



FACING THE CUTS

Delivering Rotherham's Priorities

Rotherham Borough Council Budget and Council Priorities Consultation 2015/16 – 2017/18

GOVERNMENT CUTS MEAN WE MUST SAVE ANOTHER £23 MILLION FROM OUR BUDGETS NEXT YEAR – WE WANT YOUR VIEWS ON HOW WE DO IT

Like all councils, we're facing another round of budget cuts as part of the Government's ongoing drive to reduce public spending.

In Rotherham, this has already amounted to over a £93m reduction since 2010 – and next year we need to find another £23m.

As each year passes, the challenge becomes bigger and each decision harder, as we know it will impact on local people. To put the scale of this in context, if we cut all of the services below - this would deliver the budget saving for 2015/16.

Libraries: £3.3m

Highway maintenance: £5.0m

Waste collection & treatment: £11.8m

Street cleansing and grounds maintenance: £3.4m

To contribute to savings so far we have:

Cut our senior management team by 40% and shrunk our workforce by almost 20% **Saving £27m**

Redesigned services to make the Rotherham pound go further **Saving £17.6m**

Changed the way we deliver some services and worked more closely with our partners **Saving £11.7m**

Cut the number of council offices **Saving £1.6m**

The Council is proposing three priority areas for the budget over the coming year:

- 1 Protecting our most vulnerable children and adults
- 2 Getting people into work and making work pay
- 3 Making our streets cleaner and better

We remain committed to protecting frontline services and making sure we support those who are most in need. But the savings must come from somewhere – which means there are more difficult decisions ahead.

Rotherham Council's Finances

From April 2011 to March 2015 the Council has made savings of £93.9m. This is the equivalent of a £360 reduction for every person living in Rotherham. For 2015/16 the Council is required to make further savings of £23m and by 2019/20 estimates it will need to make savings of £77.5m

The Council's budget for 2014/15 is almost £209m. This funding is used in the following priority areas:

Targeted Services £134m

(60% of the budget) Looking after vulnerable Children and Adults (£103m), Public Health (£15m), Child development and attainment (£15m) and other targeted services (£1m).

Universal Services £68m

(30.5% of the budget) Public Transport (£16m), Waste collection and disposal (£12m), Highways, Leisure & Green Spaces, Street Cleansing & Grounds Maintenance (£14m), Capital Financing – repayment of loans for investment in the Borough's infrastructure (£17m), Libraries, Cultural and Customer services (£5m) and other Universal Services (£4m).

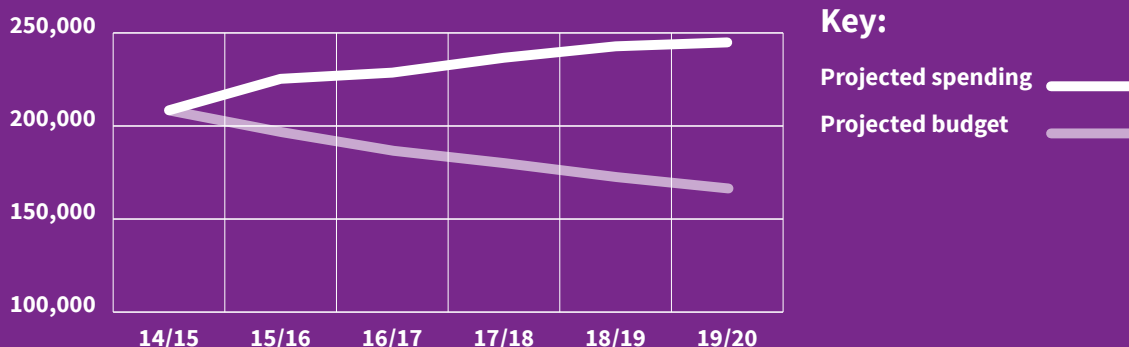
Premises and Support Services £21m

(9.5% of budget) Premises (£8m), Support services – ICT, Finance, Legal and Democratic Services, Human Resources & Payroll, Procurement and Commissioning, Performance & Quality, Communications and Media (£13m).

The chart below shows the forecast year on year funding gap due to significant Central Government funding reductions and increasing cost of services.

If the cuts continue at the current rate:

The amount of money needed to fund the ongoing operations will not be met.



We estimate we will have a 77.5m funding gap by 2019/20

Have your say

Remember: council services affect everyone – including you

So please make sure you have your say on your services in this year's consultation, running from

1st November to 31st December 2014

How you can get involved

- Take part in our online discussion forum at: community.rotherham.gov.uk
- Visit one of our meetings (details will be available on our website)
- Email us at: communityengagement@rotherham.gov.uk

For the latest budget news and updates follow us on Twitter: @RMBCPress