The Financial Challenge: The Budget

FACING THE CUTS

Delivering Rotherham's Priorities



Scale of the challenge

We need to **reduce** our spending by £23m for 2015/16





Waste - £11.8m

Highway Maintenance - £5.0m

Street Cleansing & Grounds
Maintenance - £3.4m

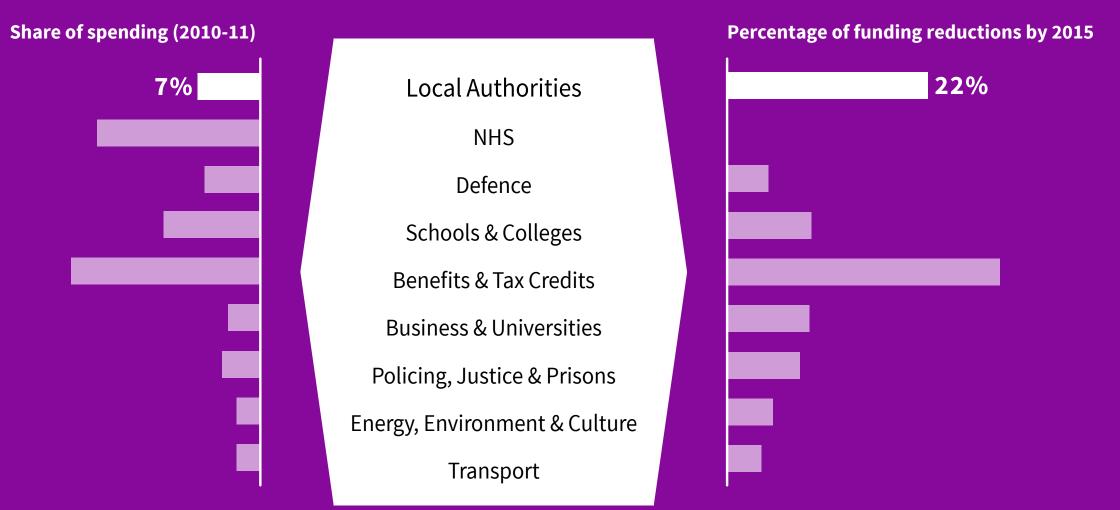
Libraries - £3.3m

Local Government - has borne a high proportion of Government funding reductions.

Local authorities do not have adequate financial resources, are under severe constraints as a consequence of cuts and indebtedness, and are faring worse than other public sectors and the national government in weathering the effects of the economic crisis.

Source: Report on Local and Regional Democracy in the United Kingdom, Council of Europe, 2014

Public Spending Cuts - Local Government compared to other public services.



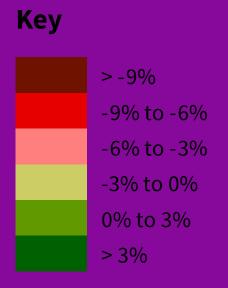
Source: A Fair Society, Centre for Welfare Reform, 2013

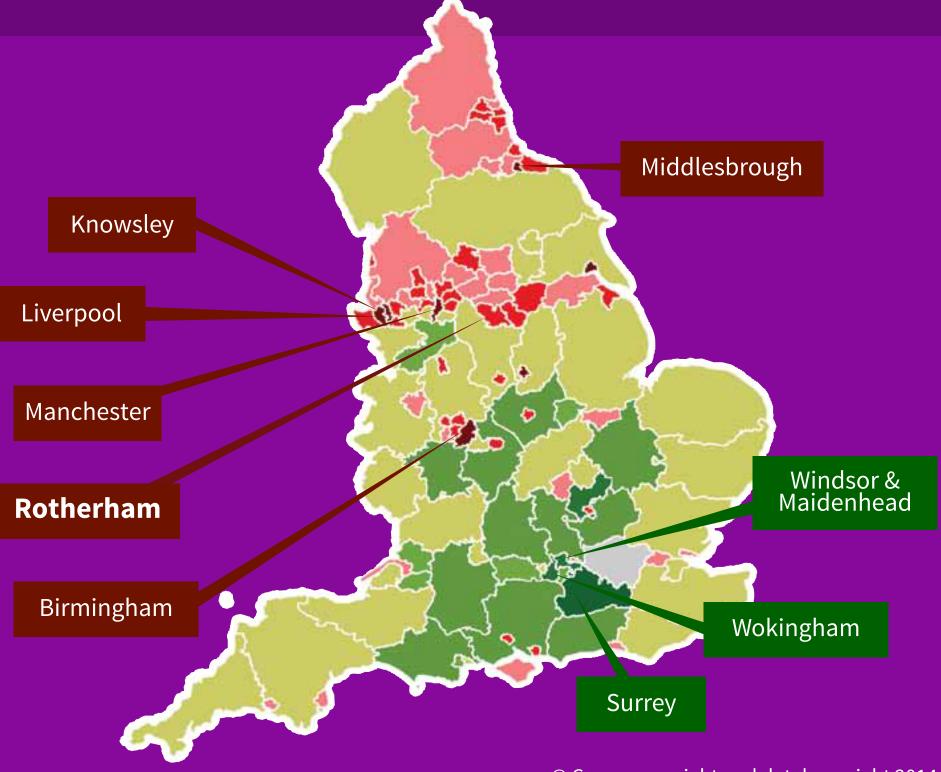
Budget Cuts - have affected different places differently

There is a clear pattern to the cuts experienced by local authorities in England: councils in the North, in more deprived areas, and/or controlled by Labour have, generally speaking, seen more significant reductions in spending power than those in the South, in more affluent areas, and/or controlled.

Source: University of Sheffield, Sheffield Political Economy & Research Institute, 2014

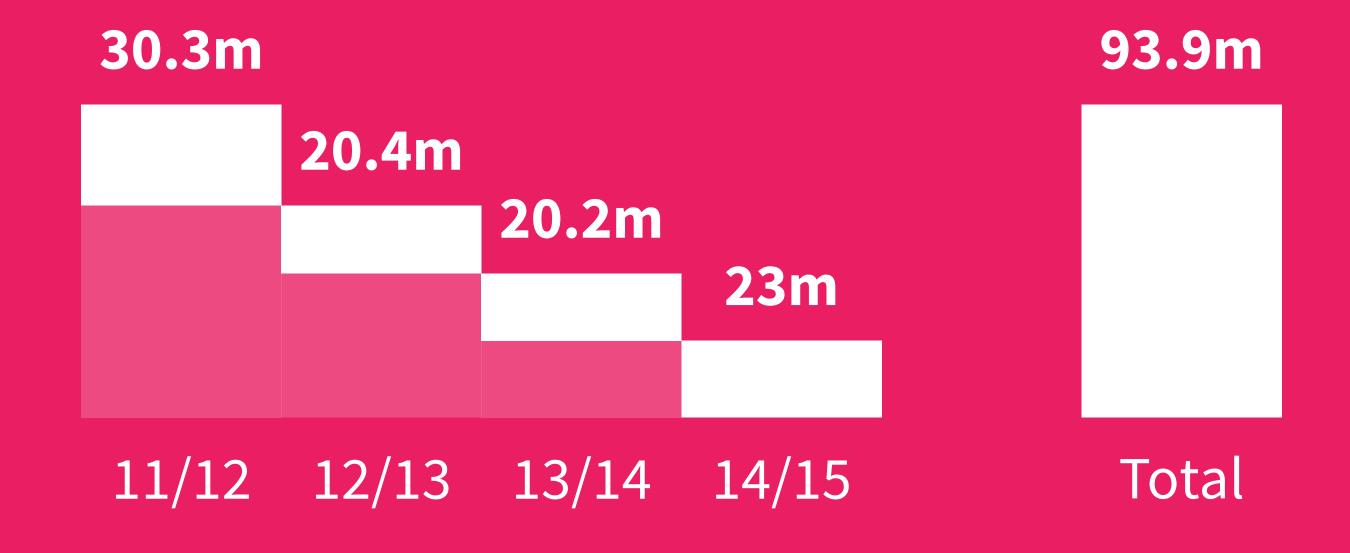
Budget Cuts Changes in spending 2013-14 to 2015-16





Source: Public Finance, 2014; based on DCLG data

© Crown copyright and database right 2014 Ordnance Survey 100018816 Rotherham has experienced **Government cuts** amounting to more than **£93m** since **2010**



This is the equivalent of a £360 reduction for every person living in Rotherham

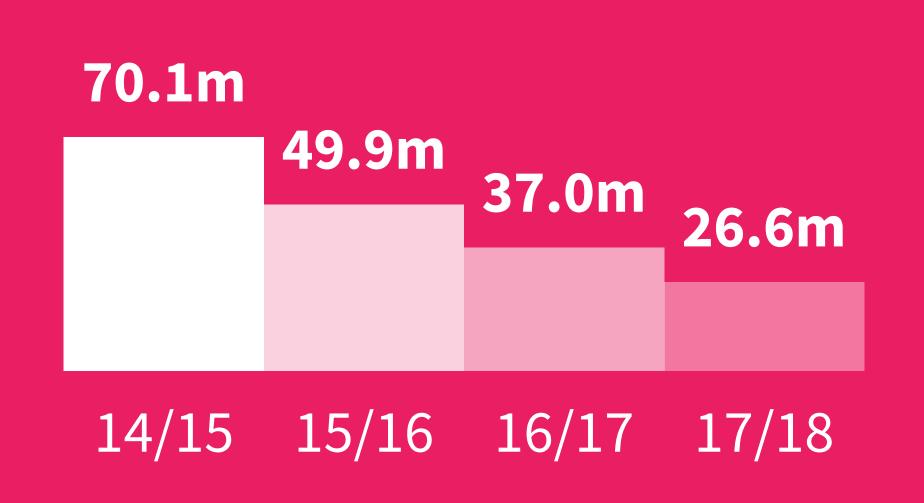


And the cuts do not end there...

Over the next three years the Council must save

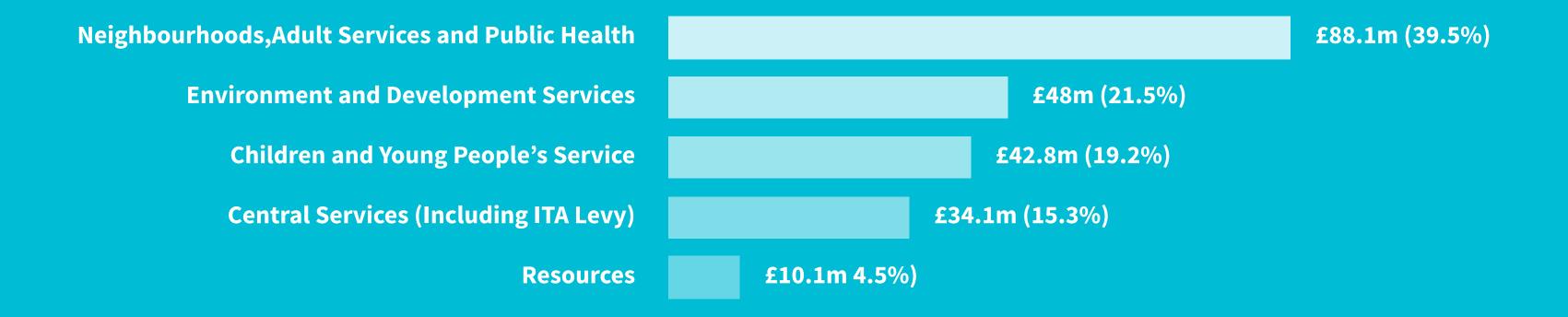


Revenue Support Grant from Central Government is forecast to reduce





Where does most of the money go?



Note: Includes £15m Public Health Specific Grant

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

Examples of where we have made savings

- £835,000 A review of children's centres
- £600,000 Integrated multi agency team to deliver all SEND services
- £400,000 Reducing the cost of commissioned Learning Disability Residential Care placements
- £200,000 Reviewing processes and reduce staffing of Assessment and Care Management
- £275,000 Phase out Health and Well Being checks delivered by former resident sheltered wardens and restructure of the Enabling Service
- £375,000 Reviewing annual contract increase for Residential and Domiciliary care independent sector providers

We Asked, You Said, We Did...

You said: Make Rotherham Theatre more commercial to increase income.

We did – significantly, we revamped our programming to attract new audiences and income is up by £130,000!

You said: Stop funding community arts.

We did – and are now supporting partners to deliver these services. - This saved £60,000

You said: Don't collect garden waste in winter

We did - change seasonal collections of green waste - This saved £122,000

You said: Reduce home to school transport

We did - reduce the home to school transport service due to less demand - This saved £115,000

You said: Switch to energy efficient methods of lighting.

We did - de-illuminate bollards, install LED in residential streets, and introduce selective switch off of lighting. - This saved £104,000

Consultation will take place during November and December

Cabinet meeting to propose budget **25 February 2015**

Council meeting to set the budget **4 March 2015**



The Council is proposing three priority areas:

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

Within these three priorities, the Council is asking people to comment on what areas they should specifically focus on.

And how do we support communities to help themselves?

Get involved in the debate!

www.rotherham.gov.uk/budget

Or register on the community forum community.rotherham.gov.uk

Or Email: communityengagement@rotherham.gov.uk

We want to deliver on the priorities of local residents, but we must also face up to the ongoing challenge of funding cuts. The next few years will continue to be very tough so we want to make sure we hear residents' views.

Deputy Leader Councillor Emma Hoddinott

Questions and Answers?