

Community Well Being Policy Development Group

3 December 2013

Budget 2014/15

Portfolio Holder Responsible Officer	Cllr Neal Davey Head of Finance
Reason for Report:	To consider options available in order for the Council to set a balanced budget for 2014/15 and agree a future strategy for further budget reductions for 2015/16 onwards.
RECOMMENDATION:	To consider the draft budget proposals for 2014/15 and start to plan for additional savings as identified in the Medium Term Financial Plan.
Relationship to Corporate Plan:	To deliver our Corporate Plan's priorities within existing financial resources.
Financial Implications:	Since 2010/11 the Council has seen its Formula Grant reduce by circa £2.0m or 31.8% from £6.186m to the provisional figure of £4.221m announced for 2014/15. Going forward the current Government maintains its pledge to continue the austerity programme, with most public sector commentators estimating further cuts around 10% per annum for the foreseeable future. Once this is factored in to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan we have predicted a funding deficit of circa £2.0m by 2017/18. This highlights the need to take steps to plan for further reductions to our ongoing expenditure levels.
Legal Implications:	It is a statutory requirement for the Local Authority to set a balanced budget.
Risk Assessment:	Service Managers and Finance staff have assessed volatility in income and large contractor budgets, taking account of current and estimated future demand patterns. In addition prudent levels of reserves will also continue to be maintained.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The early confirmation of a provisional Formula Grant settlement in December 2012 helped to drive the third running of the summer savings exercise, that was first undertaken in the summer of 2010, which included Service Managers, Heads of Service, Accountants, the Head of Finance and the Chief Executive and challenges all services to look at reducing costs/increasing income, but still deliver the same level of service (especially the front-line services).

- 1.2 In previous years, this exercise, didn't just focus on balancing the next financial year, it also looked at where savings could be delivered over a rolling three year period. Although this year's exercise has been successful in identifying £628k of savings for 2014/15 (see Appendix 3), there has been very little proposed for subsequent financial years (only £20k). This fact, emphasises the comments I have been making for the past 18 months that we can no longer expect service managers to continue to reduce cost and still expect "business as usual".
- 1.3 The proposed savings shown in Appendix 3 of £628k (now £576k) will need to be agreed by Members, as for every proposed saving that is rejected will need to be matched by a suggestion of where a similar saving could be made. Members will be aware that the budget is an evolving process. I have already made a range of assumptions relating to: pay awards, inflation, fees/charges, demand for services, property increases, etc. More information may well change/alter my assumptions in the months leading up to February, when the budget has to be finalised. So the current budget gap of £361k will be revised over the next few months, but it is based on the most current information, in conjunction with professional guidance, that is available.
- 1.3 An updated Medium Term Financial Plan was presented to the Cabinet at its October meeting, which further explored the challenging financial position that the Council is facing over the next 4 years. However, it should be stressed that the Council has placed itself in a very strong position to deal with situation and continues to look into opportunities to further reduce operational costs without immediately reducing service levels. But it remains a real possibility moving forward that some difficult decisions will have to be made relating to what the Council can and can't afford to deliver/support in the future. This is further evidenced by the low level of service savings estimated from 2015/16 onwards.

2.0 The Draft 2014/15 Budget

- 2.1 The first draft budget figures have now been returned from all Service Managers. In compiling the draft 2014/15 budget, Service Managers and Finance Staff were acutely aware of the worsening financial environment that the Council was now going to have to operate within. A provisional Formula Grant cut of £618k, coupled with an uncertain economic position adversely affecting a number of key income streams (including our treasury return), the continuing need to modernise much of our existing vehicle fleet and the new budget volatility associated with the new Council Tax Support scheme and the localisation of Business Rates.
- 2.2 The initial aggregation of all service budgets (which also includes assumptions surrounding predictions of interest receipts, contributions to our capital programme, transfers from/to reserves and Council Tax levels) currently indicates a GFund budget gap of £361k (see Appendix 1).
- 2.3 At this point it is worth summarising how we have arrived at this deficit. The table shown below shows the main budget variances affecting the 2014/15

draft budget, which has included nearly all of the savings identified at Appendix 3.

Table 1 – Reconciliation of 2014/15 budget variances

Variances	Amount £000
Reduction in formula grant	618
Savings incorporated from savings exercise (See Appendix 3 £628k – some reviewed as unachievable)	(576)
Vehicle replacement “sinking funds”	257
New annual borrowing costs – refuse & leisure	137
Removal of 2013/14 Council Tax Freeze Grant	52
2014/15 pay award – estimated at 1% + pension	138
All overtime now subject to superannuation	22
PDG reserve fully utilised in 2013/14	124
Council Tax income increase (1.5% rise)	(72)
Additional Council Tax from extra properties and changes to empty property discounts	(149)
Additional income (Leisure, Cemeteries, Car Parks)	(147)
Cut in Government grant for HBenefit and CTax administration of 8%	32
Decrease in recycling income (volumes & price)	40
Review of bad debt provision on DARs	66
Inflation on utilities, fuel and rates	56
Removal of bad debt provision for LCTS and localisation of Business Rates	(249)
Other minor variances	12
Draft budget gap for 2014/15	361

- 2.4 The above table clearly demonstrates how a budget gap of £361k has been arrived at and without the hard work undertaken by Service Managers to propose further savings during the summer months (revised total for this now stands at £576k not the previously quoted £628k) we would now be facing a budget deficit of £937k for 2014/15 (i.e. £361k + £576k). Appendix 3 shows those potential savings which were identified earlier in the year, amounting to £628k, of which a revised total of £576k has been incorporated into this draft budget.
- 2.5 In compiling the 2014/15 draft budget we have also examined budget performance during 2013/14 and then made any relevant budget corrections for staffing changes, levels of income, changes in legislation, increases in inflation, etc.
- 2.6 Due to the need to get budget information to all of the PDG and Cabinet meetings during November and early December there are still a few key issues that have not been resolved or are still to be fully evaluated. These issues may either improve or worsen the summary budget position currently reported.

3.0 The Future

- 3.1 It is clear that a lot of hard work has already been undertaken in order to deliver a draft budget gap of £361k. We now are set with two tasks: firstly, deliver a balanced GFund budget by February 2014 in order to formally set the Council Tax and secondly, and of equal importance, begin to plan how our future spending plans can be financed. The MTFP tabled at the October Cabinet meeting shows that the challenge of balancing our ongoing revenue commitments with our available funding. The summary figures from the MTFP highlighted a £2,045k budget gap over the next 4 years assuming £400k reduction in Government funding year on year. (See table 2 below) This further assumes that all of the £576k saving proposals suggested by Service Managers are accepted by Members.
- 3.2 Due to the future uncertainty over the exact level of Formula Grant reduction going forward it is imperative that Management Team, Service Managers and Members give consideration to matching future service provision to likely levels of financial resources. Table 2 below summarises the projected shortfall over the next four years.

Table 2 – MTFP General Fund Summary

	2013/14 £'000	2014/15 £'000	2015/16 £'000	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000
Total Gross Expenditure ⁽¹⁾	37,008	37,363	37,842	38,366	38,892
Total Income	(27,563)	(27,819)	(28,076)	(28,210)	(28,340)
Net Cost of Services	9,445	9,544	9,766	10,156	10,552
Investment Interest/MRP	(43)	(52)	(82)	(112)	(142)
Cont. to/(from) Reserves	(150)	(90)	0	0	0
Contribution to Capital	350	350	350	350	350
Provision for CTSS		(249)			
Total Budget Requirement	9,600	9,503	10,034	10,394	10,760
Funded by:					
Collection Fund Surplus	(100)	(100)	(90)	(80)	(70)
Formula Grant ⁽²⁾	(4,736)	(4,221)	(3,799)	(3,419)	(3,077)
Council Tax	(4,764)	(4,985)	(5,175)	(5,369)	(5,568)
Total Funding	(9,600)	(9,306)	(9,064)	(8,868)	(8,715)
Cumulative (Surplus)/Deficit	Nil	197	970	1,526	2,045

⁽¹⁾ Total gross expenditure excludes capital charges of £997k and includes finance leases of £55k.

⁽²⁾ Formula Grant in 2013/14 includes a contribution of £52k based on an extra years one-off commitment to a Council Tax Freeze grant. It also includes £541k associated with the new Council Tax Support Scheme.

- 3.3 In addition to this revenue funding pressure, is our continuing funding shortfall on the capital programme, due to the low levels of capital receipts. Even greater pressure may be placed on future programmes if additional borrowing

was made to fund new Council Houses, Depots, Sport Centre enhancements, Town Centre enhancement works, Vehicle replacements, etc.

- 3.4 The draft Capital Programme for 2014/15 is attached as Appendix 4 and currently shows a funding gap of circa £1.7m over the next 4 years, which has required all NHB receipts (totalling circa £4.8m) and a continuing revenue contribution from the General Fund of £350k per annum to reach this position. The size of our current and future capital programmes has substantially reduced, due to the reductions in funding and level of sale receipts and now only includes projects that are essential maintenance, asset replacement or income generating/cost reducing.
- 3.5 The most pressing capital budget issue concerns how we will balance the 2014/15 funding gap of £500k and this will need to be addressed in the November/December meetings.

4.0 The November/December PDGs and Cabinet meetings

- 4.1 The first round of draft budget meetings will allow discussions with Members, Senior Management, Service Managers and Finance Officers in order to review the proposed draft 2014/15 budget – see Appendix 2. This will include scrutinising and challenging the initial position (and confirming acceptance of all proposed savings put forward) and discussing any other budget areas that Members would like to see additional savings from.
- 4.2 Before the next round of PDGs and Cabinet in January the Council will receive formal confirmation regarding its; Formula Grant (n.b. active rural lobby ongoing), Council Tax Freeze Grant, other emerging legislative changes, more information regarding the 2013/14 budget performance, etc. At this point if any of the initial assumptions/estimates significantly worsen, then we will need to bring further savings options for consideration.

5.0 Public Consultation

- 5.1 Appendix 5 attached, shows the outcome of a recent public consultation exercise and will be considered as part of the budget setting process. Once again there are no real surprises as the high priorities remain (i.e. refuse/recycling, health and housing). It is of interest to see the changes in priority of different age groups who have responded to this survey (and this reflects the significant complexity of trying to allocate Council spending in accord with resident's priorities).
- 5.2 This consultation response has been considered when compiling the 2014/15 draft budget, but will be of even greater use from 2015/16 onwards when the Council will have to make more challenging decisions with regard to service prioritisation.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The feedback from all three budget PDGs and the Cabinet will be reported to the January Cabinet for consideration in order to set a balanced 2014/15 budget and agree a forward plan. Early in the New Year Management Team will meet to establish a strategic plan of how £2.0m of savings in the next four years can be achieved. This process will be based upon giving Members a series of options, some of which may require short term investment, to generate medium or long term savings. The savings options will need to be considered across all Member meetings, based upon the strategic plan. Having identified possible savings, there will need to be careful consideration of their potential impact, probable lead times for delivery of that saving and any associated disengagement costs or possible 'spend to save' implications that would arise.

Contact for more information: Andrew Jarrett – Head of Finance

Background Papers: Draft 2014/15 Budget Papers
MTFP report - Oct 2013 Cabinet

File Reference:

Circulation of the Report: Management Team, Members & Relevant Service Managers

**GENERAL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT
DRAFT BUDGET SUMMARY 2014/15**

	Net Direct Costs Budget 2013/14 £	Budget Changes £	Draft Net Direct Costs Budget 2014/15 £
Managing the Environment	3,234,190	229,040	3,463,230
Decent & Affordable Homes	396,960	23,400	420,360
Community Well Being	3,185,450	(336,720)	2,848,730
Cabinet	3,703,610	(92,330)	3,611,280
TOTAL NET DIRECT COST OF SERVICES	10,520,210	(176,610)	10,343,600
Net recharge to HRA	(1,130,890)	(5,430)	(1,136,320)
Finance Leases - now charged to services	55,540	(55,540)	0
NET COST OF SERVICES	9,444,860	(237,580)	9,207,280
Provision for the financing of capital spending	122,520	0	122,520
Finance Lease interest	8,110	0	8,110
Interest from Funding provided for HRA	(110,000)	0	(110,000)
Interest Received on Investments	(65,000)	0	(65,000)
Contribution to Capital Programme	350,000	0	350,000
Temporary transfer from Ear Marked Reserves	0	0	0
Transfer from General Fund Balance (£2.4m)	(150,090)	150,090	0
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURE	9,600,400	(87,490)	9,512,910
Funded by:-			
Formula Grant	(4,684,750)	618,810	(4,065,940)
Council Tax freeze - for 2013/14	(51,740)	51,740	0
Collection Fund Surplus	(100,000)	0	(100,000)
Council Tax	(4,763,910)	(221,090)	(4,985,000)
TOTAL FUNDING	(9,600,400)	449,460	(9,150,940)
REQUIREMENT TO BALANCE THE BUDGET	0	361,970	361,970

Current Assumptions :

- 1 Formula Grant has been reduced by £618k as previously advised, actual to be provided late December.
- 2 Council Tax income based on growing property base and an illustrative 1.5% increase on the band D figure of £182.15.
- 3 Government has indicated it may offer another Council Tax freeze grant for 2014/15
- 4 2014/15 salary budgets include an increase of 1%.
- 5 Actuaries forecast increase to pension contribution rates of by 0.1%. Have also included figures for auto-enrolment and
- 6 All income flows have been reviewed and adjusted for changes in demand and unit price
- 7 Investment income has been based upon the existing lending criteria now in force.
- 8 Nil transfer into the General Fund Balance
- 9 Revenue contribution to Capital funding has been left at £350k - this does not balance the 2014/15 capital programme.
- 10 We have inflated fuel & utility costs and reviewed against 2013/14 expenditure levels.

Community Well Being PDG Service Unit Budgets for 2014/15

Service Unit	Description	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement
SCD01 Community Development	Community Development	446,694	449,920	419,900	(30,020)
SCD02 Economic Development	Economic Development	(23,279)	(18,300)	(6,910)	11,390
SCS20 Customer Services Admin	Customer Services Admin	167,564	194,050	154,910	(39,140)
SCS22 Customer First	Customer First	490,354	524,840	647,450	122,610
SES01 Emergency Planning	Emergency Planning	1,180	400	0	(400)
SES03 Community Safety - C.C.T.V.	Community Safety - C.C.T.V.	2,645	340	3,100	2,760
SES11 Pool Cars	Pool Cars	(8,898)	0	6,480	6,480
SES16 Es Staff Units/Recharges	Es Staff Units/Recharges	638,071	660,630	609,390	(51,240)
SES17 Community Safety	Community Safety	47,918	53,910	55,440	1,530
SES18 Food Safety	Food Safety	(5,690)	(6,150)	(1,530)	4,620
SES19 Health And Safety At Work	Health And Safety At Work	23,267	23,670	22,710	(960)
SES20 Health Education	Health Education	(1,260)	(1,230)	0	1,230
SES21 Licensing	Licensing	23,659	31,130	(12,500)	(43,630)
SES22 Pest Control	Pest Control	6,421	4,200	5,500	1,300
SES23 Pollution Reduction	Pollution Reduction	65,146	7,360	2,710	(4,650)
SPR01 Building Regulations	Building Regulations	93,467	55,340	44,640	(10,700)
SPR02 Enforcement	Enforcement	112,222	26,840	97,800	70,960
SPR03 Development Control	Development Control	25,150	110,080	75,160	(34,920)
SPR04 Local Land Charges	Local Land Charges	(18,405)	(18,310)	(20,450)	(2,140)
SPR06 Economic Development	Economic Development	(117,181)	(50,100)	(60,360)	(10,260)
SPR07 Tourism Pol, Marketing & Devel	Tourism Pol, Marketing & Devel	170	0	0	0
SPR09 Forward Planning	Forward Planning	292,440	252,450	249,310	(3,140)
SPR11 Regional Planning	Regional Planning	23,419	66,020	62,520	(3,500)
SRB01 Collection Of Council Tax	Collection Of Council Tax	261,142	252,590	275,020	22,430
SRB02 Collection Of Business Rates	Collection Of Business Rates	(59,033)	(52,730)	(58,400)	(5,670)
SRB03 Housing Benefit Admin & Fraud	Housing Benefit Admin & Fraud	(40,131)	79,870	56,760	(23,110)
SRB04 Housing Benefit Subsidy	Housing Benefit Subsidy	(66,187)	10,000	10,000	0
SRB06 Debt Recovery	Debt Recovery	35,862	33,670	38,170	4,500
SRB08 Council Tax Benefit Subsidy	Council Tax Benefit Subsidy	(79,944)	249,350	0	(249,350)
SRS01 Recreation And Sport	Recreation And Sport	353,766	245,610	171,910	(73,700)
TOTALS		2,690,548	3,185,450	2,848,730	(336,720)

SCD01 Community Development

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	213,941	203,590	205,720	2,130
3000	Transport	4,719	4,660	3,020	(1,640)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	297,589	242,190	211,680	(30,510)
7000	Income	(69,555)	(520)	(520)	0
TOTALS		446,694	449,920	419,900	(30,020)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
CD200	Community Development
CD205	Ho Communities & Gov
CD210	Community Services Unit

Major Budget Movements

The grant and seed fund budget has been reduced (£34k), as approved by Members 5/11/2013. This budget now however includes the Exe Rail grant £3.5k which has been transferred from SPR11.

SCD02 Economic Development

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	27,866	32,590	50,050	17,460
2000	Premises	41,976	47,850	48,430	580
3000	Transport	0	40	40	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	11,861	11,220	10,990	(230)
7000	Income	(104,982)	(110,000)	(116,420)	(6,420)
	TOTALS	(23,279)	(18,300)	(6,910)	11,390

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
CD300	Markets
CD305	Market Special Events

Major Budget Movements

The increase in employee costs is due to the addition of the new Market Officer post.

An additional (£5k) has been added as target income for the Market.

SCS20 Customer Services Admin

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	103,678	116,590	90,470	(26,120)
2000	Premises	0	0	0	0
3000	Transport	0	40	40	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	63,984	77,720	64,480	(13,240)
7000	Income	(98)	(300)	(80)	220
	TOTALS	167,564	194,050	154,910	(39,140)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
CS900	Central Photocopying
CS902	Central Postage
CS904	Crediton Postage
CS910	Customer Services Admin

Major Budget Movements

2 salary posts now split 50/50 between Customer Services Admin and Customer First Franked Mail reduced by £9400, moving to Clean Mail which is charged to the services

SCS22 Customer First

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	444,512	465,860	586,350	120,490
3000	Transport	1,726	2,380	5,780	3,400
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	44,952	57,450	58,000	550
7000	Income	(835)	(850)	(2,680)	(1,830)
TOTALS		490,354	524,840	647,450	122,610

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
CS200	Communications
CS500	Messenger Services
CS930	Customer First Management
CS932	Customer First
CS936	Credition Office Section

Major Budget Movements

Corporate Communications and Messengers now form part of Cutomer Services following a restructure.

Salaries - A retired member of Corporate Communications of staff has been replaced with an apprentice.

Customer First Management salary cost has increased following the restructure. Customer First now shares 50% of the cost of two members of staff previously paid for entirely by Customer Services Admin.

SES01 Emergency Planning

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	1,180	400	0	(400)
	TOTALS	1,180	400	0	(400)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES500	Emergency Planning

Major Budget Movements

This budget has been removed and placed with Environmental Health Team as they will be carrying out this function.

SES03 Community Safety - C.C.T.V.

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	3,378	3,540	3,700	160
2000	Premises	0	970	970	0
3000	Transport	0	80	50	(30)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	6,767	3,250	3,380	130
7000	Income	(7,500)	(7,500)	(5,000)	2,500
	TOTALS	2,645	340	3,100	2,760

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES200	Cctv Initiatives

Major Budget Movements

It is proposed that Crediton Town Council will be managing the CCTV in Crediton , therefore MDDC will no longer receive a contribution.

SES11 Pool Cars

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
2000	Premises	0	0	0	0
3000	Transport	3,057	0	6,480	6,480
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	295	0	0	0
7000	Income	(12,249)	0	0	0
	TOTALS	(8,898)	0	6,480	6,480

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES580	Pool Car Running Costs

Major Budget Movements

Sinking fund is required for the three Pool Car that we own.

SES16 Es Staff Units/Recharges

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	601,235	614,530	564,430	(50,100)
3000	Transport	29,642	39,430	32,870	(6,560)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	7,376	6,890	12,310	5,420
7000	Income	(183)	(220)	(220)	0
	TOTALS	638,071	660,630	609,390	(51,240)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES710	Es Business Support
ES720	Es Management
ES730	Environmental Enforcement
ES733	Environmental Health

Major Budget Movements

The Environmental Services restructure has seen a decrease in the salary budgets within this service unit but increase in Grounds Maintenance, Private Sector Housing and Recycling salary budgets where staff have been moved.

SES17 Community Safety

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	54,019	53,400	54,730	1,330
3000	Transport	2,157	1,590	1,710	120
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	23,694	4,920	5,000	80
7000	Income	(31,951)	(6,000)	(6,000)	0
	TOTALS	47,918	53,910	55,440	1,530

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES250	Community Safety
ES252	Building Safer Community Fund
ES254	Csp - Police Fund
ES256	Community Safety Partnership

Major Budget Movements

No major variance to report.

SES18 Food Safety

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	142	500	500	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	5,541	11,350	14,240	2,890
7000	Income	(11,373)	(18,000)	(16,270)	1,730
	TOTALS	(5,690)	(6,150)	(1,530)	4,620

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES260	Food Protection
ES270	Water Quality Monitoring

Major Budget Movements

No Major Budget Movements

SES19 Health And Safety At Work

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	21,621	21,400	21,600	200
3000	Transport	1,147	1,050	980	(70)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	499	1,220	130	(1,090)
	TOTALS	23,267	23,670	22,710	(960)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES750	Health And Safety At Work
ES760	Health And Safety Officer

Major Budget Movements

No Major Budget Movements

SES20 Health Education

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	0	3,040	0	(3,040)
7000	Income	(1,260)	(4,270)	0	4,270
	TOTALS	(1,260)	(1,230)	0	1,230

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES770	Health Education

Major Budget Movements

This cost centre has been merged with Food protection.

SES21 Licensing

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	114,288	118,430	73,640	(44,790)
3000	Transport	3,688	2,770	3,360	590
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	19,562	20,370	21,910	1,540
7000	Income	(113,880)	(110,440)	(111,410)	(970)
	TOTALS	23,659	31,130	(12,500)	(43,630)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES550	Licensing
ES740	Licensing Unit

Major Budget Movements

Employee costs have reduced due to the retirement of the Licensing & Administration Manager in May 2014.

SES22 Pest Control

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
2000	Premises	0	0	0	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	6,421	4,200	5,500	1,300
	TOTALS	6,421	4,200	5,500	1,300

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES600	Pest Control

Major Budget Movements

No Major Budget Movements

SES23 Pollution Reduction

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
2000	Premises	815	670	870	200
3000	Transport	7	0	0	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	80,513	22,680	15,360	(7,320)
7000	Income	(16,189)	(15,990)	(13,520)	2,470
	TOTALS	65,146	7,360	2,710	(4,650)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
ES650	Contaminated Land
ES660	Control Of Pollution
ES670	Local Air Pollution

Major Budget Movements

Budget savings of (£7k) has come from Contaminated Land. No works are currently on-going in this area but the Authority has a responsibility to act if a case of contaminated land is reported. Any cost associated with a new case would have to be funded from General Fund Reserves.

SPR01 Building Regulations

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	293,140	304,890	297,390	(7,500)
3000	Transport	21,430	21,100	25,660	4,560
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	7,565	18,380	18,620	240
7000	Income	(228,667)	(289,030)	(297,030)	(8,000)
	TOTALS	93,467	55,340	44,640	(10,700)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR100	Building Regulations

Major Budget Movements

Restructured staffing reduced salaries by £7.5k
 Income budgets increased by £8k

SPR02 Enforcement

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	96,658	86,130	88,330	2,200
3000	Transport	5,396	4,840	4,760	(80)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	10,768	4,670	4,710	40
7000	Income	(599)	(68,800)	0	68,800
TOTALS		112,222	26,840	97,800	70,960

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR110	Enforcement
PR900	Dangerous Buildings And Trees

Major Budget Movements

Loss of Planning Delivery Grant funding increases the Enforcement budget by £69k

SPR03 Development Control

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	627,539	657,940	650,600	(7,340)
2000	Premises	82,487	0	0	0
3000	Transport	20,450	16,950	19,150	2,200
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	85,145	66,590	77,410	10,820
7000	Income	(790,470)	(631,400)	(672,000)	(40,600)
	TOTALS	25,150	110,080	75,160	(34,920)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR200	Development Control

Major Budget Movements

Income on fees and pre-application advice to rise by £75k

Reduction in funding of £34k from Planning Delivery Grant expended

SPR04 Local Land Charges

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	69,688	53,230	53,510	280
3000	Transport	91	180	180	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	32,869	33,490	31,070	(2,420)
7000	Income	(121,053)	(105,210)	(105,210)	0
	TOTALS	(18,405)	(18,310)	(20,450)	(2,140)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR210	Local Land Charges

Major Budget Movements

SPR06 Economic Development

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	48,020	47,910	48,360	450
2000	Premises	9,064	19,650	9,870	(9,780)
3000	Transport	2,382	1,930	900	(1,030)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	89,968	650	710	60
7000	Income	(266,617)	(120,240)	(120,200)	40
	TOTALS	(117,181)	(50,100)	(60,360)	(10,260)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR400	Business Development
PR405	Industrial Sites & Buildings

Major Budget Movements

Due to the current year budget not being spent, the planned maintenance budget is not required for 2014-15.

SPR07 Tourism Pol, Marketing & Dev

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	170	0	0	0
7000	Income	(0)	0	0	0
	TOTALS	170	0	0	0

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR410	Tourism Development

Major Budget Movements

SPR09 Forward Planning

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	270,297	275,610	330,930	55,320
3000	Transport	6,681	6,670	6,720	50
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	29,811	3,750	3,680	(70)
7000	Income	(14,350)	(33,580)	(92,020)	(58,440)
	TOTALS	292,440	252,450	249,310	(3,140)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR600	Forward Planning Unit

Major Budget Movements

Cil Officer and 2 additional planning officer posts funded from reserves

SPR11 Regional Planning

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	23,487	66,020	62,520	(3,500)
7000	Income	(68)	0	0	0
	TOTALS	23,419	66,020	62,520	(3,500)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
PR800	Planning Policy
PR810	Statutory Development Plan

Major Budget Movements

SRB01 Collection Of Council Tax

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	257,504	248,850	256,320	7,470
2000	Premises	30	0	0	0
3000	Transport	5,003	3,310	3,310	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	82,171	78,430	88,390	9,960
7000	Income	(83,567)	(78,000)	(73,000)	5,000
	TOTALS	261,142	252,590	275,020	22,430

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RB100	Collection Of Council Tax

Major Budget Movements

Increased salary costs includes 1% forecast increase and a Job Evaluation increase.

Increased goods & services relates to realigned Clean Mail postage charges of £14k (please see SRB03 which has reduced below), this is in part offset by a £6k saving as we will no longer be producing a Council Tax Leaflet; this information will now be available on line.

Income variance of £5k relates to projected income to be received from court costs, which has been realigned in accordance with 2013/14 projected outturn.

SRB02 Collection Of Business Rates

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	51,761	55,760	50,500	(5,260)
7000	Income	(110,794)	(108,490)	(108,900)	(410)
	TOTALS	(59,033)	(52,730)	(58,400)	(5,670)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RB200	Collection Of Business Rates
RB210	NNDR Charity Rate Relief

Major Budget Movements

No significant variance to report

SRB03 Housing Benefit Admin & Fraud

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	385,801	432,230	400,490	(31,740)
3000	Transport	4,353	4,550	2,640	(1,910)
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	141,198	66,880	175,010	108,130
7000	Income	(571,483)	(423,790)	(521,380)	(97,590)
	TOTALS	(40,131)	79,870	56,760	(23,110)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RB300	Housing Benefit Admin
RB310	Housing Benefit Fraud
RB330	New Burdens - C/Tax Reform
RB340	Local Welfare Assist Scheme

Major Budget Movements

A decrease in salary costs is due to the removal of vacant hours in Housing Benefit which had been left in the base due to the uncertainty of new Housing Benefit changes £19k & also a member of the Fraud team has returned from maternity leave on a part time basis £12k.

Realigned Clean Mail Postage charges has resulted in a reduction of £22k (please see SRB01 which has increased above).

The local Welfare Assistance Scheme which has been passed on to District Councils from DCC is now included on expenditure £130k and income of (£130k), this reflects that it has no financial effect other than staff time to deliver the scheme.

A reduction of HB & CTB Administration grant of £32k

SRB04 Housing Benefit Subsidy

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	18,780,677	19,956,100	20,344,070	387,970
7000	Income	(18,846,865)	(19,946,100)	(20,334,070)	(387,970)
TOTALS		(66,187)	10,000	10,000	0

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RB400	Housing Rent Allowances

Major Budget Movements

This movement reflects the additional demand for Housing Benefit offset by additional Subsidy income due from the DWP associated with this.

SRB06 Debt Recovery

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	29,377	28,850	28,980	130
3000	Transport	0	100	100	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	6,557	4,720	9,090	4,370
7000	Income	(73)	0	0	0
	TOTALS	35,862	33,670	38,170	4,500

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RB600	Revenues Recovery Team
RB610	Mortgages

Major Budget Movements

No significant variance to report

SRB08 Council Tax Benefit Subsidy

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	0	0	0	0
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	5,085,344	779,350	530,000	(249,350)
7000	Income	(5,165,288)	(530,000)	(530,000)	0
	TOTALS	(79,944)	249,350	0	(249,350)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RB410	Council Tax Benefit

Major Budget Movements

The £249K reduction relates to the removal of the provision made in 13/14 for additional uncertain costs associated with the introduction of the new localised Council Tax Support Scheme; which based on 13/14 actual information will no longer be required.

SR\$01 Recreation And Sport

Group	Description	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Budget	2014/15 Budget	Movement £
1000	Employees	1,502,218	1,558,260	1,487,020	(71,240)
2000	Premises	711,132	670,780	679,660	8,880
3000	Transport	6,793	5,720	6,300	580
4000	Cost Of Goods And Services	265,296	262,480	348,060	85,580
7000	Income	(2,131,673)	(2,251,630)	(2,349,130)	(97,500)
TOTALS		353,766	245,610	171,910	(73,700)

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name
RS100	Leis Facilities Maint & Equip
RS110	Leisure Management & Admin
RS140	Exe Valley Leisure Centre
RS150	Lords Meadow Leisure Centre
RS160	Culm Valley Sports Centre

Major Budget Movements

Removal of salary enhancements has reduced the salary budget by approximately £73k

Planned maintenance has reduced by £19k

A 3% forecast rise has been added to the rates and utility budgets equating to £27k

Software licences and communication costs have risen by £12k

New equipment leasing/repayment costs across all centres £56k

Income from potential price increases and spend to save projects will generate an additional £97k income

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget Meeting Savings	Target	Savings	Target	Savings
	(Direct costs)	direct fte's	Direct Cost	direct fte's					
	2012/13	2012/13	2013/14	2013/14		2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	
	£	£	£	£					
Managing the Environment									
Parking Services	5.30	(442,280)	5.30	(419,310)					
Cemeteries	1.20	(2,540)	1.10	(23,590)	(9,000)				
Public Health	na	2,670	na	2,690					
Open Spaces	2.60	188,810	2.80	171,750					
Grounds Maintenance	18.00	498,380	18.00	519,340					
Asset Management	na	12,250	na	11,070	(6,000)				
Culture & Heritage	na	960	na	970					
Flood Defence And Land Drain	na	30,430	na	30,430	(4,000)				
Street Naming & Numbering	0.20	9,330	0.20	8,200					
Administration Buildings	0.39	255,780	0.10	273,010	(10,000)				
Mddc Depots	na	64,710	na	83,370					
Public Transport	na	(17,480)	na	(17,480)					
Office Building Cleaning	3.15	57,830	2.82	55,920					
Property Services Staff Unit	7.04	252,150	6.78	247,620					
Tourist Information Centre	na	920	na	920					
Public Conveniences	2.70	133,450	1.85	131,270	(10,000)				
Street Cleansing	7.00	322,210	6.00	331,480					
Waste Collection	28.00	861,730	29.00	1,190,990					
Recycling	28.11	325,070	23.86	427,600					
Waste Management	6.50	236,320	6.00	197,690					
M the Env - Total	110.19	2,790,700	103.81	3,223,940	(39,000)	0	0		
Community Well-Being									
Community Development	4.00	441,800	4.81	448,020	(34,000)				
Economic Development - Markets	1.16	(26,640)	2.16	(18,300)	(5,000)				
Customer Services Admin	4.67	162,520	5.10	194,050					
Customer First	18.11	525,570	18.08	524,840	(18,300)				
Emergency Planning	na	400	na	400					
Community Safety - C.C.T.V.	0.19	480	0.19	340					
Es Staff Units/Recharges	18.07	671,600	17.39	658,030	(44,500)				
Community Safety	1.00	44,820	1.68	53,910					
Food Safety	na	(9,050)	na	(6,150)					
Health And Safety At Work	0.50	23,840	0.50	23,670					
Health Education	na	(2,430)	na	(1,230)					
Licensing	3.50	35,600	3.50	29,730	(25,000)	(20,000)			
Pest Control	na	4,200	na	4,200					
Pollution Reduction	na	11,340	na	7,360					
Building Regulations	8.65	100,560	7.65	52,140	(25,000)				
Enforcement	3.00	45,160	3.00	26,840	(16,800)				
Development Control	19.20	174,500	18.06	107,280	(75,000)				
Local Land Charges	2.34	(5,140)	1.80	(19,010)					
Forward Planning	7.62	253,230	7.62	249,950	(4,000)				
Regional Planning	na	66,740	na	66,020	(2,000)				
Business Development/Industrial Buildings	1.00	(36,520)	1.00	(50,100)					
Collection Of Council Tax	8.34	247,700	8.34	251,610					
Collection Of Business Rates	na	(58,540)	na	(52,730)					
Housing Benefit Admin & Fraud	14.55	77,950	14.55	78,670	(34,000)				
Housing Benefit Subsidy	na	10,000	na	10,000					
Debt Recovery	1.24	32,670	1.24	33,540					
Council Tax Benefit Subsidy	0.00	0	0.00	249,350					
Recreation And Sport	44.70	344,940	46.80	239,260	(192,000)				
Cabinet	161.84	3,137,300	163.47	3,161,690	(475,600)	(20,000)	0		
Corporate Communications									
Corporate Fees/Charges	1.50	138,360	1.50	139,280					
Pension Backfunding	3.00	106,250	2.50	91,610					
Accountancy Services	na	159,820	na	143,940					
Internal Audit	9.95	564,610	na	593,470					
Procurement	3.00	429,350	8.75	374,000					
Purchase Ledger	1.61	100,510	2.81	97,810					
Sales Ledger	1.80	49,220	1.61	49,080					
Human Resources	1.50	49,620	1.80	49,820					
Mddc Staff Training	4.81	225,270	5.81	239,960	(2,000)	(27,000)			
Payroll	1.00	63,860	na	130,040					
Learning And Development	0.81	35,000	1.00	35,000					
It Gazetteer Management	2.00	31,250	0.81	32,320					
It Information Management	1.00	85,190	2.00	69,810					
It Information Technology	12.68	49,330	1.00	28,290					
Electoral Registration	3.00	844,940	12.68	845,250	(20,000)				
Election Costs	na	107,030	3.00	111,070					
Democratic Rep And Management	3.00	20,000	na	20,000					
Messenger Services	1.78	425,050	3.00	421,730	(4,500)				
Legal Services	6.00	43,030	1.78	42,680					
	58.44	231,300	5.00	189,600					
Decent & Affordable Homes									
General Fund									
Private Sector Housing Grants	3.50	157,010	3.00	127,740					
Housing Advice	3.00	104,750	3.00	102,440					
Homelessness Accommodation	3.30	183,770	2.80	155,280					
Gf Housing Management	na	10,000	na	10,000	(10,000)				
	9.80	455,530	8.80	395,460	(10,000)	0	0		
Cross PDG/Cabinet items									
Reduction of ess users and rate + use HMRC mileage rate						(50,000)			
TOTAL SAVINGS	340.27	10,176,690	332.53	10,520,210	(628,100)	(20,000)	0		
Cost Pressures									
Salary inflation 1% from 1/4/14						106,000			
Other inflation - 2% per annum on supp and serv + utilities - is this enough % ??						150,000			
Reduced grant - Revs & Bens						21,000			
Loss of HPDG in 14/15						124,000			
Non Recovery - DARS payments						20,000			
HR cost pressures ??? system software						10,000			
Pensions auto enrolment + contrib rates - tri-annual review due 14/15						39,000			
Reduction in "On Street Parking recharge" to DCC						25,000			
Month 3 monitoring forecast Issues - Trade Waste income									
Trade Waste Income						31,000			
Non Recovery - DARS payments						20,000			
Contribution from EMR to balance 13/14 Budget						150,000			
Rev Contrib to balance Capital Programme :									
£350k included in our 13/14 base									

Medium Term Financial Plan 2014/15 - 2017/18 - Capital

Appendix 4

	Provisional Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	Total £k	Notes
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18		
Estates Management						

Leisure - Site Specific

Culm Valley Sports Centre

Emergency Lighting - Central battery back up system

Lords Meadow Leisure Centre

Existing Car Park surfacing

Total	0	50	0	25	75	

Other MDDC Buildings

Tiverton Pannier Market Paving - resurface
Tiverton Pannier Market decoration

Town Hall

Second fire escape from the council chamber to increase numbers allowed on 1st floor - subject to payback
Front windows - decoration & glazing improvements

General Car parks

MSCP improvements	50	50	50	50	200	Schedule of works required Lower deck expansion joints & top deck full resurface
MDDC Depot sites						
Lords Meadow Depot Crediton - Asbestos roof replacement	30				30	Note renting building out ASAP - Still responsible as Landlord
Lords Meadow Depot Crediton - side Asbestos panels remove & replace					25	Refurb costs to bring prop upto acceptable standard (separate to roof)
Old Road Depot - Yard resurfacing including re-lining					35	
Old Road - Replacement asbestos roof over stores area including access					32	
Station Yard Depot - Yard resurfacing including re-lining					35	

Play Areas

Play area refurbishment district wide	50	50	50	50	200	Schedule of works. Confirmation of any funding from S106/Town Council. Gross up Projects
Cemeteries						

Chapel Roots - Tiverton and Crediton	50	50	50	50	50	Schedule of works. Confirmation of any funding from DC. Gross up Projects
Other Projects						

HRA Projects

Land drainage flood defence schemes	25	25	25	25	100	Schedule of works. Confirmation of any funding from DC. Gross up Projects
Total	125	340	222	295	982	
HRA Projects						

MRA
Balance of Additional HRA money (Re Major Works 30 yr Plan)
Decent Homes Backlog Funding

	Provisional Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	Total £k	Notes
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18		
Westex South Shops - Walkway and flat roofs on shops	25				25	
Birchen Lane - re development of unit for housing conversion	120				120	Plan to turn into HRA prop instead of shop unit Total project cost £180k (60k slippage f'r 13/14)
Total	4,845	3,500	3,500	3,500	15,345	0
<u>ICT Projects</u>						
Replacement of PC estate		40		40	80	
Server farm expansion/upgrades	30	20			50	Detailed business case required
Trade Waste system replacement - business case required		50			50	
Continued replacement of WAN/LAN	30				30	
Unified Communications & telephone call reporting system (Customer First) - business case required		85	50	25	160	Corporate System re text/e-mails/convert phone messages to e-mail - cost each year is for additional licenses
Channel Shift & Digital by Design inc Back Office	60				60	
Web Transformation inc Extrane/customer portal + kiosks	55				55	
Mobile Working inc members	40	25			65	
Finance Cash receiving upgrade	30		20		30	
Oracle refreshes		45		225	210	20
Misc items in future years					480	
Total	330	250	250	250	1,080	0
<u>Affordable Housing Projects</u>						
Grants to housing associations to provide houses (covered by Commuted Sums)	300	0	300	300	900	
Affordable Housing 0.5 FTE	17	17	17	17	68	
Alexandria Lodge - contribution to Care Home Provision		300			300	
Total	317	317	317	317	1,268	0
<u>Private Sector Housing Grants</u>						
Work in Default/Discretionary Grants	111	116	122	122	471	Possible review of Budget allocation
Loans Scheme (Wessex Reinvestment Trust)	248	260	273	273	1,054	
Empty Homes	414	435	457	457	1,763	Possible review of Budget allocation
Disabled Facilities Grants-P/Sector	500	525	551	551	2,127	
Disabled Facilities Grants - Council Houses	285	300	308	308	1,201	
Total	1,558	1,636	1,711	1,711	6,616	0
<u>Economic Development Projects</u>						
Schemes as yet to be identified	100	100	100	100	400	Schedule of works required
Pannier Market (conversion of pig pens into units and walkway cover)	30				30	
Total	130	100	100	100	430	0
<u>Leisure Projects (4)</u>						
EVLC - Inflatable Dome cover for tennis courts - need business case						
Total	0	80	0	0	80	Subject to Business Case demonstrating acceptable payback period
<u>Replacement Vehicles (5)</u>						
Grounds Maintenance	103				103	
Housing Repairs (HRA)	57				57	
Street Cleansing					65	

	Provisional Capital Programme £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	2015/16 £k	Estimated Capital Programme £k	2016/17 £k	2017/18 £k	Total £k	Notes
Refuse Collection								
Trade Waste	160	320	160	160	160	640	640	
Recycling	565	325	565	0	0	160	890	
Total	725	965	160	65	65	1,915	0	
Grand Total	8,030	7,238	6,260	6,263	27,791		0	

Funding

	2014/15 £k	2015/16 £k	2016/17 £k	2017/18 £k	Total
Council House sales	-267	-267	-267	-267	-1,068
Misc Land/Property sales (1)	-110	-110	-110	-110	-440
Disabled Facility Grants - Mandatory - Private Sector	-245	-245	-245	-245	-980
HRA Revenue Contribution	-145	-57	0	0	-202
Major Repairs Allowance - to be subsumed into General RCCO from HRA	-2,121	-2,163	-2,206	-2,250	-8,740
Balance of Additional HRA money (Re Major Works 30 yr Plan) - ditto above comment	-1,379	-1,337	-1,294	-1,250	-5,260
Decent Homes Backlog Funding	-1,200				-1,200
Affordable Housing S106s - matched to spend	-317	-317	-317	-317	-1,268
General Capital Reserve	-34	-34	-34	-34	-136
2013/14 capital programme forecast net w/spends	0	0	0	0	0
Regional Housing Pot Reserve	-112	-112	-112	-111	-447
Revenue Contribution from General Fund	-350	-350	-350	-350	-1,400
Amounts reqd from New Homes Bonus (3)	-1,212	-1,114	-1,225	-1,224	-4,775
Contribution from UCR	-38	-36	-36	-36	-146
Contribution from sinking funds					-65
Total Funding	-7,530	-6,142	-6,196	-6,259	-26,127
Funding Gap	500	1,096	64	4	1,664

Notes:

- (1) Funding currently excludes Town Hall site (as will be ear marked towards future depot provision) & HRA purchase of properties from General Fund at St Andrews Street
- (2) No provision has been made for any property repairs/modernisation required at Silverton Mill if the Council continues to run its recycling operation at that location for the foreseeable future.
- (3) Report assumes a 35% reduction in NHB from 2015/16 as the Govt is currently consulting on this to be given direct to the LEP.
- (4) Any additional spend to save Leisure projects will need to be supported by an appropriate business case that demonstrates payback within a specific period.
- (5) Significant investment required in 14/15 & 15/16 in order to modernise the Refuse & Recycling fleet; we are now providing revenue budgets (sinking funds) to provide for replacement vehicles in 5-6 years time

Budget Consultation 2013

The Citizen's panel response:

In total 347 residents took part in the survey, which was made up of the following demographics:

- 52% female and 48% Male
- Under 35's were under represented which should be taken into consideration when discussing the results; this may explain why only 11% of members have children under sixteen living in the household.

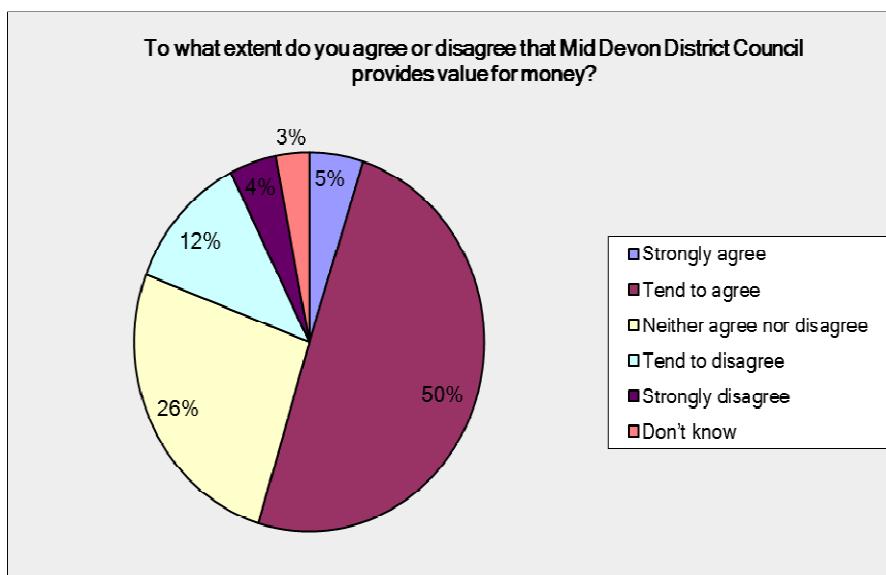
Under 25	0%
26-35	3%
36-45	9%
46-55	20%
56-65	24%
66-75	28%
76+	16%

- Panel members were represented across the district.

EX15	21.3%
EX16	37.3%
EX17	30.4%
Other	11.0%

Value for money

Mid Devon residents (55%) agree that MDDC provides value for money. Only 16% feel we don't offer value for money.



Priority services overall

Residents were asked to highlight the three services they felt were a priority. Refuse collection and recycling came out on top, residents feel it is an essential service, which protects public health and the environment, and there is no alternative service.

1. Refuse collection and recycling
2. Environmental health
3. Housing
4. Parks, open spaces and play areas
= Community safety
5. Planning, development, and building control
6. Street cleaning
7. Leisure centres
8. Public conveniences
9. Community Grants

Environmental health is perceived to protect residents and maintain health standards. Residents believe everyone has a right to accommodation and it supports vulnerable people within our community, therefore Housing came out 3rd.

Leisure centres were rated a lower priority service as the majority of residents don't use the service. Public conveniences were ranked lower, as residents use shops and pub facilities instead. Residents feel there are other funding streams available and that the grants only benefit a few. Comments suggest the council should provide advice but not grants, these were reasons given for not voting community grants a priority service.

Comments about how we allocate our money:

Mixed comments:

- Some residents are satisfied with how we balance our finances
- Others feel it's a difficult decision to make
- Some have opinions about specific services e.g. Recycling has a high proportion and services which charge (Planning and Leisure centres) should be cost neutral.
- Lower priority services still need to be funded as they are all important.

Differences

Households with children under sixteen living at home prioritise the following services:

1. Refuse collection and recycling
2. Parks, open spaces and play areas
3. Leisure centres
4. Community Safety
5. Environmental Health
6. Housing
7. Street cleaning
= Public conveniences
= Planning
10. Community grants