

COMMUNITY WELLBEING PORTFOLIO

ESTIMATES 2009/10

Community Wellbeing

Revenue Budget 2009/10

Introduction

The portfolio is responsible for the following services

Emergency Planning
Grants to Voluntary Organisations and Voluntary Sector Support
Safer Communities and Crime and Disorder Initiatives
Welfare Transport

Further detail of the services and the related CSB growth and DDF items are shown on the appropriate budget page.

Management & Portfolio Changes

A Corporate restructuring was agreed and implemented early in 2008. The new structure effected a saving in costs of £500,000 for the Council, being based on six Directorates headed by a Chief Executive with a Deputy.

The number of Portfolios has seen an increase from eight to nine, with services such as Concessionary Fares moving from Community Wellbeing to Civil Engineering & Maintenance, and Licensing moving from Environmental Protection to Corporate Support Services & ICT. For Direct Services the actuals for 2007/2008 and the Original Estimate 2008/2009, have been changed to fall in line with the new Portfolio structure.

Capital Charges

Accounting standards require that local authority fixed assets are accounted for on a consistent basis whereby proper provision for depreciation is made within service revenue accounts to reflect the cost of fixed assets used in the provision of services. The depreciation charge is based on the valuation of each asset, which is updated as necessary, or the historic cost of the asset as appropriate and the period over which each asset is depreciated is based on the useful life of the asset. Impairment charges would also be chargeable in the event of an asset suffering damage and/or the loss of economic benefits (eg storm damage). No impairment charges, however, are anticipated within the budgets. To ensure that capital charges do not impact on the level of Council Tax, these charges are reversed out in the Revenue Expenditure, Income and Financing Summary after the net operating expenditure is calculated.

Compliance with CIPFA Standards

The budget has been prepared in accordance with the latest CIPFA guidance, in particular the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice 2008. The code of practice has the status of statutory "proper practice". It is also expected that members of CIPFA will comply with all the requirements of the Code as it defines best professional practice in terms of financial reporting. The only divergence from the code in these budget papers occurs where the portfolio service groupings differ from those required by the Code of Practice. The portfolio groupings are given precedence in these papers.

Budget format

The format of the attached budget papers is the same as that adopted last year. The summary page is split into three groups: Direct Services, Regulatory Services and Support & Trading Services. Not all portfolios will have all three types of service grouping.

Direct Services – These reflect the headline services provided by the portfolio.

Regulatory Services – The Cabinet has no part to play in the exercise of regulatory functions such as planning and licensing. However the Cabinet is responsible for the totality of the Council's budget. The costs of the regulatory functions therefore have been included in the appropriate portfolio budgets.

Support and Trading Services - Responsibility for support services and trading type arrangements has been split across a number of portfolios. In order to be transparent about the costs associated with these areas, they have been included in the relevant portfolios. However the net cost of these services is recharged to the direct and regulatory functions, either within the same portfolio or across a number of portfolios. Therefore to avoid double counting the costs are reversed out so as to arrive back at the true net cost of the portfolio.

The summary page then includes the traditional re-analysis of the budget in terms of its' opening Continuing Services Budget, CSB growth and savings, and District Development Fund expenditure and savings.

Community Wellbeing

General Fund Estimate Summary

2007/08 Actual £000	2008/09 Original Estimate £000	2008/09 Revised Estimate £000		2009/10 Gross Expend £000	2009/10 Gross Income £000	2009/10 Net Expend £000
Direct Services						
151	175	195	Emergency Planning	202	0	202
386	403	389	Voluntary Sector	410	12	398
284	438	487	Safer Communities	599	50	549
17	18	18	Travel Schemes	18	0	18
838	1,034	1,089	Total Direct	1,229	62	1,167
838	1,034	1,089	Total (Transferred to GF Summary)	1,229	62	1,167
838	910	1,018	Continuing Services Budget			1,101
0	115	73	Continuing Services Budget - Growth			55
0	0	(16)	Continuing Services Budget - Savings			0
838	1,025	1,075	Total Continuing Services Budget			1,156
0	9	14	District Development Fund - Expenditure			11
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Savings			0
0	9	14	Total District Development Fund			11
838	1,034	1,089	Portfolio Total			1,167

Community Wellbeing

Development Fund & Growth Items

CSB Growth Items		Original 2008/09 £000's	Revised 2008/09 £000's	Original 2009/10 £000's
Safer Communities	CCTV Operations Officer	28	21	12
Safer Communities	ASB Investigations Officer	47	30	25
Safer Communities	Equipment and maintenance	5	5	
Safer Communities	CCTV replacement and maintenance	35	17	18
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	Furniture Exchange Scheme Discontinued		(16)	
		115	57	55

Development Fund Items		Orginal 2008/09 £000's	Revised 2008/09 £000's	Orginal 2009/10 £000's
Safer Communities	ASB Investigator training	2	2	
Safer Communities	Protective clothing	5	5	
Safer Communities	Police community safety accreditation	2	2	
Safer Communities	Safer Communities Project HO Funded		5	11
		9	14	11

Community Wellbeing

Emergency Planning

Emergency Planning

The budget relates to the cost of providing for emergency response services in the event of a local or national civil disaster, and emergency response in the event of war. The Civil Contingencies Act now places a statutory responsibility on the Council to carry out risk based contingency planning and incident response.

The budget includes additional funding previously approved for the Council's statutory duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. Joint arrangements are in place with the Essex County Council in partnership with other authorities to provide a co-ordinated emergency planning service. The District contributes 50% of the costs of a joint Emergency Planning Officer, provided by the County Council.

The budget also now includes recharges from the newly created Emergency Planning Group. The recharge from the group account includes the cost of Computers, Office Accommodation and support services. The overall increase in the budget is due to support service reallocations.

Community Wellbeing

Emergency Planning

2007/08	2008/09			2009/10		
<i>Actual</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Revised</i>		Gross	Gross	Net
£000	£000	£000		Expend	Income	Expend
				£000	£000	£000
151	175	195	Emergency Planning	202	0	202
151	175	195	Total (Transferred to Summary)	202	0	202
151	175	195	Continuing Services Budget			202
0	0	0	Continuing Services Budget - Growth			0
0	0	0	Continuing Services Budget - Savings			0
151	175	195	Total Continuing Services Budget			202
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Expenditure			0
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Savings			0
0	0	0	Total District Development Fund			0
151	175	195	Portfolio Total			202

Community Wellbeing

Voluntary Sector

The following budgets represent the Council's support to outside voluntary and charitable bodies working in the community.

Grants to Voluntary Organisations

The general sum available for grants to voluntary organisations in the 2008/09 revised budget is £108,190, and for 2009/10 £106,310. This includes £7,960 relating to HomeStart who have a grant to offset gross rent for unit 36 Oakwood Hill Industrial Estate. £5,000 has been transferred from this budget to the VAEF budget to fund the higher service level agreement agreed for 2009/10

Previously the budget included £16,830 in respect of the Furniture Exchange Scheme, similar to the Homestart grant. This grant has now been discontinued and results in a decrease in the budget. A CSB saving is included for the budget reduction.

Voluntary Sector Support

Voluntary Action Epping Forest

The budget relates to the support given by the Council towards the running costs of the Voluntary Action Epping Forest (VAEF) located in Homefield House. The grant for 2008/09 is £33,170, with £39,120 earmarked for 2009/10. The increase between the revised 2008/09 budget and the 2009/10 budget relates to the transfer of £5,000 from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations budget to fund the higher service level agreement.

The running costs of Homefield House, which is leased to VAEF, are included in this budget along with the costs of central computers and telephones, which directly benefit VAEF. Total gross cost of the budget for 2008/09 Revised including the grant is £67,200, and £70,780 for 2009/10 which is reduced by rent paid by VAEF of £10,100 and by £2,300 in relation to telephone call charges which are reimbursed. Costs for 2009/10 comprise grant of £39,120, telephone systems £12,430, accommodation (Homefield House) £18,330 and Computers £900.

Essex Women's Refuge

The budget relates to a contribution towards the cost of the work of the Association of Essex Women's Refuges, which allows referrals to be made from this Authority to the Essex Refuge Network.

The Council has agreed previously that the authority should continue with an annual financial contribution to meet its full share of costs. The estimate for 2008/09 is £16,940 and £17,360 for 2009/10, and is based on all other local authorities continuing to contribute their full pro-rata share.

Citizens' Advice Bureaux

The budget relates to the contribution that the Council makes to its partnership with the Citizens' Advice Bureaux.

The Council's contribution to the CAB for 2008/09 is £111,060 and £113,840 for 2009/10.

Community Wellbeing

Voluntary Sector

2007/08	2008/09			2009/10		
<i>Actual</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Revised</i>		<i>Gross</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>Net</i>
£000	£000	£000		Expend	Income	Expend
				£000	£000	£000
212	220	205	Grants to Voluntary Organisations	207	0	207
174	183	184	Voluntary Sector Support	203	12	191
386	403	389	Total (Transferred to Summary)	410	12	398
386	403	405	Continuing Services Budget			398
	0	0	Continuing Services Budget - Growth			0
0	0	(16)	Continuing Services Budget - Savings			0
386	403	389	Total Continuing Services Budget			398
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Expenditure			0
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Savings			0
0	0	0	Total District Development Fund			0
386	403	389	Portfolio Total			398

Community Wellbeing

Safer Communities

Safer Communities and Crime and Disorder Initiatives

The budget relates to the Council's involvement in community safety within the District by working in partnership with other public services, the private sector and voluntary groups to reduce crime, the fear of crime, offending and criminality in the local community.

The Safer Communities Programme budget includes £45,000 for graffiti removal for 2008/09 revised and £46,130 for 2009/10 with £42,450 funded by the HRA for both 2008/09 and 2009/10, an increase of £27,450 from previously estimated. The increase is due to a large proportion of the properties for graffiti removal being HRA related and includes the staff time associated with these works.

The variations in the budget for 2008/09 are due to the inclusion of £14,000 for DDF items comprising Anti Social Behaviour Investigator Training (£2,000), Protective Clothing (£5,000), Police Community Safety Accreditation (£2,000) and a Home Office Grant (£5,000). DDF for projects funded by Home Office grant are also included in 2009/10 for £11,000. In addition to the DDF there is the inclusion of CSB Growth of £22,000 for CCTV Maintenance & Replacement (£17,000) and new Equipment (£5,000) in relation to the safer, cleaner, and greener initiative. CSB Growth of £18,000 is included in 2009/10 for CCTV maintenance and replacement. CSB growth is also included for a CCTV Operations Officer, with £21,000 in 2008/09 and £12,000 in 2009/10. CSB growth is also included for a post of ASB investigations officer with £30,000 in 2008/09 and £25,000 in 2009/10.

The budget also includes a contribution of £92,250 for 2008/09 and £94,560 for 2009/10 towards the provision of six Community Police Support Officers to work within the Epping Forest District adding to the current operating police strength.

Other increases in the budget arise from the management restructuring where a new Safer Communities Group was established for co-ordinating the various initiatives and programmes. Recharges include the cost of Computers, Office Accommodation, Managerial and Professional and Environmental central overhead charges.

Community Wellbeing

Safer Communities

<i>2007/08</i>	<i>2008/09</i>			<i>2009/10</i>		
<i>Actual</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Revised</i>		<i>Gross</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>Net</i>
<i>£000</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Estimate</i>		<i>Expend</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expend</i>
	<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>		<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>
284	438	487	Safer Communities Programme	599	50	549
284	438	487	Total (Transferred to Summary)	599	50	549
284	314	400	Continuing Services Budget			483
0	115	73	Continuing Services Budget - Growth			55
0	0	0	Continuing Services Budget - Savings			0
284	429	473	Total Continuing Services Budget			538
0	9	14	District Development Fund - Expenditure			11
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Savings			0
0	9	14	Total District Development Fund			11
284	438	487	Portfolio Total			549

Community Wellbeing

Travel Schemes

Welfare Transport

This budget originally related to the provision of a mini bus service, comprising five vehicles, available for hire by voluntary groups within the District. In June 2005 the minibuses reverted to their respective owners, namely the Rotary Club of Waltham Abbey and Ongar Parish Council. The decision was taken following a consultation exercise with user groups about the future of the vehicles.

It was agreed on transfer that the remaining budget would be used to meet the annual cost of funding a Community Transport driver costing £15,000. This action resulted in a CSB saving of £7,000 with the residual budget now earmarked as an annual grant to VAEF for funding the Community Transport driver. The grant available to VAEF is £15,630 for 2008/09 and £16,020 for 2009/10.

Community Wellbeing

Travel Schemes

<i>2007/08</i>	<i>2008/09</i>			<i>2009/10</i>		
<i>Actual</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Revised</i>		<i>Gross</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>Net</i>
<i>£000</i>	<i>Estimate</i>	<i>Estimate</i>		<i>Expend</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expend</i>
<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>		<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>
17	18	17	Welfare Transport	18	0	18
<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	Total (Transferred to Summary)	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18</u>
17	18	17	Continuing Services Budget			18
0	0	0	Continuing Services Budget - Growth			0
0	0	0	Continuing Services Budget - Savings			
<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	Total Continuing Services Budget			<u>18</u>
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Expenditure			
0	0	0	District Development Fund - Savings			
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Total District Development Fund			<u>0</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	Portfolio Total			<u>18</u>

**COMMUNITY WELLBEING PORTFOLIO
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS 2009/10 ORIGINAL**

BUDGET	Employees	Premises	Transport	Supplies	Support Services	Depreciation Charges	(Internally Recharged)	Gross Expenditure	Gross Expenditure Direct	Fees & Charges	Other Income	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£
Emergency Planning	50,660		2,990	28,270	118,580	1,960		202,460	-		10	10	202,450
Emergency Expenditure								-	-				-
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	47,660		1,690	115,480	42,220			207,050	-				207,050
Voluntary Sector Support VAEF				39,120	31,660			70,780	-		12,400	12,400	58,380
Voluntary Sector Assistance				131,200	1,040			132,240	-				132,240
Safer Communities Programme	205,580	170	5,730	244,960	142,690			599,130	-		49,570	49,570	549,560
Welfare Transport				16,020	1,610			17,630	-				17,630
TOTAL (Transferred to GF Summary)	303,900	170	10,410	575,050	337,800	1,960	-	1,229,290	-	-	61,980	61,980	1,167,310

Third Party Payment													
Emergency Planning	41,570		860		23,940		(66,370)	-	42,430	-	-	-	-
Safer Communities	197,840		5,330	510	112,940		(316,620)	-	203,680	-	-	-	-
Policy Unit	141,200		4,690	1,090	93,610		(240,590)	-	146,980	-	-	-	-