STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPENDIX A BALANCING THE BUDGET 2025-26

| Ref No | Name of Service | Description of Savings Proposal | 2025/26 Savings | 2026/27 savings | 2027/28 savings | of further years available | Impact of Saving Proposal on Public/ Customers/ Staff/ Members/Partnerships etc. (include any impact on key corporate programmes/performance indicator measures). | Potential Timing (put the date you estimate it will be implemented, consider any consultation required) | £ General Fund Year 1 | | £ HRA Year 1 | £ HRA Year 2 |
|-------------------|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| S1 | Planning & Regulatory | Increase the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to cover increased staff costs of administration | £10,000 | £10,000 | £10,000 | у | The Council can utilise 5% of the CIL received to support the administration of the scheme, this increase will ensure that the cost of administering CIL is fully recovered. | April 2025 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 0 |
| S2 | HR, H&S & Payroll | Replacement of the standalone Health and Safety reporting system (Mworker) by reporting via the existing Council platform (Granicus) | £11,500 | £11,500 | £11,500 | Y | No impact on service or Council responsibility, Officers will be transferring the reporting requirements for Health & Safety on to Granicus | April 2025 | 7,245 | 7,245 | 4,255 | 4,255 |
| S3 amend ed | HR, H&S & Payroll | Reduction in the use of the external Payroll Officer (2 days per month) by automating pension report and £13K saving based on current spend levels | £23,000 | £23,000 | £23,000 | Y | Through using the capacity within reports being generated from HR system, this reduces the need / external support required | April 2025 | 14,260 | 14,260 | 8,740 | 8,740 |
| S4 | HR, H&S & Payroll | Re-basing training budgets | £7,500 | £7,500 | £7,500 | у | A review of historical spend versus training budgets have identified opportunity to reduce budget by 10% across all services – protecting safeguarding and health & safety training. With emphasis to maximise the usage of the Apprenticeship Levy | April 2025 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 0 | 0 |
| S5 | HR, H&S & Payroll | Reduction in the use of Payroll Officer (from other Council) with additional duties being undertaken in-house | £2,500 | £5,000 | £5,000 | Y | Following the decision last year to introduce a payroll apprentice into the Council, this will result from September 2025 to be able to reduce the requirement of the Payroll Officer (other Council) reliance with more activity being undertaken in-house | September 2025 | 1,550 | 3,100 | 950 | 1,900 |
| S6 | SDS | The cessation of the skips service to be implemented at end of December 2024 | £54,000 | £54,000 | £54,000 | Y | Following a review of the service and the competition in the market the Commercial Insourcing Working Group supported this decision | January 2025 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| S7 | Shared Revenues and Benefits Service | Reduction in 3 vacant posts in Shared Revenues and Benefits posts and reduction in contract price due to lower pay award than budgeted for | £89,150 | | | | Following the reduction in benefit case load an overpayments officer and benefits role have been deleted plus a .75FTE of a revenues post. The contract cost reduction equates to a further £18K. (the value of saving represents the SBC share only) | April 2025 | 89,150 | | 0 | 0 |
| S8 | Commercial | This includes additional filming, advertising and parcel lockers income to be generated | £11,550 | £11,550 | £11,550 | Y | Following a review of income achieved in-year and from works on promoting opportunities, this increase in budget has been proposed | April 2025 | 11,550 | 11,550 | 0 | 0 |
| S9 NEW | ICT | Cease software Licence for robotics enabling (NDL software) | £28,000 | £28,000 | £28,000 | Y | The cost of the software is set to double in 2025/26 and has not been fully utilised following a review of software purchased | April 2025 | 16,290 | 16,290 | 11,710 | 11,710 |
| S10 NEW | Council Tax | Increase council tax by 2.99% (an increase of 1% over that assumed in the September MTFS) | £68,361 | £68,361 | £68,361 | Y | The cost of the software is set to double in 2025/26 and has not been fully utilised following a review of software purchased | April 2025 | 68,361 | 68,361 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | | £305,561 | £308,061 | £308,061 | | | • | £275,907 | £277,457 | £29,655 | £30,605 |
| | | | | | | | Summary of savings identified: Quarterly Monitoring savings already approved (Qtr. 1) Fees and Charges already approved Indoor Market changes already approved New Fees and Charges (Appendix B) | | £422,770 £427,334 £40,000 £4 121 | £422,770 427,334 £40,000 £4 121 | £2,478 | £2,478 |

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|--|----------|----------|--------|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Quarterly Monitoring savings already approved (Qtr. 1) | £422,770 | £422,770 | | | | | | | | |
| Fees and Charges already approved | £427,334 | 427,334 | £2,478 | £2,4 | | | | | | |
| Indoor Market changes already approved | £40,000 | £40,000 | | | | | | | | |
| Now Fore and Charges (Assessed): D) | 04.404 | 04 404 | | | | | | | | |

£4,121 £4,121 £275,907 £277,457 £29,655 £30,605 £1,170,132 £1,171,682 £32,133 £33,083 New Fees and Charges (Appendix B) Appendix A

APPENDIX A