

**Local Planning and Environment: 2015/16 Budget Setting
Service Overviews (SOs)**

APPENDIX A

Service	Service Area	Chief Officer
Planning Policy	Planning	Richard Morris

Service Overview:

The planning policy team employs 7.7 full time equivalent employees and is responsible for the formulation and review of local planning policy, including the local plan, supplementary planning documents, development plan documents, residential character area assessments and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule. The team also monitor development in the District and report annually on development consents and completions, and the amount of money secured and spent through Planning Obligations (S106) on mitigation, infrastructure and affordable housing.

Planning Policy also lead on fulfilling our Duty to Cooperate through close working with nearby and neighbouring authorities, and coordinate and compile Council responses to Government consultation on changes to National Planning policy, and other consultations of local significance such as the current Airport Commission consultation.

Current and Future Pressures:

It is hoped that the Allocations and Development Management Plan (ADMP) will be found sound in the Autumn/Winter, which will identify sufficient land to deliver the requirements of the adopted Core Strategy and update the day-to-day policies used to determine the acceptability of planning applications.

Consultation on the supplementary sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches will commence in the coming months.

CIL governance arrangements are soon to be formulated, including making provision for the transfer of monies to Town and Parish Councils.

Adoption of the ADMP will trigger a requirement to commence a review of our Core Strategy, and in particular consideration of an updated housing needs figure for the District.

2014/15 Budget	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Planning Policy	416	-	416	Deletion of Consultants Budget	2011/12	(11)
				Reduced use of Consultants	2011/12	(6)
				S106 Monitoring – Charge developers to monitor	2011/12	(50)

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Service	Service Area	Chief Officer
Development Management	Planning	Richard Morris

Service Overview:

The Development Management function employs 38.2 full time equivalent employees and is responsible for the registration, validation, consideration and determination of planning and other applications and the defence of decisions at Appeal. It also contains the planning enforcement team who investigate alleged breaches of planning control, beaches of Planning Obligations, the monitoring of development commencements and the collection of CIL monies.

The Development Management service also includes specialist officers in respect of arboriculture and conservation matters and operates a formal pre-application and less formal duty planner advice functions.

Current and Future Pressures:

Development viability and the continuing pursuit by developers to contest the ability to make affordable housing provision.

Government amendments, and further consultations on changes to the planning system, which enable increasing changes of use to be made without the need for local scrutiny through the submission of a planning application.

An increasing element of legal challenge through the threat, and submission of Judicial Review proceedings.

2014/15 Budget	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Development Management	1,041	(713)	328	Staff Reduction	2011/12	(41)
Conservation	46	-	46	Various Savings	2011/12	(20)
Appeals	194	-	194	Reduced use of external legal resources	2011/12	(10)
Enforcement	278	-	278	Review processes and structure to reduce costs	2011/12	(131)
				Development Services share of corporate targets	2011/12 2012/13	(8) (14)
				Planning and Pre-Application fees - extra income	2012/13	(100)

Service		Service Area			Chief Officer	
Direct Services		Environmental and Operational Services			Richard Wilson	
<p>Service Overview:</p> <p>Direct Services employs 97.8 full time equivalent employees and is the in-house operational services team providing the following service areas:</p> <p>Waste collection and recycling collections: Weekly refuse and recycling service and green waste collection service.</p> <p>Cleansing: Street cleaning; litter bins; fly tipping; bulky waste collection; public convenience cleaning; abandoned vehicles; cesspool emptying and trade waste collection.</p> <p>Transport: Commercial fleet management and procurement; vehicle servicing and maintenance; taxi testing and an MOT station</p> <p>Amenity: Grounds maintenance; playgrounds and the Countryside service</p> <p>Other Services: Pest Control; Dunbrik Depot; Emergency call out service</p> <p>The service operates on a trading account basis with an annual turnover of £6million.</p>						
<p>Current and Future Pressures:</p> <p>Following the EU waste framework directive, an assessment of the collection of certain dry recyclables is being undertaken to ensure compliance with this new regulatory requirement. A report will be presented to the Advisory committee on 23 October with the results of the assessment.</p> <p>The price of diesel is always a risk to the profitability of the trading accounts, as the service uses approx. 440,000 litres of diesel a year.</p> <p>The need to generate increased income from services to support the trading account position continues to be a pressure. Furthermore there are expectations that the Pest Control service breaks even over the next three years and increased marketing activity is taking place to help achieve this aim.</p>						
2014/15 Budget	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Refuse Collection	2,256	(2,328)	(72)	Hollybush Outdoor Bowls Centre-transfer ownership to private club	2011/12	(20)
Street Cleaning	1,259	(1,193)	66	Transfer of land and playgrounds to Town/Parish Councils	2011/12	(15)

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2014/15 Budget	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Transport Workshop	549	(549)	-	Public Conveniences	2011/12	(62)
Pest Control	83	(68)	15	Street Cleansing Reduction	2011/12	(124)
Premises Cleaning	63	(88)	(25)	Pest Control- review of service and removal of subsidy	2011/12	(16)
Cesspool Emptying	238	(250)	(12)	Environmental and Operational Share of Corporate Targets	2011/12 2012/13	(24) (91)
Green Waste	336	(360)	(24)			
Trade Waste	374	(385)	(11)			
Grounds Maintenance	128	(129)	(1)			
Fleet Management	859	(859)	-			
Depot	279	(280)	(1)			
Emergency	50	(49)	1			

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Service	Service Area	Chief Officer
Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty	Housing	Pat Smith

Service Overview:

These services are provided within the broader remit of the Council's Housing Policy team and seek to deliver the Council's energy efficiency agenda, green deal initiatives and Sevenoaks Switch and Save scheme.

Current and Future Pressures:

The success of the Council's initiatives rests heavily on the teams' ongoing success to bring in external funding, either on its own or in partnership with other Council's or public sector bodies.

Alternatively innovative solutions at little or no cost such as Sevenoaks Switch and Save are required to support our community to take action to reduce their energy consumption and costs.

2014/15 Budget (£ 000)	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Energy Efficiency	31	-8	23	Climate Change	2011/12	(23)
				Efficiency Review - Housing Initiatives	2014/15	(15)