

Head of Finance – Section 151 Comments on Lib Dem Group Alternative Budget 2025-26 to 2028/29

Date 11-02-2025

I have reviewed the budget submitted by the Lib Dem Group as an alternative to the Labour Administrations budget and confirm that it is arithmetically correct.

The budget could be implemented if voted through.

The budget proposals within the amendment provide funding for specific projects / initiatives. The role of Council through budget setting is to allocate funding. The proposals within the proposed budget amendments will only secure the funding. All proposals will still require further decisions (whether by cabinet or officers where delegated) to bring them forward. Council cannot take decisions to implement the proposals as they are executive functions, it can only make the funding available.

The General Fund Revenue

The budgeted amendments consisting of £887k of additional costs, funded by additional savings in CTRS, sale of assets in basement of town hall including FC1 the mayors number plate and increases in car park charges. A surplus of £243k is created over the 4 year period which would be added to reserves and balances.

HRA – There are no proposed changes to the Administrations HRA Budget

Capital Budget – There are no proposed changes to the Administrations HRA Budget

Nigel Kennedy

Group Finance Director (Section 151 Officer)

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