaller overall workforce and reduction in non-staff related costs. These savings typically range from between 1% to 5% of expenditure.
- Rationalised management and supervisory arrangements – The amalgamation of a broad range services from different parts of the current organisation into a single coherent Place Management service along with the contraction in scale of the services provided

will promote a rationalisation of management and supervisory structures.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: It is considered that an equality analysis is required as this efficiency will be achieved through the creation of a new delivery model for place based services focussing on savings from improved productivity and staffing arrangements. The equality analysis will be carried out in the later half of 2016 when options for the composition of the LATC are clearer and can be considered alongside the make up of the workforce that would be TUPE transferring.	

3.3 Place Management - Business growth through ASDM (Saving - £0.097m in 2016/17, £0.350m in 2017/18)

By definition, ASDMs will be more commercially minded and will be focussed on growing the business beyond the core commission. Recognising that the Council transfer of assets such as staff and operational depots will be critical in actually forming the business, it is assumed in return that increased income generated by any new ASDM through business growth for the period up to 2020 will be passported back to the authority by way of a reduction in the value of the core commission.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This efficiency is based upon increased income generation by delivering services to a wider range of customers therefore it is considered that no equality analysis is required.	

3.4 Responsive Local Services (Saving - £2.350m in 2016/17)

Place Boards and Area Committees will be involved in defining the specification for Responsive Local Services, but with a much reduced level of resource. The 2020 budget setting process determines the budget reduction (£2.35m) and the available budget for 2016/17 onwards (£4.065m).

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The impact on groups with protected characteristics will be identified when the detail of the revised patterns of service delivery is established.	

3.5 Parking Services (Saving - £0.080m in 2016/17, £0.350m in 2017/18)

Efficiencies will be delivered through the expansion of measures in the Parking Strategy. These measures can be summarised as follows:

- Annual increases in parking tariffs of 10p per hour.
- Charging for a number of car parks situated near or adjacent to retail/business areas which are currently free
- Increasing the number of on-street parking bays
- Increasing the cost of staff parking permits
- Increasing the charge for parking waivers

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
<p>Additional Comment:</p> <p>The Parking Strategy 2014 to 2020 identifies the approach that the Council will take to parking provision and management during the course of the next 4 years. It identifies guiding principles and policies that inform the approach to parking management arising from the changing need brought about by the City's economic development and regeneration plans. An Equality Analysis which evaluates the Parking Strategy as regards its potential impact on future parking provision and management in the City has been undertaken and has identified the following positive impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All age groups will benefit from delivery of priorities that support improvements in road safety and accessibility arising from effective parking management and enforcement activity. • Disabled persons, pregnant people and parents using pushchairs are likely to benefit from effective enforcement that reduces obstructions caused by parked vehicles to pavements. <p>Further more specific Equality Analysis will be undertaken where necessary as options for implementation continue to be firmed up.</p>	

3.6 Highways Maintenance (Saving - £0.150m in 2016/17 and £0.150m in 2017/18)

The revenue element of the highways budget funds day to day maintenance of the asset and reactive repairs. As a consequence of previous budget reductions only urgent reactive work is currently undertaken. It is proposed to reduce reactive activity further which will impact on: road and footway maintenance, highway drainage, guardrail and safety fence maintenance, road marking and emergency repair standards.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The proposal is based predominantly upon reducing the revenue funding for highways maintenance and mitigating the impact of this by taking a more focussed approach to the prioritisation of work in order to maintain service levels as much as possible within the constraints of the funding. Equality Analysis has identified that whilst all road and footpath users will be affected, there may be an increased likelihood of a negative impact on the elderly, very young, disabled, pregnant people and parents with pushchairs as the volume of maintenance and repairs decreases. The Impact of this however will be offset to a certain extent by maximising benefits derived from capital investment and schemes.	

3.7 Bereavement (Saving - £0.040m in 2016/17 and £0.150m in 2017/18)

The Bereavement Service will continue to contribute to council efficiencies through modest annual increases in the fees for burial and cremation and developing an improved range of options for memorialisation services available to residents to purchase. The future focus of the bereavement service will be around improving operational efficiency, income, and service to users.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
<p>Additional Comment:</p> <p>Bereavement and Registration Fees have been Equality Analysed and although any cost increases will impact on everyone who uses the service, it has been deemed that there is a neutral impact as it does not have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected characteristic groups.</p> <p>Bereavement Services will continue to provide for Contract Funerals, with dedicated times established daily in the cremation and burial diaries to accommodate such requests. In order to alleviate the financial pressures of funerals, the Dignity group currently hold the Contract Funeral contract, and DWP will continue to make provision in the form of a bereavement payment to families who are deemed to be in hardship and qualify for the allowance.</p>	

3.8 Security Services (Saving - £0.078m in 2016/17 and £0.094m in 2017/18)

It is proposed that a range of security service commissioned activity will be stopped as follows:

Stop the park and cemetery gates opening and closing service - This would create an open park policy 24/7 and remove the park wardens at Barnes Park, Mowbray Park and the mobile service, whilst security requirements for events will be paid for by the organisers. Communities in the vicinity of parks will be given the option to open and close park gates if they consider it a priority.

Remove the subsidy of the Taxi Marshalling Service - This service was originally provided by Northumbria Police and was joint-funded with a contribution from the council. The Police have since withdrawn funding. The service currently operates Friday, Saturday & Monday nights between the hours of 23.00 - 05.00. The removal of Council subsidy would result in either the service stopping, or preferably, the required funding being made up by partners benefiting from it including taxi firms and licensed premises operators. The current contract has two years still to run, therefore, this would come into effect in mid-2017/18.

Rationalise CCTV and alarms panel monitoring - The City Alarm & Emergency Centre has increasingly supported a range of partner organisations as their funding has diminished. It is proposed to rationalise the number of CCTV cameras being monitored through dialogue with partners or transferring responsibility or costs back to them. The reduction would include Northumbria Police City Centre system, street cameras and would enable a reduction in staffing levels and / or removing certain shifts.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Stopping the park gates opening and closing service and removing the park warden patrols will have a universal impact on all people who visit or pass through the Council's Parks. Consideration will be given to implementing a communication campaign on safety awareness, tailored to the needs of all visitors, whilst using the parks.	

All those who use taxi rank facilities in the City Centre will be equally affected by the withdrawal of the taxi marshal funding; therefore there is no disproportionate impact on any of the protected characteristic groups.

Prior to the removal of any cameras, a risk assessment will be undertaken which will take into account not only the number of incidents but also the demographics of the area.

3.9 Pest Control and Dog Warden Service (Saving - £0.060m in 2016/17)

Charges were introduced for pests other than rats in 2014/15. It is proposed that either charges will be applied for rats in 2016/17 to fully recover the cost of the service or the service will be stopped and residents would then be signposted to private providers.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The introduction of charges will have the same impact on all people who would use the service as it will be universally applied, therefore there is no disproportionate impact on any of the protected characteristic groups.	

3.10 Place Shaping - Cost Reduction through ASDM (No Saving in 2016/17 and £0.790m in 2017/18)

It is proposed that Place Shaping related services will transfer into an ASDM(s) which will allow it to trade in the private sector and beyond Sunderland's boundaries. In addition to increasing income, the creation of the ASDM(s) will assist in reducing future costs in these broad areas:

- Improved productivity – An element of employee ownership or interest is proven to lead to improved productivity, again resulting in a smaller overall workforce and reduction in non-staff related costs. These savings typically range between 1% to 5% of expenditure.
- Rationalised management and supervisory arrangements – The amalgamation of a broad range services from different parts of the current organisation into a single coherent Place Shaping service along with the contraction in scale of the services provided will promote a rationalisation of management and supervisory structures.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment It is considered that an equality analysis is required as this efficiency will be achieved through the creation of a new delivery model for place shaping based services focussing on savings from improved productivity and staffing arrangements. The equality analysis will be carried out in late 2016 early 2017 when options for the composition of the ASDM(s) are clearer and can be considered alongside the make up of the workforce that would be TUPE transferring	

3.11 Place Shaping - Business growth through ASDM (Saving - £0.100m in 2016/17 and £0.100m in 2017/18)

By definition, ASDMs will be more commercially minded and will be focussed on growing the business beyond the core commission. Recognising that the Council transfer of assets such as staff and operational depots will be critical in actually forming the business, it is assumed in return that increased income generated by any new ASDM through business growth for the period up to 2020 will be passported back to the authority by way of a reduction in the value of the core commission.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This efficiency is based upon increased income generation by delivering services to a wider range of customers therefore it is considered that no equality analysis is required.	

3.12 Highways, Transportation and Network Management (Saving - £0.150m in 2016/17 and £0.240m in 2017/18)

The focus is on maximising fee-earning whilst evaluating the impact and contribution of non-statutory and non-fee earning activity, principally in respect of road safety, and minimising the cost of this as far as possible. Although some road safety activity such as cycle / pedestrian training is part-funded by fees, not all costs are covered and these activities will be stopped.

Increased fee earning opportunities - Additional income will be generated through a more proactive approach to working with developers to support the design and delivery of highways improvements required by new planning permissions. The cost of statutory advertisements will be reduced and charges for permits will be increased.

Rationalise the School Crossing Patrol service - It is proposed to carry out a risk assessment on all crossing patrol sites to identify sites where existing traffic controls, e.g. pedestrian crossings, are sufficient to allow safe movement, or where the installation of such measures could reduce the need for school crossing patrols. Schools will be involved in the process.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Prior to any service reduction being implemented on a school crossing patrol, a risk assessment will be undertaken taking into account all relevant intelligence related to accidents involving children.	

3.13 Building Control (Saving - £0.100m in 2016/17 and £0.100m in 2017/18)

Income will be increased through a more proactive approach to engaging developers at the pre-application stage in planning and expanding the geographical coverage of building control through partnership arrangements.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This efficiency is based upon increased income generation by delivering services to a wider range of customers therefore it is considered that no equality analysis is required.	

3.14 Development Control (Saving - £0.100m in 2016/17 and £0.100m in 2017/18)

It is proposed to create a Major Development team (from existing staff) which will focus on attracting business via the pre-application process so that strategic and major developments within the City can be effectively project managed through the use of Planning Performance Agreements.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This efficiency is based upon amalgamating various planning related functions together which will allow for efficiencies to be realised through workforce planning arrangements as well as increased income generation by delivering services to a wider range of customers therefore it is considered that no equality analysis is required.	

3.15 Public Protection and Regulatory Services (Saving - £0.105m in 2016/17 and £0.090m in 2017/18)

Savings will be made through integrating the statutory housing environmental health and licensing functions into the broader public protection structure and embedding the housing renewal function into the new Planning and Regeneration service with a renewed focus on developing and delivering the broader housing strategy.

The service will focus on high risk \ priority work with lower risk \ priority work being undertaken on a reduced reactive basis. In general terms, the service will need to further concentrate on matters affecting broad sectors of the populace.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
<p>Additional Comment:</p> <p>The saving arises from integrating the statutory housing environmental health and licensing functions into the broader public protection structure and embedding the housing renewal function into the new Planning and Regeneration service which will allow for a reduction in staff numbers. The reduction in staffing numbers will reduce the number of interventions, however this will be mitigated through the targeting of interventions on those areas of highest risk. The integration will however, increase the pool of people from a similar specialism which should assist in improving overall resilience of the service.</p> <p>The focus on a risk based approach will impact on all service users equally; therefore a neutral impact is envisaged.</p>	

3.16 Asset Management (Saving - £0.050m in 2016/17 and £0.050m in 2017/18)

Savings will be realised via a review of the Council's statutory responsibility for asbestos management, electricity at work, water hygiene etc. as well as the Estates Surveying function which would be retained as part of potential overall package of services likely to benefit from commercial opportunities.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This efficiency is based upon amalgamating various statutory and estates related functions together which will allow for increased income generation by delivering services to a wider range of customers therefore it is considered that no equality analysis is required.	

3.17 Miscellaneous Land and Property and Industrial Units Review Saving - £0.050m in 2016/17 and £0.050m in 2017/18)

A review of miscellaneous land and property and industrial units holdings, rents and leases will be undertaken to identify increased income opportunities and options for disposing of property that does not meet corporate priorities or provide an acceptable return.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: A review of holdings is currently being undertaken by CIPFA which will highlight where income opportunities exist in relation to miscellaneous land and property and industrial units. The saving will have no impact on protected characteristics therefore an equality analysis is not required.	

3.18 Waste Disposal (Saving - £0.085m in 2016/17 and £0.311m in 2017/18)

The cost of waste disposal will be reduced by encouraging the public to cut the amount of waste they produce and divert as much as possible into the blue recycling bin. This approach will use secured external funding to deliver a planned programme of targeted incentives and marketing. Recycling will be included in the trade waste offer.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: This saving relates to an on-going campaign in which the public are encouraged to separate out more of their waste for recycling than they have been doing previously therefore no equality analysis is required.	

3.19 Registrars (Saving - £0.050m in 2016/17 and £0.050m in 2017/18)

Fees will be reviewed and increased in line with regional trends projected to be around 5% per annum.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
<p>Additional Comment: Registration Fees have been Equality Analysed and although any cost increases will impact on everyone who uses the service, it has been deemed that there is a neutral impact as it does not have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected characteristic groups.</p> <p>Many of the fees and charges levied by the Registration Service are statutory fees determined by central government legislation. Fees for birth, death, marriage and civil partnership certified copy certificates are set by statute. Other statutory fees include the notice of marriage / civil partnership fee and the statutory marriage / civil partnership fee for Register Office ceremonies. Many customers who use the Registration Service require a statutory service, and are therefore charged accordingly. The proposed increases are on fees that are optional to customers, i.e. non statutory for which the customer can chose not to take up the offer.</p>	

3.20 The Port (Saving - £0.100m in 2016/17 and £0.100m in 2017/18)

The Port of Sunderland will improve its trading position through a combination of reduced operating costs and increases in income primed by investments made in port infrastructure and preparing sites within the estate for development.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: The saving will be realised through improved trading at the Port therefore it is considered that no Equality Analysis is required as no protected characteristic groups will be affected.	

3.21 Street Lighting (No Saving in 2016/17 and £0.150m in 2017/18)

A programme of changing conventional lighting to LEDs in residential areas to reduce energy costs is programmed to start in 2015/16 and resulting savings are already accounted for. It is proposed to expand this approach to highways lighting in 2017/18, by which time it is judged that the cost of the technology for these large lamps will fall within the scope of capital invest to save.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The proposal is to replace approximately 48,000 lighting columns on highways with energy efficient LED lighting (22,000 for implementation on 2017/18) which will result in lower energy costs and lower carbon emissions. Residents and visitors to areas where the new lighting installed should be impacted upon positively as the new LED lighting actually provides a white light source with better night-time colour recognition and concentrates the light onto the road and footway where it is needed, with less light pollution into homes and gardens.	

3.22 Business Investment, including International Development (Saving - £0.196m in 2016/17 and £0.176m in 2017/18)

It is proposed that the revenue grants provided to SMEs be reduced on the following phased basis: 25% in 2016/17, 25% in 2017/18 and 50% in 2018/19 in order to remove the £0.238m budget allocation by April 2019. The proposal excludes any changes to the revenue software grants budget which is needed as match-funding to support an ERDF application to fund Sunderland Software City.

The phasing should allow most existing commitments to be maintained and implementation of the reductions will be managed carefully to minimise impact on the businesses community. Wherever possible, an attempt is made to support companies to access other sources of funding including national and European funding sources.

The proposed savings also take account of continuing the excellent performance of the Evolve Business Centre, and further development of occupancy rates at Software Centre, with assumed occupancy of 55% through 2016/17, 70% through 2017/18, 80% through 2018/19 and 90% through 2019/20.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	✓
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The proposal relates to a reduction in the financial incentives scheme budget and the introduction of income targets at Evolve and the Software Centre. Equality Analysis has been undertaken in relation to the proposal and it is felt that there will be a neutral impact. We will continue to develop a more focused financial incentives offer, directed at stimulating growth and job creation in agreed priority sectors, including strengthening links to support city businesses in accessing other funding opportunities. We will also look at opportunities to identify appropriate external funding which can assist the Council in providing financial support to businesses. We will strengthen relationships with colleagues internally and externally to maximise the potential for all Sunderland residents to be able to take up job opportunities that are created.	

3.23 Fleet (Saving - £0.150m in 2016/17 and £0.250m in 2017/18)

The Fleet and Transport review will continue to capture further efficiencies as the council reduces in size over the next 5 years. Fleet will work with other areas to maximise vehicle reductions as part of planned service reconfigurations.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: The Transport and Fleet Review proposes a continuation of the rationalisation of the number of vehicles the Council operates, by ensuring that excess vehicle capacity is eradicated. Fleet is a support service and any reduction in vehicles is generated by changes in service areas across the Council and it is at these points that service areas would consider the equality impacts of their proposals. Where directorates come up with specific proposals which could impact on service users or staff, these will be subject to a further Equality Analysis at the appropriate time.	

4. Peoples (Adults) (Saving £7.418m 2016/17 and £10.345m 2017/18)

4.1 Full Year Impact of previous year's decisions (Saving - £0.553m 2016/17)

As part of the 2015/16 budget proposals a number of proposals were agreed that delivered efficiencies over a longer period. These included the implementation of the LATC 2 Business Plan through service review.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: Equality analysis has previously been undertaken	

4.2 Adults Social Care – Older Persons (Cost £0.336m 2016/17 and Saving £0.289m 2017/18)

Support for Older People – An annual reduction of 4% in the use of residential care to reflect more appropriate accommodation and support independence and choice. This will be supported by extra investment and better targeting of accommodation in Extra Care as an alternative. In total a net saving of £1.464m by 2020 will be achieved.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: The reduction in the use of residential will occur naturally as more service users are better supported within Extra Care. No existing residents of residential care homes will be required to move out of residential care as a result of this initiative and new customers will continue to be able to access residential care if this is agreed as being the best way to support their assessed care needs.	

4.3 Support for Vulnerable Clients – Home Care (£0.447m saving 2016/17 and £0.424m saving 2017/18)

5% reduction in each of the next 2 years by working more flexibly with providers to commission support focused on outcomes as opposed to tasks.

Plans are in place to support them to work more flexibly in meeting client outcomes within a locality. This will include more discussion with clients as to how they would wish support to be delivered in meeting outcomes and needs and will allow providers to plan their support more effectively, thereby delivering savings on block contracts.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Plan is to re-model service offer but to still meet needs of eligible clients in line with the requirements of the Care Act.	

4.4 Reablement at Home (£0.200 saving 2016/17)

Review and reduction of hourly rate paid to Sunderland Care and Support for delivery of this service.

There will be a review of how the current service is delivered including consideration of the outcomes achieved. The current cost of this service is higher than benchmark comparisons and higher than the cost for other services delivered by SCAS and this will be addressed.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
Additional Comment: Unit cost issue with contracted provider. No impact on service users	

4.5 Community Equipment Service (Saving - £0.200m in 2016/17 and £0.200m in 2017/18)

A full review of the Equipment Service will be undertaken with the intention of providing a more effective and efficient service, particularly for smaller equipment. This will involve better signposting and opportunities to purchase equipment directly thereby removing delay caused by the need for an eligibility assessment.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: RPIW event planned for January to look at model of service. This may result in restrictions to certain items of equipment and moving to a retail model.	

4.6 Adults with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities – Support for those living in Residential Care and those receiving short breaks (Saving - £0.451m in 2016/17 and £0.292m in 2017/18)

Residential Provision currently registered as care homes will be de-registered. This will support the independence of residents and allow them to claim housing benefit to contribute to the rent costs of their accommodation.

Support for those receiving full-time residential care will be reviewed to ensure there is no duplication of provision.

Opportunities to reduce the average number of short break nights individuals living in the community receive will be considered as appropriate

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
<p>Additional Comment:</p> <p>The changes relate mainly to services provided to people with learning disabilities.</p> <p>The deregistrations programme is already underway and impact is positive.</p> <p>Support will meet the equality requirements of the Care Act however it is recognised that there may be a negative impact on some individuals currently receiving services.</p>	

4.7 Adults with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities - Review of Day Care opportunities (Saving - £1.500m in 2016/17 and £1.041m in 2017/18)

An increasing number of clients are seeking alternatives to building based day care and opportunities to increase the availability of such provision will be pursued. This will lead to a reduction in existing building based provision.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The changes relate mainly to services provided to people with learning disabilities. Support will meet the equality requirements of the Care Act however it is recognised that there may be a negative impact on some individuals currently receiving services.	

4.8 Adults with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities – Sunderland Care and Support (Saving - £1.000m in 2016/17)

The unit costs of delivery for this client group are higher than for other client groups and those paid to some other providers locally and regionally. Opportunities to reduce the cost of this provision will be implemented.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Currently looking at staffing structures and unit costs to meet reduction targets within SCSL. Figures and plans will be updated following outcome of workforce transformation project.	

4.9 Review of Staff Requirement in Adult Social Care – (No Saving 2016/17 and £0.250m in 2017/18)

Review of staffing structures and requirements in the light of reductions undertaken.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment:	

4.10 Review of Grant Funding to VCS – (Saving - £0.200m in 2016/17)

All grant funding will be reviewed to ensure that those organisations receiving support are delivering a service which supports the achievement of agreed outcomes.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment:	
Scoping of review to start in January 2016.	

4.11 All client groups - Demand Pressure to be contained within base budget (Saving - £1.991m in 2016/17 and £2.507m in 2017/18)

Financial planning takes account of demand pressures in Adult Social Care. This is estimated to require a budget increase of up to an additional £3m per annum. By implementing the proposed reductions, an element of this financial pressure will be absorbed.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	✓
<p>Additional Comment:</p> <p>Demand pressures will be managed through greater use of universal community support, provision of reablement support to maximise peoples independence, support to carers and ensuring appropriate levels of support for any on-going care needs.</p> <p>National equality analysis has been completed for the Care Act. Where local equality analysis is required, this will be undertaken as services are redesigned. All individuals with needs meeting the new Care Act eligibility criteria will continue to receive appropriate support.</p>	

4.12 Culture and Activity – Development of a Cultural Offer for the City (Saving - £0.987m in 2016/17 and £2.598m in 2017/18)

The cultural offer which includes museums, arts, heritage and libraries as well as other activities will be combined to deliver efficiencies but retain the most appropriate offer for the City which can be offered in partnership with other organisations.

Currently the Council provides financial support to a range of organisations and the basis for and value received from, these arrangements varies and needs review. The review will seek to minimise any future contribution and maximise value from the arrangements, whilst recognising any legal and contractual arrangements.

The Active Sunderland Strategy is in place, and will link to the Leisure JV arrangements and opportunities to build on this approach. The role within the LA will consist of an “intelligent commissioner” with a limited increase in commissioning and contract management arrangements in order to deliver this reduction. External Funding will be sought to ensure continuation of certain activities.

With regard to Sunderland Museums pending consideration of future service delivery options, it is proposed that additional activity to reduce costs is implemented, including a review of opening times and charging for more exhibitions. Any change to delivery model including partnership working will be brought forward as appropriate.

Review of the Library service to reflect actual costs incurred pending further future efficiencies as part of the cultural offer.

The Empire Theatre receives a financial contribution from the Council with the current agreement until 2029 and discussions are progressing with ATG to remove the subsidy and deliver additional benefits.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	✓1
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment	
1 – some of the savings will come from staffing changes	

4.13 Housing Related Support Review — (No Saving in 2016/17 and £2.539m in 2017/18)

A review will commence in 2016/17 with the intention to cease contracts from July 2017 recognising that a change in emphasis onto prevention as well as improving integrated approaches to working with vulnerable service users will need to continue.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment	

4.14 Review of Specialist Advice Function — (Saving £0.225m in 2016/17 and £0.205m in 2017/18)

The review will include a reduction in first tier provision by increased self-serve and supported self-serve, a review of management and staffing across the service and move to an alternative delivery model.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment	
Review has now been scoped. EIA planned for January 2016	

5 People (Children's) Proposals for Reductions (Saving £2.703m 2016/17 and £3.180m 2017/18)

5.1 Children Remaining with Families (Saving - £1.000m in 2016/17 and £0.317m in 2017/18)

As part of the 2015/16 budget proposals a number of proposals were agreed that delivered efficiencies over a longer period. These include the move to more integrated delivery of support from Early Help to statutory intervention services continue to be progressed where appropriate, although the timescale has been delayed to allow a focus on improving child protection services.

Delivery will be linked to the Early Help Strategy that describes a tiered response to meeting need and sets out guidance on thresholds for access to the tiers of support. The proposal will take advantage of opportunities linked to commissioning of health visitor services. The new offer will commence from September 2017 at the latest. One-off funding of £1m from Troubled Families Grant is to be used in 2016/17.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: A new model will mean a more streamlined delivery with continuous and seamless transfer between services which will have a positive impact on service users. The service will retain a range of support from universal delivery through to specialist support and will therefore be equally accessible to all for universal provision however some existing and future service users could be affected if, as expected, the service becomes more targeted to those with identified need.	

5.2 Looked After Strategy – Review and reduce the number of children in the care of the Local Authority (Saving - £1.427m in 2016/17 and £2.003m in 2017/18)

Plans are in place to review, develop and implement a more localised offer to respond to both the increases in older children and the number of external placements. A root and branch review will be carried out of our needs, the existing options that exist with an emphasis on developing a more local offer that meets the diverse needs that are presented. The review will involve engaging with staff and children and also looking at best practice elsewhere.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: The review will develop and implement a more localised offer to respond to both the increases in older children and the number of external placements.	

5.3 Services for Disabled children – Review of delivery and staffing (Saving - £0.150m in 2016/17 and £0.300m in 2017/18)

Review short break support including transferring Sea View Road to the management of SCAS and explore the benefits of collaboration with key partners. Redesign current service offer and explore alternative delivery model alongside possible options for the wider children's services social care.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment:	

5.4 Youth Provision – Review of provision and commissioned contracts (No Saving in 2016/17, £0.560m in 2017/18)

A full review of the Youth Offer commenced in 2015/16 seeking to take advantage of partnership opportunities and delivery by VCS and other organisations.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Whilst the review will consider the fundamental questions of what outcomes we are seeking to achieve from youth delivery and determine the most appropriate way to achieve the outcomes, this particular efficiency impacts on existing delivery pending the review with reduced funding and required outcomes from current contracted delivery. There may be a risk to continued delivery by some organisations.	

5.5 Review of School Improvement Service – (Saving - £0.100m in 2016/17)

Review the service in light of the greater autonomy of schools and to broker effective partnerships between schools to effect school improvement. Income will be maximised through provision of training courses provided to schools and academies.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	✓
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment:	

5.6 Derwent Hill – Deliver Break-Even (Saving - £0.026m in 2016/17)

Review of delivery model, costs and maximisation of income opportunities to deliver at least a break-even position.

Equality Analysis

Equality Statement	Status
Equality analysis is complete and a positive impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a positive impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and neutral impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a neutral impact is anticipated	✓
Equality analysis is complete and a negative impact has been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and a negative impact is anticipated	
Equality analysis is complete and both positive and negative impacts have been identified	
Equality analysis is planned and both positive and negative impacts are anticipated	
The saving is from staffing changes and therefore equality implications will be considered as part of Workforce Planning arrangements	
No Equality Analysis Required	
Additional Comment: Achieving a break even position through maximising income will not impact upon the accessibility of the service for children and young people	

EQUALITY AND THE BUDGET PROPOSALS

1 Equality in Decision Making

The Equality Act 2010 places a specific duty on Local Authorities through the Public Sector Equality Duty. The three aims of the equality duty are to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Public authorities are required to give 'due regard' to the three aims of the duty when making decisions. Understanding the effect of decisions on people with different protected characteristics is an important part of complying with the general equality duty. Due regard means:

- consider the need to remove or minimise disadvantage or to meet particular needs
- think about how to encourage participation in public life
- tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

2 How equality analysis has fed into the budget-setting process

- 2.1 Each Directorate has considered the equality impact of their proposals. Where it is timely and appropriate an Equality Analysis has been completed (the Council adopted approach to analyse and record equality impacts). The detail of the analysis is dependent on the nature of the proposal and its stage of development. For those proposals which are not sufficiently detailed to undertake a full Equality Analysis at the present time, an initial consideration of the impacts has been undertaken. In these cases further analysis will be carried out, when the proposals are further developed.

3 Consultation

- 3.1 Consultation has included an online survey as well as a targeted event to which Community Spirit (the Residents' Panel), representatives of the Area Voluntary and Community Sector Networks, and city-wide Equality Forums were invited. The Equality Forums cover a range of protected characteristics including disability, sexuality, faith and belief, race and age.

4 Key Messages

- 4.1 Individual proposals for additional savings are currently at different stages of equality analysis depending on the stage of the development of the proposal. The equality considerations can be summarised as follows:

- Equality Analysis, whether complete or at initial consideration, has identified or anticipated positive impacts.
- Equality Analysis, whether complete or at initial consideration, has identified or anticipated negative impacts. Where negative impacts are identified, it is the responsibility of the services to minimise these as far as possible. Some proposals have already identified possible ways to mitigate against potential impacts.
- No impacts have been identified or are anticipated.
- The proposal has potential employment impacts, or the saving will be partially made from staffing changes. Where there are impacts for the Council as an employer, equality considerations will be made as part of the Workforce Planning Project.
- No equality analysis is needed. This is generally where the proposal will have no impact on service users / employees or where the proposal is focused on income generation.

The summary of impacts as at publication date, by area, is outlined below. A further updated position will be reported to cabinet in February.

	Other Proposals	Central	Place and Economy	People - Adults	People – Children's
Positive impact identified or anticipated	0	0	1	0	1
Negative impact identified or anticipated	0	0	3	0	1
Neutral impact identified or anticipated Note 1	1	0	9	2	1
Both positive and negative impacts identified or anticipated Note 1	1	0	0	6	3
Employee implications	11	0	3	3	0
No Equality Analysis needed	5	5	12	4	0
	18	5	28	15	6

Note 1: Where the current draft of the Equality Analysis does identify potential negative impacts, the services will be considering how these impacts can be mitigated as far as possible during the development of detailed proposals.

Note 2: The number of impacts is greater than the number of proposals due to more than one element within a proposal (e.g. a service review with staffing implications)

4.2 A number of the proposals provide the opportunity for improving equality and diversity of provision, due to services being reviewed in line with demand management and application of the Customer Service and Access principles. These principles encourage greater understanding of customers and communities.

4.3 Where Equality Analysis is finalised, there will be a sampled quality assurance process to ensure the relevant considerations are being made in a thorough manner.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The Council continues to seek to meet its obligations in relation to equality and diversity and has procedures in place at both a general and budget specific level to incorporate equality and diversity issues into decision making processes and the assessment of proposals.
- 5.2 Where analysis does highlight some equality implications, services and directorates will be responsible for assessing how these can be mitigated during the development of the detailed proposals. Where a proposal includes a review of services a full and/or updated version of equality analysis will be undertaken and presented to decision makers as proposals are shaped.

APPENDIX 4

Statement of General Balances

	£m
Balances as at 31st March 2015	7.570
Use / Addition to Balances 2015/2016	0
Use of Balances 2015/2016	
- Contribution to Revenue Budget	(8.812)
Addition to Balances 2015/2016	
- Transfer from Strategic Investment reserve to support the budget over the medium term	3.212
- Reserves Released to Support the Revenue Budget	5.600
Estimated Balances 31st March 2016	7.570
Use of Balances 2016/2017	
- Contribution to Revenue Budget	(8.940)
Addition to Balances 2016/2017	
- Transfer from Strategic Investment reserve to support the budget over the medium term	5.590
- Transfer from Safety Net Reserve to support the budget over the medium term	3.350
Estimated Balances 31st March 2017	7.570

The above position will be reviewed and updated and reported to Cabinet as part of the final budget proposals in February, 2016.

The above shows that balances will remain at £7.570m – One off resources will be used to support the budget over the medium term.

Appendix A

Capital Programme - Third Capital Review 2015/2016, Provisional Resources 2016/2017 And Treasury Management Review 2015/2016

Cabinet meeting 13 January 2016

Extract of Report

2015/2016 Additional Schemes and Variations to Existing Schemes of £250,000 or more - Fully Funded	£000
Leader	
<p>Vaux Phase 1 -. The project is the first phase of development on the Vaux site to provide 5,481m² (c.59,000 sq ft) of lettable business space along with strategic infrastructure including roads, utilities, parking, landscaping, public realm and external works. The total cost of the scheme is estimated at £25.4m.</p> <p>As part of North East Growth Deal announced in January 2015, the Vaux Phase 1 project was granted an indicative Local Growth Fund allocation of £10.8m. In addition a full application has been submitted for ERDF funding of £4m. Formal confirmation in relation to both external funding streams is anticipated by February 2016.</p> <p>The balance not funded externally is to be funded through available council resources. Funding to meet this cost was approved in November 2013 as part of the proposals considered for the establishment of Siglion, and is provided for within the Council's budget planning framework.</p> <p>Siglion will undertake the development of the building, with construction commencing in 2016 and completion by the end of 2017. The estimated spend in 2015/2016 is £1.592m, with £12.916m in 2016/2017 and £10.905m in 2017/2018.</p>	1,592
City Services	
<p>Sunderland City Centre Cycle Permeability Scheme – approved by Cabinet 16th December 2015, The project is to deliver a network of high quality shared surfaced routes into Sunderland's city centre for cyclists and walkers. It will include operational enhancements and safety improvements at all road crossings and junctions.</p> <p>The total project cost of £0.880m is to be funded by £0.800m Local Sustainability Transport Fund grant from the NECA, with a 10% local contribution from the Local Transport Programme grant of £0.080m. This is to be spent by March 2017.</p>	392

CABINET MEETING – 13 JANUARY 2016

LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Cabinet with an update on the consultation results for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme and to recommend that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme set out in paragraph 6 and Appendix B be implemented with effect from 1 April 2016.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

- 2.1 To recommend Council to:-
- (i) consider feedback received during the consultation period from the public;
 - (ii) approve the council's Local Council Tax Support Scheme as set out in paragraph 6 and Appendix B for the financial year 2016/17 which is unchanged from the current scheme; and
 - (iii) authorise the publication of the approved Scheme on the council's website and in any additional manner determined by the Director of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Secretary.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Welfare Reform Act 2012 abolished the Council Tax Benefit system and replaced it under the Local Government Finance Act 2012 with the Local Council Tax Support scheme from 1st April 2013, thereby transferring responsibility from central to local government. The Local Government Finance Act 2012 also legislated that pensioners must receive protection, in that they must receive the same levels of entitlement under the new local Council Tax Support scheme as they had received under the old Council Tax Benefit scheme.
- 3.2 Following the implementation of the scheme in April 2013 and further evaluation of the feedback from consultation some minor amendments were made to the scheme for 2015/2016 and the council adopted an updated scheme which was based upon the government's default scheme and included a small number of modifications effective from 1st April 2015.

4. Current Position

- 4.1 Following approval and implementation of the current scheme, a review has been undertaken which considered the early potential impacts of changes to universal credits and consultation to gauge citizens' views on either leaving the scheme as is, or increasing the minimum amount all working aged claimants should pay. The consultation was undertaken as part of the wider budget consultation carried out by the council, in order to inform whether any changes in the scheme would be proposed.

- 4.2 On 2nd December 2015 DCLG announced that it is to undertake a review of the localisation of council tax support taking into account the impact of the proposed reform of local government finance and consider whether further reforms should be made to include payments within Universal Credit. Under the terms of reference for the review, views are being sought about the effectiveness, efficiency, fairness, and transparency of the change. Evidence is also being sought from a range of stakeholders on the local experience of designing, implementing, or receiving support, and what the main challenges have been. The review is scheduled to conclude in early 2016 with a report to the Secretary of State for Local Government by the end of March 2016. Any outcomes of this will be taken into account when considering changes (if any) to the support scheme for 2017/18 and will be subject to further consultation at that time.

5. Results of Consultation on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme

- 5.1 Consultation was carried out with the public on the content of the scheme from 23rd October to 13th December 2015 via an online questionnaire which was available to all city residents, and distributed in hardcopy format at a number of budget consultation area based workshops
- 5.2 The results of the survey have been analysed. Overall there is support for the council's scheme and the key findings are summarised at Appendix A.

6. Proposed Local Council Tax Support Scheme

- 6.1 Following the successful implementation of the current scheme and evaluation of the feedback from consultation it is proposed that the council continues with the current scheme, the main features of which are set out in Appendix B.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The operation of the proposed scheme is expected to be broadly neutral with the cost of the scheme factored into the council's budget planning.

8. Reasons for the Decision

- 8.1 The council must have its Local Council Tax Support Scheme approved by 31 January 2016.
- 8.2 The proposal to continue with the current scheme as set out in section 6 and at Appendix B reflects the experience of the impact of the scheme to date and the outcome of the consultation undertaken. Impacts of the scheme will continue to be closely monitored following the scheme's introduction in April 2016.

9. Alternative Options

- 9.1 The alternative option is to amend the scheme which would not be consistent with the consultation responses received.

10. Impact Analysis

(a) Equalities –

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken, taking into account analysis of public consultation data and comments.

Work will continue to assess the impact of this scheme alongside the related impacts of any welfare and benefit reforms either already introduced or still being planned by Government.

11. Other Relevant Considerations / Consultations

(i) Legal Implications – The comments of the Head of Law and Governance have been taken into account in preparing this report.

(ii) Other Consultations – The comments of the Executive Director of People Services and the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development have been taken into account in preparing this report.

(iii) The Public – The outcome of the public consultation is set out in the report and at Appendix A.

12. List of Appendices

Appendix A – Public Consultation Results Summary

Appendix B – Local Council Tax Support Scheme Main Features

13. Background Papers

Localised Council Tax Support Scheme Equality Analysis

Public Consultation Results Summary

- 1 Approximately 48.42% (215 respondents) of the 444 respondents are in overall agreement with continuing with Sunderland's Scheme, with some 30.18% (134 respondents) disagreeing and 21.40% (95 respondents) having no views either way / not responding. 61.6% of those respondents making a positive response agreed with continuing with the current scheme with 38.4% disagreeing.
- 2 Respondents were also asked if in the event that they disagreed with the council's current scheme whether the minimum payment should be raised to 10% or 12.5% from the current level of 8.5%. Of the 198 response, 38.19% (76 respondents) indicated that the minimum payment should be raised to 10% and 61.81% (123 respondents) indicated that the minimum payment should be raised to 12.5%.
- 3 General comments were also sought about a preferred council tax support scheme.

Consultation – Description	Respondents agreeing	Respondents not agreeing	Respondents with no views either way	No response
Do you agree that the council should continue with the current Council Tax Support Scheme	48.42%	30.18%	20.05%	1.35%
If you disagree with the council's preferred proposal to continue with the current Council Tax Support scheme, do you:				
Think that the minimum payment should be raised to 10%	38.19%			
Think that the minimum payment should be raised to 12.5%	61.81%			

In relation to general comments, the substantive responses ranged between respondents wanting those in receipt of council tax support to pay more / their fair share / not to receive council tax support and those who recognised the difficulties faced by those in receipt and the need to provide assistance.

Local Council Tax Support Scheme Main Features

1. Council tax support entitlement will be calculated and reduced by 8.5% for all working aged claimants.
2. Second Adult Rebate, which is a reduction of up to 25% of the Council Tax where a customer's income is too high to receive benefit but they have other adults living in the household whose income is low will continue to not apply.
3. The council will continue, within the limits of point 1 above, with applying an increase of £1 per week on non – dependant deductions for those in receipt of partial benefit.
4. Pensioners who are of pension age will be treated under pensioner rules even if they are available for work.
5. Those non-dependants serving in the forces on operations will continue to be disregarded from the calculation.
6. Information held in respect of Housing Benefit or Universal credit can be used to calculate Council Tax support where appropriate.

EQUALITY ANALYSIS

Please refer to Part 2 of the Equality Analysis Guidance

Name of Policy/Decision/Project/Activity:

Localised Council Tax Support Scheme

Equality Analysis completed by:

Name / Job Title
Sharon Holden
Acting Council Tax & Business
Rates Manager

Date: Dec 2015

Responsible Officer:

Name /Job Title:
Paul S Wilson
Assistant Head of Financial
Resources

Date: Dec 2015

Is this a: Policy (☒) Strategy () Function ()
Service () Project () Other ()

Is it: New/Proposed ()
Changing/Being Reviewed (☒) Other ()

1. Purpose and Scope

Purpose

In this section outline briefly what the policy, decision or activity is, what the intended outcomes/benefits (linked to the Corporate Outcomes Framework) are and over what period of time will the outcomes be achieved. Why does it need to be implemented or revised?

In 2012 the Welfare Reform Act, which received Royal Assent on 8 March 2012, set out some of the most significant proposed changes to the welfare system in decades. A key change in the Act was the Government decision to abolish the national Council Tax Benefit system and replace it with the Local Council Tax Support scheme from 1 April 2013. Responsibility for the scheme was transferred from central to local government and at the same time the government cut the level of grant support to local authorities by an average of 10 % nationally in 2013. The main change was that CTB was to be treated as a discount.

The Government's two underlying principles are that localised schemes should:

- provide support for the most vulnerable, including protecting pensioners by legislating that they should be no worse off under the new local scheme; and
- assist with lifting the poorest people off benefits and supporting them into work in line with the principles set out under Universal Credit i.e. incentivising people to move from benefit into work.

Although the change in responsibility and reduced budget has been dictated by Government, the aims are considered to link with Corporate Outcomes Framework (COF) 'Organisational Philosophy' in the areas of:

- reduction in the total resources needed to run services (while retaining quality);
- percentage of residents who consider the council to give good value for money; and
- increasing trust, reputation & satisfaction with the council

The scheme has been considered for 2016/17 only. DCLG are undertaking a review of the localisation of Council Tax Support in early 2017 and any outcomes from this will be taken into account when considering future changes to the scheme from 2017/18 onwards including the impact of any changes to welfare benefits e.g. tax credits.

Scope

In this section consider who or where the target for the policy or activity is, this could be specific groups of people or organisations, individual wards, neighbourhoods or communities or the entire city. Links to, and overlap with, wider, local, sub-regional, regional or national priorities or activities should also be considered.

The target group is all of the City's residents that are liable for Council Tax.

Financial support for low income council tax households has become fully integrated into the council tax system, with support being offered as reductions on council tax bills rather than benefit awarded against their full council tax liability. This means that local decisions, about which vulnerable groups should qualify for council tax support, including the reduction on income grounds, need to be taken as part of the council tax-setting process.

Intelligence and Information

What sources of information have been used to inform this assessment/analysis? This should include but is not limited to consultations, resident/service user feedback and statistical data and intelligence.

Statistical data used in the design of the proposed scheme has been taken from CT records.

It should be noted that as Government has legislated that pensioners must not be adversely affected by the changes, any assessment will be regarding **working age recipients only**

The Sunderland scheme for 2015/16 was:

- To continue with a reduction in Council Tax Support (CTS) by 8.5% for all working age claimants** (e.g working age on lowest income paid £1.10 per week (single people), and £1.47 per week (couples/families), whilst also taking into account the changes detailed below
- No second adult rebate (SAR).** This was a reduction of up to 25% of the Council Tax liability for customers who were ineligible to claim single person discount because of the presence of other adults in the household or because their income was too high. They may have qualified for SAR if the non-dependants were not working or in receipt of a low income. Like many councils Sunderland abolished this discount.
- A further reduction (up to £1) in council tax support for non-dependants** A non-dependant is an adult who lives with a council tax payer who is not their partner but can typically be grown up children, friends or relatives. If a council tax payer is in receipt of CTS and has a non-dependant living with them, weekly deductions are made from CTS for each non-dependant. The amount of the deduction depends upon the income of the non-dependant. There is no non-dependant deduction made for those non dependants on a very

low income. In the scheme, all non-dependant charges were increased by up to £1. This change helped to spread the cost of the cuts.

iv) **Information held in respect of Housing Benefit was used to calculate Council Tax Support.** This reduced the need for additional applications to be submitted by the customer.

v) **In line with Housing Benefit Regulations non-dependants serving in the Armed Forces on operations were disregarded.**

vi) **Pensioners who were of pension age were treat under pensioner rules even if they were available for work**

Last year neighbouring authorities implemented the following schemes:

South Tyneside – reduced council tax support by 30% for working aged claimants

Newcastle – reduced council tax support by 20% for working aged claimants

Gateshead – reduced council tax support by 8.5% for working aged claimants

North Tyneside – reduced council tax support by 7% for working aged claimants

Consultation process

An online consultation on the scheme for 2016/17 ran from 23rd October 2015 to 13th December 2015 and included the following:

- an on-line questionnaire accessed via the council's webpage, with supporting information
- workshops with the public across the city inviting people to share their views

The aim of the formal consultation was to ensure that all of the City's residents had the opportunity to comment on the proposed scheme by completing the on-line questionnaire themselves or with support. The consultation period was considered to allow enough time for feedback and review, prior to finalisation of the scheme, whilst still meeting the 31 Jan 2016 deadline for approval.

Headline results of the consultation are as follows:

There were 444 respondents to the survey, which included people across the protected characteristic groups (those who did not wish to disclose/no response are not included).

<i>Gender:</i>	<i>Sexuality:</i>	<i>Race/Ethnicity:</i>	<i>Age:</i>
Male 42%	Heterosexual 78%	White British 88%	16-24 1%
Female 45%	Gay/Lesbian 3%	Other 3%	25-34 9%
			35-44 24%
			45-54 26%
<i>Religion/Belief:</i>			55-64 18%
Christian 55%			65-74 9%
Other 3%			75+ 8%
No religion 26%			

The responses to the specific changes to the scheme, and additional comments made by respondents, were analysed to see if there may be any unfair and unintended impact upon any particular group.

Results of the consultation exercise are shown below:

Of the current scheme 48% agreed that the council tax support scheme should remain the same and 30% disagreed with 21% either not responding or having no views either way. Respondents were also asked in the event that they disagreed with the current scheme whether the minimum payment should be raised to 10% or 12.5%. Of the 198 responses, 38.19% indicated that the minimum payment should be raised to 10% and 61.81% indicated that it should be raised to 12.5%

Conclusion

The results of the consultation would indicate the following key messages:

The majority of the respondents agreed with the main proposal to keep the scheme in place for 2016/2017.

Where respondents had indicated that a change in the scheme was their preferred option, the majority supported an increase in the minimum payment to 12.5%.

DCLG are undertaking a review of the localisation of Council Tax Support in early 2017 and any outcomes from this will be taken into account when reviewing the scheme during 2016/17 including the impact of any changes to welfare benefits e.g. tax credits.

2. Analysis of Impact on People

This section offers an opportunity to assess the intended and potential impact of the policy, decision or activity on the people of Sunderland. This includes specific consideration of the impact on individuals, groups with protected characteristics and communities of interest within the city. Please briefly outline any positive, negative or neutral impacts on the specific groups below. In this assessment it is important to remember the Council is required to give due regard to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Characteristic	List of Impacts		
	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The scheme aims to spread the impact as fairly as possible, whilst also protecting pensioners and other vulnerable groups as legislated by government. Therefore there is the potential for negative impacts to be felt by a range of people within all the following groups, by virtue of them being residents of Sunderland and currently in receipt of council tax benefit but not directly nor deliberately as a consequence of any particular characteristic. Feedback from the consultation exercise and the effect of the current scheme for 2015/16 are noted below:			
Age		<p>Older people: The Government wants to ensure that low income pensioners, who would struggle to pay council tax without additional support, and whom the government does not expect to work to increase their income, will continue to receive the same level of support against their council tax bills. The current CTS caseload shows that just under 50% of CTS is paid to pensioners</p> <p>Working Age: An extra £1.6m was raised from those previously receiving 100% council tax benefit. To date 85.21% has been collected.</p>	
Disability		There is no known information from which to provide an opinion on impact but people in the group have been impacted upon in the same way as all of working age or pensioners.	
Gender/sex		There is no known information from which to provide an opinion on impact but people in the group have been impacted upon in the same way as all of working age or pensioners.	
Marriage and Civil Partnership		There is no known information from which to provide an opinion on impact but people in the group have been impacted upon in the same way as all of working age or pensioners.	
Pregnancy and maternity		As above	
Race/Ethnicity		As above	
Religion/belief		As above	
Sexual Orientation		As above	

Other individuals or groups impacted on:

The policy or action may also have an impact on other groups or individuals which are not covered by the statutory requirements. Please outline any additional individuals or groups which have not already been covered. This could include socio-economic groups, voluntary and community sector, carers or specific communities which face additional challenges (such as former coal mining areas or areas of high deprivation)

The change impacts on all of the City's residents, in particular those that are or could be eligible for CTS. The Council already has clearly defined responsibilities in relation to, and awareness of, the most vulnerable groups and individuals other than pensioners in their areas' for example through responsibilities under the following Acts:

- Child Poverty Act 2010;
- Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act 1986 and Chronically Sick and Disabled persons Act 1970;
- Housing Act 1996, which gives Local Authorities a duty to prevent homelessness with special regard to vulnerable groups.

Gaps in intelligence and information:

Having undertaken the analysis are there any areas of intelligence or information which need to be improved? Please outline any areas where the current information is not complete enough to take a decision. Addressing this gap should be covered in the action plan.

The consultation process did not provide information with regard to specific impacts on those within the protected characteristic groups.

The scheme will be subject to an annual review. Any unintended consequences of the scheme will be dealt with on a case by case basis and monitored to ensure they are remedied for 2017/18.

Policy/Decision/Project/Activity Title:

Responsible Officer: Paul Wilson

3. Summary of Impacts and Response to Analysis

Please provide a summary of the overarching impacts that have been highlighted through the analysis process through the three questions below. It is important to recognise that individuals may belong to one or more of these characteristic groups and the combined impact could be greater than any single impact.

Who will the policy/decision/project/activity impact on and who will benefit?

As it is proposed to leave the scheme unchanged for a further year and not raise the minimum payment, any impact on the protected groups is negated because the change is non-discriminatory, as it purely relates to applying for benefit and is not directly linked to any of the protected characteristics.

Who will not benefit and why not?

Sunderland's scheme has been designed to spread the impact across all of the City's residents that currently claim council tax support as fairly as possible. As the majority of consultation respondents agree with the scheme this is an indication of its fairness.

Who should be expected to benefit and why don't they?

Please see comments in the section above.

4. Response to Analysis, Action Plan and Monitoring,

In this section please outline what actions you propose to take to minimise the negative, and maximise the positive, impacts that have been identified through the analysis. By considering and implementing these actions the policy or action can be refined to make sure that the greatest benefits are achieved for the people of Sunderland. The performance monitoring process should also be set out to explain how ongoing progress is going to be followed to make sure that the aims are met.

From the analysis four broad approaches can be taken, (No major change, continue with the policy/action despite negative implications, adjust the policy/decision/action or stop the policy/action). Please indicate, using the list below, which is proposed.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| No Major Change | (✓) |
| Continue Despite Negative Implications | () |
| Adjust the Policy/Decision/Project/Activity | () |
| Stop | () |

Action Plan

ACTION	WHO	WHEN	MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS
Monitoring and review of 'unintended consequences' to be fed into annual review of scheme.	Acting Council Tax and Business Rates Manager	Ongoing	
Consultation exercise / workshops with the residents of Sunderland	Acting Council Tax and Business Rates Manager	Oct – Dec 2016	
Review of Equality Analysis in light of the above data	Acting Council Tax and Business Rates Manager	Dec 2016	
Review of Council Tax Support Scheme	Assistant Head of Financial Resources/Acting Council Tax and Business Rates Manager	Dec 2016	

CABINET – 13 JANUARY 2016

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

Report of Assistant Chief Executive, Executive Director of Commercial Development and Head of Law and Governance

1. Purpose of the Report

To advise Cabinet of the new powers available to the Council and other bodies under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act), to recommend the authorisation of officers to exercise powers under the Act, including the issue of fixed penalty notices and to set the level of the fixed penalty notices.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Authorise the use of the full range of powers available under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, as set out in this Report;
- (2) Agree the level of the fixed penalty notices issued under Section 52 and 68 of the Act be set at £75 (discounted to £50 if paid within 10 days); and
- (3) Recommend Council to authorise the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Leader, to amend the Constitution to reflect the delegation of functions set out in paragraph 8 of this Report and to make such other consequential amendments as are appropriate.

3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 Anti-social behaviour is a broad term used to describe day to day incidents of crime, nuisance and disorder that can have a substantial impact on people's lives. It can include litter and vandalism, public drunkenness, aggressive dogs and noisy or abusive neighbours. Responsibility for dealing with such behaviours has been shared between a number of agencies, including the Council, the Police and social landlords.
- 3.2 In 2014/2015 there were 14,290 incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to the Police and the Council has dealt with 1,399 cases of anti-social behaviour.
- 3.3 Prior to the introduction of the Act, which came into force in October 2014, the Council made use of a number of powers available to it under various pieces of legislation to tackle issues of anti-social behaviour, such as issuing litter clearing notices, drink banning orders and dog control orders. All of these powers have now been replaced with new provisions..
- 3.4 The intention behind the Act is to put victims at the heart of the response to anti-social behaviour and to ensure agencies have effective powers that are quick, practical and easy to use. Some of the measures are aimed at giving greater say to victims in the way their reports of anti-social behaviour are dealt with.

4. Current Position

- 4.1 The Act replaces 19 pre-existing measures with 6 new measures for tackling anti-social behaviour. The new powers are set out in the table below and summarised in the subsequent paragraphs. In implementing the new powers, the Council will, wherever possible, attempt to explore alternative informal solutions to the issues but in some cases direct enforcement action may be deemed necessary.

Old Powers	New Powers
Anti-Social Behaviour Order Drink Banning Order Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction Individual Support Order Intervention Order	Civil Injunction
Anti-Social Behaviour Order on Conviction Drink Banning Order on Conviction	Criminal Behaviour Order
Litter Clearing Notice Street Litter Clearing Notice Graffiti/Defacement Removal Notice	Community Protection Notice
Designated Public Place Order Gating Order Dog Control Order	Public Spaces Protection Order
Premises Closure Order Crack House Closure Order Noisy Premises Closure Order S161 Closure Order	Closure Notice / Order
<u>Police Powers:-</u> Dispersal Order Direction to Leave	<u>Police Power:-</u> Dispersal Power

5. Enforcement Provisions Available under the Act

5.1 Civil Injunction

- 5.1.1 The purpose of an injunction is to stop or prevent individuals engaging in anti-social behaviour quickly and before the behaviour escalates. Previously, anti-social behaviour injunctions were available only to social landlords and to local authorities in relation to housing management functions. The new power under the Act is available to local councils, housing providers, the Police and other agencies and is not restricted to housing matters.

5.1.2 An application for an injunction under the Act will be made to the county court or, in the case of under 18s, to the youth court. An injunction will be issued if it is shown, on the balance of probabilities, that a person has engaged, or is threatening to engage, in conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to any person and the court considers it is just and convenient to grant the injunction to stop the anti-social behaviour. There is also scope for the injunction to include positive requirements to focus on long-term solutions. For example, this might include attendance at alcohol awareness classes for alcohol-related problems, attendance at dog training classes by irresponsible dog owners or attendance at mediation sessions with neighbours or victims.

5.1.3 The penalty for a breach of an injunction is an unlimited fine or up to two years in prison. In the case of under 18s, a breach could be dealt with through a curfew, supervision or detention.

5.2 Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)

5.2.1 A Criminal Behaviour Order is an order issued by a criminal court against a person who has been convicted of an offence. The Order will include prohibitions to stop the anti-social behaviour concerned, for example banning the individual from certain activities or places, but can also include positive requirements to encourage the offender to address the underlying causes of their behaviour, such as attending drug treatment programmes.

5.2.2 The penalty for a breach of a Criminal Behaviour Order is a fine and/or imprisonment. For under 18s the sentencing powers of the youth court apply.

5.3 Community Protection Notice (CPN)

5.3.1 A Community Protection Notice is intended to deal with on-going problems or nuisances which negatively affect the community's quality of life, by targeting those responsible. To engage the Community Protection Notice procedure, the behaviour involved must have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, be of a persistent or continuing nature and be unreasonable.

5.3.2 Where unreasonable behaviour for example, that relates to graffiti, rubbish or noise, is affecting a community's quality of life, the Police or Council (or a social landlord designated by the Council) can issue a written warning to an individual or business. The warning informs the perpetrator of the problem behaviour, requests them to stop and advises of the consequences of continuing. If, despite such warning, the behaviour continues, the Police/Council/social landlord can then issue a Community Protection Notice, which will include a requirement to stop things, do things or take reasonable steps to avoid further anti-social behaviour.

5.3.3 If an individual or body fails to comply with a Community Protection Notice issued by the Council, the Council may be able to take remedial action to address the issue and then charge the perpetrator the reasonable costs incurred in doing so. For example, if there has been a significant build-up of rubbish in someone's garden, remedial action could take the form of cleaning the garden on the perpetrator's behalf.

5.3.4 Breach of a Community Protection Notice is a criminal offence which carries a fine of up to £2,500 for individuals, or up to £20,000 for businesses. Following conviction, a court can make a Remedial Order requiring work to be carried out by the perpetrator, or a Forfeiture Order ordering the disposal of any item used in the commission of the offence (such as spray paints in a graffiti matter). As an alternative to prosecution, a fixed penalty notice can be issued if appropriate.

5.4 Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

5.4.1 The Council may issue a Public Spaces Protection Order after consultation with the Police, Police and Crime Commissioner and other relevant bodies, if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that unreasonable behaviour is occurring in a public space which is having, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and which is of a persistent or continuing nature. For example, this could involve rowdiness and consumption of alcohol, the playing of loud music or allowing dogs to run around out of control in a park, alleyway or communal area.

5.4.2 The Public Spaces Protection Order can include blanket restrictions or requirements or can be targeted against certain behaviours by certain groups at certain times. It can also restrict access to public rights of way where that route is being used to commit anti-social behaviour.

5.4.3 Where a Public Spaces Protection Order is in force, a police officer, police community support officer or Council officer witnessing behaviour that breaches its conditions may challenge the individual(s) concerned and ask them to comply. If the individual does not comply with the request, an offence is committed.

5.4.4 An offence involving breach of a Public Spaces Protection Order is punishable by a fine of up to £1,000 or a fixed penalty notice may be issued if appropriate.

5.5 Closure Notice and Closure Order

5.5.1 The purpose of the closure powers is to allow the Police or Council to quickly close residential or business premises which are being used, or are likely to be used, to commit nuisance or disorder.

5.5.2 If the Council or the Police are satisfied on reasonable grounds that the use of particular premises has resulted in, or is likely soon to result in, nuisance to members of the public or that there has been, or is likely soon to be, disorder near those premises associated with the use of those premises, they may (if they consider it necessary) issue a Closure Notice to prevent the nuisance or disorder from continuing, recurring or occurring. A police inspector or authorised Council officer can issue a Closure Notice for 24 hours and a 48 hour notice (or an extension of a 24 hour notice to 48 hours) can be issued by the Council's Head of Paid Service (or his/her designate) or by a police superintendent. While it is in force, the Closure Notice closes the premises to which it relates and prevents access by any person other than the owner and those who live there.

5.5.3 If it is necessary to extend the period of closure, application must then be made to the court for a Closure Order. The court may make the Order sought if satisfied that there has been disorderly, offensive or criminal behaviour, a serious nuisance to the public or disorder near the premises. A Closure Order can close premises for up to six months and can restrict all access (including access by the owner and occupiers if necessary).

5.5.4 Breach of a Closure Notice or Order is a criminal offence which carries a maximum penalty of an unlimited fine and/or imprisonment.

5.6 **Police Dispersal Power**

5.6.1 This is a police power to direct any individual causing or likely to cause anti-social behaviour, crime or disorder to leave an area for up to 48 hours and to direct that individual to surrender any item that the police constable believes has been or is likely to be used in causing anti-social behaviour. A failure to comply with a direction to leave and/or a direction to surrender is a criminal offence.

6. **Recovery of Possession of Dwelling-houses**

6.1 The Act introduces a new absolute ground for possession of secure and assured tenancies where anti-social behaviour or criminality has already been proven by another court. It is a ground that can be used by private rented sector landlords as well as social landlords and the aim is to expedite the eviction of landlords' most anti-social tenants and bring faster relief to victims.

6.2 The Act also introduces a new discretionary ground for possession in relation to secure tenancies which applies in cases where there has been conduct likely to cause annoyance to the landlord or his staff/contractors or where the tenant or any other person residing in the property has been convicted of an indictable offence connected with participation in a riot.

7. **New Measures for Community Involvement**

To enable local involvement and accountability, the Act has also introduced the following two measures:-

7.1 **Community Trigger** - The 'Community Trigger' is essentially an anti-social behaviour case review. It is designed to offer a "safety net" for vulnerable victims and help avoid individuals being passed between agencies without resolution. The Community Trigger presents an opportunity for victims to demand a review of the response to their concerns, if certain criteria are met and is intended to encourage collaborative working between agencies.

7.2 **Community Remedy** - This will give victims a say in the out-of-court punishment of offenders for low-level crime and anti-social behaviour. The Police and Crime Commissioner is required to publish a Community Remedy Document as to what options will be offered in these circumstances.

8. Amendments to Delegation Scheme

- 8.1 At its meeting on 23rd September 2015, Council authorised the Head of Law and Governance to make applications to the Court for the various orders under the Act. In order to ensure that the full range of powers is available, it is recommended that the following additional delegated authority is granted. Where application to the Court is required, the relevant Chief Officer referred to below may authorise the Head of Law and Governance to make the appropriate application. Where the exercise of the power does not require a court application, for example, the issue of a Community Protection Notice or fixed penalty notice, such notices may be issued by the Chief Officer concerned or on their behalf by an officer authorised by them. In the case of Public Space Protection Orders, such orders will only be made with the approval of Cabinet, which will authorise the relevant officer to issue the Order.

Power to be used	Delegated Officer
Public Spaces Protection Orders	Appropriate Chief Officer to be authorised by Cabinet on a case by case basis
Civil Injunctions Criminal Behaviour Orders Closure Notices and Orders Fixed penalty notices issued for breaches of Public Spaces Protection Orders	Assistant Chief Executive
Community Protection Notices and fixed penalty notices issued for breaches Fixed penalty notices issued for breaches of Public Spaces Protection Orders Criminal Behaviour Orders Closure Notices and Orders	Executive Director of Commercial Development

- 8.2 Where the same power is recommended to be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive and the Executive Directive of Commercial Development, the Chief Officer exercising the power will only do so following consultation with the other named Chief Officer to ensure no duplication occurs. As required by the Council's Constitution, appropriate consultation will also take place with the relevant portfolio holder in respect of the exercise of powers under the Act.

9. Fixed Penalty Notices

- 9.1 The Act makes provision for fixed penalty notices to be issued, for a breach of a Community Protection Notice or Public Spaces Protection Order, up to a maximum of £100.
- 9.2 It is recommended that the fixed penalty notices are set at £75, discounted to £50 if payment is made within 10 days. This level mirrors existing fixed penalty notices offered for other environmental crime matters.

10. Reasons for the Decision

- 10.1 The various powers the Council had to tackle anti-social behaviour have been replaced with provisions in the Act. The decision recommended to Cabinet will ensure the Council is able to make use of the full range of powers available and continue to deal with anti-social behaviour and environmental crime effectively.

11. Alternative Options

- 11.1 The only other option would be to do nothing, however the Council would then be unable to use all of the powers available to it and would therefore weaken its ability to tackle anti-social behaviour and protect the community.

12. Impact Analysis

- (a) **Equalities, Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) and Sustainability** –there are no equality and diversity, risk management or privacy and sustainability implications directly arising from this proposal. Careful consideration would be given on a case by case basis to utilising any of the new powers.
- (b) **Reduction of Crime and Disorder – Community Cohesion / Social Inclusion** – this legislation is specifically designed to address crime, nuisance and / or disorder.

13. Other Relevant Considerations / Consultations

- (i) **Financial Implications** – it is expected that the use of the enforcement powers contained within the Act will have limited financial implications both in terms of expected income and associated costs. Revenue generated by the use of fixed penalty notices will be paid directly to the Council and be administered in the same way as existing fixed penalty notices.

Background Papers

[Home Office - Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Reform of anti-social behaviour powers](#)
[Statutory guidance for frontline professionals](#)
[July 2014](#)

Report of the Scrutiny Committee

The SCRUTINY COMMITTEE reports and recommends as follows:-

1. Review of Scrutiny Arrangements and Next Steps

That they submit for consideration by Council a joint report of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee and the Head of Scrutiny and Area Arrangements (copy attached) on a proposed new scrutiny structure and operating model following an independent review of the Council's scrutiny arrangements undertaken by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

The Scrutiny Committee gave consideration to the report at its meeting held on 3rd December, 2015 and the following points were highlighted:-

- i) Consideration be given to an amendment to the proposed membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee,(as detailed in Appendix one of the report), to provide for the inclusion of the Vice Chairs of the three thematic Scrutiny Committees resulting in the following membership:-

Chairman
Vice Chairman
3X Thematic Chairman
3X Thematic Vice Chairman
6 Scrutiny Members
(Total = 14 Members)
- ii) Consideration be given to the power to appoint co-opted member(s) to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Accordingly the Scrutiny Committee recommends to Council that subject to i) and ii) above, approval be given to the proposed new model for Scrutiny as detailed in paragraph 5 and appendix 1 of the report, to be implemented from the start of the municipal year 2016/17.

**JOINT REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND THE
HEAD OF SCRUTINY AND AREA ARRANGEMENTS**

REVIEW OF SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report is to inform the Scrutiny Committee of a proposed structure and operating practices of a new scrutiny model and to seek the Committee's views.

2. Background

- 2.1 The proposals contained within this report are designed to fully enable the scrutiny function to underpin the Council's strengthening of service delivery around key statutory services. Furthermore, it will help to ensure that scrutiny arrangements attract appropriately skilled and experienced Councillors most able to make them operate successfully.
- 2.2 Mindful of the challenges and opportunities currently facing the council, the Chair of Scrutiny commissioned an Independent Review of its arrangements in June 2015. The purpose of the Review was to ensure that arrangements were fit for purpose in the immediate future. Subsequent to the commissioning of an independent Scrutiny Review, an Ofsted inspection report of Children's Services was published recommending that the scrutiny function required further rigour.
- 2.3 The Independent Review was conducted by the Centre for Public Scrutiny through their Executive Director. The Review engaged with all political parties and key officers before finalising a report which formed the basis for proposals.
- 2.4 The proposals set out in this report are a response to the Scrutiny Review findings and the recommendation of the Ofsted report. The proposals are intended to strengthen those parts of the Council's governance structure which are most critical to delivery of the Children's Safeguarding function and also the Council's Leadership and Partnership approach for the wider strategic approach on Education, Health and Economy.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 The current arrangements for the scrutiny function were introduced by Annual Council on 16 May 2012.
- 3.2 The revisions reduced seven Scrutiny Committees to one Scrutiny Committee with a Chair, Vice Chair and six Scrutiny Lead Members. This

was part of a wider government restructure that included strengthening Cabinet and Area Committee support arrangements which impacted upon how Scrutiny operated at that time. The move to a Scrutiny Commissioning Model reflected scrutiny's role in accommodating key statutory and other functions, but offered the opportunity to do so in a more focused, flexible and responsive manner.

4. Summary of Proposals

- 4.1 The current proposals reflect Sunderland City Council's specific requirements at this time of challenge and change. They therefore focus upon:-
- (a) Formalising the Scrutiny arrangements through four formally constituted Committees to be held in public, moving away from the current commissioning model comprised of one formal committee and 6 informal scrutiny panels;
 - (b) Developing remits for the new Scrutiny Committees which are directly aligned to the Council's lead partnership role around Education, Health and Wellbeing and Economic Prosperity;
 - (c) Re-focusing the work programme of scrutiny to be better connected to the core work of the council;
 - (d) Building capacity amongst scrutiny councillors to develop the right skills to fulfil their roles as 'critical friends'.
- 4.2 The proposal to change the scrutiny arrangements is based upon the wishes of Members – as expressed through a consultation exercise, interviews and informal meetings. Members wanted to make a clear and additional difference through focused, outcome-driven scrutiny.

5. Detailed Proposals

- 5.1 The proposed scrutiny arrangements include one formal, overarching Co-ordinating Scrutiny Committee with a co-ordinating function in relation to the broad strategic issues which may fall within the remit of more than one service-based Scrutiny Committee.
- 5.2 In addition, three themed, service-based Scrutiny Committees will have the role of scrutiny of service improvement within the broad Sunderland Partnership strategic priorities.
- 5.3 Each Scrutiny Committee will exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration of decisions made but not yet implemented by the executive and/or area committees.

- 5.4 Should the proposals be approved, the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution will need to be reviewed to reflect the new arrangements.

Proposed Scrutiny Structure

(a) Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Remit: To review and scrutinise the functions of the Council relating in particular to:

- The Budget
- Corporate Plan
- External assessments
- Performance monitoring, quality standards and value for money
- Property and facilities management
- Information Technology
- Organisational development
- Workforce strategy
- Governance
- Customer service and communications.

To act as the designated scrutiny committee for statutory purposes for crime and disorder and flood risk

Where a matter falls within the remit of more than one thematic scrutiny committee, to determine where the issue should be allocated.

(b) Health and Wellbeing

Remit: To review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and commissioning of health services for adults and children including

- Adult social care
- Mental health services
- Public Health
- Wellness
- Decent Homes

To act as the designated scrutiny committee for statutory purposes for health

(c) Children, Education & Skills

Remit: To review and scrutinise any matter relating to the commissioning of services for children, young people and their families including

- Safeguarding and child protection
- Family support and children's social care
- Corporate parenting
- Educational attainment and skills
- Relationship with schools

- Youth Services

(d) **Economic Prosperity**

Remit: To review and scrutinise:

- The aims of the Economic Masterplan
- Safer Sunderland
- Licensing & Trading Standards
- Strategic Transport
- Environmental services
- Libraries, heritage and tourism

- 5.5 Attached to this report, Appendix 1 illustrates the range of issues to be included in the work programme of each of the four Scrutiny Committees and how these align to the Council's key corporate priorities.

6. Membership of new Scrutiny Committees

6.1 Membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

The Committee will comprise 14 members as follows:

Chair and Vice Chair

Chairs of the Thematic Scrutiny Committees x 3 (Vice-Chairs will act as substitutes)

9 Scrutiny members

6.2 Membership of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

The Committee will comprise 12 members as follow:

Chair and Vice Chair

10 Scrutiny Members

6.3 Membership of the Children, Education & Skills Scrutiny Committee

The Committee will comprise 16 members as follow:

Chair and Vice Chair

10 Scrutiny Members

4 Education Co-opted Members

6.4 Membership of the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

The Committee will comprise 12 members as follow:

Chair and Vice Chair

10 Scrutiny Members

- 6.5 Unless full Council agrees otherwise, with no member voting against, the Committees will be politically balanced. Based on the current representation of political groups within the Council, this would be as follows:

Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee 12:1:1
Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee 11:1:0
Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee 11:1:0
Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee 11:1:0

7. Shadow arrangements

Transition

- 7.1 The range of challenges and opportunities facing the Council is unprecedented. In order to face these with confidence, it is essential that the Council implements the first phase of the Scrutiny Review quickly and effectively.
- 7.2 Faster, more effective decision-making requires officers to work more closely with Members from the earliest stages on any given issue. It is therefore proposed that implementation begins immediately to adopt a transitional approach to introducing the new structure. It is proposed to move forward in a phased approach with increased joint working and co-operation between the existing Scrutiny Panels during 2015/16 with full implementation of the new formal Committees by the start of the 2016/17 municipal year.
- 7.3 Appendix 2 to this report shows how the current projects being carried out in Scrutiny Panels will align to the new remits, thereby creating a transition arrangement for improvements to begin immediately.
- 7.4 It is proposed to present these proposals to Council on 27th January 2016 advising of the transitional arrangements and the intention to move to a new structure from the municipal year 2016/17.

8. Member Roles

In Transition

- 8.1 The existing expertise of the current Lead Scrutiny Members will be needed in moving into the new roles which may require greater investment of time and the development of expertise in a particular service area.
- 8.2 It is proposed that the current six Lead Scrutiny Members will start immediately to deliver a phased approach into the new arrangements by working collaboratively towards the full adoption of a Scrutiny Committee Chair and Vice-Chair roles.

- 8.3 This proposal will require that the six Lead Scrutiny Members will oversee the introduction of the three thematic Scrutiny Committees by working in partnership to chair the 'shadow' committee which most closely aligns with their current remit (see Appendix 2).

New Model

- 8.4 It is anticipated that the work of a Chair of one of the thematic Scrutiny Committees will be of at least a similar level of demand to that of the current Lead Scrutiny Members.
- 8.5 The proposed structure will also strengthen capacity through the establishment of three Vice-Chair roles for the thematic Scrutiny Committees. The role of Vice-Chair of a thematic Scrutiny Committee is distinct from the role of Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, partly as the role is seen as suitable for professional development. The Co-ordinating Vice-Chair role is distinct from other Vice-Chair roles and includes a responsibility for supporting and working with the three Scrutiny Committees in a co-ordinating capacity.
- 8.6 Thematic Scrutiny Chairs will be expected to be members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee and Vice-Chairs may be required to act as substitutes to ensure continuity and the opportunity for professional development.

9. Delivering the Independent Scrutiny Review Actions

- 9.1 The independent Scrutiny Review report includes four specific recommendations. Appendix 3 to this report sets out each recommendation with current and planned activity to address each action:

10. Recommendations

The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Comment on the proposed new model of scrutiny to be implemented from 2016/17 (see section 5.3 and Appendix 1) and make appropriate recommendations to full Council
- (b) Comment on the proposed transition arrangements to be implemented between January and April 2016 (see section 7 and Appendix 2)
- (c) Comment on the progress towards delivering the actions arising from the independent Scrutiny Review (see Appendix 3)

Appendix 1 – Illustration of the range of issues to be included in the work programme of the four Scrutiny Committees (from 2016/17)

New Scrutiny Committee	Proposed Membership	Proposed Remit	Alignment to key Corporate Priority
Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Chair Vice-Chair 3 Thematic Chairs 9 Scrutiny Members = 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Budget • Corporate Plan • External assessments • Performance monitoring, quality standards and value for money • Property and facilities management • Information Technology • Organisational development • Workforce strategy • Governance • Customer service and communications. 	<p>The Council's Business Transformation and Organisational Development Plans</p> <p>Review of changes to the organisation which are needed to deliver the priorities and to support the further development of the Council. Review of the changes needed to the structures and Alternative Service Delivery models which will ensure that the citizen and councillors are placed at the centre of the way the organisation takes decisions and designs future activity when undertaking co-operative commissioning.</p> <p>Safer Sunderland Partnership Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic direction in relation to creating and maintaining a Safe City. • Ensuring action to deliver this is adequately resourced in line with strategic priorities. • Annual Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA) and review and agree the Safer Sunderland Strategy (i.e. the Partnership Plan) • Key Sunderland Partnership functions in relation to crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse in addition to its statutory duties under relevant legislation (Crime and Disorder Act 1998). <p>To act as the designated scrutiny committee for statutory purposes for health, crime and disorder scrutiny and flood risk</p>

Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Chair Vice-Chair 10 Scrutiny Members = 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult social care • Mental health services • Public Health • Wellness • Decent Homes <p>To act as the designated scrutiny committee for statutory purposes for health</p>	<p>Health and Wellbeing Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of a Health and Wellbeing Strategy • Leadership to the health and wellbeing system in Sunderland. • Decisions based on Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee	Chair Vice-Chair 10 Scrutiny Members 4 Statutory Education coopts = 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding and child protection • Family support and children's social care • Corporate parenting • Educational attainment and skills • Relationship with schools • Youth Services 	<p>Education Leadership Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Education and Skills Strategy. • Partnership decision making across the local authority, schools and business.
Economic Prosperity	Chair Vice-Chair 10 Scrutiny Members = 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims of the Economic Masterplan • Safer Sunderland • Licensing & Trading Standards • Strategic Transport • Environmental services • Libraries, heritage and tourism 	<p>Economic Leadership Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the aims of the Sunderland Economic Masterplan. • Review outcomes and achievements from the delivery plans • To receive and review performance reports. • To ensure projects and decisions account for equality needs and engage the city's diverse population

Appendix 2 – Transition of current projects: Alignment of the current work programme (2015/16) to the new remits

New Scrutiny Committee	Existing Scrutiny Panels	Realigned Work Programme Topics for Remainder of 2015/16
Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Scrutiny Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Article 4 Policy Framework documents including budget setting and corporate plan Anti-Social Behaviour – new powers (not started)
Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Public Health, Wellness & Culture Health, Housing & Adult Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual Health Policy Review (concludes end Dec 15) Transitions from Child to Adult Social Care Policy Review (on-going) Site visit to HMO (concludes end Nov 15) Substantial Variations to health services / Statutory health scrutiny role
Children, Education & Skills	Children's Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Mental Health Policy Review (on-going) Children's Safeguarding Working Group (on-going) Ofsted Improvement Plan / Monthly Performance Monitoring Report School Performance (Validated Results) – Feb 16 C&YP Community Services Annual Performance Update (Mar 16)
Economic Prosperity	Responsive Services & Customer Care Skills, Economy & Regeneration City Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's Customer Services – Policy Review (concludes Dec 15) Key Cities Policy Review (on-going) Digital Skills Policy (not started) Environmental Enforcement – Policy Review (concludes end Dec 15) BID Annual Update (Feb16)

Appendix 3 – Recommendations from the Scrutiny Review including current and planned activity:

	Independent Scrutiny Review Recommendation	Action	Progress
1	That the Council immediately undertakes a review of the current scrutiny work programme to be assured that the Scrutiny Function is providing the support and challenge required to deliver the Council's core work including the Ofsted Improvement Plan.	<p>Current work programmes (2015/16) have been reviewed to assess</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Status / merit of each project Closure of projects where relevant Continuation of projects by transfer to transition model <p>The criteria used to determine this will be whether topics mirror the strategic priorities for the council and its partners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elected Member consultation 3rd December Appendix 2 sets out the alignment of each Panel's projects.
2	<p>Review of the process and focus of the scrutiny work programme to ensure the content addresses the priorities most important to residents, the organisation and partners and is re-balanced to incorporate the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding decision makers to account; Service Improvement through performance monitoring; Scrutiny of statutory services with emphasis on children and adults safeguarding; Organisational transformation (including alternative service delivery models); and Policy review and development. 	<p>Work programme 2016/17 across the 4 committees to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Review & Development (<i>only where the topic is directly supporting a key priority and merits detailed investigation</i>) Quarterly Performance Data (<i>broken down to remit of thematic Scrutiny Committee</i>) Service Improvement Consultation (<i>includes early notification of service reconfiguration</i>) Notice of Key Decisions (<i>relevant to the thematic remit</i>) <p>Review of the Annual Scrutiny Debate to design an event which is more focused on the identification of key priorities. This is likely to include input from Heads of Service on key current issues and immediate priorities which require review or scrutiny.</p> <p>Scrutiny Chairs to establish working relationships with the Chairs of the 3 Leadership Boards.</p>	<p>Meetings to be arranged with Heads of Service to discuss current and immediate priorities for inclusion in the work programme including scrutiny's role in Alternative Models of Service Delivery.</p>

3	To consider whether the current commissioning model is still the right mechanism to deliver a revised work programme and a wider focus. The council may wish to look at a model which incorporates an over-arching Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee supported by thematic Scrutiny Committees reflecting priorities including health and wellbeing, education and economic prosperity.	<p>Revised model to be implemented from 2016/17</p> <p>Immediate changes to be introduced through transition arrangements between January and April 2016.</p>	Report to Council 27 th January 2016 outlining transition arrangements to start immediately and proposals to introduce new model from June 2016.
4	To ensure there is a programme of training and development for scrutiny members to support them in delivering robust scrutiny.	<p>Training and Development opportunities will be sought specifically on the key priorities to be included in the new work programme.</p> <p>For example, the Centre for Public Scrutiny has developed a programme aimed at giving Councils' assurance that their scrutiny and broader governance functions are fit for purpose in ensuring the safety of the local children's safeguarding system.</p>	Communication with CfPS on appropriate member training programmes has taken place.

Notices of Motion

NOTICES OF MOTION

Council Members are asked to consider the under mentioned Motions:-

(i) Provision for All-Weather Activities at Seaburn and Roker

This Council welcomes development at Roker and Seaburn which is in accord with the character of the twin resorts and the wishes of local residents but believes that, to be successful, appropriate provision for all-weather activities needs to be made.

Councillor R. Francis
Councillor P. Wood
Councillor M. Dixon

(ii) European Union

This Council believes that, it is in the best interests of the residents of the City of Sunderland, that the United Kingdom remains a member of the European Union.

Councillor P. Watson
Councillor H. Trueman
Councillor M. Speding

(iii) Severe Weather

This Council places on record its thanks and appreciation to all the emergency services, council staff and City residents – for everything they did in assisting their communities during the recent atrocious weather.

We would also like to place on record our sympathy to all those communities across the North of England and Scotland that have been flooded.

We therefore call upon the Conservative Government to unreservedly apologise to the people of the United Kingdom for leaving them with an estimated bill of £5.8 billion for the clean up after they slashed approximately 20% from flood defences since 2010.

Councillor M. Mordey
Councillor M. Turton
Councillor M. Speding
Councillor I.M. Galbraith
Councillor P. Watson
Councillor J.S. Porthouse
Councillor H. Trueman
Councillor A. Wilson
Councillor K. Waters
Councillor P. Smith
Councillor J. Kelly

Reports

Report on Special Urgency Decisions**Report of the Leader**

The Council's Constitution requires that a quarterly report be submitted to Council on executive decisions which have been taken as a matter of special urgency. The relevant provisions are now contained in Regulations 11 and 19 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

These are the special urgency provisions under which key decisions may be taken by the executive, although not contained in the 28 day Notice of Key decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or private), where compliance with Regulation 10 (the general exception) was also impracticable.

There have been no such instances since the last report.

Recommendation

That the Council notes the content of this report.

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Report of the Head of Law and Governance

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider additional appointments to the Board of Sunderland Care and Support Limited.

2.0 Sunderland Care and Support Limited

- 2.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 19 June 2013 agreed to establish a Local Authority Trading Company (Sunderland Care and Support Limited) to replace in-house care and support provision. The Council then agreed on 24 July 2013 to appoint Councillors Fletcher, Lawson and A Wilson to the Board of Directors of the Company.
- 2.2 Sunderland Care and Support Limited has continued to evolve since it was incorporated and the next stage of its development is for it to become a mutualised company during 2016. This will mean that the company will no longer be controlled by the Council and will operate as a commercial entity with the shares in the Company being owned by an organisation representing the employees. The Company will enter into contracts with the local authority to provide services on its behalf.
- 2.3 The Council is asked to consider the appointment of the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Finance Officer of the Company to the Board of Directors, bringing the total number of Company Directors to five. The reasons for this proposal are to:-
- enable the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Finance Officer of Sunderland Care and Support Limited to enter into contracts on behalf of the Company;
 - increase the commercial and care sector skill base among the Directors; and
 - avoid potential conflicts of interest which may affect the existing Directors, who are all elected Members.

- 2.4 Once the company is mutualised later this year, the Directors who are elected Members will stand down from the Board and be replaced by Directors who bring specific skills or experience or represent specific stakeholder interests. The appointment of the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Finance Officer to the Board at this time will also provide some continuity during this handover phase.

3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Council is accordingly recommended to consider the appointments of the Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Finance Officer of Sunderland Care and Support Limited to the Board of Directors of the Company.