

**TO: COUNCIL  
24 FEBRUARY 2016**

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**FINANCIAL PLANS AND REVENUE BUDGETS 2016/17  
Borough Treasurer**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 23 February 2016, the Executive considered the 2016/17 proposals for the revenue and capital budgets. The recommendations on these proposals are submitted to the Council by the Executive and are included in section 2 covering all planned spending, service developments and expenditure reductions for next year.
- 1.2 A separate document presents an overview of the Council's spending plans for 2016/17 and detailed budgets for the General Fund and capital programme. The document reflects the Executive's recommendations and includes the reports considered by it.
- 1.3 In order to set a legal budget the full Council must make a formal Council Tax resolution. The Localism Act 2011 has made a number of changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992, and now requires the Council to calculate a council tax requirement for the year rather than a budget requirement. The appropriate resolution to give effect to the proposals contained in the separate budget report is included in section 3.
- 1.4 The Council Tax Resolution also refers to the Council's capital programme. The revenue budget proposals allow for a council funded capital programme of £59.983m recommended by the Executive.
- 1.5 The resolution in Section 3 also includes reference to the Council Tax for the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley, the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and all Parish Councils as the precepts of these bodies must be included in this Council's formal Council Tax Resolution. The precept for the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority will be agreed at its meeting on 17 February 2016. Revised paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of the Council Tax Resolution will be issued once the precept is agreed.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE EXECUTIVE**

**2.1 Capital Programme 2016/17 - 2018/19**

**RECOMMENDED that:**

- i) General Fund capital funding of £59.983m for 2016/17 in respect of those schemes listed on pages 229 to 233 be recommended to the Council;
- ii) The inclusion of an additional budget of £1m for 'Invest to Save' schemes be recommended to the Council;
- iii) The inclusion of £2.440m of expenditure to be funded from S106 as outlined in paragraph 5.33 on pages 225 and 226 and included on pages 229 to 233;
- iv) That those schemes that attract external grant funding be

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recommended to the Council for inclusion within the 2016/17 capital programme at the level of funding received;

### 2.2 Revenue Budget 2016/17

#### RECOMMENDED that:

- i) The budget proposals set out in Table 1 (page 5), subject to the changes identified in sections 6.2 (page 6 and 7), 6.3 (pages 7 and 8), 7 (page 9) and 8.3 (pages 10 and 11) be agreed;
- ii) Fees and charges as set out on pages 97 to 186 be approved;
- iii) A provision for inflation of £0.765m be approved;
- iv) The commitment budget as set out in Annexe A be approved (page 25);
- vi) The Schools Budget be funded at the level set out in section 9.1 (pages 11 to 12) subject to any amendments agreed by the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Learning;
- vii) A contingency of £1.000m be included, use of which is authorised by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Borough Treasurer in accordance with the delegations included in the Council's constitution;
- viii) Subject to the above recommendations the revised draft budget proposals be agreed;
- ix) A contribution of £5.174m (after allowing for the loss of interest on the use of balances of £0.013m) be made from revenue balances to support revenue expenditure;
- x) Total net expenditure (after use of balances) of £65.104m, be approved;
- xi) The Council's Council Tax requirement, excluding Parish Council precepts, be set at £49.795m;
- xii) The Council Tax for the Council's services for each Valuation Band be set as follows:

Band	Tax Level Relative to Band D	£
A	6/9	758.40
B	7/9	884.80
C	8/9	1011.20
D	9/9	1137.60
E	11/9	1390.40
F	13/9	1643.20
G	15/9	1896.00
H	18/9	2275.20

At the meeting on 23 February 2016 the Executive recommended the 2016/17 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and noted that strategy together with the Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement were matters which the Council needed to approve.

- xiii) The Council approves the following indicators, limits, strategies and policies included in Annex E (pages 53 to 74):
  - The Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2016/17 to 2018/19 contained within Annex E(i);

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- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy contained within Annex E(ii);
  - The Treasury Management Strategy Statement, and the Treasury Prudential Indicators contained in Annex E(iii);
  - The Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator in Annex E(iii);
  - The Investment Strategy 2016/17 to 2018/19 and Treasury Management Limits on Activity contained in Annex E(iv);
- xiv) The formal Council Tax Resolution contained in section 3 be approved.

### **3 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION**

- 3.1 That the recommendations of the Executive outlined in sections 2.1 and 2.2 be agreed.

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3.2 That it be noted that the amounts calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 are :-

(a) **43,772 TAX BASE FOR THE WHOLE COUNCIL AREA**

*being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended, as its council tax base for the year*

(b) **TAX BASE FOR PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA**

**EACH PARISH AREA**

Binfield	3,697
Bracknell	18,601
Crowthorne	2,618
Sandhurst	7,720
Warfield	4,533
Winkfield	6,603

*being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as amended, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate*

3.3 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 as amended (the Act), noting that Bracknell Town Council's (BTC) precept is subject to confirmation by BTC on 23 February:-

(a) £286,745,061 **TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCLUDING GENERAL FUND, PARISH PRECEPTS AND THE COUNCIL'S SHARE OF ANY DEFICIT ON THE COLLECTION FUND**

*being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act*

(b) £233,993,587 **TOTAL INCOME INCLUDING GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND THE COUNCIL'S SHARE OF ANY SURPLUS ON THE COLLECTION FUND**

*being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act*

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- (c) £52,751,474 **BOROUGH AND PARISH PRECEPTS NET EXPENDITURE TO BE FINANCED FROM COUNCIL TAX**

*being the amount by which the aggregate at 3.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3.3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year*

- (d) £1,205.14 **AVERAGE BAND "D" COUNCIL TAX FOR WHOLE BOROUGH**

*being the amount at 3.3(c) above, divided by the amount at 3.2(a) 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)*

- (e) £2,956,447 **PARISH PRECEPTS**

*being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act*

- (f) £1,137.60 **BOROUGH COUNCIL TAX FOR BAND "D" PROPERTIES**

*being the amount at 3.3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3.3(e) above by the amount at 3.2(a) 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 if there were an area of the Borough to which no special item relates*

- (g) Part of the Council's area **BOROUGH AND PARISH COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH PARISH FOR BAND "D"**

Binfield £1,181.69



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Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley	111.31	129.86	148.41	166.96	204.06	241.16	278.27	333.92
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3.5 That it be noted that for the year 2016/17 the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, subject to confirmation by the Fire Authority on 17 February, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Royal Berkshire Fire Authority	<<<<<	<<<<<	<<<<<	<<<<<	<<<<<	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<

3.6 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3.3(h), 3.4 and 3.5 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2016/17 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<b>Parish</b>	<b>TOTAL COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH VALUATION BAND</b>							
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Binfield	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<
Bracknell	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<
Crowthorne	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<
Sandhurst	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<
Warfield	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<
Winkfield	<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<	<<<<<<

**4 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To enable the Council to make a formal Council Tax resolution by setting a revenue budget, Council Tax level and capital budget for 2016/17.

**5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 Background information relating to the options considered is included in the supporting information.

## **6 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 6.1 The attached 'Financial Plans and Budget Supporting Information 2016/17' presents an overview of the Council's spending plans for 2016/17 and detailed budgets for the General Fund and capital programme. The document reflects the Executive's recommendations and includes summaries of the reports considered by it.

## **7 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 7.1 Nothing to add to the report.

### Borough Treasurer

- 7.2 The financial implications of this report are included in the supporting information.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 7.3 The Council's budget proposals impact on a wide range of services. A detailed consultation was undertaken on the draft budget proposals published in December to provide individuals and groups the opportunity to provide comments.
- 7.4 None of the budget proposals require specific equality impact assessments to be carried out.

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 7.5 The supporting information sets out the key risks facing the Council's budget and the arrangements in place to manage these risks, including maintaining an appropriate level of reserves and contingency.

## **8 CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 Details of the consultation process and responses received are included in the supporting information.

### Contact for further information

Alan Nash, Corporate Services 01344 352180  
Alan.Nash@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Arthur Parker, Corporate Services 01344 352158  
Arthur.parker@bracknell-forest.gov.uk