

Appendix B – BUDGET OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

Option proposed	Amount (M)
Reduce the Street Cleansing Service by cleaning some areas less. The appearance of the street scene and public realm remain a priority.	£0.250
Move to a fully digital app only service for paying to park and do not install any new pay machines. The Council recognises that customers need choices to pay for these services, smaller parking sites will be app only. Where machines are out of order customers must pay for services through the app. Cash and card transactions will be also available at paypoints in shops for customers who cannot access the app	£0.050
Queens Theatre – remove core grant, either in full or staged to allow time for the Theatre to identify alternate sources of income. This is not considered because the core grant enables the Theatre to attract additional income, the core costs for running the building has increased significantly. The removal of the core grant could also impact on their ability to deliver their social inclusion projects.	£0.3m Or £0.1m per year for 3 years
Reduce staff at Contact centre 25% and 50% and promotion of digital online solutions – Rejected by Members because the council is committed to maintaining the contact centre offer to residents, ensuring accessible channels for all and quality of our customer service remains one of the top three priorities for the administration	£0.5m for 25% staff reduction £1m for 50% staff reduction

<p>Reduce libraries estate significantly – to one or two main sites.</p> <p>A reduction of the library estate down to delivery from one or two libraries is not recommended by officers. It is highly unlikely that such provision would meet a test of “comprehensive and efficient” local service that is our statutory obligation. While Councils can take their available resources into account when deciding how to deliver their public library service, such decisions must be based on needs assessments.</p> <p>The size of the borough and its populations and the nature of the borough with specific areas of deprivation and vulnerability, notwithstanding the borough’s nature as one of the “oldest” populations in the country coupled with one of the largest growth in children’s numbers would make an estate reduction to 1 or 2 libraries unlikely to satisfy any test of “comprehensive and efficient”.</p> <p>On that basis the proposal has been rejected.</p>	<p>Potentially up to 1.6m</p>
<p>Remove free half hour Parking : This has been rejected as the Council is committed to continuing free parking for the first half hour to support businesses in the borough</p>	<p>£1m</p>
<p>Remove all school crossing patrols – There are currently 8 sites being progressed for removal, the proposal extends this to remove the 5 remaining sites.</p>	<p>£0.027m</p>
<p>Remove free parking for blue badge holders in car parks</p>	<p>£0.020m</p>

Reduce grass cutting from 10 cuts to 5 in growing season	£0.136
CCTV –Reduction in extent of monitoring hours (current service is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). This has been rejected as selective monitoring would ignore current high risk, high harm times of day/night. In addition, night time economy premise licenses require membership of Safe and Sound (Town Centre radio link) which would then be unmonitored.	£0.020- £0.074m depending on extent of service reduction
Review of ASB tenants to release property. May take some time as any evictions need to go through the courts. This has been rejected as it may end up costing more money as the burden on accommodating the families evicted may fall on Childrens Services.	n/a