

## Council Budget Amendment 2024 / 2025

**Proposer: Councillor Joe Fagan**

**Seconded: Councillor Robert Brown**

As an amendment to Item 2 'Overall Position of Revenue Budget and Level of Local Taxation for 2024/2025', the Council is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):

- (1) that the Budget Gap of £20.570 million (section 4.1), be noted;
- (2) that the assumptions detailed at paragraph 7.2, used to arrive at the Budget presented in section 7, be noted;
- (3) **that the amount of savings, the level of Council Tax, investments and the Use of Reserves to be used to balance the 2024/2025 Budget as detailed in this amendment be agreed**
- (4) that the budget figures detailed at section 7 (based on the assumptions in section 7.2 and 7.3) are to be updated following agreement of the Budget, be noted;
- (5) that the potential impact of savings beyond 2024/2025 (section 9), be noted;  
and
- (6) that the Revenue Budget for 2024/2025, including the base budget allocations to Resources, as shown in Appendix 3, be approved, subject to Members' decision on recommendation 3.

### **Savings agreed:**

It is proposed that the savings outlined below totalling £13.190 million be agreed.

<b>Saving Ref.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value £m</b>
M&O01	Overtime	0.300
M&O02	Charging Increase at 3% - revised to 6%	0.400
M&O03	Alternative Working Patterns	0.075
M&O04	Mechanical Sweeping – Large	0.150
M&O05	Central Administration Support	0.375
M&O06	Early Administration Support	2.150
M&O07	Additional Income from Statutory Additions	0.050
CER01	Waste	0.460
CER02	School Crossing Patrols	0.010
CER03	Countryside and Greenspace	0.120
CER04	Roads Spend –£480k reinvested in loans fund through investments to create £7.2 million capital investment in roads	1.800
CER07	Food Waste Liners	0.100
CER08	Secondary Meals Price Increase	0.177
CER10	Business Support Programmes	0.070
CER11	Leisure and Culture – revised saving	0.750
CER14	Winter Shrub Beds	0.700

CER15	Bedding and Hanging Baskets – revised saving to protect services to war memorials	0.124
EDR01	Librarians	0.240
EDR02	Secondary School Technicians	0.590
EDR03	Period Poverty	0.080
EDR04	ELC Quality Support and Service Delivery	0.300
EDR05	Delivery of the Curriculum, Quality and Improvement Service (CQIS)	0.350
EDR06	Early Learning and Childcare Food Provision	0.150
EDR07	Remove SLC Summer Programme Provision	0.143
EDR08	Mentoring and Learner Journey	0.380
EDR09	Payments to Regen:fx	0.115
FCR01	Community Grants, Civic Events and Gifts – revised saving to protect Civic Hospitality and Community / Playscheme Grants	0.270
FCR02	Council Tax and Benefits Call Centre	0.096
FCR03	Community Engagement – revised saving	0.215
FCR04	Payment to Regen:fx	0.200
HTR01	Community Safety Budget	0.046
HTR02	Housing Strategy Service	0.113
HTR03	CCTV	0.039
HTR04	Scheme of Assistance (Housing)	1.052
SWR01	Reduce the Subsidy of the In-House Residential Care Home Service	0.790
SWR02	Increase the Taper for Non-Residential Care Services from 60% to 70%	0.147
SWR03	Reduce the subsidy of the In-House Day Service	0.020
SWR04	Introduce a New Charge for the Installation of Key Safes	0.043
<b>Total</b>		<b>13.190</b>

**Council Tax Increase:** - It is proposed that the Council Tax is frozen.

**Investments:** It is proposed that the following investments be agreed :

<b>Investment</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
Roads Investment – Revenue for Capital Borrowing	£0.480 of permanent budget will be used to fund borrowing of £7.2 million of capital roads investment.  <i>Capital investment funded through revenue spending on a recurring basis.</i>	£0.480
Transitional Funding for Regen:fx	Transitional funding for Regen:fx will be provided to maintain current funding levels for the coming year. A review of Regen:fx will be conducted during this period.	£0.315

	<i>Funded on a one-off basis through use of reserves.</i>	
Community Fightback Fund	<p>£800,000 will be used to enhance existing budget of £200,000 for transitional funding for South Lanarkshire Council's leisure and culture assets. This will <b>create a £1 million Community Fightback Fund</b>.</p> <p>The Community Fightback Fund will be a council-controlled fund that keeps open community facilities considered by SLLC for rationalisation where there has been credible interest in Community Asset Transfer, CAT-lite or a similar agreement.</p> <p><i>Funded on a one-off basis through use of reserves.</i></p>	£0.800
Transitional Funding for Voluntary Organisations	<p>To assist community groups and causes, £270,000 will be used for transitional funding to delay implementation of the revised FCR01 saving until 2025.</p> <p><i>Funded on a one-off basis through use of reserves.</i></p>	£0.270
Future Libraries Fund	<p>Additional revenue support of £150,000 will be made available over more than one financial year to fund alternative library provision models for those areas affected by SLLC library rationalisation.</p> <p><i>Funded on a one-off basis through use of reserves.</i></p>	£0.150
Net Zero Innovation Fund	<p>£150,000 will be used to develop 'spend to save' and sustainable income generation options for South Lanarkshire Council over more than one financial year. These options will reflect the Council's ambition to transition to net zero.</p> <p><i>Funded on a one-off basis through use of reserves.</i></p>	£0.150
Central Energy Efficiency Fund	<p>£500,000 will be invested in the form of an additional contribution to the Central Energy Efficiency Fund over more than one financial year.</p> <p><i>Funded on a one-off basis through use of reserves.</i></p>	£0.500
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2.665</b>

## Appendix – Balanced Budget Reconciliation

<b>Budget Gap from Officers' Report</b> (Section 5.1)		<b>£20.570m</b>
<b>Agreed Savings:</b>		
M&O01	0.300	
M&O02	0.400	
M&O03	0.075	
M&O04	0.150	
M&O05	0.375	
M&O06	2.150	
M&O07	0.050	
CER01	0.460	
CER02	0.010	
CER03	0.120	
CER04	1.800	
CER07	0.100	
CER08	0.177	
CER10	0.070	
CER11	0.750	
CER14	0.700	
CER15	0.124	
EDR01	0.240	
EDR02	0.590	
EDR03	0.080	
EDR04	0.300	
EDR05	0.350	
EDR06	0.150	
EDR07	0.143	
EDR08	0.380	
EDR09	0.115	
FCR01	0.270	
FCR02	0.096	
FCR03	0.215	
FCR04	0.200	
HTR01	0.046	
HTR02	0.113	
HTR03	0.039	
HTR04	1.052	
SWR01	0.790	
SWR02	0.147	
SWR03	0.020	
SWR04	0.043	
<b>Total Savings (A)</b>	<b>£13.190m</b>	
<b>Proposed Council Tax Increase - Freeze - if council tax freeze then £7.869m will be received in grant</b>	<b><u>£7.869m</u></b>	

<b>= Total Savings and Increase from Council Tax</b>		<b><u>£21.059m</u></b>
<b>Balance After Savings and Council Tax (Budget Gap) / Investment Opportunity</b>		<b><u>£0.489m</u></b>
<b>Further Investment Proposed:</b>		
Permanent Budget required for Loans fund for Roads investment		£0.480
Transitional Funding for Regen:fx		£0.315
Community Fightback Fund		£0.800
Transitional Funding for Voluntary Organisations		£0.270
Future Libraries Project		£0.150
Net Zero Innovation Fund		£0.150
Central Energy Efficiency Fund		£0.500
<b>Total Further Investment Proposed (B)</b>		<b>(£2.665m)</b>
<b>Add: Use of Reserves Proposed (C)</b> <i>Using some of the £6 million set aside at Probable Outturn. The balance of reserves will be used as a contingency in the event of more funds being required for pay award.</i>		<b>£1.676m</b>
<i>Use £500k EY clothing grants reserves money not needed</i>		<b>£0.500m</b>
<b>Budget Gap – should be zero</b>		<b>£0</b>

#### Restatement of Net Expenditure Figure (report section 7.4)

Net Expenditure Figure within Revenue Budget Paper (sections 7.4 and associated appendices)	<b>£956.076m</b>
Add Back Assumed Level of Savings in Budget Paper (section 7.2)	£12.701m
<b>Adjusted Net Expenditure Figure (before savings)</b>	<b>£968.777m</b>
<i>Deduct: Actual Savings Taken from Table above (A)</i>	£13.190m
<i>Add: Any Further Investment Proposed (from Table above (B))</i>	£2.665m
<b>Revised Net Expenditure figure for Revenue Budget (D)</b>	<b>£958.252m</b>

#### Restatement of Net Sum Funded by Council Tax (Table 2, report section 7.5)

Revised Net Expenditure Figure for Revenue Budget for 2024/2025 (from Table above (D))	<b>£958.252m</b>
<i>Deduct: Government Grant</i>	£750.533m
<i>Deduct: Use of Reserves / Underspends in the Budget Strategy (£47.500m plus C from Table above)</i>	£49.676m
<b>= Resultant Net Sum to be Funded Locally from Council Tax</b>	<b>£158.043m</b>