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Mr F Reid (Chairman) Winward The Green Boughton Kings Lynn PE33 9AF

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Date: 29 October 2014

Dear Mr Reid (Chairman)

Norfolk's budget and services 2015-18

The County Council wrote to you in September, telling you about the financial challenges we are managing and our need to find additional budget savings for 2015/16. We wanted to begin talking to residents and stakeholders about next year's budget and plan at the earliest possible opportunity – to make sure that what we spend delivers positive impact for Norfolk.

During September and October, the Council's committees have been reviewing the financial forecasts and considering how best to meet a predicted shortfall in the budget for 2015/16 whilst at the same time dealing with huge demands on this year's budget.

The outcome of these discussions through committees has resulted in the need to find savings of £12.9m for 2015/16.

The majority of these savings (£11.968m) will be achieved through further efficiencies, but there are some proposals which will involve changes to services. We have now published details of all the proposals on our consultation website and we are encouraging people to give us their views.

The consultation on the proposals is open until 19 December 2014. In January, our committees will receive feedback from the consultation and consider this alongside other information about the financial settlement from Government, and other issues and risks facing the Council. Full Council meets on 16 February 2015 to debate and agree the budget.

You can find out more via our budget consultation website – www.norfolk.gov.uk/budgetandservices. If you have any questions please get in touch with Paul Jackson, Consultation & Community Relations Manager, email: <u>paul.jackson2@norfolk.gov.uk</u> or telephone: 01603 228999. You can also speak with Paul if you would like consultation materials made available in accessible formats, such as easy-read, braille or British Sign Language.

Yours sincerely

DIE Barker

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