

**Council, 25 February 2015**

**Agenda Item 7: The Council's Budget 2015/16**

**B. Revised Amendment on behalf of the Residents' Group**

**Reduction in SRA allowances (savings from current level of allowance shown in bold):**

Leader of the Council £40,000 – **£5,048**

Deputy Leader of the Council £23,000 - **£8,420**

Cabinet Members £20,000 – £8,780 X 7 – **£61,460**

Leader of the Principal Opposition £12,000 - **£2,418**

Leader of the Minority Opposition Groups £3,000 – **£1,000**

Deletion of Overview and Scrutiny Board Chairman and convert to chair of sub-committee **£ 6,768**

Chairman of Licensing Committee £7,650 – **£6,768**

Savings - **£91,882**

**Communications savings of 30k brought forward from 2016/17 to 2015/16.**

**TOTAL SAVINGS £121,882**

Saving to be allocated equally between:

**StreetCare,**

**Children's/Youth Services**

**Adult Services**

**Comments on the Revised Amendment by the Chief Financial Officer**

The CFO advises that the proposal would require;

- a) A revision to the Members Allowances scheme for 2015/16 which is the subject of a separate report to Council on this agenda.
- b) Savings in communications to be brought forward from 2016/17 to 2015/16.

The CFO considers that these savings could, if Council were so minded, be delivered in 2015/16 for the sum of £121,882 which could be allocated equally between Street Care, Children's / Youth Services, Adult Services. To give these sums a degree of context the current year budgets for those services are as follows:

Adult Services	£55.8 million
Children's Services	£25.1 million
Streetcare	£10.8 million

Having considered these matters the Chief Finance Officer advises that the proposal can be considered robust. However, it should be noted that the current level of allowances for 2014/15 were amended and approved at Full Council on 22 October 2014 at levels which are in the vast majority of cases lower than the minimum level as recommended by the London Councils Independent Review Panel.