

Proposal	Outcome from O&S
<p>Withdrawal of denominational transport subsidies. Please advise total costs of these subsidies. Provide a breakdown between in/out of borough transport and 'top 5' schools by pupil numbers. State total savings if removed, and earliest possible timetable for withdrawal of subsidy. Provide alternative scenarios for mitigating impact eg: by retaining arrangements for existing pupils and only removing entitlement for new pupils ('roll-off'), or by offering grant aid to schools, parents, or other providers to provide transitional transport arrangements for existing pupils.</p>	<p>It was reported that a full paper would be going to the March Cabinet which would list out a series of options for members for both Post 16 transport and secondary/primary. These would require formal consultation and then some recommendations would come back to Cabinet in June/July.</p>
<p>Replacement of 11-18 school transport with travel passes. Estimate savings from replacing existing council provided services with a 'travel pass' for 11-18 year olds in education or training. State total current cost of schemes (direct and indirect), and estimated costs of new scheme. Summarise what pupils currently contribute (both self funders and those supported by council) and how this would change. Provide an initial impact analysis, including positives (more flexible travel especially for those in employment-based training) and negatives (any areas where public transport coverage may be inadequate). Cost of any mitigation measures (such as additional service subsidies) which might be offered. Describe current entitlement criteria and any alternative options (eg: benefits, free school meals, etc).</p>	<p>It was reported that a full paper would be going to the March Cabinet which would list out a series of options for members for both Post 16 transport and secondary/primary. These would require formal consultation and then some recommendations would come back to Cabinet in June/July.</p>
<p>Transfer maintenance responsibilities for A13 to Highways Agency. Provide current cost of maintenance, litter removal, and any other associated activities. Estimate savings if passed to HA. Estimate likely timescales for negotiating this, for inclusion in MTFS if not possible for 13/14.</p>	<p>The committee accepted that a significant amount of investment would be required to make this possible and so was not an option for this budget round.</p>
<p>Replace automatic pay increments with a performance based system Provide current forecast cost of pay increments. Give examples of schemes used at other authorities (eg: more robust performance management systems, a fixed value</p>	<p>Not supported due to contractual issues. The committee agreed to follow the Pay Review closely.</p>

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‘increment pool’ approach for top performers rather than automatic entitlement) and what effect these would have if implemented in Thurrock.	
<p>Move to 4-yearly elections Provide current costs of election by thirds, and savings from moving to a four yearly election cycle. Include both direct election costs and indirect costs (less need for permanent electoral services department, any changes to electoral registration requirements). Estimate further benefits of sharing electoral services with another authority if the change is made.</p>	Committee agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to look at all aspects of this change to enable an informed decision.
<p>Move direct community services out of council and into local precepting bodies. Provide breakdown of total service costs which are identifiably provided at community level (as opposed to borough-wide or on an individual basis). Examples: horticultural services, parks, community centres, libraries, local highways maintenance, street cleansing, litter picking. Describe process for moving these costs into local precepting bodies and the options which exists for different types (eg: community councils based on existing strategy and administered by ‘area committees’, Parish councils, any other community models which could be considered). Estimated local precept charge if these services were localised in future.</p>	The Cabinet agreed that there was no benefit in this budget round and so to add to the workplan for more detailed consideration.
<p>Implement community hubs / ‘one stop shops’ universally during 2013-14 Total cost to council of running all community facility offices in Thurrock (libraries, housing offices, youth and community services, any others, but excluding Thameside, Impulse, Grangewaters, Grays beach etc – see below). Include building operating costs, staff costs, and any indirect costs. Estimate reduction in total costs from moving to a community hub / one-stop-shop model in all areas of Thurrock during 2013-14.</p>	The Committee supported a proposal to bring forward the opening of community hubs to the earliest opportunity.
<p>Outsource running of leisure facilities (Council to retain asset ownership) Provide total costs to council of continuing to operate Thameside, Grangewaters, Grays Beach, and any other similar leisure facilities. Include staffing, running costs, and all</p>	Proposals were discussed at the Cleaner, Greener and Safer O&S. Main focus of discussion was in relation to Thameside, and the possibility of closure (theatre particularly). Members discussed that any proposal in relation to this would require

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indirect/support costs. Estimate savings from transferring the running to community groups, not-for-profit social enterprises, or local businesses. Identify any areas where continued grant support might be necessary to retain a provision, using Impulse Leisure as an example. Provide last 5 years history of council support for Impulse and future forecasts.	discussion with any interested parties before any possible savings could be identified.
<p>Move education department to an ‘all academy’ model. Provide an alternative budget for the education department assuming that every school in Thurrock will become a free school or academy. Assume that the council will not provide any services that schools could obtain for themselves, and that any services which the council does continue to provide will be as ringfenced service units, fully paid for by the schools on a discretionary contracted basis. Identify what services if any the council would need to retain to fulfil residual statutory functions on a minimum basis. Provide a funding model for this new operating model, including exactly what happens to DSG money and any general fund contributions which would be required. Compare to the current baseline 2013-14 budget for both DSG and general funds and indicate total savings. Finally, assume that community schools which do not in fact undergo academy transition in 2013-14 will be funded as if they had. Identify how much additional money the schools will receive, and what services they would need to procure for themselves as a result.</p>	The Committee did not support this proposal.
<p>Increase youth offending funding Growth item for greater capacity in the youth offending service.</p>	The Committee supported a bid to increase funding for these areas by £13k per annum.
<p>Pilot project for improving links between schools and employers Growth item for piloting ‘careers academy UK’ or a similar scheme.</p>	
<p>Increase proportion of locally recruited foster carers Create a ‘business plan’ for recruiting more local foster carers, using a funded marketing approach. Estimate the costs for delivering the initiative, reasonable</p>	The Committee debated whether to decentralise the Communications Service as the core of this proposal was to bring the communication budget back directly to the service. The Committee did not support

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expectations of outcomes, and savings to foster care costs in first and subsequent years as a result.	this proposal.
<p>Tender individual waste management contracts The major procurement exercise left us with a much better, cheaper, and more manageable suite of waste contracts (believe ~10 in total). Please advise when these can next be re-tendered to test market value and explore potential for further savings on an individual contract by contract basis.</p>	<p>Proposal and current contractual situation discussed at Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny. Members understood that there was little we could do now as we were tied into contracts but that we would commence retender in 2014. Any possible savings would not be seen until 2017/18 budget.</p>
<p>Introduce low energy street lighting A capital investment programme to deliver low energy (LED) street lighting across Thurrock as soon as possible. Identify the capital costs, how it will be funded, ongoing energy and maintenance cost savings, and the overall effect on general fund budget across the MTFs period. To include other associated technologies such as dimming where appropriate. Identify any external grants or funding available, and the possibility of using green deal or other schemes as a vehicle.</p>	<p>The Committee agreed to note the proposal and asked officers to carry out further work on the feasibility of this proposal.</p>
<p>Review PCSO funding model with Police The police operating and deployment model in Thurrock has changed, and the existing agreement on PCSO match funding may no longer in reality be delivering any additional resources (ie it may have effectively been swept up into overall Essex neighbourhood policing budgets). Advise exactly what operational guarantees we are now getting, what the operational effect would be of ceasing match funding, total savings released by stopping it, and whether the money could be better used on other aspects of public protection (eg: to fund additional civil enforcement or co-location of neighbourhood policing in community hubs).</p>	<p>The Committee discussed the proposal and elected to note it.</p>
<p>Growth item for developing a wider-covering Trading Standards team. In order to pursue the soon-to-be-approved HWB strategy, we seek to bolster our Trading Standards team to police the smoking and obesity issues identified in the JSNA by targetting binge-drinking, underage</p>	<p>A growth proposal for £50k was supported by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee but not by Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>

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sales of tobacco products and alcohol.	
<p>Zero-based Adult Social Care packages, with reimbursements reclaimed in all instances We need to ensure that Adult Social Care packages are correctly apportioned , and that the costs to be provided from the local authority are the only costs paid. Any costs which fall on outside bodies, i.e. NHS , must be fully recovered . The accountability of reclaiming monies owed to the authority should be led by the authority, with a compliance measure established to monitor the reclaim of these costs.</p>	HOSC re-assured by the work that was currently underway.
<p>Commission investigations into identifying gaps in GP-care provision across the borough There are areas of the borough which currently have inadequate GP-coverage. The average users of a single GP surgery should aim for 1500-2000 patients. We should therefore aim to identify areas 'at risk', and should work with the HWBB to deliver additional surgeries as required.</p>	HOSC accepted this recommendation.
<p>Community-driven local area co-ordination, not officer driven. We believe that voluntary , community sector and faith groups are in the best place to deliver the ambitions of the Local Area Co-ordinator program, and would therefore seek to use the money to pay for the as of yet unapproved Local Area Co-ordination project to fund incentives for these groups to undertake the same duties. This should be a trial arrangement for one year, so that a full and proper assessment can be completed on the benefits of the program.</p>	Following an in depth discussion around the alternative proposal it was agreed that we would continue to run both LAC and ABCD pilots from the Local Authority on the understanding that we would update HOSC in terms of the ongoing evaluation.
<p>Increase accessibility for independant Adult Social Care through targetted assistive technology. In order to deliver our health agenda, by reducing the hospitalisation of residents needing care at a struggling Basildon & Thurrock University Hospital, we seek to use growth from the blue badge proposals to contribute to greater accessibility and communications about options available, RE: assistive technology.</p>	HOSC agreed that the review of charging for ASC should come back to scrutiny in September.
HRA Related:	All three proposals were supported by the

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A review of the costs of the concierge service A review of the current delivery model for tenants participation Market testing of environmental services for housing	Committee.