

## Appendix E

### **50 ways to save – CoL comments and examples**

Background paper: *50 ways to save – Examples of sensible savings in local government; Department for Communities and Local Government*

		<b>Corporate</b>	
1	Share back office services with other authorities	Is under constant consideration although presently few opportunities have presented themselves	
2	Community budgets – Bring staff and money together	Review taking place in Portsoken Ward (DCCS)	
3	Use transparency to cut waste	Expenditure over £500 is published.	
4	Tackle duplicate payments	Checked by Internal Audit and will be a routine part of CLPS work	
5	Clamp down on corporate charge cards	Has been exhaustively considered by members	
6	Special spending controls	Checked by Internal Audit	
7	Tackle fraud	Anti-Fraud strategy in place	
8	Claw back money from benefit cheats	Already undertaken by Internal Audit	
9	Get more for less by improving procurement	The PP2P Programme is making a step change in procurement	
10	Buy together	Many collaborative arrangements already in place – eg LASER for Energy purchase and a category management approach is in place	
11	Stop the scope for procurement fraud	PP2P and new CLPS reduces any risk significantly	
12	Utilise £16 billion of reserves creatively		
13	Improve council tax collection rates	CoL collection rates already highest in London and one of highest in country.	
14	Encourage direct debit and e-billing for council tax	In place	
15	Close council cash offices	n/a	
16	Better land and property management	CSD paper for January Efficiency Board; close scrutiny already in place by PIB	
17	Hot-desking, estate rationalisation and sub-letting	Being implemented (Accommodation Review and Ways of Working).	
18	Open a 'pop up' shop in spare office space	Is done as and when appropriate	
19	Close subsidised council canteens	Is considered as part of any budget review	
20	Cancel away days in posh hotels and attendance at glitzy award ceremonies		

21	Open a coffee shop in the library	Stall in Guildhall yard.	
22	Cut senior pay	Chief Officer Group agreed to a pay freeze.	
23	Share senior staff		
24	Scrapping the chief executive post entirely		
25	Introduce a recruitment freeze	Implemented for a period. Under review.	
26	Freeze councillor allowances and end councillor pensions	Allowances – n/a	
27	Cut spending on consultants and agency staff	Examined as part of PP2P Programme	
28	End expensive 'leadership' courses		
29	Cut spending on head hunters and expensive adverts	Control exercised by HR	
30	Review and reduce absenteeism	Corporate absence management procedures in place. Performance relatively good.	
31	Scrap trade union posts		
32	Charge for collecting trade union subscriptions		
33	Stop spending money on commercial lobbyists	CoLC complies with DCLG guidance	
34	Stop translating documents into foreign languages	Corporate documents, etc. not translated. Some translation at departmental level (DCCS, CHL).	
35	Reduce the number of publications and media monitoring		
36	Earn more from private advertising		
37	Cease funding 'sock puppets' and 'fake charities'		
38	Scrap the town hall Pravda		
39	Stop providing free food and drink for meetings		
40	Reduce first class travel	Controlled via Business Travel Scheme	
41	Cut mileage payments		
42	Video conference instead of travel		

43	Help the voluntary sector save you money	DCCS Commissioning Strategy includes voluntary sector provision.	
44	Cut printing costs	Already largely implemented although more to do.	
45	End lifestyle and equality questionnaires	Equality Impact Assessments subject to HR/C&CS guidance.	
46	Sell services		
47	Hire out the town hall	Hire of Guildhall and other venues.	
48	Lease works of art not on display		
49	Save money on computer software	Covered under both PP2P and I S Review 3	
50	And finally...ask your staff for more sensible savings ideas.	Corporate scheme for ideas open to all employees as well as the annual efficiency drives.	