

Working together to plan for Cheltenham's future

The council has a programme of initiatives under the banner of "Bridging the Gap" which aims to tackle the long term funding gap whilst protecting front line services as far as possible.

A formal budget consultation took place during December 2012 and January 2013. Interested parties including businesses, tenants, residents, staff and trade unions were encouraged to comment on the budget proposals. The final approved budget takes into account the responses to these consultations.

For further information on the budget including a full list of improved services and savings please contact Financial Services on 01242 775 033. A full breakdown of the budget is available at www.cheltenham.gov.uk.



Full details of the £1.2m savings and additional income generated as part of the challenge of setting the 2013-14 budgets are available on the council's website, and include:-

- No increase in council tax in 2013-14 for the third year, frozen at 2010-11 levels
- 1% inflation for Pay award for staff
- Continued promotion of shared services with other local authorities to reduce long term expenditure and increase service resilience
- Reducing the cost of council assets, for example through the sale of surplus assets
- Internal restructures to increase efficiencies, as part of the council's move to become a 'commissioning organisation', which will save £234,000 per annum when completed
- A freeze on parking charges
- A reduction in the number of staff - 16 jobs will be lost accounting for 4% of the council's workforce
- Efficiency savings in the Revenues & Benefits service, with no reduction in the level and quality of service provided
- Savings from the creation of a new local authority joint waste company with Cotswold District Council