

**21 February 2013**

**Revenue Budget 2013/14**

**Liberal Democrat amendment**

**1 Summary**

1.1 The purpose of this amendment is to:

- invest in Hampshire's **young people and families** by reversing the Conservative administration's cuts to Children's Centres and Youth Services;
- protect **adults and older residents** by ensuring that sufficient funding is provided to enable the voluntary care sector to be properly supported;
- improve safety by increasing funding for **pavement and verge repairs**;
- support **rural and urban communities** and **older people** by increasing investment in bus services;
- **boost apprenticeships** and **help the long-term unemployed** in Hampshire through negotiating a voluntary employment programme with the County Council's suppliers.

**2 Amendment to the 2013/14 revenue budget**

2.1 That it be an amendment to recommendation (c) in paragraph 5 of item 9 on the revenue budget and precept for 2013/14:

a) Additions to budgets – on-going improvements in service:

<b>Children's Services</b>	£'000
• <b>Children's Centres &amp; Youth Services</b>	4,000
- reversing the cuts in service at Children's Centres across Hampshire, to provide an 'open door policy' for more sessions at Children's Centres who are supporting children, and helping the families to seek employment and access to childcare, work and training.	

	£'000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to reverse the cuts in general youth services, reinstating the 2010/11 provision of support for youth, thereby encouraging sport and community activity and reducing anti-social behaviour.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Children's Care Services</b></li> </ul>	1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to bring forward planned child protection capacity to give staff enough time to work with individual children and families who are at risk, and at an earlier stage.</li> </ul>	
<b>Adult Services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adult Care</b></li> </ul>	1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to provide funding to ensure that sufficient support for voluntary sector grants is available and that volunteering is encouraged so that the care they provide is as available as possible to those who need it.</li> </ul>	
<b>Environment</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pavement (Footway) Maintenance</b></li> </ul>	2,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to fund additional major planned maintenance on footways and grass verges.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bus Services</b></li> </ul>	1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to increase provision for much-needed bus services in rural and urban areas and moving towards reversing the cut in the hours that older people are entitled to use concessionary passes.</li> </ul>	
<b>Economic Development</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Employment Opportunities</b></li> </ul>	1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to provide a significant boost to apprenticeships and to launch a voluntary employment programme in cooperation with the County Council's major suppliers to help both young and mature long-term unemployed Hampshire residents into work.</li> </ul>	
<b>Total addition to amended budgets for on-going improvements</b>	<b>10,000</b>

b)	To be financed in 2013/14 by:	£'000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Use of Invest to Save Reserve</b> 2,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to reflect the future budgetary benefits that will accrue from these improvements in service.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Use of Grant Equalisation Reserve</b> 6,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to reflect that the purpose of this reserve is to protect services from unnecessary cuts, which is what this amendment is doing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Use of General Capital Reserve</b> 2,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to provide for additional capital footway maintenance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	<b>To finance on-going improvements in service</b>	<b>10,000</b>

On-going funding of up to £10 million for these services from 2014/15 onwards will need to be built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy due to be presented to Cabinet in early Summer 2013.

**Proposed:**

**Councillor Keith House**  
**Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group**

**Seconded:**

**Councillor Brian Dash**  
**Deputy Leader**