



FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL



Meeting Agenda

Cabinet (Budget)
Town Hall, Lytham St Annes
14 February 2007, 7.00pm

The main doors to the Town Hall will be open to the public at 6:40pm

This meeting will be filmed for publication on the Council web site



CABINET

MEMBERSHIP

LEADER – COUNCILLOR JOHN COOMBES

Councillor	Portfolio
TIM ASHTON	STREETSCENE
SUSAN FAZACKERLEY	CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT
PATRICIA FIELDHOUSE	COMMUNITY & SOCIAL WELLBEING
ALBERT POUNDER	CUSTOMER RELATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS
SIMON RENWICK	CULTURE & TOURISM
PAUL RIGBY	FINANCE & EFFICIENCY
ROGER SMALL	DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

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CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

The Council's investment and activities are focused on achieving our five key objectives which aim to :

- Conserve, protect and enhance the quality of the Fylde natural and built environment
- Work with partners to help maintain safe communities in which individuals and businesses can thrive
- Stimulate strong economic prosperity and regeneration within a diverse and vibrant economic environment
- Improve access to good quality local housing and promote the health and wellbeing and equality of opportunity of all people in the Borough
- Ensure we are an efficient and effective council.

CORE VALUES

In striving to achieve these objectives we have adopted a number of key values which underpin everything we do :

- Provide equal access to services whether you live in town, village or countryside,
- Provide effective leadership for the community,
- Value our staff and create a 'can do' culture,
- Work effectively through partnerships,
- Strive to achieve 'more with less'.



A G E N D A

PART I - MATTERS DELEGATED

ITEM	PAGE
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: <i>If a member requires advice on Declarations of Interest he/she is advised to contact the Legal Services Executive Manager in advance of the meeting. (For the assistance of Members an extract from the pocket guide produced by the Standards Board for England is attached).</i>	4
2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: <i>To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 17 January 2007 attached at the end of the agenda.</i>	4
3. SPECIAL URGENCY (RULE 16 PROCEDURE RULES) URGENT BUSINESS: <i>To consider any items of special urgency arising</i>	4
4. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2007/08	6 - 17

Declaring Interests In Meetings

Say and Stay

If the issue being discussed affects you more than other people in the area, you must **say** you have a personal interest but can **stay** and take part and vote in the meeting.

This applies if the personal interest affects either:

- You
- Your partner, relative or a friend
- Your employer, or the employer of your partner, relatives or friends
- Any corporate body in which you, your partner, relatives or friends hold shares with a nominal value of more than £5,000 or of which you or they are a director
- Any firm in which you, your relatives or friends are partners

You must also declare if discussion concerns one of the following organisations in which you, relatives or friends hold a position of control or management:

- A body where you or they are a representative or nominee of the authority
- A body exercising public functions
- A company, industrial and provident society, charity or body directed to charitable purposes
- A body which seeks to influence public opinion or policy
- A trade union or professional association

All declarations should be made at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as you are aware of the issue being discussed. You should also say if anything being discussed relates to anything you are required to declare on the register of interests.

Withdrawing From Meetings

Prejudicial interest

Wash and Go

If a member of the public, who knows all the relevant facts, would view your personal interest (see above) in the issue being discussed to be so great that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest, then you must leave the meeting. You must leave the room and cannot seek to influence any decision made.

You also have a prejudicial interest, if you are a member of an overview and scrutiny committee that is considering a decision taken by another committee of which you are a member.

There are some limited exceptions to the requirement that you withdraw from meetings if you have a prejudicial interest. You should refer to the detailed provisions of the code of conduct. If in doubt speak to your Monitoring Officer.

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
FINANCE UNIT	CABINET	14 TH FEBRUARY 2007	4

REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2007/08

Public item

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

Summary

This report recommends to members revenue and capital budgets for 2007/08 and beyond, together with the suggested council tax levels in 2007/08.

Recommendations

1. That members agree the net budget requirement of £10,246,600 in 2007/08, including items of concurrent expenditure which members may decide to recommend be recharged as special expenses to the local areas concerned.
2. That members agree a Borough band D council tax level of £160.98 for 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.95%.

Or

- 2 That members agree a Fylde Borough Council tax of £116.81 being a decrease of £37.58 (24%) on 2006/07 and the charging of £1,038,715 in special expenses to Lytham, St Annes and Kirkham.
3. That members approve a 5-year capital programme, to be reviewed and rolled forward on an annual basis. It is recommended that the capital programme to be approved for 2007/08 should not exceed the total of the schemes ranked A. Schemes not approved will only be undertaken if sufficient capital receipts arise from the accommodation review.

Cabinet Portfolio

The item falls within the following Cabinet Portfolio:

Finance and Efficiency: Councillor Paul Rigby

Report

1 Revenue Budget

- 1.1 For a number of years it has been increasingly difficult to balance the budget and deliver improving services to the residents of Fylde. This has been due to a number of reasons including a historically low council tax level (currently second lowest in Lancashire), poor government grant settlements and increasing demands on Council services and resources.
- 1.2 The budget process effectively started early in the year with continuing work around the “equitable taxation” issue arising from the Corporate Plan. This has involved further consultation with parish and town councils resulting in the refinement of the “equitable taxation” model which is addressed later in the report.
- 1.3 In November the medium term financial strategy report to the Cabinet highlighted a growing budget gap in future years arising from revenue growth pressures, resulting in a fundamental mismatch between income and expenditure. In the medium term this is being addressed through the prudent use of reserves to allow the efficiency and value for money programme to deliver sufficient savings to balance the budget.
- 1.4 In January a working group from the Performance Improvement Scrutiny Committee measured and ranked all the revenue and capital growth bids against the Council’s corporate priorities. The results are included at Appendices 1 and 2 for the consideration of Cabinet in drawing up the budget proposals for 2007/08.
- 1.5 The overall budget position for 2007/08 shows a deficit of £841,440 as outlined at Appendix 3. This includes an assumption of a Council Tax rise of 4.95% and fees and charges increases in line with market forces.
- 1.6 The reasons for the deficit are:

Reason	Amount - £
Job Evaluation	200,000
Concessionary Travel	250,000
Capitalisation of salaries in 2006/07 budget	193,000
Employers pension contributions	90,000
Loss of Benefits administration grant	57,000
Debt costs to fund capital program	30,000
Safer Sands Initiative – Beach safety	21,000
Total	841,000

Job Evaluation

This scheme is being implemented as part of a national agreement between the Local Government Employers Organisation and the Unions.

Concessionary Travel

In 2006/07 the government introduced a new statutory scheme which required free off-peak travel within the boundaries of Fylde. However the Lancashire Authorities, working together, introduced a more generous scheme involving both free fares within borough boundaries and a 50p fare for cross-boundary travel at off-peak periods. The budget for this was based on a consultants report commissioned by Lancashire County Council that greatly underestimated demand which has resulted in hugely increased costs not only in Fylde but across Lancashire.

Capitalisation of Salaries

This relates largely to the charging of a large portion of the salary costs of staff working on regeneration initiatives which are likely to draw to a close in 2007 if external capital funding streams are not confirmed.

Employers Pension Contributions

The increase in costs is in line with the recommendations of the independent actuaries who review the pension scheme every 3 years.

Loss of Benefits Administration Grant

This grant is designed to help Authorities bear the costs of administering the statutory benefits scheme and is currently almost £570,000. The Government has indicated that it will cut this grant by £57,000 next year, a further £12,000 the year after and will look to continue cutting in future years in line with the "Gershon" efficiency savings that the government expect of the local authority sector.

Debt Costs

Capital reserves previously held by the Council from the sale of housing assets have now been fully utilised in capital programmes during the last six years on other housing initiatives with the result that the Council now has to fund an element of the capital programme through borrowing with associated debt costs which are charged to the revenue account.

Safer Sands

Following on from the report to Cabinet in January there is an agreed need to invest further resources in beach safety during 2007/08.

2 Bridging the Gap

2.1 Two broad options have been identified to balance the budget deficit of £841,440. Both options potentially provide greater levels of savings than those required to balance the budget, giving members the options of either reducing the council tax increase, reducing the call on reserves, investing in other priorities as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 or not taking all of the possible savings, which are highlighted in Appendix 4.

2.2 The first option, at Appendix 4, highlights actions which could be taken to balance the budget together with a broad indication of their impact on service delivery, categorised as high, medium or low. This would result in operational savings/increased income of £980,000 (an excess of £138,560). However, those savings rated as high impact would place severe strain on the Council's corporate capacity and ability to maintain its financial competence. Alternatively, if the low and medium impact savings were taken this would be enough to balance the budget in itself.

2.3 The second option, which is detailed in Table 2 of Appendix 5, combines the implementation of differential rating (equitable taxation) with those measures in Appendix 4 rated as low or medium impact on service delivery. This approach would more than balance the budget as it would result in total savings to the budget of £1,117,240. Should Members wish to implement this approach and take some of the total savings to fund some of the revenue growth requests listed in Appendix 1 then it should be noted that every £1 added to the figures in the column in Table 2 headed Differential Budget - Borough Band D, would raise approximately £30,000.

3 Differential Rating (Equitable Taxation)

3.1 This has been the subject of extensive consultation and an in depth feasibility study stretching back to 2005 and arising from the perceived inequalities in the current council tax

system between the parished and non-parished areas of the Borough. The objective was to ascertain whether a system of local charging for concurrent functions (mainly the maintenance of parks and open spaces and related leisure facilities) would be fairer and, at the same time, have a beneficial impact on the Council's budget. A large number of different models were produced during the consultation and the preferred model is the one reflected in Appendix 5, which devolves the charging of the concurrent functions to the parish level and implements the related "special expense" charge across Lytham St Annes and Kirkham.

3.2 The Differential Budget detailed in Table 2 illustrates the effect of implementing this model in 2007/08 together with the implementation of all the low and medium impact savings listed in Appendix 4.

3.3 Table 2 also allows comparison of the anticipated levels of Band D council tax across different part of the Borough with or without differential rating. The table illustrates that with differential rating the Borough Council's charge (and therefore the Borough Council element of council tax) reduces significantly because specific expenditure on grounds maintenance/open spaces etc. in local areas is charged as a special expense in Lytham, St Annes and Kirkham and because parish councils no longer receive grant payments from the Council for maintenance of their own open spaces or for parish administration (section 137 grant) etc.

3.4 Adoption of the differential rating model would provide budget savings of £275,800 for the Borough Council. Were this to be implemented as the first measure to balance the budget then a budget gap of £565,640 would remain. In this scenario it would be feasible to balance the remaining budget gap by implementing only the low and a small number of medium impact savings listed in Appendix 4. However, in this case a figure of £9.27 would need to be added to all figures in the 'variance' and Borough Band D columns of Table 2 to reflect the reduction in Borough Council savings.

3.5 During the consultation period referred to in paragraph 3.1 nine out of the fifteen parish /town councils in the Borough expressed support for implementing the differential rating model.

3.6 Members may also recall that at the State of the Borough debate in 2005, which engaged a representative cross-section of the Fylde Citizen's Panel, there was a majority level of support for the council to balance its budget by a combination of increasing council tax and introducing localised payment for some services in favour of reducing services.

3.7 It should be noted that there are likely to be minor changes in some of the parish figures as not all precept figures have been received at the time of writing this report. Where this is the case last years figures have been used so that any changes should be minor.

4 Capital Schemes

4.1 The pressures on capital spending arise from a number of areas but most notably from implementing the Council's housing strategy, where the council has recognised the need to invest further, and the poor condition of many council buildings and assets. Significant investment is proposed in these areas to reflect their significance in the council's future plans. The Corporate Plan also identifies a number of areas requiring capital investment in the future including improved facilities for younger people and a commitment to developing the Classic Resort concept for St Annes.

4.2 Appendix 2 highlights all the capital growth bids received, which total over £6m to 2012 and £1,690,250 in 2007/08. These schemes have been graded broadly in terms of their importance in achieving the corporate objectives by a working group from the Performance Improvement Scrutiny Committee.

4.3 The provision of disabled facilities grants (DFGs) is a statutory requirement for which we receive 60% funding from the Government. In 2007/08 the Council has been allocated a subsidy of

£298,800 by the Government. This presumes a total expenditure of £498,000 although the bid in Appendix 2 is for £525,000.

4.4 For housing renewal there is very strong Government guidance for councils to provide this type of assistance and, indeed, the Government have provided the Council with a grant of £395,000 to assist with such expenditure in 2007/08. It is recommended that the whole of this grant be allocated to this programme. However, there is an additional bid in Appendix 2 for a further £100,000 to be awarded as loans for housing renewal secured against equity in the recipient's property. Cabinet members may wish to consider allocating a proportion of the £395,000 to this bid. These housing related programmes are important components in delivering the Council's housing strategy.

4.5 The other schemes rated at priority 'A' relate to the Classic Resort scheme and the refurbishment of business premises in Kirkham, both of which are likely to lever in substantial external funding. The final 'A' rated scheme is to replace fencing which borders a Council owner facility adjacent to the A583 at Kirkham which has deteriorated significantly in recent times. It is recommended that this could be funded from the parks reserve built up from previous contributions from developers.

4.6 Under the 'current commitments' section of Appendix 2 the completion of the work on Kirkham Memorial Gardens is included together with the Ashton gardens project and the ongoing improvements to Council car parks. Ashton Gardens work will be funded from the lottery grant with the match funding already in place from the sale of land at Ashton Gardens.

4.7 Essential works on the crematorium programmed for 2009/10, with a value of £800,000 will be financed by a leasing arrangement, rather than being reliant on the use of capital receipts or borrowing. Fees will be increased at that time to cover the repayment of the leasing charges. The effect of this investment is not expected to fall on the revenue budget until 2010/11 financial year.

4.8 If all capital schemes rated A were approved and taken together with the current commitments, the capital programme would be as detailed at Appendix 2 and funded as follows:

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Capital Programme	1,850	1,830	2,540	1,100	1,100
Funding:					
Right to Buy Receipts	100	50	50	0	0
Target Asset Sales	100	100	100	100	100
Govt Grant					
- Ashton Gardens grant	645	645	645	0	0
- Disabled Facilities Grants	299	299	299	299	299
- Housing Grant	395	395	395	395	395
- Borrowing	311	341	251	306	306

4.9 The funding shows that there is a requirement to borrow year on year which could be reduced further if asset sales are increased. The cost of the capital programme is the cost of

borrowing which falls on the revenue account which is effectively funded by council tax. There is also the opportunity cost of the interest foregone on investing the right to buy, and asset sale proceeds.

Cost of the Capital Programme

Year	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12
Funding:	£	£	£	£	£
Cumulative Borrowing Costs	29,550	64,500	85,780	114,850	143,930
Annual Interest foregone	5,500	15,125	23,375	30,250	35,750

5 Robustness of the Estimates and Reserves for 2007/2008

5.1 The Local Government Act 2003 requires that the chief finance officer reports on the robustness of the estimates included in the annual budget proposals and the adequacy of the reserves for which the budget provides.

5.2 The Finance Managers opinion throughout the budget preparation process has been that all practical steps have been taken to identify and make provision for the commitments to which the Council will be exposed in 2007/08. As a result of this proposed budget the general fund balance will remain in excess of the recommended minimum level of £530,000 and the level of specific reserves are assessed as satisfactory at their current levels.

5.3 Although the aim is to get to a position where the maximum year-on-year council tax increase is in line with inflation, this position has not yet been achieved because of the historically low government grant settlements and the low council tax rate at Fylde. Therefore it is currently envisaged that in the short term council tax and budget increases will remain close to 5%, which is the year-on-year maximum rise stipulated by central government.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Included in body of the report.
Legal	The Council's legal obligations relating to budget setting have been taken account of in the preparation of the report.
Community Safety	Adjustments made to council budgets have a potential impact on this issue.
Human Rights and Equalities	Adjustments made to council budgets have a potential impact on this issue.
Sustainability	Adjustments made to council budgets have a potential impact on this issue.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	Adjustments made to council budgets have a potential impact on this issue.

REPORT AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
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Brian White	(01253) 658566	February 2007	Budget Report 07/08
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
NAME OF DOCUMENT	DATE	WHERE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION
Attached as Appendices	February 2007	Town hall, Finance section.

Attached documents

- Appendix 1 - Revenue Growth Bids
- Appendix 2 - Capital Growth Bids
- Appendix 3 - Summary Budget Position
- Appendix 4 - Possible Service Savings
- Appendix 5 - Differential Rating Model

Ranking of Revenue Bids against Corporate Criteria

Appendix 1

Finance Ref.			2007 /08	2008 /09	2009 /10	2010 /11	2011 /12
			£	£	£	£	£
5	Discretionary HMO licensing.	A	26,000	0	0	0	0
6	Fylde CAB.	A	0	9,317	17,880	17,880	17,880
11	ICT Business Continuity.	A	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
38	Replace play equipment	A	40,000	40,000	40,000	0	0
1	Removal of spartina grass from amenity beach, St Annes.	B	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0
2	Highway tree planting programme.	B	8,500	9,000	9,500	10,000	10,000
4	Britain in bloom entry.	B	3,000	0	0	0	0
9	Lancs Economic Partnership Subs.	B	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
10	Active Fylde Directory.	B	4,500	3,500	2,500	0	0
12	ICT Staffing Support.	B	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000
20	Lighting Maintenance	B	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
23	Bus Shelter Maintenance	B	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
26	De-silting - Fairhaven.	B	50,000	50,000	50,000	0	0
36	Low level lighting - Fairhaven.	B	4,000	0	0	0	0
39	Repairs to paths - Cemetery	B	10,000	10,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
42	Refurbishment of crematorium chapel.	B	5,000	0	0	0	0
46	Housing needs & Conditions survey.	B	75,000	0	0	0	0
48	Community Sports coaches - Part Time.	B	11,353	11,704	12,066	25,263	25,263
49	Summer play schemes.	B	16,384	13,798	14,225	29,329	29,329
3	Street Seats	C	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
7	Golf Coast Promotion.	C	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0
8	Events Programme.	C	80,000	50,000	30,000	15,000	15,000
13	St Annes Car Park Study	C	25,000	0	0	0	0
14	Fence replacement - St Annes Mini Golf	C	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0
15	GIS Mapping Partnership.	C	0	0	0	0	0
16	NLPG/ Acolaid Link.	C	22,250	0	0	0	0
17	DIPs - Housing forms.	C	0	0	0	0	0
21	Playground Fence replacement (various).	C	20,000	0	0	0	0
22	Docking area repairs - Fairhaven.	C	10,000	10,000	0	0	0
25	Park view Play Equipment.	C	10,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	20,000
27	Fairhaven Skatepark	C	5,000	5,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
28	Footpath repairs.	C	100,000	100,000	50,000	20,000	20,000
29	Boundary Sign Replacement	C	15,000	0	0	0	0
40	CCTV monitoring - Book of remembrance room - Cemetery	C	2,090	2,090	2,090	2,090	2,090
47	Lowther pavilion box office - Extended opening hours.	C	6,000	6,200	6,400	3%	3%
50	Lancashire Sports Partnership subscriptions.	C	5,000	5,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
51	Business Support Programme.	C	10,000	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue Bids			734,077	505,609	425,661	1,290,562	309,562

Appendix 2

Ranking of Capital Bids against Corporate Criteria

Finance Ref.		Rank	2007 /08 £	2008 /09 £	2009 /10 £	2010 /11 £	2011 /12 £
56	DFG's	A	525,000	525,000	525,000	525,000	525,000
55	Housing Renewal grants.	A	395,000	395,000	395,000	395,000	395,000
44	Housing Renewal Loans	A	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
30	Kirkham Business Refurb	A	50,000	50,000	0	0	0
31	Classic Resort - CARS	A	25,000	25,000	25,000	50,000	50,000
53	Chimes	A	20,000	20,000	20,000	0	0
Total of Rank A Capital bids			1,115,000	1,115,000	1,065,000	1,070,000	1,070,000
32	Promenade Lighting - St Annes	B	12,000	0	0	0	0
33	Rapid Deploy CCTV	B	35,000	42,000	50,000	0	0
34	Youth Shelters	B	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0
35	Lytham Cenotaph Refurb	B	56,000	0	0	0	0
43	New Memorial walls & Niches - Crematorium.	B	15,000	10,000	0	0	0
52	Upgrading of Lowther onstage lines.	B	30,000	15,000	15,000	10,000	10,000
Parish Bid	Newton-fencing to enclose play equipment	B	8,000	5,000	3,000		
Parish Bid	Singleton Play Area	B	15,000	0	0	0	0
Parish Bid	Singleton Village Hall	B	50,000	0	0	0	0
Parish Bid	Newton recreational equipment	B	5,250	5,250	5,250	0	0
Parish Bid	Newton with Clifton - William Pickles Park	B	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0
Parish Bid	Kirkham Memorial Gardens	B	50,000	0	0	0	0
Parish Bid	Elswick Village Green	B	20,000	0	0	0	0
Parish Bid	Refurbish Warton Sports Pavilion	B	75,000	0	0	0	0
Parish Bid	Replacement Portakabin - Treasles R & W Parish	B	25,000	0	0	0	0
Parish Bid	Freckleton Community Centre	B	120,000	0	0	0	0
41	Office/ Interview Room alterations - Crematorium.	C	15,000	0	0	0	0
18	Building enhancement.	C	4,000	0	0	0	0
19	Tree Condition Survey.	C	20,000	20,000	10,000	0	0
Total Capital Bids			1,690,250	1,232,250	1,168,250	1,080,000	1,080,000
Current Commitments							
	Kirkham Memorial Gardens - Repairs		60,000	40,000	0	0	0
	Improvements to Cemetary and Cremetorium		0	0	800,000	0	0
	Car Park Improvements		30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
	Heritage Restoration of Ashton Gardens		645,100	645,100	645,100	0	0
Total Current Commitments			735,100	715,100	1,475,100	30,000	30,000
Total Capital Programme			1,850,100	1,830,100	2,540,100	1,100,000	1,100,000

Appendix 3

SUMMARY	2006/07 Original £	2006/07 Revised £	2007/08 Budget £
Community and Cultural Services	2,191,895	2,428,012	2,450,010
Consumer Wellbeing and Protection	977,730	933,883	1,053,080
Corporate Policy and Performance	1,055,315	1,135,097	1,379,934
Democratic Services and Member Support	897,366	820,247	941,500
Finance	923,896	930,625	988,980
Legal Services	78,852	73,087	76,124
Streetscene	2,916,454	2,960,380	3,226,800
Strategic Planning and Development	862,027	1,027,947	1,138,215
Executive Board	342,991	249,740	251,674
Savings to be achieved	-80,510	-20,000	-100,000
	<u>10,166,016</u>	<u>10,539,018</u>	<u>11,406,317</u>
Capital Financing Charges	-407,626	-446,980	-318,280
Total Budget	9,758,390	10,092,038	11,088,037
RSG	5,206,390	5,206,390	5,456,000
Council Tax	4,552,000	4,552,000	4,790,600
Other Government Grant			
Total Funding/ Net Budget Requirement	9,758,390	9,758,390	10,246,600
Budget Gap			<u>841,440</u>

Appendix 4

Budget Gap

£841,000

<u>Possible Savings / Additional Income</u>	<u>Amount £'000</u>	<u>Impact £'000</u>	<u>Sub Total £'000</u>
Audit Team restructure	16	H	
Remove one post of benefit fraud officer	22	H	
Remove one post of accountant	24	H	
Remove war pension disregard	7	H	
Increase council tax by 6.45%	70	H	139
Leave open vacant pest control officer post	20	M	
Remove environmental monitoring budget	5	M	
Reduction in Member training	3	M	
Remove post of student EHO	5	M	
Reduce general trainee budget by 30%	10	M	
<i>Additional target income from trading company</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>M</i>	
Extension of vehicle lease periods	43	M	
<i>Review cemetery charges</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>M</i>	
<i>Review car park charges</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>M</i>	
Leave open Conservation Officer vacancy	22	M	
Reduce civil contingencies budget	5	M	268
Recharge election costs to Parishes	40	L	
Fully recoup LCC election costs	13	L	
Reduction in deputy mayor expenses	2	L	
Reduce theft insurance	6	L	
Efficiencies in alcohol / taxi licensing budgets	11	L	
<i>Smokefree premises grant</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>L</i>	
<i>Licensing - increased income</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>L</i>	
Procurement savings	25	L	
Reduce training budgets by 50%	14	L	
Reduce recruitment / selection budgets	5	L	
Reduction in copying costs	2	L	
Cancel subscriptions			
	Northwest Arts Board	5	L
	Northwest e-gov group	2	L
Revise PPSL software licence	6	L	
<i>Increased sandwinning income</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>L</i>	
Efficiency Savings on property maintenance	80	L	
Review of reserves	150	L	
Illuminated Christmas Trees	10	L	
<i>Charging for Permitted Development enquiries and CLOPUDS</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>L</i>	
<i>Sponsorship income</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>L</i>	
<i>Increased income from swimming lessons</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>L</i>	
<i>Increased leisure fees</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>L</i>	
Savings from telephone system investment	7	L	
Capitalisation of salaries	22	L	573
Total	980		980
Sub Total for Low and Medium Only	841		841

Table 1. PARISH PRECEPTS & AREA COSTS OF DEVOLVED SERVICES - 2007/08

Parish/Area	FBC Precept £	Parish Precept £		FBC Grounds , Leisure and Sports £	Open Spaces Grant £		
Warton	160.98	15,500.00			18,136.24		
Elswick	160.98	6,000.00 *			31,064.80		
Freckleton	160.98	9,750.00			69,051.20		
Greenhalgh	160.98	2,000.00			500.00		
Kirkham	160.98	6,915.00 *		122,925.12	0.00		
Lt. Eccleston	160.98	4,000.00 *			5,553.76		
Wesham	160.98	6,897.00			26,682.00		
Newton	160.98	7,500.00			36,167.00		
Ribby-w-Wrea	160.98	8,000.00			12,418.71		
Singleton	160.98	6,000.00			2,155.00		
Staining	160.98	17,015.00			18,964.00		
Treales	160.98	1,300.00 *			7,247.08		
Weeton	160.98	2,000.00			3,411.36		
Westby	160.98	2,000.00			400.00		
St.Annes [Parished]	160.98	42,500.00 *		645,356.88	0.00		
Lytham	160.98			256,094.00	0.00		
Total		137,377.00		1,024,376.00	231,751.15		

Other £	Section 137 £	Concurrent Services Total £	Parish Total Concurrent Ser + Precepts £
300.00	4,556.72	22,992.96	38,492.96
300.00	1,322.52	32,687.32	38,687.32
300.00	8,090.65	77,441.85	87,191.85
300.00	541.78	1,341.78	3,341.78
3,327.00	8,419.22	134,671.34	141,586.34
300.00	554.14	6,407.90	10,407.90
300.00	3,585.43	30,567.43	37,464.43
300.00	3,606.03	40,073.03	47,573.03
300.00	1,990.99	14,709.70	22,709.70
300.00	1,305.01	3,760.01	9,760.01
300.00	2,581.18	21,845.18	38,860.18
300.00	486.16	8,033.24	9,333.24
300.00	1,497.62	5,208.98	7,208.98
300.00	1,609.89	2,309.89	4,309.89
4,462.00	0.00	649,818.88	692,318.88
6,550.00	0.00	262,644.00	262,644.00
18,239.00	40,147.34	1,314,513.49	1,451,890.49

Table 2 - Budget Options 2007/2008

Parish/Area		Taxbase	Current Budget			
			Parish Precept	Parish Precept Band D	Borough Band D 2005/06 + 4.95%	Borough + Parish Band D
Warton		1,278.09	15,500.00	12.13	160.98	173.11
Elswick		437.99	6,000.00	13.70	160.98	174.68
Freckleton		2,126.63	9,750.00	4.58	160.98	165.56
Greenhalgh		182.27	2,000.00	10.97	160.98	171.95
Kirkham		2,288.17	6,915.00	3.02	160.98	164.00
Lt. Eccleston		213.01	4,000.00	18.78	160.98	179.76
Wesham		1,049.08	6,897.00	6.57	160.98	167.55
Newton		1,045.29	7,500.00	7.18	160.98	168.16
Ribby-w-Wrea		764.75	8,000.00	10.46	160.98	171.44
Singleton		437.96	6,000.00	13.70	160.98	174.68
Staining		852.10	17,015.00	19.97	160.98	180.95
Treales		210.71	1,300.00	6.17	160.98	167.15
Weeton		277.99	2,000.00	7.19	160.98	168.17
Westby		539.19	2,000.00	3.71	160.98	164.69
St.Annes Centre		18,056.14	10,508.20	4.04	160.98	165.02
Lytham		7,547.94	-	-	160.98	160.98
Total		29,759.37	137,377.00			

Differential Budget 2007/2008				
Special Expenses / Parish Precept	Band D Equivalent	Borough Band D	Borough + Parish Band D	Variance
38,492.96	30.12	116.81	146.93	-26.18
38,407.32	87.69	116.81	204.50	29.82
87,191.85	41.00	116.81	157.81	-7.75
3,341.78	18.33	116.81	135.14	-36.81
141,586.34	61.88	116.81	178.69	14.69
10,407.90	48.86	116.81	165.67	-14.09
37,464.43	35.71	116.81	152.52	-15.03
47,573.03	45.51	116.81	162.32	-5.83
22,709.70	29.70	116.81	146.51	-24.94
9,760.01	22.29	116.81	139.10	-35.58
38,860.18	45.61	116.81	162.42	-18.53
9,333.24	44.29	116.81	161.10	-6.05
7,208.98	25.93	116.81	142.74	-25.43
4,309.89	7.99	116.81	124.80	-39.89
954,962.88	54.58	116.81	171.39	6.36
912,462.88	50.53	116.81	167.34	6.36
1,451,610.49				

Cabinet



Date	Wednesday 17 January 2007
Venue	Town Hall, St Annes
Committee members	John Coombes (Leader of the Council) Tim Ashton, Susan Fazackerley, Patricia Fieldhouse, Albert Pounder, Simon Renwick, Paul Rigby, Roger Small
Other Councillors	Maxine Chew, Howard Henshaw, Kiran Mulholland, Barbara Pagett, Fabian Wilson
Officers	Philip Woodward, Dave Joy, Paul Norris, Allan Oldfield, Tracy Scholes, Paul Walker, Brian White, Andy Cain, Christopher Kitchin

1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.

2. Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15 November 2006 as a correct record for signature by the chairman.

3. Special urgency (Rule 16 Procedure Rules) Urgent business Cabinet procedure rules - Possible Closure of County Information Centre, Lytham

The Chairman reported that the following item had been received after the publication of the Agenda and it was agreed that the report should be considered by the Cabinet as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Section 100 of the Local Government 1972 (as amended) by reason of the need to seek an early decision thereon.

Councillor Albert Pounder, Cabinet Portfolio for Customer Relations and Partnerships reported that Lancashire County Council is considering the closure of several information centres in various parts of the County, including Lytham, as part of its budgetary considerations for 2007/08. Councillor Pounder informed the Cabinet that they are asked to consider the implications of this proposal and make any appropriate comments to Lancashire County Council.

Councillor Timothy Ashton Cabinet Portfolio for Streetscene declared that it was imperative that Fylde has a County Information Centre in Lytham and was willing to propose that the Council write to County Council apposing to the proposed closure of the County

Information Centre in Lytham, however would like to engage in active discussion to look at the potential for further joint working on this matter.

The Cabinet thanked Mr Ken Hopwood for his efforts in compiling the petition which had gained public support.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED that Fylde Borough Council apposes the proposed closure of County Information Centre in Lytham, however the Borough Council would like to engage in active discussions with the County Council to look at the potential for further joint working on this matter between the two Councils to continue the current services provided at the County Information Centre.

4. Performance Exception Report

Councillor Susan Fazackerley, Cabinet Portfolio for Corporate Performance and Development presented the report of the Executive Manager for Policy and Performance, which identified and provided details of, any exceptions in the performance against key indicators. Exceptions included where performance was significantly below the target set for the current financial year or where factors that would have a detrimental impact on performance had been identified. The report outlined what was being done to address the performance and who was responsible for the actions.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED-

1. That the Cabinet supports the actions being taken to address performance issues and that the respective Portfolio Holders also monitor progress through their briefing meetings.
2. That the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Performance and Development provides updated figures against the indicators identified as exceptions as part of the next exception report to confirm that progress has been achieved.

5. Corporate Equality Policy

Councillor Susan Fazackerley, Cabinet Portfolio for Corporate Performance and Development presented the report of the Executive Manager for Policy and Performance, which detailed the Councils commitment to deliver equality in employment and service delivery through Corporate Equality Policy, and how this policy compiles with the statutory requirement of Race Equality and Disability Equality. The report outlined the process of how Fylde Borough Council intend to mainstream equalities by working through the Local Government Equality Standard.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED-

1. That the Cabinet supports the draft Corporate Equality Policy, which incorporates the Councils Race Equality Scheme and the Disability Equality Scheme.
2. that the Cabinet supports the Councils commitment to achieving the Local Government Equality Standard.

3. That the Cabinet supports the action plan and timetable for achieving the Local Government Equality Standard as outlined in the policy.

5. Scrutiny Final Report on Customer Services Review

Councillor Fabian Wilson and Paul Norris (Community and Cultural Services Executive Manager) presented a joint report on the work that had been undertaken by the Performance Improvement Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group and the proposed recommendations made by the Task and Finish Group.

Councillor Mrs Wilson detailed that Customer Services was identified in an IDeA training for Cabinet and Scrutiny Members as an area of concern which needed to be addressed as a priority through an in-depth review.

A Task and Finish Group was selected by the Performance Improvement Scrutiny Committee to undertake the review, within the terms of reference identified on the scoping document. Councillor Fabian Wilson continued to enlighten the Cabinet on the work undertaken by the Task and Finish group which included interviews with Customer Service Manager and Supervisor to establish current working practices, priorities and achievements and also barriers to progress. The Task and Finish group had also sat with members of the Contact Centre Staff whilst they answered calls. The Task and Finish Group conducted interviews over the telephone with the Customer Services Manager from Canterbury and Arun Authorities as statistically and demographically they resemble Fylde. A site visit was also made to West Lancs District Council.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED-

1. That the Cabinet consider the recommendations contained within the body of the report.
2. That Management Team consider the implications of recommendations and develop an Action Plan in response.

7. Scrutiny Final Report on the Local Strategic Partnership Task and Finish Group

Councillor Kiran Mulholland (Chairman of Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee) presented a report which highlighted the work that had been undertaken by the Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group.

Councillor Mulholland detailed that the Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee appointed a Task and Finish Group to review the Local Strategic Partnership in response to concerns from Members that they knew little of the Local Strategic Partnership and how they could get involved.

The report detailed findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED to note and endorse the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group, which are contained in the main body of the report.

8. LGA/IDeA Reputation Campaign

Dave Joy (Deputy Chief Executive) and Paul Norris (Community and Cultural Services Executive Manager) presented a joint report that indicates the Council's current position with regard to the LGA's Reputation measurement framework.

Included in the Council's Corporate Plan for 2006-07 is the key action: 'To enhance the reputation of the Council through the Local Government Association/Improvement and Development Agency (LGA/IDeA) 'Reputation' toolkit (4 year action)'. This report and its appendices describe the local government Reputation Campaign and the Council's current position with regard to meeting the objectives of the campaign together with a proposed Action Plan to improve that position. These matters have been considered by the Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee.

The Cabinet voiced concerns regarding Fly Tipping and Dog Fouling. The Cabinet discussed this issue and would like to see a reduction in the number of fly tipping and dog fouling incidents through issuing more fixed penalties. A major problem highlighted was that there was not enough advertisement of a hotline number for these issues. One suggestion was to advertise this number on the side of all the Council vehicles and waste disposal bins.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED-

1. That the Cabinet endorse the action of the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of Council to commit the Council's support for the Local Government Reputation Campaign.
2. That the Cabinet notes the Council's current position with regard to the LGA's Reputation measurement framework.
3. That the Cabinet considers the recommendations of the Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee with regard to the proposed Action Plan.
4. That Fylde Borough Council's hotline number for Fly Tipping is placed on all Council Vehicles and waste disposal bins.

9. "SaferSands" - Response to Consultants Report

Councillor Timothy Ashton Cabinet Portfolio for Streetscene and Paul Norris (Community and Cultural Services Executive Manager) presented a report that details a proposed response to the consultants report.

Following the development of the SaferSands project undertaken on behalf of the Council by Atkins Consultants Ltd in association with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) and the RNLI, the Executive Manager for Community and Cultural services has developed a proposed response for consideration by Cabinet. The response proposes a number of actions, which presents a management framework for beach and foreshore activities.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED to endorse the proposed Action Plan and consider the associated financial implications in future budget allocations.

10. Budget Monitoring Report

Councillor Paul Rigby portfolio holder for Finance and Efficiency presented the report of the Executive Manager for Finance which provides details of the revised budget for the current year, 2006/07, and the potential impact on the 2007/08 draft budget.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED-

1. To note the variations indicated and approve a revised estimate budget for 2006/07 of £10,096,340.
2. That unavoidable, additional expenditure in 2006/07 be supported from balances in 2006/07, and to note the potential impact on the 2007/8 budget.
3. That, in light of projected variance, officers seek to ensure that all controllable expenditure is critically examined during the remainder of the financial year.

11. Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Out-turn for 2005/06

Councillor Paul Rigby portfolio holder for Finance and Efficiency presented the report of the Executive Manager for Finance which provides information in respect of the performance of Treasury Management function of the Council for 2005/06 financial year and comparison with anticipated prudential code for indicators.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED to note the position for the year 2005/06.

12. Lancashire Local Area Agreements and "Every Child Matters"

Councillor Simon Renwick portfolio holder for Culture and Tourism presented the report of the Chief Executive which sets out the current situation regarding the Lancashire Local Area Agreement together with the background of the involvement of the Borough Council in the future delivery of services for young people.

"Every Child Matter" set out the Government's vision for securing the wellbeing of young people aged 0 - 19 in the wake of the Victoria Climbié inquiry in 2004. This prompted the enactment of the Children Act 2004 which placed new duties on both Education & Social Care Authorities and District Council (duty to cooperate)

The report outlines these duties and describes the current work being undertaken by the Audit Commission to review these arrangements in Lancashire.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it at the meeting and RESOLVED-

1. To note the current situation regarding the Lancashire Local area Agreement (LAA).
2. That the Council's approach to the implementation of its obligations under the Children Act 2004 be referred for detailed consideration by the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of the review of the LAA.

3. That the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to have regard to the following issues in their review of the LAA:
 - a. Any comments noted and agreed during the forthcoming Members Choice Debate at Council,
 - b. Any relevant recommendations made to the Council by the Audit Commission in its final report on arrangements for children's services in Lancashire.
4. That, the portfolio holder seeks the views of Fylde Vision (LSP) on comments made by the Council/Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to the implementation of any relevant arrangements in Fylde.

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