CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL

# **Response to Request for Information**

ReferenceFOI 000904Date20 February 2017

## Spending on Adult Social Care, Adult Learning Disabilities, Business Rates, Council Tax, and Financial Reserves

#### Request:

#### Adult Social Care:

- Spending on adult social care services in 2016/17 Budget £69.3 million
- Spending on care home services for older people (over 65) including nursing care for the financial years 2016/17 Budget £11.7 million
- Spending on home care services for older people (over 65) for the financial years 2016/17
  Budget £3.5 million
- Adult social care budgets for the financial years
  - 2017/18 Indicative budget £68.1 million
  - o **2018/19**

In respect of your above question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information at this moment in time. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

#### Adult Learning Disabilities:

- Spending on adult learning disabilities services in 2016/17 Budget £24.1 million
- Spending on residential services for adults with learning disability services in 2016/17 Budget £8.3 million
- Budgets for learning disability services for adults for the financial years
  - 2017/18 Budget £21.6 million
  - o 2018/19

In respect of your above question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information at this moment in time. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

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- Predicted spend on residential services for adults with learning disabilities in
  - 2017/18 Budget £6.4 million
  - o **2018/19**

In respect of your above question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information at this moment in time. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

#### **Business Rates:**

- Projected amount of business rate income for the financial years
  - o **2017/18**
  - o **2018/19**

With reference to your above questions for the year 2017/18 and 2018/19, I can confirm that City of Wolverhampton Council holds this information. The information you have requested is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), because the information is accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain. Please see link supplied below:

(http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37400/Item%207%20-%20201718%20Budget%20and%20Medium%20Term%20Financial%20Strate gy%20201718%20201920.pdf).

- Predicted % of business rates retained by the LA in
  - o 2016/17

Under the Localisation of Business Rates introduced in 2013, the City of Wolverhampton Council retains 49% of the business rates collected.

o **2017/18** 

The City of Wolverhampton Council has entered into a business rates retention pilot and will retain 99% of business rates in 2017/18.

o **2018/19** 

Please see the comment above. It is anticipated that the City of Wolverhampton Council will continue to be in the business rate retention pilot in 2018/19 and will therefore retain 99% of business rates.

### Council Tax:

- Projections of council tax collected for financial years
  - o **2017/18**
  - o **2018/19**

With reference to your above questions for the year 2017/18 and 2018/19, I can confirm that City of Wolverhampton Council holds this information. The information you have requested is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), because the information is accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain. Please see link supplied below:

(http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37400/Item%207%20-%20201718%20Budget%20and%20Medium%20Term%20Financial%20Strategy%20201718%20201920.pdf).

- Does the council have any plans to raise general council tax (excluding the social care precept) above 2% in:
  - 2017/18 The Council has approved a 1.99% increase in general council tax for 2017/18.
  - 2018/19 The current assumption built into the MTFS is that general council tax will increase by 1.99% in 2018/19.
- Does the council plan to raise the social care precept of 3% in:
  - 2017/18 The Council has approved a 2% adult social care precept for 2017/18.
  - 2018/19 The current assumption built into the MTFS is that the adult social care precept will be 2% in 2018/19.

#### **Financial Reserves**

- Projected amount of financial reserves for the financial years
  - o **2017/18**

The Council holds general reserves totalling £10 million. It is not anticipated that general reserves will fall below this in 2017/18. In addition to this, the Council also held earmarked reserves totalling £59 million at the start of 2016/17. A copy of the Reserves, Provisions and Balances report 2016/17 can be found by following this link (http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s28020/Reserves%20 Provisions%20and%20Balances.pdf).

Reserve balances are forecast to decrease during 2016/17 as a result of investment in projects and transformation. Further investment is likely to take place during 2017/18, however it is difficult to project the specific reserve balance at the end of 2017/18 at the present time.

• 2018/19 Please see our response provided above.