Overview of Responses and Recommendations

Budget Proposals 16/17 Phase Two: All2gether		Andy Day – Head of Strategic Support	24 March 2016 Version 2 (Executive/Council)	
Proposal:	To reduce the funding provided to All2gether by £5,000 (50%) in 2016/17. The remaining funding will be removed for 2017/18.			
Total budget 15/16:	£10,000	Recommended officer saving 16/17:	£5,000 (50%)	
Initial proposed saving 16/17:	£5,000 (50%)	Final recommendation to Executive/Council:	To proceed with this savings proposal	
No. of responses: Key issues raised:	In total, 31 responses were received, 17 of which included comments. Of those who responded: • 29 were individuals • One was a group / organisation • One was a Town/Parish Council 22 responses were from non-users of the service. One of the responses received was from the Newbury Family Counselling Service who supported the work undertaken			
	by All2gether and considered that there was no other organisation within West Berkshire who did similar work. They therefore opposed the reduction of the funding to All2gether. A number of individual comments referred to the valuable work that All2gether did in bringing communities together. The majority of non-users of the service considered that the council should not be funding this organisation and that it was for other groups and communities to come together themselves to undertake some of this work.			
Equality issues:	No issues were raised during the consultation, that weren't already included in the EqIA stage one.			
Suggestions for reducing the impact on service users:	Suggestion	Council response		
	One response suggested that All2gether should charge for the services that they provided.	It would be a matter for All2gether to decide whether they could introduce a charging model which would be supported by the minority communities that they work with.		
	One response suggested that other charities and local community groups should be asked to help fund All2gether.	It would be a matter for other charities and groups to consider whether they wished to fund All2gether.		

NB: This overview and recommendation paper should be read in conjunction with the Consultation Summary Report and Verbatim Responses received in relation to this proposal, circulated electronically to all members alongside the agenda pack and published online on our <u>Consultation Portal</u>.

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Alternative options for applying the saving in this area:	Suggestion	Council response		
	None received.			
Suggestions for how others may help contribute:	Non-users of the service that responded suggested that other charities or religious institutions should pick up this work. The council is confident that some of the work of All2gether is currently supported by religious institutions but the work of All2gether brings together communities which might not otherwise happen without them.			
Officer conclusion and recommendation as a result of the responses:	Feedback from the consultation process has not resulted in any issue being raised which would prevent the council from proceeding with the proposal. The feedback has also not generated any viable counter-proposal which would mitigate the proposal.			
	It is therefore recommended that the proposal be progressed.			

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