

Budget Consultation Spring 2010: Further Savings Ideas
To be read with the budget consultation document

Further ideas and information on community facilities

| Council paper reference | | Current Budget £m | Indicative Saving £m |
|--|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ECS 25 | Review provision of Community Centres in Inverness | 0.425 | 0.133 |
| <p>The Council provides funding and staffing for 6 community centres in Inverness at a cost of £0.425m. In most Highland Communities, the equivalent provisions made through village halls with a standard grant of £1,000. Can we reduce the support for Community Centres in Inverness?</p> <p>We would like to have your views on whether we could reduce our expenditure by closing 3 or 4 centres, or whether we should reduce the funding for all the centres.</p> | | | |
| ECS 26 | Review Archive Provision | 1.030 | 0.183 |
| <p>The Council has opened a new archive centre in Inverness and has satellite archives in Fort William, Portree and Wick. The Wick archive is to be combined with the new National Nuclear Archive in Caithness. 2 staff are employed in Fort William and 2 in Portree.</p> <p>We are seeking your views as to whether we should close the Fort William and Portree archives and house these collections in Inverness.</p> | | | |
| ECS 29 | Review museum provision | 1.500 | 0.400 |
| <p>The council runs 2 large regional museums, Inverness Museum and Art Gallery and the Highland Folk Museum and supports 19 independent community museums throughout the Highlands. The museum budget totals £1.5 million. Can we reduce this provision?</p> <p>The Council would continue its obligation to look after collections that have been gifted over the years. We are seeking your views on whether we should retain only Inverness Museum and Art Gallery, only the Highland Folk Museum, or only our support for the independent sector.</p> | | | |
| ECS 31 | Review library provision, including ceasing the Bookstart service | 2.984 | 0.394 |
| <p>The Council has 40 local libraries ranging from very small to significant, and provides a school library in our 29 secondary schools. Bookstart is the early year's library service for young children and their families. Can we reduce library provision?</p> <p>We are seeking your views on the following ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closing up to 17 small local libraries (saving £185,000) - Closing one major urban library (saving £87,000) - Reducing library opening hours by 10% (saving £71,000) - Removing 7 school librarian posts (saving £97,000) - Ceasing the Bookstart service (saving £44,700) | | | |

Further information for the items contained in the budget report to Council in March 2010. This should be read with the budget consultation document for coverage of all items listed in the budget report to Council.