

Agenda Item No: 10
Report To: FULL COUNCIL
Date: 18 February 2016
Report Title: Budget and Council Tax Resolutions 2016/17
Report Author: Maria Seddon – Principal Accountant



Summary:

This report presents the Cabinet's 2016/17 General Fund Budget and Council Tax recommendations for resolution by the Full Council. It also presents the full statutory resolutions, including the requirements of the Precepting Authorities and Parish Councils, for the area covered by the Borough Council as the billing authority.

Excluding Parish Precepts, the Council's net revenue spending, is £15,449,960 for 2016/17. The Borough Council's element of the Council Tax at band D is to be increased by 3.13% to £150.00.

On the basis of information available from the Precepting Authorities the overall level of Council Tax, excluding Parish Precepts, is anticipated to be £1,507.70 an increase overall of £54.46 (or 3.75%).

The detailed Council Tax amounts by band are subject to validation within our billing system. If amendments are needed they will be tabled at the meeting.

Key Decision: Not applicable

Affected Wards: ALL

Recommendations:

- (1) Agree the Budget for 2016/17 as recommended by the Cabinet
- (2) Agree the formal Council Tax resolutions annexed to this Report.

Policy Overview: The Budget is a matter for the Full Council to approve. Apart from the statutory requirement and status of the budget, the proposals for 2016/17 to towards delivering the Council's priorities in the Corporate Plan 2016-21.

Financial Implications: The budget supports the Corporate Plan and is the result of considerable input from Members and services, over several months. It is broadly in line with our medium term financial forecasts. The recommended budget requirement (excluding parish precepts) is £15,449,960. The recommended Council Tax at Band D is £150.00, an increase of 3.13% from 2015/16.

Risk Assessment

The report to the Cabinet contained advice about the robustness of the budget estimates and the adequacy of the Council's reserves, as required by the Local Government Act 2003. The report concluded that while there are risks, the Council's Members and Officers understand these, but the Council has well-developed budgetary control and monitoring procedures to address these should pressures arise. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee following its review concluded that the draft budget was 'deliverable and manageable'.

Contacts:

Maria.seddon@ashford.gov.uk – Tel: (01233) 330540
jo.stocks@ashford.gov.uk – Tel: (01233) 330548

Report Title: Budget and Council Tax Resolutions 2016/17

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The resolutions in this report, which must include the requirements of all Precepting authorities, are based on the recommendations made to these Authorities.

Purpose of the Report

1. To present the Cabinet Committee's 2016/17 General Fund Budget and Council Tax recommendation for resolution by the Full Council. It presents the full statutory resolutions, including the requirements of the Precepting Authorities (as known at the time of writing) and the Parish Councils, for the areas covered by the Borough Council as the Billing Authority.

Issue to be Decided

2. The Full Council is required to consider and approve the recommended 2016/17 Budget and the Council Tax requirement. The Full Council must also agree the statutory resolutions, which include the Precepting Authorities' requirements.

Ashford Borough Council's General Fund Budget and Council Tax Requirement and Consultation

3. The decisions of the Cabinet at its meeting on 11th February are set out in its Cabinet Minute reported on this Agenda. A summary of the recommended budget is included as **Appendix A**. Members will also have received a link to allow them to review the full 2016/17 Budget Book by the time of the meeting.
4. The report to the Cabinet Meeting included advice required by the Local Government Act 2003, on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the Councils reserves.
5. It should be noted that the period for budget consultation closes on 11th February. No responses were received from the Public, and the Cabinet received a paper on the response of the JCC committee. Any further responses to the consultation will be reported to the Full Council Meeting.

Council Tax Requirement

6. The demand on the Council Tax Collection Fund for 2016/17 that flows from the recommendation of the Cabinet, and the decisions of the Precepting Bodies totals £67,356,498, analysed as follows: -

Authority	Precept/Demand		2016/17 Band D Council Tax	Change over 2015/16	
	£	%	£	£	%
Ashford Borough Council	6,562,500	9.74%	150.00	4.55	3.13%
Kent County Council	49,592,813	73.63%	1133.55	43.56	4.00%
Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent	6,656,563	9.88%	152.15	5.00	3.40%
Kent and Medway Fire Authority	3,150,000	4.68%	72.00	1.35	1.91%
Parish Councils	1,394,622	2.07%	31.88	2.76	9.48%

7. Excluding Parish Precepts the overall Council Tax at Band D for 2016/17 is £1,507.70, and increase of £54.46 on 2015/16.
8. Attached to this report are the formal resolutions for approval by the Council as the Billing Authority. Also attached at **Appendix A and B** are details on the calculation of this Council's Budget requirement and Council Tax at Band D.

Contact: Maria Seddon, Principal Accountant – Maria.seddon@ashford.gov.uk
Jo Stocks, Senior Accountant – jo.stocks@ashford.gov.uk

COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTIONS

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

1. It be noted that on **3rd December 2015** the Cabinet calculated
 - a) the Council Tax Base 2016/17 for the whole Council area as **43,750** [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")] and,
 - b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached **Annex A**.
2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2016/17 (excluding Parish precepts) is **£6,562,500 (Appendices A and B)**.
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

- | | £ | |
|-----|------------|---|
| (a) | 95,505,022 | being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils. |
| (b) | 87,547,900 | being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. |
| (c) | 9,001,150 | being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31A(4) of the Act). |
| (d) | 181.88 | being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).(Annex C) |
| (e) | 1,394,622 | being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Annex B). |
| (f) | 150.00 | being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.(Annex D & E) |

Part of the Council's area (i.e. tax base for parished areas – Band D equivalent properties).

PARISH	LOCAL TAX BASE		PARISH	LOCAL TAX BASE
Aldington & Bonnington	579.80		Little Chart	123.70
Appledore	321.80		Mersham and Sevington	637.10
Bethersden	701.50		Molash	103.80
Biddenden	1,086.90		Newenden	103.20
Bilsington	147.90		Orlestone	559.90
Boughton Aluph and Eastwell	1,043.90		Pluckley	468.80
Brabourne	590.10		Rolvenden	679.10
Brook	152.20		Ruckinge	317.70
Challock	405.40		Shadoxhurst	497.50
Charing	1,258.30		Smarden	620.50
Chilham	740.50		Smeeth	357.00
Crundale (PM)	92.50		Stanhope	782.50
Egerton	502.70		Stone	200.60
Godmersham	176.40		Tenterden (TC)	3,438.50
Great Chart with Singleton	2,420.20		Warehorne	176.70
Hastingleigh	114.70		Westwell	319.50
High Halden	715.50		Wittersham	525.30
Hothfield	287.10		Woodchurch	829.70
Kenardington	106.10		Wye with Hinxhill	1,045.30
Kingsnorth	4,334.50			

Parish Council Precepts

PARISH	Parish Precept		PARISH	Parish Precept
Aldington & Bonnington	27,265		Little Chart	6,000
Appledore	26,000		Mersham and Sevington	15,340
Bethersden	22,420		Molash	4,000
Biddenden	49,789		Newenden	5,080
Bilsington	7,460		Orlestone	20,300
Boughton Aluph and Eastwell	26,280		Pluckley	44,000
Brabourne	18,000		Rolvenden	21,845
Brook	6,940		Ruckinge	8,500
Challock	15,720		Shadoxhurst	14,000
Charing	80,073		Swarden	27,140
Chilham	26,384		Smeeth	15,526
Crundale (PM)	200		Stanhope	16,210
Egerton	17,402		Stone	5,500
Godmersham	5,830		Tenterden (TC)	368,093
Great Chart with Singleton	152,726		Warehorne	3,500
Hastingleigh	2,965		Westwell	15,450
High Halden	33,054		Wittersham	22,255
Hothfield	9,500		Woodchurch	21,800
Kenardington	4,840		Wye with Hinxhill	85,795
Kingsnorth	141,950			

BILLING AUTHORITY PART OF COUNCIL TAX 2016/17

PARISH	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
Aldington & Bonnington	131.35	153.24	175.13	197.02	240.80	284.59	328.37	394.04
Appledore	153.87	179.51	205.15	230.80	282.09	333.38	384.67	461.60
Bethersden	121.31	141.53	161.74	181.96	222.39	262.83	303.27	363.92
Biddenden	130.54	152.30	174.05	195.81	239.32	282.84	326.35	391.62
Bilsington	133.63	155.90	178.17	200.44	244.98	289.53	334.07	400.88
Boughton Aluph and Eastwell	116.78	136.25	155.70	175.17	214.09	253.03	291.95	350.34
Brabourne	120.33	140.39	160.44	180.50	220.61	260.73	300.83	361.00
Brook	130.40	152.14	173.86	195.60	239.06	282.54	326.00	391.20
Challock	125.85	146.83	167.80	188.78	230.73	272.69	314.63	377.56
Charing	142.43	166.17	189.90	213.64	261.11	308.59	356.07	427.28
Chilham	123.75	144.38	165.00	185.63	226.88	268.14	309.38	371.26
Crundale (PM)	101.44	118.35	135.25	152.16	185.97	219.79	253.60	304.32
Egerton	123.08	143.60	164.10	184.62	225.64	266.68	307.70	369.24
Godmersham	122.03	142.38	162.71	183.05	223.72	264.41	305.08	366.10
Great Chart with Singleton	142.07	165.75	189.42	213.10	260.45	307.81	355.17	426.20
Hastingleigh	117.23	136.78	156.31	175.85	214.92	254.01	293.08	351.70
High Halden	130.80	152.60	174.40	196.20	239.80	283.40	327.00	392.40
Hothfield	122.06	142.41	162.74	183.09	223.77	264.47	305.15	366.18
Kenardington	130.41	152.15	173.88	195.62	239.09	282.57	326.03	391.24
Kingsnorth	121.83	142.14	162.44	182.75	223.36	263.98	304.58	365.50
Little Chart	132.33	154.39	176.44	198.50	242.61	286.73	330.83	397.00
Mersham and Sevington	116.05	135.40	154.73	174.08	212.76	251.45	290.13	348.16
Molash	125.69	146.65	167.59	188.54	230.43	272.34	314.23	377.08
Newenden	132.81	154.95	177.08	199.22	243.49	287.77	332.03	398.44
Orlestone	124.17	144.87	165.56	186.26	227.65	269.05	310.43	372.52
Pluckley	162.57	189.67	216.76	243.86	298.05	352.25	406.43	487.72
Rolvenden	121.45	141.69	161.93	182.17	222.65	263.14	303.62	364.34
Ruckinge	117.83	137.48	157.11	176.75	216.02	255.31	294.58	353.50
Shadoxhurst	118.76	138.56	158.34	178.14	217.72	257.32	296.90	356.28
Smarden	129.16	150.69	172.21	193.74	236.79	279.85	322.90	387.48
Smeeth	128.99	150.50	171.99	193.49	236.48	279.49	322.48	386.98
Stanhope	113.81	132.79	151.75	170.72	208.65	246.60	284.53	341.44
Stone	118.28	138.00	157.70	177.42	216.84	256.28	295.70	354.84
Tenterden (TC)	171.37	199.93	228.49	257.05	314.17	371.30	428.42	514.10
Warehome	113.21	132.08	150.94	169.81	207.54	245.28	283.02	339.62
Westwell	132.24	154.28	176.32	198.36	242.44	286.52	330.60	396.72
Wittersham	128.25	149.62	170.99	192.37	235.12	277.87	320.62	384.74
Woodchurch	117.51	137.10	156.68	176.27	215.44	254.62	293.78	352.54
Wye with Hinxhill	154.39	180.13	205.85	231.59	283.05	334.52	385.98	463.18
Unparished Area	100.00	116.67	133.33	150.00	183.33	216.67	250.00	300.00

Council Tax Charge per Band

PARISH	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
Aldington & Bonnington	1,036.48	1,209.23	1,381.97	1,554.72	1,900.21	2,245.71	2,591.20	3,109.44
Appledore	1,059.00	1,235.50	1,411.99	1,588.50	1,941.50	2,294.50	2,647.50	3,177.00
Bethersden	1,026.44	1,197.52	1,368.58	1,539.66	1,881.80	2,223.95	2,566.10	3,079.32
Biddenden	1,035.67	1,208.29	1,380.89	1,553.51	1,898.73	2,243.96	2,589.18	3,107.02
Bilsington	1,038.76	1,211.89	1,385.01	1,558.14	1,904.39	2,250.65	2,596.90	3,116.28
Boughton Aluph and Eastwell	1,021.91	1,192.24	1,362.54	1,532.87	1,873.50	2,214.15	2,554.78	3,065.74
Brabourne	1,025.46	1,196.38	1,367.28	1,538.20	1,880.02	2,221.85	2,563.66	3,076.40
Brook	1,035.53	1,208.13	1,380.70	1,553.30	1,898.47	2,243.66	2,588.83	3,106.60
Challock	1,030.98	1,202.82	1,374.64	1,546.48	1,890.14	2,233.81	2,577.46	3,092.96
Charing	1,047.56	1,222.16	1,396.74	1,571.34	1,920.52	2,269.71	2,618.90	3,142.68
Chilham	1,028.88	1,200.37	1,371.84	1,543.33	1,886.29	2,229.26	2,572.21	3,086.66
Crundale (PM)	1,006.57	1,174.34	1,342.09	1,509.86	1,845.38	2,180.91	2,516.43	3,019.72
Egerton	1,028.21	1,199.59	1,370.94	1,542.32	1,885.05	2,227.80	2,570.53	3,084.64
Godmersham	1,027.16	1,198.37	1,369.55	1,540.75	1,883.13	2,225.53	2,567.91	3,081.50
Great Chart with Singleton	1,047.20	1,221.74	1,396.26	1,570.80	1,919.86	2,268.93	2,618.00	3,141.60
Hastingleigh	1,022.36	1,192.77	1,363.15	1,533.55	1,874.33	2,215.13	2,555.91	3,067.10
High Halden	1,035.93	1,208.59	1,381.24	1,553.90	1,899.21	2,244.52	2,589.83	3,107.80
Hothfield	1,027.19	1,198.40	1,369.58	1,540.79	1,883.18	2,225.59	2,567.98	3,081.58
Kenardington	1,035.54	1,208.14	1,380.72	1,553.32	1,898.50	2,243.69	2,588.86	3,106.64
Kingsnorth	1,026.96	1,198.13	1,369.28	1,540.45	1,882.77	2,225.10	2,567.41	3,080.90
Little Chart	1,037.46	1,210.38	1,383.28	1,556.20	1,902.02	2,247.85	2,593.66	3,112.40
Mersham and Sevington	1,021.18	1,191.39	1,361.57	1,531.78	1,872.17	2,212.57	2,552.96	3,063.56
Molash	1,030.82	1,202.64	1,374.43	1,546.24	1,889.84	2,233.46	2,577.06	3,092.48
Newenden	1,037.94	1,210.94	1,383.92	1,556.92	1,902.90	2,248.89	2,594.86	3,113.84
Orlestone	1,029.30	1,200.86	1,372.40	1,543.96	1,887.06	2,230.17	2,573.26	3,087.92
Pluckley	1,067.70	1,245.66	1,423.60	1,601.56	1,957.46	2,313.37	2,669.26	3,203.12
Rolvenden	1,026.58	1,197.68	1,368.77	1,539.87	1,882.06	2,224.26	2,566.45	3,079.74
Ruckinge	1,022.96	1,193.47	1,363.95	1,534.45	1,875.43	2,216.43	2,557.41	3,068.90
Shadoxhurst	1,023.89	1,194.55	1,365.18	1,535.84	1,877.13	2,218.44	2,559.73	3,071.68
Smarden	1,034.29	1,206.68	1,379.05	1,551.44	1,896.20	2,240.97	2,585.73	3,102.88
Smeeth	1,034.12	1,206.49	1,378.83	1,551.19	1,895.89	2,240.61	2,585.31	3,102.38
Stanhope	1,018.94	1,188.78	1,358.59	1,528.42	1,868.06	2,207.72	2,547.36	3,056.84
Stone	1,023.41	1,193.99	1,364.54	1,535.12	1,876.25	2,217.40	2,558.53	3,070.24
Tenterden (TC)	1,076.50	1,255.92	1,435.33	1,614.75	1,973.58	2,332.42	2,691.25	3,229.50
Warehome	1,018.34	1,188.07	1,357.78	1,527.51	1,866.95	2,206.40	2,545.85	3,055.02
Westwell	1,037.37	1,210.27	1,383.16	1,556.06	1,901.85	2,247.64	2,593.43	3,112.12
Wittersham	1,033.38	1,205.61	1,377.83	1,550.07	1,894.53	2,238.99	2,583.45	3,100.14
Woodchurch	1,022.64	1,193.09	1,363.52	1,533.97	1,874.85	2,215.74	2,556.61	3,067.94
Wye with Hinxhill	1,059.52	1,236.12	1,412.69	1,589.29	1,942.46	2,295.64	2,648.81	3,178.58
Unparished Area	1,005.13	1,172.66	1,340.17	1,507.70	1,842.74	2,177.79	2,512.83	3,015.40

Breakdown of Council Tax per authority

Precepting Authority	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
Ashford Borough Council	100.00	116.67	133.33	150.00	183.33	216.67	250.00	300.00
Kent County Council	755.70	881.65	1,007.60	1,133.55	1,385.45	1,637.35	1,889.25	2,267.10
Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent	101.43	118.34	135.24	152.15	185.96	219.77	253.58	304.30
Kent and Medway Towns Fire Authority	48.00	56.00	64.00	72.00	88.00	104.00	120.00	144.00

Appendix A

CALCULATION OF THE BUDGET REQUIREMENT AND COUNCIL TAX AT BAND D		
	£	£
Gross Expenditure - General Fund	63,601,050	
Gross Expenditure - HRA	30,509,350	
Parish Precepts	<u>1,394,622</u>	95,505,022
Less Gross Income	(78,546,750)	(78,546,750)
NET EXPENDITURE		<u>16,958,272</u>
Add Deficit Distribution from Collection Fund	0	
New Homes Bonus	(3,782,820)	
Retained Business Rates	(3,410,410)	
Government Grant (RSG and S31 grants)	<u>(1,807,920)</u>	(9,001,150)
BUDGET REQUIREMENT		<u>7,957,122</u>
Less Parish Precepts		(1,394,622)
Council Tax Requirement		<u><u>6,562,500</u></u>
Council Tax Base		43,750
Band 'D' Council Tax		150.00
Average including Parishes		181.88

Appendix B

REVENUE BUDGET				
SUMMARY				
Actuals	Budget	Projected	Detail	Estimate
2014/15 £	2015/16 £	Outturn 2015/16 £		2016/17 £
1,295,520	1,180,610	1,226,610	Corporate, Strategy & Personnel	1,270,720
1,233,907	1,402,300	1,395,230	Legal & Democratic	1,477,660
1,748,960	1,821,590	1,821,180	Planning & Development	1,995,050
2,101,070	2,167,130	2,167,080	Financial Services	2,554,620
160,623	359,740	395,110	Human Resources and Technology	291,010
775,617	888,690	903,250	Housing Services	915,710
451,022	891,010	838,450	Health, Parking & Community Safety	882,700
4,450,502	4,627,570	4,562,760	Environment and Customer Services	4,821,510
(936,132)	(1,060,370)	(1,049,960)	Corporate Property & Projects	(1,512,060)
2,788,256	3,015,240	3,095,840	Culture & the Environment	2,713,130
14,069,346	15,293,510	15,355,550	Service Expenditure	15,410,050
(1,694,370)	(2,106,200)	(2,106,200)	Capital Charges & Net Interest	(1,475,830)
50,180	40,260	40,260	Concurrent Functions Grant	30,260
237,227	241,000	241,000	Levies	241,000
2,357,724	265,120	248,120	Contribution to Balances	1,316,670
15,020,107	13,733,690	13,778,730	ABC Budget Requirement	15,522,150
			Income	
(2,947,755)	(2,106,830)	(2,106,830)	Government Grant	(1,269,920)
(2,183,239)	(2,628,370)	(2,628,370)	Retained Business Rates	(3,410,410)
(953,730)	(554,000)	(554,000)	Business Rates S31 Grants	(538,000)
(2,875,218)	(2,324,000)	(2,339,000)	New Homes Bonus	(3,782,820)
62,110	41,500	41,500	Parish CTS Payment	41,500
(6,105,813)	(6,161,990)	(6,161,990)	Council Tax	(6,562,500)
16,462	0	30,040	Budget Gap	0