

## MOTION/AMENDMENT

### That the Council

- Notes that the reduction in Scottish Government support to local authorities is the direct result of the reduced support afforded to the Scottish Government and to local authorities by the UK Government.
- Notes that the reduction in the block grant from the UK Government to the Scottish Government has had consequential effects on Local Authority funding which the Scottish Government has been able to mitigate only in part.
- Notes, with regret, the passage of time since the Council first started to address the anticipated funding gap in 2013, when we first began to look for the kind of innovation in Arms-length External Organisations which we hope can help reduce our expenditure in the years to come, but not until next year at the earliest.
- Notes the voiced concerns of many elected members who find a large number of these savings options to be unacceptable in terms of their impacts on the young, the elderly and the vulnerable.
- Notes the unnecessary angst and anxiety which many people, employees, parents of vulnerable children and their families amongst others, have suffered since the publication of the Service Choices – Savings Options, stress which could have been avoided for some, had Officers had adequate time to undertake the necessary equalities needs and personal risk assessments in respect of certain saving options prior to their inclusion in the consultation list.
- Agrees the **substituted savings** identified in the paper at item 6b for inclusion within the options to be the subject of public consultation.
- Agrees the recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee to constitute an **innovation development fund**, as outlined at the Policy and Resources Committee on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015.
- Welcomes the incorporation of some of the changes to the **public consultation** proposed by the SNP amendment at the Policy and Resources Committee on the 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, and instructs the Head of Strategic Finance to make the following changes to the Public Consultation paper as follows:
  - i. To replace the statement on page 25 “This means a savings target of around £9m million in both 2016/17 and 2017/18 with further savings in future years” with a statement of the best estimate of the actual funding gap for those years.

- ii. To further develop the commentary provided on each saving option to promote the best understanding of the impact and resultant change in the delivered service for the end user(s).
- iii. To present two copies of the saving options; one presenting the options first, by service, and in the other version, the savings options by category, in order to make it easier for respondents to identify potential cuts in services of specific interest to them