

**COUNCIL MEETING
26 FEBRUARY 1998**

**FINANCIAL PLANS AND REVENUE BUDGET 1998/99
(Director of Corporate Services)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting on 11 February 1998, the Strategy and Policy Committee considered the budget proposals for each service Committee and recommended a budget for 1998/99 to the Council. The recommendation submitted by the Strategy and Policy Committee is included in paragraph 2.
- 1.2 A separate document presents the Council's draft budget for 1998/99. This has been prepared to reflect the Strategy and Policy Committee's recommendations. Annexes contain information on changes to Committees' budgets as a result of inflation, service developments and economies.
- 1.3 In order to set a legal budget the full Council must make a formal Council Tax resolution. The appropriate resolution to give effect to the proposals contained in the draft budget book is included in paragraph 3. This resolution includes reference to the Housing Revenue Account which was agreed under delegated powers by the Social Services Transition and Housing Committee on 4 February 1998. The Housing Revenue Account is, therefore, also included in the draft budget book. Section 45 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 also requires the Council to determine its own borrowing limits each year. This is covered by recommendation 3.6. The limit may be varied at any time by a further determination.
- 1.4 The Council Tax resolution also refers to the Council's capital programme. The revenue budget proposals allow for the interest loss on a capital programme of £5m plus a revenue contribution to capital outlay of £0.5m. Committees are considering proposals which will be submitted to the Council's next meeting.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Strategy and Policy Committee recommended that:
- (i) the adjustments included in Annexe A of the report submitted are included within the base budgets for the Finance and Property Sub-Committee and Social Services and Housing Committee;
 - (ii) the inflation allowances shown in Annexe B of the report submitted be added to Committee budgets;
 - (iii) the Education Committee's budget be increased by £812,000 to reflect the cost of meeting the teachers' pay award and other inflation;
 - iv) a further one-off addition of £89,000 be made to the Education Committee's budget to fund out of Borough special education placements;

- (v) each Committee's proposed service developments shown in Annexe C of the report submitted be agreed;
- (vi) each Committee's proposed economies shown in Annexe D of the report submitted be agreed;
- (vii) a contingency provision of £500,000 be agreed to be controlled by the Finance and Property Sub-Committee;
- (viii) provisions for major structural maintenance work be excluded from the revenue budget and financed from the Council's capital programme;
- (ix) a contribution of £1,406,000 be made from revenue balances to support all expenditure on services;
- (x) a contribution of £500,000 be made from revenue balances to support capital expenditure;
- (xi) the Council's total requirement for the Collection Fund, excluding Parish Council precepts, be set as £23,614,000;
- (xii) an application be made to apply to the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions to transfer £150,000 of surpluses made by the Direct Service Organisations to the Housing Revenue Account;
- (xiii) 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	388.71
B	7/9	453.49
C	8/9	518.28
D	9/9	583.06
E	11/9	712.63
F	13/9	842.20
G	15/9	971.77
H	18/9	1,166.12

- (xiv) Service Committees be requested to submit proposals for inclusion in the Council's capital programme to the next meeting of this Committee.

3 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION

3.1 That the recommendations of the Strategy and Policy Committee outlined in paragraph 2 be agreed.

3.2 That it be noted that at its meeting on 23 October 1997 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 1998/99 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

(a) 40,500 **TAX BASE FOR WHOLE BOROUGH 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 its council tax base for the year

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

EACH PARISH AREA

Binfield	3,210
Bracknell	17,130
Crowthorne	2,340
Sandhurst	7,610
Warfield	3,920
Winkfield	6,290

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, 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 1998/99 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992:-

(a) £131,446,033 **TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCLUDING GENERAL FUNDHOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND PARISH PRECEPTS**

being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act

(b) £50,791,514 **TOTAL INCOME INCLUDING GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT**

being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (b) of the Act

(c) £3,060,000 **REDUCTION IN GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BALANCES**

being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(c) of the Act

- (d) £77,594,519 **BOROUGH AND PARISH EXPENDITURE TO BE FINANCED FROM GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND COUNCIL TAX**

being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) and 3(c) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year

- (e) £52,483,581 **GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR LOCAL SERVICES**

being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant and additional grant or SSA reduction grant

- (f) £20,501 **COUNCIL TAX AND RESIDUAL COMMUNITY SURPLUS**

being the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its collection fund to its general fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax Surplus) and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its collection fund to its general fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) directions under section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 made on 7th February 1994

- (g) £619.52 **AVERAGE BAND "D" COUNCIL TAX FOR WHOLE BOROUGH**

being the amount at 3(d) above less the amount at 3(e) and 3(f) above, all divided by the amount at 2(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year

- (h) £1,476,507 **PARISH PRECEPTS**

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

- (i) £583.06 **BOROUGH COUNCIL TAX FOR BAND "D" PROPERTIES**

being the amount at 3(g) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(h) above by the amount at 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

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

Binfield	609.08
Bracknell	628.85
Crowthorne	605.28
Sandhurst	625.81
Warfield	594.71
Winkfield	612.56

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(i) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate

(k) Part of the Council's area **BOROUGH AND PARISH COUNCIL TAX IN EACH PARISH FOR EACH VALUATION BAND**

Parish	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Binfield	406.06	473.73	541.41	609.08	744.43	879.78	1015.14	1218.16
Bracknell	419.24	489.10	558.98	628.85	768.60	908.34	1048.09	1257.70
Crowthorne	403.52	470.77	538.03	605.28	739.79	874.30	1008.80	1210.56
Sandhurst	417.21	486.74	556.28	625.81	764.88	903.95	1043.02	1251.62
Warfield	396.48	462.55	528.64	594.71	726.87	859.03	991.19	1189.42
Winkfield	408.38	476.43	544.50	612.56	748.69	884.81	1020.94	1225.12

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(j) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands

3.4 That it be noted that for the year 1998/99 the Thames Valley Police Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Thames Valley Police Authority	33.84	39.48	45.12	50.76	62.04	73.32	84.60	101.52

3.5 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(k) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 1998/99 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

(a) Part of the Council's area	TOTAL COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH AND EACH VALUATION BAND							
Parish	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Binfield	439.90	513.21	586.53	659.84	806.47	953.10	1099.74	1319.68
Bracknell	453.08	528.58	604.10	679.61	830.64	981.66	1132.69	1359.22
Crowthorne	437.36	510.25	583.15	656.04	801.83	947.62	1093.40	1312.08
Sandhurst	451.05	526.22	601.40	676.57	826.92	977.27	1127.62	1353.14
Warfield	430.32	502.03	573.76	645.47	788.91	932.35	1075.79	1290.94
Winkfield	442.22	515.91	589.62	663.32	810.73	958.13	1105.54	1326.64

- 3.6 (i) The amount of money which is for the time being the maximum amount which the authority may have outstanding by way of borrowing shall be the sum of the current external borrowing at 31st March 1997 plus the value of the Government's Basic Credit Approval plus such short term borrowing that is needed for temporary capital or revenue purposes or £10 million, whichever is the lower ("the overall borrowing limit");
- (ii) The amount of money, being part of the overall borrowing limit, which may be held by way of short term borrowing is limited to £1 million;
- (iii) The proportion of the total amount of interest payable by the Council which is at a rate or rates which can be varied by the person to whom it is payable or which vary by reference to any external factors shall be limited to 10%.

Background Papers

Strategy & Policy Committee 11.02.98

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Doc. Ref

C/26.02.98/TW/CH/19.02.98