

BUDGET PROJECTIONS - 2003/2004 INDICATIVE UPDATES FROM OFFICERS

APPENDIX BS07

<i>Service</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Efficiency etc Savings £'000</i>	<i>Indicative Income Increases £'000</i>	<i>Projected Additional Growth £'000</i>
Central Services	Reprographics - Procurement Savings (net of £2k already taken into account)	10		
Financial Services	Insurance Premiums - Post September 11 - clarification of additional charge impact	13		
Information Technology	Hardware Maintenance Contract - Procurement Savings	10		
Internal Audit	e-Government Strategy Progression - Revenue Implications (including 12K RCCO element?) Currently projected implications of Stevenage partnership proposals - being a net saving of £11K against base as opposed to the £24K budgeted for.			40
Benefit Fraud	Subsidy Increase 2003/04 onwards		10	
Rent Allowances	Reduction in provision net of subsidy - improved performance recovering overpayments	10		
Council Tax Benefits	Reduction in provision net of subsidy - improved performance on backdating and benefit of better software for monitoring subsidy implications	35		
Land Charges	Fee Income updated to 2001/2002 actual level		7	
Sport and Leisure	Reduced income re Turpin's Bowls Hall as a result of recent rent review			13
Car Parking	Rough indication of a 5% increase in charges		25	
Assisted Travel	Legislative change - cost of bus passes for men between 60 and 65			12
	Legislative change - cost of National Travel Tokens for men between 60 and 65			9
Homelessness	Slight reduction in net provision available following tightening up of rebate processes - uncertainty remains.	5		
Refuse Collection	Increase charges for large containers and trade refuse sacks		16	
Septic Tanks	Increase charges for cesspool emptying - say 5% - from £62 to £65		5	
Cemetery - Saffron Walden	Third year of reasonable increases to reduce imbalance between costs and income		5	
Building Surveying	Updating of Building Control fee income		19	
Licensing	Increase general licence fees - say 8%		1	
Development Control	Updating of Planning Fee income		44	
COMMITTEE LEVEL TOTALS		83	132	87
Interest on Balances	2003-2004 projection updated to take better account of last year's "cash flow" contribution to interest earnings.		130	
OVERALL TOTALS		83	262	87

Notes

- 1) These figures have been prepared by officers (as best estimates at this stage) to assist Members in preparing for the consideration of Committee budget targets during the September cycle of meetings. As presented they total to a net £258,000 reduction in the base budget.
- 2) The figures provide information on identifiable reductions to the projected 2003-2004 base budget available from efficiencies or from revised income levels. Also shown for completeness are some identified growth costs. The list specifically excludes items reflecting a change in policy or service level which should be determined by Members.
- 3) Land Charges, Building Control and Planning income figures have simply been rebased to 2001-02 levels with no further fee increase assumed (other than the known increase for Planning in April 2002). Uncertainty remains as this income is all demand-driven..
- 4) Any increases projected above either in expenditure or in income from fee increases are still of course subject to Member approval.
- 5) Some savings may be identified as a result of BV reviews of Community and Leisure and Planning. These are outside the scope of this exercise at this stage. Any such savings and any short terms costs necessary to achieve them may, of course need to be covered from earmarked reserves in the first instance

MRD 31 July 2002