Brighton & Hove City Council

BUDGET COUNCIL ADDENDUM

4.30PM, THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

ADDENDUM

ITEM		Page
55(a).	**GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2010/11:-**	**1 – 14**
	(i) CONSERVATIVE GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS	
	Amendment 1	1 – 2
	(ii) LABOUR GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS	
	Amendments 1 – 5	3 – 6
	(iii) GREEN GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS	
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	(iv) LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS	
	Amendments 1 – 2	13 – 14

Note:

(i) A revised procedural note has been included with the addendum papers for Members' information and reference during the budget meeting.

(ii) A guidance note in respect of the procedure for voting on the amendments and how the approval of an amendment may be affected by a subsequent amendment is also included to assist Members.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX 2010/11

Conservative Group Amendment

Amendment 1

Allocate £424,000 one-off resources to the following:

- £50,000 for an improved pedestrian crossing at the junction of Old Shoreham Road and the Upper Drive;
- £40,000 to undertake a feasibility study to examine options to improve safety for pedestrians at the Sackville Road/Old Shoreham Road junction. The study would include traffic surveys, traffic modelling and analysis of options and recommendations;
- £30,000 to examine and implement improved school signing along the Old Shoreham Road;
- £100,000 towards the estimated £200,000 required for replacement floodlighting at the Royal Pavilion. Grants will be sought to fund the works and any of the £100,000 not required will be released back into reserves; and
- £204,000 to top up the winter maintenance reserve.

It is proposed these will be funded from £500,000 reserves identified in the supplementary financial information for Budget Council report agenda item 55(b).

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX 2010/11

Labour Group Amendments

Amendment 1

Allocate £50,000 from the £500,000 reserves identified in the supplementary financial information for Budget Council report agenda item 55(b):

- £50,000 to provide discounted composter bins to Brighton & Hove residents in 2010/11 following the ending of the WRAP scheme. The discount will be between £15 and £20 per bin, making the prices, including delivery as follows:

220 litre compost bin	£8
330 litre compost bin	£13
Comp 320 litre compost bin	£40

Amendment 2

Allocate £424,000 one-off resources to the following:

- £150,000 to top up the winter maintenance reserve;
- £200,000 to support youth outreach pilot schemes for 9 – 12 year olds (including all exit costs). If implemented permanently, resources will need to be built into the 2011/12 budget;
- £74,000 for investment in the seafront

It is proposed these will be funded from £500,000 reserves identified in the supplementary financial information for Budget Council report agenda item 55(b).

Amendment 3

Allocate £300,000 one-off resources to the following:

- A programme of refurbishment for sports pavilions and other buildings in parks and open spaces to bring them up to a standard whereby those suitable could be leased / rented to small enterprises and community groups.

Buildings identified for priority attention include: -

- Queens Park bowls pavilion,
- Braypool cricket shelters,
- Hove Recreation Ground cottage.
- Removal and re-use of Adelaide Crescent hut.

Any additional income generated through leasing/renting refurbished buildings will be built into the budget once quantified.

It is proposed that this will be funded by reducing the allocation to seafront maintenance shown in paragraph 3.45 on page 11 of the Council agenda by £300,000.

Amendment 4

Allocate permanent funding to reduce savings and replace loss of grant for the following:

- £100,000 to reduce the saving of £126,000 in the Youth Offending Service as shown on page 65 of the Council agenda;
- £30,000 to replace the reduction in the Drug Intervention Grant as shown on page 69 of the Council agenda; and
- £70,000 to reduce the savings of £200,000 in the Connexions service as shown on page 64 of the Council agenda.

It is proposed the £200,000 needed to make these changes will be funded by removing the permanent £200,000 youth outreach budget proposed in paragraph 3.44 on page 10 of the Council agenda.

Amendment 5

Allocate permanent funding to the following:

- £120,000 to reduce the saving of £332,000 on the home to school transport budget as shown on page 64 of the Council Agenda;
- £50,000 to reduce the £200,000 saving in the Connexions service as shown on page 64 of the Council agenda; and
- £30,000 contingency to subsidise the No 21 bus extension service from September 2010 if required. If the contingency is not required then allocate these resources to provide ongoing support for youth outreach pilots.

It is proposed the £200,000 needed to make these changes will be funded by:

- Removing the £100,000 annual increase in the winter maintenance budget proposed in paragraph 3.46 on page 11 of the Council agenda;
- Reducing the budget for mowing of grass verges by £100,000. This will reduce the frequency of mowing verges and can be achieved by reducing the overtime budget for this service.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX 2010/11

Green Group Amendments

Amendment 1

Allocate £10,000 one-off resources to Age Concern to fund 50% of a community development worker to help develop a WiredAge project.

The project will deliver wireless internet facilities, Web Cam's, Skype and email for all residents in The Cedars, a 28 sheltered housing unit in Patcham. The partnership with Age Concern Brighton Hove & Portslade will also include BT Charitable Foundation, YMCA and Sussex Housing & Care Housing Association. The project is designed as a template and good practice model for circulation across the country in relation to wiring older peoples accommodation;

It is proposed these will be funded from £500,000 reserves identified in the supplementary financial information for Budget Council report agenda item 55(b).

Amendment 2

Allocate £424,000 of one-off resources to the following:

- £150,000 to supplement existing insulation schemes but particularly targeted towards families with children living in homes in council tax bands A to D;
- £25,000 for an additional noise patrol shift per week in 2010/11 only;
- £180,000 for a £20,000 one-off grant to each of the 9 Brighton & Hove secondary schools to support the enhancement of sustainability within each school, in particular reducing energy consumption, reducing waste and raising awareness. The grant award would be conditional on each secondary school providing a business case that demonstrates how the resources will be used to enhance sustainability across the 3 themes; and
- £69,000 to provide a temporary increase to the discretionary grants budget in 2010/11 only.

It is proposed these will be funded from £500,000 reserves identified in the supplementary financial information for Budget Council report agenda item 55(b).

It is also proposed to implement a cost neutral green waste collection service paid for by participating residents. It is estimated that the annual cost would be £90 per annum per participating household although the cost is based on a minimum number of 4,000 households participating in a closely defined geographical area. There is also a risk that waste tonnages could increase if there is an adverse impact on home composting.

Amendment 3

Allocate one-off resources to the following:

- £100,000 to re-start the Valley Gardens transport project providing funding for feasibility work and some detailed design work;
- £150,000 transfer to the winter maintenance reserve; and
- £200,000 for youth outreach pilot schemes for 9 – 12 year olds (including all exit costs). If implemented permanently resources will need to be built into the 2011/12 budget.

It is proposed that these will be funded by reducing the allocation to seafront maintenance shown in paragraph 3.45 on page 11 of the Council agenda by £450,000.

Allocate permanent funding to reduce or reverse the following savings proposals:

- £126,000 to reverse the savings proposed within the Youth Offending Service as shown on page 65 of the Council agenda;
- £137,000 to reduce the savings of £332,000 on the home to school transport budget shown on page 64 of the Council agenda; and
- £137,000 to reduce the savings of £300,000 to be delivered by better commissioning of adult social care services from independent sector providers as shown on page 87 of the Council agenda.

It is proposed that the £400,000 needed to make these changes to the savings proposals will be funded by:

- Removing the £100,000 annual increase in the winter maintenance budget proposed in paragraph 3.46 on page 11 of the Council agenda;
- Reducing the budget for the mowing of grass verges by £100,000. This will reduce the frequency of mowing verges and can be achieved by reducing the overtime budget for this service; and
- Removing the permanent £200,000 youth outreach investment proposed in paragraph 3.44 on page 10 of the Council agenda.

Amendment 4

Allocate one-off resources for the following:

- £40,000 to update the work already undertaken on a future food waste collection service and develop detailed financial and operational proposals for a trial;
- £20,000 to produce a travel plan for the Varndean, Stringer and Balfour campus; and
- £490,000 set aside for Brighton & Hove Seaside Community Homes project (LDV). The aim would be to enable the transfer of around 15 void properties with particularly high renovation costs to the LDV that would otherwise be potentially unviable for the LDV to lease. Any transfer would be subject to a detailed report to Cabinet setting out the full legal and financial implications before implementation.

It is proposed that these allocations totalling £550,000 will be funded by:

- Reducing the allocation to seafront maintenance shown in paragraph 3.45 on page 11 of the Council agenda by £50,000; and
- Removing the £500,000 provision for a new Transport Model for the City shown in paragraph 3.45 on page 11 on the Council agenda.

Amendment 5

Change the resident car parking permit charges to reflect CO2 emissions as detailed below and use the projected income generated of £240,000 in 2010/11 to fund:

- £32,000 to improve downland management through the collection and composting of priority downland areas and bring forward sheep grazing; and
- £208,000 to reduce the £410,000 saving derived from the expansion of personal budgets in Adult Social Care shown on pages 85 and 86 of the Council papers.

Resident permits based on CO2 emissions
The scheme would use a base permit charge of £108.

Proposed resident permit charges from 1 July 2010		
	% variation from flat rate of £108	Cost of permit
Cars registered after 1 March 2001 based on CO2 emissions:		
Band A	-100%	£0
Band B	-50%	£54.00
Band C	-10%	£97.20
Band D	+10%	£118.80
Band E	+30%	£140.40
Band F	+50%	£162.00
Band G	+200%	£324.00
Cars registered before 1 March 2001 based on engine size:		
Less than 1,549cc	-10%	£97.20
1,549cc to 2,274cc	+10%	£118.80
2,275cc to 3,000cc	+30%	£140.40
More than 3,000cc	+200%	£324.00

The introduction of a revised charging scheme will require a Traffic Order Notice with a period of consultation and therefore could not be implemented until 1st July 2010 so the additional income represents 9 months operation for the proposed scheme. In addition provision has been made for one-off costs for advertising and implementation as well as additional administrative costs in verifying the relevant CO2 banding for vehicles.

This proposal is estimated to generate net additional income £240,000 in 2010/11 and £490,000 in a full year.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX 2010/11

Liberal Democrat Group Amendments

Amendment 1

Introduce an Energy Saving Smart Meter loan scheme in the Library Service. The smart meters monitor household electricity use and help pinpoint areas where savings can be made.

The energy companies are committed to replacing all electricity and gas meters for smart meters over the next 10 years which will provide remote readings and enhanced usage information. Therefore the use of these removable smart meters is more for the short to medium term and so the introduction of this service should not be an ongoing financial commitment.

The initial one-off cost of purchasing 250 units plus additional display stands for the libraries is estimated to be £9,250 with a further £6,750 to provide replacement stock and consumables for future years; £16,000 in total.

It is proposed to fund this new scheme from the £500,000 reserves identified in the supplementary financial information for Budget Council report agenda item 55(b).

Amendment 2

Ensure the buses that operate on the 11X bus service (the council bus) are Disabled Discrimination Act compliant. The additional cost is £5,700 per annum and will be met from tighter restrictions on procurement, particularly fleet.

PROTOCOL FOR BUDGET COUNCIL

To help Members at Council on 25 February 2010 the procedure to be followed in respect of the Budget debate is set out below:-

Item

53. Declarations of Interest.

The Mayor will call for any declarations of interest.

54. Mayor's communications, including the following:

The Council will be asked to agree that the Procedural Rules be suspended to the extent that it is necessary to enable the business of the meeting to be dealt with as set out in agenda item 55(a) - (d) below.

55. (a) General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2010/11;
(b) Supplementary Financial Information for Budget Council;
(c) Capital Resources and Capital Investment Programme for 2010/11 and
(d) Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2010/11

The four items listed above will be taken together:

(i) The **Mayor** will invite Councillor Mears and Councillor Young to make their presentation to the Council and to move and second the Cabinet's budget, together with the Conservative Group's amendment (1), as detailed in the addendum papers.

Councillor Mears will have unlimited time to move the budget proposals and Councillor Young will have 5 minutes within which to second the proposals and to refer to the prevailing financial conditions in relation to the budget.

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[The Chief Finance Officer / Monitoring Officer shall have discretion at any stage to remind Members of the proposed substantive budget motion and its implications following acceptance of any amendments.]

(ii) The **Mayor** will invite Councillor Hamilton, Opposition Spokesperson on Finance and Councillor Mitchell to respond and move the Labour Group's amendments (1 - 5) as detailed in the addendum papers.

Councillor Hamilton will have unlimited time to move the amendments and Councillor Mitchell will have 5 minutes within which to second the amendments and to refer to the prevailing financial conditions in relation to the budget.

[The Chief Finance Officer / Monitoring Officer shall have discretion at any stage to remind Members of the proposed substantive budget motion and its implications following acceptance of any amendments.]

(iii) The **Mayor** will invite Councillor Taylor and Councillor Randall to respond and move the Green Group's amendments (1 - 5) as detailed in the addendum papers.

Councillor Taylor will have unlimited time to move the amendments and Councillor Randall will have 5 minutes within which to second the amendments and to refer to the prevailing financial conditions in relation to the budget.

[The Chief Finance Officer / Monitoring Officer shall have discretion at any stage to remind Members of the proposed substantive budget motion and its implications following acceptance of any amendments.]

(iv) The **Mayor** will invite Councillor Elgood and Councillor Watkins to respond and move the Liberal Democrat Group's amendments (1 - 2) as detailed in the addendum papers .

Councillor Elgood will have unlimited time to move the amendments and Councillor Watkins will have 5 minutes within which to second the amendments and to refer to the prevailing financial conditions in relation to the budget.

[The Chief Finance Officer / Monitoring Officer shall have discretion at any stage to remind Members of the proposed substantive budget motion and its implications following acceptance of any amendments.]

(v) The **Mayor** will then allow Councillors to debate the proposed budgets and the amendments.

NOTE: Speakers are limited to five minutes each unless extensions are granted.

(vi) At the conclusion of the debate the **Mayor** will invite Councillor Mears to give her final right of reply. Councillor Mears will have five minutes.

(vii) The Mayor will then put the amendments to the vote in the following order:

(i) The Conservative Group amendment;

(ii) The Labour Group's amendments;

(iii) The Green Group's amendments;

(iv) The Liberal Democrat Group's amendments.

The Chief Finance Officer / Monitoring Officer may advise the Mayor of the need for a short adjournment in order to adjust the budget model in light of any amendments just agreed. The budget resolutions shall not be treated as concluded until any consequential adjustments are agreed.

(viii) The **Mayor** will put the substantive motions (as amended) (if amended) to the meeting in three separate votes as follows:

(1). Item 55(a) General Fund Revenue Budget & Council Tax 2010/11 recommendations (2.1 – 2.3),

together with;

Item 55(b) Supplementary Financial Information for Budget Council recommendation (2.1);

(2). Item 55(c) Capital Resources and Capital Investment Programme 2010/11 recommendation (2.1);

(3). Item 55(d) Housing Revenue Account Budget 2010/11 recommendation (2.1).

The Chief Finance Officer / Monitoring Officer may at any stage advise Members, especially if there is a need for consequential adjustment to parts of the budget resulting from the separate votes under 55(a), 55(b), 55(c) or 55(d).

Should Council fail to set the Council Tax on the 25th February 2010 there is one significant practical implication; the contractor who prints and sends out the Council Tax bills has a slot booked to process the city council's bills on the 26 February and a delay in setting the Budget would significantly affect this process.

Alex Bailey
Director of Strategy & Governance
(Monitoring Officer)

Catherine Vaughan
Director of Finance & Resources
(Chief Finance Officer)

BUDGET COUNCIL

25 FEBRUARY 2010

Additional guidance note regarding voting on amendments

1. Some of the proposed amendments use the same money for different purposes. Therefore if any amendment is voted through subsequent amendments may need to be changed.

2. The following amendments do not need to be changed regardless of the voting outcomes:

Conservative Amendment	1
Labour Amendment	1
Labour Amendment	3
Labour Amendment	4
Labour Amendment	5
Green Amendment	1
Green Amendment	4
Green Amendment	5
Liberal Democrat Amendment	1
Liberal Democrat Amendment	2

3. The following amendments therefore may need to be changed:

   - Labour Amendment 2 if the Conservative Amendment 1 is carried;
   - Green Amendment 2 if the Conservative Amendment 1 and/or the Labour Amendment 2 is carried;
   - Green Amendment 3 if any of the Labour Amendments 3, 4 or 5 are carried.

4. During the voting on the amendments if an amendment needs to be changed then there may need to be a short pause whilst further clarification is prepared by officers for Members.