



Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-2020

16 March 2016

Financial Challenge

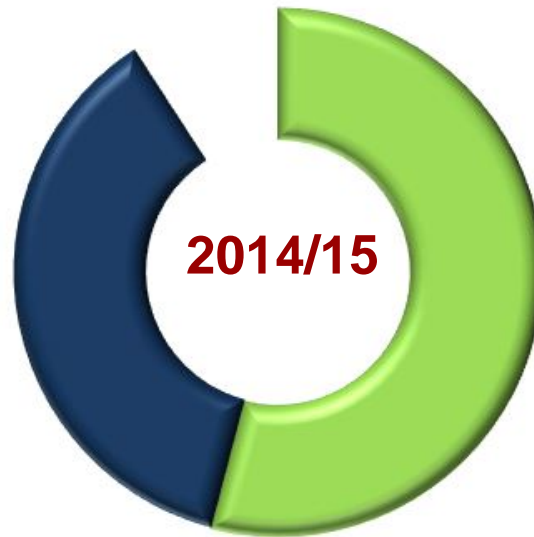
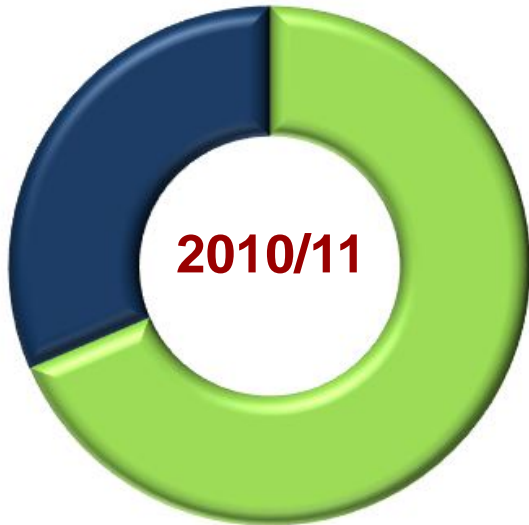
- Since 2010 the Government has already cut funding to Darlington Council by £33m in real terms
- The net budget in 2016/17 will be £87m
- We need to make further cuts of £10.2m – as the Government continues to cut our funding
- By 2020 the Government will have cut funding to Darlington Council by £44m in real terms



Funding from Government Grant and Council Tax

■ Government Grant

■ Council tax



How did Cabinet draft proposals to reduce Council spending?

- We have reviewed what we **must do** (Core Budget Offer)
- The Council has to provide services/support under 1300 pieces of legislation
- The cost of what the Council **must do** is £87.5m (e.g. Social Care - £54m)



What is the cost of services we don't have to provide?

- We have reviewed everything we **do but don't have to**
- The cost is £12.5m
- They include services such as
 - Dolphin Centre
 - Parts of Street Scene and grass cutting
 - School Crossing Patrols
 - Economic Development



We can do more than the must do's (core offer)

- By using revenue balances set aside in previous budgets to help with this MTFP

AND

- By reducing the speed the Council repays its debt
- There is £2.5m available – **The Futures Fund**
- This means £10.2m of services will be cut



Futures Fund Criteria

1. Early intervention & prevention
2. Support for new or expanded community or voluntary based services
3. Making best use of public funding with the Police, Fire, Health service
4. Making sure the borough remains a well maintained place with a good quality of life
5. Making sure that business wanting to grow get effective support
6. Enabling the Council to bid for external Government or charitable funding





Adult Social Care and Housing Portfolio

Councillor Veronica Copeland

Core Offer key budget plus proposed application of Futures Fund

Fulfilling statutory obligations of Care Act duties through:

- Social Care Staffing (2) – social work, care staff, reablement officers
- Social Care Commitments
 - Homeless/Housing Support
 - Housing Options Service
 - Vulnerable Parents & Families
 - Care and Repair
 - Mental Health Support
 - Learning Disability
- Meeting assessed need, through Packages of care/ Residential placements

(2) Reduced from current levels



Core Offer key budget plus proposed application of Futures Fund - Continued

- Financial Assessment and Protection (safeguarding support for people needing help with finances)
- Staff who ensure payments to all care providers and service users (Direct Payments)
- Commissioning, Contracts and Quality Monitoring Staff (2)
- Workforce Development Statutory Training (Children and Adults Services) (2)
- Performance & Project Management (Children, Adults and Public Health)

(2) Reduced from current levels



Key Proposed Budget Cuts/Savings after use of Futures Fund

- Commissioning, contract and quality monitoring staff reduction
- Alternative methods of meeting assessed needs of clients
- Reduce housing related support aimed at supporting vulnerable people to live independently within the community and avoid becoming homeless. This includes support for:
 - Domestic abuse victims (1)
 - Vulnerable Adults over 25 years (1)
 - Vulnerable Adults with substance misuse issues (1)
 - Young People up to age 25
- Designated housing related support funding for the Key Point of Access will end. There will be opportunities for Individuals housing support needs to be assessed through a first point of contact model. DBC will continue to provide a Housing Options Service.
- Cease Funding – Aspire Service, GADD, DAD information post and Deaf Club

(1) Futures fund non core offer





Children and Young People Portfolio

Councillor Cyndi Hughes

Core Offer key budget plus proposed application of Futures Fund

- Social Work and Independent Review
- Looked After Children
- Disabled Children
- Early Help Model (2)
- Youth Offending (2)
- Education, Early Years, School Improvement
- Education School Transport
- Safeguarding Partnership Boards Management and Support (Children and Adults)
- Performance and Project Management (Children, Adults and Public Health)

(2) Reduced from existing levels



Key Proposed Budget Cuts/Savings after use of Futures Fund

- Reductions to early help services including Children Centre rationalisation from 5 centres to 1
- Reductions to Youth Offending Service
- Cease Early Support function at the Disability Life Stages (0-3 years) service





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Economy and Regeneration Portfolio

Councillor Chris McEwan

Core Offer key budget plus proposed application of Futures Fund

- Core Planning Service(2)
- Combined Authority / Tees Valley Unlimited
- Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Building Control(2)
- Private Sector Housing(2)
- Civil Contingencies(2)
- Licensing(2)
- CCTV
- Economic Regeneration (1)
- A Christmas offer (1)

(1) Futures Fund non core offer

(2) Reduced from current levels



Key Proposed Budget Cuts/Savings after use of Futures Fund

- Reductions to services in the core offer as shown on previous slide
- Christmas Lights





Efficiency & Resources
including Leader's Portfolio
Councillor Steve Harker

Core Offer key budget plus proposed application of Futures Fund

- Fixed Costs of Corporate Support (variable elements included in service budgets)
 - Finance
 - ICT
 - HR and Health & Safety
 - Property
 - Procurement and complaints
- Democratic Support, Members Allowances, Elections and Mayor (1)
- Taxation and Housing Benefits
- Senior Management
- Financing Costs
- Registrars
- Darlington partnership(1)

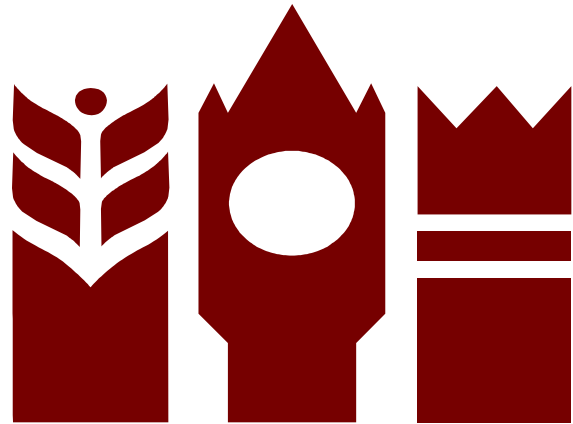
(1) Futures Fund non core offer



Key Proposed Budget Cuts/Savings after use of Futures Fund

- Senior Management
- Support Services
- Union Contribution
- Parish Council Grants
- Subscription to NEREO





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Health and
Partnerships Portfolio
Councillor Andy Scott

Core Offer key budget plus proposed application of Futures Fund

- Sports Development Team (1)
- Sexual Health Services (2)
- 0-19 Services
- Substance Misuse
- Stop Smoking Services (2)
- Public Health Advice (2)
- Health Checks
- Prescribing and Pharmacology
- Healthwatch Contract (2)
- Community Safety (2)

(1) Futures Fund non core offer

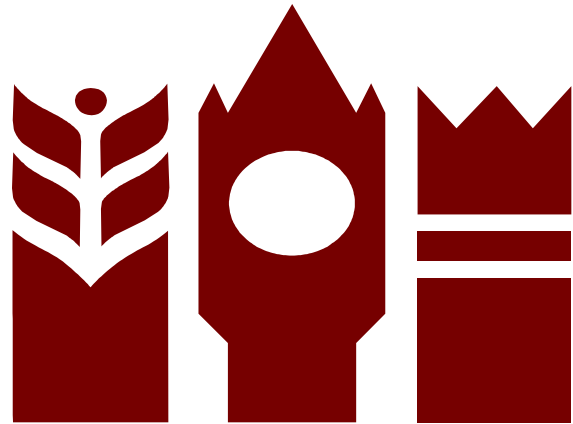
(2) Reduced from Existing Levels



Reductions to Core Services as highlighted on previous slide

- **Reduction in Specialist capacity**
 - Local Specialist Public Health Team.
 - No specialist DAAT team
 - No dedicated Community Safety Team
- **Efficiencies through re-procurement of services**
 - Contraceptive service
 - Sexual Health Service
 - Stop Smoking Service
 - Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC – a local, victim-focussed meeting where statutory and voluntary sector agencies share information on the highest risk cases of domestic violence and abuse)
 - Healthwatch
- **Cease**
 - Healthy Darlington and Hub
 - Arts on Prescription at the Bridge
 - Community and workplace Mental Health training
 - Tees Valley Public Health Shared Service
 - Specialist drug and alcohol support for homelessness services
- **Remodel and absorb into other functions**
 - Community Safety
 - Specialist Public Health advice
 - Obesity brief interventions for school aged children
 - Drug and Alcohol Commissioning and Partnerships





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Leisure and Local
Environment Portfolio
Councillor Nick Wallis

Core Offer key elements plus proposed application of Futures Fund

- Civic Theatre and Theatre Hullaballoon
- Eastbourne Sports Complex
- Dolphin Centre (1) and
Central Library and Local Studies (1)
- Eastbourne Sports Complex
- Indoor & Outdoor Markets
- Head of Steam (1)
- Events and Festivals (1)
- Heritage and Cultural Development (1)

(1) Futures fund non core offer



Core Offer key elements plus proposed application of Futures Fund - Continued

- Refuse Collection and disposal
- Street Cleansing – Reduced by £496,000 from current levels
- Parks and Green Spaces – Reduced by £398,000 from current levels (2)
- Highways Management and Maintenance
- School Crossing Patrols (1)
- Concessionary Fares Statutory Scheme

(1) Futures fund non core offer

- (2) part funding from futures fund



Key Proposed Budget Cuts/Savings after use of Futures Fund

- Reductions to Open Spaces and Street Cleaning
- Increased charges in Cemeteries and Allotments
- Blue Badge parking charges
- Concessionary Fares – companion passes
- Local Motion and Mega Motion support to Schools
- Cockerton & Mobile Library
- Central Library Relocation

Alternative external funding found to continue:-

- Child Pedestrian Training
- Bike-ability Training





Futures Fund Proposals

Futures Fund Proposals

Proposal	Cost
A remodelled Dolphin Centre to include the Central Library	£779,000
Community development and engagement	£50,000
Crisis support and Community Care Fund	£170,000
Economic regeneration team	£350,000
Festivals and events	£90,000
Financial and debt advice, and welfare rights services	£50,000
Fund to promote public service volunteering	£50,000 [1]
Funding to maintain open spaces and parks to allow standards to be introduced at 50% of current levels	£100,000

[1] = One off investment



Futures Fund Proposals

Proposal	Cost
Heritage and cultural development	£100,000
Housing related and outreach support for vulnerable adults	£160,000
Libraries – local studies	£30,000
Local Government Association (LGA) annual subscription	£24,300
Local Strategic Partnership contribution	£13,000
Maintain South Park to existing standards	£120,000
Match fund for bids to the County Durham Charity Foundation	£20,000 [1]
Mayoral allowance and officer support	£66,000

[1] = One off investment



Futures Fund Proposals

Proposal	Cost
Public Health – Sports Development Team	£80,000
School crossing patrols provided to existing levels	£125,000
To maintain the Head of Steam museum	£228,000
Voluntary sector development fund	£100,000 [1]
Wildflower meadows - invest to save fund	£50,000 [1]

[1] = One off investment

