

Overview and Scrutiny Commission 31 January 2013

Written submissions from GMB Branch Secretary

CS10 - Outsourcing Service Desk - 20k

Although I have requested details of how Merton plans to achieve this saving through outsourcing, Management haven't replied with this. If this will come from driving efficiencies we need to be doing this ourselves. If we don't believe we can make these savings ourselves then we need to be asking pertinent questions of ourselves. As has been seen through other scrutiny meetings and in other councils, when contracts are outsourced they become less malleable which is short-sighted within the ever changing landscape of local authorities. Outsourcing in other areas of the council led to issues such as problems around the previous cleaning company. The Household Waste Sites outsourced under the previous leadership has led to staff being paid around £2 less per hour for doing the same job and has led to significant health and safety risks on site, around asbestos and PPE. Although during the initial transfer staff will be protected by TUPE, this doesn't protect them if there job changes or new staff that are taken on. I question the planning behind outsourcing and how it will affect the authority moving forward, this panel has the mandate to question this proposal and I hope they do so.

CS23 - Outsourcing Building Services & Security Service - 15/16 35k and 16/17 50k

Again, there are no details on this, even though they have been requested from Management over a month ago. The same points made about outsourcing that I made in CS10 still hold value here and I shall not repeat them. However, there is a few added questions with this particular saving. The Security Services provide protection for our front line staff in the Civic Centre as well as playing a vital role in building evacuations. The baseline budget for this service is £202k and this saving will reduce it by 42%, although I have not been provided with budget make-up, I would imagine that the majority of this budget is made up of staffing costs. If I was a member of the Scrutiny committee I would be extremely concerned about the safety of the building and its staff if we were to go ahead with outsourcing alongside such massive cuts. I have not had the savings explained to me despite my questions, therefore I can only consider that these savings are not going to be drawn from efficiencies otherwise our management team would already be doing this. It can only be from redundancies or reducing the payment to staff, which will lead to an increasing risk to the public, staff and buildings.

I would like to thank the chair, Councillor Southgate for allowing a written submission, I would normally attend but due to family issues I am unable.

Thanks,

Keir Greenaway

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Safe Merton									
DETAILS OF YOUR MAJOR WORK PROJECTS AND THEIR IMPACT									
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	MAJOR EXPECTED OUTCOME	Equalities	IMPACT ON:			Likelihood	Risk Impact	Score	
			Select up to 3 services						
2013/14 CCTV 2014/15 New CCTV service 2015/16 2016/17	More efficient way of working	No impact	Whole organisation - negative impact Children's Social Care - negative impact Safer Merton - negative impact	Other resource reduction	4	2	8		
2013/14 fulfilling statutory requirements 2014/15 fulfilling statutory requirements 2015/16 2016/17	To meet legislative requirements	No impact	Whole organisation - negative impact Children's Social Care - negative impact Safer Merton - negative impact	Other resource reduction	4	2	8		
2013/14 Risk limitation of future grant loss 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17	Income loss	Equality analysis undertaken	Whole organisation - negative impact Children's Social Care - negative impact Safer Merton - negative impact	Other resource reduction	4	2	8		
2013/14 ASB changes	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		
2013/14 Strategic Assessment 2014/15 Strategic Assessment 2015/16 Strategic Assessment 2016/17 Strategic Assessment	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		
2013/14 MARAC Quality Assurance 2014/15 MARAC Quality Assurance 2015/16 MARAC Quality Assurance 2016/17 MARAC Quality Assurance	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		
2013/14 Partnership Plan 2014/15 Partnership plan 2015/16 Partnership Plan 2016/17 Partnership Plan	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		
2013/14 Alcohol treatment plan 2014/15 Alcohol treatment plan 2015/16 Alcohol treatment plan 2016/17 Alcohol treatment plan	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		
2013/14 Adult treatment plan 2014/15 Adult treatment plan refresh 2015/16 Adult treatment plan refresh 2016/17 Adult treatment plan refresh	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		
2013/14 2014/15 Adult treatment plan refresh 2015/16 Drug needs assessment 2016/17 Drug needs assessment	Select one major outcome	Select one	Select a service	Select one	0	0	0		