

(1) Reason why decision is being called in:

See Attached.

(2) Outline of proposed alternative action:

Report is referred back to CABINET
for greater detail and explanations
given to how the overspend will be covered and

(3) Do you believe the decision is outside the policy framework? ^{greater}

ANALYSIS OF
LOW INCREASE

No

(4) If Yes, give reasons: n/a

FOR DST USE ONLY:

Checked by Proper Officer for validation –



Name of Proper Officer:

Date:

Asmat Hussain

20/09/2016

Reason why the decision is being called in:

1. £7.9m overspend

The recommendations to the Cabinet in the report simply ask that Cabinet note the £7.9m overspend and that it agrees that departments reporting pressures should formulate and implement action plans.

£7.9m is the about equivalent of an 8% increase in band C Council Tax and therefore a significant sum.

The report lacks any detail as to the types of efficiencies and savings to be achieved or the exact time frame within which the savings are to be achieved. The report only provides details as to the reasons for the over spend, which includes:

Finance, Resources & Customer Services (Appendix A3)	£2,181,000
Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (Appendix A4)	£4,344,000
Children's Services (Appendix A5)	£1,798,000

Given that there may be additional overspends and financial pressures in the foreseeable future and the programmes set out in page 35 again lack any detail or substance and may not be achieved it is essential that more detailed information, planning and a time scale given as to the immediate efficiencies and savings to be undertaken to eliminate the overspend before additional spending pressures arise.

2. Borrowing

Appendix B on page 31 discloses that the Local Authorities combined net short-term and long-term borrowing increased from £270,217,000 in June 2015 to £435,916,000 in July 2016; an increase of £165,699,000.

This is the largest sum ever owed by this Local Authority.

Other than being noted in the appendices there is no reference in the main body of the report for the reasons for the increase in debt or the longer term direction in which the level of debt is heading.