

The budget and local services

SOCIAL SERVICES

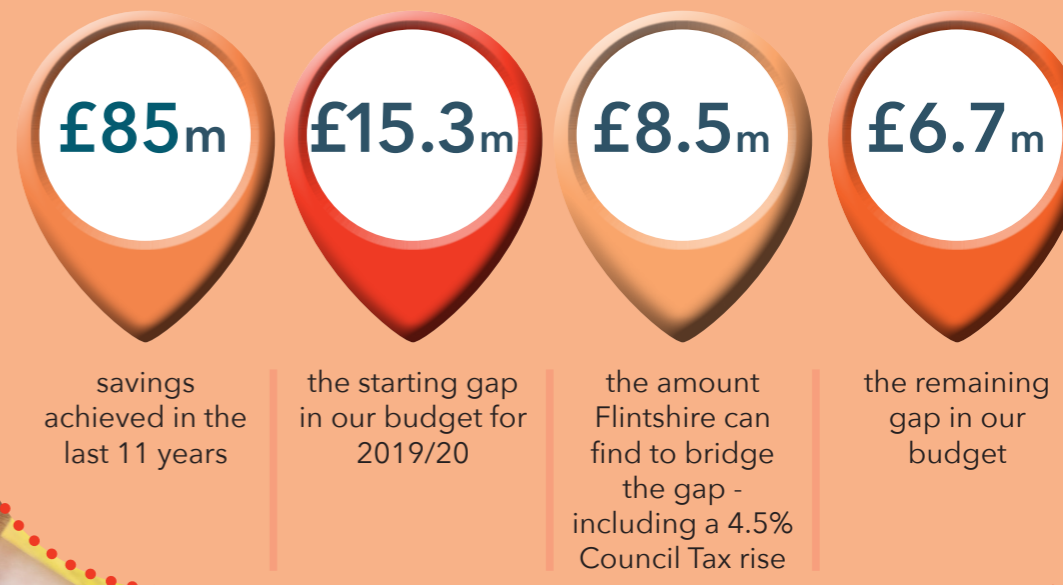
Every year councils have to set a budget which balances their resources with their spending needs. Flintshire, like all councils, has had reduced funding from governments year on year for close to a decade. Flintshire, as one of the lowest funded councils per head of population in Wales, is particularly exposed to the effects of austerity.

Even during these austere times, our council has remained ambitious and by being innovative and planning ahead, has continued to protect and invest in local services.

Each year it gets harder and harder to make any more savings and to protect services; at times hard budget choices have had to be made.



The financial challenges facing the Council for 2019/2020



We need fair funding to:

- Support and care for the fast growing number of people aged 65 and over - estimated at **34,000** in 2019
- Support more and more older people to live at home with **independence** - estimated to increase to 2800 by 2035
- Provide intensive support for the fast growing number of **children and families who need support** - this has increased by **200%** in the last five years
- Meet the growing demand for **mental health services** - **10%** of people over 16 living in Flintshire are receiving treatment and support
- Fund placements in high quality supported housing like **Extra Care**. By 2035 we will need another **650** new places

Bridging the gap for 2019 / 2020

If our 'ask' is backed by Welsh Government in full then we can protect local services and keep Council Tax down.

- Even with the 'ask' we could be looking at a **Council Tax rise of 7%**.
- If we are given **nothing** then we would either have to close local services or ask the public to foot a far higher Council Tax bill.
- **Who should pay** for local services - Governments or Council Tax payers?
- Governments are very aware that by reducing their funding to councils the responsibility for paying for local services is being shifted to **the local tax payer**.

If you **#BacktheAsk** you will be helping our council to get its fair share of national funds and be protecting your own pocket.

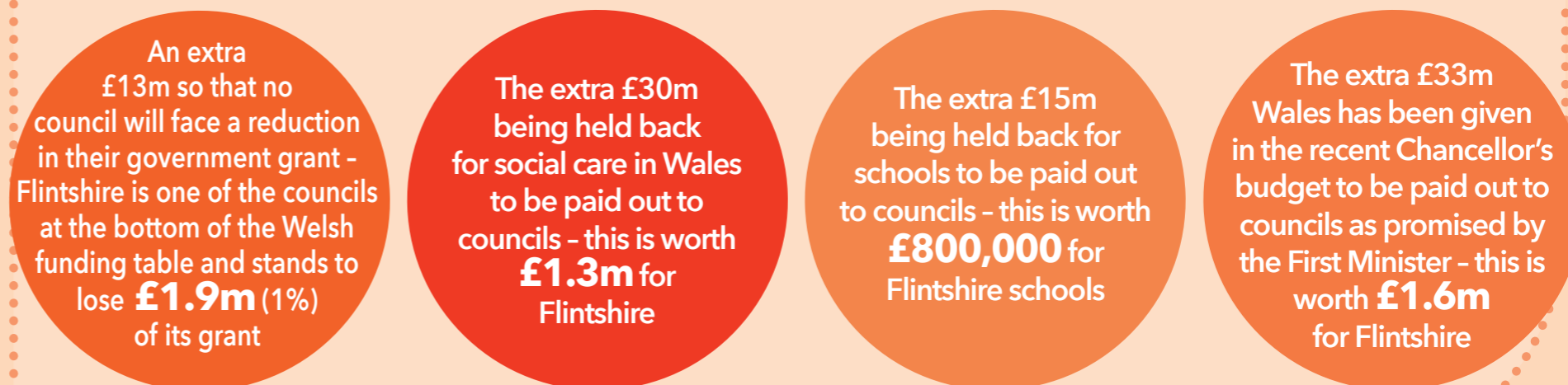
Financial challenges facing Social Services in 2019/2020



What would make a difference?

Welsh Government is holding some large funds which it could pass out to councils now to ease the chronic financial situation. Together Welsh councils have made a compelling case for this money which we call our 'ask'

Our 'ask' is for:-



We are asking Welsh Government to **#BacktheAsk** for **£5.6m** more funding for Flintshire

#BacktheAsk