

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