

2021/22 AMENDMENTS

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Revenue Expenditure

The Conservative Group propose that the £150k reserve set aside to support Community Wealth Building should be repurposed to create a reserve that will support 18 to 25-year old local entrepreneurs set up businesses in the borough.

The Conservative Group propose that the additional £2m in the capital programme that is set aside to develop affordable homes be removed. In its place it is proposed that the £2m is used to purchase houses within the borough that are in disrepair and that are empty so that they can be renovated by the council and rented to tenants at a affordable rent. This will realise the ambition of the opposition to deliver better quality homes within the borough as well as an income stream to the council.

The Conservative Group supports the council's £250k fund toward the green agenda and proposes this is spent on developing green initiatives within the borough such as

- living walls
- biodiversity projects
- air purifying plants

The Conservative Group proposes to increase the funding for the home-schooling initiative from £20k to £50k with the increase being funded through Covid-19 unringfenced grants.

The Conservative Group proposes to freeze car parking charges for 3 months after lockdown restrictions are relaxed. This is essential to supporting local businesses recover from, what has been for most, the most difficult trading environment they have ever experienced. Free parking would be subject to a 3 hour limit to stop all day parking. This is estimated to cost the council approximately £40k and can be funded through unringfenced Covid-19 funding.

Capital Expenditure

The Conservative Group proposes £100k of drainage work at Longton playing fields. It is proposed that where possible this is funded through external funding including s106 contributions. There is already currently £37k of s106 agreements that can be ringfenced towards this project.

The Conservative Group believes that the £75k funding for the local improvement scheme at New Longton should come first from council resources. Any further funding required for additional work should come from s106 funds.