

**RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**COMMENTS ON THE REVISED ESTIMATES AND REVENUE BUDGET**

The Resources Scrutiny Committee met on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2003. The following members of the Cabinet attended the meeting to respond to questions by the Committee: -

Mr H. Barber CC- Leader of the Council.

Professor M. E. Preston CC – Deputy Leader of the Council.

Mr R. Miller CC – Lead Member – Job Evaluation and Property

**REVISED ESTIMATES 2002/03**

**Decision:**

**That the Scrutiny Commission be recommended to note the Revised Estimates for 2003/04.**

**REVENUE BUDGET 2003/04**

In response to questions the Committee was advised:-

**General.**

- (a) of the representations made to the Office of the Department of the Prime Minister about the adverse implications of the new Formula Spending Shares (FSS) system on Leicestershire.
- (b) that the net surplus on the District Council Collection Fund was now estimated at £1.192 million (an increase of £192,000).
- (c) that the final settlement outcome will not be known until the week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The Leader of the Council gave an undertaking, that if significant changes arose as a result, he would discuss these with the Group Leaders before the final budget proposals were submitted to the County Council.
- (d) That the increase of 6.6% in Central Government funding referred to in paragraph 15 was a net increase having taken into account the transfer of specific grants into the mainstream budget.

## Chief Executive's

With regard to the proposals relating to the Chief Executive Department:-

- (a) the proposed investment for Crime Reduction Initiatives and for improving for facilities for young people was welcomed. Members expressed the view that the proposed investment for Crime Reduction should be used for frontline services. With regard to improving facilities for young people, members expressed the view that any new initiative in this area should be linked, where appropriate, to existing youth programmes and that any proposals should be developed having regard to views expressed by young people in the County. The Committee also asked for details of proposed schemes to be submitted to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.
- (b) the significant additional revenue and capital investment for the Better Access to Better Services Initiatives was noted and a request was made for further information to the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the progress and impact of the Initiative.
- (c) It was there was no reduction in the budget provision currently used to support the Leicestershire Rural Community Council (LRCC). The LRCC would however need to generate additional resources from elsewhere to support new schemes.

## **Decision.**

**That the Scrutiny Commission be recommended to note the Revenue Budget Proposals 2003/04.**

## Outstanding Issues

### Education.

Members requested details of the spending pressures identified in paragraph 31 to be met by schools from the £13.3m cash increase. A copy of the information requested is attached.

