

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

AGENDA ITEM 7

QUESTION 1

MRS JOYCE BRAND, Ludlow resident, will ask the following question:

Will the Leader of the Council list the services which the Council plans to no longer provide for the people of Shropshire in return for the no mean council tax that is paid by them and will he say how much money has been saved as a result of these decisions.

Will he list the services still to be provided by Shropshire Council.

Will he say which of those services are to be outsourced.

Will he say how much of the Council's budget is being allocated to pay for these services.

MR M PATE, Leader has replied as follows:

The detail of what services would look like within the Councils current resource projections was included in the Report to Cabinet on 27 January 2016: 'Financial Strategy 2016/17 – 2018/19'. The link to the report is shown below, with the required information shown in Appendix 3 on pages 20-26 identifying reductions in service budgets and complete withdrawal of funding from service areas

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=130&MId=3174&Ver=4>

This same appendix, available as a public document since 27 January 2016, lists all service areas of the Council, providing answers to questions 1, 2 and 4.

The decision to reduce budgets in 2017/18 and 2018/19, in line with the detail in the January report, has not been formally approved at this time but will be considered further as part of Financial Strategy Reports to Cabinet during 2016/17.

As part of the work required to deliver savings and balance the 2017/18 budget, options for service delivery will be considered. Until this work is completed, it is not possible to say which, if any, services may be outsourced. Any review of service delivery options will always look at the most effective and efficient way to deliver required outcomes to the public, rather than being driven by the method of delivery.

The savings required from services changes have been identified as £26.7m in 2017/18 and a further £14.2m in 2018/19.