

REPORT TO: COUNCIL

DATE: 14 January 2010

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC BUDGET REVIEW
FURTHER OPTIONS

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Margaret Carney
Chief Executive

CONTACT OFFICER: Bill Milburn
Transformation Director
0151 934 4395

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To approve the implementation of the Strategic Budget Review Options detailed in Annex A and authorise Officers to implement them with immediate effect.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To ensure that timely decisions are made within the timescales to the development of the Transformation Agenda and the achievement of SBR savings.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council approves the implementation of all savings items detailed at Annex A and authorises Officers to implement them with immediate effect

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: The Transformation Programme and Strategic Budget Review have been identified in the current Forward Plan

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

The Council could continue to plan and set its budget on a traditional incremental approach. However this tends to be shorter term and is unlikely to meet medium term priorities and financial objectives.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: The options presented in the SBR will make significant savings over the period of the SBR. Council approval is required to amend the budget/policy framework.

Financial:

	2009/10 £	2010/11 £	2011/12 £
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure			
Funded by:			
Sefton Capital Resources			
Specific Capital Resources			
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS			
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure			
Funded by:			
Sefton funded Resources			
Funded from External Resources			
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N			
How will the service be funded post expiry?			

Legal: The Council must set its Budget within the statutory time limits. All options and decision must be intravires.

Risk Assessment: The Transformation Programme and SBR carry a number of significant risks that will need to be managed throughout the process. The risks identified to date have been added to the Corporate Risk Register

- The ability to identify sufficient acceptable options to balance the budget and achieve a sustainable

- longer term financial position
- The potential that short term decisions will hamper longer term ambitions
- Reduced moral and motivation of staff
- Reduced performance as options are identified, assessed and decision made
- Political disagreement and tensions as options are identified and assessed
- Industrial relations issues
- The need to use short term one off funding to balance the budget reducing flexibility to deal with other demands and pressures
- Ensuring that partners are fully engaged in the process

Asset Management: Not appropriate

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

There has been full consultation and engagement with the Trade Unions throughout the process.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		√	
8	Children and Young People		√	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet 11 June 2009 "*Strategic Budget Review*"
 Report to Cabinet 1 October 2009 "*Transformation Update*".
 Report to Cabinet 29 October 2009 "*Transformation Programme Update - Senior Management Structure*"
 Report to Cabinet 25 November 2009 "*Transformation Programme Update – Strategic Budget Review*"
 Report to Special Cabinet 3 December 2009 "*Transformation*"
 Report to Cabinet 17 December 2009 "*Strategic Budget Review – Further Options*"

1. Background

1.1 On 17 December 2009, Cabinet considered a report entitled “*Strategic Budget Review – Further Options*” and resolved that:-

- (1) *the progress made on the Strategic Budget Review be noted;*
- (2) *the options within Tables 3 and 4 of Appendix A of the report be developed for further consideration and a further report be submitted to the Cabinet on the progress of the options;*
- (3) ***the options numbered 33 to 40, 42 to 43, 45 to 49 and 52 to 55 within Table 5 of Appendix A, and option 72 within Table 6 of Appendix A of the report be recommended to the Council, at its meeting to be held on 14 January 2010, for implementation;***
- (4) *the options numbered 41, 50, 51, 56 and 62 to 64 within Table 5 of Appendix A, and option 76 within Table 6 of Appendix A of the report be deferred, pending the submission of further details on the schemes to the Cabinet;*
- (5) *the options numbered 44, 57 to 61 within Table 5 of Appendix A, and the options numbered 66 to 71 and 73 to 75 within Table 6 of Appendix A of the report be not implemented; and*
- (6) *option 65 within Table 6 of Appendix A to the report be not implemented but a report on the details of the current twinning activity be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.*

(In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, the following Councillors requested that their votes against the following resolutions referred to above be recorded, namely:

*Resolution 3 - Implementation of Options 36 and 55
Councillors P. Dowd, Fairclough and Maher*

*Resolution 5 - Implementation of Options 59 and 60
Councillors Griffiths, Parry and Porter)*

1.2 The Strategic Budget Review options identified in resolution (3) above have been complied separately in Annex A and Council is asked to formally approve their implementation with immediate effect.