

Gloucestershire County Council Budget Consultation 2020/21

Schools' Forum Date	9 th January 2020
Type of Decision	For information and comment as part of the consultation
Background Documents	<p>Council Strategy and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 – 2020/21 Council Report: 13th February 2019</p> <p>Cabinet Report: 20th December 2019: MTFS 2020/21 to 2022/23. Link for full report – Item 7 on the Agenda</p> <p>Gloucestershire County Council Cabinet report 20 December 2019 MTFS 2020/21</p>
Author	<p>Sue Hall, Finance Business Partner</p> <p><i>Extracts of report presented by:</i> Paul Blacker: Director of Finance Steve Mawson: Director of Corporate Resources</p>
Purpose of Report	To inform the Schools Forum of the budget strategy and draft details for 2020/21 and the MTFS covering the period 2020/21 to 2022/23.
Key Recommendations	That the report is noted and that any comments are fed back through the Council's consultation process by 17 th January 2020.
Resource Implications	The report covers the Council's overall budget and the specific financial implications for Children and Families.

Summary of Information

The attached report is the summary MTFS position presented to Cabinet on the 20th December 2019 for the whole Council. The link to the detailed report is included above but a number of specific annexes relating to the overall budget and specifically to Children and Families are attached for information. These include:-

- Annex 3: Budget Summary by Service Area for the Council
- Annex 2: Budget movements in services for Children and Families

In summary it is proposed that Children and Families achieve cost reductions of £0.57 million and receive cost increases of £14.947 million, a net increase in budget of £14.377 million. This increases by an additional £2.161 if you include the Social Care ring fenced grant in 2019/20 which is now rolled into the base budget. The grant was allocated 50/50 between Adults and Children's. See annex for details of the proposed budget changes. The Council's financial planning cycle has recognised the pressure on the children's and families budget during 2019/20 (forecast overspend of £11.916 million as at November forecast) and this is reflected in the investment being made.

Annex 3 – Budget Summary by Service Area

Medium Term Financial Strategy – 2020/21 Budget – Overall Summary

	2019/20 Employee Related Budget	2019/20 Non - Employee Expenditure Budget	2019/20 Gross Expenditure Budget	2019/20 Income	2019/20 Revised MTFS Base Budget	Pay Inflation Costs	Cost Increases	Cost Reductions	Proposed 2020/21 Budget	Cash Increase / Decrease	Percentage Increase / Decrease
Budget Area	£000's	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
Adults	35,871	144,985	180,856	-35,121	145,735	712	7,986	-4,799	149,634	3,899	2.7%
Vulnerable Children	37,093	50,382	87,475	-575	86,900	724	12,172	-20	99,776	12,876	14.8%
Other Children Services	9,177	8,422	17,599	-887	16,712	189	1,862	-550	18,213	1,501	9.0%
Economy, Environment & Infrastructure	15,315	65,207	80,522	-15,318	65,204	305	7,806	-1,118	72,197	6,993	10.7%
Prevention & Wellbeing	2,059	30,246	32,305	-100	32,205	63	2,373	-327	34,314	2,109	6.5%
GFRS & Regulatory Services	15,353	3,511	18,864	-619	18,245	306	889	-	19,440	1,195	6.5%
Corporate Resources	26,929	12,526	39,455	-7,130	32,325	537	3,906	-1,824	34,944	2,619	8.1%
Technical and Countywide	11,920	30,269	42,189	-2,536	39,653	20	942	-950	39,665	12	0.0%
Total Budget	153,717	345,548	499,265	-62,286	436,979	2,856	37,936	-9,588	468,183	31,204	7.1%

- The split of the 2020/21 proposed budget to employee and non employee budget areas is estimated based on initial plans, however this is subject to further change when these initiatives have been developed further.

2020/21 Children and Families Budget - Vulnerable Children

	Cost Increases £000	Cost Reductions £000	£000
<u>Budget Changes:</u>			
Approved MTFS 2019/20 Budget			84,194
Additional Ring Fenced Grant Funding now rolled into Base Budget			2,161
Removal of 2019/20 One Off Budget Increase			-2,390
Agreed Service Budget Transfers			2,935
Starting Budget (2019/20 Revised Budget)			86,900
<u>Cost Increases</u>			
Pay Inflation (2%)	724		
External Agency Placement Budget	4,894		
Child Protection Conference Chairs	180		
Fostering/Adoption/SGO & Child Arrangement Allowances	241		
SGOs - Increased Numbers	349		
Fostering - In House Fostering Service - Staff	838		
Over recruitment of ASYEs (newly qualified social workers)	406		
Family Group conferencing	150		
Contact Centre	52		
Social Work Academy (incl. apprentices)	608		
Social Work Capacity	1,642		
Social work not paperwork - ICT support	185		
Young People's expenses	500		
S17 and discretionary payments	550		
Legal Costs	100		
Vulnerable Children's Reserve	2,000		
<u>One off Cost Increases</u>			
Agency Social Workers -One Off Expenditure	1,356		
Interim Commissioning /Operational Staff -One Off Expenditure	282		
<u>Funding Changes</u>			
Removal of one-off initiatives funded from Social Care Grant in 2019/20. This grant is now within the base budget and used to fund on-going pressures in 2020/21.	-2,161		
<u>Cost Reductions</u>			
Reduction in the number of Child Arrangement Orders		-20	
TOTAL NET CHANGE	12,896	-20	12,876
Children & Families - Vulnerable Children Budget 2020/21			99,776

2020/21 Children and Families Budget - Other Services

	Cost Increases £000	Cost Reductions £000	£000
Approved MTFS 2019/20 Budget			19,715
Removal of 2019/20 One Off Budget Increase			-
Agreed Service Budget Transfers			-3,003
Starting Budget (2019/20 Revised Budget)			16,712

Budget Changes:

Cost Increases

Pay Inflation (2%)	189
Home to School Transport Inflation	111
Post 16 Education Plan	109
Supporting children with SEND	332
Diverting children from statutory services through early help	89
Home to school transport	162
School capital programme project management capacity	44
Education Business Support	33
Early Years - Improving Outcomes for children	917
Early Years - Additional Capacity to Improve Outcomes	65

Cost Reductions

Pensions Reduce the budget on an assessment of the reduction in no of pensioners & spouses-based on age and trends to be at risk.	-150
Home to School Transport Reduce bespoke travel arrangements through independent travel training, increased vehicle capacity to Special Schools (including use of buses and bus stops) & the use of individual Personal Travel Allowances for CYP with complex needs.	-150
Schools and Early Years Reduce capacity for intervention and support for maintained schools	-250

TOTAL NET CHANGE

2,051	-550	1,501
--------------	-------------	--------------

Children & Families - Other Services Budget 2020/21

18,213

* This budget excludes the ringfenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).