

Amendment 1: Free breakfast club scheme

That after Recommendation 1A, new Recommendations 1B and 1C be added and the following Recommendations be renumbered accordingly

1B) To agree to establish by 2021/2022 a part-borough pilot scheme to pay for those primary school children eligible for pupil premium, and those primary school children identified by schools as vulnerable, to attend breakfast clubs for free, to better understand issues around take-up and implementation of a scheme across the borough, funded from the Outstanding Council Programme Board Reserve up to £100K.

1C) To agree for a consultation to be undertaken with residents to determine their support for introducing a Voluntary Contribution Scheme to fund the above “free breakfast club” proposal going forward, and if positive, for the scheme to be managed through a new charity to be registered with the Charity Commission.

It's noted that the evidence from Westminster Council's charitable scheme is that donations were received from 3.56% of properties that the Council wrote to, with an average donation of £963. Merton has 52,419 properties Bands D-H. 1866 donations (eg a 3.56% donation rate of properties Bands D-H) at an average donation of £500 would raise £0.933m. The cost estimated by Finance officers for a 100% take up of the “free breakfast club” scheme is £0.928m.

Amendment 2: Social care

That after Recommendation 1A to be added: as adjusted by

- Deleting previously agreed saving CS02 Introducing Charges for Blue Badges (£15k)
- Deferral of saving CSF-19-06 reduction in safeguarding and SW training budgets (£60K) until 2021/22 with an aim to reviewing the need for this in the next budget round.
- Deferral of saving CSF2019-09 fill 3 vacant posts of targeted youth workers (£150k) until 2021/22 with an aim to reviewing the need for this in the next budget round.
- The addition of a new saving by abolishing My Merton, saving net £44K.
- The addition of a new part year saving Reducing Trade Union Facilities (£60k)
- The use of balancing the budget reserve to make up any difference (up to £121k in 2020/21)

That after Recommendation 1C shall be added: as adjusted by

- Deferral of saving 2020-21 CS11 reduction of 1FTE procurement post (£50k in 2022/23), until 2023/24 and the results of any improvements to procurement exercises is evident.
- The addition of the full year effect of the new saving Reducing Trade Union Facilities (£30k) in 2021/22

Amendment 3: A fresh start for Merton

That after Recommendation 1F, new Recommendations 1G and 1H be added

1G) To agree to fund, within existing budgets or managed within existing contracts, the following activities within 2020/21:

- work with existing contractors to get the data needed to understand the impact on the Council's finances of requiring the London Living Wage for contractor's employees in procurement exercises;
- work with existing contractors to get the data needed to understand the impact on the Council's finances of requiring improved rates for those on zero-hour contracts in procurement exercises;
- a review of the Council's flexible working policies to increase scope for flexible working by Council employees;
- a review into whether dedicated Merton-based sexual health and mental health services for vulnerable young people escaping sexual exploitation could and should be introduced;
- a review into the operation and effectiveness of private providers of alternative education places, also known as pupil referral units; and
- complete the work necessary to establish a compelling evidence base to help meet the statutory requirements for the introduction of a Selective Licensing scheme to better support private sector renters.

1H) To keep under review the assumptions made on the estimates of parking revenue raised (ie that there will be a 20% reduction in the sale of residents permits), so that if there is less than a 20% reduction, this be reported separately with a view to this being used to bring forward proposals to support the Council's work on the climate emergency and improving air quality, subject to the overall position of the council and legal requirements of what the monies can be spent on.