



It was agreed that as the Members' prejudicial interests only arose in respect of some proposals for Stage 2 funding cuts, as set out in Annex 3 of the report, that these Members could remain and participate in the meeting and then withdraw when these proposals were to be considered.

This report requested the meeting to agree the results of the prioritisation process undertaken as part of the preparing to deliver a balanced revenue budget for 2007/08. Recommendations were made for proposed allocations and cuts to budgets from the 2006/07 baseline. The full 2007/08 budget report will be presented to the Authority meeting on 9 February 2007.

The meeting considered and discussed the prioritisation of the key corporate actions for 2007/8 in Annex 2 and the proposals for adjustments, allocations and Stage 1 funding cuts in Annex 3.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the prioritisation of key corporate actions for 2007/08 as given in Annex 2 of the report be approved.**

Prior to the consideration on the Stage 2 funding cuts part of Annex 3 Mr A D Hams vacated the Chair and left the meeting along with Mr M Crompton and Cllr Mrs T Critchlow as they all had declared prejudicial interests in this part of the report.

**Cllr Mrs H Gaddum took the Chair**

The meeting then considered and discussed the Stage 2 funding cuts in Annex 3 and Recommendation 2 of the report.

**RESOLVED:**

- 2. That the proposals for allocations and cuts for achieving a balanced budget in 2007/08 as given in Annex 3 of the report be agreed.**

Mr A Hams, Mr M Crompton and Cllr Mrs T Critchlow rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Mrs H Gaddum vacated the Chair.

**Mr A D Hams took the Chair**

The meeting then considered the other recommendations of the report and an additional recommendation proposed by Mr C Pennell.

**RESOLVED:**

- 3. A final 2007/08 budget be prepared for Members approval at the February Authority Meeting.**
- 4. A plan for communicating the implications of the budget decisions to the public and stakeholders be agreed with the Head of Communications in consultation with the Chair of Services Committee and the Chair of the Authority.**

5. (a) That the voluntary redundancy for three Area Rangers and the Volunteers Organiser be agreed with effect from 1 April 2007.
- (b) That three Ranger posts be disestablished with effect from 1 April 2007 with staff changes being managed through the Managing Change Policy.
6. That officers be commended for designing a much improved and successful prioritisation process for the 2007/08 budget and are encouraged to consider further refinements for the 2008/09 process, especially to the external impact assessment methodology.

The Meeting ended at 11.15am