

COUNCIL, 25 SEPTEMBER 2019, AGENDA ITEM 7 – UPDATE REPORTS ON THE 2021 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)

Questions on behalf of the Residents' Group

In reference to paragraph 1.5 of the report:

1. Would the Leader of the Council confirm why there is a 818K overspend in the Neighbourhoods budget and how this has been allowed to happen?
2. Would the Leader of the Council confirm what action he is taking to rectify the overspend situation in the Neighbourhoods budget?

Questions on behalf of the Labour Group

In Appendix A of the report:

1. In the service improvement programme and efficiency proposals there are 42 items listed to meet the saving target - a draft budget for each area must have been established. Please could this be added to the report so that the impact on services could be better understood by members?
2. A number of these items refer to the reduction in use of agency staff and the replacement with more cost effective internal staff. While we applaud this, was this not part of the original savings proposals and if not why not?
3. On item 31 it is suggested that you cease to use agency staff and instead use ASYE's to reduce agency costs. As ASYEs are relatively newly qualified staff and agency staff are generally more experienced what mitigating factors are the Directors of Children's and Adults Services putting in place?