

**Health, Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
– 7 November 2019**

The committee considered the proposals within the Pre-Budget 2020/21 Consultation relating to its remit, with a view to providing its feedback and comments to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 9 January 2020.

Members asked questions and put comments in respect of;

- the need to provide more background information on the costings and rationale of the Care4CE (item 35) budget proposal;
- concern that funding for the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme should not be reduced and that frontline provision should be increased to support the early intervention and prevention work that could benefit the wider connected services; and
- that the overall direction of how funding was planned to be reduced in certain service areas – proposal nos. 34, 37 and 41 were specifically referenced – may not benefit the overall public health picture in Cheshire East.

The committee also expressed concern regarding proposal no. 58 (Community Budgets funded from New Homes Bonus) and commented that this proposal would impact on the plans and proposals being presently produced by local businesses and town and parish councils across Cheshire East.

RESOLVED –

- 1 That the comments and feedback raised by the committee be collated alongside those of the other overview and scrutiny committees, to be presented to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9 January 2020.
- 2 That the council inform local town and parish councils about proposal no. 58 (Community Budgets funded from New Homes Bonus) as soon as possible, to ensure that they are made aware of the potential implications of this in 2020/21.

**Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11
November 2019**

Consideration was given to the pre-budget consultation. The Financial Strategy and Reporting Manager provided an overview of the process with the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services and the Director of Growth & Enterprise present to answer any questions relating to the areas specific to the remit of the Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Members raised the following points/questions:-

- (i) Why was there no information within the document on the base budget and why was there no reference to what the impact on the budget would be under each item?
- (ii) In respect of Community Transport it was queried as to why the budget for this service was being reduced given the fact that it had been in operation less than 6 months and therefore there had been no opportunity to provide any feedback on the Flexi-Link service;
- (iii) In respect of highways maintenance for pathways and cycleways the budget for last year for the whole of the Borough had been £20,000. Could a breakdown be provided as to how the maintenance of pathways and cycleways would be delivered?
- (iii) Would the reduction in the highways budget relating to Highway Maintenance Contract Efficiencies affect the service?
- (iv) Concerns were raised about the performance of Ringway Jacobs;
- (v) What was the timeline for a Cheshire East Council review of car parking?
- (vii) If there was a better bus service then car parking wouldn't be an issue. It was felt there was nothing in the budget which transformed bus services;
- (viii) There should be liaison with other Councils regarding the provision of a more efficient bus service. This wasn't happening. If the bus service was improved and was cost efficient there would be more users and the need for car parks would decrease;
- (ix) Last year's budget saw 40% cuts to bus services;
- (x) The Council needed to facilitate measures which would assist in reducing the carbon footprint, for example charging a set fee for users to then have unlimited access;
- (xi) Contractors were unwilling to reduce the cost of bus fares until the demand increased but the demand would not increase unless there was a decrease in fares;
- (xii) In order to emphasise the Council's commitment to climate change was there any work being undertaken to provide electric charging points particularly in the Macclesfield area?
- (xiii) In respect of Public Rights of Way (ProW) it was felt more resources were required because if routes were not on a map by 2026 then they would be lost forever. Concerns were raised that there were only two employees dealing with PRow and this was insufficient. It was queried which officers dealt with PRow.

RESOLVED

That the comments be noted and reported to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 9 January 2019.

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25 November 2019

Consideration was given to the Pre-Budget 2020/21 Consultation proposals that fell within the committee's remit.

Members asked questions and put comments in relation to;

- the proposed reduction in funding for community transport services for SEND and other children and families services, and that these planned savings seemed unrealistic;

- concern as to how the funding reduction to community transport services would impact on how children were dropped off and picked up, particularly those that are more sensitive to changed environments and situations;
- the proposal to reduce funding for early help services and the wider impacts that this would have on service connectivity as well as the overall effectiveness of other key service areas.

RESOLVED –

That the comments and feedback raised by the committee be collated alongside those of the other overview and scrutiny committees, to be presented to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9 January 2020.