

Report to the Finance and Performance Management Committee



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Date of meeting: 19 November 2007.

Subject: Draft General Fund CSB and DDF Lists.

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Recommendation

To note the draft Continuing Services Budget (CSB) and District Development Fund (DDF) schedules.

Introduction:

1. The Financial Issues Paper was presented to this committee on 24 September 2007. There are a number of financial pressures facing the General Fund including Changes to concessionary fares, Internal and external and the waste and recycling service. The Financial Issues Paper highlighted that although the financial position is better than anticipated at this time last year in order to adhere to Council policy of not increasing Council tax above the retail Price Index some savings would be required over the period of the forecast to meet this objective. It has therefore been agreed that £100,000 CSB savings be made within the 2007-08 Revised Estimate and £200,000 per annum from 2008-09 onwards. However since the issues paper the Council has been made aware that as a result of the latest actuaries triennial review of the pension fund, on going employers contributions are to rise by 3%. There is however an option to phase this in over the next three years by increasing ongoing contributions by 1% per annum to reach the 3% by 2010-11. This will cost, by year 3, around an additional £400,000 of which £270,000 will fall on the General Fund. A more detailed report regarding this is included elsewhere on the agenda.

2. The Schedules of CSB growth/savings and DDF expenditure are shown at Annexes 1 & 2. These represent best estimates at this time but need to be viewed in the context of the CSB savings or additional income referred to in paragraph 1.

Options for action:

3. Members are asked to note these draft schedules, the contents of which may need to be prioritised later in the budget cycle.

Statement in support of recommended action:

4. No specific action has been recommended.

Consultation undertaken:

5. This is the first draft of the CSB and DDF schedules. Consultations with spending officers regarding their budgets are ongoing at the moment but apart from this further consultation will take place later in the budget cycle.