

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL: 22 FEBRUARY 2022

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BUDGET

Amendments to the proposed budget by the Progressive Group – received Monday 14 February 2022

Proposal 1

Proposed by Cllr K. Mitchell

Seconded by Cllr M. Mitchell

That the Council employ a full time Planning Enforcement Officer Grade G in 2022/23.

The total cost of this post including the market surcharge and on costs is £41,196.00.

The cost of this additional post be found by the Council introducing a charging regime for its Pre Application Advice Service to developers.

Using a system similar to Plymouth City Council in regard to a major development deemed to be 10 properties or more, the scale of charges is £2,028-£3,728. There is a higher negotiated scale of charges for developments involving more than 150 properties.

Last year, the Council was involved in pre application advice regarding 26 'major developments'. Therefore, using the Plymouth scale, the income that Exeter could have raised last year would have been a minimum of £52,728.

Proposal 2

Proposed by Cllr D. Moore

Seconded by Cllr A. Sparling

That the Council employ a full time Scrutiny Programme Officer Grade H post in 2022/23.

The total cost of this post including on-costs is £42,828.00.

The purpose is to support the Scrutiny Programme Board, the Scrutiny Committees, officers and Councillors to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Council's scrutiny function and contribute towards the Council's objective of being a well-run Council.

The cost of the post for 2022/23 to be met from HRA unallocated funds of £4,282.80 and from the GF Final Settlement of £38,545.20. Total funding £42,828.00.

**Amendments to the proposed budget by the Conservative Group – received
Wednesday 16 February 2022**

Proposed by Cllr A. Leadbetter

Seconded by Cllr A. Jobson

Amendment to the Budget

In Exeter there are over 5,600 exempt dwellings in respect occupation mostly by students if those properties were subject to Council Tax at Band B, this would provide the Council with an additional £725,000 of annual income. It is time the legislation was changed to permit this because it is clear from tonight's resolution that tough decisions have to be made.

However, the Conservative Group does not support the budget as set by the Labour administration.

The Conservative Group proposes the following amendment:

- a) Provision should be made for the roll out of re-cycling of food waste across the City as a matter of urgency and without further delay. There should be support given to a programme to better educate residents as to what can be re-cycled.
- b) From the 15% Community element of CIL there should be a programme to refit and update the City's play parks - such work to be completed within two years. The Connect and Well-being budgets to be reduced accordingly.
- c) The feasibility study for the Wonford Community Centre should be reduced to £250,000 and the refurbishment of the Wonford Centre should be budgeted for the year 2022/23 with no further delays.
- d) The funding from the saving in the above feasibility budget should be used for street cleaning; grass cutting; bin emptying and the enhancement of green corridors and smaller green spaces for wildflower planting.
- e) Provision should be made for the Exeter City Council Car Parks to offer free parking on the 1st Sunday in each month.