

NOTES:

- 1 The draft budget target for schools anticipates 'passporting' the cash increase in the Schools FSS component. The amount of £5.5m covers inflation at 3%, increased funds for SEN, increased provision for 3 year-olds, about £1m for remodelling of the school workforce and leaves about £1m for other cost pressures. However, the overall teachers' pay bill is likely to increase by more than 3% and there is a perceived shortfall on schools' funding for 2003/04.
- 2 Superficially, the draft budget increase is significantly in excess of the increase in the FSS component. However, the Harrow budget includes cultural services and libraries which makes a direct correlation impossible. Included in the draft budget is £300k for meeting national standards in libraries, £300k for improvements in the Youth Service, £130k for implementation of the Cultural Strategy and £380k to close the affordability gap on the Special Schools PFI project.
- 3 The draft budget includes £2.4m for the next phase of the 'New Harrow' project.
- 4 As with schools, it is reasonable to compare the draft budget with the FSS component in relation to the assumed increase. The draft budget exercise has identified some demographic pressures, which require further investigation and so have been excluded at this stage. The draft budget does however include £1.2m for cost increases above inflation for private sector provision. Looked at another way, the cash increase in the FSS component is broadly sufficient to fund a 'standstill' level of provision overall.
- 5 The most significant item in the draft budget is a provisional £1.1m for development of the Council's ICT infrastructure.
- 6 Included here is provision to cease capitalisation of Highways Maintenance and provision for the cost of new borrowing in support of the Capital Programme.