



Draft 2015-16 Council Fund Revenue Budget

Cabinet, December 2014



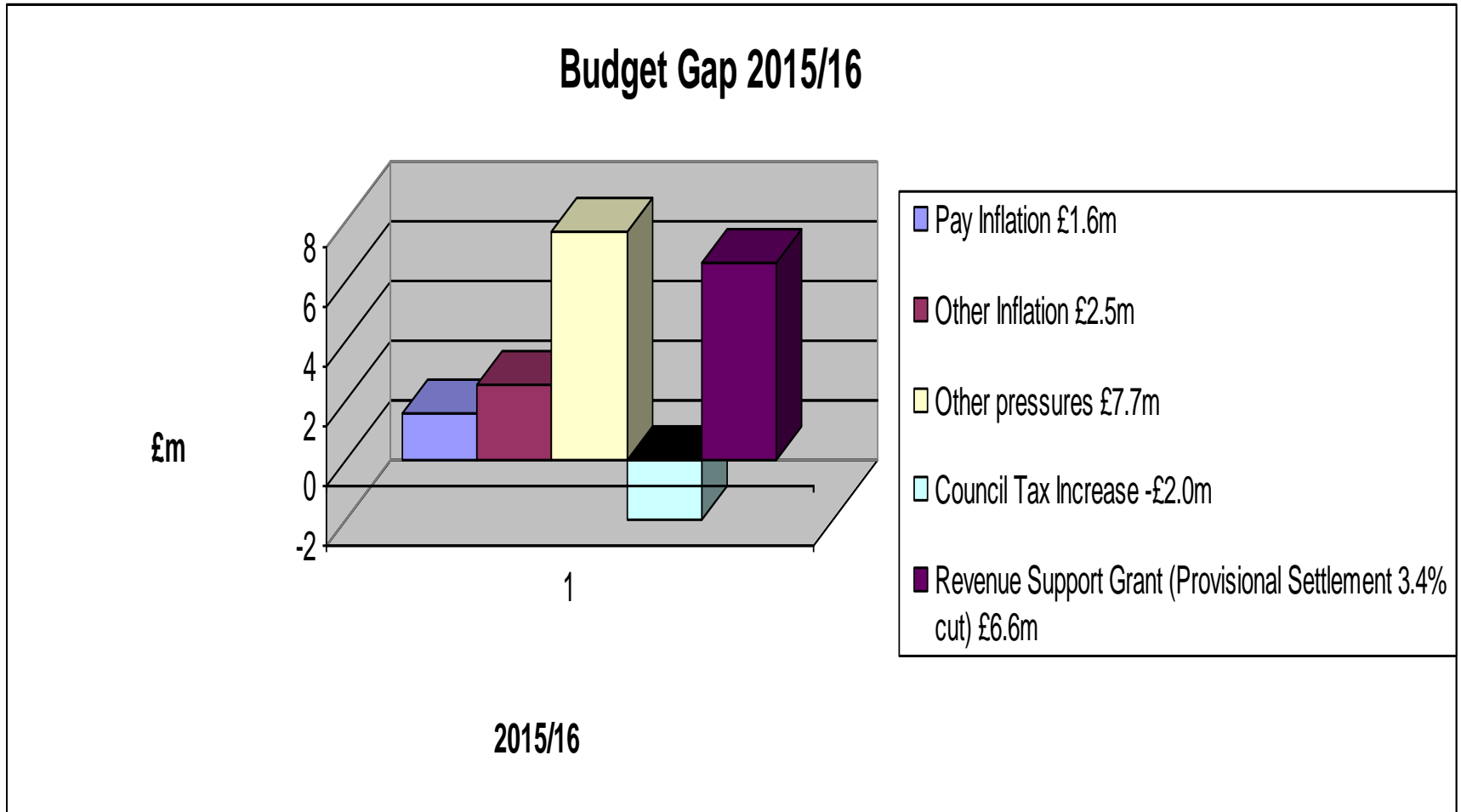
National Overview

- » Final Local Government Settlement published
- » Little change from the Provisional to Final Settlement
- » National discussion over the ‘consequentials’ of the Chancellor’s recent budget statement
- » No indication yet of the planned Local Government Settlements for future years from Welsh Government

Local Overview

- » Council Fund budget gap for 2015-16 at £16.4M
- » Impacts of reductions to specific grants e.g education grants, Supporting People grant
- » Work on the draft budget on-going over and above the specific proposals listed in the Cabinet report
- » Gap of £1.7M+ remains before mitigating any impacts from shortfalls in in-year workforce efficiency targets

The Budget 'gap' explained



Our Budget Strategy

- » Reduce operating costs; protect services
- » Maximising efficiency
- » Alternative service models
- » Income and cost recovery
- » Community ownership of local assets

The Building Blocks

- » Fundamental business plans for services
- » Sustainable and alternative service models
- » Corporate financing options
- » Review of reserves
- » Workforce cost reduction
- » Income

Big Budget Conversation

- » 'Big Budget Conversation' – August and September
- » Outcomes from the feedback:
 - » Increased public awareness and concern
 - » Social services for the young and vulnerable particularly valued
 - » Support for charging if it protects services
 - » General support :
 - » for alternative delivery models
 - » to merge council services with other councils
 - » to consider increasing Council Tax above 3%



Make-up of the Council Budget

Breakdown of Current Budget

| Portfolio | Budget £m |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Social Services | 58.956 |
| Community and Enterprise | 14.117 |
| Streetscene and Transportation | 28.373 |
| Planning & Environment | 5.561 |
| Education & Youth | 96.533 |
| People & Resources | 5.010 |
| Governance | 8.448 |
| Organisational Change 1 | 5.808 |
| Organisational Change 2 | 3.690 |
| Chief Executive's | 3.380 |
| Central & Corporate Finance | 25.300 |
| TOTAL | 255.176 |

TOUGH CHOICES

£255m
NET REVENUE BUDGET



Less
£141m
if protected for
schools & social care



Leaves
£80m
to make
savings from



Less
£34m
largely fixed budgets

Less



£50m

savings required over
next 3 years, equating to
a reduction of over 50%
of all remaining budgets

on top of
£41m
in the last six years



Moving to a final Budget

What Happens Next

- » Ongoing work on gap closure options
- » Ongoing advice and information to members on the proposals
- » Specific consultations organised on certain budget proposals where there is a public impact
- » Overview and Scrutiny special budget meetings through January
- » Cabinet finalises the budget – 17th February
- » Full Council sets budget – 17th February
- » Full Council sets Council Tax – 3rd March