

<b>Committee:</b>	Community	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Date:</b>	24th January 2008	<b>10</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>General Fund Budget 2008/09</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Adrian Webb, Acting Chief Financial Officer.</b> <b>01799 510421</b>	Item for Decision

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## Summary

1. This report sets out the detail of the draft Revenue Budget for the General Fund part of the Community Committee for 2008/09, together with the Revised Budget for 2007/08. (The Housing Revenue budget is set out at a separate agenda item).
2. The draft Capital Programme for the General Fund part of this Committee is set out at an earlier agenda item.
3. The General Fund Revenue Budget approved by this Committee will be submitted to the Finance and Administration Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008 and that Committee's recommendations will be considered by Council on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008, when the Council Tax for 2008/09 will be approved.

## Recommendations

4. It is recommended that this Committee approves and submits to the Finance and Administration Committee:
  - a. The revised General Fund Revenue Budget for Community Committee for 2007/08 as set out in Appendix 1.
  - b. The draft General Fund Revenue Budget for Community Committee for 2008/09 (Appendix 1).
  - c. Any comments regarding the Committee's Budget, particularly in the light of the Council's financial situation.

## Background Papers

5.
  - MTFS report to Council 20<sup>th</sup> September 2007,
  - Report to Council 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007,
  - 2007/08 and 2008/09 budget working papers,
  - Budget Book and budgetary control reports.

### Impact

Communication/Consultation	Appropriate communication with the public and other stakeholders will take place regarding the Council's budget position.
Community Safety	There are no specific community safety implications contained in this report.
Equalities	There are no specific equalities implications contained in this report
Finance	This report deals with the Community Committee's revenue Budget
Human Rights	There are no specific human rights implications contained in this report
Legal implications	Any legal implications of the actions proposed in this report will be considered
Sustainability	There are no specific sustainability implications contained in this report
Ward-specific impacts	There are no specific ward implications contained in this report
Workforce/Workplace	All staff are being kept informed about the Council's budget position. The Union has been consulted.

### Situation

6. Council, at its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007 noted a forecast General Fund deficit for 2007/08 of £938,466.

In addition, an estimated deficit for 2008/09 of £1,822,724 was noted.

7. Proposals for removing the deficit will be considered by a special meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008. **No proposals from the latest discussions have been included in this report, but any earlier savings achieved by Heads of Division have been included.**

Separate reports earlier on the Agenda set out proposed changes to Fees and Charges for this Committee. It is not possible to identify how much additional income will be raised for 2008/09 for this Committee until members determine which charging options are approved for a number of the reports on the Agenda.

## Budget 2008/09

Community Committee,

### Base Budget 2008/09

8. This Committee's revised General Fund revenue budget for 2007/08 and draft base budget for 2008/09 are attached at Appendix 1. They do not reflect the impact of any increase in Fees and Charges agreed at earlier agenda items.
9. The Committee's overall revenue budget can be summarised as follows:

Original	Revised	Original
£	£	£
3,254,340	3,177,800	3,326,780

10. Apart from inflation and pay award costs, the main variations on the overall Budget is as follows:

	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2008/09</b>
	<b>Revised</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
• Day Centres-loss of WRVS income	2,400	14,000
• Z Schemes only include if funded	(50,000)	(50,000)
• Emer.Planning one-off spends		(36,000)
• Drug Aware. Loss of income	6,000	10,000
• Essex Women's refuge	(9,000)	(9,000)
• G.F.Housing-extra funding	(15,000)	(15,000)
• Public Health-extra income	(21,000)	(27,500)
• Pest Control-extra income	(5,300)	0

**Risk Analysis**

**11.**

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
That the proposed actions agreed by the Council are insufficient to remove the projected budget deficit	Medium, despite the Council and SMB taking strong action	High, as there are no available reserves or balances to fund further deficits.	Continuing analysis of the budget needs of each service up to the point Council approves the Council Tax in February 2008.