

# BUDGET VIEWS

## Pre Launch Comments

**23.10.12 – 5.12.12**

Ref		Date	Comment
BVE131001	External email	29.10.12	<p>Over the years issues relating to any area are added to rather than re-organised, costing billions.</p> <p>How would one streamline a Council budget, is exactly like running a household but on a larger scale.</p> <p>Parents in the family home often deal with the harmful behaviour and let all the lesser issues take a back step so as not to punish for every waking moment of a child's life. Now Councils have been persecuted in the Media for getting involved with a family and not being able to prevent a child's death. This is due to Social Care working along side a 'Threshold criteria', based on probabilities and hearsay rather than actual facts so that the Media report that the family were known to Social workers. Birmingham Council are looking for cohesion start by dealing solely on factual harm. Its the Councils budget so have your say on presence in the family homes. The media will then hail Social Care for targeting for the correct reasons, for they will have nothing to add regarding 'known to family'. Currently the system pays for Social worker time, assessments, meetings; Court hearings; foster placement, many funded organisations and solicitors. Social Workers are overloaded with case files. Billions per year that could be spent more wisely with better outcomes for children. Any child severely harmed should be alerted to the police, the CPS handle the situation and take the perpetrator to the criminal courts. Should a child want to remain with their family (EU directive for a child to be listened to) then if the birth family is the danger ask the child where they feel safest. If a child has to go into care, the money saved from not removing children for lesser reasons can contribute to giving the sufferer good education, quality care and health care. What of all those children you may ask that still need some support, well that's already in the community via health visitors, schools and police. Working with families unjudgemental achieves better results and keeps the family unit together. Its easier to oversee a family unit than that of being left at a foster parents or adoptive parents. A foster parent and adoptive parent aren't watched that closely and is the reason why children go on to be actually harmed. These actions will strip back the Social care system. Will educate children in a dysfunctional home the better methods of parenting so that lesser</p>

			<p>issues to actual harm are reduced for future generations - pro active parenting.</p> <p>Jobs: lets start seeing jobs for local people in the community's. Companies can help by stipulating what education levels they need for school leavers and what path to follow to obtain real skills. Local businesses that employ local people would get some advertising space on the Birmingham Council Web site as an incentive.</p> <p>Council services, grass cutting bin collections lighting and roads to name a few, see if local residents will take some of it over but have a reduced Council tax for doing so. This can be applied by either the resident taking their rubbish to the tip and getting a credit note or collecting on their road only and the council have that person as a contact and again obtaining a credit note from the council tip. Grass cutting: the resident that has grass outside their property agrees to cut the area say three times a year, that resident is then credited from the council tax bill each year and road and lighting problems the residents notify the council direct as a responsibility to the resident to do so.</p> <p>I probably could go on and on. But in effect if you know how to streamline your own household budget then cutting costs is easier than you think. Its not about losing a quality service to the People of Birmingham, its about redirection and reorganisation of areas that have either grown too big and are ineffective or just get local people to have more input into tidying up where they live.</p>
BVE131002	Via Facebook	20/11/12	"Has the council considered that savings could have been made by not adding unnecessary and bizarre decorations all over the outside of the New Birmingham Library? Not only are they grotesque, they will make the windows impossible to clean and will collect dirt".
BVE131003	Internal email	26/11/12	<p>We have an expensive and under used coach and lorry park at Brewery St. I suspect the maintenance costs far outweigh income.</p> <p>Why do we not change it into a normal car park for BCC staff and charge a reasonable fee from Monday to Friday. Except for the distance Lancaster Circus needs a safe and secure car park facility and this meets the criteria. At the moment local private car park firms are raking in the money - the car parks are always full. At the weekend open it up to the public with a park and ride service.</p> <p>Conservatively you can easily have 100 spaces at £3 a day you will generate approx £78k</p>

			per annum - which is a lot more than what you get now. This may not seem a lot but it provides value for money and contributes to the overall income.
BVE131004	External email	3.12.12	<p>Schools are becoming like factories. Leisure facilities are often sparse and unaffordable for young people. Dispersal orders are in place in some of the most deprived areas of Birmingham.</p> <p>No, we do not want our future generations growing up indoors with only school, mobile phones, internet etc. as viable options for interacting with the outside world.</p> <p>Please reconsider the massive cut proposed to the Youth Service of Birmingham. It can only have a negative impact on the young people of our city. Birmingham Youth Service has consistently been under funded but is always the target of disproportionate cuts. Please show that young people are valued in Birmingham by not destroying THEIR service. You must also remember they are the future electorate. The young people of Birmingham clearly value THEIR service. This is evidenced by the successful campaign to collect 10,000+ petition signatures to instigate a report to be compiled.</p> <p><b>The Youth Service can also play an essential role in promoting community cohesion and enabling young people to become stakeholders in the city.</b> (Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee Report, April 2012, 4.3.15)</p> <p><b>Both through our evidence gathering for this review and via the earlier petition young people in Birmingham have indicated their overwhelming support for maintaining an open access youth service in the city.</b> (Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee Report, April 2012, 4.4.7)</p> <p>It is extremely difficult to not be cynical of the decision for the youth service to be moved to yet another directorate, Local Services, as all thirteen recommendations suggested by the committee are the responsibility of Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families. I do hope the recommendations are still a priority for the now, relevant, Cabinet Member.</p> <p>Please, please reconsider cuts to an already diminished yet vital service.</p>
BVE131005	External email	3.12.12	I am a young person From Naseby youth centre in alum rock. In 2010 the centre among many in Bham went under restructuring due to cuts. Naseby youth centre works with disable

			<p>young people and young people from deprived inter city. Naseby is very valued youth centre within the community. The centre and its facilities are much need in the area. We found it very difficult to deal with these cuts as many services were lost and many of us young people from the community have lost out. Now you are proposing the same thing. Why are you doing this. We are in a setting where money and funding is very limited however you want to further this. Can you please review these cuts.</p>
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