CITY COUNCIL

23 FEBRUARY, 2021

AMENDMENTS TO
MOTIONS IN THE
COUNCIL AGENDA
RECEIVED IN ADVANCE
OF THE MEETING

AMENDMENT TO ITEM 6

CITY COUNCIL Tuesday 23 February 2021

Age	nda	item	6

Conservative Amendment to Motions for Council pages 161-163:-

Delete motions 1-9 and replace with

"MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL

1. Fees and Charges

That the schedule of fees and charges as set out in Appendix V, Annex 1, be approved.

2. Capital Strategy and Programme and Treasury Management

That the proposals, as set out in the Capital Strategy Chapter and Appendices L - T of the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025, be approved for:

- a) Capital Programme
- b) Prudential Indicators
- c) Treasury Management Strategy
- d) Service and Commercial Investment Strategy
- e) Debt Repayment Policy

and, as set out in Appendix I, for:

f) Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy

3. Pay Policy

That in fulfilment of the requirements of Sections 38 to 43 of the Localism Act 2011, the Pay Policy Statement, as set out in Appendix U, be approved.

4. Revenue Budget

That the revenue budget for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 of £823.279m, including the budget allocations to the various Directorates of the Council, as set out in Appendix J to the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025, be approved.

5. Council Tax Requirement

That the following calculations be now made in accordance with Section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021:

£

 a. aggregate of estimated City Council expenditure, contingencies, and contributions to financial reserves

3,764,502,145

b. Parish Precepts

1,866,316

- aggregate of estimated income (including Top-Up Grant), and use of financial reserves
- net transfers to/(from) the Collection Fund in relation to Business Rates

(2,998,468,927)

e. Transfer to/(from) the Collection Fund in relation to Council Tax

4,237,000

f. Council Tax Requirement, being the aggregate of
 (a) to (e) above

377,530,592

6. Council Tax - Basic Amount

That the Basic Amount of Council Tax for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 be set at £1,486.37, pursuant to the formula in Section 31B of

the Local Government Finance Act 1992, being the Council Tax Requirement of £377,530,592 divided by the Council Tax Base of 253,995 Band D properties.

7. Council Tax - City Council and Parish Precepts

(i) That the basic amount of Council Tax for City Council services for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 be set at £1,479.02 pursuant to the formula in Section 34(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

££

a. Basic Amount calculated under Section 31B

1,486.37

LESS

b. Parish precepts

1,866,316

DIVIDED BY

City Council Tax base

253,995

7.35

1,479.02

- (ii) That, pursuant to Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Basic Amount of Council Tax for City Council services is not excessive in relation to determining whether a referendum is required on the level of Council Tax.
- (iii) That the basic amount of Council Tax for New Frankley in Birmingham Parish for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 be set at £1,506.30 pursuant to the formula in Section 34(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

a. Basic Amount calculated under Section 34(2)

PLUS

b. The New Frankley in Birmingham Parish precept

DIVIDED BY

The tax base for New Frankley in Birmingham 1,319
Parish

27.28

1,506,30

(iv) That the basic amount of Council Tax for the Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 be set at £1,528.98 pursuant to the formula in Section 34(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

£ £ a. Basic Amount calculated under Section 34(2) 1,479.02 **PLUS** b. The Royal Sutton Coldfield Parish Council 1,830,335 precept DIVIDED BY The tax base for Royal Sutton Coldfield Town 36,636 Council 49.96 1,528.98

8. Council Tax - Total

That, in accordance with Section 30 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the amounts of Council Tax set for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 for each category of dwelling listed within a particular valuation band, shall be calculated by adding:

- a. the amount given by multiplying the basic amount of Council Tax for the relevant area by the fraction whose numerator is the proportion applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band, and whose denominator is the proportion applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D; to
- b. the amounts which are stated in the final precepts issued by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner; and shall be:

		Council Tax	
	Council Tax	New Frankley in	Council Tax
Band	Areas without a Parish Council	Birmingham Parish	Royal Sutton Coldfield Town
Danu	£	£	£
A	1,146.40	1,164.59	1,179.71
В	1,337.47	1,358.69	1,376.33
С	1,528.53	1,552.78	1,572.94
D	1,719.61	1,746.89	1,769.57
E	2,101.74	2,135.08	2,162.80
F	2,483.87	2,523.28	2,556.04
G	2,866.01	2,911.48	2,949.28
Н	3,439.21	3,493.77	3,539.13

9. <u>Financial Plan 2021 – 2025</u>

That the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025, amended in line with the following pages, the amended budget be approved.

In section "Savings proposals" page 108 Appendix G add:-

New income proposals

Proposal code	Proposal	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)
	Write to band G and H Council Tax				
	Properties asking them if they will				
	consider additional optional				
Cou 02 21	contribution to tackle homelessness	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Increased income from non-school				
Cou 09 21	services	0.15	0.3	0.3	0.3
	Increased income from registry				
Cou 10 21	service	0.015	0.03	0.03	0.03
Cou 11 21	New advertising income	0.05	0.15	0.15	0.15
FW 01 21	Increased income from litter fines	0.03	0.03	0.025	0.01
	Increased income from Highways				
HW 01 21	enforcement	0.075	0.1	0.1	0.1
HW 02 21	Introduction of lane rental system	-0.02	0.1	0.1	0.1
HW 03 21	Increase fees for skip licences	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Higher fees for non Birmingham				
LeiS 01 21	residents	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
	Increased rental income from new				
LeiS 02 21	franchises	0.345	0.69	0.69	0.69
	Income selling Birmingham related	· -	2.35		
LeiS 03 21	merchandise	0.05	0.7	0.4	0.4
LS 01 21	Fees for non Birmingham residents	0.025	0.05	0.05	0.05
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4.45	5.05	0.03	5.05

	Total new income	1.6	3.29	2.985	2.97
PL 01 21	Increase in Planning fees	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
PK 01 21	Income from increased range of activities in parks, eg crazy golf	0.12	0.22	0.22	0.22
MUS 01 21	Income from loan of art in storage	0.15	0.3	0.3	0.3

New savings proposals

Proposal code	Proposal	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)
	Improving education opportunities for				
Ch 01 21	children in care	-0.20	7.80	7.80	7.80
Cou 01 21	Staff suggestion scheme	0.10	0.20	0.30	0.40
	Tackie duplicate				
Cou 03 21	payments	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Cou 04 21	Building rationalisation	0.48	0.95	0.95	0.95
Cou 05 21	Shared services	0.50	2.50	4.50	7.00
	An agile 'one council'				
Cou 06 21	Council	1.00	5.00	10.00	10.00
	Move to outcome				
Cou 07 21	budgeting	-0.40	5.00	10.00	10.00
	Increase NDR collection				
Cou 08 21	rate	0.00	4.45	2.27	2.33

040.04	Reduce sickness, improve				
Cou 12 21	staff wellbeing	1.60	3.12	3.12	2.68
	Reduced use of agency				
Cou 13 21	staff	3.10	7.75	7.75	7.75
	Reduced use of				
Cou 14 21	consultants	3.00	3.60	3.60	3.60
	Increase Council Tax				
Cou 15 21	collection rate	0.00	4.01	2.09	2.15
Dev 01 21	Increase Council tax base	-0.50	1.82	8.39	14.95
	Reduction in letters sent				
Ele 01 21	out	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
En 01 21	Energy savings	3.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
FW 02 21	Increase in recycling	-0.20	1.00	2.10	3.20
Lea 01 21	Reduced cabinet support	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50
	Reduction in Council				
Lea 02 21	communications team	0.30	0.60	0.60	0.60
Lea 03 21	Reduce cost of HR	0.60	1.19	1.19	1.19
	Reduced spend on	0.00			2.25
Lea 04 21	advertising	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
555 5 . 22	Scrap proposed increase	0.25	0.13	0.13	0.13
Lea 05 21	in JNC Officers	0.51	0.52	0.54	0.55
LEG UJ 21		0.51	0.32	0.54	0.55
Lea 06 21	Recruit to posts currently	044	0.20	0.00	0.00
rea 09 21	filled by interims	0.14	0.28	0.28	0.28
1 07 24	Reduce non essential				
Lea 07 21	spend	1.15	0.45	0.45	0.45
Lea 08 21	Treasury Management	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
	Greater control of				
Lea 09 21	Corporate cards	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
	Commission				
Nei 01 21	neighbourhood advice	0.30	0.60	0.60	0.60

	Total new savings	29.75	87.89	116.62	140.28
Prop 01 21	Savings from property services	0.30	0.75	0.75	0.75
Pro 01 21	Procurement	12.59	27.39	40.44	54.14
Pay 04 21	service	0.17	0.34	0.34	0.34
	Reduce costs of Payroll				
Pay 03 21	Trade Union funding	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Pay 02 21	Charges for payroll deductions	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Pay 01 21	sacrifice schemes	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.20
	Increase range of salary				

IJ

Insert new Appendix Gi:-

New spending proposals on outcomes

Outcome	Proposal	2021/22 (£m)	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	Proposal commentary
Cleaner streets	Total new spending	5.181	11.121	11.121	11.121	
	Bulky Waste Collections	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	Introduce free bulky waste collections, which will help reduce fly tipping
	Cancelling the 'Garden Tax' green waste collection charge	0.000	5.940	5.940	5.940	Reintroduce free garden waste collections to increase recycling and reduce fly tipping

[&]quot;Appendix Gi – new spending commitments and collated changes

	Pride in Brum litter crews.	3.356	3.356	3.356	3.356	Additional 3 person crews with a tipper truck working 5 days per every 20,000 properties in Birmingham to help tackle litter, fly tipping and leaf fall
	Local Dog and Litter Warden and teams 2.5 days per a week for each district	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	Dog fouling and litter on the street is becoming an increasingly large problem and so we would introduce new local dog and litter warden teams to help tackle the problem. Each district would get a two person team to enforce litter and dog fouling fines.
	Increase mobile CCTV use to tackle fly tipping and Anti- social behaviour	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	Delivers recommendation of scrutiny and will help reduce fly tipping
	Dedicated Waste prevention and enforcement in local communities	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	To help deliver cleaner streets and reduce fly tipping
	Increased recycling/litter and dog mess bins in parks and on streets	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	To help reduce litter and deliver cleaner streets
Improved						
environment	Total new spending	2.820	17.400	0.900	0.900	
	Living Green Walls installations inc ongoing maintenance for this and capital funded schemes.	0.200	6.200	0.200	0.200	The rollout of green walls will help the city deliver our environmental objectives
	Pilot of 'City Trees'	0.520	2.600	0.100	0.100	The rollout of green walls will help the city deliver our environmental objectives

Increased Flood protection work	0.500	1.000	0.000	0.000	Increased protection in high risk areas including Queslett Road, Quinton Road, Cole Valley Road/Sarehole Road for example
Green Space improvement fund	0.500	3.500	0.000	0.000	Improvements for green spaces including WVCP (£1m), Queens Parks (£200k) and Pitts Wood (£50k)
Expansion of the type of items residents can recycle	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	This would include allowing the recycling of tetra pack and coffee shop cups in household recycling. It is likely cost would in fact be reduced by increase in recycling this would deliver
Pothole fund	0.000	2.000	0.000	0.000	This would both improve road safety for cyclists and motor vehicles and improve air quality. A damaged road has been shown to lead to up to a 2% increase in emissions.
Protection and transfer of Burford Road Playing Fields and Short Heath Playing Fields to voluntary group for continued use by the public	0.500	1.000	0.000	0.000	Cancelling plans to build on the sites and instead finding an alternative solution either through a community partnership or parks to keep them as green lungs in the city, providing much needed public open space.
Create sustainability team to	0.050	0.400	0.400	0.100	. ,
Transfer Council land on Old Horn's Crescent to Queslett Nature Reserve	0.050	0.100	0.100	0.100	The options for sale for this land would be scrapped and the site added to the Queslett Nature Reserve instead, to act as an expanded green lung alongside this major traffic route.
	Green Space improvement fund Expansion of the type of items residents can recycle Pothole fund Protection and transfer of Burford Road Playing Fields and Short Heath Playing Fields to voluntary group for continued use by the public Create sustainability team to help meet climate objectives Transfer Council land on Old Horn's Crescent to Queslett	Increased Flood protection work Green Space improvement fund 0.500 Expansion of the type of items residents can recycle Pothole fund 0.000 Protection and transfer of Burford Road Playing Fields and Short Heath Playing Fields to voluntary group for continued use by the public Create sustainability team to help meet climate objectives 0.050 Transfer Council land on Old Horn's Crescent to Queslett	Increased Flood protection work Green Space improvement fund 0.500 3.500 Expansion of the type of items residents can recycle Pothole fund 0.000 2.000 Protection and transfer of Burford Road Playing Fields and Short Heath Playing Fields to voluntary group for continued use by the public 0.500 1.000 Create sustainability team to help meet climate objectives 0.050 0.100 Transfer Council land on Old Horn's Crescent to Queslett	Increased Flood protection work Green Space improvement fund 0.500 3.500 0.000 Expansion of the type of items residents can recycle Pothole fund 0.000 2.000 0.000 Protection and transfer of Burford Road Playing Fields and Short Heath Playing Fields to voluntary group for continued use by the public 0.500 1.000 0.000 Create sustainability team to help meet climate objectives 0.050 0.100 0.100 Transfer Council land on Old Horn's Crescent to Queslett	Increased Flood protection work Green Space improvement fund 0.500 3.500 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.50

Safer communities	Total new spending	2.310	3.360	1.360	1.360	
	CCTV in Council Tower Blocks	1.050	0.100	0.100	0.100	The removal of CCTV increase ASB. The proposal is to reinstate CCTV.
	Create animal welfare team	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	To help ensure the safety of animals in the City.
	Tackling anti-social behaviour	0.000	2.000	0.000	0.000	The Council would carry out a crack down on ASB in the city, working with partners.
	Saving Local Police Stations through colocation.	0.620	0.620	0.620	0.620	This would enable us to retain local Police bases and put them to improved use by co-locating Council ASB officers and other staff, there may also be scope to also move some social workers into the stations and create hot desks for the staff to use. Stations that would be retained include are Acocks Green, Digbeth, Edgbaston, Harborne, Handsworth, Kingstanding, Nechells, Quinton, Shard End and Sutton Coldfield. This also supports other proposed savings via agile working
	Additional support for School Crossing Patrols	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	To improve safety on the route to school
Improved transport	Total new spending	0.988	2.641	1.891	1.941	
	Install Electric vehicle charging points at local centre car parks and targeted other locations	0.700	0.800	0.000	0.000	This will enable faster roll out of electric charging points and so increase conversion to electric cars.
		CCTV in Council Tower Blocks Create animal welfare team Tackling anti-social behaviour Saving Local Police Stations through colocation. Additional support for School Crossing Patrols Improved transport Total new spending Install Electric vehicle charging points at local centre car parks	CCTV in Council Tower Blocks Create animal welfare team 0.040 Tackling anti-social behaviour 0.000 Saving Local Police Stations through colocation. Additional support for School Crossing Patrols Crossing Patrols 1.050 0.000 0.000 0.000	CCTV in Council Tower Blocks 1.050 0.100 Create animal welfare team 0.040 0.040 Tackling anti-social behaviour 0.000 2.000 Saving Local Police Stations through colocation. Additional support for School Crossing Patrols 0.600 0.600 Improved transport Total new spending points at local centre car parks 0.700 0.800	CCTV in Council Tower Blocks 1.050 0.100 0.100 Create animal welfare team 0.040 0.040 0.040 Tackling anti-social behaviour 0.000 2.000 0.000 Saving Local Police Stations through colocation. 0.620 0.620 0.620 Additional support for School Crossing Patrols 0.600 0.600 0.600 Improved transport Total new spending 0.988 2.641 1.891 Install Electric vehicle charging points at local centre car parks 0.700 0.800 0.000	CCTV in Council Tower Blocks 1.050 0.100 0.100 0.100

	Free suburban car parking	0.000	1.416	1.416	1.416	To help local centres by providing free car parking to shoppers and helps relieve parking issues on street in local communities, thereby improving local air quality. This spend helps meet the outcome of improved environment as well as improved transport
	Pilot of free travel on buses for parents with child and pushchairs/pram. We would work with the bus alliance to look at the practicalities of delivering this.	0.000	0.100	0.100	0.100	This will help promote bus use and make it easier for parents to get into the City, ensuring that they do not have to leave a child alone, while buying tickets. This would be a pilot, based on successful schemes in Scandinavia
	Grit Bins	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	This Council views road and pedestrian safety as vital and so we will protect the current level of Grit Bin retention. This spend also helps deliver the community safety outcome.
	Introduce free city hop fare on Metro	0.163	0.200	0.250	0.300	To make it easier to get around city, by making the metro accessible for all. Costs assume free fare increases demand over time.
increased civic pride	Total new spending	1.255	3.781	1.855	2.205	
·	Conservation team funding	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.160	Our heritage must be preserved and additional conservation support will help deliver the aspirations of residents for heritage to be protected.

Birmingham the Commonwealth City Fund	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.500	New pot of funding to support cultural events aimed at support nurseries, schools and other voluntary organisations, working with children, in the work many already do to raise and provide children with experiences of different cultures
Public Squares Project	0.000	1.001	0.000	0.000	£10k for single member wards and 20k for two member wards to deliver or enhance public open space in Birmingham
Planning Enforcement measures and improved public consultation area size	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	The budget for planning enforcement would be increased to help tackle unlawful developments and ensure citizen involvement in planning. Which in turn would help deliver the civic pride outcome.
Lord Mayor of Birmingham Community Trust	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	A fund to support deprived children with things like school uniforms and to support victims of natural or man-made disasters, replace essentials like white goods. Budget would roll over if not needed in year.
25% Council Tax deduction for Police Specials	0.000	0.250	0.125	0.125	To support Police Specials in our City
25% discount on Council Tax for families with someone in armed forces in household	0.000	1.000	0.500	0.500	Supporting families of serving armed forces personnel in our City.
Armed Forces liaison officer	0.025	0.050	0.050	0.050	To support current and ex members of the armed forces and their families in the City.
Additional grants to tackle Homelessness in Birmingham	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	

	Mental Health Awareness Campaign	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	This would supplement the work of the partnership mental health strategies being developed and delivered in Birmingham and the Combined Authority, ensuring that there is sufficient resource to deliver
	Community forward tab false	0.050	0.250	0.050	0.050	Job fairs focused in local communities to best ensure people can access the
	Community focused job fairs Targeted service to provide English as a foreign language	0.050	0.250	0.050	0.050	opportunitles
	classes	0.050	0.100	0.000	0.100	
Improving opportunities for young people	Total new spending	2.800	2.170	1.170	5.430	
Aonus beobie	· ·	2,000	2.170	1.170	3.430	The Council will create a new fund to
	Birmingham 'Head Start' in life fund	0.500	0.500	0.500	2.000	support children in Early Years to ensure Birmingham children are given a boost in their early years.
	Healthy eating in schools pilot	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.200	A pilot to work with schools to help improve quality and nutrition in school meals
	Careers advice funding	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.600	Improved careers advice to young people in Birmingham. Available before subject choices are made.
	Careers advice initialis	0.050	0.050	0.030	0.000	CHUICES are Haue.

	A Birmingham Cultural Card - 20% off tickets at Birmingham events	0.100	0.120	0.140	0.200	A discount card for Birmingham residents. Deals would be agreed for tickets still unsold, i.e. available 7 days before an event
Increasing access to culture, leisure and sport	Total new spending	1.350	3.420	0.440	1.900	
	Invest in our Children's Play areas	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.500	Deliver improvements and so secure their future by keeping them in good working order
	Supporting Young People in Birmingham	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.010	Produce a funding pot that Council and third sector Youth service providers can bid into to provide one off events and programmes on a ward basis as with community chest
	SEN School Support	0.500	0.500	0.500	1.000	Pot of funding to provide additional in- year support to school SEN budgets where new demand creates pressures not met by formula based on historic spend
	Create a skills data team to collect and distribute data from companies to schools on future skill need and work experience opportunities	0.750	0.120	0.120	0.120	To ensure that primary and secondary age school children know what types of jobs and the skills required will be available in the future. This will help us ensure that Birmingham children secure those jobs when they leave education rather than companies have to recruit further afield.

Birmingham Sports Grants	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	A small grant scheme to support local sports clubs. We would also support clubs to take up Community Amateur Sports Clubs status to maximise the value of these grants and other costs through tax relief
Extend opening hours of community libraries	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500	This Council feels suburban libraries provide a valuable resource to local communities and should be maintained and hours extended.
Additional Grant to Museum service from increased leasing of Art Work	0.050	0.200	0.200	0.200	Net of income from increased lending of work
Grant to expand Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery's work including into suburban centres	0.500	1.000	0.000	0.500	Additional support for BMHT will allow more of their world class collection to be enjoyed by more people, enriching culture for residents and boosting visitors to local centres.
Funding for repairs and					Including Hall Green (£100k) Stirchley (£50k) Erdington (£250k - including transfer of Sir Benjamin Stone archives from central library to Erdington for display), West Heath (£250k), Perry Common (£100k) and Kingstanding (£100k), Sutton (£200k), Quinborne (£100k) Mere Green (£50k), Boldmere (£100k), Harborne (£100k) with additional scope for other library issues that emerge to ensure they are dealt with quickly and
improvements to libraries	0.600	2.000	0.000	0.400	not left to get worse (at increased cost)

proving our eighbourhoods	Total new spending	6.040	26.140	1.140	1.140	
	Local Centre Improvement Budget	5.000	25.000	0.000	0.000	Investment in improving our local centres.
	Use our 'loo' campaign	0.000	0.100	0.100	0.100	To encourage more businesses to allow the public to use their toilets to boost the number of public loos available in local centres.
	ose our loo campaign	0.000	0.100	0.100	0.100	
	Create a Community Chest budget to each ward	1.010	1.010	1.010	1.010	Reintroduction of a community chest budget the budget would be steadily increased, in future, as budget allow.
	Registrar Services (Births, Deaths and Marriages) Re-open Sutton Coldfield/ North Birmingham Registry Office	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	The Council will reopen the Sutton Coldfield Registry Office service which serves North Birmingham. This will not only improve access for residents but also support a major local high street.
City open for siness	*	4 405	2 222	0.000	4 200	
iness	Total new spending	1.125	3.300	0.300	1.300	<u></u>
	50% relief awarded for 18 months to occupied property	0.000	0.050	0.050	0.050	To encourage businesses to open up in empty units.
	Business support desk in the Chief Exec Office	0.075	0.150	0.150	0.150	To enable businesses to get issues solved, when operating within the City or looking to invest in the City. Coordination of access to support for apprenticeships, job advertising and skills support.

Business liaison officers	0.050	0.100	0.100	0.100	Part of the Business Desk team, aimed at liaising with businesses submitting planning applications to engage with them on what they can offer the City in terms of future skills, jobs, investment etc. The team will maximise the benefits to Birmingham of new development
Birmingham Civic Improvement Fund - Business Grants	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	Match funding scheme to small businesses who wish to improve their premises, supporting the local high street and job creation
Birmingham Small Business Grant Start up support	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	Small scale grants to help small business start ups with the cost of equipment e.g. computer.

Create China - Birmingham 0.000 1.000 0.000 0.000

Establish a project team to use links with China to fund raise for improvements to the Birmingham Chinese Quarter, increase trade links and further build on the links between Birmingham and China to cover cost of team going forward. Examples could include seeking support and funding for the building of a Chinese archway in Birmingham's historic china town quarter. To support the funding of Birmingham's Chinese community centres and charities especially those which provide social support, language translation services and provision for the elderly and disabled community and to further strengthen commerce and investment links with Guangzhou and China and recognise the vital role that Chinese international students play in the economy of Birmingham and the future of our country's trade and international influence.

A place staff our proud to work Total new spending 0.000 0.000 0.000 3.760

	The Birmingham Bonus	0.000	0.000	0.000	Pi bi Wi fij Co al bi 3.010 ss
	Increased Maternity and				fr fc M le is C
	Paternity Pay for Council staff	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.750 A
Total of new spending to meet outcomes		23.869	73.333	20.177	31.057
Total cost to balance Council's current medium term financial plan gap		0.000	0.000	76.329	80.521
Cost of Council Tax freeze (for non social		7.258	14.936	23.049	31.616

Paid to all staff, a 1% bonus if the year end budget balances each year. The policy would be for all non JNC staff but the figures provide are equal to the whole Council so in reality this will cost less than allocated for it. If budget is not balanced bonus is also not required so becomes a saving in effect.

We believe the Council should be a family friendly employer and would bring forward a policy of enhancing the Council Maternity Pay to be closer to industry leaders rather than the current level. This is consistent with the policy agreed at Full Council with cross party support following a Conservative Group motion but has yet to be implemented by the Labour Administration

care precept part) for all four years

Addition to reserves		0.223	2.911	0.05	0.056
Total savings/increased					
income required		31.350	91.180	119.605	143.250
Increased income		1.6	3.29	2.985	2.97
New savings		29.75	87.89	116.62	140.28
Net position		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Insert at end of plan new Appendix w:-

"Appendix w – Saving proposal factsheets

Saving number: Ch 01 21

Directorate: Service: Children services

About this service

Birmingham City Council has a legal and moral obligation to look after children in care across our city.

Proposed changes

This saving will be generated by using increased boarding schools places and fostering for children in residential care where possible.

There would be a cost in year one to identify eligible children. There would be an ongoing link officer to ensure Birmingham cares for the children concerned. The Lord Mayor's Deputy would visit each child each year to ensure they are well settled. This represents an investment into the Children's Trust to make it happen, though any undelivered of the target will be borne by the Council, not the Trust, to ensure there is no risk to their budget.

This proposal has been shown to produce significant improvements for the children involved. Research by Norfolk Council highlighted that almost 2/3rds of children end up no longer needing to be on the Councils risk register following their boarding school placement. While three quarters of all children had their risk level reduced. In the research children placed in boarding schools also secured a higher level of attainment of A*-C grades in Maths and English. The research also showed that 40-80% of the costs of the average child in care costs for Norfolk Council.

Lord Agnew has commented, "It is right that all children should be given the opportunity to reach their full potential and this report demonstrates that – for the right person, at the right school, at the right time – boarding school can be highly effective in improving both social and educational outcomes. I urge local authorities to consider these findings and the positive impact boarding school placements can have on vulnerable children."

This saving is generated from the reduced costs incurred of boarding school placements vs costs of care home placements. Savings may exceed the proposed savings as many charities eg RNCF and Springboard Bursary Foundation will actually provide the funding to pay for the cost of the boarding school meaning that the saving on care home fees can be the whole gross figure rather than the net cost.

In addition 40 schools including Eton and Rugby have signed up to a scheme which offers councils places for only 60% of the normal cost for children in care, further reducing costs.

Any over delivery will be available to reinvent in the Children's Trust.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
-£0.2m	£7.8m	£7.8m	£7.8m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council would be able to provide considerable improvement in outcomes for children in care.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Proposals drawn up.

May 2021 - Consult users of the service on their views

June 2021 - Confirm policy and start process of trying to find places where suitable.

Ongoing – training to staff to help work with children to identify those for whom boarding school would benefit them.

Saving number: Cou 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates a wide range of services and employees a large pool of talented staff.

Proposed changes

The Council would introduce a staff suggestion scheme for proposed savings.

The proposed saving is be introduced for the full four years

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.10m	£0.20m	£0.30m	£0.40m

What would this mean?

This would generate savings by listening to the work force on the ground, steering expenditure where it is needed or not and listening to advice from frontline staff around effective use of products etc and to replace with alternatives where is both cheaper and delivers the same or improved standards. Where legal, staff suggestions delivering savings and service standard improvements will be rewarded with a one off payment.

Elsewhere this has delivered cost savings, improved standards and improved staff moral and engagement.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Produce new policy.

March 2021 - Approve new policy at Cabinet.

April 2021 - New Policy comes into effect.

Saving number: Cou 02 21

Directorate: Service: Council Tax

About this service

Birmingham City Council raises tax through the Council tax process and issues Council tax bills each year.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from writing to band G and H Council Tax Properties asking them if they will consider additional optional contribution to tackle homelessness in the City. The funding raised matches a corresponding expenditure line and will flex by the amount raised each year to generate a cash neutral income and expenditure position.

Has been tried in a number of London boroughs and brought additional income. Money would be ringfenced to fund additional grants to tackle homelessness in the City Centre. This works out as an average of an extra £14.91 per a household contacted. This compares to over £25 on average that was secured per household contacted in Westminster.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.10m	£0.10m	£0.10m	£0.10m

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased help to get homeless people into permanent accommodation and either direct or signposted help to support into employment.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Saving number: Cou 03 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council pays thousands of companies every year.

Proposed changes

Councils in England spend around £55 billion a year on goods. The Cabinet Office Cross-Government Fraud Landscape Report 2018 highlighted that between 0.5% to 5% is estimated to be fraud or error, equal to between £275m and £2.75b nationally.

Nationally best practice indicates that significant money can be saved/recovered. Wealden District Council for example has saved over £1.75m in four years since they established their Counter Fraud Investigations Team.

One potential way to deliver this saving would be following the approach of Prevention, Investigations, Enforcement and Review (PIER) will be able to generate cash realised savings to the Council by tackling duplicate payments. Another way is through enhanced monitoring of invoicing to ensure only correct bills are paid.

The Council would introduce measures to tackle duplicate payments.

The proposed net saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.05m	£0.05m	£0.05m	£0.05m

What would this mean?

Ensuring the Council doesn't pay bills twice.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Take new policy paper to cabinet to tackle duplicate payments

April 2021 – Introduce new policies to tackle duplicate payments

Saving number: Cou 04 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates a number of buildings across the site

Proposed changes

The Council would rationalise the buildings it uses for staff.

The Council would close New Aston House and Lifford House. The revenue saving from this is listed in the boxes below. There would also be a potential capital receipt or income from renting out the buildings but for prudence these have not been included and would be over and above these figures.

Sufficient space exists for the staff to relocate to other Council buildings moving to more flexible working. Savings are rounded down compared to dashboard data.

The proposed saving is partial in year one to allow for the required changes. The first-year saving is also net of implementation costs.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.475m	£0.95m	£0.95m	£0.95m

What would this mean?

A reduction in building footprint for the Council and providing staff a more flexible workplace.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Draft new location proposals and at same time start soft testing on potential future uses for buildings and interested parties.

April 2021 - Consult staff on proposals

June 2021 – Introduce new working locations and continue discussions on new uses for closing buildings until acceptable proposal agreed.

Saving number: Cou 05 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council runs a variety of services, this provides a large range of opportunity to join up with partners to share services.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to save money by sharing services with Council to reduce costs and improve the quality of the offer. The savings would be based around short term quick wins and longer savings that would deliver the majority of the savings in years 3 and 4.

Nationally local government is a leader in public sector collaborative service delivery. The LGA highlights that these projects have saved over £1.34billion through 626 partnerships. With annual efficiencies of around £200m so far.

There are many ways that Councils can save from shared services. Richmond and Wandsworth Councils have a shared management structure saving them £17.932m a year. While Havering and Newham save £14.88m a year through their shared management structure. While a collection of district and borough Councils in the South West have joined up back offices to save £7.642m a year. While similar arrangements in South Holland and East Lindsey have saved £2.1m a year. Orbis set up between East Sussex and Surrey County Councils saves them £6m a year through shared management. While Breckland and South Holland Councils also have a shared senior leadership saving £1.2m a year.

Hertfordshire County Council and partners have joined up their financial services and finance teams to save £6.8m a year. While in Lincolnshire councils save £1.4m in a shared finance partnership.

South Hams and West Devon shared services save money across a range of cross council services, totalling £6.1m a year.

In Worcestershire Councils have saved money through a shared one public estate model saving £2.1m a year.

In East Sussex four district Councils have shared environmental services saving over £1.3m a year while in East Hampshire a partnership is saving £1.6m a year around cleaner streets.

In Worcestershire District Councils also have a shared service around Housing revenues, benefits and homelessness saving £1.6m a year.

This are just a few of the examples from across the Country that demonstrate what can be achieved and delivered by sharing some services with other Councils.

These examples are key to highlighting what is possible as, as highlighted by practicallaw.com, "expanding established shared service centres is the way to go. If the hard work has already been done elsewhere then the report points out that it is sensible to take advantage of this, and the

expansion of existing shared service projects is encouraged as a way of delivering savings due to economies of scale".

The proposed saving is partial in year one to three, accounting for establishment costs and time to allow the implementation of the different proposals. Excess money saved would be added to the Council reserves for use as required.

A review of the benefit of shared services published by the LGA highlighted that "A key lesson from the case studies is that when the decision is made to go ahead it is better for the organisations and staff involved to move quickly". Therefore the pace of savings delivered may well be faster than we have prudently budgeted for below.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.5m	£2.5m	£4.5m	£7.0m

What would this mean?

The Council would move to a modern collaborative way of working. Many other Councils have successfully delivered this over the last few years but Birmingham lags well behind.

Opportunities for staff to work with people from other organisations and to increase learning/development chances would increase.

This proposal would also deliver an environmental benefit as well helping the City Council to meet its net zero carbon obligations.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Commence work on identifying details from cases elsewhere in the Country and on the range of proposals to be considered.

April 2021 – Begin process of 'bridge' building by senior officers and Councillors with other organisations and bodies.

May 2021 - Report to cabinet to approve commencement of required detail work

July 2021 – Update report to cabinet on progress and approve any required consultations

October 2021 - Report to cabinet on consultations.

November 2021 -Confirm process for agreeing joint management processes where required.

December 2021 – Report to cabinet for approval and implementation of proposed changed with time frame included for each proposal.

January 2023 – Yearly update report to cabinet on shared services program and on-going assessment of new potential savings.

January 2024 – Yearly update report to cabinet on shared services program and on-going assessment of new potential savings. Three year set up program concluded.

January 2025 – Yearly update report to cabinet on shared services program and on-going assessment of new potential savings.

Saving number: Cou 06 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council has been identified as an organisation in need of change and modernising over several external reviews. As an organisation the Council employees thousands of staff across numerous buildings. Combined with modern technology and changing desires the Council has the opportunity to become a more flexible and agile organisations.

Proposed changes

We need to break the silo mentality at the council a culture change that fosters a motivated, more agile workforce that puts addressing residents needs first and is able to work across specialisms to deliver outcomes.

The proposal is to save money from changing the way of working in Birmingham to create an agile workforce. PwC have highlighted that the benefits of an agile council are – reduced costs, enhanced customer experience and better outcomes, better performance and increased employee satisfaction.

The agile future forum commented on by the knowledge exchange defines agile working practices along four dimensions. "Time, when do they work; Location, where do they work e.g. working across multiple sites or remotely: Role, what do they do e.g. multiskilling: Source, who is employed.

Agile Councils PwC identify, "adopt simpler more standard organisational forms, giving greater flexibility, scalability and ability to respond rapidly to changing circumstances. Have a 'whole council', commercially astute and project centred culture; recognising that they need more than a service delivery mindset, to influence the outcomes they desire for their communities. Are change oriented, quickly able to spot changing circumstances and respond rapidly and through continuous improvement".

The barriers that a council has to over come to become more agile are also described by PwC as needing to challenge the idea statutory services can't be modernised, challenging historic delivery or ways of working, identifying future council needs, intervening at an early stage to prevent future costs, fixing service failure demand created by other public sector or council services failing first and dependency.

Although the savings proposed are very modest when looking at the size of the Council budget, PwC have shown that much larger savings can actually be achieved. They say "Typically councils can achieve benefits of up to 10% from changing structures — and if they include processes, they can achieve 30%. A further shift to focussing on outcomes could underpin benefits of up to 50%".

The proposed saving is partial in year one to two, accounting for establishment costs and time to allow the implementation of the proposals. Excess money saved would be added to the Council reserves for use as required.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£1.0m	£5.0m	£10.0m	£10.00m

What would this mean?

Move to more agile 'one council' model without Directorates and flatter staffing structures with more rounded job roles.

This would be a transformation in the way the Council works, allowing staff to work more agilely and in an environment that encourages innovation. This would lead to improved benefits and opportunities for staff and experience for users as well as savings.

This proposal would also deliver an environmental benefit as well helping the City Council to meet its net zero carbon obligations.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Commence work on identifying details from cases elsewhere in the Country and on the range of proposals to be considered.

May 2021 - Report to cabinet to approve commencement of required detail work

July 2021 - Update report to cabinet on progress and approve any required consultations

October 2021 - Report to cabinet on consultations responses and update if required.

December 2021 – Report to cabinet for approval and implementation of proposed changed with time frame included for proposals. All streams to be completed by March 2023

January 2023 – Yearly update report to cabinet on agile working program and on-going assessment of new potential savings.

January 2024 – Yearly update report to cabinet on agile working program and on-going assessment of new potential savings. Three year set up program concluded.

January 2025 – Yearly update report to cabinet on agile working program and on-going assessment of new potential savings.

Saving number:Cou 07 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council has been identified as an organisation in need of change and modernising over several external reviews. As an organisation the Council employs thousands of staff across numerous buildings. However the organisation is focused against historic ways of operating rather than being nimble enough to flex to the needs of the City. The Council would refocus on the customers needs through outcomes based budgeting.

Proposed changes

We will move the Council to a zero-based outcome budgeting process where we 'reset the clock' and redesign services to operate as if they were being started from afresh. This will refocus the Council on the actual outcomes the Council budget achieves. Other council's have already adopted this approach. This requires an investment in year one to build up the necessary data and intelligence and to consult with residents on their priorities for the Council and City.

The purpose of moving to outcome-based budgeting it to ensure a laser like focus of Council resources on the delivery of priority outcomes.

Work by PwC has highlighted how councils can generate up to net 20% savings on their budgets by operating around outcomes. This requires a focus on outcomes for residents rather than processes or structures.

Outcome based budgeting is a widely accepted principal, including by the Cabinet Office, HM Treasury, National Audit Office, Audit Commission and Office for National Statistics.

The proposed saving is a cost in year one and a partial saving in year two, accounting for establishment costs and time to allow the implementation of the proposals. Excess money saved would be added to the Council reserves for use as required.

The first year will be used to establish a proof of concept and secure organisational buy in while preparatory work continues to gather the required data to roll out the changes council wide.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
-£0.40m	£5.0m	£10.0m	£10.00m

What would this mean?

It means basing decisions around the relationship between resources and outcomes, focusing the spend on those outcomes that have the highest impact on the delivery of pre-established desired outcome for residents.

This would be a transformation in the way the Council works. This would lead to improved benefits and opportunities for staff and better experience for residents as well as savings.

This proposal would also deliver an environmental benefit as well helping the City Council to meet its net zero carbon obligations.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Commence work on Identifying details from cases elsewhere in the Country and on the range of proposals to be considered.

June 2021 - Report to cabinet to approve commencement of required detailed work

July 2021 – Update report to cabinet launching public consultation on outcome based budgeting and what outcomes residents want the Council to build around.

October 2021 - Report to cabinet on consultation responses and update if required.

December 2021 – Report to cabinet outlining action plan for delivery of outcome based budgeting first in a trial areas and then moving to council wide by the budget process of 2023/24

July 2022 – Report to cabinet on progress.

January 2023 – Yearly update report to cabinet on outcome based budgeting and on-going assessment of new potential savings.

January 2024 – Yearly update report to cabinet on outcome based budgeting and on-going assessment of new potential savings. Three year set up program concluded.

January 2025 – Yearly update report to cabinet on outcome based budgeting and on-going assessment of new potential savings.

Saving number: Cou 08 21

Directorate:

Service: Non domestic Rates collection

fund

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates the Non domestic rates (NDR) collection fund.

Proposed changes

The Council would increase its collection of NDR by 0.5% vs the originally budgeted collection rates put forward by the administration.

Data produced by LG inform shows that Birmingham's collection rate for NDR is 0.9% below the average for all single tier authorities and below the national average. When compared to other similar councils it is lower than Leeds, Manchester, Sheffield, Coventry and many others - all of whom achieve a rate better than the national average.

Therefore it is felt that a 0.5% increase in the collection fund is deliverable.

Examples of improved collection rates elsewhere in the Country have shown improvements can be made through a number of measures including, making paying as easy as possible, make communications clear, simple and attractive, remind people at the right times, highlight social norms and consider motivation and incentives.

What this shows is that relatively simple measures can not only increase the collection rate but also improve timeliness thereby reducing the cost of debt collection.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.00m	£4.449m	£2.271m	£2.331m

What would this mean?

We would collect a higher percentage of the owed NDR.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - introduce changes from successful pilots elsewhere in the Country.

March 2021 – Commence further work looking at wider range of changes.

May 2021 - Introduce additional measures as proposed from further work.

Saving number:Cou 09 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council raises income through variety of different streams.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from non-school services. This additional income would be secured by a range of measures including the Council increasing trade with other public and private sector bodies.

The saving proposal would be introduced in time to deliver partial savings in year one and full savings across the following three years.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.15m	£0.30m	£0.30m	£0.30m

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased income for the council.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - commence work to scope potential new income sources

May 2021 – put new measures into place and approve action plan and monitoring to deliver savings on time.

Saving number: Cou 10 21

Directorate:

Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council is responsible for running registry services in the City. There are approximately 17,500 births a year.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from registry office selling items like City Crest Birth/Marriage Certificate, mugs etc.

The saving proposal would be introduced in time to deliver partial savings in year one and full savings across the following three years.

Increase	Increase	Increase	Increase
income in	income in	income in	income in
21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
£0.015m	£0.030m	£0.030m	

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased income for the council.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - commence work to map out new products and sourcing

May 2021 - Approve product range and purchasing options.

September 2021 - Commence new offer

Saving number: Cou 11 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council can generate income from advertising on its property. The installation of 'City Tree' bench and air cleaning system would allow an opportunity of new advertising revenue.

Proposed changes

The installation of 'City Trees' will give the Council a chance to generate additional revenue.

The cost for the installation and maintenance of the 'City Trees' is provided for in a new spending commitment under the new spending priorities.

The saving proposal would be introduced in time to deliver partial savings in year one and full savings across the following three years.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.05m	£0.15m	£0.15m	£0.15m

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased income for the council, as a consequence of work being undertaken to deliver cleaner air and our climate objectives.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – commence work to procure 'City Trees' (cost of these are covered in new spending priorities) and launch discussions with potential advertisers and partners.

September 2021 - Commence installation and advertising arrangements.

Saving number: Cou 12 21

Directorate: Service: Work force

About this service

Birmingham City Council is responsible for the wellbeing of its workforce.

Proposed changes

The Council would generate savings from a reduction in sickness absence.

This saving includes an allowance of 1/3 on top of direct costs attributable to sickness to account for the indirect costs of sickness. For prudence this is lower than the CBI estimate of 40-50% for indirect cost.

The current state of sickness and proposed changes would be analysed in a framework looking at current data and causes, flexible working changes, improved workplace measures, strengthened team spirit across the council, incentive driven change where appropriate and reinforce workplace safety and reduce workplace accidents.

We would learn from other work around reducing sickness rates in the public sector by the NHS and others to deliver this reduction.

The proposed saving is generated partially in year one and fully from year two.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£1.6m	£3.120m	£3.121m	£2.678m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council generates a saving and can take an earlier role in ensuring the wellbeing of its staff.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key mllestones

February 2021 onwards – Review current polices and compare to best practice, including a data dive to understand the nature of absences in Birmingham.

March 2021 – consult staff on measures that would reduce absence and improve well-being.

May 2021 - Confirm proposed measures.

Late May 2021 - Consult on measures if required.

September 2021 – Confirm and implement savings proposals. Adopt any new rules or policies as required.

Saving number: Cou 13 21

Directorate:

Service: Agency costs

About this service

Birmingham City Council is responsible for the wellbeing and management of its workforce. The Council spent £66.834m in 2019/20 and forecast to spend £59.940m in 2020/21 on agency costs.

Proposed changes

The Council would generate savings from a reduction in agency use.

This will be achieved via tighter controls over the hire of agency staff, in particular, the reasons for the hire and contract duration. We recognise the value of the flexibility that agency staff can bring, to certain situations, but they are not a substitute for delivering sustainable change.

We will improve tracking of agency staff in the organisation. Ensuring understanding of the issue. This will improve the managing of processes and workforce. We will also engage with staff.

We would work with managers in the organisation to diagnose issues, decide ways forward and quickly implement changes to reduce agency use. This work would focus around technology, controls, information and engagement.

Over 40% of current agency spend is on office staff rather than manual or social services staff. This would be the first area reviewed for potential savings and reductions in agency use.

Delegations would also be amended to introduce more restrictions on agency approval.

The proposed saving is generated partially in year one and fully from year two.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£59.940	£3.1m	£7.75m	£7.75m	£7.75m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council generates a saving by reducing the use of agency staff.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 onwards – Review current polices and compare to best practice and current data on agency spend.

February 2021 – Publish proposed changes to delegations for comment.

March 2021 - consult staff on measures to reduce agency use.

April 2021 - Produce final proposed delegation changes report and approve at cabinet.

May 2021 - Confirm proposed measures.

May 2021 – Amend the Council standing orders to reduce the delegation levels.

Late May 2021 - Consult on measures if required and introduce training for managers as required.

June 2021 – Produce and then adopt a strategic plan for reducing agency staff, focused on workforce issues and demand prediction.

September 2021 – Confirm and implement savings proposals. Adopt any new rules or policies as required.

Saving number: Cou 14 21

Directorate: Service: Consultancy/Consultants

About this service

Birmingham City Council utilises consultants. Often using large numbers of consultants and at great cost to the taxpayer, at short notice. The council spent nearly £20m on Consultants in 2019 and over £23m in 2020.

Proposed changes

The Council would generate savings from a reduction in use of consultants.

The Council will reduce use of consultants. We will remove all officer delegation for the appointment of consultants without executive approval and allow scrutiny to ensure much tighter control and greater accountability.

Training will also be introduced and changes to hiring processes to reduce reliance on consultants.

The proposed saving is generated partially in year one and fully from year two.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service in 2020	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£23.629699m	£3.0m	£3.6m	£3.6m	£3.6m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council generates a saving by reducing the use of consultants. It will also potentially offer staff more chances to develop by taking on work that previously would have been contracted out.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 onwards – Review current polices and compare to best practice and current data on agency spend.

February 2021 - Publish proposed changes to delegations for comment.

March 2021 - consult staff on reduced use of consultants

April 2021 - Produce final proposed delegation changes report and approve at cabinet.

April 2021 – Provide training for staff around appropriate use of consultants.

May 2021 - Amend the Council standing orders to reduce the delegation levels.

June 2021 – Introduce changes to the way that follow up work is carried out with consultants to prevent laddering of contracts, where an initial low price is laddered into much larger amounts through add on work.

Saving number:Cou 15 21

Directorate: Service: Council tax collection fund

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates the Council Tax collection fund.

Proposed changes

The Council would increase its collection of Council Tax by 0.5% vs the originally budgeted for collection rates put forward by the administration.

Data produced by LG inform shows that Birmingham's collection rate for Council Tax is 1.78% below the average for all single tier authorities. When compared to other West Midlands Councils the collection rate is at least 1% lower than Coventry, Dudley and Sandwell, it is also over 1% lower than Leeds.

Therefore it is felt that a 0.5% increase in the collection fund is deliverable.

Examples of improved collection rates elsewhere in the Country have shown improvements can be made through a number of measures including, making paying as easy as possible, make communications clear, simple and attractive, remind people at the right times, highlight social norms and consider motivation and incentives.

For example simply amending the first reminder sent to households in a trial in Medway Council delivered significant increase in payments. While the behaviour insights team found amending the wording on the first Council Tax notice delivered a 9% increase in response rate in a trial they carried out. While including a line to the effect of 9 out 10 people in the UK pay their tax on time increased payment rates by 11%.

What this shows is that relatively simple measures can not only increase the collection rate but also improve timeliness, producing a reduction in the cost of chasing owed money.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.00m	£4.01m	£2.087m	£2.147m

What would this mean?

We would collect a higher percentage of the owed Council Tax.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 – introduce changes from successful pilots elsewhere in the Country.

March 2021 - Commence further work looking at a wider range of changes.

May 2021 – introduce additional measures as proposed from further work.

Saving number: Dev 01 21

Directorate: Service: Development

About this service

Birmingham City Council is involved directly and indirectly in the construction of significant house construction projects across the City.

Proposed changes

The Council would increase its council tax base by delivering an increase in the number of council tax Band D equivalent properties.

A number of councils have delivered increases in their council tax base by delivering more band d and above houses. For example, Knowsley Council have been able to deliver an increase above their originally proposed 1.8% increase for a number of years now. This has helped make a significant difference to their tax base. These savings are magnified by the cumulative effect over time.

There is a cost in year one to change policies and engage with developers take place. The saving profile assumes a 0.5% increase in the number of band d equivalent properties in year 2 and then a 1.8% increase in number of band d equivalent properties in years 3 and 4.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
-£0.50m	£1.824m	£8.389m	£14.954m

What would this mean?

We would collect a higher amount of council tax providing the Council with increased financial stability.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Commence research on work carried out by other Councils to deliver increases in council tax base.

April 2021 – Review planning polices to focus on increasing the council tax base by delivering higher quality housing, which is generally in demand in the City.

May 2021 – Consult on new documents and engage with house builders and landowners over aspirations for the city.

July 2021 - Introduce new policies and continue engagement work to ensure delivery.

January 2022 Onwards – ensure review and update of policy progress included in the annual council tax base report.

Saving number: Ele 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Electoral services

About this service

Birmingham City Council runs the electoral registration process for the city.

Proposed changes

The Council would immediately reduce the number of letters it sends out reminding people to register. Newcastle Council found they could save £0.050m a year through a similar policy.

The proposed saving is introduced for the full four years

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
	£0.1m	£0.1m	£0.1m	£0.1m

What would this mean?

This proposal would reduce the number of letters sent out by the Council and would help contribute towards the climate objectives of the City.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Confirm change of policy and reduce letters sent out.

April – 2021 continue to monitor service to ensure compliance

Saving number:En 01 21

Directorate: Service: Energy

About this service

Birmingham City Council uses a range of energy sources for heating its buildings etc. The current energy bill for the Council is expected to be at least £29.5 million. The year before this was at least £28.8 million.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to save money from the Council energy bill through a combination of reduced costs, use and increased generation.

A modest estimate of 15-20% of the Council's energy bill could be saved through targeted capital investments in our key assets with a payback period of 3 years (source: Local Government Association, The Potential for energy efficiency and renewable energy).

Edinburgh Council have signed a contract that delivers savings of 24 % on its energy bill, while Leeds are saving 26% of their bill across 9 buildings in a partnership with EON, <a href="https://www.eonenergy.com/for-your-business/large-energy-users/manage-energy/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-case-studies/leeds-council-epc?device=desktop&perminent=false. To be prudent we have assumed a lower level of overall savings than these case studies have proved is achievable. Working with energy firms also allows partnerships to be formed which will transfer capital costs to be borne by partner companies.

Cambridgeshire County Council delivered a 17% reduction in energy use, thereby saving money and reducing emissions through a mobilising a local energy programme.

Technological use, often in partnership is a good way to deliver savings. By analysing and anticipating demand and supply Google saved 15% from their overall energy consumption. Source: http://uk.businessinsider.com/. Within nine months annual savings were shown to be up to 30%, this being attributed to the software analysis improving as more business data was, source www.internetofbusiness.com.

Energy performance contracts are also a way of delivering savings. Work by SSE delivered a 26% reduction in carbon emissions and a 25% reduction in energy use at Calderdale Council. Contracts offered an agreed level of guaranteed savings to the council and then a sharing of excess savings. Source SSE Energy.

It should also be noted that West Lothian Council discovered that savings were also generated through reduced maintenance costs as well as from the reduced energy use, costs and income sources. Source: www.ameresco.com.

The Council is asset rich, especially when including the schools estate, and there are companies set up (inc subsidiaries of the big energy companies) designed to undertake this type of contract. We can also exploit grant funding available from government to meet carbon targets.

We would achieve these levels of savings not just by lowering energy use but by better use of our assets. One simple example is that many Council buildings have lights on all night. Ensuring these are turned off each day when not in use will make small but cumulatively significant savings.

We would deploy a robust corporate approach to energy management. Building specific* Energy Performance Contracts would ensure a return on investment on building management systems, lighting controls, boiler replacement and the installation of energy producing assets such as solar panels etc. This work could be done jointly with an energy firm as partners.

We would also pursue a rigorous awareness campaign with staff and public based on an 'every watt counts' approach to energy conservation, including publishing the energy performance and usage of buildings and creating 'energy champions' in each workplace to promote and share good practice and highlight areas for improvement.

This all has the added benefit of helping to lower our emissions of harmful pollutants as well as saving the Council money.

The proposed saving is partial in year one to allow the implementation of the proposals.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£29.5m	£3.000m	£6.000m	£6.000m	£6.000m

What would this mean?

This would be a transformation of the way energy is managed by the Council. A combination of reduced consumption, improved efficiency, clean energy generation and partnership using Council assets and private sector expertise would deliver savings to the tax payers of Birmingham.

This proposal would also deliver an environmental benefit, helping to increase the use of clean energy and helping the City Council to meet its net zero carbon obligations.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored. The proposals will help the Council make significant inroads into delivering on its climate objectives.

Key milestones

March 2021 –Review the energy saving proposals that would best deliver for the organisation. Produce database of required data on energy use, including basic information, equipment upgrades, energy efficiency measures, building use and operation, energy data and other information eg building audits etc.

May 2021 – Report to cabinet, commence initial assessments, consider procurement implications so as to allow later flexibility. Include any required procurement notices such as a Prior Information Notice (PIN) to safeguard the later process.

July 2021 – Proposals are produced, separated into quick wins, and longer-term savings and procurement processes required initiated for both.

September 2021 - Quick win contracts signed and actioned.

October 2021 - Savings start to be delivered.

December 2021 - Longer term contracts signed and project management plans confirmed.

January 2022 - Required work from contracts take place.

March 2022 - Update report to Cabinet on outcomes from contracts.

March 2023 – Yearly update report to Cabinet on energy savings program and on-going assessment of potential new savings.

March 2024 – Yearly update report to Cabinet on energy savings program and on-going assessment of potential new savings.

March 2025 – Yearly update report to Cabinet on energy savings program and on-going assessment of potential new savings.

Saving number:FW 01 21

Directorate: Service: Fleet and Waste services

About this service

Birmingham City Council has the power to carry out various enforcement activities such as issuing fines for littering.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate income from tackling littering in the City.

The income currently generated from tougher litter enforcement and the proposed increase in income is shown below. There is a partial impact in year one due to time establishing the new proposal. This proposal has been benchmarked against comparable figures generated by other councils. The proposal shows a reduction in years 3 and 4 due to behavioural improvements. Should the income achieved be higher additional income will be added to reserves for reallocating as required.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.030m	£0.040m	£0.025m	£0.010m

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased fines for littering in Birmingham. As well as extra income, we will reduce littering.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Draw up new proposals. Issue Prior information notice (PIN) to allow for fast track procurement later if required.

April 2021 – Design and procure (if required) most appropriate scheme for increase in issuing of litter and fly tipping fines.

July 2021 - Implement new charges and scheme

Saving number: FW 02 21

Directorate: Service: Fleet and Waste

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates a refuse and recycling collection service. Currently Birmingham has the 7th largest generation of waste per household (728.90 compared to national average of 535.31) nationwide and 3rd lowest recycling rate (22% compared to mean of 39.1% and highest of 64.80%) on the most recent comparison of single tier council data, source www.local.gov.uk.

N.B. These figures exclude bottom ash as per the nationally recognised comparison formulae.

Proposed changes

The Council would introduce plans to increase the amount of recycling in the City. This would be achieved through a range of measures including a recycling rewards scheme. When trialled in Birmingham previously it led to an increase in recycling of up to 20%. Schemes elsewhere indicate an increase of between 8-12% and associated reductions in landfill, starting from a higher recycling base, www.businessgreen.com. Every 10% increase saves the Council £1.6m. Currently Birmingham has a recycling rate of only a third of the national leaders.

This proposal would also look at expanding the range of items residents can recycle and introduce training and education programme to improve recycling and build lasting change in the way refuse is dealt with in the City.

Work would also take place to seek partnerships and sponsorship for some of the costs of rewards and/or training engagement work.

The proposed saving is shown below. The saving profile assumes a net cost in the first year from the setting up of a rewards scheme and training, due to combination of costs and set up time. Additional potential costs of up to £0.5m a year are accounted for in new spending items to enable the expansion in recycling. A planned for increase of recycling of 20-25% by year four would still leave Birmingham almost 20% behind the best in class Councils so is very achievable.

Future years savings continue to be net of costs of running the scheme and any on-going training needed.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
-£0.20m	£1.00m	£2.10m	£3.20m

What would this mean?

This would increase the amount of waste recycled in the city. As well as delivering a cleaner, greener and happier city it would also help the Council meet its climate objectives.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Review previous recycling reward trial in Birmingham for lessons learnt.

March 2021 - Take new policy paper to cabinet and launch consultation on proposals.

March 2021 - Commence discussions with potential partners and sponsors.

June 2021 – Review consultation and launch finalised policy and engagement program.

March 2022 - Review report to Cabinet on progress so far.

January 2023 – Yearly Cabinet review of progress and suggested on going improvements.

January 2024 - Yearly Cabinet review of progress and suggested on going improvements.

January 2025 – Yearly Cabinet review of progress and suggested on going improvements.

Saving number: HW 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Highways services

About this service

Birmingham City Council has the power to carry out various enforcement activities eg parking violations.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate income from increased parking enforcement in the City.

The amount currently generated from parking enforcement and the proposed increase in income is shown below. This proposal has been benchmarked against comparable figures generated by other councils.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.075m	£0.100m	£0.100m	£0.100m

What would this mean?

This would be targeted at particular hotspots such as near schools, train stations, high streets and hospitals and following local resident engagement. The figure represents net profit after costs generated by increased enforcement.

This proposal would increase highway safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Draw up proposals. Issue Prior information notice (PIN) to allow for fast track procurement later if required.

April 2021 - Design and procure (if required) most appropriate scheme.

July 2021 - Implement new charges and scheme.

Saving number: Hw 02 21

Directorate: Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council is responsible for the road network in Birmingham.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to charge utilities etc. a lane rental to reduce time and space spent digging up the road. Kent achieved £631,000 over a two year pilot. Proposal assumes the scheme is introduced in April 2021 after 12 month consultation. The cost of the consultation is shown in year one.

Since Kent made the pilot permanent the scheme has significantly exceeded this level of income.

The saving proposal would be introduced in year two after a consultation in year one.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
-£0.02m	£0.10m	£0.10m	£0.10m

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased income for the council, reduced congestion and help deliver climate objectives.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Collect data required to launch consultation on proposed lane rental system on 30th March.

30th March 2021 - Consultation launched.

By 31st March 2022 - Consultation data considered, and new policy introduced from 1st April 2022.

Saving number:Hw 03 21

Directorate:

Service: Council wide

About this service

Birmingham City Council is responsible for the road network in Birmingham.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to charge increased fees for skip licences.

This level of income has been achieved by other Councils eg Bristol Council and Birmingham is larger than Bristol. Any surplus will be added to reserves.

The saving proposal would be introduced in year one.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.1m	£0.10m	£0.10m	£0.10m

What would this mean?

This would lead to increased income for the council.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Agree new charging policy.

April 2021 - New charges come into effect.

Saving number:Lea 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Cabinet Member Support

About this service

Birmingham City Council provides a range of support services for cabinet members and in 2020/21 the budget increased by a further £0.280m a year and by 2024/25 is due to be a further £0.151m higher than 2020/21.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to reduce the cost of the cabinet member support team.

The proposed saving is partial in year one to allow the implementation of the proposals.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£1.284m	£0.250m	£0.500m	£0.500m	£0.500m

What would this mean?

This proposal would ensure appropriate levels of support for the cabinet while also contributing to lower costs to the organisations.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Confirm new structure

April 2021 - Consultation

September 2021 – Implementation complete

Saving number:Lea 02 21

Directorate:

Service: Reduce the Council Communicatons team

About this service

Birmingham City Council provides a range of communication services and in 2021/22 the budget is proposed to increase by a further £0.135m a year rising to in 2024/25 being £0.231m higher than 2020/21.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to reduce the cost of the communications team.

The proposed saving is partial in year one to allow the implementation of the proposals.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£1.307m	£0.300m	£0.600m	£0.600m	£0.600m

What would this mean?

This proposal would ensure required levels of communications support whilst reducing costs.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Confirm new structure

April 2021 - Consultation

September 2021 - Implementation complete

Saving number:Lea 03 21

Directorate:

Service: Reduce the cost of the HR team

About this service

Birmingham City Council provides a HR service at a cost to the Council of £6.780m in 2020/21. This is budgeted to rise to £7.547m in 2021/22, then to £7.727 and £7.912 and in 2024/25 being a total budget of £8.104m.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to reduce the cost of the HR service to the City Council. This would take place by a review of the existing service and study of opportunities to deliver objectives in an alternative way.

The proposed saving is partial in year one to allow the implementation of the proposals.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£6.780m	£0.595m	£1.190m	£1.190m	£1.190m

What would this mean?

This proposal would ensure the Council has the required system of HR support while also delivering savings to the Council.

We will try to reduce the impact by

Ensuring the delivery of the review of the service is completed on time will reduce risk of delays. The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Carry out review of options for new service.

April 2021 - Confirm new structure

April 2021 - Consultation

September 2021 - Implementation complete

Saving number:Lea 04 21

Directorate:

Service: Reduce the amount spent on advertising

About this service

Birmingham City Council spent only £0.512m on advertising in 2019/20 and the budget is forecast to have increased to £0.664m in 2020/21. Increasing to £0.657m in 2021/22, then to £0.659 and £0.661m and in 2024/25 being a total budget of £0.664m.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to reduce the amount spent on advertising by the City Council each year back to a level similar to 2019/20

The proposed saving will be implemented by the start of year one.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.664m	£0.15m	£0.15m	£0.15m	£0.15m

What would this mean?

This proposal would ensure the Council reduces its spend on advertising.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Confirm new advertising spending limits

March 2021 – Carry out in house training for any staff who have access to advertising budget to explain new policy.

April 2021 - Start new policy and monitor for compliance.

Saving number:Lea 05 21

Directorate:

Service: Scrapping proposed increase in JNC staff numbers

About this service

Birmingham City Council has a senior officer core to deliver the services of the City Council. The proposed increase would be scrapped and instead efforts focused on the confirmation or recruitment of permanent staff to replace interims.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to cancel the proposed increase in JNC staff numbers.

The proposed saving will be implemented by the start of year one.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.51m	£0.52m	£0.54m	£0.55m

What would this mean?

This proposal would scrap the proposed increase in JNC staff proposed by the Administration.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Confirm increase in JNC staff is scrapped.

Saving number:Lea 06 21

Directorate:

Service: Fill posts currently covered by

interims

About this service

Birmingham City Council currently has a range of senior staff employed in a variety of ways.

Proposed changes

The Council would immediately start the process of procuring all the required posts onto permanent or fixed term contracts rather than paying long term interims. Figures are based on the difference between posts hired at the top of grade vs cost of interim. These figures do not include interim recruitment costs. Moreover, some of the recruits will not be at top grade, meaning that additional savings are likely beyond these shown herein.

The proposed saving is for a half year in year one to allow for a 6 month recruitment and notice period.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.14m	£0.28m	£0.28m	£0.28m

What would this mean?

This proposal would scrap the proposed increase in JNC staff proposed by the administration.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Confirm Job descriptions and arrange interview dates

March 2021 - Advertise

April/May 2021 - Interview process

September 2021 - Recruited staff commence roles

Saving number: Lea 07 21

Directorate: Service: Non-essential spend

About this service

Birmingham City Council has a range of non-essential spend.

Proposed changes

The Council will reduce non-essential spend on Conferences/Training/Travel/Stationary/Outside subscriptions/External Room hire.

The proposal is to justify all expenditure in year 1 against a strict business need criteria. We would expect some relaxation in later years.

The proposed saving would come into effect from the new financial year.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£1.15m	£0.45m	£0.45m	£0.45m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council would rebalance its non-essential spend.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - introduce new management and use policies

Saving number: Lea 08 21

Directorate:

Service: Treasury Management

About this service

Birmingham City Council has a good track record of being able to generate good returns/savings through wise treasury management of the Council's finance.

Proposed changes

This saving will be made by continued careful management of the Council's cash flow and investments which has secured larger savings in previous years by the end of year budget. The proposed saving will come into effect from the new financial year.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.5m	£0.5m	£0.5m	£0.5m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council would continue its good track record with treasury management.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

During the year we will monitor progress.

Saving number: Lea 09 21

Directorate: Service: Corporate cards

About this service

Birmingham City Council has a range of corporate cards.

Proposed changes

This saving will be made by introducing greater control on corporate credit/purchase cards.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.05m	£0.05m	£0.05m	£0.05m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council would make a saving.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Confirm new policy on card use

1st April 2021 – Introduce new policy.

Saving number:LeiS 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Leisure service

About this service

Birmingham Leisure Service currently allows non Birmingham residents to use the service for the same charge as Birmingham residents.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to charge non Birmingham residents a higher fee, for use of the Birmingham Leisure Service. The proposal would come into effect from the 1st of April, however to allow for set up of the charging system and ongoing impact of Covid-19 etc only a half year saving is assumed in year one. Any additional saving generated would be added to reserves.

The current income from the service and the proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.010m	£0.020m	£0.020m	£0.020m

What would this mean?

Non Birmingham residents would have to pay a higher fee to use the leisure service going forward.

We will try to reduce the impact by

There will be no negative impact on Birmingham residents however the generation of additional income should help protect the service going forward. The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Draw up new proposals

April 2021 - Consult on new proposals

July 2021 – Respond to consultation

September 2021 - Introduce new proposals.

Saving number:LeiS 02 21

Directorate:

Service: Leisure service

About this service

Birmingham City Council has experience of generating income from renting out limited trading space within some facilities such as a Wyndley leisure centre. This generates the Council an income stream.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from increasing the number of Council sites that have café type facilities.

These changes would take some time to be negotiated and introduced therefore the income target assumes a part year impact in the first year. While currently such Council sites are closed due to Covid-19 this should not prevent the Council from being able to negotiate contracts for the future.

The proposed additional income has been based upon the level of rental already received by the Council from other sites and compared against the number of sites the Council could make available.

The proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.345m	£0.690m	£0.690m	£0.690m

What would this mean?

It would create an improved range of facilities for users at Council sites across the city both improving the options available to residents and increasing the money available to the Council for services.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Draw up new proposals and locations

April 2021 - Consult on new proposals and locations

May 2021 - Confirm proposals of acceptable uses and locations

June 2021 - Commence engagement work to find and secure tenants for the available locations.

Saving number:Leis 03 21

Directorate: Service: Leisure service

About this service

Birmingham City Council Leisure services cover a wide range of services in the City

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate income from visitors to the city by the selling of Birmingham related merchandise particularly during special events when the visitor numbers increase eg Commonwealth Games.

This would include collaborating with partners to create a tourist shop in the city centre and Airport, along with online and temporary or permanent stalls at other suitable locations.

The proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.050m	£0.700m	£0.400m	£0.400m

What would this mean?

We would sell Birmingham merchandise to generate income from some of the 740,000 visitors to the City a year. The lead up to 2022 Commonwealth Games will provide an excellent opportunity.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Engage with partners and market around potential offer.

April 2021 – Consult on what type of offer would appeal to both the internal and the external markets to the city.

May 2021 - Launch procurement for online shop aspect of work

June 2021 - Commence work around suitable locations and supplies for agreed offer.

August 2021 - Complete online shop partner for project.

January 2022 - Commence selling new offer.

Saving number:LS 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Library service

About this service

Birmingham Library Service currently allows non Birmingham residents to use the service free of charge. This means many of the libraries are used by residents from outside of Birmingham, but the cost of that is bourn by Birmingham Council Tax Payers.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to charge non Birmingham residents a monthly fee, by Direct debit, for use of the Birmingham Library Service. The proposal would come into effect from the 1st of April, however to allow set up of the charging system etc, only a half year saving is assumed to be achieved in year one. Any additional saving generated would be added to reserves.

The proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.025m	£0.050m	£0.050m	£0.050m

What would this mean?

Non Birmingham residents would have to pay to use the library service going forward

We will try to reduce the impact by

There will be no negative impact on Birmingham residents however the generation of additional income should help protect the service going forward. The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Draw up new proposals

April 2021 - Consult on new proposals

July 2021 - Respond to consultation

September 2021 - Introduce new proposals.

Saving number: MUS 01 21

Directorate: Service: Muesum service

About this service

Birmingham City Council currently uses Birmingham Museums to be responsible for governing and managing the museum sites and collections owned by Birmingham City Council, including Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Thinktank, Aston Hall, Blakesley Hall, Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, Sarehole Mill, Soho House, Weoley Castle and the Museum Collection Centre.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from increased leasing of the art work from the Museum. The income generated from this proposal would be reinvested into the service against a matching additional expenditure commitment. The budget assumptions include only a part year effect in year one due to the setting up of the scheme.

The proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.150m	£0.300m	£0.300m	£0.300m

What would this mean?

Maximises the potential for income from a world class collection managed by Birmingham Museums. This in turn allows for a greater level of investment in the service.

We will try to reduce the impact by

There will be no negative impact on Birmingham residents however the generation of additional income should help protect and improve the service going forward. The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 – Draw up new proposals and establish which pieces are suitable in partnership with BMT

April 2021 - Engage with prospective customers

July 2021 - Adopt required polices and security measures to make policy a success.

September 2021 - Commence loans

Saving number: Nei 01 21

Directorate: Service: Neighbourhood advice

About this service

Birmingham City Council runs a neighbourhood advice service.

Proposed changes

Third sector groups can offer independent advice including services we cannot offer. By outsourcing this service to the third sector a more efficient, better service retaining local provision will be possible.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.3m	£0.6m	£0.6m	£0.6m

What would this mean?

This would mean the Council would be able to offer a wider range of advice services.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Proposals drawn up on how to deliver the service through third sector

May 2021 - Consult staff and users.

June 2021 - Assess consultation and commence process to secure third sector partner.

September 2021 - Bring new policy into effect.

Saving number:Pay 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Staff

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates the payroll for the staff employed.

Proposed changes

The Council would review and increase the range of salary sacrifice options, in line with the law, available to staff.

The proposed saving is staggered in year one to allow for implementation.

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.1m	£0.2m	£0.2m	£0.2m

What would this mean?

The impact of offering more schemes to staff is a reduction in salary related contributions, therefore realising a saving to the Council, and producing a happier workforce.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Commence review of the salary sacrifice schemes available to the Council

March 2021 - Consult staff on what new options they would like introduced.

April 2021 - Analysis results of consultation and confirm a set of options and confirm legal approval.

May 2021 - Consultation on final proposals.

July 2021 - Introduce new salary sacrifice scheme.

Saving number: Pay 02 21

Directorate:

Service: Staff

About this service

Birmingham City Council operates the payroll for the staff employed.

Proposed changes

The Council would immediately start charging a fee for the collection of subscriptions from the payroll.

The proposed saving is introduced for the full four years

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.02m	£0.02m	£0.02m	£0.02m

What would this mean?

We would review current charges to ensure full cost recovery of collecting subs including overheads and management costs.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 – Produce new policy for collecting subscriptions from payroll.

March 2021 - Introduce new scheme.

Saving number: Pay 03 21

Directorate: Service: Trade Union funding

About this service

Birmingham City Council currently provides funding to trade unions in Birmingham through a variety of ways.

Proposed changes

The Council would immediately implement the recommendations of the 2011/12 scrutiny review which was agreed by City Council but never implemented.

This Trade Unions Scrutiny report 2011/2012, recommended a reduction in the budget and facilities allocated to trade unions.

The proposed saving is be introduced for the full four years

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£1.00m	£1.00m	£1.00m	£1.00m

What would this mean?

This scrutiny report has already been agreed by the City Council and would be implemented along with any additional changes now required. Part of this saving relates to 'Facility Time' which in Birmingham, is well above the spend per head of other local authorities such as Manchester. Despite this higher level of union funding from Birmingham City Council the relationship between BCC and the unions has been shown to be much more dysfunctional over the period of the current administration. Birmingham taxpayers should not be subsidising this.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 – Produce new policy from the agreed recommendations in the scrutiny review.

March 2021 - Approve new policy at Cabinet.

April 2021 - New Policy comes into effect.

Saving number: Pay 04 21

Directorate: Service: Payroll

About this service

Birmingham City Council runs a payroll service in house currently.

Proposed changes

The Council would review the way the payroll service is run and reduce costs through outsourcing or redesign.

The proposed saving is generated partially in year one and fully from year two

The proposed saving is shown below.

Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£0.168m	£0.336m	£0.336m	£0.336m

What would this mean?

This would mean a slimmed down payroll service.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Commence design of new payroll policy

May 2021 - Consult on new proposals.

September 2021 - Confirm new policy following review of consultation.

Saving number:PK 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Parks service

About this service

Birmingham City Council has a large number of park and public spaces across the City. This service provides valuable public open space for residents to use in a number of ways.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from increasing the number of Council sites that have additional leisure activities in them and so increase the amount of revenue received.

These changes would take some time to be negotiated and introduced therefore the income target assumes a part year impact in the first year.

The proposed additional income has been based upon the level of rental already received by the Council from other sites and compared against the number of sites the Council could make available.

The proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.120m	£0.220m	£0.220m	£0.220m

What would this mean?

We would look at further opportunities to create income such as vendors in public parks and squares. Look to introduce other aspects like crazy golf etc but will not introduce any charges in car parks.

It would create an improved range of facilities for users at Council sites across the city both improving the options available to residents and increasing the money available to the Council for services.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

March 2021 - Consult on possible locations and uses

May 2021 - Consider consultation response and agree proposed sites and uses.

Late May 2021 - commence engagement with potential tenants and secure contracts.

Saving number:PL 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Planning service

About this service

Birmingham City Council Planning service currently deals with thousands of applications and pre-application enquires a year. Some of the service charges vary considerably compared to other local authorities. Birmingham's current charging scheme can be found here https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1069/planning_application_fees and https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/13521/pre-application_and_ppa_charges_quidance - 1 september 2019

Proposed changes

The proposal is to generate additional income from reviewing the charges that the Council is allowed to amend and widening/increasing the range of fees. When compared to other local authorities and particularly, but not exclusively, with London councils, Birmingham's fees can be over 7 times smaller.

These revised charges would come into effect for 1st April.

The proposed increase in income is shown below.

Increase income in 21/22	Increase income in 22/23	Increase income in 23/24	Increase income in 24/25
£0.400m	£0.400m	£0.400m	£0.400m

What would this mean?

Application costs for individual properties will not be changed, unless applying to convert a house to a HMO, exempt accommodation or flats, in which case the application charges would be increased. There will be no charge to convert a property back into individual single family dwelling or extensions to single properties. Some of the other fees currently levied would increase.

As well as generating additional income these changes should help to reduce the loss of single dwelling family houses.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Draw up new proposals

March 2021 - Adopt new charging policy

April 2021 - new charges come into effect.

Saving number: Pro 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Procurement

About this service

Birmingham City Council procures a wide range of services each year with some being on contract and some being off contract. A number are renewed late or at short notice often through single contract negotiations and/or exceeding the national guidelines on contract levels allowed outside of full re-procurements.

Proposed changes

The proposal is to implement a range of changes that would deliver significant savings to the Council in the medium term.

The proposed saving is partial in years one (starting off at 1.27% of addressable spend) to three before reaching the full 5.45% of addressable spend by year four. Any sayings achieved in advance of the schedule will be added to the Council reserves.

Savings will be driven through procurement and commissioning of services for the City, including reviewing all current contracts and better management of the timeliness of re-procurement activity to avoid late renewals and single contractor negotiations.

A national review of procurement found that savings of 5-15% can be made in the short term through quick wins (an overall figure of just over 5% is where we propose to reach after 4 years) rising to 25-40% in the longer term through more fundamental redesign. Our savings are based on taking a prudent view of the achievability of delivering the 5-15% short term savings that the national review indicate are possible.

Other local councils have shown what can be achieved by refreshing their policies including Manchester City Council who saved £65m from procurement efficiency savings, and Copeland 14% of their procurement budget. We have provided a breakdown below of expected savings. However we are aware that this data is incomplete and therefore some savings may fall elsewhere once initial work on the Labour administrations procurement failings has taken place.

The current cost of the service and the proposed savings are shown below.

Current cost of addressable spend 18/19 (last years data avaliable to us)	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
£993.5m	£12.59m	£27.39m	£40.436m	£54.14m

The proposed savings would be focused upon the following areas with differing levels assumed per addressable spend category and staggered over the four years. The savings would not be solely focused in these areas; other areas of spend not covered by other proposals would also be considered, providing additional savings and/or a contingency should any of the expected savings herein underperform.

Description	Previous spend (£m)	2021/22 (£m)	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)	2024/2025 (£m)
Construction, Repairs and Maintenance	342.9	6.86	15.43	24.076	34.29
Legal Services	19.4	0.97	1.94	2.43	2.91
Horticultural	8.2	0.41	0.82	0.82	0.82
Vehicle Management	8.5	0.43	0.85	0.85	0.85
Furniture and soft furnishings	1.3	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13
Passenger Transport	3.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Street and Traffic Management	3.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Adult Social Community Care and services	268.8	2.69	5.38	8.06	10.75
Healthcare	31.5	0	0.63	0.95	1.26
ІСТ	90.8	0.92	1.82	2.72	2.73
Total		12.59	27.39	40.436	54.14

To achieve our proposed savings we would draw upon the large body of work and examples achieved elsewhere.

The National Procurement Task Group highlighted that 15-20% cost savings from construction could be achieved in the short to medium term. Work carried out nationally identified that a variety of procurement changes could deliver the following savings:-

Cost- Led Procurement – overall cost savings circa 20%

By making a process which, focuses on cost benchmarking, involves contractors at an early stage, continuously looks to improve, specifies the whole life performance needed, reduces product failure, integrates supply chain and continuous learning.

Integrated Project Insurance model – Overall cost savings of 25-40%

Through a variety of changes including the removal of the adversarial culture and integration/early involvement of supply chains.

Two-stage Open Book – overall savings of circa 25%

This process looks to generate savings through a standard framework approach,

standardising specifications wherever possible. Program level savings, aggregated procurement at supply chain level and management of risk.

The change to an intelligent client is a focus around ensuring procurement teams have the necessary client skills appropriate for the specific projects and programmes they are dealing with. This is about upskilling the staff to ensure they are able to deliver the required savings while protecting outcomes and so ensuring value for money. This approach requires Invitation, Consistency, Leadership and Environment, Collaborative culture based on early involvement and an understanding of capabilities, maturity and relationships.

Collaborative procurement processes across departments and bodies have been shown previously to deliver significant savings. For example, the response to the Education capital review in 2011, saw cost savings of up to 25% delivered through collaborative procurement and early contractor involvement. A major public utility in 2010 saved up to 16% through using frameworks and briefings.

Source:- This information is derived from the UK Government website

Hampshire, Surrey, West Sussex and Reading Councils used a two-stage open book procurement to cluster 22 individual construction projects together to save 14% of total costs, of which 7% had been delivered by time of mid-review, source www.gov.uk.

Haringey and Hackney Homes highlighted how they saved up to 31%, of which 16.5% was delivered specifically from procurement changes, through the use of two stage open book procurement process, www.gov.uk.

As with work around construction and general procurement changes there are also significant savings that can be delivered while also improving the quality of the service in the health and social care sector through sector specific changes as well.

Work by Lancashire County Council to modernise supported housing showed that savings could be made. An analysis of work done in the County "highlighted a cost difference of between 20 and 30 per cent less" could be achieved through modernising the offer, source www.local.gov.uk.

Torbay Council have highlighted how working with providers to influence the size and shape of its care home market they were able to deliver savings by securing a higher level of users on banded fees and also improve standards, www.local.gov.uk.

Examples of joint working such as on construction of Archbishop Beck delivered savings of 26% on the benchmark costings, www.gov.uk.

The Council would look to review spec on contracts to move away from using unnecessary or experimental solutions in its work so as to reduce costs on procurement. For example, choosing external guttering/drainage systems rather than more expensive internal drainage systems. This not only saves money on fit out but also on future maintenance and repairs due to being cheaper to fix any associated issues.

We would carry out an immediate review of all procurement policies (the costs of reviewing the service and changing the policies are netted off against the savings generated in the charts above), change the delegated levels for officers to approve spend and to generate a comprehensive contract register to allow better management of upcoming renewals.

As part of the reviews of the work, we will look at best practice models used elsewhere, the use of the intelligent client, relevant frameworks and cross department collaboration where suitable, as well as looking at lean sourcing to deliver the most suitable multidiscipline procurement process which will deliver savings for the City Council.

Finally a focus would also be brought upon procurement fraud. It is estimated that nationally fraud costs councils £2.2 billion per a year. Of this sum £876 million a year can be attributed to procurement fraud, source www.local.gov.uk. No amount has been assumed here as we cannot calculate a realistic estimate for procurement fraud in Birmingham, with the information we have access to. However, a simple pro rata would imply potentially £12.5 million per year risk.

What would this mean?

This would be a transformation of the way the Council procures services ensuring we adopt best practice from other local authorities and national reviews. This would increase value for money on procurement in Birmingham. There would be a reduction on the number of contracts renewed late or exceeding contract allowances.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored with regular reports back on progress to Cabinet member and Cabinet meetings.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Commence review of procurement policy

February 2021 – Publish proposed changes to delegations for comment.

March 2021 – Create contract register listing, all contracts held by the Council with costs of contracts, expiry dates, dates of any clauses, extensions and timeline for how long replacement procurement process would take. This would be distributed to all managers who would be responsible for re-procuring a contract and the relevant cabinet members. This would ensure contracts are renewed in a timely manner. This register will be regularly checked, actioned and updated.

April 2021 - Produce final proposed delegation changes report and approve at cabinet.

From April 2021 – introduce random spot checking of contracts proposed each month to have officers explain to the cabinet member how the proposed contract(s) would deliver the best value. This will help ensure value for money at all levels.

May 2021 – Amend the Council standing orders to reduce the delegation levels to improve the focus on contracts awarded. There are currently many examples of contracts being continually extended

or procured outside of the framework rules, leading to a failure to obtain best value for money or identify savings. Reducing delegations so as to be in line with other councils would help reduce these potentially expensive mistakes.

May 2021 – conclude review on procurement policy changes and take to cabinet. Issue any required Prior Information Notices (PIN) required to keep procurement options open as required.

June- August 2021 - Carry out training of all relevant staff and the executive members to ensure an understanding of how the new procurement processes will work and how they are best utilised.

September 2021 onwards - Implementation of new processes begins and associated work required.

January 2022 - Annual review of procurement process changes and fine-tuning changes

April 2022 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

July 2022 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

October 2022 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

January 2023 – Annual review of procurement process changes and fine-tuning changes.

April 2023 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

July 2023 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

October 2023 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

January 2024 - Annual review of procurement process changes and fine-tuning changes

April 2024 – Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

July 2024 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

October 2024 - Quarterly review by Cabinet of procurement savings program.

January 2025 - Annual review of procurement process changes and fine-tuning changes

Quarterly and Annual reviews by Cabinet will include a list of any required procurement notices and their associated dates.

Saving number: Prop 01 21

Directorate:

Service: Property services

About this service

Birmingham City Council runs a property portfolio and services department.

Proposed changes

The Council would generate savings from the property services portfolio.

The proposed saving is generated partially in year one and fully from year two.

The current cost of the service and the proposed saving is shown below.

Current cost of service 20/21	Saving in 21/22	Saving in 22/23	Saving in 23/24	Saving in 24/25
Approximately £30m	£0.30m	£0.75m	£0.75m	£0.75m

What would this mean?

This would mean the service continues to be operated at a high standard.

We will try to reduce the impact by

The ongoing effects of the policy will be closely monitored.

Key milestones

February 2021 - Review property portfolio to determine range of options for generating savings.

May 2021 - Consult on options internally.

June 2021 - Review options appraisal to select savings proposals.

July 2021 - Confirm and implement savings proposals.

Proposed by	Robert Alder Councillor Robert Alden	\
Seconded by	E Mackey Councillor Ewan Mackey	••••••
		Received on

hours

2 to 6

AMENDMENT TO ITEM 6

CITY COUNCIL Tuesday 23 February 2021

Amendment to Item 6

Add to the end:

"Subject to making amendments in the Financial Plan 2021-25 to allow the following use of the FRR:-

Proposed funding source	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	
	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	
Use of some Covid - 19 grant funding Council added to FRR to create a Covid -19 recovery fund	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	This funding was provided by the Government to help support in light of the impact of Covid-19. Therefore instead of keeping the full £38.6m the Council has added to the FRR £20m will be used to support business, jobs and young people from the impact of Covid-19. This will help drive and accelerate the recovery in the City
Total	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Proposal	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	
	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	

Covid-19 recovery fund	Total new spending	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	All proposals would only be introduced as national Covid-19 rules allow. Money unspent would be rolled over to carry out the same purpose in the following financial year.
	Birmingham Mini Markets events	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	A series of market events across local centres and outdoor spaces providing free space/market stalls to Birmingham based businesses to be sell and promote themselves.
	Support for the culture, leisure and tourism	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Funding would be split partly to fund outdoor performances in accessible spaces and partly as grants to support organisations/groups at risk of collapse.
	Grants to support small businesses	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Grants to help support small businesses
	Local Centres improvements grant	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Funding to help deliver small scale improvements to local centres, eg create green spaces, improve shopfronts etc.
	Deep clean of local centres and increased street cleaning	1.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	Additional cleaning of our local centres will encourage more people to use them as they can reopen
	Team Birmingham promotion scheme	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	A scheme aimed at helping Birmingham businesses promote what they have to offer to both to resident and further afield
	Healthy Birmingham fitness events	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	Funding for a series of outdoor events encouraging people to get more active and start to get out the house again. Eg for running groups, outdoor yoga, walking groups etc
		0.50	0.00	0.00	3.00	Help to provide additional resources for young people in Birmingham, who have had
	Learning resources for young people	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	to miss part of their education this year.
	Discount to Market traders rent	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	A rent reduction to support market traders at the City markets.

Retraining for people seeking employment	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Support to help people who have lost their job to be able to retrain
Support for outdoor dining/entertainment events	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	Support to help business take advantage of opportunities to operate outside helping to encourage people back out
Free car parking at suburban centres	1.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	Encourage people to support local businesses on High Streets

Further this Council instructs officers to make the required changes to deliver the Covid-19 recovery fund as set out."

	MIL.
Proposed by	
	Councillor Meirion Jenkins

Seconded by

Councillor Bruce Lines

Received on 23.02.2021

at 11:55 hours

AMENDMENT TO MOTION 2,4,5 & 9

CITY COUNCIL Tuesday 23 February 2021

Replace Motions 2,4,5 and 9 with the following:

2. Capital Strategy and Programme and Treasury Management

That the proposals, as set out in the Capital Strategy Chapter and Appendices L - T of the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025, be approved for:

- a) Capital Programme -
- b) Prudential Indicators
- c) Treasury Management Strategy
- d) Service and Commercial Investment Strategy
- e) Debt Repayment Policy
- and, as set out in Appendix I, for:
- f) Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy, subject to changes to the Financial Plan 2021-25 set out in detail in this amendment.

4. Revenue Budget

That the revenue budget for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 of £828.671m, including the budget allocations to the various Directorates of the Council, as set out in Appendix J to the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 as amended, be approved.

5. Council Tax Requirement

That the following calculations be now made in accordance with Section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021:

		£
a.	aggregate of estimated City Council expenditure, contingencies, and contributions to financial reserves	3,773,551,062
b.	Parish Precepts	1,866,316
C.	aggregate of estimated income (including Top- Up Grant), and use of financial reserves	(3,000,219,927)
d.	net transfers to/(from) the Collection Fund in relation to Business Rates	(394,605,942)

- e. Transfer to/(from) the Collection Fund in relation 4,237,000 to Council Tax
- f. Council Tax Requirement, being the aggregate of 384,788,509 (a) to (e) above

9. **Financial Plan 2021 – 2025**

That the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 be approved, subject to the following changes and any further alterations needed to implement fully the financial proposals in the amendment.

Amend the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 as follows:

In Chapter 1 Policy Context, 3.3, Area 2 – Increasing the pace and scale of growth, for those that need it the most, while delivering our climate change objectives, add paragraph 3.3.5 and 3.3.6:

"3.3.5: Climate Change Proposals:

These proposals will include making full use of the potential for solar power generation offered by the roofs of the building owned by the City Council. This will reduce both the carbon footprint of the City and also the running costs of the buildings, by cutting use of electricity from the grid. A full assessment of the potential of such work will be made as soon as possible and then commissioned as Invest to Save projects.

Similar Invest to Save projects developed in the coming year will the design of retrofit insulation schemes for all Council buildings in need of such work. One of these buildings will also include the addition of suitable heat pump technology to heat the building, once insulated to the best available standard. The learning from this pilot project will be used to help optimise the roll out of such technology in future years.

Where suitable (for example public libraries) these projects will include information displays in the building to inform the public and generate interest in further schemes.

There will be further localised action in wards, aimed at galvanising citywide activity, with good projects receiving matched funding through a new citywide biodiversity and clean air fund."

"3.3.6 Key to the delivery of these projects, along with the wider Route to Zero Action Plan, is a well-resourced climate sustainability team to lead and support this work. The Council will show its commitment to its climate change action plan by ensuring the funding for this team is guaranteed until at least 2030."

In Chapter 1 Policy Context, Area 4 Participation and Engagement add paragraph 4.5.

"4.5 Localisation and fly-tipping prevention:

The long-term threat from climate change and the immediate challenge from the blight of widespread fly tipping are both citywide problems, involving every neighbourhood of the city. Our proposals therefore will galvanise city-wide action to achieve significant environmental improvements whilst empowering communities to generate a diversity of responses, appropriate to our diverse city.

We will create a range of funds to support neighbourhood improvement activity in wards, in particular to support initiatives to tackle fly-tipping and respond to climate change.

Our proposals would make available more than £6.5 million in capital and one-off funds together with more than £2 million in recurring revenue funds. Ward councillors, ward forums and officers will be encouraged to develop projects that draw on multiple funding sources. Officers will be empowered to work across directorate boundaries to develop projects. Through localised fly-tipping initiatives, officers will be able to spend their time working with communities on effective prevention. These will be supported further through the reinstatement of a programme special street collections. This will enable ward councillors to designate a certain number of roads within each year for collections.

Further resources will come from our programme of shopping centre flats refurbishment, enabling housing officers to tap into other budgets to solve chronic waste disposal problems in many of these centres.

Appropriate projects will also be able to seek matched funding from the new city biodiversity and clean air fund and existing devolved highways funding. This will include funding for safe routes to schools initiatives.

Wards will also, for the first time in several years, have access to funds for small grants to support local community and volunteer organisations. We will put in place strong governance to protect the integrity of these grants, while enabling ward councillors and forums to use effective decision making".

In Chapter 3 Revenue Budget,

Section 15. Adult Social Care add:

15.3 The Council recognises that the public is paying additional precepts to finance social care and the pressures on health and social services. Therefore, it undertakes to ensure that any underspend within the adult services budget is redeployed within the adult services directorate.

Section 17 Homelessness add paragraph 17.7:

"17.7: In addition, the current severity of the crisis means that in the coming year an additional £5m of investment will be made to create 50 extra high-quality units of temporary accommodation. Further such schemes will be considered in coming years depending on how pressures continue to develop in the service and the outcome of the preventative work described in 17.5.

A second initiative will instigate a programme of renovation and reuse of disused flats in shopping centres."

Section 18 Clean Air Zone – Use of Income replace 18.3.1 with:

"18.3.1 The Big City Plan: This is a 20-year city centre masterplan with a vision to encourage and support Birmingham's continuing transformation into a world class city centre. Clean Air Zone contributions will be capped at £4 million to support development of attractive pedestrian areas.

The pandemic has generated major new challenges for the city centre and we will take steps to rebuild business viability in the city centre, ensuring that transport changes improve access for customers and workers alike - and that businesses have clarity and support for rapid changes, e.g. where offices have to be converted to residential use and retail premises in their present form lose viability. We will minimise disruption to businesses caused by necessary works. We will also support 'pop up' shops and rapid conversion of empty premises to hospitality uses where appropriate."

Section 18 Clean Air Zone – Use of Income replace 18.3.4 with:

- "18.3.4 Rail and Rapid Transit: Rail and Rapid Transit have been identified as key factors in the future of Birmingham's transport strategy, as outlined in the Birmingham Mobility Action Plan. The key aspects include:
 - Opening the Camp Hill Rail line with new stations at Moseley and Kings Heath, ensuring the council's commitments to support this project are honoured.
 - Extended Metro
 - Seeking opportunities for more Park and Ride"

Section 18 Clean Air Zone – Use of Income replace 18.3.5:

18.3.5 Cabinet at the outset identified a ward-based programme of initiatives for support to promote clean air and healthy mobility - and this will be reinstated by capping costs of city centre pedestrianisation.

The plan in total allocates £4 million of CAZ receipts to support local initiatives, with an emphasis on projects that enhance biodiversity, air cleanliness and Safer Routes to School."

In Chapter 6 Commonwealth Games add Paragraph 4:

"4. Risks:

We will review the risks around the Commonwealth Games on a monthly basis and provide council, through cabinet and scrutiny committees, a full evaluation of the costs and risks of cancelling or postponing the event."

In Chapter 7 Capital Strategy add paragraph 3.4:

"3.4 We will minimise the financial risks surrounding the former athletes village development in Perry Barr whilst working to ensure it delivers accessible and sustainable housing together with a new urban centre of which the city can be proud."

Furthermore, amend tables and calculations in the plan according to the following financial commitments, pressures and savings:

Table 1

Budget Proposals - Liberal Democrats			
Proposals	Revenue 2021/22	Capital 2021/22	Total
Community about Freed A. Consell aways freed	£m	£m	£m
Community chest Fund A. Small grants fund	0.505	0.000	0.505
Community chest Fund B: Unrestricted capital		1.010	1.010
Restore programme of special street collections, allocated by ward	1.121		1.121
Funding for street cleaning services to restore and enhance litter bin provision	0.250		0.250
Revenue implications of borrowing	0.110	0.000	0.110
Community chest Fund C: to support biodiversity and clean air initiatives		1.500	1.500
Funded by CAZ		-1.500	-1.500
Funded by Prudential Borrowing		-1.010	-1.010
Net impact	1.986	0.000	2.996
City biodiversity and climate change fund to support/ match fund local initiatives on biodiversity and clean air. These local initiatives may be matched with community chest, fly tipping and highways budgets.		2.500	2.500
Funded by: Diversion from CAZ		-2.500	-2.500
Net impact		0.000	0.000
Fly tipping			
Support programme of bulk collections for disabled and over 80s (new allocation)	0.500	0.000	0.500
Support for ward initiatives (existing allocation)	2.000	0.000	2.000
Community Chest Fund D: Fly tipping prevention measures, funded by prudential borrowing		1.000	1.000

Revenue implications of borrowing	0.109		0.109
Prudential borrowing for capital works	0.103	-1.000	-1.000
funded by : Policy Contingency allocation - ref	-2.000	-1.000	-2.000
Street scene Pressure held corporately	-2.000		-2.000
Officer scorie i resourc field corporatory	0.609	0.000	0.609
	0.009	0.000	0.003
Food waste collection recycling pilots	1.000	0.000	1.000
Funded by use of Financial Resilience reserve	-1.000	0.000	-1.000
,	0.000	0.000	0.000
Solar project & Heating Pump Heating system Pilot- to supplement the work already being done by BPS in conjunction with Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy	0.500	0.000	0.500
Funded by use of Financial Resilience reserve	-0.500	0.000	-0.500
,	0.000	0.000	0.000
Study of the requirement for retrofit insulation of BCC buildings	0.500	0.000	0.500
Funded by use of Financial Resilience reserve	-0.500	0.000	-0.500
·	0.000	0.000	0.000
Invest in more temporary accommodation via conversion of properties that are already Council owned. Project will be financed by borrowing and costs associated with financing the borrowing will be funded from existing budgets from savings on B&B placements		5.000	5.000
Revenue consequences of borrowing	0.206		0.206
Other revenue consequences-e.g. running costs/maintenance/ staffing etc	0.334		0.334
Rental income and personal contributions	-0.351		-0.351
Financed by: Saving on B&B	-0.349	-5.000	-5.349
placement/Prudential Borrowing			
Net impact	-0.161	0.000	-0.161
		0.000	0.000
Investment in empty property project to reopen flats above shops. Capital grants given to property owners to refurbish/renovate and private recipients to repay capital costs from rents.		2.000	2.000
Revenue consequences of borrowing	0.082		0.082
Financed by: Income from private homeowners/Prudential Borrowing		-2.000	-2.000
Net impact	0.082	0.000	0.082
Occional Deductions in Dec			
Savings/ Reductions in Pressures	0.040	0.000	0.040
Increase establishment costs savings (20% cut in spending on consultants)	-2.316	0.000	-2.316

Reduce NEP038 reestablishment of major events budget	-0.100	0.000	-0.100
Remove political assistants - F&G pressure being funded	-0.101	0.000	-0.101
Total	-2.517	0.000	-2.517
Total Impact	0.000	0.000	1.010
Total Impact	0.000	0.000	1.010
Reduce budget city centre pedestrianisation CAZ money- CAPITAL		-4.000	
Prudential borrowing		-9.010	
Use of reserves		-2.000	
Use of Policy contingency allocation		-2.000	
Income from private landlords		0.000	
Savings/pressures reduction		-2.866	
		-19.876	
Total cost of proposals		19.876	
Revenue surplus		0.000	

Table 2: Four-year revenue implications of amendments to Business Plan:

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£m	£m	£m	£m
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Funding of ward initiatives -including redirection of pressure already provided for in FP	4.376	4.376	4.376	4.376
Solar Project & Heating Pump Heating System Pilot	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000
Study of the requirement for retrofit insulation of BCC buildings	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000
Food Recycling pilot	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Financing costs	0.507	0.507	0.507	0.507
Operating costs- Temporary Accommodation facility	0.334	0.667	0.667	0.667
Additional expenditure	7.217	5.550	5.550	5.550
Savings on TA Proposal	(0.349)	(0.904)	(0.904)	(0.904)
Pressures reduction	(0.201)	(0.201)	(0.201)	(0.201)
Increase in Establishment costs savings	(2.316)	(2.316)	(2.316)	(2.316)
Total adjustments to savings/ Pressures	(2.866)	(3.421)	(3.421)	(3.421)
Use of reserves	(2.000)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Use of Policy Contingency	(2.000)	(2.000)	(2.000)	(2.000)
Total funding redirection	(4.000)	(2.000)	(2.000)	(2.000)
Change in expenditure	0.351	0.129	0.129	0.129

<u>Income</u>				
Rental income and personal contributions - TA	(0.351)	(0.702)	(0.702)	(0.702)
Private landlords	0.000	(0.082)	(0.082)	(0.082)
Change in income generation	(0.351)	(0.784)	(0.784)	(0.784)
Net expenditure change	(0.000)	(0.655)	(0.655)	(0.655)

PROPOSED BY:

Councillor Jon Hunt

5 on that

SECONDED BY:

Councillor Roger Harmer

Received on 22.02.2021

at 08:31 hours

CITY COUNCIL Tuesday 23 February 2021

CROSS PARTY AMENDMENT TO MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL

Replace Motions 4,5 and 9 with the following:

4. Revenue Budget

That the revenue budget for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021 of £828.671m, including the budget allocations to the various Directorates of the Council, as set out in Appendix J to the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 as amended, be approved.

5. **Council Tax Requirement**

That the following calculations be now made in accordance with Section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for the financial year commencing on 1st April 2021:

		£
a.	aggregate of estimated City Council expenditure, contingencies, and contributions to financial reserves	3,771,324,145
b.	Parish Precepts	1,866,316
C.	aggregate of estimated income (including Top- Up Grant), and use of financial reserves	(2,998,032,927)
d.	net transfers to/(from) the Collection Fund in relation to Business Rates	(394,605,942)
e.	Transfer to/(from) the Collection Fund in relation to Council Tax	4,237,000
f.	Council Tax Requirement, being the aggregate of (a) to (e) above	384,788,592

9. **Financial Plan 2021 – 2025**

That the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 be approved.

Amend the Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 as follows:

In Chapter 1 Policy Context, 3.3, Area 2 – Increasing the pace and scale of growth, for those that need it the most, while delivering our climate change objectives, add paragraph 3.3.5 and 3.3.6:

"3.3.5 Climate Change Proposals:

These proposals will include making full use of the potential for solar power generation offered by the roofs of the buildings owned by the City Council. This will reduce both the carbon footprint of the City and also the running costs of the buildings, by cutting use of electricity from the grid. A full assessment of the potential of such work will be made as soon as possible and then commissioned as Invest to Save projects.

Similar Invest to Save projects developed in the coming year will be the design of retrofit insulation schemes for all Council buildings in need of such work, with a particular focus on Council community assets such as libraries and youth centres. This will have the added benefit of helping protect these vital local services in the long term through the reduction in their running costs.

One of these buildings will also include the addition of suitable heat pump technology to heat the building, once insulated to the best available standard. The learning from this pilot project will be used to help optimise the roll out of such technology in future years.

Where suitable (for example public libraries) these projects will include information displays in the building to inform the public and generate interest in further schemes.

3.3.6 Key to the delivery of these projects, along with the wider Route to Zero Action Plan, is a well-resourced climate sustainability team to lead and support this work. The Council will show its commitment to its climate change action plan by ensuring the funding for this team is guaranteed until at least 2030. Funding for this team will be a clear line in all future budgets."

In Section 18 Clean Air Zone – Use of Income add the following further bullet point at the end of 18.3.2:

"Growing the Safer Routes to Schools scheme with £0.5m provided for each of the
next four years for this work. As well as helping encourage more sustainable travel to
school, this increased funding has the benefit of enabling a greater number of
communities to tackle school parking issues in their area".

Table 1

Proposals	Revenue 2021/22	Capital 2021/22	Total	
	£m	£m	£m	
Solar project & Heating Pump Heating system Pilot-	0.500	0.000	0.500	
to supplement the work already being done by BPS				
in conjunction with Department for Business,				
Energy & Industrial Strategy				
	0.500	0.000	0.500	
Study of the requirement for retrofit insulation of BCC buildings	0.500	0.000	0.500	
	0.500	0.000	0.500	
Boost the Safer Routes To Schools budget from	0.164	0.000	0.164	
£1.343m to £2m over 4 years				
Funded by: use of income from CAZ	-0.164	0.000	-0.164	
	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Savings/ Reductions in Pressures				
Increase establishment costs savings	-0.899	0.000	-0.899	
Remove political assistants - F&G pressure being	-0.101	0.000	-0.101	
funded				
Total	-1.000	0.000	-1.000	
Total Impact	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Total Impact	0.000	0.000	0.000	

Table 2: Four-year revenue implications of amendments to Business Plan:

	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m
Expenditure				
Solar Project & Heating Pump Heating System Pilot	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000
Study of the requirement for retrofit insulation of BCC buildings	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000
Boost the Safer Routes To Schools budget from £1.343m to £2m over 4 years	0.164	0.164	0.164	0.165

Additional expenditure	1.164	0.164	0.164	0.165
Use of income from CAZ	(0.164)	(0.164)	(0.164)	(0.165)
Total funding redirection	(0.164)	(0.164)	(0.164)	(0.165)
Increase establishment costs savings	(0.899)	(0.899)	(0.899)	(0.899)
Remove political assistants - F&G pressure being	(0.101)	(0.101)	(0.101)	(0.101)
funded				
Total savings/reductions in pressures	(1.000)	(1.000)	(1.000)	(1.000)
Net expenditure change	0.000	(1.000)	(1.000)	(1.000)

PROPOSED BY:

Councillor Julian Pritchard

Sphant

SECONDED BY:

Councillor Mike Ward

Mike Ward,

Received on 22.02.2021

at 1455 hours