

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**25 FEBRUARY 2009**

**ALTERNATIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL BY COUNCILLOR D THOMAS**

**LEADER LABOUR GROUP**

In accordance with Shadow Cabinet response to the Budget consultation, the Council is asked to consider the following alternative budget and hence refer back the Cabinets Budget recommendations for further consideration:

**General Fund Revenue Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12**

**Senior Management Restructure**

That the proposed Senior Management Restructure be amended with the Council reverting back to a Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive supported by Heads of Service

**Allotments Service**

The subsidy to allotments to be reinstated in accordance with the Motion of Councillor Kraujalis to the 21 January 2009 Council Meeting

**Proposals for Savings**

**Cabinet Saving Proposals to be Deleted**

That the following core services to the public be retained and hence to delete the following Saving proposals of Cabinet:

- LT01 Concessionary Travel Passes
- LT02 Chase Line Half Fare Travel Scheme
- LT03 Concessionary Fares – Tokens for Senior Citizens; Disabled and Blind.
- KL02 Maintenance of Street Furniture/Nameplates
- PLW02 Members Grant Aid initiative

In relation to PLW02 it is proposed that the scheme reverts back to Grant Aid to Voluntary Organisations rather than Member Initiatives

### Additional saving proposals

The Labour Group reiterates its view of last year that “savings” can be generated by managers controlling within budgets but recommends the following additional savings be implemented as part of the budget process:

- KL03 Reduced Countryside Management Service
- KL08 Reduced Recycling Promotion Service
- ME11 Reduced Summer opening Hours – Museum
- ME16 Reduced Arts development service
- ME17 Sports Development service Reduced

### Corporate and Support Services Savings

That the Cash Payments Review saving be deferred for a minimum of 12 months enabling all the implications of the proposal to be fully evaluated.

### Maintenance and Regeneration Reserve

That the balance of one –off support received from the Government (LABGI windfall) is utilised to create a Maintenance and Regeneration Reserve of £750,000 to ensure provision starts to be made for the proper maintenance of all Council Buildings, and to provide a contingency to promote and regenerate the local economy.

### Council Tax

In light of the above proposals, to amend the 2009-10 Council Tax increase to 3% with indicative increases of 3.25% for each of the following two years.

An Alternative Budget is attached as Annex 1 with Saving proposals at Annex 2.

## ANNEX 1

**General Fund Revenue Budget 2008-09 to 2011-12**  
Labour Group Budget

	Forecast Outturn 2008-09 £m	Standstill Budget 2009-10 £m	Standstill Budget 2010-11 £m	Standstill Budget 2011-12 £m
<b>Original Budget 2008 -09</b>	14.341			
<b>Standstill Budget 2009-10 to 2011-12</b>		14.199	14.892	14.892
<b>Supplementary Estimates since Original Budget Approval</b>				
Rollovers	0.265			
<b>Approved Budget</b>	14.606	14.199	14.892	14.892
<b>Committed Changes</b>				
District Elections	0.004	0.027	-0.115	0.053
Benefits Administration				0.018
Commuted Sums				0.030
<b>Likely Additional Commitments</b>				
NI Contributions				0.050
Citizens Advice Bureau		0.012	0.012	0.012
Pension contributions   Gross				0.059
HRA Recharges				-0.011
Pest Control	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
LABGI	-1.291	-0.021	-0.042	-0.042
Area Based Grants	-0.025	-0.025	-0.025	-0.025
LPSA2 Reward Grant	-0.034	-0.034		
Civil Parking Enforcement	-0.079	-0.014	0.043	0.045
Planning Delivery Grant	-0.060	-0.050	-0.050	-0.050
Place Survey	0.017	-0.017		0.017
Leisure Strategy - Exclusion	1.026	0.858	0.710	0.509
Staffing reviews	0.072	0.015	0.015	0.015
<b>Inflation</b>	0.125	0.162	0.155	0.512
<b>Total Base Budget</b>	<b>14.371</b>	<b>15.122</b>	<b>15.605</b>	<b>16.094</b>
<b>Potential Changes and Adjustments</b>				
<b>Base Budget Review</b>				
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Turnover	-0.150	0.034	0.042	0.116
Rates	-0.032	0.028	0.029	0.029
Interest	-0.075	0.148	0.034	0.060
Concessionary fares	-0.027	0.003	-0.017	-0.027
Concessionary tokens	-0.050	-0.050	-0.050	-0.050
Insurances		-0.046	-0.048	-0.051
Less Recharges		0.021	0.022	0.023
Managers Variations	-0.088	-0.045	0.063	-0.044
Major Projects		0.111	0.022	0.022
Court Fees	-0.050	-0.050	-0.050	-0.050
<b>Income</b>				
Prince of Wales	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040
Income - Development related fees	0.244	0.250	0.062	0.062
Car Park Income	0.050	0.030	0.030	0.030
Leisure Centres Income		0.020	0.022	0.024
Golf Course	0.010			
<b>Efficiency Savings</b>				
Equipment and other controllable budgets	-0.250	-0.144	-0.147	-0.147
Passported Savings		-0.033	-0.034	-0.034
Corporate & Support	0.167	-0.134	-0.264	-0.252
Senior Management Restructure	0.230	-0.399	-0.424	-0.434
<b>Policy Options</b>				
Growth		0.006	0.006	0.006
Savings	0.109	-0.287	-0.369	-0.403
<b>Estimated Net Spending</b>	<b>14.499</b>	<b>14.645</b>	<b>14.574</b>	<b>15.014</b>

**General Fund Revenue Budget 2007-08 to 2010-11**  
**Labour Group Budget**

	<b>Forecast Outturn 2008-09 £m</b>	<b>Standstill Budget 2009-10 £m</b>	<b>Standstill Budget 2010-11 £m</b>	<b>Standstill Budget 2011-12 £m</b>
<b>Financing</b>				
<b>Anticipated Grant Income, Use of Balances &amp; Reserves</b>				
Balances	-0.329	0.549	-0.016	0.336
Regeneration & Invest to Save Reserve	-0.750			
Other Reserves	0.381			
LABGI Reserve	0.040			
Actuarial Valuation	0.837	0.143	0.169	0.125
Interim use	0.466	-0.228	-0.055	-0.265
Building Control	0.012			
Collection Fund Surplus	0.000	0.036		
RSG/NNDR	8.314	8.429	8.518	8.603
Council Tax	5.528	5.715	5.958	6.214
<b>0.000 Total Grant Income, Use of Balances &amp; Reserves</b>	<b>14.499</b>	<b>14.645</b>	<b>14.574</b>	<b>15.014</b>
<b>Amount to be found from Council Tax</b>	<b>5.528</b>	<b>5.715</b>	<b>5.958</b>	<b>6.214</b>
	29.972	30.080	30.381	30.685
<b>Estimated Council Tax Level</b>	<b>184.44</b>	<b>189.98</b>	<b>196.15</b>	<b>202.52</b>
<b>Estimated Council Tax Increase</b>	<b>2.40%</b>	<b>3.00%</b>	<b>3.25%</b>	<b>3.25%</b>
<b>Balances</b>				
<b>Opening Balances at 1 April</b>	<b>1.366</b>	<b>1.695</b>	<b>1.146</b>	<b>1.161</b>
Use of Balances to Support Budget	-0.329	0.549	-0.016	0.336
<b>Closing Balances at 31 March</b>	<b>1.695</b>	<b>1.146</b>	<b>1.161</b>	<b>0.825</b>

## Financial Plan 2009-10 to 2011-12

## Savings Options To be Taken from Budget

		2009-10 Estimate £	2010-11 Estimate £	2011-12 Estimate £
BP03	Revised Management Arrangements - Cannock Market	4,110	4,620	5,230
BP04	Remove Bus Transport Support	6,800	6,940	7,080
BP05	Reduction in Funding - Destination Management Partnership	3,000	3,060	3,120
BP06	Deletion of In-house Advice Service - Housing Needs	11,960	12,290	12,590
BP07	Withdrawal from Forest of Mercia	19,890	20,290	20,700
BP08	Decent Homes - Reduce funding to EEAC	8,400	9,290	9,480
BP10	Withdrawal from Instaffs	0	22,440	22,890
KL03	Reduced Countryside Management	29,880	40,010	41,020
KL04	Maintenance of Litter Bins - Excluding Town Centres	10,000	10,000	10,000
KL05	Maintenance of Equipment - CCTV	15,000	15,000	15,000
KL07	Reduced Contract Management Service *	0	0	22,860
KL08	Reduced Recycling Promotion Service	21,500	27,650	29,280
ME01-5	Leisure Centres - Closed Bank Holidays and Xmas Week	44,840	44,650	46,000
ME09	Deletion External Funding Support Budget	14,850	15,150	15,450
ME11	Museum - Reduce Summer Opening Hours	890	910	940
ME12/13	Restructure of Catering Provision at Chase Leisure Centre	8,940	16,120	16,120
ME15	Restructure - Leisure Sales Service	8,640	8,860	9,080
ME16	Arts Development Reduced Service	15,000	18,690	19,170
ME17	Sports development - Reduced	22,930	28,560	29,280
PLW03	Deletion of Members Postal service	3,370	3,430	3,500
PLW05	Provision of In-House Member training	4,510	4,640	4,720
SS01	Deletion of free Wasp Nest and Flea Treatment	2,290	2,360	2,420
SS03	Street Wardens - Deletion of vacant post	28,860	30,870	32,660
SS04	Health Promotion - Cease	-18,590	23,580	24,490
	Total	<u>267,070</u>	<u>369,410</u>	<u>403,080</u>

(\*) Implementation delayed subject to confirmation of LPSA 2 funding