

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT BUDGET AMENDMENT FOUR

Proposer: Cllr Robert Gorrie, Second: Cllr Richard Wilson

Protecting our vulnerable older people

Labour will close front-line services for older people such as the drop-in centres at Willoughby Road, Abbysinia Court, the Irish Centre and Woodside House. Labour is also planning to close the luncheon club at Jackson's Lane and cut funding for Day Centres. Liberal Democrats believe that this is a short-sighted decision which targets the most vulnerable older residents and will also place extra strain on the NHS and other Council services.

Liberal Democrats would reverse Labour's cuts to older people's day centres, drop-in centres and luncheon clubs.

Revenue cost	£171,000
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Labour spends £500,000 on paying union officials. Liberal Democrats, whilst understanding the benefit to staff of union representation, believe that this cost is too high. We would reduce spending by 50%.

Revenue savings	£158,000
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The Council currently spends more than £4million on "policy and performance". The balance needed to protect older people's services would be generated by increasing the proposed savings on "policy and performance" by 1%.

Revenue saving	£13,000
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To provide a sustainable future for these older people's service we propose a further reduction of £254,000 in policy and performance spending would be required in 2012/13.