

Statement by Cllr David Dixon to Cabinet 04-Feb-09

David Dixon (on item 13):

We have already presented our proposals to the Corporate Performance and Resources Panel on Monday, now we are moving to the next stage. Our fully-costed budget alternative reflects the real priorities of the residents in contrast to the Conservative budget and demonstrates a clear shift of resources to deliver services that matter most to our residents.

The Conservatives proposals represent a do nothing budget, no improvement to frontline services and answers none of the concerns that local residents have voiced over the past 2 years,

Liberal Democrat pressure has forced the Conservative administration to try and grab the headlines by announcing a tiny reduction in the Council Tax increase for next year. This is spin pure and simple and the people of Bath and North East Somerset will not easily be fooled.

Our proposals suggest a year on year reining in of Council Tax increases over the next three years: a 3.25% increase next year, with projections of 3.0% and 2.75% for the next two years.