

S151 Officer Commentary on Conservative Party Amendments to the Proposed 2024/25 Budget

This note reviews the Conservative Party amendment. The amendment is made to the proposals set out in the final recommendations of the Executive to the Council in Document AL.

It is important to note the following:

- The proposal produces a balanced budget for 2024-25
- The proposal includes some new savings proposals, and the amending or withdrawing of some of the Executives savings proposals, the funding of these has been considered and reflected within the proposal.
- All proposals have been costed and are therefore deemed to be sufficiently robust as estimates to be included in the budget.
- Inevitably, the proposals have not been subject to the level of consultation or full practical review that has been available to the Executive 's proposals.
- The proposed use of Exceptional Financial Support in 2024-25 remains the same as the Executives, and there are no proposed uses of the General Fund reserves which are the prime focus of my s151 report.

On this basis, the amendment is sufficiently robust for consideration in setting the Council's budget for 2024-25, and the judgement on the adequacy of reserves, as set out in the s151 report) to this Council, remains unchanged.

The revised Appendix A of Document AL consistent with this amendment has been provided, along with additional tables quantifying the amendments.

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