

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Supplementary Financial Information for Budget Council</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>26 February 2015</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Interim Executive Director of Finance &amp; Resources</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>James Hengeveld</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 29-1242
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 To update Members with further budget information that has been received since the Revenue Budget & Capital Investment Programme reports were written for Policy & Resources Committee on the 12 February 2015.
- 1.2 Policy and Resources on the 12 February 2015 referred to Council for consideration proposals for a 5.9% council tax increase that would trigger a referendum alongside a Substitute budget; a council tax freeze; and a Threshold 1.99% council tax increase. The impact of each of these proposals on the overall council tax is set out in the tables at paragraph 3.7.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That Council use the statutory budget and the Council Tax Resolutions set out in this report for a 5.9% council tax increase, a council tax freeze and a Threshold 1.99% increase as the basis of debate at the meeting.

**3. CONTEXT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION*****2015/16 General Fund Budget & Council Tax***

- 3.1 The new and revised information in this report was set out in paragraph 4.4 of the 12 February 2015 Policy & Resources committee report and covers the following:-
  - Any other grants that are announced before Budget Council.
  - The Environment Agency levy figure agreed for 2015/16 and any changes to the budget and council tax calculation resulting from the levy.
  - The agreed council tax set by the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner, East Sussex Fire Authority and Rottingdean Parish.
  - The statutory council tax calculations required under the 1992 Local Government Finance Act.

- The full budget and council tax resolution for Budget Council.
  - Fees and charges referred to council by the Economic Development and Culture Committee and the Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee along with extracts from the minutes of the meetings to allow these fees and charges to be considered with the overall budget package.
- 3.2 Following on from Policy & Resources committee on the 12 February 2015, officers have selected savings proposals from appendix 9 of the Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2015/16 report sufficient to enable members to opt for a Council Tax Freeze. These are set out in appendix 18 together with the implications for one off funding and the part year effect of savings. In summary the savings identified of £0.918m require one off funding of £0.372m. Therefore appendix 18 becomes a substantive proposal for a budget based on a council tax freeze and would be the starting point for any amendments thereof.
- 3.3 There is a statutory requirement to consult on significant changes to children's centres. Appendix 22 reports on the outcome of the consultation and outlines amendments to the original proposals arising from the consultation along with an updated Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA).

***New grants information***

- 3.4 Appendix 3 listed specific grants for 2015/16 and the universal infant free schools meals grant introduced from September 2014 was omitted from the appendix and is estimated to be £1.371m in 2014/15 and £2.350m in 2015/16. The Education Capital Maintenance allocation for 2015/16 has been announced and is £4.909m. This will be incorporated into the education capital programme.

***Environment Agency Levy***

- 3.5 The Environment Agency levy has been set at £58,314 as provided for in the budget report to Policy & Resources committee on 12 February 2015.

***Fees and Charges***

- 3.6 The fees and charges referred to council by the Economic Development and Culture Committee and the Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee form part of the budget proposals considered by Policy & Resources Committee and referred to Budget Council. Should members wish to change any of these proposed fees and charges, the consequent impact on the budgets proposals will need to be addressed by way of an amendment at Budget Council.

***Council Tax***

- 3.7 The following tables show the overall council tax proposed incorporating the amounts set by Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner and East Sussex Fire Authority.

<b>TABLE 5: Overall Council Tax based on a 5.9% increase</b>			
	2015/16 Band D Council Tax	Change on 2014/15	Percentage change
Brighton & Hove City Council	£1,390.01	£77.43	5.90%
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner	£143.91	£2.79	1.98%
East Sussex Fire Authority	£85.07	£1.62	1.94%
Total for Brighton & Hove residents	£1,618.99	£81.84	5.32%

<b>TABLE 6: Overall Council Tax based on a Freeze</b>			
	2015/16 Band D Council Tax	Change on 2014/15	Percentage change
Brighton & Hove City Council	£1,312.55	-£0.03*	0.00%
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner	£143.91	£2.79	1.98%
East Sussex Fire Authority	£85.07	£1.62	1.94%
Total for Brighton & Hove residents	£1541.53	£4.38	0.28%

\*The council tax for Brighton & Hove City Council would reduce by £0.03 with a Freeze budget due to a technical adjustment requiring the inclusion of Enclosure Committees in calculating the freeze.

<b>TABLE 7: Overall Council Tax based on a 1.99% increase</b>			
	2015/16 Band D Council Tax	Change on 2014/15	Percentage change
Brighton & Hove City Council	£1,338.68	£26.10	1.99%
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner	£143.91	£2.79	1.98%
East Sussex Fire Authority	£85.07	£1.62	1.94%
Total for Brighton & Hove residents	£1,567.66	£30.51	1.98%

3.8 The Rottingdean Precept was set on 2 February 2015 at £43,330.

***Budget and Council Tax Appendices***

3.9 Details of the additional council taxes paid by residents of Enclosure Committees for the maintenance of gardens in Hanover Crescent, Marine Square and Royal Crescent are given in appendix 25A, 25B and 25C.

3.10 The list of new budget and council tax appendices attached to this report is included under Supporting Documentation below.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

18. Selected savings proposals in support of the council tax freeze option.
19. Fees and charges referred to Council by the Economic Development and Culture Committee.
20. Fees and charges referred to Council by the Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee.
21. Revised description for the Public Transport saving included in appendix 7 & 9 and the Children's Centre saving included in appendix 8 of the General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2015/16.
22. Response to the Children's Centres consultation including an updated EIA.
- 23A The council tax for each band and for households entitled to a single person discount based on a Council Tax increase of 5.9%.
- 23B The council tax for each band and for households entitled to a single person discount based on a Council Tax freeze.
- 23C The council tax for each band and for households entitled to a single person discount based on a Council Tax increase of 1.99%.
- 24A The statutory calculations required under the 1992 Local Government Act based on a 5.9% Council Tax increase.
- 24B The statutory calculations required under the 1992 Local Government Act based on a Council Tax freeze.
- 24C The statutory calculations required under the 1992 Local Government Act based on a Council Tax increase of 1.99%.
- 25 A Proposed full resolution for Budget Council based on a Council Tax increase of 5.9%.
- 25B Proposed full resolution for Budget Council based on a Council Tax freeze
- 25C Proposed full resolution for Budget Council based on a Council Tax increase of 1.99%.

### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. A copy of the Children's Centre Consultation Summary, which has also been circulated to Members separately and published as a supporting document.

### **Background Documents**

1. No further background documents.