

BOSMERE DIVISION REPORT FEBRUARY 2017

County Councillor Julia Truelove

Budget Proposals 2017/18

The Budget proposals for 2017/18 will be debated at Full Council on February 8th 2017.

- a) Whilst having regard to savings of £31.3M, there is a budget requirement of £436,355,298 to be made.
- b) A freeze in general council tax for 2017/18 so that the Band D council tax for County Services remains at £1,126.53.
- c) An increase in the Social Care Precept that was ring-fenced to help fund Adult Social Care. This increase was equivalent to 3% of the total Band D council tax. Therefore the 2017/18 Band D Social Care Precept would be £56.97.
- d) A council tax requirement/total precept on the collection funds of District and Borough Councils of £289,151,087 which includes the precept to fund Adult Social Care of £13,918,832.
- e) A capital programme for 2017/18 totalling £97.7M.

Sizewell C Proposals – Joint Response – S.C.C. & Suffolk Coastal

Each of the two authorities held a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 31 January to discuss the joint report amongst elected members that offers a full response to current plans as part of the long awaited Stage 2 consultation, ahead of any potential development of a new nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast. The Cabinet report will be forwarded to EDF Energy before the consultation ends on Friday 3 February 2017 alongside the views of many local community groups and individuals who have taken time to offer important feedback on this subject.

The response makes it clear that both authorities support the principle of a new nuclear power station and recognise the benefits for the local economy; including jobs, skills and business. However, at this point there is a lot more work required on the part of EDF Energy to provide much greater detail and demonstrate how they plan to mitigate many of the significant concerns.

Particular aspects of the feedback offered by the authorities focus on the challenges of accommodation, construction, transport, environment and effect on local communities.

The report confirms that some of the proposals are sound; including the temporary extension of rail links and park and ride bus site. The positive economic outcomes are also welcomed.

In regards to road improvement the councils have made it clear that the preferred option is for the 'SEGway' (the Suffolk Energy Gateway including a 4 village bypass) to be built in time for the development. This means that within EDF Energy's current stage 2 consultation, the option for a two village bypass for Farnham and Stratford St Andrew is the absolute bare minimum mitigation that they must fund. The authorities will strive to deliver a SEGway by seeking government funding to add to what EDF Energy must provide for a two village bypass.

There are a number of areas of EDF Energy's proposals that simply require much more detail.

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continued

The Chair of Sizewell C Joint Local Authorities Group (JLAG) said: “With this formal response to the consultation I want to make our position very clear. Whilst we understand the need to address the UK’s future power needs and we broadly support the principal of a new nuclear power station being built in our community in Suffolk, we are not able to support the specific proposals put forward at this time. We believe that the impacts of the development planned in its current guise are as yet, not fully mitigated or evidenced.

The Cabinet report can be viewed on S.C.C.’s website at: <http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/>.

Key Points from the Police and Crime Panel Meeting – 31 January 2017

For your information, in advance of publication of the formal minutes, the following is a note of some key points from the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel meeting, held in Ipswich.

The Panel considered the PCC’s proposed Policing Precept for 2017/18, and unanimously supported the Police and Crime Commissioner’s proposal to increase the precept by 1.972% in 2017/18. Further detail is in the Panel’s formal report, available on the [Suffolk County Council website](#).

The Panel questioned the PCC about Cybercrime, and heard details of cybercrime investigations resulting in eight convictions. The PCC is continuing to invest in the cybercrime unit based in Halesworth, and there was investment last year in cyber investigators working within neighbourhood support teams, and PCSOs working with schools. The discussion covered: raising awareness of cybercrime, the expertise available in Suffolk, the vulnerability of young and also older people, the statistic that 80% of cybercrime is avoidable, the need for joined up working and sharing of data, the good working relationship with the Crown Prosecution Service, the global nature of the threat, how the PCC will measure success, and how to get more advice out to the public. The Panel **recommended to the PCC** that there should be a further update to the Panel on cybercrime performance in six months.