

Council Agenda

Date: Thursday, 23rd February, 2017
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: The Ballroom, Sandbach Town Hall, High Street, Sandbach,
CW11 1AX

The agenda is divided into two parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Prayers**

2. **Apologies for Absence**

3. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

4. **Minutes of Previous meetings** (Pages 5 - 28)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council and the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 15 December 2016.

5. **Mayor's Announcements**

To receive such announcements as may be made by the Mayor.

6. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session - (In respect of the ordinary items of business and not the special meeting).**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 35 and Appendix 7 to the rules, a total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to speak at Council meetings.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given. It is not a requirement to give notice of the intention to make use of public speaking provision. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours notice is encouraged.

7. **Leader's Announcements**

To receive such announcements as may be made by the Leader.

Note - The ordinary meeting will adjourn at an appropriate time, early in the proceedings, in order to enable a special meeting of the Council to take place and will reconvene after the special meeting of Council.

8. **Recommendation from Cabinet : The Council's Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017-20** (Pages 29 - 352)

To consider the recommendation from Cabinet.

9. **Recommendation from Cabinet: Treasury Management Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement 2017/18** (Pages 353 - 382)

To consider the recommendation from Cabinet.

10. **Council Tax 2017/18 - Statutory Resolution** (Pages 383 - 398)

To set the Council Tax for Cheshire East Council for the financial year 2017/18.

11. **Recommendation from Staffing Committee: Pay Policy Statement 2017/18** (Pages 399 - 410)

To consider the recommendation from the Staffing Committee.

12. **Election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2017/18 Civic Year** (Pages 411 - 412)

To consider nominations for the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2017-18.

13. **Recommendation from Constitution Committee: New JNC Handbook for Chief Executives and Consequential Amendments to the Constitution** (Pages 413 - 460)

To consider the recommendation from the Constitution Committee.

14. **Political Representation on the Council's Committees** (Pages 461 - 466)

To consider the report in respect of political representation on the Council's Committees.

15. **Questions**

In accordance with Procedure Rule 11, opportunity is provided for Members of the Council to ask the Mayor, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Chairman of a Committee any question about a matter which the Council, the Cabinet or the Committee has powers, duties or responsibilities.

At Council meetings, there will be a maximum question time period of 30 minutes. Questions will be selected by the Mayor, using the criteria agreed by Council. Any questions which are accepted, but which cannot be dealt with during the allotted period will be answered in writing. Questions must be brief, clear and focussed.

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Council**
held on Thursday, 15th December, 2016 at Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss
Square, Crewe. CW1 2BB

PRESENT

Councillor O Hunter (Mayor/Chairman)
Councillor A Moran (Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chairman)

Councillors C Andrew, A Arnold, D Bailey, Rhoda Bailey, Baggott, P Bates, G Baxendale, D Bebbington, S Brookfield, D Brown, C Browne, B Burkhill, S Carter, J Clowes, S Corcoran, S Davies, M Deakin, T Dean, B Dooley, L Durham, S Edgar, I Faseyi, P Findlow, R Fletcher, T Fox, D Flude, H Gaddum, L Gilbert, M Grant, P Groves, J Hammond, S Hogben, L Jeuda, A Kolker, D Mahon, N Mannion, D Marren, A Martin, R Menlove, G Merry, B Moran, H Murray, S Pochin, B Roberts, J Saunders, M Sewart, M Simon, L Smetham, D Stockton, A Stott, G Wait, B Walmsley, G M Walton, L Wardlaw, M Warren, J Weatherill, H Wells-Bradshaw, G Williams and J Wray

Apologies

Councillors Rachel Bailey, M Beanland, P Butterill, C Chapman, H Davenport, S Gardiner, S Gardner, M Hardy, A Harewood, G Hayes, D Hough, J Jackson, M Jones, S McGrory, D Newton, M Parsons and J Rhodes

60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

61 GRANTING THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH TO OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC MEDALLISTS

The Mayor reported that she was delighted that her term in office had coincided with the Olympic and Paralympic Games and equally delighted that athletes with a link to Cheshire East had done so remarkably well in those games; mirroring the tremendous achievements of Team GB.

In 2012, the Council had started a tradition of honouring those from Cheshire East Borough who had won medals at the London Games and today seven people who had excelled in Rio were being celebrated. The highest honour that a Council could bestow was the Freedom of the Borough.

The Deputy Leader of the Council proposed that Elizabeth Clegg, Megan Giglia, Jason Kenny, Laura Kenny, Bryony Page, Andrew Small and Sophie Thornhill be granted the Freedom of Cheshire East.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Sam Corcoran.

The names of the Honorary Freemen and Honorary Freewomen were called out in alphabetical order and a tribute read for each one. Those present at the meeting then stepped forward to receive a certificate and medal from the Mayor.

The Mayor reported that not all those being honoured were able to attend the meeting, but it would be ensured that those not able to attend received their certificates and medals as quickly as possible.

RESOLVED

That Elizabeth Clegg, Megan Giglia, Jason Kenny, Laura Kenny, Bryony Page, Andrew Small and Sophie Thornhill be granted the Freedom of Cheshire East.

62 GRANTING THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH TO SIR PHILIP CRAVEN

The Mayor reported that she was delighted to ask the Deputy Leader of the Council to propose that Sir Philip Craven be granted the Freedom of Cheshire East. Sir Philip was President of the International Paralympic Committee and had overseen the running of a most successful and enjoyable Paralympic Games. He had also opened the Crewe Lifestyle Centre earlier in the year, where the Special Council meeting was taking place.

The Deputy Leader, Councillor David Brown, proposed that Sir Philip Craven be granted the Freedom of Cheshire East.

Councillor Barry Burkhill seconded the motion.

Sir Philip then came forward to receive his medal and certificate from the Mayor. He then said a few words and thanked the Council for this honour.

RESOLVED

That Sir Philip Craven be granted the Freedom of Cheshire East.

63 DAME SARAH STOREY

Before closing the meeting, the Mayor highlighted the achievements of Dame Sarah Storey, who had been granted the Freedom of Cheshire East four years previously. She stated that Dame Sarah was arguably the most versatile British athlete in the history of the Paralympics and, as of 2016, the most successful in the modern era. She had been a swimmer at four Paralympic Games before switching to cycling in 2005. She had won three more Gold medals at the Rio Paralympics.

Unfortunately, she was unable to attend the meeting, but the Mayor asked those present to join with her in sending warmest congratulations to Dame Sarah and reported that, with Council's agreement, she would be writing to her.

The meeting commenced at 11.00 am and concluded at 11.50 am

Councillor O Hunter (Mayor/Chairman)
CHAIRMAN

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Apologies

Councillors Rachel Bailey, M Beanland, P Butterill, C Chapman, H Davenport, S Gardner, M Hardy, A Harewood, G Hayes, J Jackson, M Jones, D Newton, M Parsons and L Wardlaw

64 PRAYERS

The Chaplain said prayers, at the request of the Mayor.

65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Town and Parish Councils were advised that they were not required to declare an interest on the item relating to the Council Tax Base.

Cllr B Dooley declared a pecuniary interest in item 15 of the agenda, relating to the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy and stated that she would leave the Chamber during consideration of this matter.

66 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

That the minutes be approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment to minute 58, question 14, to state that Cllr Hough asked a question in respect of whether the Council had considered using the New

Homes Bonus “for” Key Service Centres and an amendment to minute 45 to delete the reference to Cllr McGrory declaring an interest in item 15.

67 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that:-

1. Since the last Council meeting, she and the Deputy Mayor had attended over 70 events, details of which had been circulated around the Chamber.
2. It had been her great privilege to represent the Borough at a number of events to mark both Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday and it had been pleasing to see the public turn out in their thousands for these events and for similar events across Cheshire East.
3. That she never ceased to be amazed at the massive contribution that carers make to society and it had been a very real pleasure for her to visit Middlewich High School recently to present a student with a Younger Carers award. The recipient of this award had been unable to attend the Local Hero Awards earlier in the month.
4. That in the previous week, she had hosted a civic reception to thank all those involved in supporting those people affected by the fatal mill fire at Bosley, in July 2015. The Lord Lieutenant, speaking at the reception had praised the courage and community spirit of the Bosley people and said that he hoped that they would soon feel able to move forward after such a dreadful tragedy. She was sure that all present would echo those sentiments.
5. That she had hosted a number of afternoon teas for volunteers. She thanked those Members who had made nominations and announced that she would be hosting more teas in the new year and she would encourage those Members who had not yet nominated volunteers from their Wards to do so.
6. That she would be holding her Civic Service on the morning of Sunday 19th February 2017 and that full details would be circulated early in the new year.

68 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present wishing to use public speaking time.

69 RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET - COUNCIL TAX BASE 2017/18

Consideration was given to the recommendation from Cabinet in respect of the setting of the Council Tax base for 2017/18.

The calculation set out the estimates of new homes less the expected level of discounts and the level of Council Tax Support (CTS). This resulted in a band D equivalent tax base position for each Town and Parish Council.

Cabinet had recommended to Council, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount to be calculated by Cheshire East Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2017/18 as 144,201.51 for the whole area.

The tax base also reflected assumptions around CTS payments. The Cheshire East CTS scheme had been introduced in 2013/14 and subsequently amended following consultation for 2016/17. The history of the scheme, including budgets available compared to actual payments made was shown in Table 1 of the report. Cabinet had recommended that no changes be made to the CTS Scheme for 2017/18, other than the annual increase in the allowances used.

RESOLVED

1. That, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount to be calculated by Cheshire East Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2017/18 be **144,201.51** for the whole area.
2. That no changes be made to the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2017/18, other than the annual increase in the allowances used.

70 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the absence of the Leader of the Council, who had submitted apologies, the Deputy Leader wished all those present a Happy Christmas and made a number of announcements as follows:-

- 1 He gave the Leader's apologies for absence from the morning's Special Meeting of the Council and from this meeting and reported that the Leader was engaged in negotiations with local businesses. He hoped that everyone was very impressed to be meeting in the Crewe Lifestyle Centre. Council staff and contractors had worked tirelessly over the past two-three years to bring this, Cheshire East's first Lifestyle Centre, into being. It had brought together several Council services under one roof, serving the residents of Crewe and helping them to live healthier lifestyles. Over 350,000 people had visited the Lifestyle Centre, which was a tremendous achievement. Part of the success of the Lifestyle Centre was its location in the heart of Crewe town centre, making it easy to reach, whether visitors come by bus, car, bike or on foot. Bringing the Lifestyle Centre into Crewe town centre was a key part of our Regeneration Plans for Crewe. The Lifestyle Centre was the first part of the Council's approach in regenerating Crewe town centre and in making sure it

was well placed to benefit from future growth linked to the new HS2 hub station.

2. Another part of the town centre's transformation had also commenced in the current year, with the new University Technical College opening its doors on West Street. The UTC, through a strong partnership which included key local employers such as Bentley, had taken its first intake of 200 14-19 year olds, all keen on developing vocational skills in design and engineering, to meet the future needs of those employers. Next year its new building would be fully open and the number of students would grow towards its capacity of 800.
3. He reported that the Regeneration team was well advanced in the procurement of a development partner for the Royal Arcade, at the heart of Crewe town centre. The plans included a brand-new bus station, multi-storey car park, cinema and a mix of other leisure and retail uses, which would help transform both the town's day and night-time economy. More detailed plans would be announced in the coming months. The Council was also working closely with a number of other landowners and developers in the town centre who, whilst recognising the challenges facing town centres, agreed that Crewe was now ideally-placed to start "punching above its weight". With over half a million people living within 30 minutes' drive of Crewe, including significantly more 'affluent achievers' than the GB average, investors were now realising the opportunities presented by Crewe and its wider catchment, including its rural hinterland. Indeed, just a few months ago, Property Week magazine had ranked Crewe as the "Best residential location in the UK", taking account of a number of factors including the area's quality of life, connectivity, employment levels, and education.
4. He concluded his comments on regeneration by stating that the recent announcement of the preferred location of the HS2 Hub Station in Crewe was the news that the Council had been working towards over the past five years or more and delivered the message that Cheshire East was truly open for business. He also stated that the strong collaboration with partners in the Northern Gateway Development Zone was crucial to ensuring that the expected growth associated with HS2 will help to take families out of poverty, provide wide-ranging social benefits for residents and produce a new generation of skilled young people. The huge economic benefits to be had from HS2 must be harnessed for future generations, so that the children and young people of today and their children and grandchildren could seize the enormous opportunities that HS2 would deliver.
5. He then referred to a number of health-related matters and reported that, in recent times, the Mid-Cheshire Hospital Trust had made some great achievements. He provided a short summary as follows:

CQC rated 'good' in 2015 – in the top 10% of Trusts

National Awards – to name a few:

Midwifery Service of the Year 2015

Trust named by Health Service Journal (HSJ), Nursing Times & NHS Employers as one of the top 120 places to work in the NHS (top 20%) 2015

Excellence award for the Lung Cancer Pathway - 2015

CHKS Top 40 hospital

HSJ medical e-handover

CHKS Most Improved Trust in the Country

Year on year improvements in the national staff survey – in the best performance for staff recommending the hospital as a place to work, a place to receive treatment, viewing quality & safety as a priority and staff engagement

Year on year improvements on national survey and excellent Friends and Family test result with over 95% of our patients recommending the hospital as a place to receive treatment

Consistent high performer – one of only a few Trusts achieving ALL cancer targets and standards re the 18 week referral to treatment time and time for patients to access diagnostic tests. The Trust has worked hard to ensure patients with suspected cancer receive their tests within one week instead of the national target of two weeks

Conclusion of significant estate developments:

Main entrance

Installed a second MRI scanner

Hospital Corridors,

2 wards a year

New signage

Critical Care and Theatres and Maternity Unit as outlined below

Refurbished Day Treatment Centre.

Although the Trust was running with a deficit position an investigation by its regulator had revealed the Trust was financially well managed and governed, was efficient and productive and that the deficit position was not of its own making and required a health economy solution.

In 2015 the Maternity service had received a national award from the Royal College of Midwives 'Midwifery Service of the Year' and in the same year achieved the highest UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative Award – Level 3. The midwifery unit had been extensively refurbished over 2014/15 and has a dedicated midwifery led unit as well as a consultant unit for more complex care. The Midwives also

provide extensive birthing choices such as home birth, birthing pools, aromatherapy etc.. and deliver just under 3000 births a year. The services also had the second best national maternity patient survey results in the Country and is consistently scores highly of the Friends and Family test with between 95 – 100% of Mothers recommending the service. To support the unit a brand new neonatal facility was built to support our most poorly babies and provides excellent support services for parents including on site accommodation.

Intensive care/theatres – In 2013 the had Trust built its brand new, £23M, theatres and critical care unit. This was not just a project about bricks and mortar but significant effort went in to ensuring the facilities supported improved outcomes by introducing proven methods such as lighting, décor, noise reduction etc. These are state of the art facilities provided to the Borough's citizens and have been instrumental in attracting staff to come and work at the Trust. Currently the theatres have the lowest number of vacancies ever. The critical care unit was further enhanced through the provision of a beautiful garden which is a place of reflection and well used by staff, relatives and patients.

6. He also referred to the recent appointment of a Director of Public Health and reported that, following a robust recruitment process, led by the Staffing Committee and also involving three Health Professionals, he was pleased to announce that Fiona Reynolds was to be appointed as the new Director of Public Health. Fiona was a health professional, working in health and social care for over 15 years. She currently held the position of Interim Director of Public Health at Cheshire West and Chester Council.
7. With regard to the Council's parks, he was sure all would agree that these were some of the very best in the UK. He reported Cheshire East had been awarded Green Flags for its outstanding parks. The Green Flag award was given to authorities that delivered a parks service to an international standard. Significant investment in Queens Park, Crewe meant that it now joined Congleton and Sandbach parks along with the Moor in Knutsford, Bollington recreation ground, Brereton Heath local nature reserve, Tegg's Nose country park and Tatton Park as having been awarded the Green Flag standard. Tatton Park had also received the Green Heritage Award, which was given to places that achieved a high standard in management and interpretation of a site with local or national historic importance. These awards, including the award for Queen's Park recognised the outstanding partnership working both with other local authorities and community groups. These awards were deserved recognition for a lot of hard work and dedication, not just from the Council's own teams, but also the army of volunteers and community groups that made achievements like this possible.

8. To conclude he announced, on behalf of the Leader of the Council, the most recent changes to Portfolio Holder responsibilities.

He stated that the last 10 months of the Leader's term of office had passed very quickly. Much had been achieved in that time and he said that Cabinet had performed excellently and delivered for the residents, businesses and visitors to this Borough, as highlighted by customer satisfaction ratings which had increased across the Borough. This had also been a period of consolidation and focus and a time to prepare for exciting, but challenging times ahead and so, having had that period to establish how best to align Cabinet member responsibilities, the Leader had made some changes as follows:-

Responsibility for Car Parking would move over to Cllr David Brown, becoming part of the Highways and Infrastructure Portfolio, with Cllr Brown taking over from Cllr Paul Bates and would allow Cllr Bates to focus clearly on the health agenda.

This would allow the Leader to take over Communications and Media Relations, freeing up Cllr Peter Groves to concentrate upon finance and asset sales and acquisitions. The Leader intended to retain the help of Councillor Chris Andrew, who would work with her on Communications and Media Relations issues.

The Leader would hand-over responsibility for Rural Affairs to Councillor Janet Clowes, who would promote this area of work in shaping the Council's place strategy.

Cabinet members were thanked for their work over the past year.

The Deputy Leader then handed over to Cllr Ainsley Arnold, Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder, to provide update in respect of the Local Plan.

9. Cllr Arnold confirmed that a note had been received from the Local Plan Inspector, Stephen Pratt, which had now been made public.

The Inspector's final conclusions on the wide range of matters and issues raised in these representations and discussed at the hearing sessions would be set out in his final report to the Council, which would be received following the forthcoming public consultation exercise on the Main Modifications.

This note, which was a culmination of nearly three years of public comments and submissions, set out his views on what modifications were needed to the Plan to ensure that it was legally compliant and sound.

Overall his note was good news for Cheshire East, endorsing the amendments already made and, apart from a list of minor comments and queries, he had suggested just two additional modifications:

1. The inclusion of a windfall allowance to provide flexibility and
2. The adjustment of the boundary of a safeguarded site in N West Macclesfield (CS32) to exclude Cock Wood and leave it in the Green Belt

The Headlines of his note were:

- Confirmation that nothing he heard in the recent hearings had changed his conclusions regarding housing and Job numbers, settlement hierarchy, spatial distribution and the Council's approach to green belt.
- Endorsement for the deliverability and viability of all of the sites
- Endorsement for the development strategy for each of the towns and villages and the rural area, saying that the locations and extent of development proposed seemed 'appropriate, justified, effective, deliverable and soundly based'.
- Endorsement of the Cheshire East approach to 5 year supply (known as Sedgepool 8).
- Support for the principle of the Green Gap around Crewe
- Confirmation that there was no need for any other sites to be considered at this stage and no need for early review.
- Apart from the NW Macclesfield safeguarded land, no other sites were recommended for change or deletion

It would now be necessary to complete the technical process of preparing modifications which, given the lengthy Examination, was legally complex, but it was hoped to commence formal consultation before the end of January to keep the Plan on track for adoption.

Cllr Arnold congratulated Adrian Fisher and all of the Spatial Plan Team who had worked tirelessly from when the Plan went into suspension in late 2014. They had shown considerable dedication and tenacity against a huge amount of pressure, including more than 60,000 representations received from the various consultation exercises. He noted that the Inspector had commented that 'this has been the most complex and challenging Local Plan I have ever examined'.

He also paid testament to the Leader of the Council, who had picked up this portfolio in 2015, to lead the team through a difficult time and bring the Plan out of suspension.

71 **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE -
NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES**

The Constitution Committee, at its meeting on 15 December 2016, had considered proposals to simplify the process for the nomination of Members to the Council's committees.

The proposals sought to simplify the process by requiring that the memberships of the Council's committees and sub-committees be established and changed, where required, by way of notification to the Head of Governance and Democratic Services by the Leader or Whip of the political group in question. This would include nominations to chairmanships and vice-chairmanships. The approach would provide more flexibility for the political groups, their Leaders and Whips, and for the officers involved in administering the Council's decision-making arrangements, but would not dilute the fundamental legal requirement that the composition and term of office of each committee and sub-committee be agreed by Council.

The Annual Council meeting would continue to agree the numerical composition and term of office of each committee and sub-committee.

Consideration was given to the recommendations from the Constitution Committee and it was:-

RESOLVED

1. That except for the Council's Cabinet and Cabinet committees and sub-committees, nominations to the Council's committees, sub-committees and decision-making bodies, and changes to such nominations including nominations to chairmanships and vice chairmanships, shall be notified to the Council by the Council's political Group Leaders or Group Whips, in accordance with the relevant numerical allocations made by Full Council to the committee, sub-committee or decision-making body in question;
2. That such nominations or changes to nominations shall be made to the Head of Governance and Democratic Services in writing or by email, and shall thereafter be published on the Council's website;
3. That it be noted that the legislative requirements set out in the Legal Implications section of the Constitution Committee report will not be affected by the recommendations of the report, and that the existing arrangements shall continue, by which the Council's Annual General Meeting agrees the political group or groups which will hold the chairmanships and vice-chairmanships of the Council's committees, sub-committees and decision-making bodies.
4. That the Director of Legal Services, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Constitution Committee, be

authorised to make such changes to the Council's Constitution as he considers are necessary to give effect to the wishes of Council.

72 **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES - REVIEW OF STRUCTURE**

The Constitution Committee, at its meeting on 15 December 2016, had considered proposals to reduce the number of overview and scrutiny committees to better align the committees to the corporate and Cabinet structures.

A draft structure had been created comprising four committees. The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee would retain its overarching responsibilities for the whole of the scrutiny function. With the exception of the Health Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which would meet on a monthly basis, committees would meet formally on a bi-monthly basis, six times a year as they did now.

It was noted that the Constitution Committee report, as submitted to Council, had been amended at para 11.7 with regard to the statutory responsibility for the scrutiny of community safety. The amendment clarified that the new Health and Adult Social Care and Communities Committee would fulfil the Council's statutory responsibility to scrutinise community safety.

RESOLVED

- 1 That the overview and scrutiny committee structure be reduced from six to four committees as follows:
 - Corporate (12 Members) (to include the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the other three overview and scrutiny committees)
 - Environment and Regeneration (12 Members)
 - Children and Families (12 Members)
 - Health and Adult Social Care and Communities (15 Members)
- 2 That the terms of reference for each overview and scrutiny committee be amended to better align with corporate and Cabinet structures, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, and that the Health and Adult Social Care and Communities Committee would fulfil the Council's statutory responsibility to scrutinise community safety;
- 3 That, with the exception of the Health and Adult Social Care and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which will meet on a monthly basis, the meetings of the overview and scrutiny committees be held on an eight weekly cycle, subject to each

Chairman being given flexibility to convene additional meetings as and when required depending on workload.

4. That the regular mid-point meetings be disbanded.
5. That the proposed overview and scrutiny arrangements be implemented with effect from 1st January 2017 and reviewed in due course.

73 **POLITICAL REPRESENTATION ON THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES**

Following approval of the recommendations in respect of the proposed review of structure of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, at minute 72, a report was submitted requesting Council to determine the changed political representation on the Council's Committees to ensure that political proportionality was achieved.

In summary, each relevant decision making body must be politically balanced, as far as is reasonably practicable and the total of Committee seats allocated to the Council's political groups must balance perfectly.

Appendix 1 of the report set out the total number of seats allocated to each political group. An updated appendix had been circulated around the Chamber, which was further amended, following further discussion with the Labour group whip. The amended appendix is appended to these minutes for information.

RESOLVED

1. That the political group representation, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, as amended and appended to these minutes, and the methods, calculations and conventions used in determining this, as outlined in the report be adopted, and the revised allocations of places to Committees be approved.
2. That the adjustments to Committee places indicated as being required in Appendix 1, as amended and paragraph 5.4 of the report, to achieve the correct political proportionality across all Committees, be approved.
3. That the Committee Chairman and Vice Chairmen allocations be confirmed as set out in Appendix 1; "(C)" denoting the allocation of the office of Chairman to political groups and "(VC)" denoting the allocation of the office of Vice Chairman to political groups.

74 **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2017-18**

The Constitution Committee, at its meeting on 24 November 2016, had considered the draft Calendar of Meetings for 2017/18.

The Committee had had regard to the revised overview and scrutiny committee arrangements recommended to and later approved by Council. A revised draft calendar reflecting those arrangements was circulated at the Council meeting.

There had been a request by Finance officers to include two additional meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee to reflect and accommodate changes in the reporting deadlines for certifying the statement of accounts and the approval and publication of the audited accounts. The proposed dates for the additional meetings were 1st June and 3rd August 2017 and could be accommodated within the revised calendar.

An updated version of the draft Calendar of Meetings reflecting the new overview and scrutiny structure and including the additional meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee was appended to the Constitution Committee minute and included in the agenda papers.

RESOLVED

That the draft Calendar of Meetings for 2017-18, as amended to reflect the newly agreed overview and scrutiny structure and with the inclusion of two additional Audit and Governance Committee meetings on the dates indicated, be approved.

75 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

Consideration was given to a report which summarised the arrangements for appointing External Auditors following the closure of the Audit Commission and the end of the transitional arrangements at the conclusion of the 2017/18 audits.

The Council needed to consider the options available and put in place new arrangements. The deadline for appointments was 31 December 2017.

The available options were:

- A. Establish a standalone Auditor Panel to make the appointment on behalf of the Council;
- B. Explore the establishment of local joint procurement arrangements with neighbouring authorities; or
- C. Opt-in to the national Sector Led Body, Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA).

The report recommended Option C.

In order to opt into the national Sector Led body, a decision was required at a meeting of the full Council in time to submit a formal acceptance to PSAA by the required date of 9 March 2017.

RESOLVED

That the Audit and Governance Committee recommendation to accept the invitation from Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd to 'opt in' to the sector led option for the appointment of external auditors for five financial years commencing 1 April 2018 be approved.

76 DEVOLUTION OF THE SUB-REGION: LATEST POSITION AND NEXT STEPS

Consideration was given to a report providing an update and overview of the latest position regarding devolution. It reaffirmed Cheshire East Council's commitment to devolution and also set out the next steps to enable this process to progress to its next stage of formal consultation.

The Council was committed to placing 'Quality of Place' at the heart of its Corporate Plan. This recognised that this overall objective could provide a significant driver in achieving the outcomes and help to shape the prosperity and wellbeing that residents, visitors and investors required. Cheshire East Council was, therefore, committed to ensuring that it protected and enhanced its places throughout any further initiatives or growth bids that followed thereafter. Securing more funding and powers from Government through a devolution deal would support the overall aims of protecting and enhancing the Quality of Place in the Borough.

RESOLVED

That this Council:-

- Supports the Leader and Cabinet in pursuing a devolution deal that meets the needs and ambitions of the Borough; and its sub-regional partners.
- Agrees to the principles to inform a devolution agreement as outlined in section 4.12 of the report.
- Notes that the Devolution Members Working Group will help shape the development of the deal.
- Approves further work on developing devolution proposals relating to a workable sub-regional geography
- Notes the timetable and next steps in the process as outlined in section 4.19 of the report.

77 CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL PLAN STRATEGY - MAIN MODIFICATIONS

(Cllr B Dooley had declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the Chamber during its consideration).

Consideration was given to a report relating to the main modifications in respect of the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy. At its meeting on 26 February 2016, Council had approved proposed changes to the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy for consultation. Council had delegated consideration of the consultation responses to the Executive Director Place. The subsequent Examination Hearings into the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy had concluded on 20 October and, at the time of writing the report, the Inspector's findings were awaited.

The report requested that Council note and approve the requirement to consult on the Inspector's draft Recommended Main Modifications to the Local Plan Strategy. In order to minimise delay, it also requested that the previous delegation for making additional modifications to the Plan be extended through the next stages, prior to adoption of the Local Plan Strategy by the Council.

In addition to the substantive Main Modifications, delegated approval was also requested to approve other non-material changes to the Plan.

The Strategic planning Board, at its meeting on 14 December 2016, had also considered the report and had requested that Council take account of small but important changes to three supporting paragraphs in the report arising from legal advice received earlier in the week. Details of these changes were circulated around the Chamber. Given the risk of Judicial Review following plan adoption, the Council needed to ensure our processes were strictly correct.

Council was requested to note the minutes of Strategic Planning Board and approve the recommendation as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of the Council report.

RESOLVED

That Council agrees the following delegations, subject to the agreed recommend amendments of the Strategic Planning Board:

1. That authority be delegated to the Director of Planning & Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, the Party Group Leaders and the Chairman & Vice-Chairman of Strategic Planning Board, to approve the publication of any draft Recommended Main Modifications received from the Inspector for public consultation alongside any further Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessments required.
2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Planning & Sustainable Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, the Party Group Leaders and the Chairman & Vice-Chairman of Strategic Planning Board, to approve any proposed Additional Modifications to the Local Plan Strategy that do not

constitute a Main Modification, but which he deems are necessary or appropriate.

78 STAFFING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was given to a report recommending that Council amend the Terms of Reference of the Staffing Committee in relation to the approval of Human Resources Policies and Procedures and other matters, details of which were set out in the report.

The Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer reported that the need for this report had been brought to his attention after the meeting of the Constitution Committee and he had, therefore, consulted the Chairman of the Constitution Committee, who had agreed that it could be reported directly to Council.

RESOLVED

That the terms of Reference of the Staffing Committee be amended as detailed in the updated and re-circulated Appendix to the report, with immediate effect.

79 NOTICES OF MOTION

CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION:-

1. Membership of Freemasons

Proposed by Councillor Sam Corcoran and seconded by Cllr Nick Mannion

Council agrees that all Cheshire East Elected Members should be required to declare membership of the Freemasons.

RESOLVED

That the motion stand referred to the Audit and Governance Committee.

2. Space for Cycling

Proposed by Councillor Sam Corcoran and Seconded by Councillor Howard Murray

This Council supports the Space for Cycling process promoted by Cycling UK and commits to providing the funding to implement its cycling policy effectively.

RESOLVED

That the motion stand referred to Cabinet.

3. A&E at Macclesfield Hospital

A letter in respect of this motion, sent on behalf of Mr Peter Hayes and Honorary Freeman Sir Nicholas Winterton had been circulated around the Chamber.

Proposed by Councillor Paul Bates and seconded by Cllr Sam Corcoran,

That Cheshire East Council supports the continued provision of an accident and emergency service at Macclesfield General Hospital, and instructs the Chief Executive to write to such health and Government agencies, as he considers appropriate, to convey to them the resolution of this Council.

RESOLVED

That the motion be approved.

4. Millbrook Unit

Proposed by Councillor Paul Bates and seconded by Cllr Laura Jeuda

This Council strongly opposes the proposal to close the Millbrook Unit at Macclesfield and urges the decision makers to make alternative arrangements in order to ensure continuation of the existing service from that Unit.

Council agrees that Millbrook provides a specialised service within the borough to some of our most vulnerable residents, housing skilled nurses and health care professionals who deliver expert care in the field of mental health for our residents, in our locality and to the benefit of our community. Council further agrees that this is an asset which benefits those who are in need of care and keeps them close to those who love them.

RESOLVED

That the motion stand referred to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

5. Funding of Adult Social Care

The following motion was withdrawn at the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Jill Rhodes

This Council supports the Unison proposal and campaign to encourage the Chancellor to commit to spending the increase in the Government's share of business rates on Adult Social Care and to end the 2% council tax precept for social care from 2017/18.

Social Care is in crisis, as recent reports show and new funding is needed. The Government will have up to £2.4bn through the increase in its share of business rates. This should be given as a social care grant to allow Councils to tackle this crisis and lessen the local tax burden.

80 QUESTIONS

The following questions were submitted:-

1. Cllr Carter in respect of the Hurdsfield Family Centre. He stated that this had been identified as one of the areas requiring much needed attention in 2014, but had now been removed from the Council's budget. He asked what had changed since 2014, when this had been regarded as important and much needed - Cllr David Brown, Highways and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder undertook to provide a written response.
2. Cllr M Warren in respect of the recent declaration by the Council regarding additional Air Quality Management areas in Macclesfield and the approval of 500 new homes in close proximity to Hibel Road, bringing additional vehicles. He asked what the intention was regarding the Northern Land Development Order, which would encourage new homes to be built along the Hibel Road Air Quality Management Area, thereby putting resident's health at risk - Cllr A Arnold, Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder undertook to provide a written response.
3. Cllr H Murray asked whether the Leader of the Council would give a commitment that the decision on any devolution deal would not be considered unless it was first seen and debated by full Council – Cllr Rachel Bailey, the Leader of the Council, responded to say that she had every intention of engaging with Council on any decision.
4. Cllr D Flude, in respect of the Local Plan Inspector's recognition of the importance of the green gap in Crewe. She asked whether, rather than a High Growth City, there could now be a High Growth Garden City that would recognise the green gap and the importance of the small towns and cities, historically, in the smaller conurbations around Crewe – Cllr Arnold, Housing and Planning Portfolio Holder undertook to provide a written response.
5. Cllr S Corcoran stated that, as part of the budget setting process he would be raising the possibility of amending the budget to consider all or some of the recommendations of the call-in Scrutiny Committee relating to school buses and he asked the Leader of the

Council whether she would be willing to join a cross party group to discuss this issue - Cllr Rachel Bailey, the Leader of the Council, undertook to provide a written response.

6. Cllr R Fletcher asked when the Highways department would start to consider plans in order to alleviate the serious traffic congestion in Alsager, in view of the number of houses to be built in the area. – Cllr D Brown, Highways and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder undertook to provide a written response.

The meeting commenced at 1.30 pm and concluded at 4.15 pm

Councillor O Hunter (Mayor/Chairman)
CHAIRMAN

Minute 73 – Political Balance on the Council’s Committees

Appendix 1

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL - POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITIES ON ALL BODIES (other than those to be appointed on an ad-hoc basis)

Based upon the following:

Con:52; Lab:16; Ind:11; Lib Dem:2; Non Grouped ind:1

Committee	Con	Lab	Ind	Lib Dem	Total Allocated
Corporate (Resources) Overview and Scrutiny	8 (C)	2 (VC)	2	0	12
Environment & Regeneration (places) Overview and Scrutiny	7 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	12
Children and Families (People) Overview and Scrutiny	7 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	12
Health and Adult Social Care (People) Overview and Scrutiny	9 (C) (VC)	4	2	0	15
Audit and Governance Committee	7 (C) (VC)	1	1	1	10
Constitution	9 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	14
Strategic Planning Board	7 (C) (VC)	2	2	1	12
Northern Planning Committee	8 (C)	2	2 (VC)	0	12

Committee	Con	Lab	Ind	Lib Dem	Total
Southern Planning Committee	8 (C) (VC)	2	2	0	12
Public Rights of Way	5 (C)	1 (VC)	1	0	7
Licensing Committee	10 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	15
Staffing	5 (C) (VC)	2	1	0	8
Lay Members Appointments	3	1	0	1	5
Local Authority School Governor Appointments Panel	3 (C) (VC)	1	1	0	5
Civic Sub Committee	5	2	1	0	8
Community Governance Review Sub Committee	5	1	0	0	6
Outside Organisations Sub Committee	4	1	0	1	6
Committee	Con	Lab	Ind	Lib Dem	Total
Total Places allocated	110	34	23	4	171
Total places available					
Proportional Entitlement	110 (109.78) (64.2%)	34 (33.77) (19.75%)	23 (23.22) (13.58%)	4 (4.22) (2.47%)	171 (100%)
Difference*	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)

COUNCIL MEETING – 23RD FEBRUARY 2017**Extract from the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 7th February 2017****95 THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2017/20**

Cabinet considered the Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy for Cheshire East Council for the years 2017/18 to 2019/20.

The report set out how the Council would approach the financial challenges over the medium term and forecast a balanced budget in each of the three years from 2017/18 to 2019/20.

The report summarised the resolutions that Cabinet was requested to recommend to Council at Appendix A.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Report (containing the Budget) for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 was set out at Appendix D. The document was the result of the Business Planning Process led by the Council from May 2016 to February 2017, which included regular review from the Council's scrutiny committees. The process had also involved engagement with local people and organisations. Details of how the process was managed were included in Appendix D, Annex 2 and a summary of the results was provided in Appendix C.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Assets reported that the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 2nd February 2017 had resolved to receive and note the report, and had requested the Chief Operating Officer to produce a summary public document which showed how the budget consultation feedback had been reflected in the final recommended budget proposals to Council.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet

1. recommends to Council items 1 to 9 at Appendix A to the report for approval; and

2. notes:

(a) the summary results of the Budget Consultation, attached at Appendix C and the Budget Engagement exercise undertaken by the Council, as set out in the attached (Appendix D, Annex 2);

(b) the comments of the Council's Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), contained within the MTFS Report, regarding the robustness of estimates and

level of reserves held by the Council based on these budget proposals (Appendix D, Comment from the Chief Operating Officer);

- (c) the risk assessment detailed in the MTFS Report (Appendix D, Annex 5);
- (d) that the estimates and profiling contained within the proposed Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2019/20 reflect the scale of ambition and future investment plans of the Council. The programme may vary to take advantage of external funding opportunities, maximise private sector investment, prudential borrowing considerations, operational capacity and to ensure optimal delivery of the overall programme (Appendix D, Annex 12); and
- (e) that projects will be robustly governed through the Executive Monitoring Board. The Council's Finance Procedure Rules will always apply should any changes in spending requirements be identified (Appendix D, Annex 12).

COUNCIL IS ASKED TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION 1 ABOVE AND RECOGNISE THAT CABINET HAS NOTED RECOMMENDATION 2.

Cheshire East Council

Cabinet

Date of Meeting:	7 th February 2017
Report of:	Peter Bates, Chief Operating Officer
Subject/Title:	The Council's Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/20
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr P Groves Groves, Cabinet Member, Finance and Assets Cllr C Andrew, Deputy Cabinet Member, Finance and Assets

1. Report Summary

- 1.1 This report presents the Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy for Cheshire East Council for the years 2017/18 to 2019/20.
- 1.2 Cheshire East Council arranges the delivery of over 500 local services every day. The Council's achievements in making Cheshire East such a great place to live are reflected in a range of local indicators, some headlines include:
 - Latest estimates show that Cheshire East's economic output (Gross Added Value) stands at £10.6bn; a GVA growth averaging 2.7% per annum since 2012.
 - 93% of Cheshire East primary schools and 86% of secondary schools are ranked as good or outstanding.
 - Over 97% of young people are in education, employment and training; those whose destination is 'not known' remains the lowest and therefore the best in the North West at only 0.2%.
- 1.3 The provisional funding announcements of 15th December 2016 confirmed that local government spending will continue to reduce through to 2019/20. Central Government's approach continues to rely on local tax raising powers to fund services and this has been supported by allowing further increases and flexibility in the council tax charge to support Adult Social Care of up to 6% over the coming three years. The reduction in central government grant that was reported in the Council's [Pre-Budget Consultation](#) (November 2016) has also been confirmed. This level was guaranteed by the completion of a [4-Year Efficiency Plan](#) (submitted to Government in October 2016)
- 1.4 Cheshire East is the third largest council in the Northwest of England, providing services for a population of over 370,000 local people. Following extensive consultation the proposed revenue budget is balanced for 2017/18 with net revenue spending of £263.8m and total capital investment aspirations of £535.6m is identified over the next three financial years. The individual status of schemes within this ambitious programme is summarised within Appendix D, Annex 12.

- 1.5 In proposing a balanced budget for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 the Council has recognised the requirement to respond to both cost and demand pressures in Adult Social Care Services. Central government grant reductions of £14.8m in 2017/18, were based on an assumption, by the Government, that the Council's ability to raise Council Tax levels could go some way to replace this reduction in grant. The clear local, regional and national pressure within the overall Health and Social Care system led to the introduction of additional flexibility to increase Council Tax levels within the Local Government Settlement in December 2016.
- 1.6 In response to these issues and assumptions from Central Government the Council is proposing to increase the Adult Social Care Precept to 3% in 2017/18. This is designed to not only protect Adult Social Care investment, but can also fund a net increase in spending in this area. The Adult Social Care precept is in addition to a general Council Tax increase of 1.99%. This means an overall Council Tax increase of 4.99% in 2017/18 is proposed which equates to a £1.21 increase per week for an average Band D property.
- 1.7 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 is currently balanced on an assumption that the Council Tax could also increase by a further 4.99% in 2018/19 and up to 1.99% in 2019/20. These planning forecasts may be subject to change when Council is asked to set the annual budget in February each year.
- 1.8 This report is based on the Provisional Settlement, which therefore still requires parliamentary approval, and includes the following headlines:
- Overall net revenue spending on services is being reduced by £2.9m to deliver a balanced position in 2017/18.
 - Value for money will continue to be supported through prudent management of Council investments. This will include the further reduction of external loans by £6.8m, bringing the total repayment to £34.8m since 2009.
 - Central Government grants will reduce by £14.8m.
 - Funding for essential local services will require a proposed Council tax increase of 4.99% from £1,261.95 to £1,324.92 for a Band D property.
 - £197m is estimated to be spent over the next three years on improving our highways network.
- 1.9 This report sets out how the Council will approach the financial challenges over the medium term and forecasts a balanced budget in each of the three years from 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Corporate Plan 2017/20

- 1.10 This report also includes the updated Corporate Plan for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20.

- 1.11 During the summer of 2016 the Council's Cabinet Members re-considered the priorities and outcomes contained within the Corporate Plan (2016-20). The review concluded that the outcomes in that plan continue to be hugely relevant to the way the Council can meet the needs of local residents and businesses, but more emphasis could be placed on the priorities of the Council in the Medium Term. The Six Outcomes have been maintained for the Corporate Plan 2017 to 2020.
- 1.12 The updated Corporate Plan has formed the basis for developing proposals within the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Progress against the Corporate Plan will be monitored through quarterly reporting to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The quarterly reports will also identify up to date financial and operational performance of the Council and show how the latest priorities are being managed to achieve the best outcomes for local residents.

Budget 2017/20

- 1.13 Following months of development and consultation, the budget change proposals contained in this report are robust and provide a balanced budget for consideration.
- 1.14 Like most local authorities the Council had significant budget deficits to tackle over the medium term, caused by major grant reductions in local government funding. This is Central Government's clear strategy to try to deal with the scale of the national deficit. Our local response to these pressures continues to focus on innovation and creativity with a clear emphasis on improving efficiency, productivity and establishing more effective local service delivery arrangements.
- 1.15 Our ability to create the best conditions for private sector investment, economic growth and prosperity will be critical to the continued success of the Borough as the Council's reliance on locally generated income increases.
- 1.16 This report summarises the resolutions that Cabinet are requested to recommend to Council at **Appendix A**.
- 1.17 This report provides the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Report (containing the Budget) for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 at **Appendix D**.
- 1.18 The document is the result of the Business Planning Process led by the Council from May 2016 to February 2017, which included regular review from the Council's Scrutiny Committees, concluding with a final review by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2nd February 2017. The MTFS Report is being submitted to Cabinet on 7th February 2017 for recommendation to Council for approval.
- 1.19 The business planning process involved engagement with local people and organisations and details of how this process was managed is included within

Appendix D, Annex 2 and a summary of the results is provided in **Appendix C**.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Cabinet recommend to Council the items at **Appendix A**.
- 2.2. That Cabinet notes:
 - a) The summary results of the Budget Consultation, attached at **Appendix C** and the Budget Engagement exercise undertaken by the Council, as set out in the attached (**Appendix D, Annex 2**).
 - b) The comments of the Council's Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), contained within the MTFFS Report, regarding the robustness of estimates and level of reserves held by the Council based on these budget proposals (**Appendix D, Comment from the Chief Operating Officer**).
 - c) The risk assessment detailed in the MTFFS Report (**Appendix D, Annex 5**).
 - d) That the estimates and profiling contained within the proposed Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2019/20 reflect the scale of ambition and future investment plans of the Council. The programme may vary to take advantage of external funding opportunities, maximise private sector investment, prudential borrowing considerations, operational capacity and to ensure optimal delivery of the overall programme (**Appendix D, Annex 12**).
 - e) That projects will be robustly governed through the Executive Monitoring Board. The Council's Finance Procedure Rules will always apply should any changes in spending requirements be identified (**Appendix D, Annex 12**).

3. Other Options Considered

- 3.1. The Business Planning Process enables the Council to develop options, consider the best approach, produce Business Cases and share these options via the [Pre-Budget Consultation](#) 2017/20.
- 3.2. The engagement process and feedback on the [Pre-Budget Consultation](#) plus funding announcements and on-going refinement, informs the set of proposals in this report. For the first time the Council included options that were considered during the preparation of the consultation material, but were not currently being proposed for inclusion in the balanced medium term forecasts. This increased level of transparency allowed stakeholders to comment on a wider set of considerations.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1. A copy of the Corporate Plan 2017/20, is attached at **Appendix B**.
- 4.2. The Council's Budget (as contained in the MTFS Report) requires Council approval. A copy of the MTFS Report is attached at **Appendix D**.
- 4.3. In accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Rules of Procedure, Cabinet is requested to recommend this report to Council to approve the MTFS Report for 2017/20.
- 4.4. The Council's Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer) reports that, in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 and Sections 32 and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, he is satisfied with the robustness of the estimates making up the Council Tax Requirement of £191,055,465. This is based on a total 4.99% Band D increase, which includes a 3% precept specifically for Adult Social Care (based on the Provisional Finance Settlement and subject to change from the Final Settlement) and he is satisfied with the adequacy of the financial reserves for the Council.
- 4.5. Further to the above statement it can be reported that the Medium Term Financial Strategy Report 2017/18 to 2019/20 (**Appendix D**) is based on sound financial principles and reflects sufficiently detailed plans that can maintain the financial resilience and viability of the Council in the medium term.

5. Background / Chronology

- 5.1. The Budget Setting Process 2017/20 was developed and endorsed by the Cabinet and Corporate Leadership Team in May 2016.
- 5.2. This has enabled a set of proposals to be developed and challenged through a managed process that considered service changes, the Capital Programme and the supporting financial planning assumptions relating to funding levels.
- 5.3. There have been a series of distinct stages of the Budget Setting Process with reports in relation to the Council's financial position being taken to Cabinet in July, September, November, December 2016 and February 2017. Overview and Scrutiny Committees were briefed in July and November 2016, and January 2017 with final consideration of the package of proposals presented to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2nd February 2017. All Members were invited to a finance briefing on 12th January 2017.

- 5.4. This exercise has been undertaken against a background of significant reductions in funding levels from Central Government, implementing the new Corporate Plan and the Authority continuing to deliver against its commitment to become a commissioning council through its 'Best Fit' model of service delivery.
- 5.5. The MTFS Report provides financial background as well as setting out further details of the on-going approach to funding the Outcomes set out in the Corporate Plan. It highlights the spending plans and income targets for the financial year starting 1st April 2017, as well as forecast estimates for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years.
- 5.6. The MTFS Report is based on the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2017/18. This was released on 15th December 2016. The final settlement is expected in early February 2017 with a debate by Members of Parliament in the House of Commons expected in mid February (after the publication date of this report to Cabinet) to agree the position. The Settlement included some changes to national policies which the Council has responded to.
- 5.7. Adding to or amending the change programmes has been an important focus of the budget setting process, ensuring that the Council focuses its energy and resources on those areas of change which will help build sustainable communities and a Council that remains fit for the future.
- 5.8. Progress in terms of delivery of the proposals has been monitored and reported at regular intervals during 2016/17 and this will continue during 2017/18.
- 5.9. The MTFS Report 2017/20 is attached at **Appendix D**.
- 5.10. The MTFS Report continues to include estimated grant allocations in relation to several Specific Grants (**Annex 8**). These will be refined as appropriate in due course.
- 5.11. Any resulting impact of these issues in terms of changes to funding will be managed through General Reserves. Therefore, a balanced budget position will be maintained. Should there be any changes these will be notified to Members at the earliest opportunity.
- 5.12. Any changes made as a result of the engagement process and further debate will be reported to Members at the Council meeting on 23rd February 2017.

6. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members

- 6.1. Not applicable.

7. Implications of Recommendation

7.1. Policy Implications

- 7.1.1. The report outlines policy and budget proposals which will impact on service delivery arrangements.

7.2. Legal Implications

- 7.2.1. The Council should have robust processes so that it can meet statutory requirements and fulfil its fiduciary duty.

7.3. Financial Implications

- 7.3.1. Please see Sections 1 and 5 of this report.

7.4. Equality Implications

- 7.4.1. The Council has a statutory duty to understand the equality impacts of its decisions, policies, strategies and functions.

- 7.4.2. The Council needs to ensure that its budget decisions do not discriminate against any group and promote equality of opportunity and good community relations. The Council undertakes equality assessments where necessary, and continues to do so as projects develop across the lifetime of the Corporate Plan. This process helps us to understand if our budget proposals:

- Have an adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics listed in the 2010 Equality Act.
- Result in direct or indirect discrimination.

- 7.4.3. The process assists us to consider what actions could address or alleviate any adverse impact and help us to recognise where investment could alleviate an adverse impact from a saving.

- 7.4.4. Completed equality assessments form part of any detailed Business Cases.

7.5. Rural Community Implications

- 7.5.1. The report outlines policy and budget proposals which will impact on service delivery across the Borough.

7.6. Human Resources Implications

- 7.6.1. Please see Workforce Development Section – **Appendix D, Annex 4.**

7.7. Public Health Implications

7.7.1. Please see Section 1, Outcome 5 part of **Appendix D**.

7.8. Other Implications (Please Specify)

7.8.1. The Council has a statutory duty to consult with certain groups on its Budget Proposals and as part of the implementation of certain items. Further details are provided in **Appendix D, Annex 2**.

8. Risk Management

- 8.1. The steps outlined in this report mitigate the four main legal and financial risks to the Council's financial management arrangements:
- The Council must set a balanced Budget.
 - Setting the Council Tax for 2017/18 must follow a compliant process.
 - The Council should provide high quality evidence to support submissions for external assessment.
 - That Council borrowing will comply with the Treasury Management Strategy which is underpinned by the Prudential Code.
- 8.2. A risk assessment of the significant proposals being put forward has been carried out by each service and is included as part of the planning process.
- 8.3. It is important to note that the Council faces significant financial challenges in achieving its desired outcomes. Management of risk is embedded within the organisation to ensure the Council can seize opportunities, introduce new, innovative models of service delivery, focus on improving outcomes for residents and review its range of services whilst identifying and controlling any resulting risks. The approach to risk management will continue to be assessed as the Council's plans and financial strategy are implemented.

9. Access to Information / Bibliography

Please see the following financial reports:

[2015/16 Outturn Report](#)

[2016/17 First Quarter Review of Performance](#)

[2016/17 Mid-Year Review of Performance](#)

[2016/17 Pre-Budget Consultation](#) released 3rd November 2016

[Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3rd November 2016](#)

[Council 15th December 2016: Domestic and Non Domestic Rate Taxbase Reports](#)

[2016/17 Third Quarter Review of Performance](#)

10. Contact Information

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

Name: Peter Bates
Designation: Chief Operating Officer
Tel. No.: 01270 686013
Email: peter.bates@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Appendix A

Recommendations to Council from Cabinet - February 2016

That Council approve:

- 1 The updated Corporate Plan 2017/20 as provided at **Appendix B**.
- 2 The Revenue estimates for the 2017/18 budget and the medium term Capital Programme estimates 2017/20, as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Strategy Report (MTFS) 2017/20 (**Appendix D**).
- 3 Band D Council Tax of £1,324.92 representing an increase of 4.99%. This is below the referendum limit and arises from the provisional finance settlement allowing up to a 3% additional charge to fund Adult Social Care pressures (**Appendix D, Section 2**).
- 4 The 2017/18 non ring-fenced Specific Grants, and that any amendments to particular grants will be reported to Council if further information is received from Government Departments or other funding bodies (**Appendix D, Annex 8**).
- 5 The 2017/18 Capital Grants, and that any amendments to particular grants will be reported to Council if further information is received from Government Departments or other funding bodies (**Appendix D, Annex 9**).
- 6 The relevant Portfolio Holder to agree the use of additional Specific Grants received in conjunction with the Finance Portfolio Holder as further updates to the 2017/18 funding position are received.
- 7 The recommended Prudential Indicators for Capital Financing (**Appendix D, Annex 11**).
- 8 The Children and Families Portfolio Holder to agree any necessary amendment to the 2017/18 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) of £143m and the associated policy proposals, in the light of further information received from DfE, pupil number changes, further academy transfers and the actual balance brought forward from 2016/17 (**Appendix D, Annex 8**).
- 9 The recommended Reserves Strategy (**Appendix D, Annex 13**).

That Council recognises that Cabinet has noted:

- 10 The Budget Engagement exercise undertaken by the Council, as set out in the attached (**Appendix D, Annex 2**).
- 11 The results of the Budget Consultation (**Appendix C**).
- 12 The comments of the Council's Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer), contained within the MTFS Report, regarding the robustness of estimates and

level of reserves held by the Council based on these budget proposals
(**Appendix D, Comment from the Chief Operating Officer**).

- 13 The risk assessment detailed in the MTFFS Report (**Appendix D, Annex 5**).
- 14 That the estimates and profiling contained within the proposed Capital Programme 2017/18 to 2019/20 reflect the scale of ambition and future investment plans of the Council. The programme may vary to take advantage of external funding opportunities, maximise private sector investment, prudential borrowing considerations, operational capacity and to ensure optimal delivery of the overall programme (**Appendix D, Annex 12**).
- 15 That projects will be robustly governed through the Executive Monitoring Board. The Council's Finance Procedure Rules will always apply should any changes in spending requirements be identified (**Appendix D, Annex 12**).

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Cheshire East Council

Corporate Plan

2017-2020

Foreword from the Leader of the Council

A Great Place to Live

Cheshire East is a great place to live, work and visit - and this is as important to the Council as it is to our local residents. In addition, we have one of the strongest economies in the country which is made up of a vibrant mix of businesses across a wide range of sectors.

The Council plays an integral part in the communities of this beautiful part of the Northwest of England and aims to deliver much needed services that deliver good value for money to our local residents.

This Corporate Plan for 2017 to 2020 highlights how the Council is striving to create sustainable growth in the local economy that will support the health and economic wellbeing of residents. We will continue to develop the skills of our local population which will help them secure meaningful long-term employment as well as supporting our local businesses to grow.

In addition, we will maintain a focus on the 'Quality of Place' in the Borough - providing a good quality transport and digital infrastructure system. This will support our economy to grow and support our local residents to

access employment, education and leisure opportunities. Furthermore, we will also ensure that the countryside and open spaces in Cheshire East are managed prudently and provide good quality front line services such as highways, waste collection and street cleaning to ensure that the quality of the environment in the Borough is maintained.

We will also continue to invest in supporting people to secure well-being and good health. Education achievement rates for pupils in Cheshire East remain as one of the highest in the country and social care for children and adults receive high levels of investment.

The costs associated with maintaining this level of quality in our services and environment are becoming increasingly challenging as national austerity measures continue to put pressure on

local government and as the costs of the health system continue to put all public services under severe financial pressure.

Nonetheless, the Council will continue to strive to provide services that are innovative, creative and deliver great value for money to our local residents.

**Councillor Rachel Bailey,
Leader of Cheshire East Council**

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The challenges we face

Like all local authorities, Cheshire East faces a significant financial challenge. A combination of reductions in the grant we receive from central government, alongside increasing demands on our services, and increased costs through inflation, mean we will need to find an additional £100 million by 2020, through a combination of savings and additional income. We will need to take tough decisions in order to make those savings whilst still continuing to provide high-quality services.

We must also recognise that Cheshire East has a maturing population. While young people often choose to move out of the Borough, it is a great place to raise a family, and many choose to stay once the children have flown the nest thanks to the enviable quality of life we provide.

This means that the average age of our population is skewed towards the older end of the spectrum. Inevitably, an aging population means that social care costs are continuing to rise. Furthermore, the increasing costs associated with the health system will continue to put all public services under severe financial pressure. However, there are also significant opportunities for economic growth on the horizon, and we must make sure that we are well-placed to make the most of these for local people. Cheshire East is a prosperous area, where residents have high expectations for good quality

services. There are however, still areas of significant need within our communities, but we have a real opportunity now, to grow that prosperity and use it to enable residents to change their lives for the better.

We must work hard to attract younger people to live and work in the borough as well as supporting our existing residents to get the skills they need to have a successful life. By doing this we will be able to sustain growth in our economy and create more jobs. If we are successful in achieving this we will be able to secure more funding for essential public services as well as seeing a reduced demand for high cost services like social care.

We will therefore aim to provide services that reflect the high aspirations of our residents, and the quality of the places we serve. We are an ambitious council, with the drive to meet the challenges we face head-on, and to continue to provide the high-quality services that we know our residents expect.



Corporate objectives and outcomes

Cheshire East Council is an organisation with strong political and managerial leadership, and stable, well-managed finances. We are confident in the decisions we make and the values that underpin those decisions. We want to see Cheshire East Council build a national reputation for customer services and partnership working.

As a new unitary authority, formed in 2009, Cheshire East is a young organisation. This means we have been successful in innovating and taking a fresh approach to the way we deliver our services. We are flexible in our approach to service delivery, always seeking solutions that will offer quality and value for money, and working with delivery partners who share our values and commitment to the success of the area.

We are committed to supporting the most vulnerable residents, whilst enabling others to support themselves. We will empower individuals and communities to thrive independently in a supportive environment; working together with partners, with the voluntary sector, with business, and most importantly, with residents themselves. We are committed to ensuring that the growing economic prosperity of this area creates opportunities for everyone who lives here.

Protecting and enhancing the 'Quality of Place' in the Borough is a key aim of the Council and our partners. 'Quality of Place' is about the quality of our built and natural environment, its interaction with our residents and businesses and the ability of individuals to make a successful life here. It's about ensuring that growth is balanced with quality and that we continue to secure investment in the right areas to continue to make the place special.

Getting our 'Quality of Place' right it will mean that we:

- Need to deliver the right type of housing in the right places
- Support our existing businesses to grow as well as attracting more inward investment into the Borough
- Retain and attract highly skilled people; and support local residents to be as successful as possible
- Continue to invest in our digital and transport infrastructure
- Develop the heritage, cultural and leisure offer in the Borough
- Manage our countryside and green spaces prudently
- Regenerate our towns and villages

All of this will support the wellbeing of our local residents. This will enable Cheshire East to have high levels of employment with a skilled and motivated workforce that will result in reduced demand on public services. In turn this will free up more resources to focus on delivering more growth and prosperity and also ensure that the most vulnerable continue to be supported by the community, the Council and its partners.

We aim to be a lean and efficient organisation, which empowers staff at all levels to do the best job they can for local people, always putting residents first. We also aim to be an employer of choice, attracting the best of both local and national talent, to help us provide the very best services for local people.

Corporate objectives and outcomes cont'd

Our five resident-focused outcomes are:

Communities – We will enable and empower individuals and communities to thrive independently in a supportive environment; working together, engaging and collaborating with partners, with the voluntary sector, with business, and most importantly, with residents themselves.

Economy – We are committed to ensuring that the growing economic prosperity of this area creates opportunities for everyone who lives here.

Education – Supporting residents early to provide a great start in life.

Environment – Protecting and enhancing the 'Quality of Place' in the Borough is a key aim of the Council and our partners. 'Quality of Place' is about the quality of our built and natural environment and how this relates to residents, visitors and business.

Health – We are committed to supporting the most vulnerable residents, whilst enabling others to support themselves and lead a prosperous and healthy life.

These outcomes are underpinned by a sixth outcome based on a responsible and efficient way of working.

The Council will demonstrate achievement of these outcomes through its quarterly performance management and monitoring arrangements.



Our values - Putting Residents First

This commitment is about delivering the best outcomes for the diverse range of people living and working in Cheshire East. Putting 'Residents First', rather than the individual resident, is about balancing the needs of individuals with the needs of the population; protecting the most vulnerable while enabling everyone to have access to services and facilities which reflect local circumstances in their communities and Cheshire East as a whole. It is about really listening and understanding what residents and businesses need and responding appropriately to put in place affordable services equitably and responsibly.

- This requires **Flexibility**, which means us all adapting quickly to changing circumstances and learning together from our experiences.
- We will put **Innovation** at the heart of our thinking and in the way we approach our work.
- Taking personal **Responsibility** is a key cornerstone of our values in delivering what we promise, and ensuring efficient use of resources, whether this is our people, funding, processes, information or technology.
- In addition to all of the above the Council will put residents first by setting and achieving clear standards of **Service** that residents can expect. We shall also aim to deliver our services through a 'right first time' approach where we meet appropriate customer demands in a professional and timely way.
- Bringing this together is **Teamwork**, respecting and working well with others to collectively achieve the best outcomes for local residents and communities.

Achieving outcomes

Cheshire East wants to deliver public transformation across a range of public, private and third sector partners as it recognises that working together with other agencies like health, police, fire, probation, our town and parish councils, voluntary sector and faith-based groups, businesses and many others, will help deliver better and more responsive services to residents. The Council regularly reviews how local services can best meet the needs of residents in Cheshire East. The Council aims to help local people to be healthy and enjoy living in the Borough. The Council will work to create wealth from its approach to education, employment, housing and transport. The approach will lead to mental wellbeing, safe communities and overall economic prosperity.

This approach gives all our staff and partners a 'golden thread' linking everything they do on a daily basis for residents to these six clear outcomes and our organisational values. A summary of our performance management arrangements is set out on pages 11 and 12.

The overall structure of public sector services will adapt to improve public value, and the Council is at the forefront of such change. We are flexible in our approach to service delivery, always seeking

solutions that will offer quality and value for money, and working with delivery partners who share our values and commitment to the success of the area. As a commissioning organisation the Council recognises that it does not have a set ideology on how best to deliver services and instead will adopt the "best fit" on whatever mechanism is right to achieve its 6 outcomes – this 'best fit' approach is set out on page 8. The Council runs companies, enters into partnerships, takes on new burdens or devolves services to ensure the most appropriate service is provided at the right cost.

Underlying its approach is a commitment from the Council to transparency and good governance. Decisions of the Council will continue to be evidence based and subject to appropriate challenge, but free from unnecessary

bureaucracy. Public value will be achieved alongside public trust and the Council will continue to openly report progress and publish information that allows any interested party to see how the Council works within external and internal controls. The Cheshire East group of businesses will continue to be open to scrutiny and open for business.

Cheshire East Council has a reputation for being a low cost, high performing Council and the Corporate Plan 2017-2020 provides a further commitment to maintain that reputation.

**Mike Suarez, Chief Executive
Cheshire East Council**



The 'Best Fit' approach

The ultimate commissioners of services are the **Cheshire East Council Cabinet members**.

Executive Directors, Directors and Heads of Service work to establish the most appropriate provider of services.

We will also work with other local public services providers, both within the borough, sub-regionally and regionally to achieve the outcomes of the Corporate Plan for the residents of Cheshire East.



Maintaining Financial Stability

Self Reliance – funding local services with local resources

To maintain value for money the Council will demonstrate how local services will continue to be affordable.

The need to reduce the demands on central government funding means the Council will cease to receive many government grants by 2020. As such we aim to fund all local expenditure from local sources of income by this time. This means Council services will be self-reliant and only paid for from Council Tax payments, Business Rates and direct charges for services.

The Council has taken bold steps to significantly limit the burden on local taxpayers since becoming a unitary Council in 2009. However, we are acutely conscious that we have a maturing population and we also have a local health economy that is under both service and financial pressure, and we must act strategically to continue to innovate, develop and finance those services to those in greatest need.

Achieving self-reliance will be supported by creating economic growth in a way that efficiently spreads the cost of services.

We have outlined a clear set of financial measures and forecasts that show how the Council will remain financially strong in future. These measures focus on reducing bureaucracy, improving efficiency and productivity, Local Taxation, Capital Investment and Reserves.



Local Taxation

Council Tax

- **Growing the domestic tax base** – each new home brings additional Council Tax revenue, New Homes Bonus and, in the medium term, a Community Infrastructure Levy. But homes also bring additional costs, such as education, waste collection and highways. The Council will ensure that any subsidised services are carefully examined to achieve maximum value from any Council Tax payment.
- **Increasing employment opportunities** – high levels of employment with a skilled and motivated workforce will place reduced demand on public services, freeing up more resources to focus on delivering more growth and prosperity and also ensure that the most vulnerable continue to be supported by the community, the Council and its partners.
- **Maintaining strong collection rates** – this ensures fairness to all and helps the Council maximise local income for local use.

- **A responsible approach to changing Council Tax levels** – it will be important to manage Council Tax levels in response to the removal of reliance on government grant.

Business Rates

- **Promoting Economic Growth** – business growth will result in additional income being retained for local investment. This supports the Council's approach to invest in economic growth through unlocking development land and supporting inward investment.
- **Working with Partners** – the Council will maximise the benefit of the business rates retention scheme by working with partners in the region.

Capital investment

- The impact of financing capital expenditure will be restricted to ensure value for money is maintained. An annual cap on capital financing costs will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains appropriate in light of the expected return on the overall investment.
- The Council's strategic Capital Programme will continue to put emphasis on infrastructure which will generate local economic growth; investment in new service delivery models and improvements in the Council's asset base.
- The Capital Programme will reflect the Council's ambition, to pursue additional external funding, private sector investment and maximise receipts from asset development and sales.
- Borrowing will be appropriate based on the lifetime benefits of a scheme. All investments will be subject to strong control arrangements and analysis of risk.

Workforce Planning

Workforce priorities

The Corporate Plan links the work of staff and teams at Cheshire East Council to the longer term Sustainable Community Strategy and considerations in relation to workforce planning.



We aim to be an employer of choice, attracting the best of both local and national talent, to help us provide the very best services for local people.

Key workforce priorities are:

- **Resident led and customer focused** – our workforce will need to continue to be resident led and focused on providing the very best customer service.
- **Outcome focused and high performing** – we will be more focused on outcomes and less on processes but continuously reviewing and improving our performance to be the best that we can be.
- **Well led and managed** – those with responsibility for directing and supporting the work of others will need to deploy a wider range of skills underpinned by fairness, equality and diversity to ensure that the workforce can address the challenges that the Council faces.
- **Engaged, motivated and resilient** – we will need to ensure that our workforce are fully engaged and motivated to contribute their ideas and views about the best way to deliver the Council’s objectives. We will need them to be more resilient to deal with lots of change and fewer resources but remain focused on delivery

- **Professionally skilled and competent but working across boundaries** – we will continue to need highly skilled and competent professionals who operate safe practice and risk awareness but we will need them to work more effectively across internal and external boundaries as the structure and form of public service changes.
- **Flexible, adaptable and innovative** – our workforce will need to be flexible and adaptable to deal with a rapidly changing environment as well as finding innovative ways to organise and deliver services for our residents.
- **Working in a safe, healthy and supportive environment** – which enables the workforce to contribute effectively, reach their potential and maximise attendance.

Headcount analysis and trend

Despite increasing demands on the services we deliver, headcount has reduced over time. This increased productivity is mainly attributable to innovating and transforming and, therefore, the restructuring of services. In addition, some staff have TUPE transferred to alternative service delivery vehicles to achieve greater value for money.

Measuring success

Measuring the effectiveness of the workforce priorities will be tracked through the scrutiny of key performance indicators such as:

- Employee engagement index
- Employee turnover
- Sickness absence
- Ratio of agency workers to employed staff
- Number of staff with performance development plans and performance ratings

Staff Reductions

Any change proposal with an impact on staffing numbers will be shared and consulted on with the relevant staff and trade union representatives at the appropriate time.

Corporate Plan: Protecting against risk and supporting investment

- The Council's consideration and response to threats, and its ability and capacity to recognise and seize new opportunities, underpin its successful performance.
- Cheshire East's strong taxbase and greater independence provides financial stability and offers some 'local protection' from the impact of national economic fluctuations. In this context, it is also important to note that compared to neighbouring local authorities, total spending per head of population is below average. Given this national and local context its overall financial risk profile should continue to reduce.
- The Council's management framework is used to help it respond to changes. This strengthens the effectiveness of its overall governance, and provides a mechanism to ensure effective decision making. The internal control system allows the Council to respond appropriately to risks. This increases the likelihood of the Council achieving its strategic priorities and outcomes.
- Supporting the Council's budget with adequate reserves is a key element to creating financial resilience.
- The Council will be flexible in its approach to holding or transferring money from general and earmarked reserves to protect Council Tax payers against year-on-year fluctuations in expenditure.
- The Council will continue to be flexible about investing revenue funding in maintaining sustainable services and reflecting changes to the risks facing the Council. Budget reporting will include revised Reserves strategies to provide further detail on estimated balances and the application of reserves in the medium term.
- The Council will use reporting processes to monitor the achievement against budget that is so important to managing financial risks.
- The Council manages high-level risks through a Corporate Risk Register. This process is underpinned by a risk management framework that operates on strategic, operational and project levels. Risk registers will be maintained within Team Plans. Emerging risks are escalated to senior members and/or officers as appropriate and in line with the potential impact of the risk.



Feedback

Be involved in decision making in Cheshire East...

If you would like to be involved in consultations undertaken by Cheshire East Council, you can do so by registering for updates on the Consultation pages or joining the Digital Influence Panel. Please visit: cheshireeast.gov.uk/consultations

If you would like to view the results of previous consultations undertaken by Cheshire East Council, please visit: cheshireeast.gov.uk/consultations

Cheshire East Council

Budget Consultation

Summary of Results

Production date: 27/01/2017

Report produced by:

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Introduction

Background and methodology

Between November 2016 and January 2017 Cheshire East residents and other stakeholders were invited to provide their comments and views on the Councils pre-budget report. The following provides a summary of the responses received.

Respondents could submit their views via an online survey, postal survey or via a dedicated e-mail address. A workshop session was also held with members during the Town and Parish Conference on the 28th November 2016. Respondents were asked to read through the pre-budget report document before answering the survey questions/ submitting their views.

Efforts to engage with residents with regard to the Budget Consultation realised an increased level of engagement compared to previous years Budget Consultation activity. The engagement has been wide ranging and has resulted in responses which have allowed the Council to understand the opportunities and challenges associated with the budget setting process.

Details of engagement activity can be found at page 46 – efforts to understand opportunities for improved communication shall be analysed and introduced into subsequent budget setting activity.

The consultation activity has resulted in around 200 general or specific responses to proposals listed in the Budget Consultation being raised from a number of sources. A total of 47 valid responses were received for the online/postal survey, 14 further responses were received via the dedicated e-mail address and 32 participants took part in workshop during the Town & Parish Conference. Some of the responses were from elected representatives or from organised groups, although in all cases demographic information on the respondents was requested.

Summary of Results

Postal/Online Questionnaire responses

A total of 47 valid responses have been received for the online/postal survey.

Demographics

The majority of respondents to the online/postal survey (31 out of 47) were male and aged between 45-64 (26 out of 47). Figures 1 and 2 below show the breakdown by gender and age.

Figure 1: Gender Breakdown

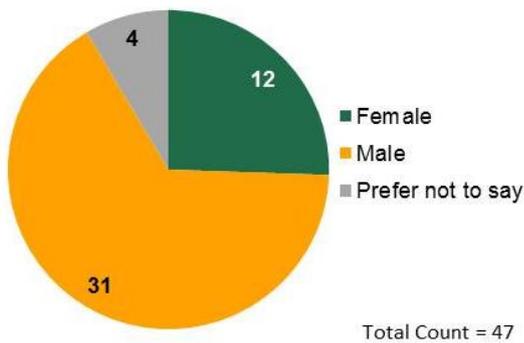
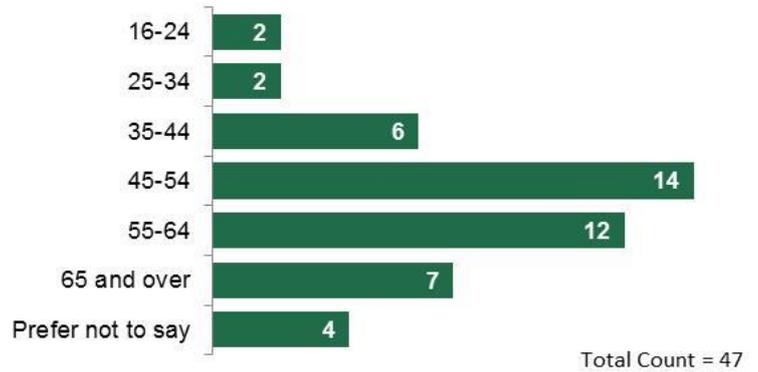


Figure 2: Age Breakdown



4 out of the 47 respondents had a limiting illness/ disability that affected their day to day activities in some way.

Question One:

The following tables summarise the comments received into each relatable outcome – please note that not all comments are written verbatim.

Table 1. Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 1. Our local communities are strong and supportive

Responding as	Proposal 1. Review Environmental Enforcement Service Based on outcomes of Fly tipping pilot and procurement of patrol company pilot	
A local resident	In an ideal world I would agree but unfortunately this isn't the case - where I live a lot of the neighbours don't speak English so you get a breakdown in communication e.g. putting recycling into black bins and putting rubbish into the grey bins - plus we get the problem of mattresses etc. being dumped in the back entry.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 2. Cessation of Regulatory Services Out of Hours Service	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Do we need 24 hour out of hours service for regulatory services? Redirect calls if not completely ceasing.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	Page 15, point 2 – That the Cessation of the Regulatory Services Out of Hour Service could result in a lack of service and is not supported.	
Responding as	Proposal 3. Development Control funding for Environmental health	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Can environmental health generate a revenue from their services Accepted cost – but look at more revenue streams through local council provision and businesses	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder – proposal not being taken forward as part of 17/18 budget
Responding as	Proposal 4. Transfer of Cheshire East Council managed Community Centres to local management arrangements (Revenue Savings)	
A local resident	The proposal about Handforth Community Centre should be subject to consultation. If implemented proper funding required to reflect the virtual doubling of the population once all developments take place i.e. new Garden Village, Meriton Road, Little	Local consultation regarding any changes will take place. We will work with a wide range of local stakeholders to explore options.

	Stanneylands, developments to the North but linked to Handforth. All of which will add to demand for services -any proposals & funding should reflect the need for additional capital and revenue support- not just a means of dumping a loss making asset / liability onto someone else to deal with.	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Review pilot but look to continue with an outside organisation to reduce liability to the Council and keep staffing costs Transfer more community buildings to give local control and increase revenue – offer interest free loan	
Responding as	Proposal 5. Increase Community Grants	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Essential to increase Community Grants pot and support local organisations	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager town Council	Page 16, point 5 – That the increased Community Grants being four times oversubscribed could result in well deserving schemes not receiving any grant and concern is expressed.	
Responding as	Proposal 7. CCTV Fibres (Revenues Investment)	
A town/Parish Councillor	The wording at the end of 1.7 re courts re CCTV is unclear	Last sentence regarding court costs applies to section 1.8
A local resident	Instead of renewing CCTV, get rid of except in car parks. Home Office studies show it is less effective than street lighting except in car parks for reducing crime. Good for conviction rates, but that's not a CEC issue (let the courts/police pay)	Our CCTV camera network is instrumental in dealing with on average 1,200 incidents a month, which has a significant impact in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour across Cheshire East.
Town and Parish Council Conference	Move more to digital	
Responding as	Proposal 10. Develop a Chargeable Pre-Application Checking Service	

Town and Parish Council Conference	Agree if business cannot, need to consider if they are viable (need clarification – is this a new service being charged for or taking away). Would need guidelines, who makes decisions to charge or not?	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Outcome 1. Specific proposal unknown	
A member of a voluntary or community organisation	Should have much lower priority in funding - other more pressing & essential priorities such as services to the vulnerable & elderly. Much of the work, time and money spent on Communities staff & activities would happen anyway - can be found through free services. Senior staff in communities are hugely overpaid & deliver little of real value to the residents. If want communities to be resilient stop interfering - let people get on with it & spend money on the services really needed. You do not empower communities by employing civil servants to Head them up - controlling & patronising -not empowering and respect. Better management and accountability of senior staff is required, especially by Cabinet Members who seem out of control.	Cabinet approved our Connected Communities Strategy in November 2016, which sets out our vision, to have confident and connected communities who know how to engage with us and each other; and where communities do their bit and believe in themselves and their communities. We are committed to investing in community work and believe that by developing a clear and practical approach to engaging with and supporting community development can ensure we maximise potential and generate wealth, to help all of our communities become more enterprising and to enable more deprived areas to lift themselves out of dependence.

Table 2: Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 2 – Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy

Responding as	Proposal 15. Increased Parking Enforcement (Revenue Savings)	
A local resident	Needs to be a wider review of parking enforcement & options- e.g. implementation of disc system as used in Carlisle - greatly reduces cost of enforcement by making time of arrival displayed on every car with no printing costs and transparent time of parking at all times.	The implementation of any new parking system is costly. Some systems are not compliant with the disability discrimination act. The introduction of new pay and display machines will also ensure that service users input their registration number so that tickets can not be passed on to other motorists. Revenue from Cheshire East Council's Pay and Display car parks is only used to support appropriate services. The revenue also goes towards the repairing and maintenance of Cheshire East Council's car parks. Surplus income from the issuing of Penalty Charge Notices in particular must only be used in accordance with Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).
Town and Parish Council Conference	Parking income – the use and benefits from greater civil enforcement was understood and accepted as a basis to manage the parking and highway network to operate in a safer and more effective way – it was understood that parking charges were a sensitive issue and there would be difficulties in arriving at Borough wide approach to parking as the towns in the Borough are so varied – equally they agreed that any significant increase in revenue from parking should be used to support the Councils highways and transport services as a way of demonstrating to residents that there was a clear related benefit from this revenue income.	
Responding as	Proposal 16. Increased Support for Bus Services	
Alsager Town Council	Page 26, point 16 – That the increased support for Bus Services is welcomed, however, is the increase enough to cover the increased tender costs as otherwise this could lead to a reduction in service.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 21. Create a new investment portfolio (Revenue Savings) & Proposal 24. Create a new investment portfolio (Capital Investment)	
A local resident	As a chartered surveyor I can assure you that commercial property investment isn't the easy option to wealth it appears- particularly to a bureaucratic organisation- it needs flair and imagination which by definition councils do not have - as demonstrated by the difference in returns achieved by energetic and dynamic companies who always outperform property funds- don't do it!	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Town and Parish Council Conference	Create new investment portfolio – The table understood the purpose of the budget line. They felt that the Council should be very clear about its objectives for any scheme and the level of funding invested. If the funding was in the £10ms level as proposed it was not worth pursuing unless the policy would be support schemes and sites within Cheshire East – otherwise the fund should be significantly higher and invested in the best UK related investment opportunities to generate a sensible revenue income return – the table were sceptical of the returns being quoted.	
Responding as	Proposal 27. Changes to subsidised Bus Services	
A local resident	School bus services reduced on the basis that there were alternative bus routes available - consider any cuts with reference to this- son is dependent on the Arriva Bus service to get to school.	The focus on any changes to subsidised bus services will be subject to further consultation, particularly with service users of any potentially affected routes
A local resident	A good reliable & frequent bus service is necessary in towns & villages - service received is bare minimum possible to allow travel to work/ attend hospital appointments - any reduction will impact on rural & town (Knutsford) residents - service already stops early evening with no service at all on a Sunday – request that service is increased to include Sunday rather than decreasing the service.	
A local resident	No point having token 'one a week' bus services - set the criteria as regular hourly or nothing - focus on a very few well funded routes and let rural locations develop other transport policies.	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Bus Service reduction proposal – The table felt that a radical approach to secure the levels of savings proposed was required – that services on the main corridors of movement should be prioritised – and in areas where gaps in network coverage arise that provision is made to support parish councils and local CVS groups to investigate and establish alternative transport or local service based solutions – the concept of more community based local service provision was also considered to be a way reducing the need for bus service provision by ensuring people needs can be met locally. Overall agreed that the review should work to achieve this proposed budget saving.	

Alsager Town Council	Page 31, point 27 – That the changes to subsidised bus service results in a funding reduction which could impact on reduced services in and around Alsager and concern is expressed.	
Responding as	Proposal 34. Reduce highway tree maintenance (revenue savings)	
A local Cllr	Not in favour - The treescape is an important element of the county and the trees in the control of CE need to be maintained to a high standard. Short term measures may affect the long term lives of the trees. You have a duty to protect trees in your care even if they are not protected by TPOs.	Although consideration was given to this proposal, savings in this area are not being proposed in the 2017/18 Budget.
Alsager Town Council	Page 33, point 33 & 34 – That the potential reduction in level of winter services and highway tree maintenance may adversely impact on highway services within Alsager.	
Responding as	Proposal 39. Active Travel Investment (Capital Investment)	
A local resident	Never heard of this initiative to increase walkways and cycle ways in Wilmslow - where are they?	Routes will be developed if bidding to the Local Growth Fund is successful.
Alsager town Council	Page 35, point 39 – That Alsager should be included as a scheme to promote walking and cycling.	
Responding as	Outcome 2. Mixed proposal comment	
A local resident	Agree with cut to tourist information centres - surely most can get such information from the internet anyway. - Increase parking enforcement even further - currently little enforcement in Knutsford if it can raise revenue go for it! - Bring in parking charges at all CEC car parks – why do some towns have none or - lower rates or free times and others don't? - Agree with support for bus services. - Make developers pay for northwest Crewe improvements. - Cut 'Cheshire east reflects' - should be funded by communities themselves. - Disagree with Poynton relief	Parking enforcement - The Civil Enforcement Officers undertake patrols of Knutsford and other main towns on a daily basis - sometimes 2 Officers are present. The implementation of any new parking system is costly. Some systems are not compliant with the disability discrimination act. The introduction of new pay and display machines will also ensure that service users input their registration number so that tickets can not be passed on to other motorists.

	road - even more money being poured into an already wealthy village - make developers pay if it is to bring investment. - Agree with Crewe highways investment (an area that needs investment), not Poynton - Agree with investment in Congleton public realm, but what about 20 yr. promise to fix streets in Knutsford? CEC should fund such future public realm improvements from developers. - Agree with active travel - developers should be contributing.	Revenue from Cheshire East Council's Pay and Display car parks is ploughed back into the appropriate services. The revenue also goes towards the repairing and maintenance of Cheshire East Council's car parks. Surplus income from the issuing of Penalty Charge Notices in particular must only be used in accordance with Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).
Responding as	Outcome 2. Specific proposal unknown	
A local resident	Haven't seen any sign of prosperity in Crewe	The recent investment in Crewe includes the Lifestyle Centre , Crewe UTC also opened in the Autumn of 2016. The ongoing success of the Retail Park has seen owners UBS attract new retailers to the retail park in recent years including TK Maxx, Boots, Costa, Frankie and Benny's, Nando's, Bella Italia and Chiquito. Bentley's £840m investment plan has continued in Crewe. Over £40m has recently been investment to improve the highway network in Crewe. Significant investment has also seen enhancements to Junctions 16 and 17 of the M6 and to the A500. Crewe Rail Station's new entrance project was completed in 2014 and in 2016 it was also confirmed that Crewe will have a Hub station which will open in 2027 on the new HS2 rail line.

Table 3: Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 3 – People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive		
Responding as	General Comments	
Alsager Town Council	Page 42, point 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 & 45 – That concern is expressed at the reduction in children services with the money being withdrawn, this is totally unacceptable.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder. These proposals should be considered alongside Point 81 which provides an increase of £2.8m in services for Cared for Children and Care Leavers.

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Town and Parish Council Conference	Welcomed the capital investment in schools and associated process. Acknowledgement that the national education funding changes will potentially have greater impact on schools that the proposed budget changes. Feeling that there should be a link to each saving on the impact it will have on children and young people.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	Page 45, point 50 & 51 – That the investment is acknowledged and the actions in this provision should be undertaken as soon as possible.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	Page 45, point 50 & 51 – That the investment is acknowledged and the actions in this provision should be undertaken as soon as possible.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Table 4: Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 4- Cheshire East is a green and sustainable place		
Responding as	Proposal 57, 58 & 60 Changing the way we work / ANSA Environmental Services proposal	
A local Cllr	Not in favour of potential reduction in routine highways maintenance. These are the most visible parts of CEC work and poor maintenance - weeds, leaves edging of pavements all indicate poor service levels. We see it already and it gives a bad impression of how CEC serve the community. Will the reduction in the ANSA budget have similar implications - I fear so.	ANSA advise that the savings package is related to waste contractual changes and the reduction of waste to landfill so will not affect the quality of service.
A local resident	Proposal 57. Judging by the blocked gullies I see & pedestrians being soaked by passing cars I'd have been expecting an increase in expenditure please.	Although consideration was given to this proposal, savings in this area are not being proposed in the 2017/18 Budget.

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<p>A member of a voluntary or community organisation</p>	<p>Proposal 57. Quite unrealistic - current approach is clearly not working. Practice of not responding to notification of blocked gullies has already resulted in a bad experience this year - large lake in the road came within 3 feet of my property. The highway contractor need to be logging all notifications of blocked gullies for action when most appropriate & emptying all gullies not just doing a proportion as is the current practice meaning that some gullies are never emptied. The flooding this year was far worse than anything experienced in 30 years - abnormal weather patterns are only part of the explanation. At least one gully in Merriden Road has been blocked for well over a year indicating that routine maintenance is not being done.</p>	<p>The Council adopts an asset management approach to gully emptying. This ensures that gullies are emptied when they are close to being full rather than emptying regardless of the levels of debris in the pot. This also ensures an efficient use of the budget and resources. To empty all gullies at set frequencies regardless of debris levels would be wasteful.</p>
<p>Town and Parish Council Conference</p>	<p>Street Lighting improvements - Agreed by all Planning reserve for Spatial Planning (Revenue Investment) - Very costly, Errors made, Not an option but at what cost, Agree with investment – need to ensure VFM</p>	
<p>Alsager Town Council</p>	<p>Page 54, points 57 & 58 - That we object strongly to the reduction in routine maintenance of the Highway network, gully cleansing and the reduction in Highways front line staff and community teams. Alsager is low lying.</p>	
<p>Responding as</p>	<p>Proposal 59. Planning Reserve for Spatial Planning (Revenue Investment)</p>	
<p>A local resident</p>	<p>Implement CIL regime Asap- why not done already in parallel with the local plan - danger that it will not be in place when the planning decisions are made for all the new development and developers will escape the liability - expedite this as a matter of urgency</p>	<p>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) regulations set out a detailed process which Councils must follow to establish an adopted CIL charge and a work programme is in place to adopt CIL as soon as possible after the Local Plan is adopted. CIL cannot be implemented before the adoption of the Local Plan.</p>

Responding as	Proposal 60. Ansa Environmental Services proposal	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Ansa Environmental Services proposal (Revenue Savings) - Agreed, if no worsening of service or increased cost	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 61. Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision - Charging for rubble will result in fly tipping, Agree to accept trade waste Agree closure of Arclid and reduced hours, Other proposal – twice yearly garage clear out	HWRC Consultation will feed into the decision
Alsager Town Council	Page 56, points 61 – That concerns are expressed at the reduction in opening times.	
Responding as	Proposal 62. Dry Recycling Contract	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Dry Recycling Contract (Revenue Investment) - Silver bin scheme is great – keep it! Worth the investment	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 63. Environmental commissioning – S106 income not achievable	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Environment Commissioning – S106 income not achievable (Revenue Investment) - Why the need for more investment if there is no extra work – very dubious!	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Responding as	Proposal 64. Environmental commissioning – small growth items (Revenue Investment)	
A local resident	More economic issues with council companies- close them and outsource to reputable dynamic private companies who know what they are	The Small Growth Items are related to Environmental Services expenditure rather than the companies' costs.
Town and Parish Council Conference	Environment Commissioning – small growth items (Revenue Investment) Yes, straightening the accounts	
Responding as	Proposal 65. Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision (Capital Investment) - Allows the implementation of outcome 61	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 67. Managing and Maintaining the Highways	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Managing and Maintaining the Highways (Capital Investment) - Yes	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 68. Winter Service facility - Middlewich	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Winter Service Facility – Middlewich (Capital Investment) - We over-grit – is this needed? There must be other solutions that do not cost £3m	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 69. Alderley Road Wilmslow, A34 Junction & pedestrian access Improvements	
A local resident	Need to look at funding improvements to old A34 Junctions with Stanneylands Road Wilmslow and Station Road Handforth to rectify existing problems which will become worse with new proposed developments	There are already proposals to make improvements to Station Road, Handforth as part of the planned marriage mitigation measures for the A6 MARR. W have noted the request regarding Stanneylands Road junction and will take this into

Town and Parish Council Conference	Alderley Road, Wilmslow- A34 junction and pedestrian access improvements (Capital Investment) - Developer should pay	account n assessing any proposed new developments.
Responding as	Proposal 70. Household Bin Replacement	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Household Bin Replacement (Capital Investment) - Agreed	Household bins have a defined life and a percentage require replacing each year as they wear out. A charge for new bins has been looked at in the past and may be revisited but is not being proposed as part of the 2017/18 budget setting process
A local resident	Why replace household bins – my bins are fine & assume most others are too. If residents have wrecked their bins, make them pay for a replacement.	
Responding as	Proposal 71. Park Development Fund	
Alsager Town Council	Page 60, points 71 & 72 – That we welcome investment into parks development and playing field improvements and request Alsager Projects, Wood Park and Milton Park are included.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Town and Parish Council Conference	Park Development Fund (Capital Investment) - Not enough	
Responding as	Proposal 72. Playing Fields Improvement Fund	
Town and Parish Council Conference	Playing Fields Improvement Fund (Capital Investment) - Not enough	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	Page 60, points 71 & 72 – That we welcome investment into parks development and playing field improvements and request Alsager Projects, Wood Park and Milton Park are included.	

Responding as	Outcome 4. Mixed proposal comment	
A local resident	Agree with highway maintenance increases, but not capital spending on Poynton bypass. Spent this saving on improved play provision in parks which is currently dire.	Poynton Bypass is majority funded by Central Government and will improve strategic highway links to Macclesfield to/from Manchester and the Motorway network. There is a well established business case for the scheme; not least the economic benefits for Macclesfield arising from improved transport links.
Responding as	Outcome 4. Specific proposal unknown	
A local resident	I totally disagree we haven't got that many green areas left that haven't been earmarked for development and some of the developments look an eyesore.	The vast majority of the borough is open countryside and within our towns and villages the local plan identifies and protects key areas of open space and leisure land that is protected from development. The Local Plan contains policies to ensure the quality of new development and a Borough wide design guide will be adopted as supplementary planning guidance following the adoption of the Local Plan

Table 5: Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 5 – People live well and for longer

Responding as	Proposal 73. Commissioning all services currently provided by our in house provider, Care4CE	
Not specified	False economy -services provided in-house enable an independent view of individual ability to self-care, temptation for private agencies not to reduce the level of need. Private care agencies/ care homes request payment at higher level than council expects or aren't able to meet current demand. Existing service can be more efficient - reduce duplication & unnecessary visits, only offering the service to clients who are eligible for help.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	I'd be expecting increased expenditure here.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	Page 67, point 73 & 74 – That strong concern is expressed at the outcome being considered prior to any review.	

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Responding as	Proposal 75. Strategic Commissioning	
Alsager Town Council	Page 69, point 75 – That strong concern is expressed at the outcome being considered prior to any review.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 81. Growth Bid cared for Children and Care Leavers	
Alsager Town Council	Page 71, point 81 – That the growth bid is welcomed and hoped this improvement brings us up to national and local comparators.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	Proposal 86. Investing in new ways of working (Revenue Investment)	
Not specified	Suggestion - divert some of the £3.5m to boost services that support disabled people into employment (especially transition ages). This will save on service input costs as it is not as expensive, the outcomes are usually long-standing, it creates independence, it harnesses an underused community asset (i.e. employers), each outcome increases Council tax and in many cases the Council generated outcome will attract external income in.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	Page 73, point 86 – That we welcome the investment.	
Responding as	Proposal 87. Care Act Phase 2 – Adults, Children’s and Public Health information systems	
Alsager Town Council	Page 74, point 87 – That we welcome the investment.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Responding as	Proposal 88 & 89. Alsager Leisure Centre – Gym and studio space conversions/ Sandbach Leisure Centre – Gym conversion	
A local resident	Conversion of the remaining court at Alsager reduces the options for players in the area. Conversion of squash courts into a gym at Sandbach deprives a growing area of a sports facility. Centre becomes a full community facility in April 2020 - opportunity to extend the building on the current flat roof creating a gym & women's dry change whilst retaining the squash courts - high school can build its own facilities or arrange paid access with the council. Known that there are relationship difficulties with the high school - unless conflict is resolved fear money is being spent in an inappropriate manner.	There will still remain two courts at Alsager Leisure Centre to support squash. Only one court is being use for the much needed gym extension and creation of new fitness studios, resulting from the recent planning approval on the former MMU site. The Centre at Sandbach is already a community asset managed by Everybody Sport & Recreation who are proposing the investment. A feasibility design study has identified the optimum use of the space to improve the offer to the current six hundred plus members with a financial business case to demonstrate the additional use that will be made by local residents. In addition the new gym, unlike the existing one on the first floor will be accessible for disabled users and also have supporting changing accommodation
A local resident	You cannot just convert the squash courts into gym spaces at both Alsager and Sandbach sites. I am a member of the Alsager squash team and internal leagues & train at Sandbach courts every week. If you want to remove the most inefficient use of space then maybe you should look at the swimming pool. Encourage more people to play rather than just converting the courts - once gone they won't be replaced. You are looking at converting squash courts to other uses when funding is available nationally to increase participation in the sport.	A feasibility study has identified the best use of the space to create the new gym. The leisure trust will be actively working with the users of the current squash courts in terms of an offer based on playing at courts in Alsager to ensure continued involvement in the sport. It is understood there are around thirty active squash users of the courts whilst the swimming pool attracts over 27,000 annual visits plus weekly swim club use and over 600 young people attending swimming lessons every week.
A local resident	Please don't close the squash courts - this is the only convenient courts with a great league and club - Alsager is too far.	A feasibility study has identified the best use of the space to create the new gym. The leisure trust will be actively working with the users of the current squash courts in terms of an offer based on playing at courts in Alsager to ensure continued involvement in the sport.

A local resident	Refurbishment of the squash courts at Sandbach leisure centre rather than getting rid of them. There are gyms already both in Sandbach and local surrounding areas. There are not however enough squash courts. My concern that a move like this is not motivated for "public health" reasons, but instead to increase the revenue for Cheshire East - not in the public's interest.	A modern leisure centre needs to maximise both the number of users benefitting from the facilities whilst also generating income. The income to pay for the development will go to the trust as the operator not the council. The courts remain unused for the majority of the time that the centre is open. There is currently no equivalent gym in Sandbach to provide the offer for residents that is being proposed. There will still remain squash courts at Alsager and Congleton. The reason for the investment is to generate more use of the leisure centre and contribute to the health and wellbeing of local residents in Sandbach,
A local resident	The New Capital Investment should be used to improve the Squash Court & Changing Room facilities at Sandbach which are quite poor. Make them more attractive to members of the Squash Club & casual squash players - many players have become frustrated with the poor quality of the Courts & have moved to other courts (Winsford and Alsager) over the years.	The courts remain unused for the majority of the time that the centre is open. The new development will increase use of the leisure centre and improve the changing rooms for all users.
A local resident	The squash courts at Sandbach Leisure Centre are the only ones in the town. To remove them will deny a lot of people the chance to play or start to play squash. After a period of decline squash is now on the up again and will be in the Olympics in the near future, should be encouraging this activity and not removing it.	Through consultation it is understood that the trust will be meet with regular squash players in supporting their use at Alsager leisure Centre and therefore retain access to allow squash to still be played. There remains a good supply of squash courts around Cheshire East that can be accessed.
Alsager Town Council	Page 75, point 88 – That we welcome the investment but consider that the investment should be +0.495 £m in 2017-18.	
Responding as	Proposal 90. Increase Income (Revenue Savings)	
Not specified	Rather than simply seeing income generation as purely one of income from customers, develop a strategic approach to external income development (SFA, DWP, DoH etc)	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

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Responding as	Outcome 5. Mixed proposal comment	
A local resident	Suggest cutting out jargon & number of programmes for a start – pathway redesign? liberty safeguards? Transitional funding? Huh?! Get developers to pay for improvements to local leisure centres. Both towns mentioned have many new houses being built in them. Why isn't CEC making developers contribute?	The Council continues to use national planning policy to achieve contributions from developers mostly recently in Alsager as part of the planning approval for the former MMU site. It is also developing both a Playing Pitch Strategy and Indoor Built Facility Strategy to support this further.
Responding as	Outcome 5. Specific proposal unknown	
A local resident	Since Cheshire East resident's life expectancy is higher than the North West and national average more money needs to be invested in Dementia services. Both information & advice care & support for those diagnosed but also Carers. Money needs to be invested in organisations that have the proven expertise to provide these services such as the Alzheimer's Society.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	There is not much sign of healthy lifestyles in Crewe and they've closed the baths in flag lane which in my opinion was a bad decision.	The Council has recently invested £15m in Crewe Lifestyle centre which has provided modern facilities including a replacement of the former Crewe baths built in the 1930's . The leisure trust through the "One You" project are focussing in the building on addressing a wide range of health issues in support of local residents.
Town and Parish Council Conference	How do we capture what is happening locally to address adult social care – need full mapping Need to clarify what adult social care means – local authority interpretation different to local interpretation Need to be innovative in how we start conversations with local councils and community groups so as not to scare people away – consider language used including acronyms. ICE very good way to feed in Services need to be offered in different ways: traditional, council-led →innovation → community based, customer/carer involvement	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Table 6: Summarised Comments in relation to Outcome 6 – A responsible effective and efficient organisation

Responding as	Proposal 104. Reduced library provision to principal towns and key service areas	
A local resident	If this plan is implemented, Cheshire East will be directly contradicting many of its own aims and outcomes.	Although consideration was given to this proposal, savings in this area are not being proposed in the 2017/18 Budget.
Responding as	Proposal 130. Budget reductions resulting from productivity/ staffing efficiencies	
A local resident	Offer all staff voluntary redundancy as a starting point saving time & money when planning for future service offerings.	The Council offers voluntary redundancy to staff, in line with it's policy and during change programmes, based on specific restructure requirements and affordability.
Responding as	Proposal 133. Pay and pensions allocation	
A local resident	Review the pensions of senior staff, pension pots of millions are not acceptable - should be an additional review with a view to capping payments.	Pension contributions rates are split between employees and employers and are subject to frequent review. In response to past reviews. 'Employer' contributions have risen consistently but 'employee' contributions have diversified and are now much higher for senior staff at up to 12.5% deductions from their salary compared to 5.5% for 'employees' on lower annual salaries.
Responding as	Outcome 6. Specific proposal unknown	
A local resident	The proposed increases to Councillor and senior offices pay/allowances should be curbed to zero increase.	Senior pay scales are fixed, without annual pay wards being applied consistently. Member allowances were independently reviewed in 2016/17 and future uplifts being fixed to the results of national pay negotiations.
A local resident	Freeze all Councillors pay increases un-till they are affordable.	
A local resident	Review wages of councillors -significantly reducing these will have huge benefit to the budget.	
A local resident	Rather than these options save money by cutting management and their often 6 figure salaries.	
A local resident	Spend less on yourselves and more on "Putting Residents First" as you pledge. See this: http://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/news/article-3005730/Third-council-tax-spent-staff-pensions-warns-leading-council-finance-chief.html	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

A local resident	I don't agree as when the council tax was increased 2016 the first thing councillors did was to give themselves a rise which I don't think they deserved as there's not much evidence of anything being improved in Crewe visually it looks down and depressing.	The pay review for Councillors was independently assessed and recommendations were adopted where affordable. Investment in Crewe is ongoing.
Town and Parish Council Conference	<p>ICT: Better broadband to help transport issues , Sharing costs with others, Necessary, Expensive, Better planning (don't replace all at once)</p> <p>Staff: Cost of redundancies, Using technology, Less travel, Mobile working</p> <p>Development: Invest in roads and town centres, More houses/more businesses, But need more services, Contradictions – more car parking costs?, Less town centre footfall</p> <p>Priorities: Statutory vs non-statutory, Regional devolution (Mayors powers/costs)</p> <p>Finance: Manage expectation of Council Tax increase, Taxation collection challenge if Council Tax goes up, Reduce borrowing costs</p> <p>Invest in poor roads, Sell waste</p>	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Table 7: Summarised comments – Miscellaneous - relation to specific Outcome/ proposals unknown		
Responding as	Comment in relation to planning	
A local business	Much more money needed to fund planning - hugely inadequate quantity & quality of resources both for development control & spatial planning holding back economic growth & council revenue – a huge return on investment.	The planning service is one of the busiest in the country dealing with over 6,000 applications this year and producing one of the most complex local plans that the inspector has dealt with. The Council has put additional resources in place to address both Development Management and Spatial Planning issues and continues to provide additional resources to provide a good service. An additional £315k is proposed to be included in the base budget for the service and additional £1,775k is proposed for the next 2 years to support the delivery of CIL, the Allocations DPD and the Minerals & Waste Plan.

Responding as	Comment in relation to highways	
A local resident	Need to add further funding to highways.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	The roads are in poor condition due to previous budget savings & with the increase in the number of cars on the roads it would be a false economy to reduce the budget and front line transport staff.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Responding as	General comment in relation to budgeting	
A local Cllr	The budget is Crewe centric with substantial spends over many years in multiple places. If these were spread over e.g. four years instead of three it would greatly improve the spending pattern, council tax levels and the need for savings elsewhere many of which are potentially service impactful but individually financially minute in comparison.	The capital programme has been re-profiled to reflect revised estimates of medium term funding levels. Business Cases will be further developed to maximise the return on investment.
Responding as	Comment in relation to Council Tax	
A local resident	Imperative that whatever decisions are made the primary target is a freeze/ reduction of Council Tax. Current rate of tax is extremely high - main problem, for residents in Congleton, is the huge rate of tax levied by the Town Council. Should Cheshire East further reduce what they give the Town Council - must be assured that this will not result in an increase in charges from the Town Council.	The Council Tax Band D charge for Cheshire East Council is below the national average following 5 consecutive Council Tax freezes. Town & Parish Council's set their own budget requirements and may request devolution of services where they estimate a more local service is preferable and can offer similar of better value for money.

A local resident	Object to increase - have seen increases already as Sandbach town council has taken on services from CE. We pay salaries, sick pay and generous pensions to employees who have failed to produce a local plan resulting in the destruction of our town - paying out and wasting money on legal fees. Cheshire East is taking in increased amounts of council tax from new residents but is choosing what services it provides - most are paying maintenance fees on the new developments for services not provided. No infrastructure improvements apart from junction 17 improvement - poor planning in the design around local roads - constant congestion -Increased pollution and loss of green space. Our local M.P, councillors and council do not listen. CE is overseeing the destruction of our town & we're expected to pay more for the privilege. Councils are expensive - over generous pensions & uncontrolled/wasteful spending. Vast amounts have been wasted in legal fees in recent years - the social & care sector is a-bound with waste countrywide.	The Corporate Plan 2016 to 2020 is the basis of the Council performance framework and reflects previous public consultation on the needs and wants of local residents. Quarterly performance reports highlight the Council's achievement of the outcomes, using specific examples of local impacts for local residents, which supports the Council's externally reported Value for Money assessment. (also merge with the above two answers)
A local resident	The focus should be on not increasing the tax burden. The outcomes are tosh - meaningless words.	
Responding as	General Comments – Other	
A local resident	To free up funding get Middlewich Railway Station re-built and the passenger trains returned to Mid Cheshire's Link Line. If you're serious about economic growth & community wellbeing this should be a strategic priority.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Children and families need additional support. The special educational needs department is incredibly under funded. I requested fair access to information showing a dramatic number of EHCPs behind deadlines. Failing children who are the neediest - where are the high needs special school places? The fact we are paying other local authorities to educate these children as we have no facilities locally is a complete failure of the council and is shocking. I have recently contacted Knutsford Guardian about this and my MP is liaising closely with me.	Services for Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) is currently a key priority for the Children and Families Department of the council. A full needs assessment of educational places for children identified as having SEND has recently been completed and is being used to plan for the development of more in-borough places. Additional investment and recruitment has been made into the council's SEND Statutory Assessment Monitoring Team in

		recent months to ensure the EHCPs are completed in a timely fashion and are of good quality. As a result performance in this area is improving significantly.
A local resident	All non-statutory services should go. Money needs to be ploughed into Adult Social Care	The Council frequently challenges non-statutory services to see if changing the level of service can increase resources for other services such as Adult Social Care. As such the Council already spends a higher proportion of the revenue budget on Adults Social Care than similar local authorities.
A local resident	Why on earth is CEC funding new school places in areas that are or will see new housing built in them? This is absurd! Surely developers should be paying the full cost of new education provision in these areas. Strongly object to this, particularly as school budgets elsewhere are cut. Why no mention of improvements to the Academy in Knutsford? Has this project now been abandoned despite promises made previously?	The Council does request contributions for school expansions from developers through the planning process where the growth is linked to new housing. However, there is a time delay in actually receiving the funding, so the Council has to fund the places upfront from our Department for Education Capital until the funding is received.
A local resident	Give the Police budget more.	The Police & Crime Commissioner sets a precept, which is collected through the Council Tax Bill and provides funding for local Police services.
A local resident	I am concerned at the effect on council tax of Prestbury parish council's profligate spending. For the 2016/17 year PPC's increase on 2015/16 was 27.3%. For the forthcoming period (17/18) their increase will be over 50%. This is inevitable as they have admitted that their controversial project to demolish the only public toilets and replace them with a car park will entail and additional council tax per household of circa £22.	These comments will be referred anonymously to the Parish Council for comment.

Question Two:

The following tables summarise the comments received into each relatable outcome – please note that not all comments are written verbatim.

Table 8: Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 1		
Responding as	Proposal 5. Increase Community Grants (Revenue Investment)	
A local resident	Investing in the VCF sector to provide support to older people, carers and people with dementia will reap benefits in terms of reducing isolation, increasing carers ability to continue caring especially where they are themselves elderly, this in turn is likely to reduce hospital admissions and the strain on professional social care services.	Outcome 5 is that local people have healthy lifestyles and access to good cultural, leisure and recreational facilities. Care services focus on prevention, early intervention and physical and mental wellbeing. CEC is committed to working with local people, providers and partners to shape our local services. We acknowledge that to achieve outcome 5, we need to continue working with our voluntary, community and faith sector enabling us to tackle social isolation in a way that does not rely solely on care packages but on connected communities.

Table 9: Summarised comments in relation to Outcome 5 – People live well and for longer		
Responding as	Proposal 89. Sandbach Leisure Centre – Gym conversion	
A local resident	Enter into meaningful conversation with the High School over access to the current Gym - replace low impact equipment with modern bikes rowers etc. Develop a plan to create a second floor over the reception area with lift, women’s dry change & expanded gym. Retain squash courts results in more revenue.	The existing gym on the first floor is already managed by the leisure trust and not the school. The feasibility study has identified the optimum layout for the new gym on the ground floor providing disability access (currently not available in the existing provision). It will contain a full range of modern equipment that will increase both use by local residents and income and allow for a more cost effective delivery.
A local resident	I spend a load of money every week on playing squash. If the courts are removed then I will not spend any money at that leisure centre.	The leisure trust is through consultation with regular squash users at a meeting on the 19th January looking to provide an offer to encourage use at other trust sites with squash courts, in particular Alsager.

A local resident	A refurbishment of the gym at Sandbach, modernising the equipment would be worthwhile - cheaper than demolishing and building a new gym.	The replacement gym will be a modern fit for purpose facility. The existing one isn't large enough (especially considering the local population growth), isn't accessible for disabled users and does not have dedicated changing.
A local resident	Try encouraging greater participation in squash rather than just writing it off for current users and all future generations.	There is no intention to "write off" squash as a sport and Cheshire East has a sufficient general supply in courts including recent improvements at Macclesfield and Wilmslow Leisure Centres with funding from England Squash.

Table 10: Summarised Comments in relation to Outcome 6 – A responsible effective and efficient organisation

Responding as	Proposal 93. Review of Council Supplier Contracts (Revenue Savings)	
A local resident	Review all contracts - especially the council owned companies	The contract review will include all contracts, including Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles such as the Councils' wholly owned Companies.
Alsager Town Council	Page 84, point 93 – That we consider the savings to be unachievable without putting services at risk especially in rural areas.	
Responding as	Proposal 104. Reduced library provision to principal towns and key service areas	
A local resident	Rather than sacrificing entire professionally-run libraries, opening hours should be looked into, with the possibility of cutting down on late night openings.	Although consideration was given to this proposal, savings in this area are not being proposed in the 2017/18 Budget.
Alsager Town Council	Page 88, point 104 – That we strongly object to any reduction in service at Alsager Library.	
Responding as	Proposal 118. Concerning General Government Grants	
A local resident	A proportion of New Homes Grant should be allocated to local	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the

	communities who will bear the burden of the new developments- -- especially if the delayed CIL regime prevents them benefiting from the potential proceeds of that scheme	relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager town Council	Page 97, point 118 – That Cheshire East Council should have a policy on the allocation of the New Homes Bonus to fit in with the Governments vision to assist the Community where the new developments have been built.	
Responding as	Proposal 124. Council Tax Increase	
A local resident	Council tax should be increased- the council is there to provide services and these need to be paid for - there's no moral justification in stopping services simply to boast about keeping council tax down.	Council Tax increases are detailed in the main Budget Report and will reflect appropriate increases and the links to direct funding for Adult Social Care.
Responding as	Proposal 130. Budget Reductions resulting from productivity / Staffing Reductions	
Alsager Town Council	Page 107, point 130 – That concern is expressed at the level of staff cuts in so much that too many reductions could adversely impact on the service delivery.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Table 11: Summarised comments – Miscellaneous - relation to specific proposals unknown		
Responding as	General comment in relation to outcomes	
A local resident	Outcomes mean nothing, just business speak for things everyone would want. Why do not need to pay more for things you can't deliver - failed to listen or do anything so far other than have residents pay for failed leadership/ failure to produce a local plan & legal expenses. Sandbach has uncontrolled development leading to congestion, pollution, loss of green space etc. Infrastructure; failed. Future health & Well being; failed. No doubt the local economy will suffer with lack of parking and gridlock to.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

A member of voluntary/ community org.	We should highlight the loss of Central Funding.	The Budget Report reflects the impact of reductions in funding from Central Government. During the consultation period briefings were provided to stakeholders also highlighting this issue. The Council is linked to a number of professional bodies lobbying government to ensure a fair allocation of available resources
A local resident	Where is the section on planned remuneration for 2016/2017? Executive pay should be reduced. Why did Mike Suarez get an overall 16% increase in pay and pension contributions 2015/2016? If savings have to be made and services cut, then surely there is less to manage? We seem to be on a trajectory of less services and more executive pay. Is the end game no services and 100% of council tax	Executive pay is managed through an effective Pay Policy. In 2015/16 the Council's Statement of Accounts reflected additional one-off payments for duties carried out by the Chief Executive in relation to local and general elections.
A local resident	Merge with Cheshire West to save costs. - Cut costs - Sell assets such as land - Sell share in the Manchester Science Park.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	More funding for cycle usage. Cheshire has a chronic lack of cycling provision.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	I think I only saw two references to cycle facilities? - I'd like Cheshire more if the council paid more attention to this aspect of our life. Buy some bikes for the councillors and get them to each ride a hundred	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Less money on art projects more on things that really matter.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	I note that pension costs are an increasing liability for the Council. Notwithstanding the changes that were introduced to the pension scheme in 2014, why is it that the Council is not pushing for the LGPS to be changed to a defined contribution scheme, thus saving money and mitigating risk. I know this is a national issue but I cannot accept that council's are not pushing to do what virtually the whole of the private sector has had to do. To reduce service provision whilst operating a 1/49th scheme, even on an average salary basis and at the employee contribution rates, is not my understanding of the Council's core objective of "Putting Residents First".	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

A local resident	Adult Social Care needs to be the priority - we are an ageing population, seems to be more emphasis put on young people in your plans yet statistically far more older people live in CE. More money needed to protect vulnerable adults.	Adult Social Care Precept and Adult Social Care Grant will provide income of c£7m in 2017/18. Both these items have been introduced or increased in response to the government settlement and to consultation responses
A local resident	Stop spraying herbicides all over pavements to stop weeds growing and reduce needless cutting of verges and other areas - will save money and benefit the environment.	The prevention of weed growth is necessary to prevent the longer term deterioration of the highway structure. In recent years the Council has reduced the amount of rural grass cutting to the minimum levels required for safety but this is also beneficial for the protection rural environment.
A local resident	Equalise car parking charges across ALL towns in the srea - at present NO charges apply in Northwich. Alsager and Sandbach, but charges apply in Crewe and Nantwich - this is manifestly unfair to residents of these towns.	Any proposed changes in parking charges is subject to statutory public consultation. Whilst Northwich is not within the Cheshire East boundary, it is accepted that there are some towns that currently do not have parking charges attributed to them.
A local resident	Your general strategy is admirable.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A member of voluntary/ community org.	Greater support is needed for elderly, others recovering or in rehabilitation and for on-going care at home – growing need – greater priority. Currently hospital beds are blocked because patients cannot be discharged to rehabilitation facilities. People are then unable to move out of these facilities due to lack of provision of care in their homes, or residential care. This would reduce the overall costs at the	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	I think all councillors should be fulltime, not part-time you need fulltime commitment to achieve good results, even though you haven't got the full government budget you are getting revenue from all of the houses that have been built in the area which I should imagine is quite substantial. It's all a case of good management.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Question Three: The following tables summarise the comments received– please note that not all comments are written verbatim.

Table 12: Summarised comments in relation to question three		
A local resident	Increase in Council Tax unavoidable due to year on year Central Grant reductions, coupled with an increase strain on Services. If the Council could keep all local Business Rates this would mitigate some of the General Council Tax rises. Agree with review of Agency Staff, as this can be a real strain on Budgets.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Disagree with increase in Council Tax - other efficiencies and saving must be made. The Council has a very poor track record in planning appeals and legal challenges, A further increase, especially of the magnitude, outlined is unacceptable and unaffordable to many residents - especially when Town Councils also levy charges.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local business	Cut all wages of 'top dogs' at town hall.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	I work in the care sector and it is under - funded in some areas - however there is waste on a massive scale in others - lack of awareness, accountability or resolve to address this. Money is at times handed out without proper accountability and this money could be better spent providing much needed care for adults & children.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	This amount far out stretches the wage rise we get - some only receiving 1% how can we keep on paying more out with so little coming in?	Although the percentage increase in Council Tax exceeds annual measures of inflation the value of the increase is only just over £1 per week for the average household. This is lower than forecast pay inflation or index linked increases in average household income.
A local resident	Charge developers more for the impact on roads and council services.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Stick to core services, bins, education, libraries etc. & ditch all extras that nobody wants. Stop getting involved in areas and setting up dubious business that should not be part of delivering necessary local services - do not need a giant chess set in Crewe town centre.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

A local resident	An increase in Council tax above 3.99% is unlikely - devolving more services to Parish level & increasing the precept for Parish Councils might be more acceptable as the results are visible locally. Scrap entire bus subsidy programmes allowing private sector to run services it felt were profitable - volunteer or not for profit solutions could fill the gap.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A member of voluntary/ community org.	Highlight Central Funding reductions	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Stop spending money on projects e.g. advisory 20mph speed signs outside schools - high cost and widely ignored - work with highways & police on average speed camera projects - will reduce noise, improve air quality & encourage cycling/ walking as it will feel safer. Stop obsession with combined cycle ways & pavements - leading to more cyclists on all pavements & fewer pedestrians - motorists get confused as to why a cyclist is not using a marked pavement/why they emerge at strange places. Result: Improved health -reduced benefits pay-outs - reduced accidents - fewer school buses - reduced congestion.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Keep the Gym in its current place at Sandbach, and reduce the Capital Investment but re-direct it to the Squash Courts and Changing rooms.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Local taxation should at a level to cover social care	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	CE Council has been wasteful with council tax-payers hard-earned money over recent years – E.g. - Lyme Green fiasco, costly removal of senior staff, high costs associated with failed private enterprise initiatives. Expect to see CE do much more in terms of looking inwardly for cost reduction before increasing local council tax rates.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Merge with Cheshire West	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	You should ask your staff to identify where money is still being wasted. Then be brave enough to act on what they say.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Children & Families - special educational needs department - I feel that the government should care for these people but I wouldn't mind paying the extra as it is only fair.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

A local resident	Your questions assume that everyone agrees that the budget is limited to what can be obtained from central government or other allocated sources. I am particularly interested in retaining the squash courts in Sandbach; this is the only participation sport I take part in. You are proposing to remove a sports facility and replace it with a gym of which there are already plenty in the area, with more being built. Nobody has asked me if I am prepared to pay more for my games. Why?	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	£100m, is that over 3 years, £1 per week per household - a bargain. If you could skew that to the top 50% would it affect their standard of living noticeably? I heard today that it is £2.80 each way on the bus to get from outer Macclesfield to the centre so maybe you could raise more from town centre parking?	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local business	Charge people for repeatedly missed Doctor & hospital appointments. If people require police/ambulance services as a result of drink/drugs they should be either financially penalised or required to do community service.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Will any Social Care increase be paid BUBA Care Homes?	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Becoming more efficient - great amounts of public money is wasted on continual poor planning. Both through housing and road infrastructure alone. The lack of local plans has cost tax payers what appears to be an endless pot of money due to the continual consultations regarding rejected plans etc.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Not opposed to increase if is clearly going to support where needed. CEC need to be very transparent with documenting and publishing where this money goes.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Increase council tax further and get developers to pay for many of the improvements outlined in budget - new highways, new school places, improved leisure centres, public realm improvements, etc. The area is under huge development pressure and for years CEC has not squeezed developers. CEC must be much more aggressive in forcing developers to contribute as much as possible.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Persuade Prestbury Parish council to abandon their proposed project to replace the public toilet block with a car park which is of no value to most residents. This will produce a significant saving.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Cut staff (management and officers) who contribute little.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

<p>A member of a voluntary or community organisation</p>	<p>Not appropriate to increase local tax whilst you still overpay senior staff -there is increasing resentment at this especially within the VCFS groups on whom you must increasingly rely who see wastage and excess spent on and by council staff. Removing the distinct & unnecessary communities department would automatically enable other people focused staff & services to work more closely together - too much duplication, overlap and lack of communication between department/working groups. I do not believe the reduction in services is appropriate until these issues are clearly shown to be addressed. I currently have no confidence that any increased revenue would be well spent. Abolishing the role and everything associated with the Mayor would also bring savings and demonstrate a genuine commitment by the Council to use our money more wisely and effectively. Parishes and towns already have their own mayors and dignitaries - we have a Leader and Deputy Leader and could appoint a Chairman of the Council to carry out the necessary duties.</p>	<p>Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.</p>
<p>A local resident</p>	<p>Not give yourself rises – there are people who can't afford to pay bills, so this increase won't be good news for them and for retired people which we are.</p>	<p>Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.</p>

Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

The following table summarise the comments received into the Shaping Our Services dedicated e-mail account – please note that not all comments are written verbatim.

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses		
Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
A local resident	Outcome 5 states people live well for longer. Can you let me know how much money has been set aside in the budget for this Thanks	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local resident	Time and time again the dustman are unable to get up our street due to parked cars on either side of the road. The people who park like this live in High street. If an ambulance or a fire engine were to be called they would not be able to get through	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Alsager Town Council	<p>The following responses to the CEC pre-budget consultation 2017-20 follow the document by page and point numbers.</p> <p>Page 14, paragraph 2 – That we are pleased that the Consultation has recognised the work done by Town Partnerships and that the Community Grant Panel should be marketed in a more open and transparent way.</p> <p>Page 23 – That in High Quality Town Centres, Alsager Town Centre Highway Improvements including footpaths and parking should be included.</p> <p>Page 105 – That we welcome Apprentice levy.</p> <p>GENERAL OVERVIEW</p> <p>Children’s and Adults Social Care appears to have insufficient funding within this three year Cheshire East Council Pre-Budget Consultation.</p> <p>That the identified budget cuts in this Cheshire East Council Budget Consultation are being made prior to determining how the savings are going to be achieved.</p>	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Clerk to Bunbury Parish Council	The Parish Council feels that the bus service to rural areas such as Bunbury is an important service that is valued and used by the local community and there are no alternative means of transport for residents. Therefore the significant cuts proposed to this service will have an adverse affect on the rural communities of Cheshire East.	Covered in response to proposal 27

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
Clerk to Crewe Town Council	Cheshire East should review its priorities - focus on matters that local communities see as important, such as better roads, improved parks, car parking (costs), environmental issues, community safety, Consider transfer of funds to the town council who could seek to address the deterioration in local services - funds could be drawn from the monies being collected by Cheshire East in Crewe by virtue of increased levels of fines for littering.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
Chairman of Mottram St Andrew Parish Council	<p>Proposal 27 - Not in favour of reducing level of support for local bus services, Inc. community transport - should be encouraging more people out of their cars - several residents are not car owners and rely on public transport.</p> <p>Proposal 33 - Concern over reduction in level of winter services – Inc. gritting of roads - could cause more road accidents.</p> <p>Proposal 57 - Concern over reduction in highway maintenance including gully emptying - the state of our roads are so poor and in need of attention.</p> <p>Proposal 66 - Not in favour of charging for the disposal of garden waste – will result in more car journeys to HWRC's, which we understand that you are planning to reduce in number. An increase in cars on our roads will result in more emissions - possibility of increase in fly tipping.</p>	Covered in response to proposal 27, 33, 57 and 66
South Cheshire Chambers Business Breakfast	Potential proposal for Care Homes that are charitable to ask for 100% relief rather than the 80% receive now. SBRR is going up and many getting 100% so want 100% too as a priority.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.
A local business	<p>Proposal 18 - West Park Museum (capital investment) – request for more information – keen to be a-part of the process</p> <p>Proposal 30 - Reduce funding to the Macclesfield Silk Heritage Trust - request for more information – keen to be a-part of the process.</p>	Covered in response to proposals 18 and 30
A local Cllr	New Homes Bonus - Hope that money can be found from within the NHB to help to prepare for the future whilst providing an improved Civic centre in Alsager with energy	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
	savings. Refurbishment will cost in the region of £250,000 - have a capital reserve of £30,000 which is held to offset future commitments.	relevant Portfolio Holder.
A member of a voluntary or community organisation	<p>Proposal 89 – Reconsider closure of squash courts - promote squash – increasing numbers for the squash club would create the forecast revenue that a larger gym would create - area doesn't need another gym that will only serve locals, Sandbach squash club draw players from all over the county.</p> <p>Expansion upstairs would be cheaper for 'everybody' and by ultimately keeping the courts open alongside a bigger gym would increase takings dramatically. To decrease the courts apparent running costs a simple 12" pipe/ duct in place from the pool to the courts would help pull free warm air across from the pool to heat the courts year round.</p> <p>Disabled access must also be available for someone to play squash. Staff at Sandbach deserve a better work place environment & job security.</p> <p>Could I ask how the facility intends coping with the extra traffic / cars a proposed larger gym would create - one main point in closing the courts is to make the gym disabled friendly - where are all the disabled parking spaces going to be, if the car park belongs to the school what have they agreed to?</p>	Covered in response to proposal 89
A local resident	<p>Proposal 57 - I note that £150K could be saved reducing highway tree maintenance. If the trees in the rest of CE are in the same state as those outside my house (huge, inappropriate beech trees) which constantly drop branches, then the amount saved will be overshadowed by the amount that has to be paid out in compensation when residents sue the council when the branches damage property and vehicles.</p>	Covered in response to proposal 57
Cheshire East Unison	Concerns regarding staff reductions, terms and conditions changes, and outsourcing of key services, future job security and pension implications.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
A local Cllr	<p>Pleased to see the proposed allocation of £1.2m to improve the Whitehall Bridge Roundabout (Proposal 69).</p> <p>Also Welcome the proposed increase in Community Grants (Proposal 5), Increased Parking Enforcement (Proposal 15) the creation of the new Investment Portfolio (Proposal 21) and the Tatton Vision Phase 1 investment (Proposal 29).</p>	Covered in response to proposals 5, 15, 21 and 29
A local Cllr	<p>Outcome 3 - P42 Most of savings are on SEND. What would the financial implications be of reversing the recently proposed school bus cuts and phasing in changes as recommended by the call-in group?</p>	<p>This would require a change of policy, which may have further implications.</p> <p>The proposal would require a business case to identify the financial and non-financial implications of a change.</p>
A local Cllr	<p>P44 Cheshire East planning have been saying no education</p>	<p>Need further clarity on this comment please.</p>

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
A local Cllr	<p>P46 I agree that Sandbach needs more primary school provision but why isn't this covered by s106 contributions? In a recent report NO primary school contributions were sought (see below)</p> <p>15/5259C The Council's Education Officer has advised that the development will generate 2 primary and 2 secondary aged pupils. The development is forecast to increase an existing shortfall for secondary provision in the immediate locality, but would have no impact upon primary or Special Educational Needs provision. In light of this the following contributions are sought towards secondary school provision - £32,685</p>	<p>£130k of S106 funding supports the Primary & Secondary planning areas in the document (Planning Refs 10/2608C - 14/2913C) and funds have already been received by CEC .</p> <p>In the projection spreadsheet that was presented at the C&F Capital Challenge meeting on the 8th November there were estimates of £3.905m of S106 funding to be received over time within the Sandbach Planning Area which would eventually cover 84% of the total forecast spend of £4.650m. These are not guaranteed nor banked as yet.</p>
A local Cllr	<p>P56 Arclid Waste Site – How much would it cost to keep the site open at weekends only?</p>	<p>As per budget consultation we expect to save £100, 000 annual contract costs a year in addition to the outstanding capital works that are required to maintain the current site.</p>
A local Cllr	<p>P57 charging for garden refuse collections – please supply details of other councils who have tried this.</p>	<p>Covered in response to proposal 57</p>

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
A local Cllr	What will be the impact on the budget from which the money is coming? Put another way. What will Public Health have to cut?	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder
A local Cllr	Option to review concessions policy for charging for services	Services have charging strategies appropriate to their services.
A local Cllr	Could include position on LA provision of housing and latest update on Housing ASDV	The potential ASDV is still at feasibility stage. Further work is due to be presented to CLT to consider a way forward. The options include Council Owned Housing but the feasibility work undertaken by Savills doesn't put this forward as a preferred option.
A local Cllr	Could parking bays be put on grass verges in Crewe funded from car parking income	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the
A local Cllr	Could car parking income be increased and increased for locally determined spending	<p>Car parking income is spent on specific items as we know, and spending to date has not been localised even though car parking income has not been collected evenly throughout the borough.</p> <p>It would be possible to identify local spending as funded from car parking income, but this proposal seemed to imply additional benefit would be provided to areas where new charges may be introduced – is the intention to create a new business case?</p>

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
A local Cllr	Group would like review of Landlord Registration Scheme to be self funded.	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the
A local Cllr	Should CEC introduce an intermediate care WOC?	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the
A local Cllr	Can civic costs be isolated and reductions proposed	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the
A local Cllr	Proposal 15 – could enforcement officers be more efficient (eg travel on scooters)?	The option to use scooters may introduce potential health and safety risks to the existing workforce, but could still be considered.
A local Cllr	Does any proposal impact on the future funding of CAB services?	There is a proposal that positively affects funding to CAB – no.97 on page 85. It is actually an increase in funding. We in effect “loaned” CAB North £30k in 2015-16 on the proviso that we would reduce the funding by £10k for the service for the following 3 years (whether they secured the contract or not). This increase will bring the budget back to the level before the loan just in time for the next procurement cycle.
A local Cllr	Reference could be made to impact of renewable energy on non-domestic rate retention	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Table 13: Shaping Our Services E-mail responses

Responding as	Summarised Comment(s)	
A local Cllr	Group may want to consider response around Single Person Discount & CT band changes	Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.

The key events associated with the Budget Consultation are outlined in the below table along with the topics of discussion and any feedback received.

Events	Comments
Corporate Leadership Team / Cabinet Away Day – 15 th June 2016	Launch of the Business Planning process for 2017-20. Update on the financial position, processes of planning, monitoring and reporting. First consideration of budget changes being proposed.
Cabinet – 12 th July 2016	Revenue 2015/16 Outturn.
Corporate Leadership Team / Cabinet Away Day – 5 th September 2016	Further update on the process and revisiting of the proposals being considered for consultation.
Cabinet – 13 th September 2016	Receive First Quarter Review of Performance.
Team Voice – 2 nd November 2016	Issued to all staff and Members to headline release of Pre-Budget Consultation.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3 rd November 2016	Received Pre-Budget Consultation and Mid-Year Review of Performance.

Events	Comments
Cheshire East Council website – 4 th November 2016	Pre-Budget Consultation placed on Council’s website and Centranet to launch consultation exercise.
Cabinet – <u>8th November 2016</u>	Received the Mid-Year Review of Performance Report.
Trades Unions – 14 th November 2016	<p>The meeting Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder. the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £94m shortfall over three years. Cheshire East Council (CEC) commission more that we pay for directly. More money is being put into people services. The report shows £34m of investment in services that will need to be offset by savings. - Question raised about cumulative values, and in particular the proposal for £5m year on year savings over the three years, believing that £5m is not achievable. Answer: confirmed the £5m year on year saving becomes cumulative if the £5m is not achieved in the first year and represents less than 5% of the cost of the current workforce. - Question asking what engagement had there been on this with staff as there are significant reductions proposed. Answer: there had been investments in technology such as liquid logic to help social workers for example such improvements would support a reduction in the need for agency workers and consultants. The proposals contained a range of initiatives but further

Events	Comments
	<p>feedback from the TU's was welcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder. that until the TU's have the detail they do not consider they will be in a position to comment fully until after the consultation closes. There were strong messaging that CEC was looking at outsourcing with the intention of being a smaller council. - Clarification that CEC does not have a history of externalising services; our preference is to create the right approach on delivering services as described in "Best Fit" and more recently through arms length Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles (ASDVs). - Invitation for TU's to tell CEC what they can do to make changes. Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder. that ASDV's cost base is considerably higher due to pensions costs compared to those they have to compete with for business. Our response to this is to develop a pension scheme that makes our ASDV's competitive. - TU's want to continue the dialogue, but the pension point is a concern for TU members. - CEC wants to engage members and staff on key issues on policy and budget matters, and reiterated that this was the start of consultation on the proposal. It was important that conversations happen locally.
Town and Parish Councils Conference – 28 th	The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder presented an overview of the Council's Finances and the Pre-

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Events	Comments
November 2016 (only had feedback from Economy)	<p>Budget Consultation. Comments on individual proposals as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bus Service reduction proposal –radical approach required to achieve saving level. Services on the main corridors of movement should be prioritised and alternative transport or local service based solutions required. Morre community based local service provision needs to be considered. Overall agreed that the review should work to achieve this proposed budget saving. - Parking income – the use and benefits from greater civil enforcement was understood and accepted as a basis to manage in a more effective way. Parking charges are a sensitive issue and difficulties in arriving at Borough wide approach to parking was Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder.. Any significant increase in revenue from parking should be used to support the Councils highways and transport services as a way of demonstrating to residents that there was a clear related benefit from this revenue income. - Create new investment portfolio – The Council should be very clear about its objectives for any scheme and the level of funding invested. If the funding was in the £10ms level as proposed it was not worth pursuing unless the policy would be support schemes and sites within Cheshire East. Otherwise the fund should be significantly higher and invested in the best UK related investment opportunities to generate a sensible revenue income return. Sceptical of the returns being quoted.

Events	Comments
Schools Forum – 1 st December 2016	<p>The meeting Response is noted and will be brought to the attention of the relevant Portfolio Holder. the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All of the relevant documents can be found online and feedback can be given online (including an online survey). - The pre-budget consultation document is a detailed document giving a three year balanced position which includes revenue and capital options and local taxation forecasts. - C.£100m of savings are required going forward. The majority of the authority's income is focused on people services. - There continues to be the same six priorities (outcomes). Every outcome in the corporate plan is going to be affected and the whole document is subject to consultation (until 10th January). - Specific question raised: Does capital investment involve infrastructure used in education? <p>Answer: Yes, it will include a number of school projects. Further explanation was provided to confirm that Outcome 3 – Education is wider than just schools. It also includes support for children. Capital investment will be prioritised for those areas which are growing. The investment will initially be funded using grants from the DfE however those funds will be replenished when payments from planning obligations under S.106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 are received. There is a priority for</p>

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Events	Comments
	<p>school expansions and that will be put out to consultation in the new year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council will approve the budget in February 2017.
Cabinet – 6 th December 2016	Consider the Domestic and Non-Domestic Tax Base for recommendation to Council.
Council – 15 th December 2016	Agree the Domestic and Non-Domestic Tax Bases .
Funding announcements – 15 th December 2016	From Government
Third Quarter Review of Performance – Challenge sessions – 12 th to 21 st December 2016	Provided updated baseline spending calculations for services and potential impact on calculations proposed within the MTFS.
All Member Briefing – 12 th January 2017	The Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder presented an overview of the Council’s Finances and the Pre-Budget Consultation including an update on the impact of the Provisional Settlement
South Cheshire Chambers of Commerce – 12 th	Cllr Groves presented the Council’s Pre-Budget Consultation to a South Cheshire Business networking

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Events	Comments
January 2017	<p><u>event.</u> Issues raised / suggestions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future development plans for Crewe including update on HS2 - Council Tax and Business Rates plans for the medium term - Request for improved communication from Cheshire East - A discussion on how Cheshire East can supply information on the current position of each consultation Cheshire East has started - A discussion on planning permission and whether Cheshire East will now start to awarding planning permissions so as to avoid being penalised on the Government New Homes Bonus Scheme if their decisions are then overturned on appeal - A discussion on whether Cheshire East are now directly linking savings on adult social care to whether they make / provide highways improvements as suggested at the meeting on 12th Jan - Information regarding social care providers in respect of domiciliary care and residential care providers
Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce Business Event – 26 th January 2017	<p>Cllr Groves presented the Council's Pre-Budget Consultation to a Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce networking event. Issues raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes from the meeting

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Events	Comments
Individual proposals received from Cheshire East Council Members in January 2017	Feedback on: -
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2 nd February 2017	Receive MTFS Report / Review Budget Proposals
Corporate Trades Unions – 8 th February 2016	Final MTFS Report
Cabinet – 7 th February 2017	Consider MTFS Report and recommend proposals to Council
Council – 23 rd February 2017	Debate and approval of 2017/18 budget

Member Workshop Feedback

A workshop session was held with members during the Town and Parish Conference on the 28th November 2016. There were a total of 32 participants during the workshop.

13 of the participants represented Towns/Parishes within the South of the Borough, 10 represented Central CE and 8 represented the North (figure 3). The majority of participants (19 out of 27) represented rural/ mostly rural areas of Cheshire East, (figure 4).

Figure 3. Location of Town/Parish

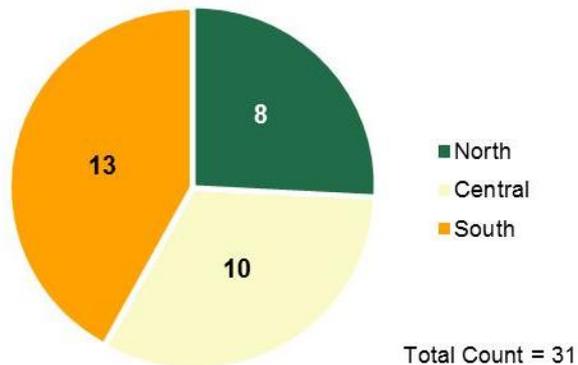
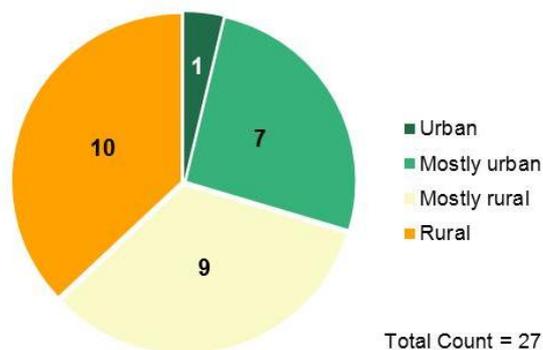
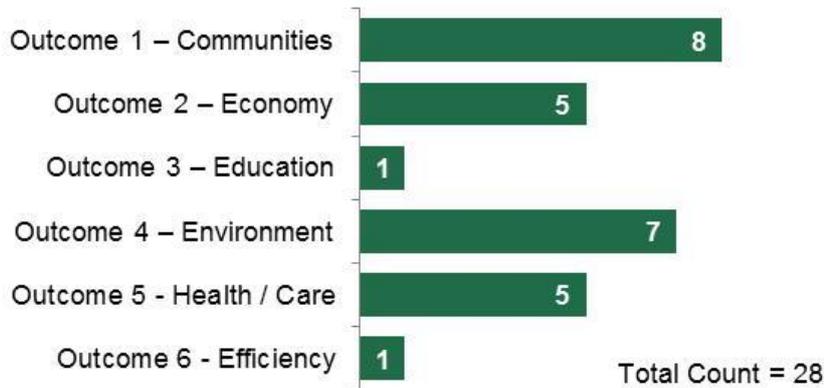


Figure 4. Description of Town/Parish



Participants were asked which particular outcome they believed was the top priority for their area, outcome one – communities came out as top priority for 8 participants, 7 participants selected outcome 4 - environment as their top priority. Outcome 3 - education and outcome 6 - efficiency were not as high of an overall priority with each receiving 1 vote each only.

Figure 5. Top priority outcome for area



Participants were then asked what service area they considered as top and least priority for investment within their area. Highways came out on top with housing being the least priority, figures 6 and 7 show the breakdown of response.

Figure 6. Top priority service for investment in area

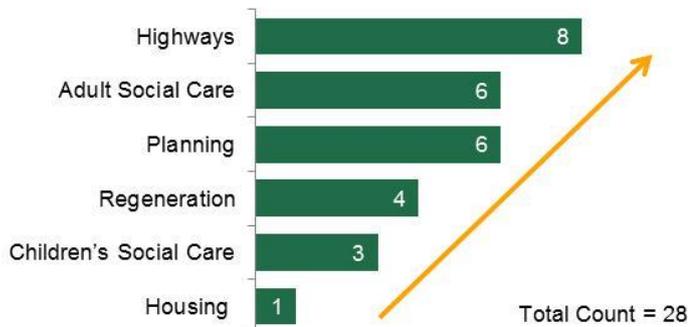


Figure 7. Least priority service for investment in area

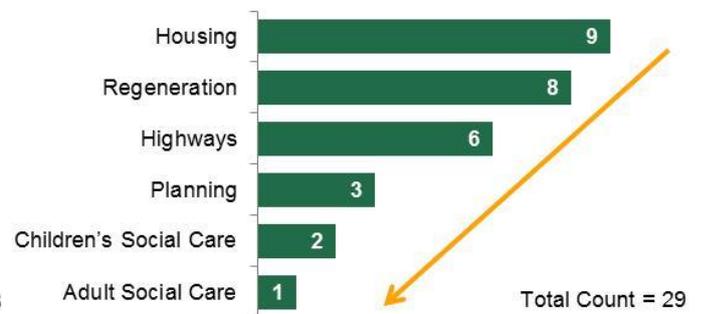
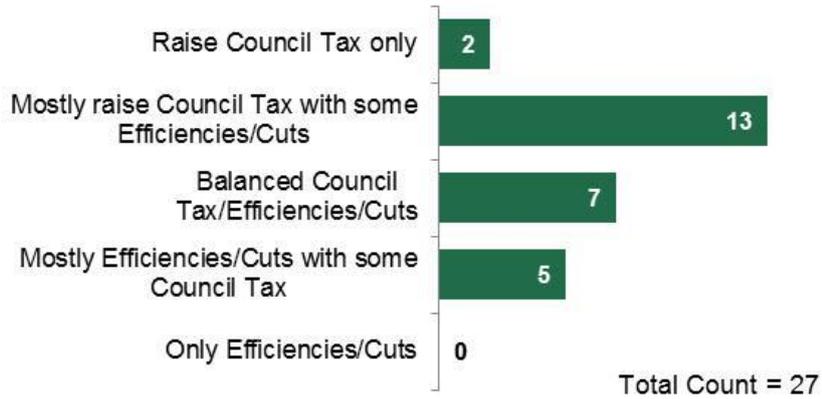


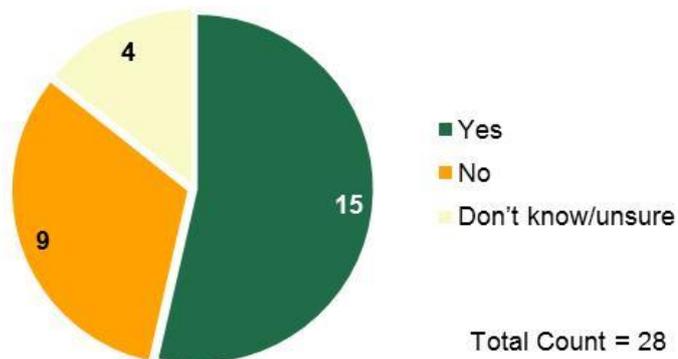
Figure 8 shows that the majority of participants (13 out of 27 who responded) felt that the best way to close financial deficits would be to mostly raise Council tax with some efficiencies/cuts. The least popular way would be to only have efficiencies cuts, which received no votes, followed by raise Council tax only with 2 votes.

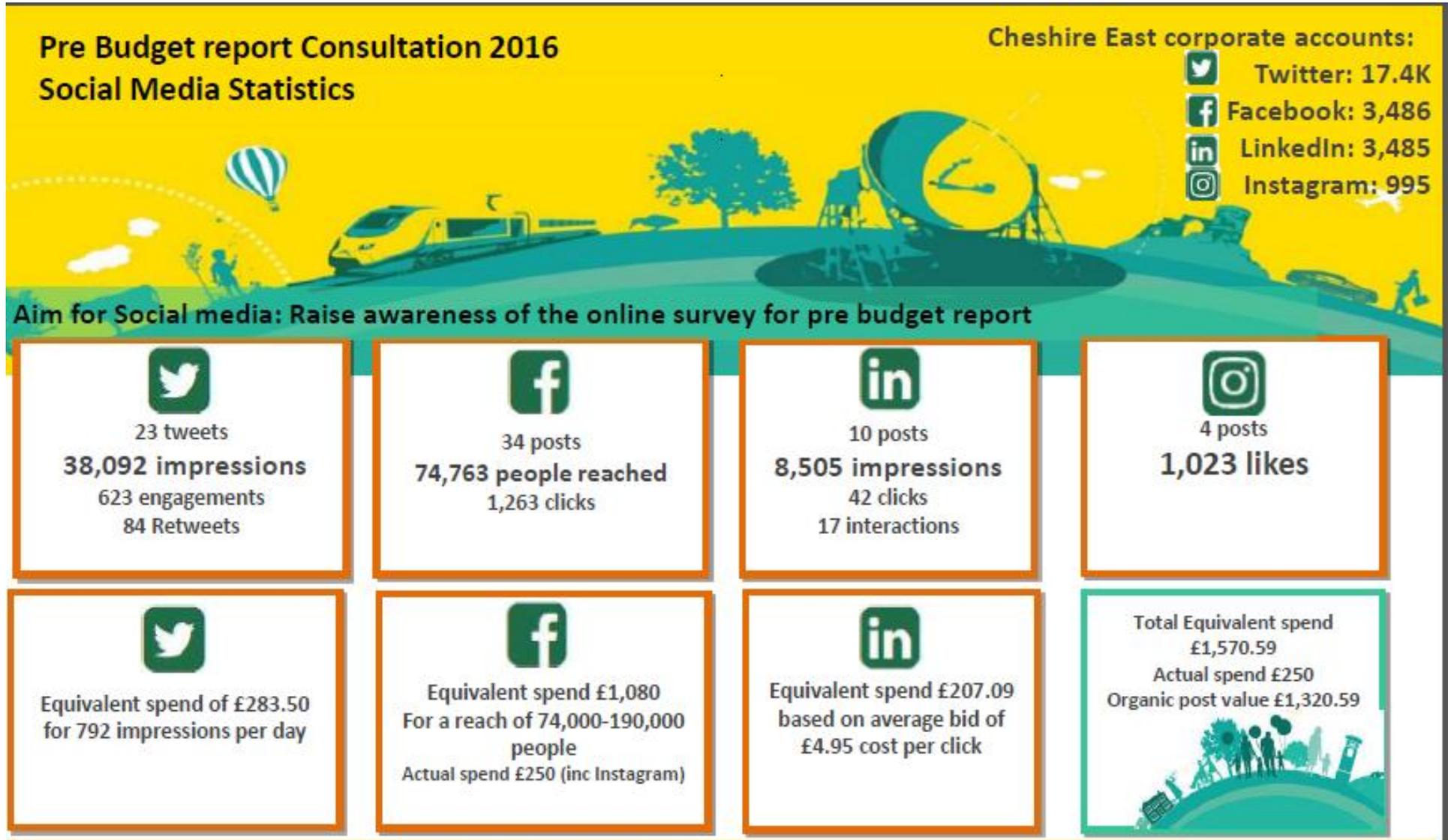
Figure 8. Best way to close financial deficits



15 of the participants seen further devolution of services/ assists as a positive bearing in mind the current financial challenges. 9 did not see devolution as positive and 4 were unsure.

Figure 9. Do you see devolution of services/assets as positive?





Top organic posts

Cheshire East
Published by Facebook on 20 December 2016 at 14:21

Our government's funding will be reduced from £200m to £50 by 2020 that's why we've started to meet this challenge #CECBudget



Get more likes, comments and shares
Boost this post for £4 to reach up to 150 people

1,265 people reached

Boost post

Cheshire East
Published by Facebook on 27 December 2016 at 12:38

Our pre budget report is currently out for consultation. Comment via our online survey or via councillors #CECBudget <https://www.ly/1oet83D66Gk>



Get more likes, comments and shares
Boost this post for £4 to reach up to 150 people

1,051 people reached

Boost post

Cheshire East
Published by Facebook on 21 November 2016

Our government grant will be reduced from £40m to £8 by 2020 read how we intend to meet the challenge <http://www.ly/1vVFis306R4JW> #CECBudget



Get more likes, comments and shares
Boost this post for £4 to reach up to 150 people

1,525 people reached

Boost post

Cheshire East
3386 impressions

We need to save £100million by 2020. If you had to decide, what would you do? Have your say via: www.ly/1MT2305QG6o #CECBudget

- 14% Increase Council Tax
- 14% Reduce Services

10 likes

Cheshire East
3168 impressions

Find your local Cheshire East Councillor and how to contact them on our website here: www.ly/1R8AqG #CECBudget



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Cheshire East
2362 impressions

It's important that people are aware of our #CECBudget report with the challenges ahead over the next 3 years www.ly/13307588K



Cheshire East
1948 impressions

#CECBudget proposals inc raising council tax by 3.99% each year- 2% of which is for adults social care read more www.ly/1Zst3072KQU



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Cheshire East  Written by Comms Business Admin (P) · 15 December 2016 at 12:19

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>



15,942 people reached

Like Comment Share

Carol Bulman, Ralph Hurst and 19 others · Top comments

15 shares 12 comments

Cheshire East  Written by Comms Business Admin (P) · 15 December 2016 at 12:19

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>



10,819 people reached

Like Comment Share

Yanna Koulourantas, Michael Griffiths and 17 others · Top comments

4 shares 6 comments

Cheshire East 

366 likes

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>

Add a comment

Cheshire East 

107 likes

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>

Add a comment

Cheshire East  Written by Comms Business Admin (P) · 15 December 2016 at 12:19

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>



7,348 people reached

Cheshire East  Written by Comms Business Admin (P) · 15 December 2016 at 12:20

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>



3,466 people reached

Cheshire East 

228 likes

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>

and all out! Lovey love this look Gorgeous!

Add a comment

Cheshire East 

232 likes

Take a look and have your say! The #CECbudget report shows how we plan to spend money over the next 3 years <http://ow.ly/Fom8306INGk>

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Listening to the conversation – social media comments

Martin Brereton Exactly. They only want you to think they are listening and actually care but ultimately they do whatever they like.
Like · Reply · Message · 2 · 6 January at 09:41

Margaret Woods Pointless they will do what they want
Like · Reply · Message · 3 · 27 December 2016 at 22:49

Peter Bayley How much for market consultants this year?
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 6 January at 10:32

Tracey Evans Bottom line will be job cuts for staff
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 7 January at 17:39

Maggie Swindells No mention of Pot Holes! That seems to be the consensus view
Like · Reply · Message · 7 January at 19:01

Rich Headey What would 'pot holes' come under in that budget?

Every time it rains I see pedestrians dodging splashes from passing cars but ...
"57. Reduce routine maintenance of Highway network (Gully Cleansing) (Revenue Savings) £m for three years -0.570 -1.140 -1.860"
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 5 January at 23:12

Charlotte Peters Rock This will, as usual, gain a full set of brownie points for 'public consultation', whilst ignoring everything the public has to say. That's how CEC is set up to operate.
Like · Reply · Message · Yesterday at 09:24

Colin Grant Let's start with the cost of this
Like · Reply · Message · 8 · 20 December 2016 at 16:12

Derek Hughes They missed out "your" between "spend", and "money". I would much rather spend it myself. 😊
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 4 January at 11:47

Christine Williams @cmwilliams236 · Jan 7
@CheshireEast It's a shame it's so long winded and not user friendly for most of the customers you serve.

Rob Sproston @dabberuk · 29 Dec 2016
@CheshireEast whilst I recognise that cuts are to be made will this include a 20% reduction in the money paid to Councillors

Oly Lowe @olylowe · 30 Dec 2016
@CheshireEast At a hefty 121pages public participation is likely to be low! Many question whether their voice would be heard too #engagement

Andy Large Straight out of the blocks and you've missed the point. I want to know how you will "save" money, not spend it. A typical, but still epic, fail from CEC.
Like · Reply · Message · 1 January at 17:47

Rich Headey Yes, it does tell you that sort of thing, e.g., "57. Reduce routine maintenance of Highway network (Gully Cleansing) (Revenue Savings) £m for three years -0.570 -1.140 -1.860"
<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/jpre-budget..>
Like · Reply · Message · 6 January at 17:36

Lynne Hardy Hear, hear. Well said
Like · Reply · Message · 21 December 2016 at 22:37

Peter Blease I have no respect for this Council spend and waste money on County Vehicles and other Council Luxuries when Middlewich need a bypass before somebody else gets killed 😡😡😡😡😡
Like · Reply · Message · 29 December 2016 at 14:58

Janet Martin Don't worry, Trump will have caused the end of the world way before then
Like · Reply · Message · 29 December 2016 at 00:42

Phill Wilson It's referring to the central government grant. From 2020 all councils have to self sufficient and will get no external funding as they do now
Like · Reply · Message · 29 December 2016 at 01:46

Martin Brereton Meanwhile heads of departments are all on in excess of 50k a year salaries and bonuses for being glorified pen pushers, claiming expenses for food and petrol and stationery etc. It's no wonder you don't have enough money to fix the potholes.

How about you stop telling us to make cut backs while increasing our taxes and start cutting back on CEO and councillors wages and expenses and ditch some of the dead wood that you're carrying.
Like · Reply · Message · 7 January at 23:55

Paul Bayley Cheshire east's plan seems to be build lots more houses to up the council tax rates.
Like · Reply · Message · 29 December 2016 at 16:53

Craig Wilson Council brain storming meeting.....
"Words cost money, lets drop some"
Slaps on back all round....
"Lunchtime?"
Like · Reply · Message · 29 December 2016 at 09:01

Peter Richards Please write in clear sentences.
Like · Reply · Message · 28 December 2016 at 23:53 · Edited

Ryan Parker What does that mean ?
Like · Reply · Message · 29 December 2016 at 00:29

uni_kit_out 😊, Lovely love this loads. 📷
Gorgeous. 😊

Malcolm Pope Poorly presented survey reliant on complete reading of a complex summary document with no easy reference to this whilst completing the survey. Generally I find public bodies are deliberately tangential in seeking public opinion. The key here is a proposed 3.99% increase in council tax to address increasing needs for adult social care (ageing population) and the complete loss of central government funding for the area by 2020. I support paying more tax to fund adult social care, but the loss of £100M+ from the area is concerning. Additionally it is not clear from the document what funding cuts will occur over the period and how the electorate will be impacted. We have a Conservative government punishing a Conservative led local administration...curious... paying more and getting less? Interesting that the council is addicted to £3.5M in annual income from car parking - a fee that is strangling our local towns...this is balanced by a £2.8M expenditure on "Organisational Development" so I guess employees of Cheshire East are exceptionally well trained (well beyond what the private sector can afford in businesses of a similar turnover)

So if you want to know the facts and figures be prepared to sit in front of a poorly defined 77 page budget document supported by a 12 page "summary" document.

Simply: Poor

My view: take democracy back to the towns where at least we can see and touch every line of a budget and avoid "corporate speak"
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 27 December 2016 at 14:09

Susan Jones Is it possible to rephrase the wording etc in a more simple to understand, and maybe shorter, document
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 27 December 2016 at 13:45

Dianne Smith Ah Susan Jones - you're asking a bit much there, you know.
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 27 December 2016 at 13:51

Impression – A view of a post
Engagement - When a user interacts with a post in any way. This includes all clicks anywhere on the tweet (such as clicks on links, hashtags, usernames, avatars, retweets, favourites)
Action – The number of people who have like, commented, shared or clicked on a Facebook post
Reach - The number of Facebook users who have seen the post

Title: Council launches budget consultation

Embargo 2pm November 3, 2016

Council launches consultation on its Budget Proposals

Cheshire East Council today publishes a report which outlines its draft proposals for how the council could deliver a balanced budget and direct its resources more effectively to meet the needs of its residents.

The public consultation on the pre-budget report for 2017 – 2020 will now begin and will run from November 4 to January 10. The responses will then be analysed and considered before budget-setting decisions are taken by a meeting of full council in February 2017.

Cheshire East is a high-performing council which delivers over 500 services every day to meet the needs of local people and businesses. Despite the fact that the council already delivers good services and provides value for money to its residents, it is still required to find £100m to balance the books over the next three years.

This is because Cheshire East, like most councils, is facing significant reductions in funding from central government whilst facing increasing demand from those who need support from our social care services.

These proposals support the council's broad aims to ensure that it continues to:

- Support all of its communities
- Ensure that Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy
- Provide people the right level of skills and education to secure employment
- Protect and enhance the quality of the natural and built environment
- Ensuring local people live well and longer

In addition the council is committed to running a responsible, effective and efficient organisation so that as much of its resources as possible can be targeted to its front line services.

The council proposes to meet this financial challenge through a mix of tax increases and changing its service offer. The overall aim is to make the council financially self-sufficient – by reducing its reliance on central government revenue support grant from £40m in 2015/16 to nil by 2020.

It is proposed to increase Council Tax by 3.99 per cent to invest in vital frontline services. Half of this rise will go to adult social care. This follows last April's 3.75 per cent increase after five years of Council Tax freeze.

Councillor Peter Groves, cabinet member for finance and assets, said: "Cheshire East is a high-performing authority and a great place to live, work, do business and visit. Our residents enjoy good living standards and, when they need help from the Council, we are consistently recognised as providing excellent services.

"However, setting out our financial plans for the next three years is particularly challenging in the UK-wide context of big reductions in government grants to councils and rising demand for vital services such as social care.

He added: "The consultation document provides a strong set of initial proposals that balance the council's medium-term finances. It is also a real opportunity for interested parties to engage in the budget-setting process.

"Cheshire East puts its residents first. I value the opinions of local residents, businesses and organisations and I would encourage people to give their views via the consultation."

"New ideas that could help the council achieve its outcomes, are always welcome, so I would encourage people to respond to the consultation."

Cheshire East will now invite feedback from residents, businesses, councillors, staff, town and parish councils and other stakeholders to inform decisions. This consultation will be an ongoing process over the next three years.

ENDS

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In the media - media coverage

07/11/2016	News bulletins re budget cuts and council tax increase	BBC Radio Stoke	108,000	Average monthly listeners
07/11/2016	Cheshire East Council today publishes a report which outlines its draft proposals for how the council could deliver a balanced budget and direct its resources more effectively to meet the needs of its residents	Audlem Online	50,460	Average monthly unique visitors
07/11/2016	Nantwich families face a 3.99% rise in Council Tax as Cheshire East Council bids to find £100m savings. The announcement means many face significantly larger tax bills in 2017-18, and follows a 3.75% increase in April this year.	Nantwich News	30,000	Average monthly unique visitors
07/11/2016	Cheshire East Council has published a report which outlines its draft proposals for how the council could deliver a balanced budget and direct its resources more effectively to meet the needs of its residents, given the need for £100 million worth of cuts.	Cheshire Today		unable to get this data
07/11/2016	Cheshire East Council has published a report which outlines its draft proposals for how the council could deliver a balanced budget and direct its resources more effectively to meet the needs of its residents, given the need for £100 million worth of cuts.	knutsfordguardian.co.uk	17,712	Monthly readership (AIR)
07/11/2016	Cheshire East Council has published a report which outlines its draft proposals for how the council could deliver a balanced budget and direct its resources more effectively to meet the needs of its residents, given the need for £100 million worth of cuts.	crewechronicle.co.uk	45,013	Monthly readership (AIR)
07/11/2016	Cheshire East Council has published a report which outlines its draft proposals for how the council could deliver a balanced budget and direct its resources more effectively to meet the needs of its residents, given the need for £100 million worth of cuts.	middlewichguardian.co.uk	10,473	Monthly readership (AIR)
07/11/2016	Outsourcing adult social care, the closure of a household recycling centre and 3.99 per cent council tax hikes are being proposed to help a council save £94 million over the next three years. Cheshire East Council has launched a consultation on its pre-budget report as it looks to deal with further government funding cuts and increased demand for services.	Sentinel	17,867	Monthly readership (AIR)
09/11/2016	Page 6 – Bid to balance books sees council tax hike	Macclesfield Express	24,844	Monthly readership (AIR)
09/11/2016	Page 6 – Tax hike of almost 4% expected from 2017	Crewe Chronicle		
09/11/2016	Page 6 – Tax hike of almost 4% expected from 2017	Nantwich Chronicle	30,489	Monthly readership (AIR)
09/11/2016	Page 7 – Council tax set to rise for the second year running	Knutsford Guardian	9,345	
09/11/2016	Page 7 – Council tax set to rise for the second year running	Winsford and Middlewich Guardian	4,028	Monthly readership (AIR)
10/11/2016	Page 1 – Residents facing council tax hike and services cut	Congleton Chronicle		
10/11/2016	Page 1 – Residents facing council tax hike and services cut	Alsager Chronicle	23,987	Monthly readership (AIR)
10/11/2016	Page 1 – Residents facing council tax hike and services cut	Sandbach Chronicle	N/A	paper not printed
10/11/2016	Council tax is set to rise by nearly four per cent as Cheshire East seeks to balance its books.	macclesfield-express.co.uk	48,757	Average monthly unique visitors
05/01/2017	Page 2 – Time to make up your mind on cost cutting plans	Knutsford Guardian	9,345	Average monthly unique visitors
05/01/2017	Page 26 – Public budget survey to close next week	Winsford and Middlewich Guardian	4,028	Monthly readership (AIR) figure includes Northwich
05/01/2017	Council budget consultation set to close next week with residents invited to contribute	middlewichguardian.co.uk	10,473	Av monthly unique visitors

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Cheshire East Council Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/20 Executive Summary

February 2017

This document is available to download on the [Cheshire East Council](#) website. It will form part of the 7th February 2017 Cabinet Agenda and the recommended version will be distributed to all Members as part of the 23rd February 2017 Council Agenda.

If you have any comments or queries please e-mail:

shapingourservices@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Comments received on this email address, will be brought to the attention of Cabinet Members, and are welcome until 18th February 2017. After this date, interested parties can still give feedback on the proposals in this report by speaking to your Local Councillor up to the Council meeting on 23rd February 2017 where the Budget is considered by all Members.



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Your one stop shop for everything happening in Cheshire East!



Executive Summary – Delivering Our Corporate Plan

A Great Place to Live

Cheshire East is a great place to live, work and visit, and this is as important to the Council as it is to our local residents. The Council plays an integral part in the communities of this beautiful part of the Northwest of England and aims to deliver much needed services that deliver good value for money to our local residents.

Cheshire East is the third largest council in the Northwest of England, responsible for over 500 services and with a population of over 370,000. Our annual turnover exceeds £700m and our resources are well-managed through our budgetary framework.

The Council's Corporate Plan 2017 to 2020 highlights how the Council is striving to create sustainable growth in the local economy that will support the health and economic wellbeing of residents. Developing the skills of our local population will help secure meaningful long-term employment as well as supporting our local businesses to grow. In addition we will maintain a focus on maintaining a good quality transport and digital infrastructure system in the Borough as this will support our economy to grow and support our local residents to access employment, education and leisure opportunities. We will also ensure that we prudently maintain the countryside and open spaces in Cheshire East and provide good quality front line services such as highways, waste collection and street cleaning to ensure that the quality of the environment in the Borough is maintained.

We will also ensure that we continue to invest in supporting our local people to secure well-being and good health. Education achievement rates for pupils in Cheshire East remain as one of the highest levels in the country, and social care for children and adults receive high levels of

investment. Life expectancy for Cheshire East residents is higher than both regional and national averages.

The cost associated with maintaining this level of quality in our services and environment are becoming increasingly challenging as the national austerity measures continue to put the public sector under severe financial pressure. Nonetheless, the Council will continue to strive to provide services that are innovative and creative, and external assessment of the value for money offered by the Council is positive.

The Council froze Council Tax levels for five consecutive years, from 2011/12 to 2015/16 inclusive, with some government support, saving local taxpayers a total of nearly £50m in that period, and yet continued to invest in services that met the needs of local residents. Growth in the local tax base (for houses and businesses) supports the ambition in the Corporate Plan of creating economic independence from government grant. Within four years there will be no general government grant support to the revenue budget of Cheshire East Council. The speed of this change is a major challenge and when increases in demand related to protecting vulnerable people and inflation in costs are taken into account then this creates a requirement to increase Council Tax levels in line with government policy expectations.

Financial stability

In 2017/18 the headlines of the financial strategy are:

- Targeting cost effective service provision for residents whilst responding to the change in the Government's strategy for local authority funding. Council Tax will increase by 4.99% to offset the severity of government grant reductions and provide additional investment in Social Care for Adults ^(see below) and Children.

- 3% (£5.4m) of the overall Council Tax increase will be solely utilised to fund increasing care costs within Adult Social Care. This increase will also be supplemented in 2017/18 with the new Adult Social Care Grant of £1.5m.
- Reducing external borrowing costs.
- Reducing the reliance on resources from Central Government.
- Managing inflation pressures whilst actually reducing net expenditure overall, but:
- Maintaining value for money by cutting bureaucracy, waste and minimising non essential spending throughout the Council.
- Boosting local economic prosperity through increasing investment on capital projects, such as roads maintenance, infrastructure, education and regeneration.

Table 1: Running costs (Revenue) are being managed down. Investment in assets (Capital) also decreasing

Table 1	2016/17*	2017/18 Budget	Change
Revenue Budget	£266.7m	£263.8m	(£2.9m)
Capital Budget	£123.6 m	£116.3m	(£7.3m)

* Approved Budget as at Quarter 3

Net Revenue Budget 2017/18

- Income is estimated to vary from 2016/17 as follows:
 - o Revenue Support Grant (-£12.9m)
 - o New Adult Social Care Grant (+£1.5m)
 - o Other specific grants (-£2.5m)
 - o Growth in Council Tax Base (+£2.6m)
 - o Increase in Council Tax levels (+£9.1m)
 - o Council Tax Collection Fund Contribution change (-£1.1m)
 - o Reduction in New Homes Bonus (-£0.9m)

- o Business Rates Retained (+£1.3)
- Expenditure is estimated to reduce by £2.9m from 2016/17 as set out in **Table 2** :

Table 2	Change from 2016/17 Budget £m	2017/18 Budget £m
Outcome 1 – Communities	-0.6	25.0
Outcome 2 – Economy	-2.2	30.0
Outcome 3 – Education	-1.5	33.8
Outcome 4 – Environment	+0.7	29.8
Outcome 5 – Health	+4.8	96.5
Outcome 6 – Efficient	-1.2	34.8
Contribution from Earmarked Reserves (change from 2016/17)	-2.9	-0.1
Capital Financing	0.0	14.0
Total	-2.9	263.8

Annex 1 to the Executive Summary provides a further breakdown of the Council's revenue budget.

Capital Budget 2017/18 to 2019/20

The three year capital programme includes investment plans of almost £0.3bn. 63% of the funding for this ambitious programme will come from government grants or contributions from other external partners. In addition, 12% will come from the Council's work to maximise the value of assets sales to support development in the local area.

- The main forecasted income sources are:
 - o Government Grants (£168m / 51%)

- Other external contributions (£41m / 12%)
- Receipts from Council Assets (£41m / 12%)
- Expenditure is estimated in the following areas:
 - Highways (£197m)
 - Education (£40m)
 - Economic Growth and Visitor Economy (£27m)
 - Other schemes, such as health and wellbeing, environmental, estate management and IT (£68m)

In addition to these investment plans a number of further schemes, totalling expenditure of £0.2bn are requesting approved but these projects will only commence on completion of detailed business cases and when funding for these projects is confirmed.

Reserves

Reserves are focused on the Council's ability to invest in opportunities and to manage exposure to financial risk. Where something has been identified as a specific risk or investment opportunity, then an amount will be earmarked for that purpose.

Reserves are not being utilised to support annual spending in the net revenue budget for 2017/18. This shows that, despite reductions in funding, the Council is again managing to provide local services within its means.

Table 3: Good financial management reduces the overall need for high Total Revenue Reserves

	Forecast Closing Balance		
Table 3	2016/17	2017/18	Change
General Reserves	£10.3m	£10.3m	-
Earmarked Reserves*	£40.2m	£34.3m	(£5.9m)
Total Revenue Reserves	£50.5m	£44.6m	(£5.9m)

* Earmarked reserves are spent in accordance with planned timescales and will increase or reduce accordingly

The Council's Reserves Strategy (**Annex 13**) provides the reasons for holding General or Earmarked Reserves at current levels.

Achieving Outcomes for Residents

Outcome 1

The Council will deliver a net reduction of £0.6m for services to **local communities** including:

- Public Health Funding for specialist environmental health team
- Cessation of Council tax Support Grant for parish councils
- Increase in Community grants

Outcome 2

Cheshire East Council will decrease budgets by £2.2m and continue to help ensure it has a **strong and resilient economy** through:

- Reviewing the way the council commissions and design the subsidised bus network
- The creation of new investment portfolio

Outcome 3

Reducing budgets by £1.5m and ensuring people have the **life skills and education** they need to thrive through:

- Children’s services transport policy review
- Realignment of Children’s Services funding streams and review of policy around charges and exemptions in relation to Children’s Social Care
- Creating efficiencies in Children’s commissioned services
- Early Help and Prevention management review

Outcome 4

Additional investment of £0.7m to help ensure Cheshire East is a **green and sustainable place** through:

- Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision
- Ansa Environmental Services efficiencies and contract renewals
- Investment to ensure we provide an effective Planning framework

Outcome 5

Redesigning services to ensure People **live well and for longer** and investing an extra £4.8m through:

- Investment in Adult Social Care
- Commissioning all services currently provided by our in-house provider, Care4CE
- Operational Pathway Redesign
- Extra funding for Cared for Children & Care Leavers

The Council also has a sixth underpinning outcome to ensure we continue to improve and be a **responsible, effective and efficient organisation**.

Net cost reductions of £1.2m will be delivered by maximising productivity, enhancing returns from investments, maximising value for money on contracts, streamlining processes and rationalising assets in order to focus as much investment as possible towards front line services.

A listening Council

The budget report reflects the Council’s on-going commitment to transparency, engagement and consultation. The process of budget development has been open and clear from the outset and demonstrates that we listen to residents and stakeholders.

The stakeholder engagement process included:

- An appropriate timescale that supported the development and sharing of draft Budget ideas.
- Regular elected Member involvement through scrutiny, briefings and planning and licensing processes.
- Wide ranging stakeholder engagement via open meetings, consultation and for the first time this year, an online survey tool to gather stakeholder feedback.
- On-going development of effective internal challenge processes including staff and union briefings.
- Inclusion of proposals that are not currently proposed for implementation to help stakeholders understand the options that were considered as part of the overall process.
- Continued improvement of financial and performance reporting.
- Listening to stakeholders in important considerations

During the consultation process the Council received notification of the Government funding settlement. The Council entered in to a multi-year agreement, along with 97% of English Local Authorities that fixed certain grants up to 2019/20. The settlement included changes to way the Adult Social Care Precept could be charged, as well as reductions in New Homes Bonus that transferred funds to a new Adult Social Care Grant.

In addition to stakeholder feedback and the government settlement the Council also reviewed the impact of its Third Quarter financial forecasts. Based on the feedback and revised information changes have been made to adjust expenditure in a number of areas compared to the Pre-Budget Consultation Report.

Where specific proposals have been amended these are noted within **Section 1** of the MTFs. **Annex 2** of the MTFs also describes the engagement activities carried out by the Council.

Based on Pre-Budget consultation feedback and the Third Quarter Review of performance there have been a number of changes made to the budget proposals. Adult Social Care pressures have increased but greater flexibility in the amount that can be raised from Council Tax was granted as part of the Provisional Finance Settlement in December 2016 to address this demand. The new Adult Social Care Grant was also announced at this time (£1.5m) but Cheshire East also lost expected revenue from the New Homes Bonus (£1m) and Education Services Grant (£1.3m) for 2017/18. Feedback did not introduce further savings but supported Council Tax increases to cover the Adult Social Care pressures so Council Tax has been increased to return the budget to a balanced position.

Changing the way we work

Cheshire East has established itself as a commissioning council. This means we provide the service options that best fit the needs of our residents, regardless of historical approaches to service delivery. Since 2009 over £70m of savings have been achieved through adopting more efficient and effective ways of working. The number of staff employed directly by the Council has also been reduced by 48% with staff and unions working together to manage transfers to innovative Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles. Wherever possible retention of front line staff has been given priority.

The current structure of service providers allows the Council to commission (or 'buy') the right services for the right people at the right price.

A sample of the main providers of services to Cheshire East is shown below:

Privately owned contractors:

- Ringway Jacobs (Highways)
- Oracle (Core financial systems)
- BT (Superfast Broadband projects)

Delivery vehicles wholly owned by the Council:

- Cheshire East Residents First (CERF)
- Ansa Environmental Services Ltd (Waste Services, Street Cleansing, Grounds and Fleet)
- Orbitas (Bereavement services and minor maintenance service)
- Tatton Park Enterprises
- Transport Service Solutions Ltd
- Civiance (Building Control and Planning/Land Charges Support)
- Skills and Growth Company
- Engine of the North Ltd

Charitable organisations:

- Everybody Sport and Recreation Trust (Leisure Services)
- 62 Academies

Collaborative Arrangements:

- Four4adoption (set to be replaced with the Regional Adoption Agency from 1/4/17)
- Cross Cheshire Youth Offending Team

In-House Council Services:

- Cheshire East libraries
- Planning
- Children's Social Care
- Safeguarding
- Early Help and Prevention
- Schools Support Services (89 Local Authority maintained schools)

The effective management of service providers allowed the Council to set a balanced budget in 2016/17 and established a strong base for 2017/18. Vital services have been protected and opportunities for further efficiencies and commercialism have been created.

We have a strong corporate leadership team in place to take this Council into 2017 and beyond.

Mike Suarez – Chief Executive

Kath O’Dwyer – Executive Director of Peoples Services and Deputy Chief Executive

Peter Bates – Chief Operating Officer (S151 Officer)

Frank Jordan - Executive Director of Place

Other statutory posts include Mark Palethorpe (Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health), Bill Norman (Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer) and Charlotte Simpson and Guy Kilminster (Acting Directors of Public Health).

The Council has been given a clean bill of health by the external auditors, Grant Thornton, and the financial statements and value for money opinions are unqualified. This provides confidence that the leadership team of the Council understand the costs associated with local needs and is matching resources to the stated priorities of the Council.

In 2015/16 the Council aligned its corporate business case format to public sector best practice in the form of the HM Treasury Five Case Model. This approach has continued into 2016/17 and has helped to strengthen its processes for monitoring the delivery of these proposals overseen by the Executive Monitoring Board.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (Full Report)

As the Finance Portfolio Holder, I have developed the medium term strategy, with the professional support of Peter Bates (Chief Operating Officer) and his team.

This comprehensive report provides further information on the issues facing the Council in the medium term and shows how these are being addressed to present a balanced financial position for the 2017/18 financial year. The report also includes medium term estimates showing

how the Council could balance the financial challenges from 2017 through to 2020.

Additional detailed analysis of appropriate trends and demonstration of the effective deployment of resources is contained within the Council’s [Value for Money](#) publication. This illustrates the strong financial position of the Council and provides clear evidence of delivering more with less.

The effective management of the budget within the annual estimates for the last three years has provided a solid financial platform to enable the Council to maintain a positive outlook for the future. The medium term forecasts shows the extent of the financial challenge ahead but I am confident and determined to deliver for local residents by always putting them first and to do everything I can to maintain Cheshire East as one of the best places to live in the Northwest.

Cllr Peter Groves

Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets,
Cheshire East Council
February 2017



8 Green Flag Awards for our parks & open spaces

Working in partnership to deliver an award winning, sector-defining digital platform

'Most active' local authority in the North West with participation in sport and recreation in Sport England's "Active ..."

Improved percentage of primary (93%) and secondary (86%) schools judged good or outstanding in 2015/16

Low figures were maintained of young people not in education, employment and training (NEET) at 2.8%

2.83 million uses of Leisure Services facilities in 2015/16

Did you know?

Fairerpower new energy supplier secured savings of £1.5m for 5,000 customers in its first full year

17% increase since 2011 in residents agreeing that the Council provides Value For Money

360 affordable homes were delivered in 2015/16 (against a target of 300)

83 long-term empty homes were brought back into use

1,433,000 library visitors

Wi-Fi introduced at all libraries

Our 56% recycling rate continues to be in the top 10% of all local authorities

Over 1,000 tonnes of materials were diverted from landfill for recycling and reuse during 2015/16

Around 5 million website hits per year

Annex 1

Estimated Budget and funding for Cheshire East Council 2016/17 to 2019/20 (excluding ring-fenced grants)

	Budget Book 2016/17 (revised at TQR)	Estimated Net Budget 2017/18	Estimated Net Budget 2018/19	Estimated Net Budget 2019/20
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Outcome 1 - Our Local Communities are strong and supportive	25.6	25.0	25.3	25.7
Outcome 2 - Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	32.2	30.0	28.1	28.1
Outcome 3 - People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive	35.3	33.8	32.5	32.7
Outcome 4 - Cheshire East is a green and sustainable place	29.1	29.8	30.0	29.1
Outcome 5 - People live well and for longer	91.7	96.5	96.4	95.8
Outcome 6 - Efficiency	34.9	33.6	32.8	32.8
Total Outcomes	248.8	248.7	245.1	244.2
Corporate Contributions and Adjustments	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
Capital Financing	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
Use of / Contribution to Earmarked Reserve	2.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
TOTAL:	266.7	263.8	260.2	259.3
<i>CENTRAL BUDGETS</i>				
Business Rate Retention Scheme	-39.7	-41.0	-42.7	-41.8
Revenue Support Grant	-26.3	-13.4	-5.4	0.0
Specific Grants	-18.8	-16.9	-9.8	-9.4
Council Tax	-179.4	-191.1	-202.3	-208.1
Sourced from Collection Fund	-2.5	-1.4	0.0	0.0
TOTAL: Central Budgets	-266.7	-263.8	-260.2	-259.3
Funding Position	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Cheshire East Council Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/20



Foreword from the Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder

Cheshire East Council is an ambitious local authority with strong values. I started a conversation about the Medium Term Financial Strategy back in November, and this budget report is the first milestone in showing how that conversation is going.

Cheshire East is a great place to live, work and visit and the Council is striving to engage residents in how services that they need can be afforded and still continue to help local people achieve their aspirations. Our residents enjoy good living standards and when they need help from the Council we are consistently recognised as providing good services. But setting out the Council's financial plans for the next three years has been particularly challenging as local authorities continue to make such a significant contribution to national austerity measures.

Throughout the consultation period I have listened to people and their ideas on maintaining sustainable changes to services. The 2017/18 Budget is presented in this report as balanced, albeit with a requirement to raise Council Tax levels in response to government policy. The medium term strategy is also balanced through to 2019/20, a year in which general government grant will be nil for the first time.

The Council spends more on Adult Social Care than any other service, and costs in this area are expected to rise by over £7m in 2017/18. This is driven by inflation, minimum wage requirements and from more people entering the care system. These pressures coincide with significant pressure on our partners in the health sector. Value for money is a priority, but there is also a clear responsibility, driven by government policy, for residents to make greater contributions to service costs.

The proposals in the [Pre-Budget consultation](#) document included the option to increase Council Tax by up to 3.99% each year, but the government settlement in December 2016 recognised that social care costs were in fact a national issue, that required greater focus. The consultation feedback and rising in-year costs have led to the decision to

increase Council Tax by 4.99% overall in 2017/18 with 3% of this increase directly funding Adult Social Care.

This approach will add £1.21 per week to a Band D Council Tax bill each year. Previous policies froze Council Tax and saved the local taxpayer nearly £50m, but the current circumstances make these increases an appropriate proposal at this stage.

This report still contains significant ambition, with £197m of infrastructure projects included to open up opportunities for businesses and create jobs that support the local economy.

All the proposals in this document continue to work towards the Council's Corporate Plan 2017 to 2020 which focuses on:

Communities ~ helping residents to help themselves and each other. Supporting volunteering and minimising anti-social behaviour.

Economy ~ encouraging and supporting businesses to create high employment and creating opportunities for all.

Education ~ intervening early to provide a great start in life.

Environment ~ supporting energy saving initiatives and making sure our green spaces make Cheshire East a great place to live.

Health & Care ~ safeguarding the vulnerable, with care that people need.

I believe this report provides a strong set of options, that balance the Council's medium term finances.

Peter Groves

Cllr Peter Groves,
Finance and Assets Portfolio Holder



Comment from the Chief Operating Officer (Section 151)

Setting the 2017/18 budget has been the most challenging since Cheshire East Council was formed in 2009. The ambition to create greater certainty for local residents has not been easy while 2016 provided such significant changes at a national level. Brexit, a new Prime Minister and many changes in the Ministerial Team could yet prove to impact on the Council. The real challenge though has been managing the levels of demand for our services whilst creating a fair, equitable and viable financial outlook for our organisation.

Cheshire East Council is a large local authority which delivers over 500 services every day that meet the needs of local people. The Council was restructured in 2016 to present a clear set of Directorates: People; Place; Corporate. The majority of spend takes place in our People Directorate. Our staff also work with public sector partners and our communities as well as with the private and voluntary sectors. This aligned approach helps to support our residents when they need it.

To provide greater certainty around funding levels I worked with members to accept an offer from government to fix general grant levels over the next three years. The 'offer' sees our general grant funding reduce to nil by 2020 and this accelerates our ambition within the Corporate Plan to be a self sufficient Council. This approach has provided some certainty for our medium term financial plan, but we are still waiting for clarification about Non-Domestic Rates Retention. The settlement figures in relation to New Homes Bonus and Schools funding have been disappointing and we are actively lobbying government to challenge the rationale behind their suggested approach.

The Council's plans for services are targeted at the achievement of the Council's six outcomes contained within the Corporate Plan 2017-20.

Budget forecasts in February 2016 highlighted potential deficits of £8.9m, £13.5m and £13.6m over the next three years. Following the consultation period this report updates these forecasts to demonstrate how a balanced position can be achieved.

It was really pleasing to see how many local people engaged in the process to develop an affordable package of services that can meet the needs of our residents during the budget process. In my opinion the estimates to arrive at this position are robust and I believe the levels of reserves are adequate based on the assessment of financial risks.

The Council remains committed to exploiting opportunities to continue to revolutionise service delivery arrangements. This is based on the belief that we can find or even create the right arrangements and the right providers that will get closer to the resident and better understand local needs and therefore deliver a better service at a better price.

I will continue to benchmark our services to provide even greater challenge to our value for money approach to ensure we achieve or even set best practice as a commissioning organisation.

PJ Bates

Peter Bates CPFA CIPD MBA

Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer)



Table 1 – Three Year Summary Position

Estimated Budget and funding for Cheshire East Council 2016/17 to 2019/20 (excluding ring-fenced grants)

	Budget Book 2016/17 (revised at TQR) £m	Estimated Net Budget 2017/18 £m	Estimated Net Budget 2018/19 £m	Estimated Net Budget 2019/20 £m
Outcome 1 - Our Local Communities are strong and supportive	25.6	25.0	25.3	25.7
Outcome 2 - Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	32.2	30.0	28.1	28.1
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Use of / Contribution to Earmarked Reserve	2.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
TOTAL:	266.7	263.8	260.2	259.3
<i>CENTRAL BUDGETS</i>				
Business Rate Retention Scheme	-39.7	-41.0	-42.7	-41.8
Revenue Support Grant	-26.3	-13.4	-5.4	0.0
Specific Grants	-18.8	-16.9	-9.8	-9.4
Council Tax	-179.4	-191.1	-202.3	-208.1
Sourced from Collection Fund	-2.5	-1.4	0.0	0.0
TOTAL: Central Budgets	-266.7	-263.8	-260.2	-259.3
Funding Position	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Including assumption that General Reserves are not used.

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1. Achieving Outcomes

Cheshire East Council is responsible for providing more than 500 local public services across an area of over 1,100km² for over 370,000 residents. The budget to deliver these services in the period April 2016 to March 2017 will be in the region of £720m, which is raised from a combination of local taxes, national taxes (in the form of government grants) and payments direct from service users and other organisations.

As a place we have a fantastic mix of rural and urban environments. However the most important element of Cheshire East is its people and we will strive to make sure we have a Council that serves its diverse community well and delivers value for money. We want to see Cheshire East Council build a national reputation for customer services and partnership working and to build a clear programme that continually delivers and makes sure as an organisation we put residents first at all times.

The Corporate Plan for 2017-2020 reaffirms the outcomes contained within the previous three year plan. Members agreed that the outcomes remain hugely relevant to the way the Council can meet the needs of local residents and businesses. However, it is inevitable that local needs and priorities in Cheshire East change over time and the Council must therefore be flexible. This section provides details on how the Council aims to achieve its outcomes through focused and clear priorities.

Each of the Council's Resident First outcomes is set out on the following pages along with budget changes that will achieve a balanced position over the period 2017/18 to 2019/20.

The following pages set out:

- Some of Cheshire East Council's achievements over the last year, as detailed in the Council's Outturn Report.
- The engagement activity for the current budget setting process. This identifies who was consulted with as part of this budget setting process.
- Revised budget proposals that include the Council's response to stakeholder feedback.

Did you know?

Cheshire East Council is the 3rd largest Local Authority in the Northwest with over 370,000 residents

Local Engagement

Cabinet and Council meetings

- Cabinet December 2016 (Domestic/Non Domestic Taxbase)
- Cabinet February 2017 (Budget / MTFS)
- Council February 2017 (Budget / MTFS)

Member briefings

- Finance briefings covering Budget development and the communication of the process at every milestone
- All Member session January 2017

Updates for staff on budget progress

- Updates made available in Team Voice, on Centranet and the Cheshire East Council website. This included the Pre-Budget Consultation launched on 4th Nov

Overview and Scrutiny

- Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee 7th July 2016
- Opportunity to examine service budget proposals on 3rd November 2016 and 12th January 2016

Engagement events with other stakeholder groups

- Including businesses (Jan 2017):
 - South Cheshire Chambers
 - Macclesfield Chambers
- Trades Unions November 2016 and January 2017
- Town and Parish Councils December 2016
- Key partners, voluntary, community and faith sector via websites and newsletters
- Schools Forum December 2016 and January 2017

Local Engagement

- These events are used to highlight how the Council budget could affect our different stakeholders and help to answer questions, address concerns and develop our relationship with our stakeholders and the wider community

Residents

- Any comments? – Speak to your local Councillor
- Information included with Council Tax bills
- Media releases
- Citizens' Panel survey
- Social media

Group meetings

- An opportunity to discuss details of the budget with Officers
- Available upon request

Understanding the financial tables in this document

Budget changes in this document are expressed in cash terms compared to the Council's Approved Budget for 2016/17.

Each proposed change is included in a table as described below:

Theme of the Potential Change(s) <i>(such as "Changing the way we work" or "Income Generation")</i>	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m*	£m*	£m*
Title of Proposed changes (either Revenue or Capital) (plus ref number from Pre Budget Consultation if applicable) A narrative to describe what the proposal is			
<i>Impact on Services Budget =</i>	-x.xxx	-x.xxx	-x,xxx
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

The specific Service Budget that will be affected is identified here. Current budgets are detailed in the Council's Budget Book.

Capital changes are split by the year in which expenditure is incurred.

Figures represent an increase or decrease in spending compared to the 2016/17 Approved Budget.

If the change is permanent it is therefore repeated in each year.

If spending will vary across the three years each figure still represents the change from the existing 2016/17 Budget.

Outcome 1 - Our local communities are strong and supportive

<p>What this means:</p>	<p>Individuals and families are self-reliant and take personal responsibility for their quality of life.</p> <p>Communities are cohesive, with a strong sense of neighbourliness. There is genuine civic pride and mutual respect.</p>	
<p>What the Council will focus on:</p>	<p>1. Active, Resilient and Connected Communities where people want to live</p>	<p>2. Communities where you are Safe, and feel Safe</p>
<p>What this will look like:</p>	<p>People work together to help each other, take action and take pride in where they live. We enable and support our communities to be independent. We lead by example as a proactive and enforcing Council.</p>	<p>People feel safer in their own homes and in their communities. We work with partners to target a reduction in anti-social behaviour and improve public and road safety.</p>

Did you know?

Over 275,000 Cheshire East residents are registered to vote



Key Priorities:

As a Residents First Council we have listened to what is important to you and recognise that working with you will help us achieve this really important outcome about safe, strong and supportive communities. We want to be much more pro-active in agreeing what our deal is with you, so that we use our fantastic assets which are people, money and buildings in the ways to get the best outcomes we can.

Our Connecting Communities approach will be introduced in 2016/17 and will set out how we will engage with you. It will build on the strong foundations that we have achieved through our Delivering Differently in Macclesfield programme where we have actively engaged with over 750 residents and set up four strong estate based partnerships who are tackling the issues faced by local people in some of our more deprived areas. We will continue the development of community networks across Cheshire East and support the excellent work undertaken by volunteers in our market towns through our Town Partnerships.

Our community grants programme will continue and we plan to boost this with exploring new ways of bringing in grant funding to our community groups who for every £1 we grant them bring in a further £9 themselves. This generated 3,000 volunteers last year.

Our much tougher approach to enforcement has seen us pilot a new approach this year. We have brought in a private enforcement company to tackle those who litter, flytip and do not pick up after their dogs. In the first few weeks we saw over 500 fines issued. We want to combine this with a change in behaviour and so have dedicated extra resources working in the Crewe area with local people to find out how we can educate and engage to stop this happening in the first place.

Did you know?

Over 10,000 births, deaths or marriages are registered by the Council each year

Proposals to vary the Budget under Outcome 1 (Communities) are focused on these areas:

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>Review Environmental Enforcement Service based on outcomes, expected Summer 2017, of the Flytipping pilot and procurement of patrol company pilot (Revenue Savings) (1)</p> <p>Two pilot projects are underway to improve environmental enforcement. These will be reviewed by the end of Summer 2017, with a plan to redesign the delivery of the service and deliver savings from April 2018 onwards.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Community Safety Delivery Team Service Budget =</i></p>	0.000	-0.120	-0.120
<p>Cessation of the Regulatory Services Out of Hours Service (Revenue Savings) (2)</p> <p>Cease the current emergency out of hours service that operates for Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Animal Health services which receives only a low number of calls each year. This will mean that members of the community will need to report issues on the next working day.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Regulatory Services & Health Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			
<p>Note: Proposal 3: “Development Control Funding for Environmental Health” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.</p>			

Did you know?

The Environmental Health Team inspected 2,000 Business premises in the last year

Working with the community <i>Services and financial forecasts will be adjusted to react to trends in the way residents interact with key services.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Transfer of Cheshire East Council managed community centres to local management arrangements (Revenue Savings) (4) The management of Community Centres / Halls have been transferred from Cheshire East Council to alternative local providers to improve local services and reduce costs. The proposal is to transfer the two Community Centres in Macclesfield and Handforth, currently still managed by Cheshire East Council, into a local management arrangement. <i>Impact on Partnerships & Communities Service Budget =</i>	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020
Increase Community Grants (Revenue Investment) (5) The Community Grants scheme is highly valued by community and voluntary groups and demand for support increases annually, and is now four times oversubscribed. For every £1 invested in this scheme it is worth £9 to the community, contributing towards over £1.6m worth of activities and projects in the Borough in 2015/16. The proposal is to increase the Community Grant budget, to deliver even greater impact from investment. <i>Impact on Partnerships & Communities Service Budget =</i>	+0.060	+0.100	+0.100
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Did you know?

For every £1 given in grant, £9 of benefit is seen by the community

Investment in services	2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
<i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	£m*	£m*	£m*
<p>Public Health Funding for specialist environmental health team (Revenue Savings) (6)</p> <p>The direct funding of the specialist environmental health team that deals with proactive work to protect public health and which can be directly linked to Public Health Outcome Framework Indicators. This includes issues such as air quality, contaminated land and strategic noise controls. The appropriate allocation of Public Health Grant funding creates savings in the existing base budget.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Regulatory Services & Health Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.180	-0.180	-0.180
<p>CCTV Fibres (Revenue Investment) (7)</p> <p>The current contract for CCTV fibres ceases at the end of March 2017 and as rental charges have increased, any new contract is estimated to cost an additional £33,000 per annum. CCTV plays a key role in keeping our residents and communities safe, and any changes to its current coverage would have a significant impact to residents and businesses across Cheshire East. This proposal is to cover court costs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Partnerships & Communities Service Budget =</i></p>	+0.030	+0.030	+0.030
<p>Gypsy Traveller Liaison Officer Court Costs (Revenue Investment) (8)</p> <p>The Magistrates Court now requires the Council to pay fees to obtain Orders, which enable us to move Travellers out of the Borough, if they set up an illegal encampment. This action plays a key role in our enforcement policy and if we could not apply for court orders, there would be a significant impact to residents and businesses in Cheshire East.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Partnerships & Communities Service Budget =</i></p>	+0.020	+0.020	+0.020
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Income generation <i>Charging strategies for each service area to increase income where appropriate based on market rates and considering the price elasticity of demand for services.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Introduce a new Business Start Up Offer (Revenue Savings) (9) The provision of a discretionary chargeable service to help new food businesses comply with food safety legislation and to improve their Food Hygiene Rating System Score. This will supplement the statutory inspection regime. <i>Impact on Regulatory Services & Health Service Budget =</i>	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002
Develop a Chargeable Pre-Application Checking Service (Revenue Savings) (10) The provision of a discretionary chargeable service for the checking of licence applications. Similar to the passport 'check and send' service. This will ensure that applications are correctly completed prior to processing and will reduce resources currently required to gather additional information. Where the service is not purchased, incomplete or incorrect forms will be returned directly to the applicant for further work. <i>Impact on Regulatory Services & Health Service Budget =</i>	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Funding changes <i>Changes in central government support being managed between down through tiers of local government.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Council Tax Support Grant as agreed (Revenue Savings) (11) Since 2013/14 Cheshire East Council has provided compensation to each eligible Town and Parish Council for the reduction in tax base following the introduction of the council tax support scheme. This grant has been reduced annually in line with overall reductions to Cheshire East Council's general government grant, with an agreement that it will cease in 2017. <i>Impact on Partnerships & Communities Service Budget =</i>	-0.150	-0.150	-0.150
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			



Outcome 2 - Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy

<p>What this means:</p>	<p>Cheshire East is a place which is open for business. We will invest in the building blocks that will allow business to grow, give our residents the right skills to secure employment and attract inward investment in to the Borough. By working together with business and our residents we will enhance the quality of place and create prosperity for all!</p>			
<p>What the Council will focus on:</p>	<p>1. Culture, Heritage and Tourism</p>	<p>2. Jobs and Skills</p>	<p>3. Business Growth and Inward Investment</p>	<p>4. Infrastructure</p>
<p>What this will look like:</p>	<p>Across the Borough our towns and villages will offer a rich mix of retail, leisure, cultural and heritage facilities that will serve our residents and attract more visitors and tourists to Cheshire East.</p>	<p>The workforce in Cheshire East will be well educated and skilled. Unemployment will be kept low, new and high quality jobs will be created and people will be ready for work as soon as they leave education or training.</p>	<p>Businesses will grow and thrive in Cheshire East. Sites and support will be available to attract new businesses to the Borough and to allow existing businesses to grow.</p>	<p>Cheshire East will be well connected. Travel will be safe and efficient.</p>

Did you know?

96% of all students in Cheshire East remained in Education, Employment or Training at 16 years in 2015

Key Priorities:

Quality of Place

Quality of place is a significant driver for the economy of Cheshire East and the prosperity of its residents and businesses. We will focus on protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment in the Borough. This will develop our distinctiveness to attract investors, businesses and visitors; encourage creativity and support the vitality of our towns and villages, and support the wellbeing of our residents.

- **High Quality Town Centres** – we will focus on securing investment in our key towns to create high quality places for residents, visitors and businesses which will include:
 - A long term regeneration strategy for Crewe Town Centre which will stimulate investment and development in retail, culture, leisure, residential and employment facilities.
 - We will work with partners to create a hub station which will connect Crewe through High Speed rail and the classic rail network to key centres in the UK including London, Birmingham and Manchester.
 - Through the Northern Gateway Partnership, which is an emerging economic partnership between seven local authorities and two Local Enterprise Partnerships we will deliver sustainable plan led growth in the Borough on the back of HS2 investment at Crewe.
 - We will develop a strategy for regeneration in Macclesfield which includes the delivery of a high quality leisure-led development in the town; deliver improvements and support marketing of Middlewich town centre; invest in the town centre public realm and secure the future use of a key listed building in Congleton.
- **High Quality Infrastructure** – we will deliver an investment programme in major infrastructure projects such as the Connecting Cheshire Broadband scheme, the M6 Smart Motorway project, the Congleton Link Road, Macclesfield Movement Strategy, the Poynton Relief Road and the Middlewich Eastern Bypass.
- **High Quality Leisure, Cultural and Heritage Offer** – We will make the most of the quality of our rural areas and complement our town centre regeneration work by developing our cultural, heritage and landscape offer. We will also continue to build on our growing economy by marketing and promoting Cheshire East as a place to live, work, visit and invest in.

Skills and Employment

- We will work in partnership with our schools, colleges, local universities and employers to ensure young people have the right qualifications, skills and experience to prepare them for work.
- In particular we will support people to develop skills in the specialisms required to support our high growth sectors including life sciences, creative and digital, rail and automotive engineering and advanced manufacturing.

Opportunities

- We aim to provide of an average of 15Ha of new employment and business land each year to meet the needs of new and expanding companies in Cheshire East.
- We will provide an effective support service to our existing businesses and those planning to invest in the Borough.

Did you know?

There are as many
businesses in Cheshire East
as there are in Central
Manchester



Proposals to vary the Budget under Outcome 2 (Economy) are focused on these areas:

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>Lifelong Learning (Revenue Savings) (12)</p> <p>The Lifelong Learning Service made an accounting adjustment of £122,000 in 2014/15 based on a forecast increase from the Skills Funding Agency grant the service anticipated they would receive, but never materialised. The funds are therefore surplus to requirements, and their removal will have no adverse impact on their current delivery.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Lifelong Learning Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.120	-0.120	-0.120
<p>Transfer of the two Tourist Information Centres to Town Councils (Revenue Savings) (13)</p> <p>Cheshire East Council is in discussion with relevant Town Councils over the possible transfer of Tourist Information Centres in Macclesfield and Congleton. Subject to agreement by each Town Council, this would maintain provision of visitor information with a sustainable platform moving forward, allowing Cheshire East's tourism assets to be actively promoted both locally and regionally. This supports the Council's outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 5.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Visitor Economy Service Budget =</i></p>	0.000	-0.020	-0.050
<p>Reduce Archive Shared Service (Revenue Savings) (14)</p> <p>Planned efficiencies due to phased retirement and maternity leave delivering budget savings. Supports Council's Outcome 2.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Cheshire Archives & Local Studies Shared Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.020	-0.020	-0.020
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Working with the community <i>Services and financial forecasts will be adjusted to react to trends in the way residents interact with key services.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Increased Parking Enforcement (Revenue Savings) (15) Parking Services ensure the safe and free flowing operations of the highway network by addressing indiscriminate parking. The proposal is to recruit ten additional Civil Enforcement Officers (CEO), to compliment the current workforce, thereby delivering a more responsive service for our residents and potentially generating additional surplus revenue of £100,000 per annum. <i>Impact on Parking Service Budget =</i>	-0.100	-0.100	-0.100
Increased support for Bus Services (Revenue Investment) (16) In July 2016, one of the Borough's biggest bus operators, GHA Coaches, ceased operating. The Council intervened to maintain service provision for passengers across the services which were financially supported by the Council. The new tender prices are significantly higher than the previous costs requiring an increase in budget of £850,000 per annum to maintain the existing level of service. Supports Council's outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. <i>Impact on Public Transport Commissioning Service Budget =</i>	+0.850	+0.850	+0.850
North West Crewe – (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (17) This scheme is a package of new highway measures to support housing and employment growth in North West Crewe and to address existing highway issues. This package will be funded by a combination of the Local Growth Fund (Government Grant), Developer contributions and Council funding. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12 <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i>	+1.707 +0.600	+1.900	+16.000
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Working with the community

Services and financial forecasts will be adjusted to react to trends in the way residents interact with key services.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>West Park Museum (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (18)</p> <p>Feasibility work and implementation of recommendations to ensure West Park Museum is fit for purpose, or that collections are preserved for the future in the most effective way possible. Supports Council’s Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 5 This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12 <i>(note: Included in Investment in Heritage Assets in the Capital Addendum)</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i></p>	+0.450	+0.450	
<p>Starter Homes - Phase 1 (Capital Investment) (19)</p> <p>A new Government initiative to assist first time buyers into home ownership. Cheshire East are part of a pilot scheme to bring forward Starter Homes. In addition to the four Starter Homes, we will also deliver a further four market homes and make significant improvements to an existing car park.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i></p>	+0.900		
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Investment in services

Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.

Cheshire East Reflects (Revenue Savings) (20)

Continued delivery of Cheshire East Reflects four year programme of commemorative activities to mark the centenary of World War 1. In particular, continuation of an education programme and delivery of major, public events in 2018. The programme of events end in 2018 so no further funding will be required in 2019/20. Supports Council’s Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 5

Impact on Cultural Economy Service Budget =

2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
£m*	£m*	£m*
-0.010	+0.010	-0.040

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
Values are not cumulative*



Income generation <i>Charging strategies for each service area to increase income where appropriate based on market rates and considering the price elasticity of demand for services.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Create a new Investment Portfolio (Revenue Savings) (21) The objective of this proposal is to deliver a long term and sustainable income to the Council through investment in commercial property. The general approach will be to consider the level of investment, risk and potential rate of return prior to considering acquiring the specific investment. (Refer to capital implications (proposal No. 24) listed over the page). <i>Impact on Assets Service Budget =</i>	-0.250	-0.750	-1.000
Increase Public Rights of Way Fees & Charges (Revenue Savings) (22) Changes in fees and charges associated with the legal processes in dealing with making alterations to public rights of way. These changes are driven by increased demands for alterations to public rights of way associated with development throughout Cheshire East which requires a far greater input of officer time to adequately manage. The fees and charges need to accurately reflect this in order to ensure the Council is recovering its full costs and there are no additional financial burdens on the council tax payer. Supports Council's Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 5. <i>Impact on Public Rights of Way Service Budget =</i>	0.000	0.000	-0.020
Increase Events Management Income (Revenue Savings) (23) Introduce charges for the services of the Outdoor Events manager to commercial sector events operators. Supports council Outcomes 2 and 5. <i>Impact on Cultural Economy Service Budget =</i>	-0.010	-0.010	-0.010
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Income generation

Charging strategies for each service area to increase income where appropriate based on market rates and considering the price elasticity of demand for services.

2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
£m*	£m*	£m*
+5.000		

Create a new Investment Portfolio (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (24)

The objective of this proposal is to deliver a long term and sustainable income to the Council through investment in property. The general approach will be to consider the level of investment, risk and potential rate of return prior to considering acquiring the specific investment. A comprehensive economic appraisal will be undertaken before any commitment is made (Refer to revenue implications (proposal No. 21) above). **This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12** (note: Included in Strategic Acquisitions in the Capital Addendum)

New Capital Investment 2017/18 =

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#). Values are not cumulative*

Note: Proposal 25: “Increase Car Parking charges” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.

Note: Proposal 26: “Increase Highways Fees and charges” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.



Reducing subsidy <i>Ensure limited resources are redirected to the areas with the most critical need.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>Changes to subsidised Bus Service (Revenue Savings) (27)</p> <p>The Council gives revenue support to local bus services to enable services to be provided which would not otherwise be provided by commercial operators.</p> <p>The Council is proposing a review of the criteria it uses to determine the level of support to local bus services. The proposed review would also seek to rationalise the existing network by combining routes, changing the hours of operation and in some cases by stopping the provision of services altogether.</p> <p>However this would be subject to a thorough and detailed consultation exercise so that the impact on these proposals can be assessed before a final decision is made. In particular the impact on rural communities and protected groups will be reviewed following a period of consultation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Public Transport Commissioning Service Budget =</i></p>	0.000	-1.580	-1.580
<p>Removal of one-off investment in Skills and Growth 2016/17 (Revenue Savings) (28)</p> <p>A reduction in funding for skills services delivered by the Skills and Growth Company ASDV (Alternative Service Delivery Vehicle) as the company develops and delivers its commercial growth strategy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Skills & Growth Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.200	-0.400	-0.500
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Reducing subsidy	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Ensure limited resources are redirected to the areas with the most critical need.</i>	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>Tatton Vision Phase 1 (Revenue Savings) (29)</p> <p>A five year capital programme, Tatton Vision Phase 1 is an investment in facilities, services and experience for visitors and residents to the park. It aims to improve indoor event spaces, catering and retail sites, encouraging increasing visitor numbers, greater spend and longer dwell time. This improves the overall financial return, reducing the cost of Tatton to the Council. Supports all the Council's Outcomes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Visitor Economy Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.040	-0.080	-0.120
<p>Reduce funding to Macclesfield Silk Heritage Trust (Revenue Savings) (30)</p> <p>Managed transition of support funding to Macclesfield Silk Heritage Trust resulting from the revised business plan. Supports Council's Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 5.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Cultural Economy Service Budget =</i></p>	0.000	-0.010	-0.010
<p>Removal of one-off investment Empty Homes Review (Revenue Savings) (31)</p> <p>Targeted reviews of Council Tax data to identify empty homes that have been brought back into use can be delivered through joint initiatives between Revenues and Strategic Housing, negating the need to commission external providers to deliver this on our behalf. The targeted reviews are timed to maximise the New Homes Bonus.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Growth & Regeneration Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.040	-0.040	-0.040
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Reducing subsidy

Ensure limited resources are redirected to the areas with the most critical need.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>Marketing Cheshire (Revenue Savings) (32)</p> <p>Cheshire and Warrington Tourism Board operating as Marketing Cheshire provide a company vehicle for Cheshire East Council to deliver agreed sub-regional and local activities in relation to the growth agenda and delivery of its visitor economy strategy. By reducing the payments in 2018/19 and 2019/20, this will have negligible impact on current visitor economy projects and funding schemes already in place and currently being implemented in Cheshire East. It allows Marketing Cheshire time to source additional external revenue outside of the public purse, sustaining its contribution to delivery of the Visitor Economy Strategy. Supports Council’s Outcomes 2 and 6.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Visitor Economy Service Budget =</i></p>	0.000	-0.020	-0.020
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			
<p>Note: Proposal 33: “Reduce level of Winter Services” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.</p>			
<p>Note: Proposal 34: “Reduce highway tree maintenance” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.</p>			

Regeneration	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Investment in the infrastructure and towns in Cheshire East.</i>	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>Poynton Relief Road (Capital Investment) (35)</p> <p>The Poynton Relief Road is an important element for the Council's employment led economic growth strategy and is included in the new emerging Local Plan; enabling job creation, helping to deliver housing growth, addressing longstanding traffic congestion and environmental issues in the village of Poynton.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i></p>	+1.273	+21.160	+6.775 +5.418
<p>Sydney Road Bridge Crewe (Capital Investment) (36)</p> <p>This scheme is fully funded by a combination of Local Growth Fund and Developer S106 contributions. It will replace the existing narrow bridge over the west coast mainline with a new bridge that will provide for two-way traffic.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i></p>	+0.472	+5.703	+3.344
<p>A500 Dualling (Capital Investment) (37)</p> <p>This scheme is the subject of a bid to the Department for Transport for funding. The scheme will upgrade a 3.2km of the A500 from single carriageway to dual carriageway standard along with associated works to increase the capacity of the A500 / A531 / B5742 junction to the west.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i></p>	+0.140 +1.815	+0.153	
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Regeneration	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Investment in the infrastructure and towns in Cheshire East.</i>	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>Congleton Public Realm (Capital Investment) (38)</p> <p>£1m improvement to Congleton’s retail core. Six week consultation period began on 25th April, over 1,300 visitors came to the consultation exhibition and gave 300 responses (78% support was received for the concept). Detailed design has been commissioned for construction in early 2017.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> +0.869 <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> +0.010 <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> +0.180</p>			
<p>Active Travel Investment (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (39)</p> <p>If the Local Growth Fund (Government Grant) bid is successful, match funding of £0.5m from the Council would unlock £2.67m of funding for walking and cycling routes in Crewe, Nantwich and Wilmslow. These routes will overcome access barriers to key employment sites, benefiting local residents and commuters. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> +0.300 <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> +0.300</p>			
<p>Middlewich Eastern Bypass (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (new)</p> <p>This scheme will provide a bypass at a crucial pinch point for traffic congestion in Middlewich and will deliver a traffic solution for the town. This funding will develop the scheme through to planning and procurement stage following the Outline Business Case to be submitted in March 2017. This will be match funding to the Department for Transport funding already received. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> +0.800 <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> +0.800</p>			
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Outcome 3 ~ People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive

What this means:	Children and young people get a good start in life, and are prepared for the world of work. Everyone is equipped to live independent, self-sufficient lives, and to realise their particular talents and abilities.		
What the Council will focus on:	1. Securing the Best Start in Life	2. Highest Achievement for All Learners	3. Inclusion
What this will look like:	Pupils will be school ready and have a firm foundation for a good education at the end of Early Years Foundation stage	Academic achievement and employability will be outstanding in Cheshire East	Vulnerable children and young people are supported to achieve their potential and increase aspirations

Did you know?

The number of educational establishments in Cheshire East that are rated Good or Outstanding is 10% higher than the national average



Key Priorities:

Introduction

Cheshire East has a strong and vibrant economy and is home to key businesses, both large and small. A key priority for the Council is ensuring that our residents have the education and skills to meet the needs of local businesses and to meet the career aspirations of our residents.

Challenges

- Develop a strategy to deliver the school places required as a consequence of housing developments and demographic growth in Cheshire East.
- Review our approach to ensuring high standards in all schools and effective support for those children not in school, ensuring that every child fulfils their educational potential.
- Ensure that activity, governance and accountability of the 0-25 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) partnership is effective in delivering improved outcomes for SEND children and young people.
- Develop a stronger focus on support for the children and young people most vulnerable to the poorest outcomes.
- Ensure Children and Young People have the skills to secure employment and contribute to their local communities.

Opportunities

- Improving relationships and collaboration with schools to work together through the Education and Skills Board on key priority areas, including developing a sustainable sector led approach to education and skills. This work will be based around a 3yr strategic plan for school improvement.
- Improve co-production and engagement with parents, carers and children and young people, particularly in relation to children with SEND.
- Crewe Engineering and Design University Technical College (UTC), a new school at the heart of Crewe that opened in September 2016 has the opportunity to support the highest quality school leavers who will be the next generation of engineers, innovators, technicians and designers.
- Maximise Pan-Cheshire and sub-regional arrangements to improve collaborations, streamline and enhance good practice across all partnerships. Cheshire East Council will form part of a Regional Adoption Agency in 2017/18. This is collaboration, name Adoption Counts, between the Council and four other councils in the North West to better co-ordinate adoption services and provide a better service for children. Transition and set-up costs are expected to be funded by the DfE (Department for Education). The aim is for the service to be operated at the same cost in 2017/18 while the new service arrangements are put in place.

Proposals to vary the Budget under Outcome 3 (Education) are focused on these areas:

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Children’s Services transport policy review (Revenue Savings) (40) Work with the current transport provider, Transport Service Solutions (TSS), to explore a number of options to provide a more cost effective Children’s Services transport solution. <i>Impact on Transport Service Budget =</i>	-0.390	-0.800	-0.960
Realignment of Children’s Services funding streams and review of policy around charges and exemptions in relation to Children’s Social Care (Revenue Savings) (41) Realignment of Children’s Services funding streams and review of policy around charges and exemptions in relation to Children’s Social Care to maximise use of existing budgets and to develop a more commercial approach to generating income. <i>Impact on Children and Families Directorate Budget =</i>	-0.300	-0.300	-0.300
Redesign of short break provision for children with disabilities (Revenue Savings) (42) Carry out a review to ensure efficient management and co-ordination of the short break local offer for children with a disability and their families. Put in place a whole system that is transparent, equitable and provides value for money, using advanced technology, to sustain a good offer to children, young people and their families. <i>Impact on Children’s Social Care Service Budget =</i>	-0.130	-0.330	-0.330
*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17 . Values are not cumulative			

Changing the way we work

Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.

Creating efficiencies in Children's commissioned services (Revenue Savings) (43)

The cyclical review of the wide variety of commissioned services that support the Council to deliver effective children's services will look to identify efficiencies as contracts come to an end and will also ensure a continuing fit with the internal capacity within Children's Services.

Impact on Children's Social Care Service Budget =

-0.150

-0.200

-0.200

Early Help and Prevention Service review (Revenue Savings) (44)

Review of Early Help and Prevention service capacity as a result of the redesign of the Youth Engagement Service and Prevention and Family support services.

Impact on Prevention and Support Service Budget =

-0.160

-0.160

-0.160

Transitional funding - finishing (Revenue Savings) (45)

Removal of the temporary funding for developing new models of service delivery.

Impact on Resources and Stewardship Service Budget =

-0.120

-0.120

-0.120

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
Values are not cumulative*

Did you know?

99% of 3-4 year olds access free early education

Looking after children and young people

Review of current service offers to ensure high standards are maintained and demand is managed.

	2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
<p>Future Years Basic Need - Nantwich Primary - Kingsley Fields, Wilmslow Planning Area & Congleton Planning Area (Capital Investment) (46)</p> <p>Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i></p>		<p>+0.040</p> <p>+8.860</p>	
<p>Nantwich Planning Area (Secondary) (Capital Investment) (47)</p> <p>Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i></p>	<p>+1.000</p>	<p>+2.400</p>	
<p>Sandbach Planning Area (Secondary) (Capital Investment) (48)</p> <p>Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i></p>	<p>+1.000</p>	<p>+2.400</p>	
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Looking after children and young people <i>Review of current service offers to ensure high standards are maintained and demand is managed.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Shavington Planning Area (Capital Investment) (49) Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.700	+1.700	
Alsager Planning Area (Secondary) (Capital Investment) (50) Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.500	+1.200	
Alsager Planning Area (Primary) (Capital Investment) (51) Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.400	+0.800	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Looking after children and young people <i>Review of current service offers to ensure high standards are maintained and demand is managed.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Nantwich Planning Area (Primary) (Capital Investment) (52) Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.400	+0.800	
Sandbach Planning Area (Primary) (Capital Investment) (53) Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.400	+0.800	
Hurdsfield Family Centre (Capital Investment) (new) Redevelopment of the facilities to make them fit for purpose. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.250	+1.350	
Cledford Planning Area (Capital Investment) (54) Basic need area proposals have been identified in line with the draft Schools Organisation Framework, ensuring the local authority meets its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i>	+0.100	+0.200	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Reducing subsidy

Ensure limited resources are redirected to the areas with the most critical need.

	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>End of Early Intervention short-term funding allocation (non Public Health element) (Revenue Savings) (55)</p> <p>End of investment in early help and prevention services that were used to reduce the demand for higher cost services in the longer term.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Children and Families Directorate Budget =</i></p>	0.000	-1.000	-1.000
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Did you know?

Cheshire East students achieved a 99%
A-Level pass rate in Summer 2016

Outcome 4 - Cheshire East is a green and sustainable place

What this means:	Cheshire East's rural and urban character is protected and enhanced through sensitive development, environmental management, transport and waste disposal policies.			
What the Council will focus on:	1. Sustainable Development	2. Waste Management	3. Environment	4. Affordable Energy Growing Energy Businesses Independent Energy
What this will look like:	We will deliver the right homes in the right places by unlocking brownfield sites and controlling new development through the planning process to ensure that it will fit within its local setting, help create a better place for residents to live and work in, and protect the areas urban and rural character.	Cheshire East Council and its residents will produce less waste and keep the Borough clean	Outdoor spaces will be pleasant and appreciated. Harmful emissions will be minimised	Providing affordable energy for our residents (e.g. Fairerpower) Developing a local energy economy

Did you know?

Cheshire East reduced carbon emissions by 42 per cent between 2008 and 2016

Key Priorities:

Energy

The Council has made a commitment to help reduce the number of local households in fuel poverty; seek to gain energy security and independence; and support a growing energy business. The Cheshire East Council Energy Framework is being delivered to provide clean, secure and affordable energy across the Borough. A programme of energy projects is being developed as part of the Framework, for example, we have joined forces with one of the world's largest energy delivery companies, Engie, to form Cheshire Energy Networks which will seek opportunities for heat networks across the Borough. Work is progressing to design heat network to serve Macclesfield and Crewe Town Centre and we are furthering our geothermal energy ambitions with leading universities and funders. We are also seeking to embed a solution to generate energy from garden waste into our energy ambitions.

Sustainable Development

Development Management provides a customer facing service that deals with a wide range of operations including planning applications, appeals and enforcement for residents across Cheshire East. The Council's planning support services have been provided through Civicance, which also deals with street naming and numbering, land charges and Building Regulations.

Our priorities are to continue to improve the delivery of Development Management Services for developers, residents and stakeholders to ensure developments are delivered in the most appropriate locations and are of high quality; adopt and implement Cheshire East Design Guide to ensure high standards of design are embedded within future developments to the benefit of the environment and local residents; ensure the provision of an average of 15.7Ha of new employment and business land each year to meet the needs of new and expanding companies in Cheshire East.

The adoption of the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy will provide a strong framework for guiding new development, securing fresh investment and protecting our environment and the preparation of a new Waste and Minerals Plan for Cheshire East will ensure better and more sustainable management of natural resources. We will also be introducing and consulting on a Community Infrastructure Levy for Cheshire East, to ensure new infrastructure is funded in a fair and consistent manner.

Highway Maintenance

The primary function of highway asset management is to maximise value for money for road users and residents whilst carrying out Cheshire East Council's duties as Highway Authority.

We aim to deliver a service that meets the residents' expectations and improve network resilience in response to things such as extreme weather events, and incidents on the motorway. In particular we will be prioritising spending on gully maintenance within our available budgets. We will be procuring a

new Highways Contract and service provider to secure greater value money in service delivery. We have a sustained programme of maintenance works which will minimise the levels of reactive service calls and cuts in claims and we are maximising the use of new technologies to deliver a more efficient service and better information to users of our highways.

Opportunities

- Adopt the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy to provide a strong framework for guiding new development, securing fresh investment and protecting our environment.
- Prepare a new Waste and Minerals Plan for Cheshire East – to ensure better and more sustainable management of natural resources.



Proposals to vary the Budget under Outcome 4 (Environment) are focused on these areas:

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Street Lighting Improvements (Revenue Savings) (56) Following approval to fund a three year programme (2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19) of LED street light conversions, this project will allow for a reduction in the reactive revenue maintenance budget due to reduced maintenance requirements and extended life guarantees on the lanterns. <i>Impact on Highways Service Budget =</i>	-0.050	-0.100	-0.150
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			
Note: Proposal 57: “Reduce routine maintenance of Highway network (Gully Cleansing)” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.			
Note: Proposal 58: “Reduce Highways Frontline Staff & Community Teams” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.			

Did you know?

Customer surveys tell us that Cheshire East Council has one of the best waste collection services in the country

Investment in services <i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Planning reserve for Spatial Planning (Revenue Investment) (59) This will support the additional work necessary to ensure that we have an effective planning framework in the Borough including– Community Infrastructure Levy, Allocations Development Plan Document, Minerals and Waste Plan. Each one will require an evidence base to be developed, public engagement and a series of hearings. <i>Impact on Spatial Planning Service Budget =</i>	+1.100	+1.320	+0.320
Lead Local Authority Flood Grant Funding (Revenue Investment) (new) Cheshire East Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and has responsibility for leading the co-ordination of flood risk management in the area. This grant will support the Authority in carrying out its statutory LLFA duties. <i>Impact on Infrastructure and Highways Service Budget =</i>	+0.010	+0.010	+0.010
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Did you know?

Last year 544 people moved into a care home (of which 518 were 65+)
 There are approximately 1,400 people in total currently in residential or nursing home care

Managing waste	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Reviewing our current Waste offer to ensure value for money is achieved.</i>	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>Ansa Environmental Services proposal (Revenue Savings) (60)</p> <p>Efficiencies and productivity improvements delivered by the Council company Ansa Environmental Services. This will deliver our waste strategy objectives by reducing waste disposal to landfill.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Waste & Environmental Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.700	-0.820	-1.220
<p>Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision (Revenue Savings & Capital Investment) (61 & 65)</p> <p>The review focuses on improvements and efficiencies to the Household Waste Recycling Centre Service. Proposals include investment to improve our sites and allow the acceptance of trade waste, the closure of Arclid Household Waste Recycling Centre, the introduction of a charge for rubble waste and the reduction in opening hours from an average of 10hrs per day to 8hrs per day.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Waste & Environmental Service Budget =</i> <i>New Capital Investment =</i></p>	-0.150 +1.000	-0.730	-0.730
<p>Dry Recycling Contract (Revenue Investment) (62)</p> <p>A drop in the national price of oil, steel, paper and other materials has resulted in a reduction in the value of materials the Council collects within the silver bins. Although it is still much cheaper for the Council to process silver bin recycling than waste in the black bin, it is necessary to provide additional funding for the processing of silver bin recycling from the point of contract renewal in 2017.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Waste & Environmental Service Budget =</i></p>	+1.290	+1.290	+1.290
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Managing waste	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Reviewing our current Waste offer to ensure value for money is achieved.</i>	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
Environment Commissioning – S106 income not achievable (Revenue Investment) (63) New Planning permission section 106 income no longer received by the Council due to a Public Open Spaces planning policy change in favour of maintenance by private land management organisations. <i>Impact on Waste & Environmental Service Budget =</i>	+0.070	+0.070	+0.070
Environment Commissioning - small growth items (Revenue Investment) (64) Since the Environment Commissioning service was set up in 2014/15 to manage the contracts with Ansa and Orbitas respectively, several small budget pressures have emerged due to a combination of initial estimates being insufficient or decisions being taken post budget setting. <i>Impact on Waste & Environmental Service Budget =</i>	+0.060	+0.060	+0.060
Ansa Environmental Services Additional Savings (Revenue Savings) (new) Savings identified during consultation as unachievable from early delivery of Dry Anaerobic Digestion and other contract savings. Additional management fee underspend savings target. <i>Impact on Waste & Environmental Service Budget =</i>	-0.200	-0.100	-0.100
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			
Note: Proposal 66: “Introduction of a Chargeable Garden Waste service instead of Food waste collection and Dry AD” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.			

Sustainability

Investment in services to ensure that current standards can be maintained.

Sustainability <i>Investment in services to ensure that current standards can be maintained.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>Managing and Maintaining the Highways (Capital Investment in 2017/18 – further spending subject to detailed Business Case) (67)</p> <p>Utilising the Councils approved Asset Management led approach, maintenance investment will be allocated in line with member and resident priorities across all highway assets including roads, footways, structures, and restraint barriers. Capital investment will be targeted to deliver maximum value by adopting the right treatment at the right time with an emphasis on preventative maintenance. * This allocation in future years will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i></p>	+10.000	*+10.000	*+10.000
<p>Winter Service Facility (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (68)</p> <p>The Highway Winter Service ensures our residents and businesses can continue to safely utilise the transport network during freezing periods and snow events whilst fulfilling our statutory duty. A revised depot strategy has highlighted the need for an additional facility in the west of the Borough for strategic salt storage and winter operations. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i></p>		+3.000	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Did you know?

Cheshire East residents recycling rates are in the top 10% in England

Sustainability <i>Investment in services to ensure that current standards can be maintained.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Alderley Road, Wilmslow – A34 Junction and pedestrian access improvements (Capital Investment) (69) The junction between Alderley Road and the A34 in Wilmslow adjacent to the Royal London site acts as a pinch point in the highway network with regular congestion occurring, particularly at peak times associated with the adjacent existing employment site traffic. The proposal, which only includes funding for the development stage here, is to widen the Alderley Road approach to the A34 roundabout, adding an extra lane, to increase junction capacity. Additionally, it is proposed that associated improvements to pedestrian and cycle access to the adjacent existing employment site are provided to encourage access by means other than car. The aim of the improvements is to reduce congestion on the highway network by increasing capacity and reducing traffic to and from the employment site. <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i> </p>	+0.300	+0.400	+0.500
Household Bin Replacement (Capital Investment) (70) Capital replacement of wheeled bins as bins supplied by former authorities wear out and need replacing. Suitable checks are in place to minimise this commitment through reuse of bins where possible and checks on the need for bin replacement before a new one is supplied. <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i> </p>	+0.220	+0.220	+0.220
<p style="text-align: center;"> <i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i> </p>			

Sustainability

Investment in services to ensure that current standards can be maintained.

Park Development Fund (Capital Investment) (71)

For the last three years the Council has successfully provided targeted small scale investments to help sustain our Park infrastructure and provide match funding for external grants. This proposal is to request the continuation of this fund.

New Capital Investment 2017/18 =
New Capital Investment 2018/19 =
New Capital Investment 2019/20 =

+0.150

+0.150

+0.150

Playing Fields Improvement Fund (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (72)

Matching Cheshire East Council investment with external grant support (50:50) with the Football Foundation, effectively doubling the value of the Cheshire East Council investment can deliver better facilities, increasing the durability of pitches and increasing revenue generation potential in line with the playing pitch strategy. **This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12**

New Capital Investment 2017/18 =
New Capital Investment 2018/19 =

+1.050

+0.050

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
 Values are not cumulative*

Did you know?

Life expectancy at birth in Cheshire East is 83.8 years (female) and 80.3 years (male) This is amongst the highest in the UK

Outcome 5 - People live well and for longer

What this means:	Local people have healthy lifestyles and access to good cultural, leisure and recreational facilities. Care services focus on prevention, early intervention and physical and mental wellbeing.			
What the Council will focus on:	1. Empowering people to live independent, healthier and more fulfilled lives	2. Information, Advice and Guidance, Prevention and Early Intervention	3. Accessible high quality services, Information & Advice	4. Public Protection, Health Protection and Safeguarding
What this will look like:	<p>Our residents are supported to live independently with a high quality of life</p> <p>Our residents take responsibility for their own health and well-being. They have a positive experience in all interactions with the health and care system</p>	<p>The Council commissions and delivers proactive services which help to support physical and mental wellbeing</p> <p>Facilitating the identification, at an early stage, of individuals who can benefit from preventative services and interventions which help improve physical and mental health and wellbeing</p>	<p>Residents and customers find it easy to access local services and get the information they need</p> <p>Our residents have choice when accessing our high quality services. Our residents achieve excellent outcomes through engagement with our local services</p>	<p>There are strong, multi-agency arrangements in place to ensure residents are safeguarded and protected</p>

Key Priorities:

Introduction

Absolutely paramount is the ability to ensure we protect both our vulnerable adults and children. Through the work of the council and its partners there is now a greater focus and awareness of issues such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation and adult abuse. To ensure we continue to tackle these important issues we are increasingly working across agencies and partnerships such as Cheshire Fire and Rescue, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, NHS and Registered Housing Providers to ensure we take a holistic approach to meeting identified need.

Over recent years there has been a shift in emphasis in Adult Social Care and Health from services defined and driven by professionals, to services that reflect the outcomes and aspirations of people using those services. We welcome this change. Our ambition is to be in the forefront of developing flexible, personalised services that tap into the rich diversity of our communities, and deliver services that enable people to maintain their independence, and where possible remain living in their own home.

Cheshire East Council will form part of a Regional Adoption Agency in 2017/18. This is a collaboration between the Council and four other councils in the North West to better co-ordinate adoption services and provide a better service for children. Transition and set-up costs are expected to be funded by the DfE. The aim is for the service to be operated at the same cost in 2017/18 while the new service arrangements are put in place.

At a time when there is an imperative to achieve better outcomes with finite resources we intend to focus our efforts on prevention and early intervention to reduce and delay the need for high cost services. Wherever possible, we will support choice by giving people the opportunity to have a direct payment and develop their own bespoke package of support. In doing so we will stimulate the development of an active and vibrant care market both in the independent sector but also across with voluntary, community, faith and sector. This is very much in keeping with the Care Act 2014 and focuses on the wellbeing of the individual.

In addition to the changes the council is facing there are significant changes taking place across the NHS nationally and locally. Sustainability and Transformation Plans are being submitted by NHS colleagues to NHS England and these reflect the Local Delivery Systems which for us in Cheshire East are “Connecting Care” in the South and “Caring Together” in the North of the Borough. These changes will inevitably impact upon social care both in children’s and adults but the full effects are not yet known. We remain committed to working with our NHS colleagues locally and sub regionally but the savings the NHS are looking to make and their current budget constraints suggests that this will put social care under further financial pressures.

The rising demand and complexity of social care services is well known and well evidenced at a national and local level. Key pressures include:

- The development of the NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) is intended to find a solution to the £900 plus million pounds gap between now and 2021. Seeking to resolve this the NHS organisations locally are moving towards Accountable Care systems (ACS)/organisations (ACOs) bringing together a number of providers to take responsibility for the cost and quality of care for a defined population in Cheshire East within an agreed budget. ACOs take many different forms, from fully integrated delivery systems to alliances of diverse providers. ACOs are intended be a vehicle for integration, effective demand management, improved quality and efficiency. As the NHS two year contract round and the submission of operational plans are still unresolved locally, and the financial planning underpinning the

proposals for delivering uncertain, there is a real risk that Adult Social Care could be faced with additional cost not yet known due to reconfiguration of local NHS services.

- Ageing demography – by 2027 the number of people in the Borough aged 65+ is estimated to rise to over 127,000 and those aged 85+ estimated to have increased to 18,800 by 2027.
- Young people in transition to adulthood – there are estimated to be 90 young people aged between 14 – 18 with a complex disability who will be transitioning to adult social care during the next three years, with an average care package ranging between £25,000 to £150,000 per year.
- Dementia – prevalence in Cheshire East is higher than the England average with 4.47% of the population aged 65+ recorded as having dementia.
- One in four people will experience some form of mental health in their lifetime and this is true across all ages and all socioeconomic groups. Improving health and wellbeing, especially mental wellbeing is key to ensuring people live full and independent lives.
- We know from the 2011 census that we have 40,000 residents who are 'unpaid carers', with over 8,000 providing at least 50 hours per week. Supporting carers to have breaks but also to maintain their caring role is very much at the heart of our local carers strategy and reflects the joined up approach of the council and the NHS.

The challenge to the directorate is to manage the demand and complexity whilst successfully managing the associated costs, therefore, the proposals below are focused on doing exactly that.

Challenges

- Continuing to manage the increase in numbers of children and young people in care. This is a regional and national trend and is exacerbated by the national dispersal / transfer scheme that will see an increasing number of unaccompanied asylum seekers resident in the Borough.
- Managing the market to ensure that there is a range of services, care and support available to support cared for children and young people in their local area, many of whom have complex needs.
- Recruiting and retaining high quality Social Workers and Team Managers, particularly those working in the area of child protection.
- Developing comprehensive prevention and family support services (including emotional health & wellbeing) across the Borough to meet the needs of our vulnerable children and young people.
- Strengthening partnerships to deliver integrated, value for money services that ensure the voice of children and young people and better meet their needs.

Opportunities

- Cheshire East Council submitted expressions of interest to the DfE's Children's Social Care Innovation Programme. One of these included working alongside 30 other local authority areas on implementing 'Signs of Safety' across Cheshire East, a core evidence based model of practice for social work.

- Implementing the redesign of children’s homes in the Borough – a new provider of a wholly commissioned children’s home service will be operational from 1st April 2017.
- Maximise Pan-Cheshire and sub-regional arrangements to improve collaborations, streamline and enhance good practice across all partnerships. This includes the launch of the Regional Adoption Agency in April 2017 and fostering collaboration with Cheshire, Warrington and Halton.
- Embed the role of Cheshire East’s new Corporate Parenting Committee to strengthen the corporate parent role, improving outcomes for children and young people in care.
- Implement changes to the front door to Children’s Social Care and early help services to improve the pathways from referral to allocation.



Proposals to vary the Budget under Outcome 5 (Health) are focused on these areas:

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>Commissioning all services currently provided by our in-house provider, Care4CE (Revenue Savings) (73)</p> <p>Cheshire East Cabinet decided on the 8th December 2015 that the policy would be to move from in-house delivery to commission all care services from the broader care sector to facilitate the move to a more personalised system of care and support which facilitates the principle of choice and control for residents in the access and purchasing of care. This will require a review of in-house provision including potential outsourcing / recommissioning / closure / decommissioning of current provision.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with the Care Act 2014 this approach has been applied to services external to the council and will now be applied to services currently provided by Care4CE. This is to ensure that the support and care provided to local people can be flexible and responsive to changing needs, promoting choice and maximising independence. This includes building on the current Shared Lives offering. As more detailed plans are developed discussion, engagement, co-production and consultation will take place with all service users, carers and staff.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Social Care & Health Integration Service Budget =</i></p>	-1.200	-2.700	-4.200
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Did you know?

At any one time there are over 6,000 people receiving one or more Adult Social Care services

Changing the way we work

Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	Indicative values	Indicative values	Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
Operational Pathway Redesign (Revenue Savings) (74)			
<p>Adult Social Care is about maximising independence, connecting local people to their communities and helping people live well and for longer. This will be achieved by enabling people to live in their own homes for longer using existing community networks, new technologies and reviewing our approach to bed based care.</p> <p>To achieve this, and to be Care Act compliant, we intend to establish a first point of contact for residents offering advice and information when you contact the council with suitably trained staff able to answer question and sign post without the need to always refer on. We will integrate our assessments with the NHS as our workforce become closer aligned working around GP's surgeries. These budgets will be joined up and will focus on reducing the risk of admission to hospital. We will focus on outcomes for people and encourage more people to take up a direct payment to fund their own tailored care and support. We will also promote prevention including extra care, telecare and support at home.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Social Care & Health Integration Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.940	-1.380	-1.380
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Did you know?

Nearly 27% of the population in Cheshire East are aged 60 or over, much higher than the national average of just 23%

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
<p>Strategic Commissioning (Revenue Savings) (75)</p> <p>We intend to work with local people, providers and partners to shape our commissioned services from the micro market of personal assistants to large scale complex care market of care homes and domiciliary care and everyone in between. This diverse approach will build a vibrant care and support offer (Care Act 2014) that rewards innovation and achieving better outcomes for our residents.</p> <p>To achieve this we will look to work with our voluntary, community and faith sector enabling us to tackle social isolation in a way that does not rely solely on care packages but on connected communities. It is imperative that we commission based on need and use our intelligence through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and through feedback from residents to really ensure our providers have a high quality, tailored response. This will be done wherever possible with our NHS colleagues in in the Clinical Commissioning Groups.</p> <p>We will review all our contracts to ensure we are getting value for money, quality and innovation and support our social care teams to better assemble complex packages of care that reflect outcomes, needs and social as well as economic value.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Social Care & Health Integration Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.550	-0.550	-0.550
<p>Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (Revenue Savings) (76)</p> <p>Process changes following a review of how to effectively assess people who are deemed to be subject to a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards will be implemented. This is to ensure value for money and discharge our duty in keeping with other councils whilst reducing duplication and usage of agency staff.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Adult Safeguarding Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.190	-0.190	-0.190
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Changing the way we work

Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	Indicative values	Indicative values	Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
<p>Independent Living Fund – Reduction in Government Grant (Revenue Savings) (77)</p> <p>Cheshire East Council receives annual funding from central Government to support individuals previously in receipt of funding from the Independent Living Fund which closed in June 2015. Funding available to the Council reduces annually and although the council has ring-fenced the money to Adult Social Care the demand for ongoing care and support continues.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Social Care & Health Integration Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.030	-0.060	-0.090
<p>Home Adaptations (Revenue Savings) (78)</p> <p>Strengthening the home adaptations delivery team which supports disabled people to organise home adaptations will increase revenue income and deliver the Disabled Facilities Grant capital project. This will increase the number of self-funders who are assisted to adapt their homes, reducing future demand on health and social care.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Strategic Housing Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.050	-0.050	-0.050
<p>Reducing Agency Spend (Revenue Savings) (79)</p> <p>The successful recruitment of permanent Social Workers and Social Care Assessors throughout 2016 and 2017 will lead to a reduction in agency workers in 2017 and, in turn, reduced expenditure in the staffing budget.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Social Care Staffing Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.100	0.000	0.000
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			
<p>Note: Proposal 80: “Local people managing their own care and support” was withdrawn from the MTFs following the consultation period.</p>			

Looking after children and young people <i>Review of current service offers to ensure high standards are maintained and demand is managed.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Growth Bid Cared for Children & Care Leavers (Revenue Investment) (81) There has been a 15% increase in the numbers of cared for children, locally, regionally and nationally over the past two years. Although we are still below national and local comparators, admissions to care have continued to exceed the number of discharges and the complexity of needs of individuals are increasing due to better gatekeeping and effective prevention arrangements. This increase in numbers and complexity has resulted in the need for additional placement purchases, including high cost placements, and additional staffing to support children, young people and care leavers. <i>Impact on Children's Social Care Service Budget =</i>	+2.800	+2.800	+2.800
Complex Dependency Programme (Revenue Investment) (82) Pan-Cheshire funding to support intensive family support work with families with complex needs through new ways of working across the public sector. <i>Impact on Prevention and Support Service Budget =</i>	+0.100	+0.100	+0.100
Housing related accommodation and support facilities (Revenue Investment) (83) Permanent funding will ensure the important accommodation and support for cared for children and care leavers can continue. <i>Impact on Children's Social Care Service Budget =</i>	+0.080	+0.080	+0.080
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Collaboration

Working smarter with key partners to reduce cost burden or share key resources to improve value for money.

Sub-regional collaborations - (Revenue Savings) (84)

Improve the efficiency of existing safeguarding services by collaborating with other local authority areas to pool resources, share good practice and reduce duplication.

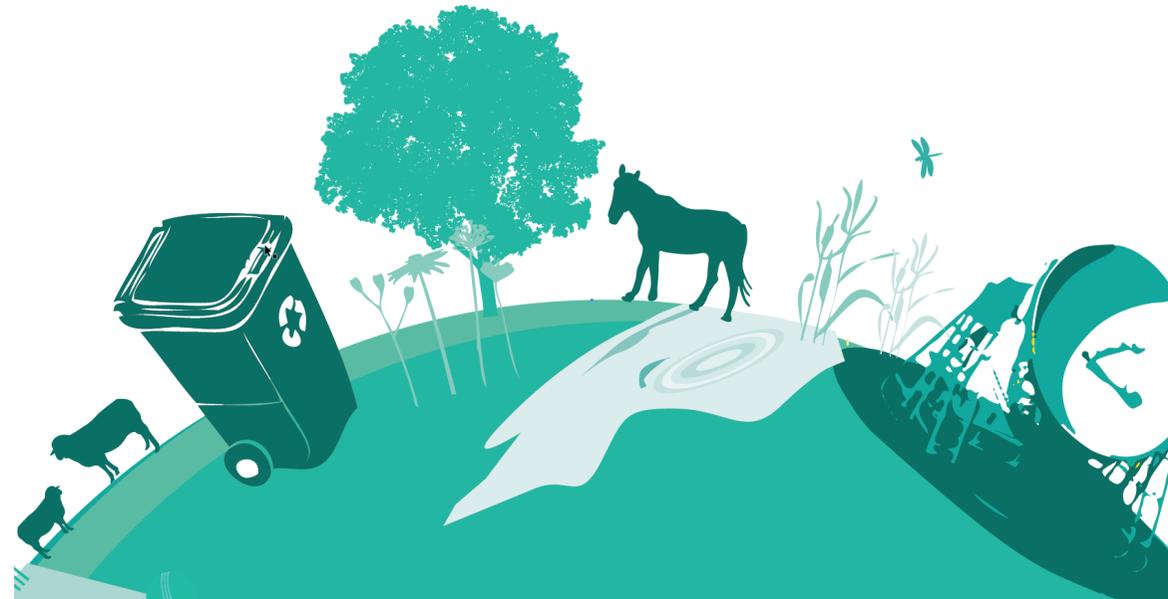
Impact on Children and Families Directorate Budget =

	2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
	-0.210	-0.340	-0.340

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
Values are not cumulative*

Did you know?

Last year 3,950 carers were provided with information and advice or a service



Investment in services <i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Transitional Funding – finishing (Revenue Savings) (85) Permanent contract reductions in relation to Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector were delayed in 2016/17 and the resultant financial shortfall funded by transitional funding. New contracts are in place to support the full year effect of these reductions in 2017/18, meaning this transitional funding can be withdrawn. <i>Impact on Resources and Stewardship Service Budget =</i>	-0.350	-0.350	-0.350
Growing Demand in Adult Social Care (Revenue Investment) (86) The Adults Social Care budget both here in Cheshire East, and across the country, remains under pressure as a result of a number of factors. These include young people in Transition reaching 18 years of age and moving across to Adults Services, increasing demand due to demographic pressure and also the care fee levels paid to external care providers. To ensure the council is well placed to meet this demand it is looking to invest in services that will deliver high quality support to our most vulnerable residents. <i>Impact on Social Care & Health Integration Service Budget =</i>	+6.700	+7.660	+7.700
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Did you know?
 Children’s Social Care referrals increased by 700 in 2015/16

Investment in services

Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.

	2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
<p>Care Act Phase 2 - Adults, Children's, and Public Health Information and Systems (Capital Investment) (87)</p> <p>The Programme is a requirement for Care Act compliance and delivers ICT Solutions for the following required outcomes across Adults, Children’s, and Public Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personalised online services, Professional and client portals, and Care Account • Full utilisation of Liquidlogic Case Management and ContrOCC financials • Cheshire Care Record and integrated Service development (e.g. multi-agency teams) • Support for early years, and transition years 15-19 <p>The programme was commissioned in January 2016.</p> <p>Residents will benefit from one-stop health and wellbeing information and advice, and the ability to self serve, including directly brokering care services. The programme is also an enabler for Cheshire East Council and its health and social care partners to share information and instigate interventional or preventative care to improve the health of the population.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> +1.221 <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> +0.984 <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> +1.610 <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i> +1.320 </p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Investment in services <i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Alsager Leisure Centre – Gym and Studio Space Conversions (Capital Investment) (88) The project will extend the gym into an adjoining squash court and also create two new studio spaces on the first floor. The development forms part of a new Alsager sports hub funded from a Section 106 contribution following planning approval for the Alsager / Manchester Metropolitan University site. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i>	+0.400		
Sandbach Leisure centre - Gym Conversion (Capital Investment) (89) The proposal is for a partnership approach with Everybody Sport and Recreation to deliver an improved leisure and health offer at Sandbach Leisure Centre by converting the existing squash courts to a modern gymnasium. <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i>	+0.400		
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Income generation

Charging strategies for each service area to increase income where appropriate based on market rates and considering the price elasticity of demand for services

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	Indicative values	Indicative values	Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
Increase Income (Revenue Savings) (90)			
The proposal is to conduct a review of individuals who have historically been assessed with a low or no financial contribution towards their care and support services, to support these individuals to access their full welfare benefit entitlement, address any changes in individual circumstances and to ensure consistent application of the Council’s charging policies.			
<i>Impact on Social Care & Health Integration Service Budget =</i>	-0.500	-0.600	-0.700
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Did you know?

Over 99% of Council Tax and Business Rates are collected within three years

Investment in housing <i>Investment in housing to ensure affordable homes are available.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Construction of Houses on Council Owned Land - Phase 2 (Capital Investment) (91) To develop new affordable homes for sale on a rural exception site within an area where affordability is a significant issue. The scheme will enable Cheshire East to develop the site using modern methods of construction, recycling the capital investment back into the Council when the properties are sold. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i></p>	+1.792		
Housing Development Fund (Capital Investment) (92) To establish a fund to facilitate the development of new affordable homes for rent and enable us to bring forward further affordable homes through our own development activity. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i></p>	+0.834 +0.500		
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Outcome 6 - A Responsible, Effective and Efficient Organisation

What this means:	The Council serves the people of Cheshire East through: Ensuring quality and best value for local people, striving to get it right first time, and acting with integrity, being open, honest and accountable and delivering on our promises				
What the Council will focus on:	1. Best Use of Assets	2. Effective Processes	3. Engaging Our Staff	4. Enhance Leadership and Governance	5. Strong Financial Management
What this will look like:	Property, Plant, Equipment and Information assets will be appropriate and add value to service delivery.	All services and departments will be challenged to deliver lean systems and processes, using digital solutions to automate processes wherever possible.	Staff will be engaged and their welfare and development will be managed well.	External & internal assessment will show how the Council is performing. Strong Governance and appropriate internal controls will be in place.	Financial control will be effective. Budgets will be well prepared. Financial information will be accurate and appropriate.



Strategic Overview

Outcome 6 focuses on how the Council will be a well run local authority. Appropriate assets will be maintained, systems will be run efficiently, the Council will use best practice models wherever appropriate and staff will be trained to provide high quality professional services.

This outcome requires all departments to increase productivity through the better use of systems, automated processes and challenging the value for money of all initiatives. It is crucial that all services are lean and 'fit for purpose' with the right structures to meet residents' needs at the most competitive price and quality. The requirement to create leaner systems and processes, that enhance for value for money, extends to all commissioning arrangements, including arrangements with the Council's Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles (ASDVs), contractual arrangements with the private sector and partnership agreements.

Services most associated with supporting the achievement of Outcome 6, such as Legal, Accountancy, Human Resources, Information Communication Technology and Facilities Managements, work alongside all Council functions. They are responsible for providing accommodation, professional expertise and technology that enable front-line services to operate effectively. These services have a vital role in ensuring compliance with the law and local constitutional requirements and supporting elected Members and senior officers when making decisions that are transparent and accountable.

Achievements within Outcome 6 will be measured by such things as promoting local democracy; unqualified 'true and fair' opinions from the external auditors; the acknowledgement of added value from professional staff; the level of income collection; how the costs of support compare with national comparisons; and achieving the best rate of returns on investment and the effective running of the Council's estate.

The proposals contained within this section are achievable, but in some cases will also depend on changing behaviours of residents and staff and moving arrangements to more modern self-service options.

Did you know?

In 2015/16 the Council received more compliments than complaints, with a 38% increase in compliments from the previous year!

Proposals to vary the Budget under Outcome 6 Services are focused on these areas:

Changing the way we work <i>Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Review of Council Supplier Contracts (Revenue Savings) (93) Cheshire East Council currently has over 700 live contracts with an estimated three year spend of £700m. The contract management review programme builds on the findings from internal auditing. The contract review will strengthen existing arrangements though analysing the latest best practice techniques to contract management. A commercial approach will be integrated to drive better value and performance from third party suppliers, including Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles (ASDVs) such as the Council's wholly owned companies. <i>Impact on Cross Service Budgets =</i>	-3.550	-3.550	-3.550
Reduce costs of core processes (Oracle system review) (Revenue Savings) (94) The implementation of a modern, cost effective, Enterprise Resource Platform (ERP) solution across Transactional Finance and Human Resources, and the associated business process transformation programme, will result in streamlined processes and efficiency savings in future years. Productivity increases will reduce third party and employee costs across the Council. <i>Impact on Corporate Service Budget =</i>	0.000	-0.250	-0.500
Post and Print Efficiencies (Revenue Savings) (95) Reducing non essential consumption of post and print expenditure. <i>Impact on Cross Service Budgets =</i>	-0.250	-0.250	-0.250
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Changing the way we work

Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.

Transfer of budget and related Education Services Grant Retained Rate Services to Dedicated Schools Grant (Revenue Savings) (new)

For 2017/18 the general rate has been removed as part of national austerity savings and the retained rate has been transferred into DSG. Transitional Funding has also been made available to reflect the intended start date of September 2017

Impact on Cross Service Budgets =

<p>2017/18</p> <p>£m*</p>	<p>2018/19</p> <p>Indicative values</p> <p>£m*</p>	<p>2019/20</p> <p>Indicative values</p> <p>£m*</p>
<p>-0.800</p>	<p>-0.800</p>	<p>-0.800</p>
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>		



Changing the way we work

Managing services in a way that gets more for less. Investing in modern technology to get better quality outputs, eliminating duplication and streamlining processes.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m*	Indicative values £m*	Indicative values £m*
<p>Welfare Reform and Reducing Demand (Revenue Savings) (96)</p> <p>The Government’s programme of Welfare Reform is likely to result in further reductions in the funding provided to local authorities for the administration of Housing Benefit as the rollout of Universal Credit expands. The cost to the Council of providing the service is aligned with the funding that is received.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Benefits Administration Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.070	-0.070	-0.070
<p>Withdrawal of temporary reduction in funding for Universal Information and Advice service (Revenue Investment) (97)</p> <p>There was a temporary increase of £30,000 in the grant funding for this service in 2015/16 on the basis that the “loan” would be paid back over the following three years. This growth will restore the budget to its original value from 2019/20.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Welfare Support Service Budget =</i></p>	0.000	0.000	+0.010
<p>Core Financials, HR Services (Capital Investment) (98)</p> <p>This multi-year programme of work specifically relates to ERP (see 94 above) and Cash Receipting systems and technologies which underpin all financial and HR transactional services of the council and ASDVs; and requires a lifecycle approach to be maintained, refreshed and replaced to sustain currency, to stay ‘fit for purpose’ and remain compliant with mandatory standards to ultimately enable the council’s corporate outcomes. This lifecycle approach enables and supports effective and reliable service delivery to our staff.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i></p>	+0.780	+0.357	+0.500
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

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Supporting Strategic Capital Projects (Capital Investment) (99)

A fund of £5.0m made available to react to investment opportunities and acquire strategic sites at short notice. The budget will subsequently be vired to the relevant project. The fund will be used to deliver on sites that have the future potential to generate jobs and a return on investment via new business growth.

Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =

New Capital Investment 2017/18 =

2017/18

£m*

+1.000

+4.000

2018/19
Indicative
values

£m*

2019/20
Indicative
values

£m*

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
Values are not cumulative*

Did you know?

Our Customer Contact Centre has reduced the average speed to answer Council Tax calls by 59% since November 2015!

Working with the community <i>Services and financial forecasts will be adjusted to react to trends in the way residents interact with key services.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Digital Customer Services (Revenue Savings) (100) New digital services accessed through the Council's website will provide a trusted, reliable and easy to use customer experience to make it easier for residents and businesses to contact the Council, and apply for or request services. Assisted digital services will provide a safety net for vulnerable and digitally disconnected customers but overall costs, in employees and technology, are expected to be reduced from 2018 onwards. <i>Impact on Digital Customer Service Budget =</i>	0.000	-1.260	-1.710
Reduce the non-collection rate for Council tax from 1.25% to 1% (Revenue Savings) (101) Two year collection rates have reached 99% in recent years, outperforming the budgeted rate by 0.25%. By resetting the planned collection rate to 99% an additional £400,000 is available each year for budgeting purposes. The change will have no direct impact on stakeholders as this only reflects current performance. (Note: all Council Tax related changes are also grouped together under items 121-124) <i>Impact on Revenue Collection Service Budget =</i>	-0.400	-0.400	-0.400
The Local Welfare Safety Net (Revenue Investment) (102) Under the Government's Welfare Reform discretionary welfare support has been devolved to local government, Department for Work and Pensions funding for local welfare provision has ended. This growth will now be locally funded and be used to fund crisis support for residents facing financial hardship through the Emergency Assistance scheme and a range of intervention and prevention activities to help reduce future demand. <i>Impact on Welfare Support Service Budget =</i>	+0.300	+0.250	+0.250
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Working with the community

Services and financial forecasts will be adjusted to react to trends in the way residents interact with key services.

Introduction of security presence at Crewe Customer Service Centre to ensure a welcoming and safe environment for customers and staff (Revenue Investment) (103)

Over recent months there has been an increase in incidents of violence and aggression from customers visiting the Customer Service Centre at Delamere House, putting both staff and visitors at increased risk. The introduction of a security presence in the Customer Service Centre will ensure a welcoming and safe environment for both visitors and staff. This approach has been piloted at Delamere House and has proven to be affective.

Impact on Customer Service Budget =

2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
£m*	£m*	£m*
+0.020	+0.020	+0.020

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
Values are not cumulative*

Note: Proposal 104: “Reduced Library Provision to principal towns and key service areas” was withdrawn from the MTFS following the consultation period.

Investment in services <i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Retain Capital Financing cap at £14m (Revenue Savings) (105) Capital financing is the annual cost to revenue of the capital programme. It includes amounts charged in respect of the repayment of outstanding debt and the amount of interest payable on the Council's portfolio of long-term loans. These costs are partly offset by the amount of interest the Council anticipates earning from the temporary investment of its cash balances during the year. The annual impact of financing capital expenditure was forecast to increase but will instead continue to be restricted to £14m per annum to ensure value for money is maintained. <i>Impact on Corporate Service Budget =</i>	-1.000	-2.000	-3.000
ICT Infrastructure Investment Programme (Essential Replacement & Enhancement) (Capital Investment) (106) Purpose is to preserve the reliability, integrity and availability of core ICT infrastructure and to ensure that current service levels are maintained. Information obtained from performance monitoring, capacity planning, the asset inventory and feedback from operations teams is used to create individual upgrade or replacement programmes of work to minimise unplanned service outages and to improve the supportability of core systems. <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i>	+5.400	+1.030 +4.470	+2.000
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Investment in services	2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
<i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	£m*	£m*	£m*
<p>Premises Capital Programme - Facilities Management (AMS) (Capital Investment) (107)</p> <p>Ongoing maintenance budget to ensure Council buildings remain serviceable, in line with condition surveys carried out in 2015. Failure to provide this budget could result in building failure.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i></p>	+3.321	+2.500	+2.500
<p>Information Assurance and Data Management (IADM) (Capital Investment) (108)</p> <p>The IADM Programme enables the Council to develop an Enterprise Information Architecture and Governance Framework that will support the management and sharing of information in support of corporate objectives. The information and data that Cheshire East Council holds is a valuable asset that will inform evidence based decision making, drive innovation and allow effective performance monitoring.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i></p>	+1.900 +0.700	+1.200	+0.750
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Investment in services <i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Revenues and Benefits Document Management procurement (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (109) The Revenue and Benefits teams (Local Community Services) use a number of ICT systems in order to deliver their services. These applications are due for review and re-procurement in 2017/18 when the current contracts expire. The core business system is Northgate Revenue and Benefits. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12 <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i>	+2.000		
Minor Works Programme (Capital Investment) (110) Minor improvements to operational premises to ensure that they remain fit for purpose for staff, residents and visitors to Cheshire East. <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i> <i>Current Approved Capital Investment 2018/19 =</i> <i>New Capital Investment 2019/20 =</i>	+0.774	+0.500	+0.500
Planning and sustainable development procurement (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (111) The existing Planning system is coming to end of contract. It is a key tool and system for planning and building control management. Funding is required to determine business requirements and procure systems appropriately in 2017/18 as the current Swift APAS contract terminates. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12 <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i>	+1.000		
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Investment in services <i>Investment will be put in to systems that support key services and in to other assets to ensure they remain fit for purpose. The impact of capital spending will be managed at affordable levels.</i>	2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
Regulatory Services and Environmental Health ICT procurement (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (112) The Civica APP (Flare) system is used by Regulatory Services and Environmental Health for environmental health, licensing and trading standards use. It is the services core technical application. The compliant procurement of a replacement system must be undertaken during 2017/18 before the existing contract expires. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12 <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i>	+0.800		
Elections system procurement (Capital Investment subject to a detailed Business Case) (113) The existing Elections system is coming to the end of its contract. It is a key system for maintaining the electoral register and undertaking various types of elections. Funding is required to determine business requirements and procure systems appropriately in 2017/18 as the current IDOX contract terminates. This will be subject to affordability and is included in the Addendum to the Capital Programme, see Financial Summary tables, Annex 12 <i>New Capital Investment 2017/18 =</i>	+0.500		
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Development based on economic growth

Driving more growth in the local economy will promote sustainable development of the domestic and non-domestic tax bases which will result in increased local taxes available for collection.

	2017/18	2018/19 Indicative values	2019/20 Indicative values
	£m*	£m*	£m*
<p>Increase forecast Domestic Tax Base Growth (Revenue Savings) (114)</p> <p>Forecast increases In Domestic Rates taxbase growth of c.1,500 new or brought back into use homes per annum. This is an increase of 300 homes per annum when compared to previous estimates already factored into base budgets. There is also the assumption that there will be a reduction of £0.5m in Council Tax Support scheme claimant payments in 2017/18 based on current year trends since the introduction of the revised scheme from April 2016.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Corporate Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.800	-1.100	-1.400
<p>Increase forecast Non Domestic Tax Base Growth (Revenue Savings) (115)</p> <p>Forecast increases In Business Rates taxbase growth due to net business additions in the area. The proposal estimates c.0.35% cumulative growth per annum from increased economic activity and the rise of inward investment.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Impact on Corporate Service Budget =</i></p>	-0.500	-1.000	-1.500
<p><i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i></p>			

Did you know?

Cheshire East won the 2016 Excellence in Innovation (Service Delivery) Award from The Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation!

Reducing subsidy

Ensure limited resources are redirected to the areas with the most critical need.

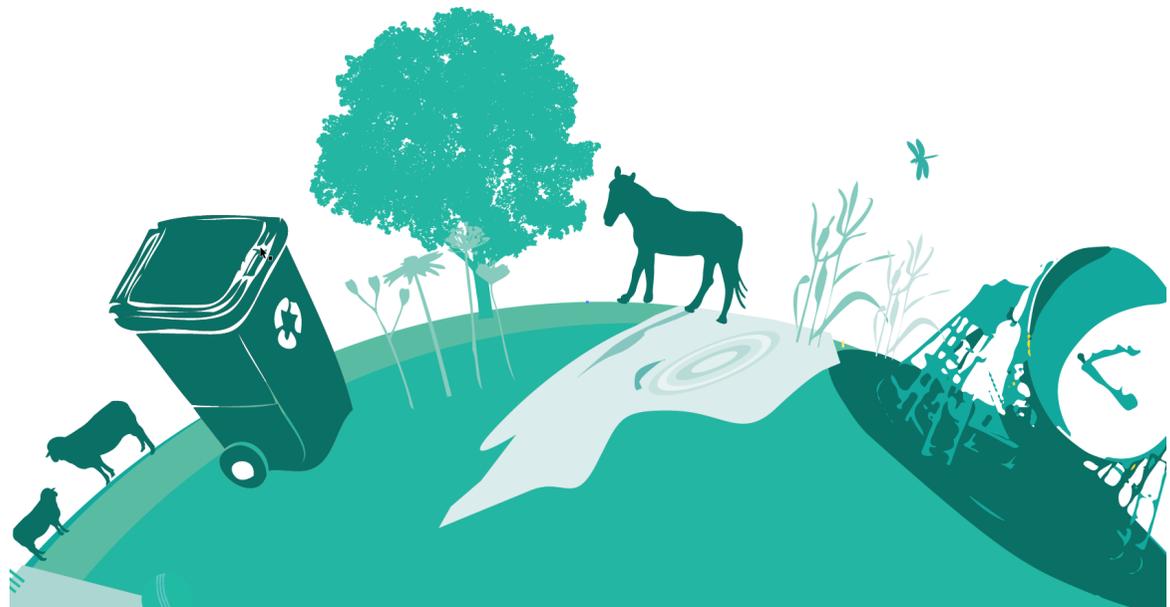
Increasing cost recovery / charges for existing statutory work-streams (Revenue Savings) (116)

Increased charges to industrial customers for work carried out by the Joint Cheshire Emergency Planning Service to fulfil our statutory responsibility to prepare and test the off-site emergency plans for hazardous installations within the Borough governed by COMAH, REPPiR and PSR legislation. The increase in charges will maximise cost recovery for the work undertaken for these activities.

Impact on Communities Service Budget =

2017/18 £m*	2018/19 Indicative values £m*	2019/20 Indicative values £m*
-0.020	-0.020	-0.020

**Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for [2016/17](#).
Values are not cumulative*



2. Financial Stability

Introduction

1. Local residents and businesses contribute to sustainable Council services through local taxation, contributions and charges; and Central Government provides grants funded mainly from national taxation. The Council manages these resources to achieve maximum efficiency and diverts as much funding as possible to front line services.
2. The Government's Autumn Statement for 2016 confirmed no change to the funding available for Local Government and therefore the continuing need to reduce the national public sector deficit and debt to secure economic recovery. Cheshire East Council is proposing to continue supporting this approach in a number of ways:
 - No additional external borrowing in 2017/18.
 - Maintain appropriate reserves levels that protect against risks.
 - React to changes in demand and develop budget proposals that can reduce net expenditure.
 - Focusing on economic wellbeing for local residents by investing in local development and infrastructure.

3. The key areas being covered in this section include:

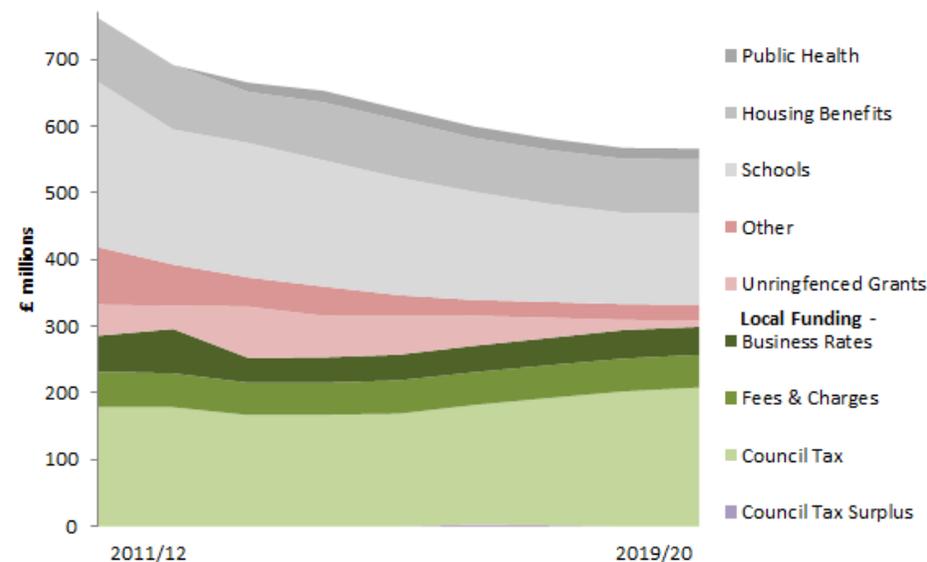
Source of Funding	Paragraphs
Balance of National vs Local Funding	4 to 13
Government Grant Funding of Local Expenditure	14 to 49
Collecting Local Taxes for Local Expenditure	50 to 84
Charges to Local Service Users	85 to 89
Income and expenditure are also influenced by decisions and estimates of the Council in relation to:	
Investment, Borrowing and the Capital Programme	90 to 122
Other Economic Factors	123 to 125
Managing the Reserves Position	126 to 130

Balance of National vs Local Funding

4. Cheshire East Council is becoming more reliant on local funding and less reliant on Central Government grant. The Provisional Local Government Settlement 2016/17 provided a shift in approach, where government used potential Council Tax income to determine levels of Local Authority spending. This is highlighted by the fact that funding for Council Services from Council Tax and Business Rates will have increased to over 88% of the total net funding for 2017/18.
5. The financial stability of the Council, which determines the amount of money available for service expenditure, should be exposed to less risk from further Government funding shortfalls in the medium term. This has been strengthened by the submission to DCLG of our [4-Year Efficiency Plan](#) in October 2016. This confirmed our acceptance of the 2016/17 Finance Settlement funding levels which are now guaranteed up to the end of 2019/20. These were reconfirmed in the Provisional Finance Settlement released on 15th December 2016.
6. Financial planning for the Council must now reflect the potential for year on year increases in demand to fall on local funding sources such as council tax, business rates and fees and charges.
7. **Chart 1** illustrates how the balance between funding sources is changing over time placing emphasis on support from local funding sources.
8. The 2017/18 Budget Report is based on the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement released on 15th December 2016. The final settlement is expected in early February 2017 with a

debate in the House of Commons shortly after. Any further information on funding will be reported to Members as soon as practical and may require management through reserves.

Chart 1: The Council is becoming more reliant on local funding sources (update after Council Tax levels agreed)



Source: Cheshire East Finance

9. **Table 2** sets out the revised funding forecast for Cheshire East Council for the period 2016/17 and 2017/18. This shows how Government Grants are reducing and how local funding sources are being increased to minimise the financial impact on services.

Table 2 - Funding available to services has reduced	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	Change £m	Change %
Council Tax	-179.4	-191.1	11.7	6.5%
Government Grants	-45.1	-30.3	-14.8	-32.8%
Business Rates Retention	-39.7	-41.0	1.3	3.3%
Collection Fund Contribution	-2.5	-1.4	-1.1	-44.0%
Funding Available to Services	-266.7	-263.8	-2.9	-1.1%

Sources: Cheshire East Finance

Department for Communities and Local Government

10. The Business Rates Retention funding system and control over Council Tax levels are placing greater responsibility on all councils to determine their own funding levels.
11. The government consultation of fairer funding for schools has the potential to result in reduced spending for Cheshire East Schools. Work is ongoing to ensure implications are fully understood by all stakeholders
12. In Cheshire East the Council is meeting this challenge in a number of ways and focusing on longer term financial stability through its actions.
13. Cheshire East Council is putting residents first:
Growing the domestic tax base - each new home brings additional Council Tax revenue, New Homes Bonus and potentially Community Infrastructure Levy together with additional costs, such as education, waste collection and highways. The Council ensures that any subsidy from its general funding sources is carefully managed to achieve maximum value.

Promoting Economic Growth - business growth can result in additional income being retained for local investment, subject to certain thresholds. Therefore, the Council is investing heavily in economic growth and infrastructure projects that will unlock development land and support inward investment.

Increasing employment opportunities - through economic growth will result in fewer people relying on welfare benefits from the Council which releases funding for further investment or for direct provision of front line services.

Maintaining strong collection rates and challenge of tax bases - to ensure fairness to all involved and ensure the Council maximises local income for local use.

This approach is very important and is embedded in the Council's actions.

Government Grant Funding of Local Expenditure

14. The detailed funding settlement from Government impacts on longer term financial planning. Key dates for 2017/18 include:
 - The release of the Autumn Statement on 23rd November 2016.
 - The release of the Provisional Settlement on 15th December 2016 confirming the approach to grants, Council Tax and calculation of business rates estimates
 - Final Settlement expected in early February 2017.
 - Late announcement of Specific Grants.

These have set out changes to:

- General funding levels – confirming a 49% reduction in Revenue Support Grant.

- Funding from Business Rates – use of RPI inflation to increase the multiplier (adjusted for the effects of the revaluation due to be implemented in April 2017).
15. The Council receives grant funding from the Government under several main headings:
- Revenue Support Grant (£13.4m in 2017/18)
 - Specific Grants (unring-fenced revenue) (£16.9m in 2017/18)
 - Specific Grants (ring-fenced revenue) (£251.0m in 2017/18)
 - Capital Grants (£95.5m in 2017/18)

More detail is provided on each of these funding elements below.

Revenue Support Grant (RSG)

16. In addition to retained business rates the Government provides RSG which is not ring-fenced for specific purposes. Historically, RSG and retained business rates were allocated based on a complicated formula that reflected local characteristics such as deprivation, age profiles and road lengths. Links to this complex approach have been dropped in favour of promoting economic growth through named grants. The provisional settlement has confirmed previous indications that RSG will be phased out, and that no payments will be received in 2019/20.
17. The substantial reduction in RSG, from £26.3m to £13.4m, has been partially offset in later years by a small decrease in the Business Rate tariff. However, this remains a significant challenge and means that all grants rolled into RSG, including Social Care new burdens, and previous Council Tax Freeze Grants, will also be nil in 2019/20. Any further changes to the amount of Business Rates retained are expected to come with additional responsibilities.

18. Transitional grants to town and parish councils for the implementation of the local Council Tax support scheme are due to cease in 2017/18 following consultation as part of the previous business planning cycle. The Council has communicated this message to all Town and Parish Councils so that they could plan for this reduction in setting their financial plans for 2017/18.

Unring-fenced Specific Grants

19. A number of separately identified but unring-fenced Specific Grants have been retained totalling £16.9m in 2017/18. The detailed list is shown in **Annex 8** and summarised in **Table 3**.
20. Other than RSG, the list of Specific Grants mainly relates to funding for the New Homes Bonus and Social Care Grants. Together they equate to 63% of the total unring-fenced specific grants expected in 2017/18.
21. A new one off Adult Social Care Grant was announced as part of the Provisional Finance Settlement in December 2016. The allocation for Cheshire East is £1.5m which is payable in 2017/18 only. This, along with increased council tax raising powers for adult social care use, is designed to reduce the impact of growth demand in this area on local authorities and Cheshire East Council will allocate this grant accordingly.

Table 3 - Specific grants and RSG have decreased by 33.0%	2016/17	2017/18	Overall Change	Overall Change
	£m	£m	£m	%
Revenue Support Grant	-26.4	-13.4	-	-
New Homes Bonus	-9.2	-8.3	-	-
Transitional Funding	-3.0	-3.0	-	-
Social Care Grants	-0.9	-2.3	-	-
Independent Living Fund	-0.9	-0.9	-	-
Education Services Grant	-2.9	-0.7	-	-
Other Grants	-1.9	-1.7	-	-
Total Specific Grants	-45.2	-30.3	-14.9	-33.0%

Sources: Cheshire East Finance

Department for Communities and Local Government

Education Funding Agency

22. New Homes Bonus (NHB) funding is provided to the Council based on the net increase in properties and affordable homes. The scheme is now completing its final year of a six year rolling programme. Cheshire East anticipates unring-fenced funding of £8.3m for 2017/18. This is a £1m reduction compared to anticipated levels before the Provisional Finance Settlement announcements in December 2016.
23. In 2016, the Government launched a review of the scheme with potential changes to the NHB that would free up at least £800m nationally by the end of the Parliament to help meet the rising costs of Adult Social Care in England. The Provisional Settlement in December confirmed the changes to the scheme as follows. It is these restrictions on the scheme that has resulted in the reduction of £1m for Cheshire East for 2017/18:
- a. Reducing the number of years the NHB is paid from 6 to 4 years with an interim period to smooth the transition (5 years worth of payments in 2017/18 and 4 years from 2018/19 onwards)
 - b. Introduction of a 0.4% threshold in growth before the bonus becomes payable
24. These changes have been factored into the future funding estimates included within this document.
25. Education Support Grant (ESG) was previously allocated as an unring-fenced grant from the Department for Education (DfE) to local authorities and to academies proportionate to the number of pupils for which they are responsible. In recent years the grant has been split between a retained duties element and a general rate element.
26. In 2016/17 the retained duties rate was paid to local authorities to fund services to both maintained schools and academies (at £15 per pupil). A 'general rate' was paid to local authorities or academies depending on where the pupils are located to fund certain services (at £77 per pupil in 2016/17). The Council is due to receive a total of £2.7m for ESG in 2016/17 (slight reduction on budget due to academy conversions).
27. For 2017/18 the general rate has been removed as part of national austerity savings and the retained rate has been transferred into the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). Transitional Funding has also been made available to reflect the intended start date of September 2017. The distinction between services within the retained and general rates was released in mid-December 2016 to help inform how those services are treated.

28. **Table 4** summarises the amount of ESG received in 2017/18. The relatively short notice period for the change in grant, split of functions and transitional funding means that further work is required to clarify the position regarding budgets and services that need to continue via DSG, be traded or be reduced. This relates to services within both Children and Families Services, in the People Directorate as well as a number of services in the Corporate Directorate.

Table 4 - Education Services Grant	Estimated £m
ESG retained duties transferred to DSG	0.8
Transitional Grant (one off)	0.7
Total Receiveable	1.5

Sources: Cheshire East Finance
Education Funding Agency

Ring-fenced Specific Grants

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

29. The Government announced the indicative allocations of DSG for 2017/18 in December 2016. DSG is a ring-fenced grant provided to the Council to meet certain educational costs. Following national funding reforms several years ago DSG continues to be allocated in notional funding blocks, namely the Schools Block, Early Years Block and High Needs Block.
30. The Schools Block is based on the schools block units of funding (SBUF) released in July 2016. The SBUF has been multiplied by the pupil numbers from the October 2016 school census and the

January 2016 alternative provision census, plus the reception uplift, minus high needs places.

31. The Early Years Block is mainly comprised of:
- Funding for the universal 15-hour entitlement for all three- and four-year-olds
 - Funding for the additional 15 hours for three- and four-year-old children of eligible working parents
 - Funding for the Early years pupil premium plus a few other areas
32. This area has been the subject of a national consultation to address the increase from 15 to 30 hours free childcare for working parents in terms of how funding is allocated to the authority and how that is distributed to providers. The Council is currently consulting on proposed methods of distributing funding to providers and will be formally reporting the results.
33. The High Needs Block is a single block for local authorities' high needs pupils / students aged 0-24. The block includes place funding for pre-16 and post-16 places in appropriate establishments such as maintained mainstream schools, maintained special schools and pupil referral units. The block includes top-up funding for pupils and students occupying places in such settings.
34. For 2017/18 the high needs block is made up of each local authority's 2016/17 high needs block baseline, based on the information local authorities returned to the Education Funding Agency through the 2016/17 baselines exercise early in 2016.
35. Both the schools block and high needs block are subject to current consultations which will change the way they operate from 2018/19.

36. **Table 5** shows the actual DSG received for 2016/17, the indicative DSG for 2017/18, the actual guaranteed unit of funding (GUF amount per Pupil) received for 2016/17 and the Block GUFs to be received for 2017/18 (excluding the adjustment for Academy recoupment).

Table 5 - Dedicated Schools Grant are allocated in three notional blocks from 2016/17	Actual 2016/17	Estimated 2017/18	Change	Change
	£m	£m	£m	%
Total Dedicated Schools Grant	246.0	255.0	9.0	3.66%
Comprising:				
Schools Block (notional)	195.8	205.5	9.7	4.95%
Early Years Block (notional)	16.4	19.7	3.3	20.12%
High Needs Block (notional)	33.8	29.8	-4.0	-11.83%
New responsibilities	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-100.00%
Per Pupil Funding	£ / pupil	£ / pupil		
	2016/17	2017/18		
Dedicated Schools Grant:				
Schools Block (notional)	4,206	4,340		
Early Years Block (notional)	4,048	4,085		
Figures quoted are before the Academy recoupment				

Sources: Cheshire East Finance
Education Funding Agency

37. 92% of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is passported directly through to schools.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) ~ Academy Funding

38. The DfE are clear that becoming an academy should not bring about a financial advantage or disadvantage to a school but rather, enable academies to have greater freedom over how they use their budgets.
39. The Schools Block funding receivable for the 62 academies which opened before or during 2017/18 has not been removed from the total DSG award to be received (as reflected in **Table 5**). The funding for these academies of approximately £112.5m will be deducted from the Authority's DSG as part of the academy recoupment process (see **Annex 8**).

Sixth Form Funding

40. Total sixth form funding of £4.1m is receivable for maintained schools (this is an estimated figure to be confirmed when actual sixth form pupil numbers are known). In 2016/17 a balance of £12m was allocated directly to academies by the Education Funding Agency. The allocation for 2017/18 is not yet known.

Pupil Premium Grant & Pupil Premium Plus

41. The indicator for eligibility will be Free School Meals received in any of the prior six years by any pupil. The allocations for 2017/18 are the same as in 2016/17 at £1,320 for primary-aged pupils and £935 for secondary-aged pupils for every eligible child in both maintained schools and academies. All looked after children, adopted children and children with guardians will attract funding of £1,900 and children whose parents are in the armed forces continue to attract £300 per annum. It is estimated that Cheshire East Council will receive £5.3m in relation to the Pupil Premium for 2017/18. The use of this funding is under review.

Physical Education Grant

42. The Council expects to receive £0.8m for 2017/18. This is an estimate after any reduction for academies.

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)

43. The Council expects to receive £2.9m for 2017/18. This is an estimate for maintained schools. The figure is normally based on a set amount per eligible pupil. The grant is paid directly to local authorities or academies. The Council will comply with the requirement to pass on the grant to maintained schools in full.

School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant

44. This is a new grant from September 2017 for local authorities to continue to monitor and broker school improvement provision for low-performing maintained schools and intervene in certain cases, nationally £50m is being allocated with the first £30m allocated in September 2017. The Council expects to receive £0.2m for 2017/18 based on 89 maintained schools. This will be adjusted for any further conversions prior to being paid.

SEND Implementation Grant

45. The allocations were released on 9th January. The Council expects to receive £0.2m for 2017/18. This is to assist the conversion of all eligible children to an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Public Health Grant

46. Central Government transferred the responsibility of commissioning and delivering public health services from Health to Local Authorities from April 2013.

47. Public Health responsibilities cover a wide range of services including: sexual health services; NHS Health Check programmes; Drug Misuse; Alcohol Misuse and Obesity.

48. Public Health grant will remain ring-fenced for the first five years as a minimum, so expenditure is incurred in line with the definition of public health.

Funding from Public Health England for the first five years is shown below:

- 2013/14 – originally £12.7m subsequently revised to £13.8m.
- 2014/15 - £14.3m.
- 2015/16 – originally £14.3m then increased by £2.4m for 0-5 year olds new responsibility (half year funding) and reduced by £1.1m in year. Total £15.6m.
- 2016/17 – Originally £15.6m then increased by £2.4m for the remaining six months of 0-5 year old funding, reduced by £0.4m in year and reduced by £0.3m transfer of base funding to EC CCG for Community special school nursing
- Total £17.3m
- 2017/18 - anticipated original funding £17.3m then reduced by £0.4m. Total £16.9m.
- During 2018/19 and 2019/20 if PHE grant funding continues the assumption would be a yearly reduction of 2.6% (assumed in this report). However, if business rates are used to fund PH the assumption is funding would remain at £16.9m

49. For 2017/18, confirmation of the grant is expected before the end of March 2017 and the grant is expected to be ring-fenced until 2018/19.

Collecting Local Taxes for Local Expenditure

Business Rate Retention Scheme (BRRS)

50. The Council anticipates collection of approximately £140.5m in business rates in 2016/17 (based on the Council's NNDR1 return to the DCLG 31st January 2016). Under the BRRS arrangements 50% of this funding is paid to Government with 49% being retained specifically to support Cheshire East Council services. 1% is paid to the Fire Authority. In addition to this reduction a tariff of £29.1m must be paid to government which is used to top-up funding allocations to other local authorities.
51. Up to and including 2016/17, the Council continued to use the DCLG Business Rates baseline figures, plus levy savings as a result of being in the Greater Manchester Pool, for budget setting purposes. This was slightly below the NNDR 1 level reflecting a prudent approach to business rates growth.
52. For 2017/18 this approach has been maintained. However, in addition to the forecast £0.7m levy saving (as a result of being in the Pool), a further £0.5m in retained business rate growth income is being forecast (see **Table 6**).

Table 6 - Business Rates Retention	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	Change £m	Change %
Business Rate Retention Scheme	-39.7	-40.9	1.2	3.0%

Source: Cheshire East Finance

53. Growth in business rates can increase local funding, but this does take time and recent trends in rateable values have remained at a constant level. The Council's reaction is to promote inward investment to the area. There are positive signs of investment and

Annex 6 sets out the forecasts for business rate growth over the medium term.

54. During 2016/17, the Council continued to be part of a BRRS Pool with Greater Manchester authorities (and Cheshire West and Chester: new member for 2016/17). This allows the authorities included within the pool to be treated as one entity for the purposes of tariff / top up and levy / safety net payments potentially reducing the amounts to be paid over to Central Government.
55. The Pool has been selected as a pilot for a 100% growth retention scheme. This will allow growth above 0.5% to be retained in full if achieved. Further information on business rates growth is set out in **Annex 6**.
56. The Impact Assessment at **Annex 3** (Page 107) identifies how changes in business rates could affect local business.

Council Tax

57. Locally collected taxes that are directly retained by the Council will provide over 88% of the Council's net funding in 2017/18. The Council therefore takes a very careful approach to managing the domestic and commercial taxbases in a way that reflects local growth ambitions and supports sustainable services in the medium term.
58. The Council had not increased Council Tax for the five consecutive years up to and including 2015/16. In response to changes in government funding for local authorities in 2016/17, the Council Tax charge was increased by 3.75% (2% was ring-fenced specifically for use within the Adult Social Care area).

59. With the increase in demand for services, such as Social Care and Waste Collection, spending on local services is expected to remain consistent. Grant reductions over the four year period take into account the Council's ability to raise Council Tax levels, which remains part of Central Governments key funding policy.
60. The ability to raise additional ringfenced council tax for use solely on Adult Social Care (ASC) has been increased further for 2017/18 with the measures announced as part of the Provisional Settlement in December 2016. Local authorities are now able to raise a maximum of 6% over the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20. Cheshire East are proposing to apply this increase equally over the coming two years. As such it is recommended that Council Tax is increased by 4.99% (including the 3% rise for ASC) to give a Band D charge of £1,324.92 for 2017/18.
61. The proposed increase for 2018/19 is therefore 4.99% (including 3% for ASC) and 1.99% (no additional ASC element) for 2019/20 at this time.

The calculation of the Council Tax for 2017/18 is shown in **Table 7**.

Table 7 - The calculation of the Cheshire East Council Band D Council Tax		2017/18	2017/18
		£m	£m
Total Net Revenue Budget 2017/18			263.8
Specific Grants			16.9
Revenue Budget recommended to Council on 23 rd February 2017			246.9
Less:			
Business Rates Retention Scheme	16.6% ¹	41.0	
Revenue Support Grant	5.4% ¹	13.4	54.4
Surplus on Council Tax	0.6% ¹	1.4	1.4
Amount to be Raised from Council Tax		77.4% ¹	191.1
No. of Band D Equivalent Properties			144,201.51
Band D Council Tax			£1,324.92

¹ Percentage of Cheshire East net budget
Source: Cheshire East Finance

The impact on each Council Tax Band and the number of dwellings in each band is shown in **Table 8**.

Table 8 - Impact of Council Tax on each Band				
Band	A	B	C	D
Council Tax £	883.28	1,030.49	1,177.71	1,324.92
No of Dwellings	30,230	35,492	33,564	25,134
Band	E	F	G	H
Council Tax £	1,619.35	1,913.77	2,208.20	2,649.84
No of Dwellings	19,429	13,302	11,996	1,795

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Council Tax Base

62. The Council Tax Base quantifies the number of properties from which the Council is able to collect Council Tax. The tax base is presented as an equivalent number of domestic properties in Council Tax Band D terms after adjusting for relevant discounts and exemptions (for example a Band H property counts as two Band D properties, whereas a Band A property counts as two thirds of a Band D). The level of Council Tax multiplied by the tax base equals the expected income from local taxation.
63. The gross tax base for 2017/18 (before making an allowance for non-collection) is calculated as 145,658.09. After taking into account current high collection rates, the non-collection rate has been reduced to 1.00% (from 1.25%) for 2017/18. This results in a final tax base of **144,201.51** Band D equivalent domestic properties.
64. The tax base for 2017/18 reflects an increase of 1.4% on the 2016/17 equivalent position. This reflects the overall increase in properties in Cheshire East after allowing for the impact of Council Tax Support. The Council Tax Base was approved by [Council on 15th December 2016](#).

65. Cheshire East has a relatively high Council Tax Base compared to its nearest neighbours. This is partly due to the much higher proportion of properties in Bands F to H in the Cheshire East area (16% in Cheshire East compared to the England average of 9% based on [2013/14 data](#)).

The impact of the Council Tax Support Scheme

66. From 1st April 2013 the Council Tax Benefit system was replaced by a locally designed Council Tax Support Scheme. Claimants under this scheme receive appropriate discounts to their bills depending on their circumstances. It is important to note that pensioner claimants remain unaffected by this change.
67. The impact of Council Tax Support reductions is decreasing in Cheshire East, reflecting a positive trend away from a dependence on support from the local authority. The local Council Tax Support Scheme was reviewed and consulted on during 2015 and a revised scheme was implemented from April 2016.
68. Cheshire East compensated local town and parish councils for reductions in tax base as a result of the Council Tax Support Scheme up to an including 2016/17 (with a reduction of 50% in the level of support during 2016/17). This funding has been removed fully for 2017/18.

Collection Fund

69. Receipts from Council Tax payers and businesses are paid into the Collection Fund which is then distributed to all precepting organisations (Cheshire East Council, Fire Authority, Police and Crime Commissioner and local Town & Parish Councils).

70. A predicted surplus in the Collection Fund can be drawn down to support revenue funding for the following annual budget, and vice versa in the case of a deficit. This can happen if actual changes in the tax base vary from the predicted changes, or if collection rates exceed forecasts.
71. The estimated balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund has been forecast to be a £1m surplus at 31st March 2017. £0.85m of this surplus is retained by the Council and is factored in to the 2017/18 budget.
72. The year-end balance on the Business Rates Collection Fund is estimated to be a cumulative deficit position of £4.5m. This is derived from the carried forward deficit from 2015/16 of £14.7m, less the in-year repayment of £7.6m plus the 2016/17 predicted in-year surplus of £2.5m. This carried forward deficit equates to 3.2% of the net rates forecast to be received for 2016/17 (£140.5m).
73. The main reason for the carried forward position on the fund has been due to much larger than anticipated appeals for rateable valuation reductions being successful. This will continue to be managed through the earmarked reserve. The in year surplus has resulted from growth in the Rateable Value of businesses which is a positive sign that regeneration plans and the drive for local growth is starting to come on stream.
74. The forecasts for the use of the Collection Fund Management earmarked reserve reflect a risk based approach to future BRRS income streams. At this time it is estimated that £0.5m can be released from the reserve into the revenue account for use in 2017/18.

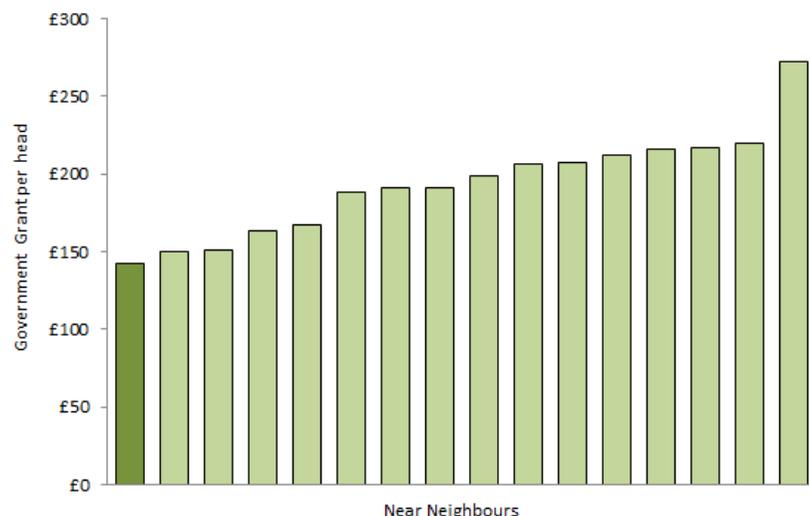
Council Tax on Second Homes

75. During 2006 the Cheshire Local Government Association (LGA) agreed to reduce the level of discount on Second Homes across Cheshire from 50% to 25% on the basis that the additional funds would be utilised as follows:-
 - 50% to be retained by local authorities.
 - The balance to be paid over to Local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) for local activities including the appointment of Community Support Officers.
76. The final figures cannot be calculated until each authority has set its 2017/18 Council Tax. Contributions under the Second Homes agreement to the CDRP from the Police and Crime Commissioner and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Authority will be made during 2017/18 by adjusting the precept payments to those authorities. The provisional contribution from Cheshire East Council is £188,000.
77. Any further changes to Second Homes discounts are not part of the local agreement and therefore the additional income from any change is not included in the figure shown.

Funding Comparisons to similar Councils

78. Comparisons, based on available data, add context to Cheshire East's funding position. For further analysis of the Council's financial position please refer to the [Council's Value for Money](#) document.

Chart 2
Cheshire East Council receives the lowest level of Government Grant per head compared to its Near Neighbours.



Sources: Cheshire East Finance
 CIPFA Council Tax Demands and Precept Statistics 2016/17
 Department for Communities and Local Government

What is the Council doing about it?

79. There are several areas where the Council is attempting to ensure its voice is heard. These are:

Responding to Key Consultations

80. 2016/17 has seen several consultations on changes to local government finance. The Council has had the opportunity to input into the relevant responses collated by the Society of County Treasurers and the Local Government Association (Cheshire East Council is a member of both) and therefore, in some cases, relied on their collective responses to make any relevant comments. The

Council also joined the Society of Unitary Treasurers in 2015 to assist with influencing collective messages. The consultations that have taken place so far in 2016/17 are as follows:

- Rates Retention and Formula Grant
 - Self-Sufficient Local Government: 100% Retention (closed Sept 2016)
 - Fair Funding Review: Needs and Redistribution (closed Sept 2016)
 - 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement (closed Oct 2016)
 - 2017 Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (closed Jan 2017)

- Adult Social Care
 - Former Independent Living Fund (ILF) Recipient Grant (closed Mar 2016)

- Schools and Academies
 - Early Years Funding: changes to funding for 3 and 4 year olds (closed Sept 2016)
 - Schools Fair Funding: Stage 1 (closed Apr 2016)
 - High Needs National Funding Formula: Stage 1 (closed Apr 2016)
 - School National Funding Formula: Stage 1 (closed Apr 2016)
 - 30 hours of Childcare Entitlement (closed Nov 2016)
 - High Needs National Funding Formula: Stage 2 (closes Mar 2017)
 - School National Funding Formula: Stage 2 (closes Mar 2017)

- Local Taxation
 - Business Rates: Delivering more frequent revaluations (closed Jul 2016)
 - Transitional arrangements for the 2017 business rates revaluation (closed Oct 2016)
 - Reforming Business Rates Appeals (closed Oct 2016)

- Pensions
 - Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations (closed Aug 2016)
 - Developing an insolvency regime for the further education and sixth-form sector (closed Aug 2016)

- General
 - New Homes Bonus (closed March 2016)
 - Shale Wealth Fund (closed Oct 2016)
 - Draft legislation: regulations for the calculation, payment and recovery of the Apprenticeship Levy: Stage 1 (closed Nov 2016)
 - Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Bill (closed Dec 2016)
 - Draft legislation: regulations for the calculation, payment and recovery of the Apprenticeship Levy: Stage 2 (closes Feb 2017)

Membership of Collective Groups

81. The Council has membership of several collective groups which provide a stronger voice at a national level. They are:
- The Local Government Association
 - The Society of County Treasurers
 - The Society of Unitary Treasurers

- The Sparse Rural Network
- The F40 Group

82. The Council is also making use of the CIPFA / Pixel Financial Management Service to assist with financial forecasts and strategy.

Monitoring Developments

83. The Council is monitoring news alerts and public sector journals for any developments with Business Rates and grant funding arrangements. There are various authorities involved in the pilot scheme to trial the 100% business rates retention scheme early. The results of these pilots will be closely followed.

On-going briefing with Members of Parliament

84. The Council provides an update on key issues to local MPs on a regular basis, or when special updates are required. At certain times these focus on the Budget and funding issues.

Charges to Local Service Users

85. In some key service areas the Council makes a charge directly to the service user. The prices charged will sometimes be set nationally, but should always be related to recovering some or preferably all of the Council's costs in delivering discretionary services.
86. Approximately 8.2% of the Council's gross income is received through Fees & Charges and the prices are reviewed at least annually.
87. The Cheshire East Council pricing structure has over 1,500 different charges. With the overall objective to reduce subsidy in charged for

services some prices rises may exceed inflation in the medium term. In such cases users are consulted and alternative service options are discussed.

- 88. To assist officers and Members to recover full cost, the Council has produced a Charging and Trading Strategy to provide the relevant guidance to be applied. This document is available on request.
- 89. The fees and charges list is subject to review given the change in commissioning arrangements in some areas. A revised version will be available in due course.

Investment, Borrowing and the Capital Programme

- 90. The capital programme is intentionally aspirational, reflecting the Council’s priority to promote local economic wellbeing. To support this ambition the Council actively pursues funding from private sector organisations and government as well as attempting to maximise receipts from asset sales. Resources will be utilised accordingly to allow flexibility within the overall programme. Major highway infrastructure projects, for example, may require Council resources before capital receipts and developer contributions can be realised and therefore the funding requirement for future years will be updated as plans and funding streams are secured.
- 91. The Council has continued its policy of utilising investment balances instead of taking out new external borrowing in order to finance capital expenditure. This has allowed external loans amounting to £28m to be repaid since 2009. Together with debt restructuring this has reduced external interest costs by £2m per year.

- 92. The Treasury Management Strategy aims to hold net capital financing requirements at £14m per year in the medium term. Over time the percentage of the net revenue budget required for capital financing will show as an increase, but this reflects the Council’s significant capital ambitions for local investment and the fact the actual net budget is reducing. This is acceptable as the Council targets investment in infrastructure that can support the local economy and provide future revenue savings or additional income.
- 93. The capital financing budget for 2017/18 is shown in **Table 9**. This includes repayment of debt and interest payable on the Council’s long-term loans. Costs are partly offset by the interest earned on the Councils investments. This approach is strategically designed to retain CFR at £14m.

Table 9 - Capital Financing Budget	2017/18
	£m
Repayment of Outstanding Debt	11.2
Contribution re: Schools Transforming Learning Communities Schemes	-0.9
Interest on Long Term Loans	4.0
Less: Interest Receivable on Cash Balances	-0.3
Net Capital Financing Budget	14.0

Source: Cheshire East Finance

- 94. Charges for the amount borrowed are made to the Council’s income and expenditure account and, for 2017/18, comprise of the following elements:
 - **For borrowing incurred prior to April 2008:** Cost is calculated as 4% of the outstanding balance at 31st March 2016.

- **For borrowing incurred after April 2008:** Cost is calculated as equal instalments over the anticipated life of the asset. These periods vary from five years to 50 years depending on the type of expenditure funded from the borrowing.
95. Details of the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision Policy are shown at **Annex 10**.
 96. The amount of interest paid on the Council's portfolio of long-term loans is mainly at a fixed rate of interest (circa 3.9%). This provides a degree of certainty to the capital financing budget.
 97. Currently, long-term fixed interest rates are around 3.1%.
 98. The rate of interest to be earned on the Council's cash balances that are temporarily invested is budgeted to be £0.3m.
 99. The Council will continue to use cash balances to fund capital expenditure. This strategy is sound, particularly with the 1% margin on Public Work Loan Board rates, low-investment yields and on-going concerns regarding credit risk.
 100. The Council sets out the approach to these issues in its Treasury Management Strategy which is also being reported to Cabinet and Council in February 2017.
 102. The Third Quarter Review of Performance and the revised profile of spend for 2017/18 onwards forms the base for the 2017/20 programme, which is detailed in **Annex 12**.
 103. Capital commitments have been reviewed to identify the profile of expenditure. There is recognition that the complexities around planning applications, public consultation and dependencies on third parties for external funding can mean that projects are delayed from one year to the next.
 104. Services are required to provide business cases in accordance with the HM Treasury five case model. Schemes are also assessed for technical viability by the Technical Enabler Group (TEG) and then reviewed and challenged by a member led Executive Monitoring Board (EMB).
 105. Spending plans are monitored to ensure a robust quality assurance framework is followed for each project. The governance arrangements safeguard against projects proceeding where costs may escalate beyond budgets. Potential variances from approved budgets may become subject to supplementary approval in accordance with financial regulations.

Capital Programme Planning

101. The 2016/19 capital programme was approved by Council on 25th February 2016. Updates have been provided via quarterly reports to Cabinet during 2016/17.

Capital Programme Financing

106. The level of resources required to fund capital investment in the medium term is set out in **Table 10** and is based on the level of borrowing that the Council can undertake on a prudential basis, the level of Government grant, the level of capital receipts and external contributions that can be generated over the period.

Table 10 - Capital Programme Summary	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total 2017/20
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Committed Schemes	84.8	104.2	68.5	257.5
New Schemes	31.5	31.8	11.7	75.0
Total Capital Programme	116.3	136.0	80.2	332.5
Financing				
Prudential Borrowing	60.6	14.3	7.6	82.5
Government Grants	39.2	105.6	23.0	167.7
Capital Receipts	10.4	13.1	17.2	40.7
External Contributions	5.6	3.0	32.5	41.0
Other Revenue Contributions	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
Total Sources of Funding	116.3	136.0	80.2	332.5
Source: Cheshire East Finance				

Source: Cheshire East Finance

107. The Council will attempt to maximise external resources such as grants and external contributions in the first instance to fund the capital programme. Where the Council resources are required the preference will be to utilise capital receipts from asset disposals. The forecast for £40.7m capital receipts for the period 2017-20 assumes a prudent approach based on the work of the Asset Management team and their most recently updated Disposals Programme.

108. The schemes in the Capital Programme, both existing and new proposals, have been through a challenge process to ensure they represent value for money, attract external funding or alternatively will not breach the capital financing budget cap by committing the

Council to additional debt repayments that are not affordable in the medium term.

109. The budget process identified a number of new projects that are to be included in an addendum to the programme reflecting their strategic importance to the Council but also their current state of development.

110. Detailed business cases will be developed for schemes listed in the addendum as the precise details are not yet known. Before work can commence, on schemes listed on the addendum, the business case will be required to provide significant certainty linked to:

- Strategic impact of the scheme
- Expenditure profiles
- Funding sources or associated return on investment

111. The schemes separately identified on the Addendum to the capital programme are still submitted for approval; subject to them meeting the above requirements in the future. At the stage where the business cases are sufficiently robust and are deemed to be affordable the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets and the Chief Operating Officer will provide the additional approval for these schemes to proceed and form part of the main capital programme. Updates on these schemes will be provided to Cabinet through the quarterly reporting process. As detailed in **Table 11**:

Table 11 - Capital Programme Summary - ADDENDUM	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total 2017/20
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Directorate				
People	1.7	12.6	0.0	14.3
Place	15.8	64.2	92.3	172.2
Corporate	4.5	2.5	9.6	16.6
Total Capital Schemes	22.0	79.3	101.9	203.1
Financing				
Prudential Borrowing	17.9	49.1	38.9	105.9
Government Grants	0.8	17.1	38.1	56.0
Capital Receipts	3.4	9.6	6.3	19.3
External Contributions	0.0	3.4	18.5	21.9
Total Sources of Funding	22.0	79.3	101.9	203.1

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Borrowing for Capital Expenditure

112. The Council's capital investment complies with the "Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities". Under the Code, local authorities have greater discretion over the funding of capital expenditure especially with the freedom to determine, within the regulatory framework of the Code, the level of borrowing they wish to undertake to deliver their capital programmes.
113. The level of Prudential Borrowing required in 2017/18 and in future years is detailed in **Annex 11** Prudential Borrowing Indicators. The revenue consequences have been considered as part of the medium term strategy to ensure they can be afforded in future years.

Government Capital Grants

114. Government capital grants are generally allocated by specific Government departments to fund projects either as part of a block allocation or following a specific application process. The Council must therefore allocate such funding to support the spending programmes for which they are specifically approved.
115. The Council seeks to maximise allocations of grant, developing appropriate projects and programmes which reflect Government-led initiatives and agendas but address priority needs for local residents. Overall Government funding has reduced in recent years but the Council still receives external support towards a number of projects such as school improvements and major highways infrastructure. Over the medium term these resources equate to £222m, which is 41% of the total Capital Programme. **Annex 9** provides a list of Government Grants that are supporting the Cheshire East capital programme.

Capital Receipts

116. A capital receipt is an amount of money which is generated from the sale of an asset. The asset rationalisation process is managed by the Asset Management Service and continues to explore opportunities to generate capital receipts by disposing of surplus property assets after considering potential development opportunities. An asset disposal schedule is maintained to indicate the timing and estimated values of future receipts.
117. Capital receipts are pooled in the Council's capital reserve and are allocated each year in line with corporate priorities. Asset disposals also have revenue benefits by reducing the costs relating to retaining assets, such as business rates, insurance and utility costs.

118. Guidance, issued by the government in 2016/17, allows the Council to fund certain costs of efficiency from Capital Receipts. At present, the Council's 2017/18 budget does not rely on this flexibility to balance the revenue budget. If this opportunity would benefit the longer term financial stability of the Council then the quarterly reporting cycle will be used to raise awareness with members and seek appropriate Council approval based on the value for money associated with the approach.

External Contributions to Capital Expenditure

119. The Council receives contributions from developers towards the provision of public assets or facilities, such as Section 106 contributions to mitigate the impact of their developments.
120. Section 106 agreements are drawn up during the planning process which identifies and addresses the local needs of the community in relation to new developments. The agreement obligates the developer to provide a sum of money to enable the provision of facilities such as play areas and open spaces, increased education placements and road improvements.
121. As at 31st March 2016 the authority held Section 106 balances totalling £8.6m. The use of the funding is restricted by the terms of the original agreement and the timing of developer contributions is less predictable than other sources.

Other Revenue Contributions to Capital Expenditure

122. Capital expenditure may be funded directly from revenue, but not vice-versa. Overall financial pressure on the Council makes returns on capital investment a key element of the overall financial stability of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Business cases for schemes with revenue returns will be monitored throughout the year to ensure revenue returns are realised.

Other Economic Factors

123. The Council makes an assessment of its financial position over the next three years by using a model known as the financial scenario. It is based on a series of planning assumptions which were published in the [Pre-Budget Consultation](#) 2017-20 issued in November 2016, and updated through the year via the Central Finance Group. Allowance will be made in the 2017/18 budget for other economic factors, such as inflation and pension costs, totalling **£5.5m**.
124. The Budget Report for 2016/17 continues the theme of not including any central allowance for non-pay inflationary pressures on the basis this is being mitigated by service efficiency proposals, increased charges or specifically bid for as a separate policy proposal.

Employer Pensions Contributions

125. The Workforce Planning section (**Annex 4**) provides further details on the Pensions provision.

Managing the Reserves Position

126. The Council Reserves Strategy 2017/18 states that the Council will maintain reserves to protect against risk and support investment. The strategy is updated each year and latest update is provided in the MTFS 2017-20 Report at **Annex 13**.

127. The Strategy identifies two types of reserves:

General Reserves

128. Balances in this category are not identified for specific purposes, but will be used to cushion against the impact of emerging events or genuine emergencies.

Earmarked Reserves

129. Balances in this category have been set aside for a specific purpose and will either be spent on that purpose or otherwise returned to General Reserves.

130. Further details, such as opening and closing balances and protection against financial risks, are contained within the strategy.

Summary of Financial Stability

131. **Table 12** summarises the position for 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Table 12 - Summary position for 2017/18 to 2019/20	Estimated Net Budget 2017/18	Estimated Net Budget 2018/19	Estimated Net Budget 2019/20
	£m	£m	£m
Outcome 1 - Our Local Communities are strong and supportive	25.0	25.3	25.7
Outcome 2 - Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	30.0	28.1	28.1
Outcome 3 - People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive	33.8	32.5	32.7
Outcome 4 - Cheshire East is a green and sustainable place	29.8	30.0	29.1
Outcome 5 - People live well and for longer	96.5	96.4	95.8
Outcome 6 - Efficiency	33.6	32.8	32.8
Total Outcomes	248.7	245.1	244.2
Corporate Contributions and Adjustments	1.2	1.2	1.2
Capital Financing	14.0	14.0	14.0
Use of / Contribution to Earmarked Reserve	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
TOTAL:	263.8	260.2	259.3
<i>CENTRAL BUDGETS</i>			
Business Rate Retention Scheme	-41.0	-42.7	-41.8
Revenue Support Grant	-13.4	-5.4	0.0
Specific Grants	-16.9	-9.8	-9.4
Council Tax	-191.1	-202.3	-208.1
Sourced from Collection Fund	-1.4	0.0	0.0
TOTAL: Central Budgets	-263.8	-260.2	-259.3
Funding Position	0.0	0.0	0.0

132. Service expenditure for 2017/18 is shown as **£263.8m**. This represents a decrease of £2.9m (0.1%) on the Budget at the [Three Quarter Year Review](#) position.

133. The Funding Available to Services in 2017/18 is estimated at **£263.8m** to give a balanced position.
134. Proposals were received in a Better Business Cases Five Case Model format, with associated Equality Impact Assessment, and were subject to detailed scrutiny by corporate enabling services through several iterations before being accepted into this budget; these business cases will be developed into the delivery phase and are subject to oversight and assurance from the Executive Monitoring Board.

Balancing the Medium Term Budget 2017/18 to 2019/20

135. The Council has a track record of balancing the revenue budget, spending in-line with the budget and maintaining adequate reserves to protect against risk and provide necessary investment.
136. Work with other organisations, as detailed from Para 79 (the “What are we doing about it?” section), will primarily aim to lengthen the planning process. The overall approach to funding is sound, and has been for some time, in that local sources such as Council Tax and Business Rates will fund a greater share of local costs in the future so a pro-growth approach is appropriate.
137. Council funding is now guaranteed to reduce over the medium term and it is almost certain that inflationary pressure on services will continue to increase.
138. The Medium Term Financial Strategy reflects a balanced position for 2017/18 with a mix of specific policy proposals in each Service.

139. The position for 2018/19 and 2019/20 is provisionally balanced as per the estimates in this document. However, this position will continue to be monitored during 2017/18 as changes are bedded in and cost pressures are firmed up.
140. The Council adopts a standard five measures approach to balancing the budget and each measure is explored in relation to the medium term balancing of the MTFs. The measures are :

Measure	Description
Measure One ~ Challenge Financial Assumptions	Estimates related to Government funding and inflation in particular are checked against up to date indices and policies.
Measure Two ~ Review Local Taxation	Flexibility in Council Tax and Business Rates is explored in relation to emerging Government policy, demographic changes, local service ambitions and growth in the taxbase.
Measure Three ~ Manage Reserves	The impact of the Council’s Reserves Strategy is analysed, particularly in relation to risk and investment.
Measure Four and Five ~ Manage Cost Drivers & Income	Options for future service delivery are challenged to ensure outcomes will be achieved in a cost effective and efficient way.

Options related to each of the five measures are set out below:

Measure	Table 13 – Balancing the Medium Term Budget
<p>Measure One Challenge Financial Assumptions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In December 2016 the Government issued provisional Core Spending Power figures for the next three years (2017/18 to 2019/20). This confirmed the estimates set out in the 2016/17 Final Settlement released in February 2016 and, due to the submission of our 4-Year Efficiency Plan in October 2016, guarantee the central funding levels for the medium term. - The overall ambition, within the announcements from government, is to maintain core spending over the life of the parliament in cash terms. - Core Spending Power includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business Rates - Business Rate income will rise with inflation, as controlled by the government set multiplier. Above inflation increases of £0.5m per annum have been factored in to the Cheshire East medium term financial plans. The increase is prudent due to the current significant risk associated with business rates income. Government are consulting on changes to the scheme, appeals against rates payable still distort annual payments and there is a national revaluation of non-domestic premises being implemented in April 2017 which can increase appeals levels further. - The business rates baseline will increase in later years of the settlement as new burdens are added in the move towards 100% retention of business rates. For example Public Health Grant, currently provided as a separate grant from government, could be funded from business rates instead. This may increase the level of business rates retained, but makes no actual difference in the level of core funding for the Council.

Measure	Table 13 – Balancing the Medium Term Budget
Measure One Challenge Financial Assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revenue Support Grant (RSG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RSG will reduce to nil by 2019/20 for Cheshire East Council. The government settlement continues to assume authorities can replace an element of lost grant with Council Tax increases, however this is a local discretion. ○ New Homes Bonus (NHB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NHB funding is provided to the Council based on the net increase in properties and affordable homes. The scheme is now completing its final year of a six year rolling programme. Cheshire East anticipates unring-fenced funding of £8.3m for 2017/18. - During 2016/17, the Government launched a review of the scheme with potential changes to the NHB that would free up at least £800m by the end of the Parliament to help meet the rising costs of Adult Social Care. The Provisional Settlement in December confirmed the changes to the scheme as follows – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reducing the number of years the NHB is paid from 6 to 4 years with an interim period to smooth the transition (5 years worth of payments in 2017/18 and 4 years from 2018/18 onwards) - Introduction of a 0.4% threshold in growth before the bonus becomes payable. ○ Specific Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These remain subject to ad-hoc information releases from Government departments. Where no information is available assumptions are used based on the reductions in general funding levels or past trends.

Measure	Table 13 – Balancing the Medium Term Budget
Measure Two Review Local Taxation	<p>The Council retains the opportunity to review current funding assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council Tax will rise in line with Government policy and to support Adult Social Care (4.99% in total). - Increases for later years will be reviewed annually but current assumptions are for 4.99% and 1.99% increases per annum in 2018/19 and 2019/20 respectively. - The Council will continue to maximise its tax base through any further flexibility made available by legislation. The potential for development in the area, backed by the Council’s continued support for economic growth, is also likely to increase the domestic and non-domestic tax bases over time. - Impacts from the continuation of the local Council Tax Support (CTS) Scheme will be reviewed and scrutinised during the medium term. The scheme may be amended where appropriate, but overall the ambition is to reduce claimant numbers in relation to out of work residents through the promotion of economic growth in the area. A further £0.5m reduction in the CTS budget has been included for 2017/18. - Increasing employment opportunities – through economic growth, resulting in fewer people relying on welfare benefits from the Council and releasing funding for further improvements. - As the potential benefits of investment in local infrastructure are realised local business may engage with the Council to consider the introduction of a Business Rate Supplement to raise funds for specific local purposes. For example, if businesses opted to pay an additional rate of 1p on the rating multiplier they could raise as much as £2.1m each year, this level of funding could support a 15% increase in the Council’s Capital funding costs for an agreed scheme. - There is potential to work with local businesses to introduce business improvement districts for specific purposes. - Continued high collection rates may result in a surplus that can be released to support investment in improved services in the local area.

Measure	Table 13 – Balancing the Medium Term Budget
<p>Measure Three Manage Reserves</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council adopts a rigorous approach to managing in year expenditure. Service heads will sign off their Budget allocations to endorse accountability. In-year reporting will identify variances to budget. - The robustness of the proposals in the budget will improve budget management, significantly reducing the risks of unforeseen budget pressure. - The Reserves Strategy for 2017-20 aims to maintain adequate reserve levels over the medium term, although emerging risks or opportunities may require short-term use of reserves.
<p>Measures Four and Five Manage Cost Drivers and Income</p>	<p>The Council’s current proposals for change are contained within Section 1 of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Although the financial implications focus on 2017/18, many of these programmes will deliver further savings through to 2019/20 as highlighted by further savings figures in the later two years.</p> <p>Some of the financial areas being reviewed by budget holders and the Finance Team are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pay Inflation will continue to be assumed at 1% in the medium term in line with government projections. - Reviewing management control and staffing structures. Expenditure on employees accounts for c.35% of the Council’s expenditure on services, and the reviews will look to ensure that the Council operates an effective commissioning model that focuses best fit service providers while achieving cost benefits and efficiency. - Ensuring Corporate Services, which account for c.15% of the Council’s net budget, continue to reflect changes that are making the Council a smaller organisation. - Challenging discretionary services to ensure these meet priority needs, are paid for in the most effective way or are instead ceased or transferred to alternative providers. - Review and challenge of all Council contracts to ensure the most cost effective services are procured.

Measure	Table 13 – Balancing the Medium Term Budget
<p>Measures Four and Five</p> <p>Manage Cost Drivers and Income</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximising development opportunities from the increasing broadband coverage. Increasing commercial development located in Cheshire East would see returns from Business Rate Retention. For example a 1% increase in Business Rates would realise c.£0.3m of additional income per year. - Exploring opportunities to improve health and reduce dependency through integration of the local health programme with key partners. Net expenditure on Adult Services is continues to account for c.38% of the Council’s budget. This is the largest budget area so managing costs in this area is essential. - Engaging with community groups and local town and parish councils to explore ways of maintaining service delivery at a local level. There are c.300 such groups already financially engaged with Cheshire East Council. The third sector is a powerful economic partner, employing nearly 4,000 staff and generating an income of over £125m per annum, the vast proportion of which is invested back into our local communities and economies. Further opportunities will be explored as part of the Council’s Corporate Plan. - Carrying out a further Capital Challenge to ensure the benefits of the ambitious programme are realised. - Promoting “Digital Customer Services” approach across the Council where suitable to improve access to services. - Continuing to rationalise the Council’s assets to minimise costs associated with utilities and rates and maximise receipts that can support economic growth outcomes. - Making sure that ways of working maximise the technology we have within the organisation and helping staff to take advantage of expertise and development opportunities that can increase productivity.

Annexes to the Medium Term Financial Strategy Report 2017/20



February 2017

1. Corporate Plan 2017 to 2020



2. Business Planning Process - Engagement

Introduction

1. Cheshire East Council is conducting an engagement process on its Medium Term Financial Plans through a number of stages running from November 2016 to Council in February 2017, and beyond that as proposals are implemented.
2. The [Pre-Budget Consultation](#), published on the 4th November 2016, included details of the proposals from each service area for the next three years. This report was made available to various stakeholder groups and through a number of forums.
3. Where consultation with specific stakeholder groups is required in relation to specific proposals, this is being identified as part of the proposal's High Level Business Case. Therefore, some of the major proposals remain "subject to consultation", that is further targeted consultation activity will be undertaken in advance of those specific proposals being implemented.
4. The Council acknowledges that such consultation activity may alter the outcome of the final proposal and mean the expected financial impact included within the budget is subject to change. The Council deals with financial risk by factoring into its minimum level of reserves an allowance for negative changes to proposals arising from consultation or delayed implementation.

Background

5. Local authorities have a statutory duty to consult on their Budget with certain stakeholder groups including the Schools Forum and businesses. In addition, the Council chooses to consult with other stakeholder groups. The Council continues to carry out stakeholder analysis to identify the different groups involved in the budget setting process, what information they need from us, the information we currently provide these groups with, and where we can improve our engagement process.
6. This analysis helps to inform the consultation process for each Budget and continues to identify additional channels of communication which are used to facilitate consultation with more of our stakeholder groups.

Business Planning Process

7. The Business Planning Process for 2017-20 followed the standard timescale for consultation and allowed nearly four months for consultation on the [Pre-Budget Consultation](#). The engagement exercise used existing meetings, as well as specific events, to provide a briefing on the Council's Priorities, Outcomes, the Budget Setting Process, and updates on progress for various stakeholder groups. It was based around the proposals that were published in the Council's [Pre-Budget Consultation](#) 2017-20, issued on 4th November 2016 and shared with [Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) on 3rd November 2016. An All Member Finance Briefing was organised for the 12th January 2017.

8. The key events are outlined in **Table 1**.
9. All the feedback received by the Council, including the use of an online survey, is set out in detail in **Appendix C** to The Council's

Corporate Plan 2017/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/20 Report.

Table 1 – Key Engagement Events

Event	Date	Comments
Corporate Leadership Team / Cabinet Away Day	15 th June 2016	First consideration of budget changes being proposed.
Cabinet	12 th July 2016	Revenue 2015/16 Outturn.
Corporate Leadership Team / Cabinet Away Day	5 th September 2016	Further update on the process and revisiting of the proposals being considered for consultation.
Cabinet	13 th September 2016	Receive First Quarter Review of Performance.
Team Voice	2 nd November 2016	Issued to all staff and Members to headline release of Pre-Budget Consultation.
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	3 rd November 2016	Received Pre-Budget Consultation and Mid-Year Review of Performance.
Cheshire East Council website	4 th November 2016	Pre-Budget Consultation placed on Council's website and Centranet to launch consultation exercise.
Cabinet	8 th November 2016	Received the Mid-Year Review of Performance Report.
Trades Unions	14 th November 2016	Considered Pre-Budget Consultation.
Town and Parish Councils	28 th November 2016	Considered Pre-Budget Consultation.

Event	Date	Comments
Conference		
Schools Forum	1 st December 2016	Considered Pre-Budget Consultation .
Cabinet	6 th December 2016	Consider the Domestic and Non-Domestic Tax Base for recommendation to Council.
Council	15 th December 2016	Agree the Domestic and Non-Domestic Tax Bases .
Funding announcements	15 th December 2016	From Government
Third Quarter Review of Performance – Challenge sessions	12 th to 21 st December 2016	Provided updated baseline spending calculations for services and potential impact on calculations proposed within the MTFS.
All Member Briefing	12 th January 2017	Considered Pre-Budget Consultation including an overview of the Council's Finances and the impact of the Provisional Settlement.
South Cheshire Chambers of Commerce	12 th January 2017	Considered Pre-Budget Consultation .
Macclesfield Chamber of Commerce Business Event	26 th January 2017	Considered Pre-Budget Consultation .
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2 nd February 2017	Receive MTFS Report / Review Budget Proposals
Cabinet	7 th February 2017	Consider MTFS Report and recommend proposals to Council
Council	23 rd February 2017	Debate and approval of 2017/18 budget

3. Impact Assessment

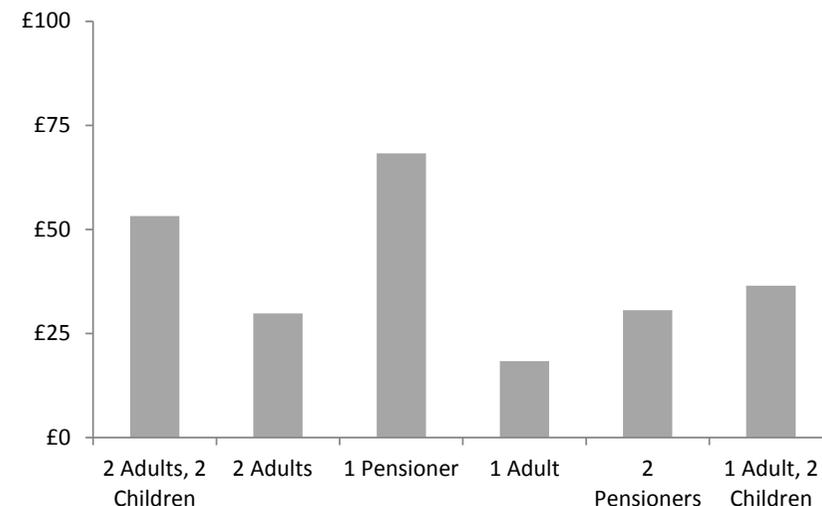
Household Calculator

The 2017/18 Budget is the result of a major process to set a balanced budget that can meet the needs of local people in the local environment. The details of the Budget have been set out in previous sections in terms of financial stability and allocation to services. This section considers the impact of the Budget on typical groups of service users in terms of the changes they may see and the charges they may pay.

1. A number of assumptions must be made in relation to property sizes and service usage. The Council uses existing data to inform this process.
2. **Chart 3** below illustrates the annual impact on six typical households accessing a variety of different services if a blanket increase in line with Retail Price Index (RPI), as at December 2016, were to be applied.

Chart 3

Without a strategic approach households could face £18 to £68 increases in costs if simple inflation was applied to charges



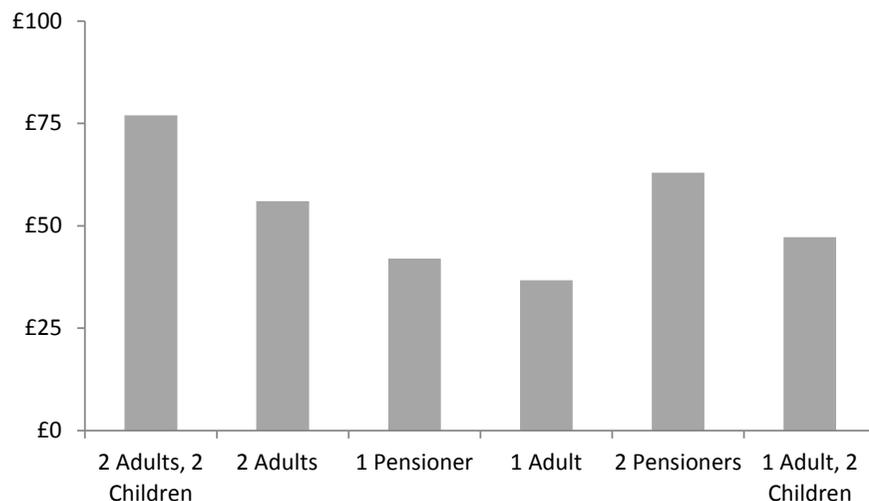
Source: Cheshire East Finance

3. Every service within the Authority is refining and updating a Charging and Trading Strategy which sets out the rationale for setting / changing fees and charges within that area.
4. The Strategies calculate full cost of the service being provided and therefore set out the resulting subsidy or surplus each time a charge is made. This will then be used to inform the setting of

future levels of fees and charges to ensure fairness and that the Council meets any statutory obligations.

5. **Chart 4** below illustrates the anticipated annual increases per household when applied to the same variety of services.

Chart 4
Forecast increases in costs are split appropriately across all groups



Source: Cheshire East Finance

6. The anticipated average increase per household is £54. This is higher than an average increase of £39 if RPI at 1.6% had been applied across all services. This is due wholly to the Council Tax charge increase of 4.99%. Fees and charges in these typical household examples are not forecast to rise for 2017/18. These increases do not however exceed the financial impact from current pay inflation and index linked increases in state benefits on average household income in Cheshire East.

Note:

Typical households are made up as follows:

- 2 Adults with 2 Children living in a Band E property
- 2 Adults no Children living in a Band C property
- 1 Pensioner living in a Band D property
- 1 Adult (not Pensioner) living in a Band B property
- 2 Pensioners living in a Band D property
- 1 Adult with 2 Children living in a Band D property.

Each household average is based on typical use of chargeable services expected for that category such as school meals, libraries and environmental, and leisure services.

7. Further details on the impact on businesses, communities and the environment are shown in **Table 1** on the following pages.

Table 1: Impact of the 2017/18 Budget Proposals on Businesses

Typical Facts:

- Non Domestic Rates are set by Government
- Supplementary Rates could be set by Cheshire East Council
- Businesses are liable to pay some Fees and Charges (for example licensing)



Working with Businesses

The Council takes a pro-active role in engaging with and supporting local businesses. They are the engines of our economy, and the borough's future prosperity is driven by their capacity to thrive and grow. Cheshire East Council has established The Skills and Growth Company to deliver business support services in the borough. It also takes the leading role in promoting regeneration across the Borough, creating the conditions for job creation and economic growth, by working closely with other teams across the Council (e.g. planning, licensing, trading standards) and partners from the business community, voluntary and wider public sectors.

The Skills and Growth Company Engages provides support though,

- A team of dedicated business advisors that engage with 500 businesses per annum, focussing on the Science, Energy and Technology sectors.
- A programme of business engagement events covering procurement, sustainable transport, sustainable energy solutions, apprenticeships, commercial property and access to finance.
- Specialist support to access new markets, improve productivity and develop new products.
- A dedicated programme of activity to assist rural businesses.

The Council has a strong commitment to the development and regeneration of our town centres. This will be supplemented further over the 2017-20 period, through further investment in its regeneration programme, alongside the strategic use of its own land and property, to lever in additional private sector investment. This will enhance the attractiveness of our towns to residents and visitors, and increase confidence in the developer and investor communities.

Government sets new Business Rates multipliers for 2017/18

- The multiplier will reduce to ensure that the revaluation does not raise any more money in rates. Using the latest data from the revaluation (draft rating list published on 30th September 2016 and RPI inflation for September) the multiplier will fall.
 - Provisional 2017/18 Standard Multiplier at 47.9p* in the £.
 - Provisional Small Business Multiplier 46.6p** in the £.

* Includes supplement to fund small business relief.

** All occupied properties with a rateable value below £51,000 are charged using the lower multiplier – except for those ratepayers receiving mandatory rate relief.



New Transitional Scheme for 2017 rating list

- The Government is putting in place measures to help businesses that would face a large increase or decrease in their rates payable following the revaluation. Any relief under the new transition scheme will be automatically calculated and will appear on rate demands issued from 1st April 2017.

Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR)

- The Government announced in the budget in March 2016 that SBRR will permanently double.
- The 6,000 and 12,000 thresholds for relief to increase to 12,000 and 15,000 respectively, therefore properties with RV below 12,000 where the ratepayer meets the criteria will receive 100% relief and properties between 12,000 to 15,000 will receive tapered relief.
- Continuation of amended SBRR criteria to allow businesses in receipt of SBRR to keep it for one year when they take on an additional property that would currently cause them to lose SBRR, in order to help small businesses with expansion costs.

Rural Rate Relief

The Government have announced in the autumn statement that mandatory relief for rural businesses will increase from 50% to 100%.

Supplementary Business Rates

There are no proposals for Cheshire East Council to charge supplementary rates in 2017/18.

Local Retention of Business Rates

From 1st April 2013 Cheshire East Council will retain c.28% of any local growth in the rates generated through increased occupancy of commercial premises subject to certain tolerances. This may take several years to stabilise but will assist funding for the Council's activities over time. The Medium Term Financial Strategy sets out the Council's ambition to promote economic development.



Local Discretionary Rate Relief

Cheshire East Council has the discretion to award rate relief to any ratepayer. Applications are considered on an individual basis. Relief would only be awarded where it was in the Council Tax payer's interest to do so.

Other measures to support local businesses with business rates

Continuation of the option to spread business rates bills over 12 months rather than 10 months.



Council Partners and Stakeholders



Councillor Olivia Hunter was appointed as Mayor on 11th May, she is Cheshire East's eighth Mayor and represents the High Legh Ward.

For Example:

Town and Parish Councils,
Health, Fire, Police, Schools,
Colleges, Universities,
Community, Voluntary and Faith
Organisations, Housing
Providers, Community
Partnerships.

The Council proactively works with partners to deliver services in Cheshire East. We seek to commission and deliver jointly with our partners, both across Cheshire East and at a local level. We are working with partners to focus our joint resources on early intervention and prevention, and supporting the development of resilient, self-reliant communities.

The Council will continue its work with Town and Parish Councils to develop local service delivery options including the transfer of assets and devolution of services where appropriate. The budget includes the planned phasing out of payments to Town and Parish Councils which supported changes in funding arising through Council Tax Support. This reflects the reductions that Cheshire East is facing in its own central support funding.

The Council is committed to further developing and managing collaborative partnership working in local areas to deliver services as locally as possible and to develop strong communities. We are leading activity to secure outcomes based on understanding the needs of the community through:

- Developing our strategic partnerships across Cheshire East to enable joint commissioning and improve integration of local services.
- Bringing local partners together to better share resources and redesigning public sector services across Cheshire East to better meet local needs.
- Connecting Communities through our new and ambitious approach agreed by Cabinet in Dec 2016.
- This connecting communities approach will enable us to:
 - Engage communities to identify and be involved in addressing their local issues.
 - Promote and support community networks, neighbourhood and town partnerships to further develop communities with a stronger sense of neighbourliness.
 - Deliver differently in neighbourhoods which provide services where local people will use them, so that services are delivered in the way which gives best value for local people.
 - Work collaboratively with partners to deliver against our joint rural priorities, and to rural proof key decisions.
 - Work with partners and communities to ensure that local people feel safe and are safe in their communities.
 - Develop positive relationships between the Council and the community, voluntary and faith sector, at both a local and strategic level, and supporting the sectors to become commissioning ready.
 - Invest in our Community Grants scheme to ensure communities can develop their initiatives.

The Local Environment



Cheshire East Council is committed to continuing to reduce its energy consumption and carbon emissions from its buildings and will continue to develop strategies during 2017/18, and beyond, to reduce the environmental impact of its activities.

The Council has achieved its Carbon Management Plan target of reducing carbon emissions by 25% by March 2016 - a full two years early. The target for reducing energy use in its corporate buildings was increased to 35% by 2016. The Council has embedded carbon reduction into its service delivery and continues to improve by undertaking carbon reducing projects:

- Energy saving measures and property rationalisation in our own Council buildings to continue to reduce our carbon footprint including the major refurbishment of heating and ventilation equipment in two leisure centres
- Reducing carbon emissions from its own vehicles by undertaking a whole fleet review, installing technology and educating staff to reduce fuel consumption.
- The Highway service carbon reduction programme set a target of a 27% reduction in carbon from street lighting by March 2016 supported by the Council's £5.2m capital investment in street lighting. The target was exceeded with 31% savings achieved from two completed initiatives:
 1. a borough wide replacement of traffic signal lamps with LEDs. Carbon reduction delivered - 6%.
 2. the conversion of traditional street lights to LED on the Borough's inter urban routes. Carbon reduction delivered - 25%.

The programme continues to make good progress with a three year programme (2016 – 2019) to convert 24,000 street lights to LED in residential areas. Ongoing (Year 1 of 3) with a target to deliver a further reduction in carbon of 27%.

- Reducing the impact of our staff travel through a number of measures including changes to staff travel rates and promotion of alternatives to single car occupancy.

Equality and Diversity

The Council recognises that promoting equality and diversity will improve public services for everyone. Cheshire East wants to be an area of equal opportunity, where everyone has a fair chance and people from all backgrounds take part in community life. The aim, therefore, is to make equality an integral part of the way the Council works by putting it at the centre of everything it does.

It is important to consider all individuals when carrying out day-to-day work. To ensure this, services provide equality analysis for everything carried out as a way of considering the effect on different groups protected from discrimination by the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process helps to consider if there are any unintended consequences for each of the 'protected characteristics' of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, maternity and pregnancy, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

An EIA is carried out on:

- new functions, policies, procedures and services as they are developed
- significantly altered functions, policies, procedures and services
- Overtime, on existing functions and policies.

For all of the budget proposals an EIA has been carried out where appropriate. For some of the proposals presented it is recognised that these are still very much at a concept stage, therefore for these an initial screening has been carried out with the expectation that a full and detailed EIA will be completed in due course.

4. Workforce Strategy

Complex world

We are living and working in a complex world where residents and communities have high expectations of both business and public services.

Greater resident and community choice and control is driving the shape of public services, with a growing public expectation that services will meet their needs, helping them achieve personal goals and aspirations. This becomes even more challenging within this era of austerity and the significant financial pressures that all public services face.

Doing more of the same won't work. Increasing demand, greater complexity, rising expectations and severe financial constraints mean that the current situation is not sustainable. Tomorrow's solutions will need to engage people as active participants, delivering accessible, responsive services of the highest quality. We don't have all of the answers to the challenges that we face. We need to work closely with other partners and providers in all sectors to find new ways to design and deliver services across the public sector and to seize the opportunities as they emerge.

As the rules of delivering public service are being re-written, making people and relationships the key to sustainable success is more important than ever. Only through deepened relationships with and between employees, partners, residents and communities will the Council innovate and adapt fast enough whilst maintaining service delivery. Tomorrow's solutions will need to bring together the diverse skills and talents and unlock the potential of people across the public sector.

Connected Council

Consciously building and strengthening connections in the way we lead, manage and work together within and across the Council, with members, partners and our communities is at the heart of our workforce strategy. We aim to build a more connected Council and workforce through:

1. **Purpose and direction** – ensuring our workforce have a common understanding of why they exist as an entity, a clear sense of what they are trying to achieve and the strategy to get there around which people can unite and flourish.
2. **Authenticity** - leaders who act in a way that is in line with our FIRST values and who build relationships of trust and respect.
3. **Devolved decision making** – the sharing of power across the organisation with decisions being made as close to the customer as possible, whilst key strategic decisions are made centrally.

4. **Collaborative achievement** – close working within and across teams and organisations, so that end to end processes work efficiently and effectively.
5. **Agility** – colleagues are encouraged to share what they learn and to operate in a culture that supports experimentation.

People Plan 2017/18

Recognising the complex world we operate within, placing the right people in the right places at the right times, is at the heart of the Council's success. To support and enable the delivery of the Council's ambitious plans, eight inter-connected workforce priorities come together to form the basis of the Council's People Plan. These priorities are:

1. **Organisation Design** – to provide change management support to services, enabling our workforce to be flexible and adaptable in a rapidly changing local, regional and national environment.
2. **Recruitment, Resourcing and Retention** – to deliver a strategic workforce assessment and plan that ensures the Council has the right people with the right capabilities, skills and attitudes in the right places at the right time to deliver organisational objectives.
3. **Leadership** – to develop and implement a connected leadership and management model and strategy which increases leadership presence, governance and accountability.
4. **Employee Development** – to continue to develop highly skilled and competent professionals who operate safe practice and risk awareness and can work effectively across internal and external boundaries as the structure and form of public service changes.
5. **Engagement and Wellbeing** – to build from the findings of the Staff Survey 2016 with particular focus on improving staff wellbeing, resilience and attendance management, to ensure our workforce are engaged and performing at the highest level.
6. **Employee Rewards** – to review and further develop financial and non financial rewards and employee benefits, whilst meeting equal pay and gender pay gap requirements.
7. **Service Delivery** – to enable staff to work in a safe, healthy and supportive environment, which equips the workforce to contribute effectively, reach their potential and put residents first.
8. **HR Business Development** – to ensure the Council's HR service is in the best position to fully support the delivery of business priorities and exploit further business opportunities.

Productivity improvements

A key outcome of the People Plan for 2017/18 will be the programme of work to realise £5m savings outlined in the budget report through a combination of a reduction in consultancy and agency requirements and core staffing costs, alongside increased productivity and further workforce initiatives. Working closely with Members, Trade Unions and staff, consultation will take place to ensure that resources are maximised and service changes are based on resident and community need. As the Council's workforce is a major component in delivering our Corporate Plan and Residents First outcomes we have to ensure our resources are sufficient to deliver our outcomes through increased productivity and workforce planning, whilst meeting our statutory obligations regarding pay inflation and ensuring non-essential staff, travel and supplies are minimised. Any business change or efficiency proposal with a FTE impact will be shared and consulted on with the relevant staff and Trade Unions at the appropriate time.

Living Wage

The Council implemented on the 1st November 2015 a "local" Living Wage of £7.85 an hour for directly employed staff (excluding apprentices, work placements and traineeships, which have been created to enable access to work place training and job opportunities). The National Living Wage will rise to £7.50 from April 2017 and is due to rise to £9 an hour in 2020. The Council will continue to monitor its position in relation to the National Living Wage.

National Pay

Local government national pay negotiations for JNC and NJC Officers have concluded for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2018. The individual basic salaries and salary scales of officers within scope have and will increase by 1.0% with effect from 1st April 2016 and 1.0% with effect from 1st April 2017.

As part of these pay negotiations a review of the national NJC Pay Spine was agreed. The purpose being to consider its ability to respond to the future needs of the sector and the progressive impact of the National Living Wage. The NJC pay spine review is expected to conclude by 30th June 2017 and before any final agreement is reached, the proposed restructured pay spine will be subject to consultation. It is anticipated that a restructured pay spine will incur some additional cost.

Apprenticeship levy

The Government is committed to significantly increasing the quantity and quality of apprenticeships in England and achieving three million apprenticeships by 2020. In order to achieve this, a number of new measures are being introduced from April 2017.

The first of these is a levy on UK employers to help fund growth in the apprenticeship programme. The levy will come into effect from April 2017, at a rate of 0.5% of pay bill, paid through PAYE. It applies to employers in all sectors with an annual pay bill of more than £3m. The Council's total liability in terms specifically of the payment of the levy (including maintained schools and our ASDVs) is approximately £0.9m per annum. As an employer who pays the levy, we will benefit from a 10% 'top-up' of this figure, which will be paid for by Central Government. This money will then be made available for the Council to spend on the training of apprentices.

The second major incoming change is a public sector target for apprentices. This set's out that 2.3% of our total workforce should be made up of apprentices. Based on headcount figures from September 2016, this indicates our incoming target for apprentices as 187. Apprenticeships will be available to existing employees as well as new employees.

These large scale changes to apprenticeships offer a range of development opportunities for staff but also have a potential knock-on effect for salary costs and in terms of the administration that will be required to support the new levy.

Pension – employer contribution review

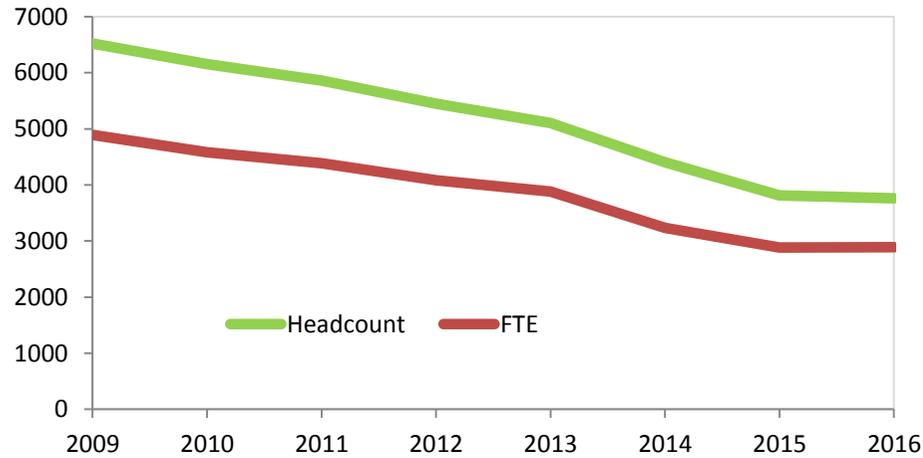
A valuation of the Cheshire Pension Fund has been completed to determine the employer contribution rates for the Local Government Pension Scheme which will come into effect from 1st April 2017. Where employees have exercised their statutory right to become members of the Local Government Pension Scheme, the Council must make a contribution to the scheme representing a percentage of the pensionable remuneration due under the contract of employment of that employee.

The rate of contribution is set by the Actuary advising the Cheshire Pension Fund and reviewed on a triennial basis in order to ensure the scheme is appropriately funded. The Actuary provides the Council with a certified primary employer contribution rate and also a certified monetary amount which needs to be paid to the Fund to cover the past service deficit. The results of the recent valuation have resulted in an increased primary rate of 17.2% payable from 1st April 2017 (up from 16.4% in 2016/17) and a past service deficit cash contribution of £14m. The two are combined to give a total employer contribution rate of 30.5% in 2017/18.

Headcount analysis and trend

Headcount Analysis and Trend

Change in Cheshire East Employee Headcount and FTEs Between April 2009 and April 2016



Source: Cheshire East Human Resources

Between April 2009 and December 2016 the Cheshire East Council employee headcount has reduced by 43%, (equivalent to a 41% reduction in full time equivalent employees). This is mainly attributable to the restructuring of services and the TUPE transfer of staff to Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles.

Measuring success

Measuring the effectiveness of the workforce strategy will be tracked through a small number of macro performance indicators such as:

- Employee engagement index.
- Employee turnover.
- Sickness absence.
- Ratio of agency workers to employed staff.
- Number of staff with performance development plans and performance ratings.
- Reasons for leaving.



Workforce

Increasing productivity through workforce planning whilst meeting our statutory obligations regarding pay inflation and ensuring non essential staff travel and supplies are minimised.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m*	£m*	£m*
Budget reductions resulting from Productivity / Staffing Efficiencies (Revenue Savings) (130)			
We are expecting to see significant cumulative cash reductions over the three year period 2017 to 2020. This will have a significant impact on us as an organisation and the ways we deliver services. While we will make every effort to save through other efficiencies, such as improving productivity and by seeking to reduce agency staff costs and consultancy spend, these measures alone will not be enough to reduce the potential gap. We have an average staff turnover of around 5% per year – this should offer opportunities for review and we will work with staff and trade union representatives to redesign services and structures to achieve the required savings.			
PEOPLE	-2.100	-2.100	-2.100
PLACE	-1.500	-1.500	-1.500
CORPORATE	-1.400	-1.400	-1.400
<i>Impact on Cross Service Budgets =</i>	-5.000	-5.000	-5.000
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Workforce	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Increasing productivity through workforce planning whilst meeting our statutory obligations regarding pay inflation and ensuring non essential staff travel and supplies are minimised.</i>	<i>£m*</i>	<i>£m*</i>	<i>£m*</i>
Allocation of cross service savings relating to staff travel (Revenue Savings) (131) Cross authority saving of c.£150,000 split between all relevant areas from the reduction in staff mileage claims on the back of introducing new technology to facilitate digital meetings. <i>Impact on Cross Service Budgets =</i>	-0.150	-0.150	-0.150
Car Mileage Review (Revenue Savings) (132) To undertake a review of current mileage rates paid to Cheshire East Council employees when undertaking business mileage. This review will consider reducing the current rates paid to reduce mileage costs. This review will need to be undertaken with the Trade Unions and would require a formal change to the Harmonisation Agreement before potential savings can be realised. <i>Impact on Cross Service Budget =</i>	-0.100	-0.100	-0.100
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

Workforce	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<i>Increasing productivity through workforce planning whilst meeting our statutory obligations regarding pay inflation and ensuring non essential staff travel and supplies are minimised.</i>	£m*	£m*	£m*
Pay and Pensions Allocation (Revenue Investment) (133)			
Increases in employee related costs over the medium term. Items covered by this proposal include spinal point incremental increases for eligible staff, annual nationally negotiated pay awards of 1%, and annual employer pension contribution increases of 0.5%. An element of the increases will be offset by vacancy provisions therefore an overall increase of 1% on pay budgets has been provided for.			
PEOPLE	+1.510	+3.020	+4.530
PLACE	+0.460	+0.920	+1.380
CORPORATE	+1.550	+3.100	+4.650
<i>Impact on Cross Service Budgets =</i>	+3.520	+7.040	+10.560
Apprentice Levy (Revenue Investment) (134)			
The Government has set a target of three million new apprenticeship starts by 2020 and new legislation has been put in place in relation to help achieve this. From April 2017, an 'apprenticeship levy' is to be introduced, payable by employers on 0.5% of pay bill. This will be supported by an incoming public sector target of 2.3% of the total workforce to be made up of apprentices.			
<i>Impact on Cross Service Budgets =</i>	+0.460	+0.460	+0.460
<i>*Values represent a +/- variation to the Cheshire East Council approved budget for 2016/17. Values are not cumulative</i>			

5. Risk Management

The Council recognises that there are risks involved in everything it does and that it has a duty to manage threats and opportunities in a balanced, structured and cost effective way. In doing this the Council is better placed to achieve its objectives and enhance the services it provides.

The Council's risk management arrangements were recently reviewed and a new Risk Management Policy Statement and Strategy was approved by Cabinet in February 2016.

The policy statement formally acknowledges the Council's commitment to the effective management of risks, both threats and opportunities. The aim of the Policy is not to have risk eliminated completely from Council activities, but rather to ensure that every effort is made to maximise potential opportunities and minimise the adverse effects of risk.

Supporting the policy statement is the strategy, which gives the scope, direction and priorities for risk management activity across the Council.

Underpinning the strategy and policy are risk management procedures articulated in a framework document. Taken together, the documents provide practical guidance to assist Officers and Members in the identification, evaluation and control of risks that may impact upon the achievement of corporate and service level objectives and priorities.

The Corporate Assurance Group (CAG) and Risk Management Sub Group (which include officer and portfolio holder representation) were involved in the development of the policy, strategy and procedures within the framework.

Further work is ongoing to integrate risk management into service planning and decision making to ensure that:

- Risks are recognised and responded to appropriately throughout business management and decision making lifecycles.
- Risk activity is focused on the delivery of key organisational objectives.
- Risk registers are critically examined and refreshed throughout the year.

Against the backdrop of continued fiscal austerity, the Council is looking to the future with a sense of confidence in its ability to deliver on an ambitious agenda. As we look to 2020, there will also be new threats and opportunities arising and so the Council's corporate risk register has been updated. Corporate Leadership Team and Cabinet were included as part of the process to identify existing, new and emerging risks.

There will likely be new threats arising:-

- from the shift from grant funding to a reliance on self-funding and in rethinking sources of income
- from a focus on delivering outcomes rather than services alone
- from the need for reinvestment in resources and services, ranging from health and social care to education and infrastructure
- from the potential and power of digital and data to transform services and engage businesses, residents and communities and opportunities arising
- from devolution to deliver both growth and whole system reform
- from influencing debate on legislative agendas

- from new collaborations across the public and private sector
- from ambitious regeneration projects to stimulate local growth

A risk around financial resilience is included as a corporate risk and general reserves are focused on the Council's potential exposure to risk. In addition, where a particular area has been identified as specific risk or investment opportunity, then an amount will be earmarked for that specific purpose.



6. Business Rates – Forecasting over the medium term

1. The Government introduced the Business Rates Retention Scheme on 1st April 2013. There has been much uncertainty around the scheme as a result of appeals to the local list. This has resulted in the need to create and build upon a specific earmarked reserve and provision for appeals to protect against large fluctuations in any given year. This Annex provides an illustration of how the scheme has worked over time and what changes are likely over the medium term including estimates of future income.
2. The basic concept is that a baseline position is established and an element of growth over and above that can be retained. The DCLG set the baseline over which growth is measured but the Council can budget on locally set figures. This can be informed by the NNDR1 form which contains estimates that must be provided to Government at the end of January each year.
3. As part of the MTFs 2016-19, growth estimates were calculated and the taxbase has been monitored over the last year to assess the robustness of those estimates. This has proved to be reasonably accurate so for 2017/18 and beyond the methodology is being used to estimate growth and this income has been included in the funding assumptions contained within this document. The methodology has been set out below.
4. For 2016/17 the NNDR1 return is forecasting retained rates above the DCLG baseline for Cheshire East to be £1.3m. The assumption was still to use the baseline for budgeting purposes due to the inherent volatility in the business rates tax base which can be affected substantially, if a large business moves out of the area or an approach to valuing business rates is successfully challenged.
5. This year has also seen the introduction of a new Enterprise Zone on the former Astra Zeneca site in Alderley Edge. The special rating that was given to the large pharmaceutical company has been transferred out and replaced by many small businesses that can all gain from being part of an Enterprise Zone. There was much estimation around the value of these new businesses however which also dictated the decision to budget on the DCLG baseline level.
6. A Non Domestic taxbase for 2017/18 was formally reported to Cabinet and Council in December 2016 which included current hereditaments valued at 2017 levels due to the national revaluation due to be implemented in April 2017. This saw Cheshire East hereditaments increase by 1.0%. Work has been carried out to estimate new business growth in the area and this was included in the calculation for the taxbase. More information on the Business Rates taxbase for 2017/18 is available in the report that was approved at [Council](#) on 15th December 2016.
7. The use of the Collection Fund Management Earmarked Reserve, to hold differences between the NNDR1 and the baseline budget, continues to provide an element of protection against future risks.

Available Data

8. The Council has gathered information from several sources to judge likely levels of economic growth including:
 - a. Information from the business engagement team.
 - b. Data from the Council’s planning system.
 - c. Data from the team working to generate capital receipts.
 - d. Data from the Revenues collection service in terms of appeals and expected growth.
 - e. Data from the valuation office.
 - f. Financial Strategy & Reporting knowledge of the BRRS calculations.

Method

9. This available data has been reviewed to generate broad estimates of the potential increase in Rateable Value (RV) over the medium term.
10. An allowance has been made for the average impact of timing delays, on appeals, on other RV nearby (displacement) and likely loss of RV.
11. The end result has been converted to business rates and processed via a BRRS model developed and maintained by Strategy Finance.
12. This model also takes account of any impact of pooling or additional growth retention (from being a pilot for the new 100% growth retention scheme).

Results

13. **Table 1** sets out the results.
14. As expected there is more knowledge around likely local developments in the first two years.
15. Retained rate income forecast from growth in the taxbase for 2017/18 is forecast to be £2m. After the central share and levy payments have been made it results in a net increase for Cheshire East of £0.78m as per **Table 1**.
16. The mix of data sources and balance of results provides a good indication that this methodology is creating a reliable baseline for future estimates in this area. Therefore the prudent estimate of **£0.5m** growth per annum (incremental basis) has been factored into the medium term budget forecast based on the information below.

Table 1 - Estimated Increased Net Business Rates Income (incremental)		
Business Type	2017/18	2018/19
	£m	£m
Retail	0.31	1.13
Other	0.39	0.00
Manufacturing	0.52	0.18
Offices	0.73	0.00
Industrial	0.02	0.00
Leisure	0.07	0.00
Total Net Growth	2.04	1.30
Total Retention for Cheshire East	0.78	0.75

Source: Cheshire East Finance

7. The Budget Setting Process

Set Parameters	Gather Evidence	Consult and refine	Approve																																																																								
May to June 2016	July 2016 to September 2016	November 2016 to January 2017	February 2017																																																																								
<p>Assumptions reported to Cabinet / Council in Feb 2016:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Revenue</th> <th colspan="2">£m</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Budget 2017/18</th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cost of services</td> <td>261.6</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Tax</td> <td>-180.7</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Government Funding</td> <td>-72.0</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>8.9</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Revenue	£m		Budget 2017/18			Cost of services	261.6	→	Council Tax	-180.7	→	Government Funding	-72.0	→	Total	8.9		<p>Develop Pre-Budget Consultation:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Review Assumptions</th> <th colspan="2">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Growth Pressures (including Pay, and demand growth)</td> <td>+10.9</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Draft Proposals for 2017/18</td> <td>-11.2</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Est Domestic Tax Base increases (new props / cts reduction)</td> <td>-0.8</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estimated Non Domestic Tax Base increases</td> <td>-0.5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Increase in Council Tax charge (3.99%)</td> <td>-7.8</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ESG</td> <td>+0.5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>-8.9</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Review Assumptions	£m		Growth Pressures (including Pay, and demand growth)	+10.9	→	Draft Proposals for 2017/18	-11.2	→	Est Domestic Tax Base increases (new props / cts reduction)	-0.8	→	Estimated Non Domestic Tax Base increases	-0.5		Increase in Council Tax charge (3.99%)	-7.8	→	ESG	+0.5		Total	-8.9		<p>Changes post Pre-Budget Consultation:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Confirm Proposals</th> <th colspan="2">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Proposed changes following consultation</td> <td>+3.7</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tax base agreed / Council Tax increased by 4.99%</td> <td>-1.8</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Funding estimates further refined following Prov Settlement</td> <td>-0.5</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Use of Council Tax Surplus</td> <td>-1.4</td> <td>→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>0.0</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Confirm Proposals	£m		Proposed changes following consultation	+3.7	→	Tax base agreed / Council Tax increased by 4.99%	-1.8	→	Funding estimates further refined following Prov Settlement	-0.5	→	Use of Council Tax Surplus	-1.4	→	Total	0.0		<p>Budget Report:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Latest Position</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cost of services</td> <td>263.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Tax</td> <td>-191.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Government Funding</td> <td>-71.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Tax Collection Fund</td> <td>-1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Latest Position	£m	Cost of services	263.8	Council Tax	-191.1	Government Funding	-71.3	Council Tax Collection Fund	-1.4	Total	0.0
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8. Grant Funding Details

Corporate Grants Register 2017/18	Revised Budget 2016/17 £000	Forecast 2017/18 £000	Forecast 2018/19 £000	Forecast 2019/20 £000
SPECIFIC USE (Held within Services)				
Schools				
Dedicated Schools Grant	246,241	255,016	255,373	255,373
Less Academy Recoupment	106,489	112,470	114,470	116,470
Dedicated Schools Grant (Cheshire East)	139,752	142,546	140,903	138,903
Pupil Premium Grant (maintained schools only)	4,366	4,366	4,366	4,366
Pupil Premium Plus (maintained schools only)	964	964	964	964
Sixth Form Funding (maintained schools only)	4,115	4,115	4,115	4,115
Physical Education Grant	774	774	774	774
Universal Infant Free School Meals	2,940	2,940	2,940	2,940
School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant		169	290	290
SEND Implementation Grant	215	239		
High Needs Strategic Planning Fund	147			
Total Schools	153,273	156,113	154,352	152,352
Housing Benefit Subsidy	78,150	78,068	78,068	78,068
Public Health	17,258	16,833	16,395	15,969
TOTAL SPECIFIC USE	248,681	251,014	248,815	246,389

Corporate Grants Register 2017/18	Revised Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£000	£000	£000	£000
GENERAL PURPOSE (Held Corporately)				
Central Funding				
Revenue Support Grant	26,340	13,415	5,416	0
PEOPLE - Children and Families				
Troubled Families	875	110	110	110
Troubled Families - Co-ordinator		85	85	85
Youth Justice Grant	264			
Youth Rehabilitation Order - Junior Attendance Centre	35			
Staying Put Grant	109			
Remand Funding	18			
PEOPLE - Adult Social Care and Independent Living				
Local Reform and Community Voices	198			
Independent Living Fund	948	917	888	861
Adult Social Care		1,457		
Social Care in Prison Grant	73			

Corporate Grants Register 2017/18	Revised Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£000	£000	£000	£000
PLACE				
Skills Funding Agency	763	706	706	706
Extended Rights to Free Transport	118			
Capacity Support for Self Build and Custom House Building Register	6			
Property Search Fees New Burdens	22			
Lead Local Flood Authorities	1	14	15	16
CORPORATE - Customer Operations				
Housing Benefit and Council Tax Administration	1,336	1,209	1,209	1,209
NDR Admin Allowance	562	506	456	410
Business Rates Revaluation 2017 - S31 Grant Reimbursement	1			
CORPORATE - Chief Operating Officer				
New Homes Bonus / Affordable Homes - ALL YEARS	9,293	8,253	6,310	6,050
Education Services Grant	2,689			
Education Services Grant - Transitional Funding		678		
Transitional Funding	2,973	2,974		
Individual Electoral Registration	58			
Additional Election Funding	46			
Local Government Transparency Code 2016	13			
TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE	46,741	30,324	15,195	9,447
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	295,422	281,338	264,010	255,836

9. Capital Grants

	Prior Years Grant Received £000	Expected Receipt 2017/18 £000	Application of Grants in 2017/18 £000	Expected Receipt 2018/19 £000	Application of Grants in 2018/19 £000	Expected Receipt Future Years £000	Application of Grants in Future Years £000
SPECIFIC PURPOSE (Held Corporately)							
PEOPLE							
Adults Social Care							
Social Care Capital Grant	680		680				
Children's Social Care							
Short Breaks Disabled Children Grant	30		30				
Education and 14-19 Skills							
School Condition Grant 2017/18		2,774	2,774				
School Condition Grant 2018/19				2,774	2,774		
Department for Education Grant 17/18		150	150	4,250	4,250		
Capital Maintenance Grant 2014/15	2,000		2,000				
Capital Maintenance Grant 2015/16	3,144		3,144				
Universal Infant School Meals 2014/15	37		37				
Devolved Formula Capital 2016/17	541		541				
Devolved Formula Capital 2017/18		571	59		512		
Devolved Formula Capital 2018/19				571	21		550
Basic Need Grant 2015/16	1,914		1,914				
Basic Need Grant 2016/17	2,937		2,937				
Basic Need Grant 2017/18		6,286	2,344		3,942		
Basic Need Grant 2018/19				15,055	15,055		
TOTAL PEOPLE	11,283	9,781	16,610	22,650	26,554	0	550

	Prior Years Grant Received	Expected Receipt 2017/18	Application of Grants in 2017/18	Expected Receipt 2018/19	Application of Grants in 2018/19	Expected Receipt Future Years	Application of Grants in Future Years
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
SPECIFIC PURPOSE (Held Corporately)							
PLACE							
Growth and Regeneration							
Disabled Facilities Grant 2017/18		1,500	1,500				
Disabled Facilities Grant 2018/19				1,500	1,500		
Crewe Town Centre Regeneration / Local Growth Fund				3,075	3,075	6,925	6,925
Gypsy Traveller Sites/ Housing Communities Agency		900	900				
Rural and Green Infrastructure							
Rights of Way Improvement Plan Cycle/Walking Schemes		189	189				
Tatton Vision / Heritage Lottery Funding		782	782				
Client Commissioning							
Connecting Cheshire Phase 1 & 2 and Digital 2020 - Super Fast Broadband		1,663	1,663	3,300	3,300	3,100	3,100

	Prior Years Grant Received	Expected Receipt 2017/18	Application of Grants in 2017/18	Expected Receipt 2018/19	Application of Grants in 2018/19	Expected Receipt Future Years	Application of Grants in Future Years
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Infrastructure and Highways							
A6 MARR CMM / Department for Transport		46	46	15	15		
A34 Corridor Improvements / Department for Transport				250	250	9,200	9,200
Archives				400	400	3,625	3,625
Crewe Green Roundabout / Local Growth Fund		1,773	1,773	1,527	1,527		
Crewe Transformation Project / Phase 3				6,000	6,000	2,368	2,368
Congleton Relief Road / Local Growth Fund		1,511	1,511	41,958	41,958	1,531	1,531
King Street Enhancement / Department for Transport				1,500	1,500		
Macclesfield Movement Strategy / Local Growth Fund	100		100				
NorthWest Crewe Package		600	600	1,900	1,900	16,000	16,000
Poynton Relief Road / Local Growth Fund		264	264	16,960	16,960	6,776	6,776
Sydney Road Bridge / Local Growth Fund				5,586	5,586		
Integrated Transport Block 2016/17 / Department for Transport	180		180				
Integrated Transport Block 2017/18 / Department for Transport		2,000	2,000				
Incentive Fund 2017/18 / Department for Transport		1,000	1,000				
Maintenance Block 2017/18 / Department for Transport		9,000	9,000				
Maintenance Block 2018/19 / Department for Transport				9,000	9,000		
Integrated Transport Block 2018/19 / Department for Transport				2,000	2,000		
Incentive Fund 2018/19 / Department for Transport				1,000	1,000		
Maintenance Block 2019/20 / Department for Transport						8,200	8,200
Integrated Transport Block 2019/20 / Department for Transport						2,000	2,000
Incentive Fund 2019/20 / Department for Transport						800	800
A500 Dualling		1,815	1,815	153	153		
TOTAL PLACE	280	23,043	23,323	96,124	96,124	60,525	60,525
TOTAL SPECIFIC PURPOSE - CAPITAL GRANT FUNDING	11,563	32,824	39,933	118,774	122,678	60,525	61,075

10. Minimum Revenue Provision

1. The annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement sets out the Council's responsibility to ensure it makes adequate provision for funding the consequences of its capital investment decisions.
2. Capital expenditure is expenditure that provides on-going benefits to the Council for a period of longer than one year. Accounting rules require that where this capital expenditure is not funded through external contributions, external grants, capital receipts or contributions from revenue budgets it must be charged against the Council's General Fund Balances. The period over which this charge is made should reflect the length of time that the expenditure will provide benefits to the Council.
3. The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Authority to have regard to the Department for Communities and Local Government's *Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision* (the CLG Guidance) most recently issued in 2012.
4. Prior to 2010 the major proportion of MRP relates to the more historic debt liability that was outstanding at the time the Guidance was adopted. This will continue to be charged at the rate of 4%, in accordance with Option 2 of the Guidance (*England and Wales*).
5. New capital expenditure for each subsequent year will in general be charged in accordance with Option 3 of the Guidance, which recommends that the annual charge should broadly equate to the anticipated life, or period of benefit, which is reflective of the nature of the expenditure. For example, capital expenditure on a new building, or on the refurbishment or enhancement of a building, will be related to the estimated life of that building.
6. Charges to the revenue budget will commence in the year following the creation of the asset, i.e., in the asset's first full year of operation. This allows the Council to constantly review the most cost effective way of funding capital expenditure.
7. For those types of capital expenditure incurred by the Council which are not capable of being related to an individual asset, asset lives will be assessed on a basis which most reasonably reflects the anticipated period of benefit that arises from the expenditure.
8. For capital expenditure loans to third parties that are repaid in annual or more frequent instalments of principal, the Council will make nil MRP, but will instead apply the capital receipts arising from principal repayments to reduce the capital financing requirement instead. In years where there is no principal repayment, MRP will be charged in accordance with the MRP policy for the assets funded by the loan, including where appropriate, delaying MRP until the year after the assets become operational.
9. For assets acquired by finance leases or the Private Finance Initiative, MRP will be determined as being equal to the element of the rent or charge that goes to write down the balance sheet liability.
10. The MRP Statement will be submitted to Council before the start of the 2017/18 financial year. If it is ever proposed to vary the terms of the original MRP Statement during the year, a revised statement will be put to Council at that time.

11. Prudential Borrowing Indicators

Prudential Indicators revisions to: 2016/17 and 2017/18 – 2019/20, and future years

Background

1. There is a requirement under the Local Government Act 2003 for local authorities to have regard to CIPFA’s Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the “CIPFA Prudential Code”) when setting and reviewing their Prudential Indicators.

Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement

2. This is a key indicator of prudence. In order to ensure that over the medium term debt will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years.
3. If in any of these years there is a reduction in the capital financing requirement, this reduction is ignored in estimating the cumulative increase in the capital financing requirement which is used for comparison with gross external debt.
4. The Chief Operating Officer reports that the Authority had no difficulty meeting this requirement in 2016/17, nor are there any difficulties envisaged for future years. This view takes into account

current commitments, existing plans and the proposals in the approved budget.

Estimates of Capital Expenditure

5. This indicator is set to ensure that the level of proposed capital expenditure remains within sustainable limits and, in particular, to consider the impact on Council Tax.

Table 1 - Capital Expenditure	2016/17 Estimate £m	2017/18 Estimate £m	2018/19 Estimate £m	2019/20 Estimate £m	Future Years Estimate £m
Total	92.9	116.3	136.0	56.4	23.8

Source: Cheshire East Finance

6. Capital expenditure will be financed or funded as follows:

Table 2 - Capital Financing	2016/17 Estimate £m	2017/18 Estimate £m	2018/19 Estimate £m	2019/20 Estimate £m	Future Years Estimate £m
Capital Receipts	10.8	10.4	13.1	17.2	0.0
Government Grants	26.7	39.2	105.6	23.0	0.0
External Contributions	7.4	5.6	3.0	10.8	21.6
Revenue Contributions	1.1	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Financing	46.0	55.7	121.6	50.9	21.6
Prudential Borrowing	46.9	60.6	14.3	5.5	2.2
Total Funding	46.9	60.6	14.3	5.5	2.2
Total Financing and Funding	92.9	116.3	136.0	56.4	23.8

Source: Cheshire East Finance

- The above table shows how the capital expenditure plans of the Authority will be funded.

Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

- This is an indicator of affordability and highlights the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure by identifying the proportion of the revenue budget required to meet financing costs. The definition of financing costs is set out in the Prudential Code.
- The ratio is based on costs net of investment income.

Table 3 - Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	2016/17 Estimate %	2017/18 Estimate %	2018/19 Estimate %	2019/20 Estimate %
Total	5.65	5.67	5.59	5.60

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Capital Financing Requirement

- The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) measures the Authority's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose. The calculation of the CFR is taken from the amounts held in the Balance Sheet relating to capital expenditure and financing.

Table 4 - Capital Financing Requirement	2016/17 Estimate £m	2017/18 Estimate £m	2018/19 Estimate £m	2019/20 Estimate £m
Total	256	274	293	324

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Actual External Debt

11. This indicator is obtained directly from the Council's balance sheet. It is the closing balance for actual gross borrowing plus other long-term liabilities. This Indicator is measured in a manner consistent for comparison with the Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit. Since 1 April 2009 the level of external debt has reduced by £28m from £137m.

Table 5 - Actual External Debt as at 31 st March 2016		£m
Borrowing		109
Other Long-term Liabilities		30
Total		139

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions

12. This is an indicator of affordability that shows the impact of capital investment decisions on Council Tax levels. The incremental impact is calculated by comparing the total revenue budget requirement of the current approved capital programme with an equivalent calculation of the revenue budget requirement arising from the proposed capital programme.

Table 6 - Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions	2017/18 Estimate	2018/19 Estimate	2019/20 Estimate
	£	£	£
Band D Council Tax	12.15	15.17	7.30

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for External Debt

13. The Authority has an integrated treasury management strategy and manages its treasury position in accordance with its approved strategy and practice. Overall borrowing will therefore arise as a consequence of all the financial transactions of the Authority and not just those arising from capital spending reflected in the CFR.
14. The **Authorised Limit** sets the maximum level of external debt on a gross basis (i.e. excluding investments) for the Authority. It is measured on a daily basis against all external debt items on the Balance Sheet (i.e. long and short term borrowing, overdrawn bank balances and long term liabilities). This Prudential Indicator separately identifies borrowing from other long term liabilities such as finance leases. It is consistent with the Authority's existing commitments, its proposals for capital expenditure and financing and its approved treasury management policy statement and practices.
15. The Authorised Limit is the statutory limit determined under Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (referred to in the legislation as the Affordable Limit).
16. The Operational Boundary has been set on the estimate of the most likely, i.e. prudent but not worst case scenario with sufficient headroom over and above this to allow for unusual cash movements.
17. The Operational Boundary links directly to the Authority's estimates of the CFR and estimates of other cashflow requirements. This indicator is based on the same estimates as the Authorised Limit reflecting the most likely, prudent but not worst case scenario but without the additional headroom included within the Authorised Limit.

Table 7	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Authorised Limit for Borrowing	240	260	275	310
Authorised Limit for Other Long-term Liabilities	30	28	27	25
Authorised Limit for External Debt	270	288	302	335
Operational Boundary for Borrowing	230	250	265	300
Operational Boundary for Other Long-term Liabilities	30	28	27	25
Authorised Limit for External Debt	260	278	292	325

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Adoption of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code

18. This indicator demonstrates that the Authority has adopted the principles of best practice.

Adoption of the CIPFA Code of Practice in Treasury Management
The Council approved the adoption of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code at its Council meeting on 23 rd February 2012

19. The Authority has incorporated the changes from the revised CIPFA Code of Practice into its treasury policies, procedures and practices.

Upper Limits for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure and Variable Interest Rate Exposure

20. These indicators allow the Authority to manage the extent to which it is exposed to changes in interest rates. This Authority calculates these limits on net principal outstanding sums, (i.e. fixed rate debt net of fixed rate investments).

21. The upper limit for variable rate exposure has been set to ensure that the Authority is not exposed to interest rate rises which could adversely impact on the revenue budget. The limit allows for the use of variable rate debt to offset exposure to changes in short-term rates on investments.

Table 8	Existing Level (or Benchmark level) at 31/03/2017	2016/17 Approved	2016/17 Revised	2017/18 Estimate	2018/19 Estimate	2019/20 Estimate
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Upper Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Upper Limit for Variable Interest Rate Exposure	0%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Cheshire East Finance

22. The limits above provide the necessary flexibility within which decisions will be made for drawing down new loans on a fixed or variable rate basis; the decisions will ultimately be determined by

expectations of anticipated interest rate movements as set out in the Authority's Treasury Management Strategy.

Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate borrowing

23. This indicator highlights the existence of any large concentrations of fixed rate debt needing to be replaced at times of uncertainty over interest rates and is designed to protect against excessive exposures to interest rate changes in any one period, in particular in the course of the next ten years.
24. It is calculated as the amount of projected borrowing that is fixed rate maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing that is fixed rate. The maturity of borrowing is determined by reference to the earliest date on which the lender can require payment.
25. The Lenders Option Borrowers Option (LOBO) is classified as maturing on the next call date i.e. the earliest date that the lender can require repayment. As all LOBOs can be called within 12 months the upper limit for borrowing maturing within 12 months has remained at 35% to allow for the value of LOBOs and any potential short term borrowing that could be undertaken in 2015/16.

Table 9 - Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing	Level as at 31 st March 2017 (based on Current Borrowing)	Lower Limit for 2017/18	Upper Limit for 2017/18
	%	%	%
Under 12 months	23	0	35
12 months and within 24 months	6	0	25
24 months and within 5 years	11	0	35
5 years and within 10 years	0	0	50
10 years and within 20 years	26	0	100
20 years and within 30 years	9	0	100
30 years and within 40 years	23	0	100
40 years and within 50 years	2	0	100
50 years and above	0	0	100

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Credit Risk

26. The Authority considers security, liquidity and yield, in that order, when making investment decisions.
27. Credit ratings remain an important element of assessing credit risk, but they are not a sole feature in the Authority's assessment of counterparty credit risk.
28. The Authority also considers alternative assessments of credit strength, and information on corporate developments and market sentiment towards counterparties. The following key tools are used to assess credit risk:

- Published credit ratings of the financial institution (minimum A- or equivalent) and its sovereign (minimum AA+ or equivalent for non-UK sovereigns);
- Sovereign support mechanisms;
- Credit default swaps (where quoted);
- Share prices (where available);
- Economic fundamentals, such as a country's net debt as a percentage of its GDP;
- Corporate developments, news, articles, markets sentiment and momentum;
- Subjective overlay.

The only indicators with prescriptive values remain credit ratings. Other indicators of creditworthiness are considered in relative rather than absolute terms.



12. Financial Summary Tables

Note: the 2016/17 Budget, shown as the starting point in the following tables, takes account of any permanent changes made during the 2016/17 financial year to date. There may be differences from the budget position at the [Three Quarter Year](#) Review which includes both permanent and temporary budget changes. The table below summarises these changes. Further details are available on request.

Service	Current Net Budget 2016/17 at Three Quarter Review £m	Less Temporary Specific Grants Allocations £m	Less Other Temporary In Year Budget Adjustments £m	Permenant Base Budget Carried Forward to 2017/18 £m	Virements since TQR £m	Permenant Base Budget Carried Forward to 2017/18 (adjusted) £m
SERVICE DIRECTORATES						
Directorate	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	9.2	10.0
Children's Social Care	32.0	-0.3	0.0	31.7	0.0	31.7
Education & 14-19 Skills	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.4
Prevention & Support	10.4	-0.8	-0.3	9.3	0.0	9.3
Adult Social Care	94.0	-0.1	-0.1	93.9	0.0	93.9
Public Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Community & Partnerships	4.3	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	4.3
People	143.9	-1.2	-0.4	142.4	9.2	151.6

Service	Current Net Budget 2016/17 at Three Quarter Review £m	Less Temporary Specific Grants Allocations £m	Less Other Temporary In Year Budget Adjustments £m	Permenant Base Budget Carried Forward to 2017/18 £m	Virements since TQR £m	Permenant Base Budget Carried Forward to 2017/18 (adjusted) £m
SERVICE DIRECTORATES						
Directorate	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4
Planning & Sustainable Development	0.6	-0.2	0.0	0.5	-0.1	0.4
Infrastructure & Highways (incl Car Parking)	22.4	-0.1	0.0	22.3	-9.3	13.0
Growth & Regeneration	6.1	-0.2	-0.1	5.8	0.1	5.9
Rural & Green Infrastructure	2.8	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	2.8
Place	32.3	-0.5	-0.1	31.7	-9.2	22.5
Directorate	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.6
Client Commissioning	29.5	0.0	0.0	29.5	0.1	29.6
Customer Operations	9.1	-0.1	0.0	9.1	0.0	9.1
Legal Services	4.4	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0	4.4
Democratic Services	4.0	-0.1	0.0	3.9	0.0	3.9
Human Resources	2.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	2.7
Finance & Performance	3.2	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	3.2
Professional Services	13.9	0.0	0.0	13.9	0.0	13.9
ICT	6.7	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	6.7
Communications	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.6
Corporate	74.3	-0.2	0.5	74.6	0.1	74.7
Total Services Net Budget	250.5	-1.8	0.0	248.7	0.1	248.8

Note: £9.3m transferred from Place to People for share of Transport budget

Cheshire East Council Revenue Budget Summary

REVENUE

	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
	Previous Balance Brought Forward								
People	362,617	-211,014	151,603	369,192	-214,179	155,013	365,723	-212,080	153,643
Place	40,347	-17,889	22,458	39,707	-18,539	21,168	38,527	-19,079	19,448
Corporate	187,565	-112,871	74,694	185,305	-112,821	72,484	184,695	-112,821	71,874
Base Budget	590,529	-341,774	248,755	594,204	-345,539	248,665	588,945	-343,980	244,965
	Changes to Budget Requirement								
People	6,575	-3,165	3,410	-3,469	2,099	-1,370	-2,566	2,326	-240
Place	-640	-650	-1,290	-1,180	-540	-1,720	-770	-310	-1,080
Corporate	-2,260	50	-2,210	-610	0	-610	460	0	460
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals	3,675	-3,765	-90	-5,259	1,559	-3,700	-2,876	2,016	-860
Total Cost of Service	594,204	-345,539	248,665	588,945	-343,980	244,965	586,069	-341,964	244,105

Executive Director Summary: People

REVENUE

	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
	Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Schools	153,273	-153,273	0	156,113	-156,113	0	154,352	-154,352	0
Directorate	11,122	-1,100	10,022	10,262	-1,000	9,262	10,362	-1,000	9,362
Strategic Director Adult Social Care, Health and Communities	151,824	-53,634	98,190	155,019	-53,889	101,130	153,591	-53,551	100,040
Children's Social Care	33,289	-1,586	31,703	35,029	-1,696	33,333	34,649	-1,696	32,953
Education and 14-19 Skills	3,411	-1,027	2,384	3,271	-1,067	2,204	3,271	-1,067	2,204
Children's Prevention and Support	9,698	-394	9,304	9,498	-414	9,084	9,498	-414	9,084
Base Budget	362,617	-211,014	151,603	369,192	-214,179	155,013	365,723	-212,080	153,643
	Changes to Budget Requirement								
Schools	2,840	-2,840	0	-1,761	1,761	0	-2,000	2,000	0
Directorate	-860	100	-760	100	0	100	1,350	0	1,350
Strategic Director Adult Social Care, Health and Communities	3,195	-255	2,940	-1,428	338	-1,090	-1,916	326	-1,590
Children's Social Care	1,740	-110	1,630	-380	0	-380	0	0	0
Education and 14-19 Skills	-140	-40	-180	0	0	0	0	0	0
Children's Prevention and Support	-200	-20	-220	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals	6,575	-3,165	3,410	-3,469	2,099	-1,370	-2,566	2,326	-240
Total Cost of Service	369,192	-214,179	155,013	365,723	-212,080	153,643	363,157	-209,754	153,403

Schools: Grant Funded Expenditure (Memorandum Page)

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
				Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000				
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Allocation before Academy School Block recoupment	3	246,241	246,241	255,016	255,016	255,373		255,373		
Academy Schools Block Recoupment	3	-106,489	-106,489	-112,470	-112,470	-114,470		-114,470		
Pupil Premium Grant (maintained schools only)	3	4,366	4,366	4,366	4,366	4,366		4,366		
Pupil Premium Plus (maintained schools only)	3	964	964	964	964	964		964		
Sixth Form Funding (maintained schools only)	3	4,115	4,115	4,115	4,115	4,115		4,115		
Physical Education Grant	3	774	774	774	774	774		774		
Universal Infant Free School Meals	3	2,940	2,940	2,940	2,940	2,940		2,940		
School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant	3		0	169	169	290		290		
SEND Implementation Grant	3	215	215	239	239			0		
High Needs Strategic Planning Fund		147	147		0			0		
DSG and Specific Grants Budget		153,273	0	153,273	156,113	0	156,113	154,352	0	154,352
Changes to Budget Requirement										
DSG Growth - Schools Block	3	8,991	8,991	-4,653	-4,653				0	
DSG Growth - New Central Schools Block	3		0	2,901	2,901				0	
DSG Growth - Early Years Block 3-4 Year Old's	3	263	263		0				0	
DSG Growth - Early Years Block Additional 15 hours	3	2,953	2,953	2,109	2,109				0	
DSG Reduction - Early Years Block Pupil Premium	3	-92	-92		0				0	
DSG Growth - Early Years Block 2 Year Old's	3	188	188		0				0	
DSG Growth - Early Years Block Disability Access Fund	3	62	62		0				0	
DSG Growth - High Needs Block	3	-2,450	-2,450		0				0	
ESG Retained Duties funded through DSG	3	773	773		0				0	
High Needs Place deductions (movement)	3	-1,846	-1,846		0				0	
In Year Academy Conversions	3	-6,048	-6,048	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000		-2,000	-2,000	
SEND Implementation Grant	3	24	24	-239	-239				0	
High Needs Strategic Planning Fund	3	-147	-147		0				0	
School Improvement Grant	3	169	169	121	121				0	
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		2,840	0	2,840	-1,761	0	-1,761	-2,000	0	-2,000
Total Cost of Service		156,113	0	156,113	154,352	0	154,352	152,352	0	152,352

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Previous Balance Brought Forward									
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Directorate - Children and Families	3 / 5	1,680	-1,100	580	2,380	-1,000	1,380	1,380	-1,000	380
Directorate - Communities	1	139		139	139		139	139		139
Directorate - Client Commissioning: Transport	3	9,303		9,303	8,913		8,913	8,503		8,503
Directorate - Cross Cutting	1 / 3 / 5	0		0	-1,170		-1,170	340		340
Base Budget		11,122	-1,100	10,022	10,262	-1,000	9,262	10,362	-1,000	9,362
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Directorate - Children and Families:										
Complex Dependency Programme	3 / 5		100	100			0			0
End of Early Intervention short term funding allocation (non Public Health element)	3 / 5			0	-1,000		-1,000			0
Cared for Children and Care Leavers	3 / 5	700		700			0			0
Transport policy review	3	-390		-390	-410		-410	-160		-160
*Cross Service Savings:										
Car Mileage	6	-60		-60			0			0
Staff Travel	6	-90		-90			0			0
Post and Print	6	-70		-70			0			0
Productivity	6	-2,100		-2,100			0			0
Contracts	6	-560		-560			0			0
Pay and Pensions	6	1,510		1,510	1,510		1,510	1,510		1,510
Apprenticeship Levy	6	200		200			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-860	100	-760	100	0	100	1,350	0	1,350
Total Cost of Service		10,262	-1,000	9,262	10,362	-1,000	9,362	11,712	-1,000	10,712

* To be allocated out over People services

Strategic Director Adult Social Care, Health and Communities Summary

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
				Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000				
Adult Social Care - Operations	5	127,161	-34,774	92,387	130,851	-35,274	95,577	129,941	-35,374	94,567
Adult Social Care - Commissioning	5	1,480	0	1,480	1,480	0	1,480	1,480	0	1,480
Public Health	5	17,549	-17,549	0	17,124	-17,124	0	16,686	-16,686	0
Communities	1	5,634	-1,311	4,323	5,564	-1,491	4,073	5,484	-1,491	3,993
Base Budget		151,824	-53,634	98,190	155,019	-53,889	101,130	153,591	-53,551	100,040
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Adult Social Care - Operations	5	3,690	-500	3,190	-910	-100	-1,010	-1,490	-100	-1,590
Adult Social Care - Commissioning	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Health	5	-425	425	0	-438	438	0	-426	426	0
Communities	1	-70	-180	-250	-80	0	-80	0	0	0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		3,195	-255	2,940	-1,428	338	-1,090	-1,916	326	-1,590
Total Cost of Service		155,019	-53,889	101,130	153,591	-53,551	100,040	151,675	-53,225	98,450

Public Health

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Previous Balance Brought Forward									
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Public Health	5	17,549	-17,549	0	17,124	-17,124	0	16,686	-16,686	0
Base Budget		17,549	-17,549	0	17,124	-17,124	0	16,686	-16,686	0
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Reduction in Grant funding		-425	425	0	-438	438	0	-426	426	0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-425	425	0	-438	438	0	-426	426	0
Total Cost of Service		17,124	-17,124	0	16,686	-16,686	0	16,260	-16,260	0

Communities

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Regulatory Services and Health	1	2,562	-970	1,592	2,552	-1,150	1,402	2,552	-1,150	1,402
Partnerships and Communities	1	3,072	-341	2,731	3,012	-341	2,671	2,932	-341	2,591
Base Budget		5,634	-1,311	4,323	5,564	-1,491	4,073	5,484	-1,491	3,993
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
Public Health Funding for specialist environmental health team	1		-180	-180			0			0
Cessation of the Regulatory Services Out of Hours Service	1	-10		-10			0			0
Council Tax Support Grant as agreed	1	-150		-150			0			0
Review Environmental Enforcement Service based on outcomes (Summer 17) of Flytipping pilot and procurement of patrol company pilot	1			0	-120		-120			0
Transfer of CEC managed community centres to local management arrangements	1	-20		-20			0			0
CCTV Fibres	1	30		30			0			0
GTLO Court Costs	1	20		20			0			0
Increase Community Grants	1	60		60	40		40			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-70	-180	-250	-80	0	-80	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		5,564	-1,491	4,073	5,484	-1,491	3,993	5,484	-1,491	3,993

Children's Social Care

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Social Care - Cared for Children	5	22,265	-1,116	21,149	24,205	-1,226	22,979	23,875	-1,226	22,649
Social Care - Child Protection / Children in Need	5	5,523		5,523	5,523		5,523	5,523		5,523
Safeguarding incl Domestic Abuse	5	3,291	-470	2,821	3,241	-470	2,771	3,241	-470	2,771
Children's Commissioning	5	1,578		1,578	1,428		1,428	1,378		1,378
Head of Service	5	632		632	632		632	632		632
Base Budget		33,289	-1,586	31,703	35,029	-1,696	33,333	34,649	-1,696	32,953
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
Social Care										
Sub-regional collaborations	3	-100		-100	-130		-130			0
Redesign of short break provision for children with disabilities	3	-100		-100	-200		-200			0
Housing related accommodation and support facilities	5	80		80			0			0
Cared for Children & Care Leavers	5	2,100		2,100			0			0
Realignment of Children's Services funding streams and review of policy around charges and exemptions in relation to Children's Social Care	5	-40	-110	-150			0			0
Safeguarding							0			0
Sub-regional collaborations or efficiency	5	-50		-50			0			0
Children's Commissioning										
Creating efficiencies in Children's Commissioned Services	3	-150		-150	-50		-50			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		1,740	-110	1,630	-380	0	-380	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		35,029	-1,696	33,333	34,649	-1,696	32,953	34,649	-1,696	32,953

Education and 14-19 Skills

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Head of Service and Legacy Pension Costs	3	2,193		2,193	2,193	-40	2,153	2,193	-40	2,153
Education Participation and Pupil Support	3	640	-51	589	500	-51	449	500	-51	449
Education Infrastructure & Outcomes	3	578	-976	-398	578	-976	-398	578	-976	-398
Base Budget		3,411	-1,027	2,384	3,271	-1,067	2,204	3,271	-1,067	2,204
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
Realignment of Children's Services funding streams and review of policy around charges and exemptions in relation to Children's Social Care	3	-110	-40	-150			0			0
Redesign of service provision for children with disabilities	3	-30		-30			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-140	-40	-180	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		3,271	-1,067	2,204	3,271	-1,067	2,204	3,271	-1,067	2,204

Children's Prevention and Support

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
				Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000				
Early Intervention and Prevention	3	7,514	-81	7,433	7,464	-101	7,363	7,464	-101	7,363
Youth Engagement Service	3	1,135	-63	1,072	1,045	-63	982	1,045	-63	982
Children's Development and Partnerships	3 / 5	299	-250	49	239	-250	-11	239	-250	-11
SEND / Education Psychologists	3	750	0	750	750	0	750	750	0	750
Base Budget		9,698	-394	9,304	9,498	-414	9,084	9,498	-414	9,084
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Early Intervention and Prevention										
Early Help and Prevention Management Review	3	-50	-20	-70			0			0
Youth Engagement Service										
Early Help and Prevention Management Review	3	-90		-90			0			0
Children's Development and Partnerships										
Sub-regional collaborations	3	-60		-60			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-200	-20	-220	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		9,498	-414	9,084	9,498	-414	9,084	9,498	-414	9,084

Executive Director Summary: Place

REVENUE

	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
	Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Directorate	365	0	365	-1,995	0	-1,995	-1,535	0	-1,535
Planning and Sustainable Development	5,482	-5,074	408	6,582	-5,074	1,508	6,802	-5,074	1,728
Infrastructure and Highways	17,713	-4,678	13,035	18,843	-5,098	13,745	17,213	-5,098	12,115
Growth and Regeneration	9,252	-3,347	5,905	8,892	-3,647	5,245	8,692	-4,147	4,545
Rural and Green Infrastructure	7,535	-4,790	2,745	7,385	-4,720	2,665	7,355	-4,760	2,595
Base Budget	40,347	-17,889	22,458	39,707	-18,539	21,168	38,527	-19,079	19,448
	Changes to Budget Requirement								
Directorate	-2,360	0	-2,360	460	0	460	460	0	460
Planning and Sustainable Development	1,100	0	1,100	220	0	220	-1,000	0	-1,000
Infrastructure and Highways	1,130	-420	710	-1,630	0	-1,630	-50	0	-50
Growth and Regeneration	-360	-300	-660	-200	-500	-700	-100	-250	-350
Rural and Green Infrastructure	-150	70	-80	-30	-40	-70	-80	-60	-140
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals	-640	-650	-1,290	-1,180	-540	-1,720	-770	-310	-1,080
Total Cost of Service	39,707	-18,539	21,168	38,527	-19,079	19,448	37,757	-19,389	18,368

Planning and Sustainable Development

REVENUE

	Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
					Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000			
Director of Planning and Sustainable Development	4	312		312	312		312	312		312
Spatial Planning	4	612	-20	592	1,422	-20	1,402	1,642	-20	1,622
Neighbourhood Planning	4	117	-86	31	117	-86	31	117	-86	31
Development Management	4	2,650	-3,213	-563	2,940	-3,213	-273	2,940	-3,213	-273
Building Control	4		-1,755	-1,755		-1,755	-1,755		-1,755	-1,755
Client Commissioning - Civica	4	1,791		1,791	1,791		1,791	1,791		1,791
Base Budget		5,482	-5,074	408	6,582	-5,074	1,508	6,802	-5,074	1,728
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Planning reserve for Spatial Planning	4	680		680	220		220	-900		-900
Planning reserve for Development Management	4	100		100			0	-100		-100
Planning and Sustainable Development Budget Realignment (Spatial Planning)	4	130		130			0			0
Planning and Sustainable Development Budget Realignment (Development Management)	4	190		190			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		1,100	0	1,100	220	0	220	-1,000	0	-1,000
Total Cost of Service		6,582	-5,074	1,508	6,802	-5,074	1,728	5,802	-5,074	728

Infrastructure and Highways

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
				Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000				
Highways	4	10,963		10,963	10,923		10,923	10,873		10,873
Strategic Infrastructure	2	498		498	498		498	498		498
Car Parking	2	1,174	-4,678	-3,504	1,494	-5,098	-3,604	1,494	-5,098	-3,604
Client Commissioning - Transport	2	5,078		5,078	5,928		5,928	4,348		4,348
Base Budget		17,713	-4,678	13,035	18,843	-5,098	13,745	17,213	-5,098	12,115
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Increased Parking Enforcement	2	320	-420	-100			0			0
Reduce subsidised Bus Service	2			0	-1,580		-1,580			0
Street Lighting improvements	4	-50		-50	-50		-50	-50		-50
Increased support re GHA coaches	2	850		850			0			0
Lead Local Authority Flood Grant Funding	4	10		10			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		1,130	-420	710	-1,630	0	-1,630	-50	0	-50
Total Cost of Service		18,843	-5,098	13,745	17,213	-5,098	12,115	17,163	-5,098	12,065

Growth and Regeneration

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Assets	2	2,214	-1,993	221	2,214	-2,243	-29	2,214	-2,743	-529
Regeneration	2	716	-175	541	716	-175	541	716	-175	541
Strategic Housing	5	3,242	-482	2,760	3,202	-532	2,670	3,202	-532	2,670
Farms	2	320	-697	-377	320	-697	-377	320	-697	-377
Skills and Lifelong Learning	2	982		982	862		862	862		862
Client Commissioning - Skills and Growth	2	1,778		1,778	1,578		1,578	1,378		1,378
Base Budget		9,252	-3,347	5,905	8,892	-3,647	5,245	8,692	-4,147	4,545
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
Create a new Investment Portfolio	2		-250	-250		-500	-500		-250	-250
Removal of one off investment Empty Homes Review	2	-40		-40			0			0
Lifelong Learning	2	-120		-120			0			0
Home Adaptations	5		-50	-50			0			0
Removal of one off investment in Skills and Growth	2	-200		-200	-200		-200	-100		-100
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-360	-300	-660	-200	-500	-700	-100	-250	-350
Total Cost of Service		8,892	-3,647	5,245	8,692	-4,147	4,545	8,592	-4,397	4,195

Rural and Green Infrastructure

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Visitor Economy	2	491	-194	297	301	-4	297	261	-4	257
Cultural Economy	2	1,005	-74	931	975	-84	891	985	-84	901
Tatton Park	2	4,590	-4,244	346	4,590	-4,284	306	4,590	-4,324	266
Public Rights of Way	2	478	-83	395	548	-153	395	548	-153	395
Countryside	2	971	-195	776	971	-195	776	971	-195	776
Base Budget		7,535	-4,790	2,745	7,385	-4,720	2,665	7,355	-4,760	2,595
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
Tatton Vision Phase 1	2		-40	-40		-40	-40		-40	-40
Cheshire East Reflects	2	-10		-10	20		20	-50		-50
Reduce Archive Shared Service	2	-20		-20			0			0
Increase Public Rights of Way Fees and Charges	2	70	-70	0			0		-20	-20
Increase Events Management Income	2		-10	-10			0			0
Reduce funding to Macclesfield Silk Heritage Trust	2			0	-10		-10			0
Transfer of Visitor Information Centres to Town Councils	2	-190	190	0	-20		-20	-30		-30
Marketing Cheshire	2			0	-20		-20			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-150	70	-80	-30	-40	-70	-80	-60	-140
Total Cost of Service		7,385	-4,720	2,665	7,355	-4,760	2,595	7,275	-4,820	2,455

Executive Director Summary: Corporate

REVENUE

	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
	Previous Balance Brought Forward								
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Directorate	602	0	602	-2,208	0	-2,208	-2,168	0	-2,168
Legal Services	5,932	-1,534	4,398	5,932	-1,534	4,398	5,932	-1,534	4,398
Customer Operations	92,888	-83,810	9,078	93,138	-83,830	9,308	93,088	-83,830	9,258
Finance and Performance	4,076	-872	3,204	4,076	-872	3,204	4,076	-872	3,204
Human Resources	3,594	-875	2,719	3,594	-875	2,719	3,594	-875	2,719
Professional Services	16,048	-2,126	13,922	16,048	-2,126	13,922	16,048	-2,126	13,922
Democratic Services	5,047	-1,186	3,861	5,047	-1,186	3,861	5,047	-1,186	3,861
ICT Services	25,844	-19,104	6,740	25,844	-19,104	6,740	25,844	-19,104	6,740
Communications	753	-128	625	753	-128	625	753	-128	625
Client Commissioning	32,781	-3,236	29,545	33,081	-3,166	29,915	32,481	-3,166	29,315
Base Budget	187,565	-112,871	74,694	185,305	-112,821	72,484	184,695	-112,821	71,874
	Changes to Budget Requirement								
Directorate	-2,810	0	-2,810	40	0	40	850	0	850
Legal Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Customer Operations	250	-20	230	-50	0	-50	10	0	10
Finance and Performance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Democratic Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ICT Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Communications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Client Commissioning	300	70	370	-600	0	-600	-400	0	-400
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals	-2,260	50	-2,210	-610	0	-610	460	0	460
Total Cost of Service	185,305	-112,821	72,484	184,695	-112,821	71,874	185,155	-112,821	72,334

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
				Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000				
Executive Director - Corporate	6	389	0	389	389	0	389	389	0	389
Transitional funding	1	473	0	473	3	0	3	3	0	3
Directorate - Cross Cutting	1 / 4 / 6	0	0	0	-1,540	0	-1,540	-1,500	0	-1,500
Corporate Unallocated	6	-260	0	-260	-1,060	0	-1,060	-1,060	0	-1,060
Base Budget		602	0	602	-2,208	0	-2,208	-2,168	0	-2,168
					Changes to Budget Requirement					
Removal transitional funding	3 / 5	-470		-470			0			0
Reduce costs of core processes (Oracle system review)	6			0	-250		-250	-250		-250
Digital Customer Services	6			0	-1,260		-1,260	-450		-450
ESG Funded services to be transferred to DSG (to be determined)	6	-800		-800						
*Cross Service Savings:										
Car Mileage	6	-30		-30			0			0
Staff Travel	6	-40		-40			0			0
Post and Print	6	-130		-130			0			0
Productivity	6	-1,400		-1,400			0			0
Contracts	6	-1,690		-1,690			0			0
Pay and Pensions	6	1,550		1,550	1,550		1,550	1,550		1,550
Apprenticeship Levy	6	200		200			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		-2,810	0	-2,810	40	0	40	850	0	850
Total Cost of Service		-2,208	0	-2,208	-2,168	0	-2,168	-1,318	0	-1,318

* to be allocated out over Corporate services

Legal Services

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Monitoring Officer	6	155	0	155	155	0	155	155	0	155
Legal Services	6	2,182	-457	1,725	2,182	-457	1,725	2,182	-457	1,725
Audit	6	496	-31	465	496	-31	465	496	-31	465
Risk Management	6	68	0	68	68	0	68	68	0	68
Insurance	6	2,491	-1,046	1,445	2,491	-1,046	1,445	2,491	-1,046	1,445
Compliance	6	397	0	397	397	0	397	397	0	397
Scrutiny	6	143	0	143	143	0	143	143	0	143
Base Budget		5,932	-1,534	4,398	5,932	-1,534	4,398	5,932	-1,534	4,398
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
No change proposals				0			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		5,932	-1,534	4,398	5,932	-1,534	4,398	5,932	-1,534	4,398

Customer Operations

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Previous Balance Brought Forward			Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
				Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000				
Customer Services Management	6	153	0	153	153	0	153	153	0	153
Customer Services	6	2,322	-11	2,311	2,342	-11	2,331	2,342	-11	2,331
Library Services	6	3,828	-511	3,317	3,828	-511	3,317	3,828	-511	3,317
Revenues	6	1,567	-1,155	412	1,567	-1,155	412	1,567	-1,155	412
Benefits	6	84,091	-82,116	1,975	84,321	-82,116	2,205	84,271	-82,116	2,155
Service Development and Systems	6	759		759	759	0	759	759	0	759
Emergency Planning	6	168	-17	151	168	-37	131	168	-37	131
Base Budget		92,888	-83,810	9,078	93,138	-83,830	9,308	93,088	-83,830	9,258
Changes to Budget Requirement										
Welfare Reform and Reducing Demand	6	-70		-70			0			0
Local Welfare Safety Net	6	300		300	-50		-50			0
Security at Crewe Customer Service Centre	6	20		20			0			0
Emergency Planning increased cost recovery	6		-20	-20			0			0
Universal Information and Advice Service	6			0			0	10		10
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		250	-20	230	-50	0	-50	10	0	10
Total Cost of Service		93,138	-83,830	9,308	93,088	-83,830	9,258	93,098	-83,830	9,268

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Financial Strategy and Reporting	6	1,415	-64	1,351	1,415	-64	1,351	1,415	-64	1,351
Finance Partnering and Accountancy	6	1,707	-772	935	1,707	-772	935	1,707	-772	935
Projects Finance	6	254	-30	224	254	-30	224	254	-30	224
Performance Strategy and Reporting	6	52		52	52	0	52	52	0	52
Business Intelligence - People	6	337		337	337	0	337	337	0	337
Business Intelligence - Place and Corporate	6	311	-6	305	311	-6	305	311	-6	305
Base Budget		4,076	-872	3,204	4,076	-872	3,204	4,076	-872	3,204
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
No change proposals				0			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		4,076	-872	3,204	4,076	-872	3,204	4,076	-872	3,204

Human Resources

REVENUE

Outcome Reference	2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation			
	Previous Balance Brought Forward									
	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Head of Human Resources	6	108	108	108		108	108		108	
HR Strategy and Policy	6	228	228	228		228	228		228	
Unison	6	124	-40	84	124	-40	84	124	-40	84
Health and Safety	6	318	-208	110	318	-208	110	318	-208	110
Occupational Health	6	210	-151	59	210	-151	59	210	-151	59
Organisational Development	6	495		495	495		495	495		495
Workforce Development	6	1,163	-61	1,102	1,163	-61	1,102	1,163	-61	1,102
HR Delivery Non-Schools	6	599	-15	584	599	-15	584	599	-15	584
HR Delivery Schools	6	349	-400	-51	349	-400	-51	349	-400	-51
Base Budget		3,594	-875	2,719	3,594	-875	2,719	3,594	-875	2,719
Changes to Budget Requirement										
No change proposals			0			0			0	
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		3,594	-875	2,719	3,594	-875	2,719	3,594	-875	2,719

Professional Services

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
Procurement	6	565	-127	438	565	-127	438	565	-127	438
Facilities Management	6	13,645	-1,301	12,344	13,645	-1,301	12,344	13,645	-1,301	12,344
Business Solutions	6	372	-13	359	372	-13	359	372	-13	359
Project Management Office	6	1,060	-645	415	1,060	-645	415	1,060	-645	415
Business Improvement	6	294	-40	254	294	-40	254	294	-40	254
Professional and Commercial Services Manager	6	112		112	112		112	112		112
Base Budget		16,048	-2,126	13,922	16,048	-2,126	13,922	16,048	-2,126	13,922
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
No change proposals			0			0			0	
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		16,048	-2,126	13,922	16,048	-2,126	13,922	16,048	-2,126	13,922

Democratic Services

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Business Support and Civic Office	6	304	-10	294	304	-10	294	304	-10	294
Chief Executive Office	6	543		543	543		543	543		543
PA Pool	6	503	-40	463	503	-40	463	503	-40	463
Democratic Services	6	482	-50	432	482	-50	432	482	-50	432
Members Services	6	1,405		1,405	1,405		1,405	1,405		1,405
Coroners	6	567		567	567		567	567		567
Elections Service	6	540		540	540		540	540		540
Registrations Service	6	703	-1,086	-383	703	-1,086	-383	703	-1,086	-383
Base Budget		5,047	-1,186	3,861	5,047	-1,186	3,861	5,047	-1,186	3,861
Changes to Budget Requirement										
No change proposals				0			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		5,047	-1,186	3,861	5,047	-1,186	3,861	5,047	-1,186	3,861

ICT Services

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	
ICT Strategy	6	8,755	-2,091	6,664	8,755	-2,091	6,664	8,755	-2,091	6,664
ICT Service Delivery	6	17,089	-17,013	76	17,089	-17,013	76	17,089	-17,013	76
Base Budget		25,844	-19,104	6,740	25,844	-19,104	6,740	25,844	-19,104	6,740
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
No change proposals				0			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		25,844	-19,104	6,740	25,844	-19,104	6,740	25,844	-19,104	6,740

Communications

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Communications and Media Relations	6	753	-128	625	753	-128	625	753	-128	625
Base Budget		753	-128	625	753	-128	625	753	-128	625
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
No change proposals				0			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cost of Service		753	-128	625	753	-128	625	753	-128	625

Client Commissioning

REVENUE

		2017/18 Budget Calculation			2018/19 Budget Calculation			2019/20 Budget Calculation		
		Previous Balance Brought Forward								
Outcome Reference		Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net £000
Environmental (incl. Bereavement)	4	30,521	-3,236	27,285	30,821	-3,166	27,655	30,221	-3,166	27,055
Leisure	5	2,260		2,260	2,260		2,260	2,260		2,260
Base Budget		32,781	-3,236	29,545	33,081	-3,166	29,915	32,481	-3,166	29,315
		Changes to Budget Requirement								
Environmental (incl. Bereavement)										
Review of Cheshire East Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision	4	-150		-150	-580		-580			0
Ansa - Dry Recycling Contract	4	1,290		1,290			0			0
Ansa - Efficiencies and productivity improvements	4	-700		-700	-120		-120	-400		-400
Ansa - Further savings	4	-200		-200	100		100			0
Environment Commissioning - small growth items	4	60		60			0			0
Environment Commissioning - S106 income not achievable	4		70	70			0			0
Financial Impact of Policy Proposals		300	70	370	-600	0	-600	-400	0	-400
Total Cost of Service		33,081	-3,166	29,915	32,481	-3,166	29,315	32,081	-3,166	28,915

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

Glossary of Terms

Approval is being sought for all items of Capital expenditure as detailed in the following tables. Estimates for capital expenditure may vary even during the lifetime of the project but particularly where a project is still being developed.

The following categories, used within the tables overleaf, describe the current status of the financial estimates:

Committed Schemes - In Progress

The project is established and activity is on-going. Expenditure is expected to occur in line with the value and timing described in this report and funding has been identified to manage that expenditure.

New Schemes

Project details have been drafted. Expenditure levels, and the timing of expenditure, may be subject to change based on final estimates, the securing of available funding and workforce capacity.

Any necessary variations to capital spending requirements will be reported and approved in line with the Council's financial procedure rules.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Committed Schemes - In Progress					
People	11,697	12,767	3,314	550	16,631
Place	160,836	36,753	81,260	59,050	177,064
Corporate	72,794	35,260	19,595	8,930	63,786
Total Committed Schemes - In Progress	245,327	84,781	104,170	68,530	257,481

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
New Schemes					
People	0	4,500	19,200	0	23,700
Place	0	25,000	12,400	11,500	48,900
Corporate	0	2,000	200	150	2,350
Total New Schemes	0	31,500	31,800	11,650	74,950
Total	245,327	116,281	135,970	80,180	332,431

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis: (See note 1)					
Government Grants	116,620	39,183	105,553	22,957	167,693
External Contributions	15,952	5,551	3,014	32,462	41,027
Revenue Contributions	892	553	0	0	553
Capital Receipts	29,195	10,414	13,070	17,165	40,650
Prudential Borrowing (See note 2)	82,669	60,581	14,333	7,595	82,509
Total	245,327	116,281	135,970	80,180	332,431

Notes:

1. The funding requirement identified in the above table represents a balanced and affordable position, in the medium term. The Council will attempt to maximise external resources such as grants and external contributions in the first instance to fund the capital programme. Where the Council resources are required the preference will be to utilise capital receipts from asset disposals. The forecast for capital receipts over the next three years 2017-20 assumes a prudent approach based on the work of the Asset Management team and their most recently updated Disposals Programme.

2. Appropriate charges to the revenue budget will only commence in the year following the completion of the associated capital asset. This allows the Council to constantly review the most cost effective way of funding capital expenditure (See Minimum Revenue Provision ~ **Annex 10**)

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Committed Schemes - In Progress					
<u>Adult Social Care</u>					
Community Capacity / Social Care Capital Grant	0	680	0	0	680
<u>Childrens Social Care</u>					
Short Breaks for Disabled Children	207	30	0	0	30
<u>Children and Families</u>					
Adelaide Academy	50	115	0	0	115
DFC Grant	4,230	600	540	550	1,690
Disley Primary School (Basic Needs)	90	360	0	0	360
Foster Carer Capacity Scheme	278	357	0	0	357
Hungerford Primary School	200	2,201	0	0	2,201
Kitchens block (Gas interlock)	541	71	0	0	71
Mablins Lane Primary School - Phase 2	1,300	200	0	0	200
Monks Coppenhall Primary School - Basic Needs	200	2,127	0	0	2,127
Poynton HS - Condition Works	401	101	0	0	101
Pupil Referral Unit - New Site	425	1,655	0	0	1,655
Scholar Green Primary School	143	7	0	0	7
Schools Condition Capital Grant	180	2,928	2,774	0	5,702
Suitability/Minor Works/Accessibility Block Provision	1,376	30	0	0	30
The Dingle Primary School	575	20	0	0	20
Underwood West	10	480	0	0	480
Universal free school meals	72	42	0	0	42
Wyche PS - Condition Works	495	8	0	0	8
<u>Prevention and Support</u>					
Free Early Years Education for 2 year Olds	640	509	0	0	509
Purchase of Multi Purpose Vehicles - Working on Wheels	180	180	0	0	180
<u>Community & Partnership</u>					
CCTV - Infrastructure Rationalisation	102	66	0	0	66
Total Committed Schemes - In Progress	11,697	12,767	3,314	550	16,631

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
New Schemes					
Chelford Planning Area (Primary Schools - 30 Places)	0	100	200	0	300
Shavington Planning Area (Primary Schools - 210 Places)	0	700	1,700	0	2,400
Alsager Planning Area (Primary Schools - 105 Places)	0	400	800	0	1,200
Alsager Planning Area (Secondary Schools - 150 Places)	0	500	1,200	0	1,700
Nantwich Planning Area (Primary Schools - 105 Places)	0	400	800	0	1,200
Nantwich Planning Area (Secondary Schools - 300 Places)	0	1,000	2,400	0	3,400
Sandbach Planning Area (Primary Schools - 105 Places)	0	400	800	0	1,200
Sandbach Planning Area (Secondary Schools - 300 Places)	0	1,000	2,400	0	3,400
Future Years Basic Need - Nantwich Primary schools - Kingsley Fields, Wilmslow and Congleton Areas	0	0	8,900	0	8,900
					0
Total New Schemes	0	4,500	19,200	0	23,700
Total	11,697	17,267	22,514	550	40,331

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	10,903	15,633	22,304	550	38,487
External Contributions	31	499	210	-	709
Revenue Contributions	383	532	-	-	532
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Prudential Borrowing	380	603	-	-	603
Total	11,697	17,267	22,514	550	40,331

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Committed Schemes - In Progress					
<u>Infrastructure & Highways</u>					
A500 Dualling scheme	360	1,955	153	0	2,108
A556 Knutsford to Bowdon	143	130	231	0	361
A34 Corridor - Option Development	100	250	250	0	500
A51/A500 Corridor Nantwich - Option Development	100	150	0	0	150
A6 MARR CMM - Disley	100	900	900	222	2,022
A6 MARR CMM - Handforth	153	347	0	0	347
Alderley Edge Bypass Scheme Implementation	59,987	2,396	728	0	3,125
Asset Management Invest to Save	125	200	150	0	350
Congleton Link Road	7,083	3,243	41,958	38,460	83,661
Congleton Public Realm	225	1,049	10	0	1,059
Crewe Green Link Road Phase 2	23,974	1,100	673	0	1,773
Crewe Green Roundabout	376	1,773	2,851	0	4,624
Macclesfield Movement Strategy - Option Development	0	300			300
North-West Crewe Package	293	1,707	0	0	1,707
Residents First LED Lighting	2,240	2,260	0	0	2,260
Road Network and Linked Key Infrastructure	8	250	0	0	250
Road Safety Schemes Minor Works	3,137	380	0	0	380
Poynton Relief Road	3,392	1,273	21,160	12,194	34,627
Structural Replacement Lighting	3,910	1,360	0	0	1,360
Sydney Road Bridge	982	472	5,703	3,344	9,519

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Committed Schemes - In Progress					
<u>Growth and Regeneration</u>					
Astbury Marsh Caravan Site	100	100	0	0	100
Cororate Landlord Model - Non-Operational	382	2	0	0	2
Crewe Town Centre Regeneration	6,808	195	0	0	195
Disabled Facilities Grants	6,191	1,500	1,500	0	3,000
Farms Strategy	905	356	389	1,730	2,475
Gypsy and Traveller Sites	946	2,562	0	0	2,562
Highways Section 106 & 278 Schemes	0	398	34	0	432
Housing Development Fund	180	1,334	0	0	1,334
Housing Delivery	0	150	0	0	150
Modular Construction	62	1,717	0	0	1,717
Regeneration & Development Programme	1,621	1,787	0	0	1,787
Private Sector Assistance	1,542	150	150	0	300
<u>Rural and Green Infrastructure</u>					
Archives Option Development	50	100	125	0	225
Countryside Vehicle Replacement	319	135	165	0	300
ROWIP Cycle/Walking Schemes	930	189	0	0	189
Rural & Green Section 106 Schemes	1	118	0	0	118
Tatton Vision - Field to Fork Project	150	1,000	199	0	1,199
<u>Client Commissioning</u>					
Connecting Cheshire	30,349	135	0	0	135
Connecting Cheshire Phase 2	3,614	2,290	631	0	2,921
Connecting Cheshire Digital 2020	0	1,000	3,300	3,100	7,400
Supplier Park	0	40	0	0	40
Total Committed Schemes - In Progress	160,836	36,753	81,260	59,050	177,064

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

Outcome	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
New Schemes					
<u>Infrastructure & Highways</u>					
Integrated Block - LTP	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
Maintenance Block - LTP	0	9,000	9,000	8,200	26,200
Incentive Fund - LTP	0	1,000	1,000	800	2,800
Alderley Road, Wilmslow – A34 Junction and pedestrian	0	300	400	500	1,200
Managing & Maintaining the Highways Network		10,000	0	0	10,000
					0
<u>Growth and Regeneration</u>					
Starter Homes - Phase 1		900	0	0	900
Volumetric Construction		1,800	0	0	1,800
Total New Schemes	0	25,000	12,400	11,500	48,900
Total	160,836	61,753	93,660	70,550	225,964

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	99,929	22,723	83,249	22,407	128,379
External Contributions	15,203	4,236	2,804	32,462	39,502
Revenue Contributions	291	20	-	-	20
Capital Receipts	2,447	4,280	389	8,235	12,904
Prudential Borrowing	42,966	30,495	7,218	7,446	45,159
Total	160,836	61,754	93,660	70,550	225,964

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

Outcome	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Committed Schemes - In Progress					
<u>ICT Services</u>					
Digital Customer Services	3,303	2,196	500	0	2,696
Care Act Phase 2	1,179	2,205	1,610	1,320	5,135
Enterprise Resource Planning	500	2,550	2,837	0	5,387
ICT Infrastructure Investment Programme	14,152	5,400	5,500	2,000	12,900
Information Assurance and Data Management	6,965	2,600	1,200	750	4,550
Core Financials, HR Services	6,152	780	357	500	1,637
<u>Finance & Performance</u>					
Strategic Capital Projects	1,990	5,000	0	0	5,000
<u>Professional Services</u>					
Schools Capital Maintenance	1,022	826	0	0	826
Septic Tanks North Rode	13	37	0	0	37
Premises Capital (FM)	14,281	3,231	2,500	2,500	8,231
Minor Works	1,786	774	500	500	1,774
Corporate Landlord - Operational	266	512	0	0	512

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

Outcome	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Committed Schemes - In Progress					
<u>Customer Operations</u>					
Next Generation - Self Service	182	144	30	0	174
<u>Client Commissioning Leisure</u>					
Peter Mason Leisure Centre	319	3,000	4,341	1,140	8,481
Cumberland 3G replacement	24	226	0	0	226
Congleton Park Improvements	102	16	0	0	16
<u>Client Commissioning Environmental</u>					
Waste Strategy Implementation	19,721	5,375	0	0	5,375
Restoration of South Park Lake	147	58	0	0	58
Weston Cemetery Extension	40	110	0	0	110
Household Bins Schemes	651	220	220	220	660
Total Committed Schemes - In Progress	72,794	35,260	19,595	8,930	63,786

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

Outcome	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
New Schemes					
<u>Client Commissioning Leisure</u>					
Alsager Leisure Centre Gym Conversion	0	400	0	0	400
Sandbach Leisure Centre Gym Conversion	0	400	0	0	400
<u>Client Commissioning Environmental</u>					
Review of Household Waste Recycling Centre provision	0	1,000	0	0	1,000
Park Development Fund	0	150	150	150	450
Playing Fields Fund	0	50	50	0	100
					0
Total New Schemes	0	2,000	200	150	2,350
Total	72,794	37,260	19,795	9,080	66,136

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	5,787	826	-	-	826
External Contributions	718	816	-	-	816
Revenue Contributions	218	1	-	-	1
Capital Receipts	26,747	6,134	12,681	8,930	27,746
Prudential Borrowing	39,324	29,483	7,114	150	36,747
Total	72,794	37,260	19,795	9,080	66,136

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY - Addendum

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
People	581	1,700	12,600	0	14,300
Place	7,948	15,800	64,150	92,250	172,200
Corporate	150	4,500	2,500	9,600	16,600
Total Capital	8,679	22,000	79,250	101,850	203,100

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY - Addendum

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2016/19 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	1,988	750	17,125	38,118	55,993
External Contributions	0	0	3,390	18,520	21,910
Revenue Contributions	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Receipts	3,360	3,400	9,600	6,302	19,302
Prudential Borrowing	3,331	17,850	49,135	38,910	105,895
Total	8,680	22,000	79,250	101,850	203,100

The addendum includes projects that have been added to the programme owing to their strategic importance to the Council. However detailed business cases are not yet in place as the precise details are not yet known. Work is currently being progressed for these projects, however they will only be commenced once a detailed business case has been completed and approved, the business case will also need to demonstrate the strategic impact of the scheme, an expenditure profile and funding sources or associated return on investment to enable the project to be delivered. At the stage where the business cases are sufficiently developed and they are deemed to be affordable the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets and the Chief Operating Officer will provide the additional approval for these schemes to proceed and form part of the main capital programme. Updates on these schemes will be provided to Cabinet through the quarterly reporting process.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

Outcome	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
<u>Children and Families</u>					
Knutsford Achievement	581	150	9,250	0	9,400
To Expand 'in borough' SEN placement Capacity	0	1,300	2,000	0	3,300
<u>Prevention and Support</u>					
Development of Hurdsfield Family Centre	0	250	1,350	0	1,600
Total	581	1,700	12,600	0	14,300
Total	581	1,700	12,600	0	14,300

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	581	150	4,250	-	4,400
External Contributions	-	-	390	-	390
Revenue Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Prudential Borrowing	-	1,550	7,960	-	9,510
Total	581	1,700	12,600	-	14,300

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

Category	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
<u>Infrastructure & Highways</u>					
A34 Corridor	0	0	0	15,500	15,500
A51/A500 Corridor Nantwich	0	0	4,000	0	4,000
King Street Enhancement Scheme	1	0	2,000	0	2,000
Macclesfield Movement Strategy	0	0	6,000	0	6,000
Residents First LED Lighting	0	0	2,000	0	2,000
Road Network and Linked Key Infrastructure	0	0	2,000	2,000	4,000
Active Travel Investment	0	300	300	0	600
Managing & Maintaining the Highways Network	0	0	10,000	10,000	20,000
Middlewich Eastern Bypass	2,007	800	800	0	1,600
**North West Crewe (Leighton West)	0	600	1,900	16,000	18,500
**Northern Gateway Infrastructure	0	0	6,000	6,000	12,000
Winter Service Facility	0	0	3,000	0	3,000
Total Infrastructure & Highways	2,008	1,700	38,000	49,500	89,200
<u>Growth and Regeneration</u>					
Crewe Town Centre Regeneration	0	0	5,500	19,400	24,900
Housing Delivery	0	0	150	150	300
Investment in Heritage Assets	880	1,500	1,500	2,500	5,500
Strategic Acquisitions	1,500	5,000	6,000	0	11,000
Total Growth & Regeneration	2,380	6,500	13,150	22,050	41,700

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

Category	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
<u>Rural & Green</u>					
Tatton Park Investment Phase 2	200	1,300	1,600	400	3,300
**Archives	0	0	400	13,000	13,400
Playing Fields Strategy	0	1,000	0	0	1,000
Total Rural & Green	200	2,300	2,000	13,400	17,700
<u>Client Commissioning</u>					
Strategic Site Development	3,360	3,400	9,600	6,000	19,000
Energy Projects	0	1,900	1,400	1,300	4,600
Total Client Commissioning	3,360	5,300	11,000	7,300	23,600
Total	7,948	15,800	64,150	92,250	172,200

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	1,407	600	12,875	38,118	51,593
External Contributions	-	-	3,000	10,400	13,400
Revenue Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Receipts	3,360	3,400	9,600	6,302	19,302
Prudential Borrowing	3,181	11,800	38,675	37,430	87,905
Total	7,948	15,800	64,150	92,250	172,200

The addendum includes projects that have been added to the programme owing to their strategic importance to the Council. However detailed business cases are not yet in place as the precise details are not yet known. Work is currently being progressed for these projects, however they will only be commenced once a detailed business case has been completed and approved, the business case will also need to demonstrate the strategic impact of the scheme, an expenditure profile and funding sources or associated return on investment to enable the project to be delivered. At the stage where the business cases are sufficiently developed and they are deemed to be affordable the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets and the Chief Operating Officer will provide the additional approval for these schemes to proceed and form part of the main capital programme. Updates on these schemes will be provided to Cabinet through the quarterly reporting process.

**In addition those schemes asterisked will be subject to external funding bids; or can only be commenced if there is confidence about how they will deliver capital receipts in the future.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

Outcome	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
<u>ICT Services</u>					
Regulatory Services and Environmental Health System Replacement	0	800	0	0	800
Revenues and Benefits Document Management System Replacement	0	2,000	0	0	2,000
Elections Systems Replacement	0	500	0	0	500
Planning and Sustainable Development System Replacement	0	1,000	0	0	1,000
<u>Client Commissioning Environmental</u>					
Anaerobic Digestion Project	150	200	2,500	9,600	12,300
Total	150	4,500	2,500	9,600	16,600

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 - 2019/20 - Subject to Business Case

	Prior Years £000	Budget 2017/18 £000	Budget 2018/19 £000	Budget 2019/20 £000	Total Budget 2017/20 £000
Funding Requirement					
Indicative Funding Analysis:					
Government Grants	-	-	-	-	0
External Contributions	-	-	-	8,120	8,120
Revenue Contributions	-	-	-	-	0
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	0
Prudential Borrowing	150	4,500	2,500	1,480	8,480
Total	150	4,500	2,500	9,600	16,600

13. Reserves Strategy

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Executive Summary

Cheshire East Council is maintaining adequate reserves for two main purposes:

1. To protect against risk, and;
2. To support investment

This strategy reflects how these two purposes are intrinsically linked as financial risks can be reduced through appropriate investment in schemes that generate sustainable returns. When sustainable returns are achieved overall reserve levels can reduce. Early intervention in social care and improved productivity from new systems are a feature of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and I do not forecast any requirement to increase General Reserves.

The Reserves Strategy presents information about the requirements to maintain financial reserves and provides statements on the types of reserves and current and predicted balances.

The strategy is revised annually, in line with the process to determine the Council's Budget, and sets out a clear purpose for the holding of reserves, using risk assessments and setting out principles for the management of balances in the medium term.

Cheshire East Council's Reserve Strategy was last approved at Council on 26th February 2016.

The quarterly performance review process informs the Council's thinking on reserves and an updated Reserves Strategy is reported to Cabinet and Council in February each year.

This strategy represents the latest position, based on third quarter forecasts and, following a review of the balances held, to ensure they meet the needs of Cheshire East Council in the medium term.

Additional detailed analysis of trends within the Council's finances is provided in the Council's [Value for Money](#) publication demonstrating the sound financial position of the Council.

PJ Bates

Peter Bates CPFA CIPD MBA

Chief Operating Officer
(Section 151 Officer)



Note: The strategy follows guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy ~ LAAP Bulletin 55 – February 2003: Guidance Note on Local Authority Reserves and Balances. Compliance with the guidance is recommended in the Institute's 2003 Statement on the Role of the Finance Director in Local Government and the regulatory framework and role of the Section 151 Officer are set out in **Annex A**.

1. Introduction

Types of Reserves

1. When reviewing medium term financial plans and preparing annual budgets the Council considers the establishment and maintenance of reserves. Two types of Revenue Reserves will be held:

General Reserves (see Section 2)

This represents the non-ringfenced balance of Council funds. There are two main purposes of general reserves: firstly to operate as a working balance to help manage the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing, and; secondly to provide a contingency to cushion the impact of emerging events or genuine emergencies. The target level of reserves retained will be risk based. General Reserves must be adequate and will increase and decrease as follows:

Increasing General Reserves

- Planned repayment as set-out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy, usually to recover to an adequate level in relation to a detailed risk assessment, or to prepare in advance for future risks or investment.
- Allocation of an operating surplus at the close of the financial year.

Decreasing General Reserves

- Planned draw-down of reserves to create investment, and to counteract the possibility of over-taxing in any financial year.
- Allocation of an operating deficit at the close of the financial year.

Earmarked Reserves (see Section 3)

These provide a means of building up funds, for use in a later financial year, to meet known or predicted policy initiatives. Discipline is required around setting up and maintaining earmarked reserves, and this strategy sets out the Council's approach to this. Earmarked reserves will increase through decisions of the Council and will decrease as they are spent on specific intended purposes.

Assessing the Adequacy of Reserves

2. In order to assess the adequacy of unallocated general reserves when setting the budget, the Section 151 Officer will take account of the strategic, operational and financial risks facing the Authority. The Council will therefore adopt formal risk management processes. The Audit Commission Codes of Audit Practice make it clear that it is the responsibility of the audited body to identify and address its operational and financial risks, and to develop and implement proper arrangements to manage them, including adequate and effective systems of internal control. The financial risks will be assessed in the context of the Authority's overall approach to risk management.
3. There is a requirement for local authorities to include an Annual Statement of Governance with the Statement of Accounts. The Section 151 Officer ensures that the Authority has put in place effective arrangements for internal audit of the control environment and systems of internal control, as required by professional standards.

4. Setting the level of general reserves is just one of several related decisions in the formulation of the medium term financial strategy and the budget for a particular year. Account will also be taken of the key financial assumptions underpinning the budget alongside a consideration of the Authority's financial management arrangements.
5. **Table 1** sets out the significant budget assumptions that are relevant when considering the adequacy of reserves, in addition to the issue of cashflow.
6. These factors can only be assessed properly at a local level. A considerable degree of professional judgment is required. The Section 151 Officer may choose to express advice on the level of balances in cash and / or as percentage of budget (to aid understanding) so long as that advice is tailored to the circumstances of the Authority for that particular year.
7. Advice will be set in the context of the Authority's process to manage medium term financial stability and not focus on short term considerations, although balancing the annual budget by drawing on general reserves may be a legitimate short term option. However, where reserves are to be deployed to finance recurrent expenditure this should be made explicit, and will occur only to pump prime investment and not to regularly support such costs. Advice will be given on the adequacy of reserves over the lifetime of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Table 1: Holding adequate reserves will depend on a number of key factors	
Budget Assumptions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The treatment of inflation and interest rates - Estimates of the level and timing of capital receipts - The treatment of demand led pressures - The treatment of planned efficiency savings / productivity gains - The financial risks inherent in any significant new funding partnerships, major outsourcing arrangements or major capital developments - The availability of other funds to deal with major contingencies and the adequacy of provisions 	
Financial Standing and management	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The overall financial standing of the Authority (including: level of borrowing, debt outstanding and Council Tax collection rates) - The Authority's track record in budget and financial management including the robustness of the medium term plans - The Authority's capacity to manage in-year budget pressures - The strength of the financial information and reporting arrangements - The Authority's virement and end of year procedures in relation to budget under / overspends at authority and service level - The adequacy of the Authority's insurance arrangements to cover major unforeseen risks 	

Source: CIPFA – LAAP Bulletin 55, 2003

8. The current guidance requires the purpose, usage and the basis of transactions of earmarked reserves to be identified clearly. A review of the levels of earmarked reserves will be undertaken as part of annual budget preparation.

2. General Fund Reserves (Revenue)

Purposes

9. The purpose of general reserves is to minimise the possible financial impacts to the Authority from:
 - Emergencies
 - In-year emerging financial issues
 - Reacting to investment opportunities
10. The Finance Procedure Rules set the parameters for the use of general reserves.
11. The in-year use of general reserves requires Council approval and should not be used to support recurring spending unless that is an intended sustainable strategy within the Medium Term Financial Strategy or a suitable payback period is agreed in advance.
12. In all cases the use of reserves should be approved by the Section 151 Officer.

Opening Balances

13. The 2016/17 Budget anticipated that the Council would hold general reserves of £12.8m. However, an improved final outturn position resulted in a revised balance of £13.0m.
14. In February 2016 Council approved the use of general reserves during 2016/17. Council approved the use of £1m general reserves to be transferred to earmarked reserves to provide for costs associated with the Council's Planning functions.

15. **Table 2** shows the forecast position for 1st April 2017, it is anticipated that the Council will hold general reserves of £10.3m.

Table 2	Estimated Balance 1 st April 2017 £m
Amount of General Fund Balance available for new expenditure	13.0
<small>(Source: 2015/16 Statement of Accounts)</small>	
Approved in-year transfer to earmarked reserves	-1.0
The impact of performance against the 2016/17 Revenue Budget	-1.7
<small>(Source: 2016/17 Three Quarter Year Review of Performance)</small>	
	10.3

Estimated Movement in Reserves (2016/17 onwards)

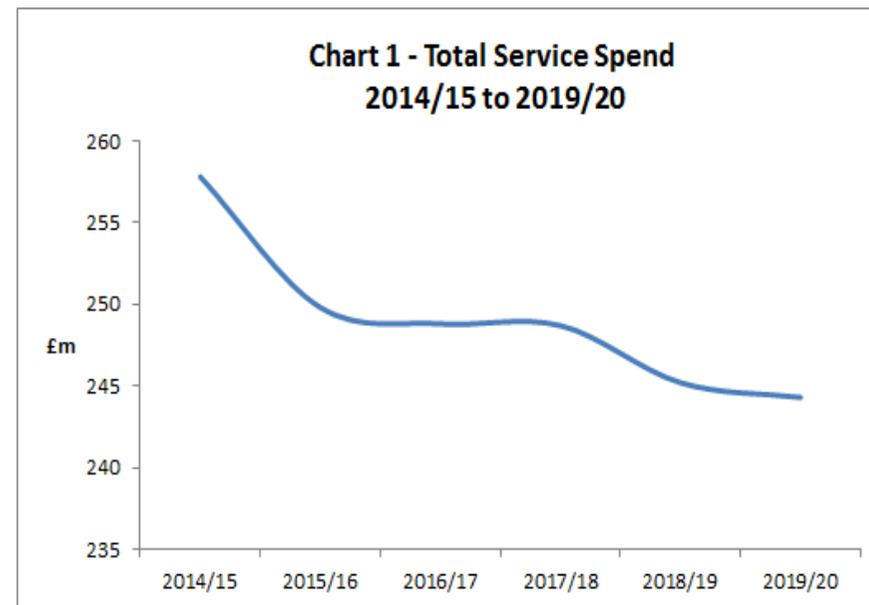
16. **Table 3** (overleaf) summarises the current estimated movements in general reserves from 2017 to 2020.
17. The clear assumption is that any in-year, or future, emerging financial pressures will be met from within the Council's in-year funding envelope.

18. The level of reserves needed is assessed each year according to the risks facing the Authority (see **Table 4**: Risk Assessment overleaf).

Table 3 – The level of reserves will be maintained in the medium term	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2020/21
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Estimated Balance @ 1 st April	13.0	10.3	10.3	10.3
Estimated Impact of Spending	-1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Planned Contribution to Earmarked Reserves	-1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Forecast General Reserves @ 31st March	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3
Risk Assessed Minimum Level – February 2017	11.8	10.1	10.1	10.1

Source: Cheshire East Finance

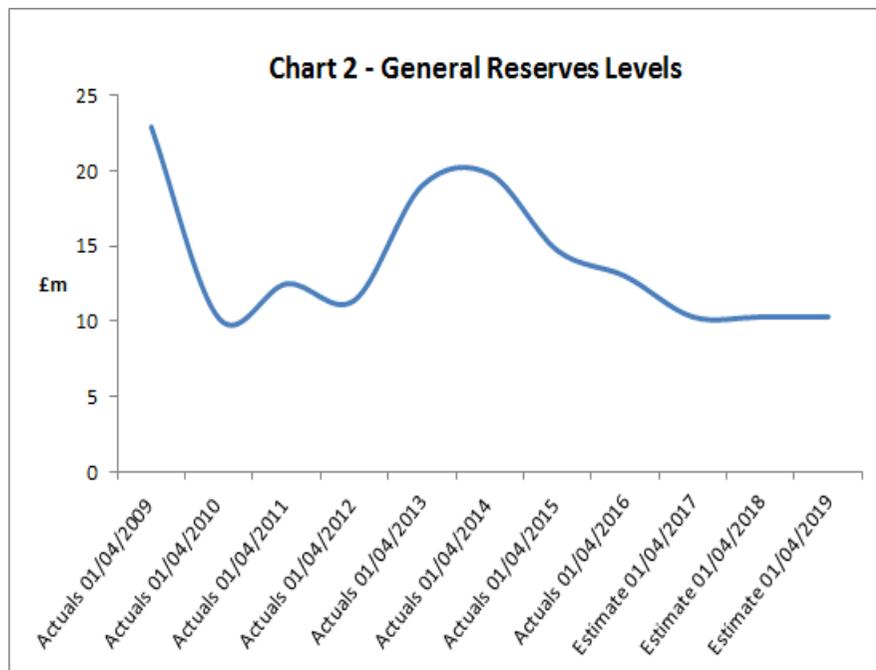
19. **Chart 1** shows how the medium term financial outlook reflects a reduction in real terms expenditure on Council Services.



Source: Cheshire East Finance

20. Forecast reductions in net expenditure over the medium term reflects how the Council is reacting to reductions in Government funding. At the same time the Council minimised the impact on local residents by not raising Council Tax for five years up to 2015/16. This approach has required up front investment in change management to sustain the financial resilience of the Council. For example, early intervention in social care requires up front costs, and reducing staffing numbers usually requires expenditure on severance payments. The Council will also be investing in information technology to increase productivity.
21. Strategically the Council has chosen to utilise short-term funding to support investment and change and not to build up reserves balances.

22. **Chart 2** reflects how Cheshire East Reserves are used to support large scale investment, and are being stabilised over the medium term. The level at which reserves are set for 2017/18, reflects the aim of Cheshire East Council to match the Risk Assessed Minimum Level, ensuring reserves are adequate, and provide sufficient flexibility to manage short term cashflow.



Source: Cheshire East Finance

General Fund Reserves – Risk Assessment

23. The risks facing each local area will vary. In the case of Cheshire East, the impact of rising demand for services, especially in social care, emerging Government policies such as changes to business rates, present the potential for significant emerging risk. The

financial pressure on public sector partners, especially in the Health Sector, could also create financial risks to the Council.

24. The minimum target level of reserves is quantified by a detailed risk assessment based on the potential of key risks actually causing financial pressure in the medium term. This approach allows the Council to take account of local circumstances and the impact of economic forecasts.
25. Where specific financial liability has not been established, or where outcomes from emerging pressures cannot be detailed, the Council will assume an appropriate level of risk. This reduces the possibility that the Council will be exposed to excessive financial pressure in a single year thereby smoothing the impact on services.
26. Risks are categorised, and potential values are applied to them. This presents the potential exposure to financial risk. **Table 4** shows the risk areas and the level of reserves Cheshire East Council should retain to mitigate that risk. In each case the value of the risk retained has been calculated as a percentage of the potential impact. The percentage is based on the likelihood of the risk actually achieving that total impact in any year.
27. The level of risk in the Medium Term Financial Strategy has reduced based on a trend of achieving of budget targets.
28. The updated Risk Assessment for 2017/18 provides for a reduction in the Minimum Level from £11.8m to £10.1m. This remains a prudent overall target for reserves at 4.1% of the net budget. The certainty of a multi-year agreement from the Government, alongside a balanced Medium Term Financial Strategy, has mitigated significant levels uncertainty when compared to previous budgets.

29. It is possible that a number of events could happen in a single year and the Council could be exposed to new unidentified risks. For this reason the analysis also contains a Strategic Reserve calculated as a percentage of gross expenditure (in this case 0.7%).
30. Risks will be included and managed using the following basic principles:
 - a. The risk may impact within the medium term.
 - b. Risks are potential one-off events.
 - c. The risk will have genuine financial consequences beyond insurance cover.
 - d. Mitigating actions will be in place to minimise the potential requirement for financial support.
 - e. If a risk becomes 100% likely it will be allocated to earmarked reserves or included within appropriate Revenue Budget estimates.
 - f. Emerging risks will be addressed from in-year surplus or virement before any request to allocate general reserves.

Table 4: A robust level of reserves is guided by an assessment of potential risks

Class of Risk	Knock on Effects	Effect on Budget / Mitigating Action	Risk Assessment
Health & Safety	Major loss of service	Increased cost to reduce further risk of breach / Robust risk assessments	£100,000
	Lost reputation / Effect on recruitment	Additional cost of new advertising to regain confidence and recruit staff / Effective Communication Plans and Employment option plans	
Fire / Structural damage	Major loss of service	Premises not operational / Robust disaster recovery plan	£400,000
	Epidemic	High staff or resident sickness & absence costs / raise awareness of safety measures and introduce robust emergency response plans	
	Severe Weather	Additional staffing, transport and materials costs / robust emergency plans	
	Insurance claims create rising premiums or cost to insurance reserves	Budget growth to cover premiums or self insurance costs / Good claims management	
Budget Pressures	Opening Balances vary from current predictions	Impact on opening balances / apply prudent assumptions to opening balances	£4,500,000
	Efficiency savings challenged by changing priorities, and reduced income from economic downturn and additional VR costs.	Impact of 2016/17 projected outturn / robust remedial plans and monitoring of progress	
	Higher than anticipated inflation arising in year	In-Year emerging issues / Robust plans and monitoring of progress	
	Potential decrease in Council Tax and Business Rates collection rate	Increased inflation on contracts and services / contract management and robust remedial plans	
		Lower than forecast income or increased reliefs/ robust assessment criteria and debt recovery procedures	

Table 4: A robust level of reserves is guided by an assessment of potential risks			
Class of Risk	Knock on Effects	Effect on Budget / Mitigating Action	Risk Assessment
Legal & IT costs	Legal challenges to Council service delivery / charges for services	Court costs and claims for financial settlement / clear processes and good workforce management	£800,000
	Data corruption and need to improve security	ICT service days to repair, loss of service / robust security policies and firewalls	
Industrial relations / External organisations	Disruption to service and possible costs of arbitration / tribunal	Loss of income, costs of providing essential services or direct costs of resolution, reduced pay costs / emergency planning	
Strategic Reserve		Strategic / Emergency risk cover, potential further invest to save options and future pay and structure changes	£4,300,000
OVERALL RISKS			£10,100,000
% of Net Revenue Budget			4.1%

Source: Cheshire East Finance

31. The outcome of this analysis has been to place an estimated total value on the range of risks that may arise and which are not covered by insurance. This is equivalent in total to £10.1m.
32. It should be noted that these risks reflect the net effect of issues relating to sustainable performance against the 2017/18 Revenue Budget. The key factors are:
 - The capacity of the organisation to deliver proposed growth or achieve the proposed level of savings entirely.
 - Potential underachievement of cost reduction targets following consultation processes.
 - Demand for services rising above estimated trends.
 - Changes to Government funding arrangements.

Adequacy of General Reserves

33. A duty of the Section 151 Officer is to comment on the adequacy of financial reserves (see **Annex A**).
34. The estimates contained within the medium term financial strategy must be sufficiently robust to achieve certainty that reserves are adequate. The Section 151 Officer uses information contained within the Reserves Strategy to comment specifically in the annual Budget Report on the adequacy of reserves.

3. Earmarked Reserves (Revenue)

Purpose

35. The purpose of earmarked reserves is:
 - a. To prevent an uneven impact from policy options, by allowing balances to be set aside for future year expenditure.
 - b. To set aside amounts for projects which extend beyond one year.

36. Once Earmarked reserves have been established by Cheshire East Council it is the responsibility of Chief Officers, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, to ensure balances are spent in line with their purpose.

37. **Table 5** identifies the most commonly established earmarked reserves and the rationale behind why such reserves are created and maintained.

38. For each earmarked reserve held by Cheshire East Council there will be clear records that set out:
 - the purpose of the reserve,
 - how and when the reserve can be used,
 - procedures for the reserve’s management and control,
 - a process and timescale for review of the reserve to ensure continuing relevance and adequacy,
 - clear indication of payback periods and approach (if applicable).

Table 5: All earmarked reserves should have a clear rationale	
Category of Earmarked Reserve	Rationale
Sums set aside for major schemes, such as capital developments or asset purchases, or to fund major reorganisations	Where expenditure is planned in future accounting periods, it is prudent to build up resources in advance.
Insurance reserves	An Insurance Fund has been established to meet the potential costs of insurance excesses arising from claims in respect of fire and consequential loss, public and employer liability, and vehicles relating to both Cheshire East Council and the former Cheshire County Council.
Reserves of trading and business units	Surpluses arising from in-house trading may be retained, or may have to be retained by statute to cover potential losses in future years, or to finance capital expenditure.
Reserves retained for service departmental use	Increasingly, authorities have internal protocols that permit year-end surpluses at departmental level to be carried forward.
School Balances	These are unspent balances of budgets delegated to individual schools.

Source: CIPFA – LAAP Bulletin 55, 2003

39. When establishing reserves, Cheshire East Council will ensure that it complies with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom and in particular the need to distinguish between reserves and provisions.
40. The protocol for Cheshire East Council earmarked reserves is set out below. The Section 151 Officer will monitor adherence to these protocols. Records of each reserve will be held to demonstrate compliance with the protocols.
41. Earmarked Reserves will be:
 - Set up by Full Council, on recommendation by the Section 151 Officer,
 - Supported by a business case,
 - Normally held for a maximum of 3 years, except where the business case justifies a longer retention,
 - Subject to a minimum value, set initially at £60,000, unless the business case supports a lower level,
 - Be reviewed at least annually.
42. Services may also carry forward balances in accordance with processes set out in the Financial Procedure Rules.
43. Earmarked reserves have the effect of transferring the tax burden across financial years as current taxpayers' funds are being used to support future years' spending. It is therefore recommended that Cheshire East Council's earmarked reserves are subject to annual review, at least as part of the budget-setting process to ensure that they are still appropriate, relevant and adequate for the intended purpose.

Opening Balances

44. At 1st April 2017, it is anticipated that balances on existing earmarked reserves held by Cheshire East Council will be £40.2m. It is estimated that balances will reduce by £5.9m by the end of 2017/18. **Table 6** (overleaf) shows the position on each earmarked reserve.

Table 6: Earmarked Reserves that are statutory or essential have been retained for 2017/18

Service Description	Estimated Available Balance at 1 April 2017 £000	Forecast Movement in 2017/18 £000	Estimated Balance at 31 March 2018 £000	Reason / Use
People				
Adults, Public Health and Communities				
Extra Care Housing PFI	2,060	165	2,225	Surplus grant set aside to meet future payments on existing PFI contract which commenced in January 2009.
Provider Investment & Fees	450	-450	0	Linked to the S256 contribution towards backdated fees, to be used for provider training.
Public Health	257	-257	0	Ring-fenced underspend to be invested in areas to improve performance against key targets. Including the creation of an innovation fund to support partners to deliver initiatives that tackle key health issues.
Communities Investment	379	-290	89	Amalgamation of promoting local delivery; grant support; new initiatives and additional funding from outturn to support community investment.

Table 6: Earmarked Reserves that are statutory or essential have been retained for 2017/18

Service Description	Estimated Available Balance at 1 April 2017	Forecast Movement in 2017/18	Estimated Balance at 31 March 2018	Reason / Use
	£000	£000	£000	
Place				
Infrastructure and Highways				
Severe Weather	230	0	230	To provide for future adverse winter weather expenditure.
Growth and Regeneration				
Royal Arcade Crewe	350	-200	150	To provide for future costs relating to the Royal Arcade including repairs and maintenance.
Rural and Green Structure				
Tatton Park	150	0	150	Ring-fenced surplus on Tatton Park trading account.
Corporate				
Legal Services				
Insurance & Risk	3,989	-306	3,683	To settle insurance claims and manage excess costs.
Democratic Services				
Elections	152	140	292	To provide funds for Election costs every 4 years.
Customer Operations				
Emergency Assistance	169	-169	0	Carry forward of underspend on previous years' schemes to provide for future hardship payments.
Finance and Performance				
Investment (Sustainability)	863	-863	0	To support investment that can increase longer term financial independence and stability of the Council.
Collection Fund Management	8,889	951	9,840	To manage cash flow implications as part of the Business Rates Retention Scheme. Includes liabilities that will not be paid until future years.
Financing	11,340	0	11,340	To provide for financing of capital schemes, other projects and initiatives.
Transforming Services	2,337	-1,360	977	Funding for costs associated with service transformation; particularly in relation to staffing related expenditure.
Transitional Funding	1,021	-799	222	To provide financial support to services or projects during a period of transition to a lower overall cost base.

Table 6: Earmarked Reserves that are statutory or essential have been retained for 2017/18

Service Description	Estimated Available Balance at 1 April 2017	Forecast Movement in 2017/18	Estimated Balance at 31 March 2018	Reason / Use
	£000	£000	£000	
Cross Service				
Trading Reserve	1,179	-200	979	The Authority's share of ASDVs net surplus to be spent in furtherance of the ASDV's objectives.
Service Manager carry forward	880	-797	83	Allocations for Cost of Investment or grant funded expenditure.
Revenue Grants - Dedicated Schools Grant	4,158	-1,000	3,158	Unspent specific use grant carried forward into 2017/18.
Revenue Grants - Other	1,395	-455	940	Unspent specific use grant carried forward into 2017/18.
Total	40,248	-5,890	34,358	

Source: Cheshire East Council

4. Capital Reserves

45. Capital receipts received in year are fully applied to finance the capital programme and therefore no capital receipts reserves are held by the Council.
46. Where revenue contributions are used to finance capital expenditure these will be held in reserve until such time as the expenditure is incurred.

5. Reserves Strategy Conclusion

47. Overall Cheshire East Council is establishing reserves that match the minimum risk levels while retaining flexibility to react to investment opportunities. This approach can be supported during the medium term based on recent performance against budget.
48. This recognises local issues and allows the Section 151 Officer to comment favourably on the adequacy of reserves.
49. The maintenance of protocols around the use of balances improves control and increases openness in financial reporting and management. This approach assists with financial planning and increases understanding of Cheshire East Council's financial position. Reserves' positions will continue to be reviewed throughout the financial year.

Background Papers

General Fund Reserves – Risk Assessment Working Papers 2016

CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Panel: Bulletin 55, Local Authority Reserves and Balances (2003)

Annex A to Reserves Strategy

Protocols and Controls

The Existing Legislative / Regulatory Framework

1. Sections 32 and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 require billing and precepting authorities in England and Wales to have regard to the level of reserves needed for meeting estimated future expenditure when calculating the budget requirement.
2. There are three significant safeguards in place that militate against local authorities over-committing themselves financially:
 1. The balanced budget requirement.
 2. The Chief Finance Officer's S114 powers.
 3. The External Auditor's responsibility to review and report on financial standing.
3. The balanced budget requirement is reinforced by section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 which requires the Chief Finance Officer to report to all the Authority's councillors if there is or is likely to be unlawful expenditure or an unbalanced budget. This would include situations where reserves have become seriously depleted and it is forecast that the Authority will not have the resources to meet its expenditure in a particular financial year. The issue of a section 114 notice cannot be taken lightly and has serious operational implications. The Authority's full Council must meet within 21 days to consider the S114 notice and during that period the Authority is prohibited from entering into new agreements involving the incurring of expenditure.
4. While it is primarily the responsibility of the local authority and its Chief Finance Officer to maintain a sound financial position, External Auditors have a responsibility to review the arrangements in place to ensure that financial standing is soundly based. In the

course of their duties External Auditors review and report on the level of reserves taking into account their local knowledge of the Authority's financial performance over a period of time. However, it is not the responsibility of auditors to prescribe the optimum or minimum level of reserves for individual authorities or authorities in general.

The Role of the Chief Financial Officer

5. It is the responsibility of the Chief Finance Officer to advise local authorities about the level of reserves that they should hold and to ensure that there are clear protocols for their establishment and use. There is no statutory minimum.
6. Local authorities, on the advice of their Chief Finance Officers, are required to make their own judgements on the level of reserves taking into account all the relevant local circumstances. Such circumstances vary. A well-managed authority, for example, with a prudent approach to budgeting should be able to operate with a relatively low level of general reserves. There is a broad range within which authorities might reasonably operate depending on their particular circumstances.

Good Governance

7. It is important that Members take responsibility for ensuring the adequacy of reserves and provisions when they set the budget. CIPFA recommend that the respective roles of officers and Councillors in relation to reserves should be codified locally and given due recognition in the Constitutions. This codification should:
 - State which council bodies are empowered to establish reserves

- Set out the responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer and Councillor – or group of Councillors – responsible for finance
- Specify the reporting arrangements

appropriate levels. It should also show the estimated opening balances for the year, planned additions / withdrawals and the estimated closing balances.

A New Reporting Framework

8. The Chief Finance Officer has a fiduciary duty to local taxpayers, and must be satisfied that the decisions taken on balances and reserves represent proper stewardship of public funds.
9. The level and utilisation of reserves will be determined formally by the Council, informed by the advice and judgement of the Chief Finance Officer. To enable the Council to reach its decision, the Chief Finance Officer should report the factors that influenced his or her judgement and ensure that the advice given is recorded formally. Where the advice is not accepted this should be recorded formally in the minutes of the Council meeting.

CIPFA recommended that:

10. The Business Planning report to the Council should include a statement showing the estimated opening general reserve fund balance for the year ahead, the additional contribution to / withdrawal from balances, and the estimated end of year balance. Reference should be made as to the extent to which such reserves are to be used to finance recurrent expenditure this should be accompanied by a statement from the Chief Finance Officer on the adequacy of the general reserves and provisions in respect of the forthcoming financial year and the Authority's medium term financial strategy.
11. A statement reporting on the annual review of earmarked reserves should also be made at the same time to the Council. The review itself should be undertaken as part of the budget preparation process. The statement should list the various earmarked reserves, the purposes for which they are held and provide advice on the

14. Abbreviations

This annex provides details of the abbreviations used in the Report in alphabetical order.

Term	Meaning
ASDV	Alternative Service Delivery Vehicles – part of the Council’s commissioning approach to funding services.
BRRS	Business Rates Retention Scheme – the system of local authority funding introduced on 1st April 2013.
DCLG / CLG	Department for Communities and Local Government – the Government department responsible for supporting local government.
DSG	Dedicated Schools Grant – grant received from Government to fund schools.
ESG	Education Support Grant – a grant provided to support services the Council provides to schools.
FQR	First Quarter Review of Performance.
HR	Human Resources – one of the Council’s corporate service areas under the Chief Operating Officer.
ICT	Information and Communication Technology – the service responsible for computers, networks, software, phones, etc.
MYR	Mid-Year Review of Performance.
NEETs	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NNDR	National Non Domestic Rates – the contribution to general local authority costs by businesses. The rate is set by central Government.
PWLB	Public Works Loan Board – a Government agency providing loans to public bodies for capital works.
RSG	Revenue Support Grant – a grant that forms part of the Business Rate Retention Scheme.
SLE	Separate Legal Entity – a delivery model for delivering services in a different way.
TQR	Third Quarter Review of Performance.

15. Forecasts

Forecasts presented to the Council in February 2016 highlighted potential budget deficits in the medium term.

Proposals in the Pre-Budget Consultation focused on eliminating the medium term deficits, whilst building financial resilience for the future.

	Budget Book 2015/16 (revised at TQR)	Estimated Net Budget 2016/17	Estimated Net Budget 2017/18	Estimated Net Budget 2018/19	Estimated Net Budget 2019/20
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Outcome 1 - Our Local Communities are strong and supportive	26.3	25.6	25.5	25.9	26.3
Outcome 2 - Cheshire East has a strong and resilient economy	33.0	32.8	32.8	33.1	33.5
Outcome 3 - People have the life skills and education they need in order to thrive	12.3	12.1	12.3	12.6	12.9
Outcome 4 - Cheshire East is a green and sustainable place	31.2	31.4	30.4	30.1	30.4
Outcome 5 - People live well and for longer	110.3	111.9	112.1	111.7	113.3
Outcome 6 - Efficiency	37.6	35.0	33.5	34.1	34.7
Total Outcomes	250.7	248.8	246.6	247.5	251.1
Corporate Contributions and Adjustments	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Capital Financing	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
Use of / Contribution to Earmarked Reserve		2.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
<i>Additional Reductions to closing Funding Deficit Yr 2/3</i>			0.0	-8.9	-22.4
TOTAL:	265.8	266.7	261.6	253.6	243.7
CENTRAL BUDGETS					
Business Rate Retention Scheme	-38.6	-39.7	-40.4	-41.6	-40.3
Revenue Support Grant	-39.2	-26.3	-13.4	-5.4	0.0
Specific Grants	-19.2	-18.8	-18.2	-11.2	-10.6
Council Tax	-168.8	-179.4	-180.7	-181.9	-183.2
Collection Fund Surplus	0.0	-2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL: Central Budgets	-265.8	-266.7	-252.7	-240.1	-234.1
Funding Deficit	0.0	0.0	8.9	13.5	9.6

Notes:

Including assumption that the Funding (Surplus) / Deficit from previous years is closed and that General Reserves are not used.

16. Feedback

Be involved in decision making in Cheshire East...

If you would like to be involved in consultations undertaken by Cheshire East Council, you can do so by registering for updates on the Consultation pages or joining the Digital Influence Panel. Please use CTRL and Click on the light bulb to join.



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COUNCIL MEETING – 23RD FEBRUARY 2017

Extract from the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 7th February 2017

96 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND MRP STATEMENT 2017/18

Cabinet considered a report on the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2017/18.

The key elements of the strategy for 2017/18 were for the Council to:

- Retain capital financing costs within an affordable limit of c.£14m.
- Not enter into any additional long term borrowing in 2017/18.
- Take an appropriate approach to risk if short term loans were required, by only borrowing from lenders identified in the strategy.
- Maintain security of investments by only using counterparties detailed in the strategy.
- Support a flexible approach to treasury management that could react to opportunities and market conditions to maximise effectiveness, whilst protecting the public funds managed within the strategy.

The Treasury Management Strategy set out in Appendix A to the report had also been reported to the Audit and Governance Committee on 8th December 2016 for scrutiny purposes.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet recommends to Council the approval of the Treasury Management Strategy and the MRP Statement for 2017/18 as set out at Appendix A to the report.

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Cheshire East Council

Cabinet

Date of Meeting:	7 th February 2017
Report of:	Chief Operating Officer
Subject/Title:	Treasury Management Strategy and MRP Statement 2017/18
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Peter Groves

1. Report Summary

1.1. The Treasury Management strategy is an important element in the overall financial health and resilience of Cheshire East Council. The strategy focuses on the management of the Council's investment and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.

1.2. The key elements of the strategy for 2017/18 are for the Council to:

- Retain capital financing costs within an affordable limit of c.£14m
- Not enter into any additional long term borrowing in 2017/18
- Take an appropriate approach to risk if short term loans are required, by only borrowing from lenders identified in the strategy
- Maintain security of investments by only using counterparties detailed in the strategy
- Support a flexible approach to treasury management that can react to opportunities and market conditions to maximise effectiveness, whilst protecting the public funds managed within the strategy

1.3 The Treasury Management Strategy set out in Appendix A was also reported to the Audit & Governance Committee on 8th December 2016 for scrutiny purposes.

2. Recommendation

2.1. Cabinet is requested to recommend to Council the approval of the:-

- Treasury Management Strategy and the MRP Statement for 2017/18 (Appendix A)

The Strategy includes the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) reporting requirements in accordance with the Local Government Investments Guidance under Section 15(1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2003.

3. Other Options Considered

- 3.1. None

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1. The report presents the 2017/18 Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS), incorporating the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement, Investment Strategy and Prudential and Treasury Indicators 2017/20, required under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003.
- 4.2. The Treasury Management Strategy details the activities of the Treasury Management function in the forthcoming year 2017/18. The Strategy for 2017/18 reflects the views on interest rates of leading market forecasts provided by Arlingclose, the Council's advisor on treasury matters. It also includes the Prudential Indicators relating to Treasury Management.
- 4.3. The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires all local authorities to agree a Treasury Management Strategy Statement including an Investment Strategy annually in advance of the financial year. The strategy should incorporate the setting of the Council's prudential indicators for the three forthcoming financial years.

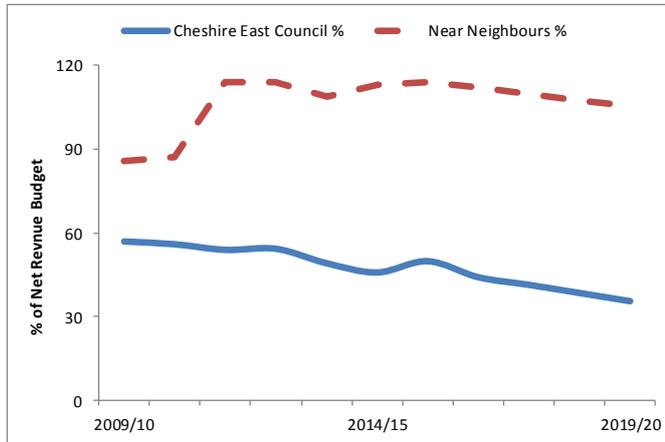
5. Background/Chronology

- 5.1. The treasury management team work closely with the Council's advisors Arlingclose to gain the maximum benefit from their expertise and guidance, including benchmarking performance against other local authorities on a quarterly basis.
- 5.2. The Treasury Management Strategy takes into account future borrowing requirements, based on the Council's three year capital spending plans, projected cash flow requirements and money market opportunities. The aim is to maintain control over borrowing activities, with particular regard for longer term affordability; but also to allow sufficient flexibility to respond to changes in the capital and money markets as they arise.
- 5.3. A major influence on the money markets during 2016/17 has been the result of Brexit and the decision by the Bank of England to reduce the base rate to a new all time low of 0.25%. Brexit has created uncertainty and the subsequent reduction in base rates will affect future returns. However, all other factors remain the same and investments will continue to be made in line with current strategies. This will, of course, be kept under review but

until more is known about the arrangements post Brexit, there is unlikely to be any significant change.

- 5.4. Over the past year, the Council has reduced the credit risk of its investments by utilising higher rated counterparties, secured bonds and UK Public sector investments (e.g other Local Authorities). Through selective use, the overall level of return on our investments has been maintained. This process will continue in 2017/18 with interest returns expected to be better than, or equivalent to, the alternative liquid investments such as money market funds where returns are gradually diminishing.
- 5.5. The Council remains committed to delivering appropriate levels of capital investment to support service improvement and local economic growth, which increases the importance of sound Treasury Management Strategy in the medium term. The current strategy is to ensure that investment in capital schemes is sustainable by controlling the consequential impact on the revenue account and council tax levels, ensuring good value for money to local businesses and residents.
- 5.6. The Council has continued its policy of utilising existing cash balances instead of taking out new long term loans in order to fund capital expenditure. This has meant that the loans portfolio has reduced as loans have been repaid.
- 5.7. At 31 March 2016 the Council had an underlying need to borrow of £224m. By having just £109m of long-term loans outstanding at that time the Council was using £115m of cash balances represented by its reserves, balances and the excess of creditors over debtors to temporarily fund capital expenditure payments. This position (i.e., where the amounts of loans outstanding is less than the underlying need to borrow) is referred to as internal borrowing.
- 5.8. It is the usual practice to have high levels of internal borrowing at a time when short term interest rates are below long term interest rates. This strategy helps reduce the net cost of interest payable to the Council as it avoids having to pay interest on new loans between 2-3% whilst only earning on average 0.75% on any cash balances held.
- 5.9. The Council currently has external borrowing of £110m. The amount of interest paid on the Council's portfolio of long term loans is mainly at fixed rates of interest (circa 3.9%). Currently long term interest rates are around 3.1%.
- 5.10. Since 1 April 2009 the level of external debt has reduced by £27m from £137m. As a percentage of the net revenue budget this is lower than the Council's nearest neighbours.

Chart 1 - Long term borrowing as a percentage of net revenue budget continues to reduce due to ongoing repayments



5.11. The rate of interest to be earned on the Council’s cash balances that are temporarily invested is budgeted to be £0.3m.

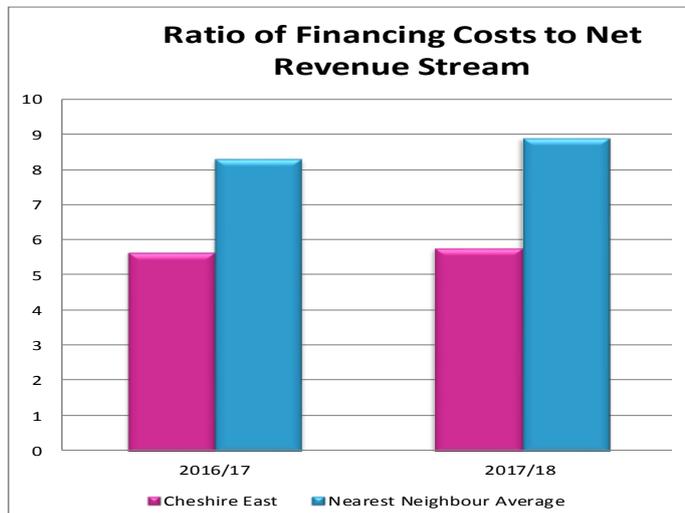
5.12. The capital financing budget is at a very prudent level of £14m, 5.67% of the 2017/18 net revenue budget. This compares favourably when compared to the Councils nearest neighbours.

Capital Financing Budget 2017/18

Capital Financing Budget	2017/18 £m
Repayment of Outstanding Debt	11.2
Contribution re: Schools Transforming Learning Communities Schemes	-0.9
Interest on Long Term Loans	4.0
Less: Interest Receivable on Cash Balances	-0.3
Net Capital Financing Budget	14.0

Source: Cheshire East Finance

Chart 2 – The revenue cost of the capital programme is lower than the nearest neighbour ‘average’.



6. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members

6.1. All.

7. Implications of Recommendation

7.1. Policy Implications

7.1.1. The impact of the Treasury Management Strategy 2017/18 feeds into the assumptions underpinning the 2017/20 medium term financial strategy.

7.2. Legal Implications

7.2.1. It is a requirement of the CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice; that Council receives an Annual Report on its Treasury Strategy; that Council sets Prudential Indicators for the next three years and approves an Annual Investment Strategy and an Annual MRP Policy Statement. There are stringent legislative requirements in place which dictate the way that a local authority deals with financial administration.

7.3. Financial Implications

7.3.1. Effective treasury management provides support towards the achievement of service priorities, it ensures that the Council's capital investment programme delivers value for money by demonstrating that capital expenditure plans are affordable, external borrowing is prudent and sustainable and treasury decisions are taken in accordance with good practice.

7.4. Equality Implications

7.4.1. Not applicable.

7.5. Rural Community Implications

7.5.1. Not applicable.

7.6. Human Resources Implications

7.6.1. Not applicable.

7.7. Public Health Implications

7.7.1. Not applicable.

7.8. Implications for Children and Young People

7.8.1. Not applicable.

7.9. Other Implications (Please Specify)

7.9.1. Not applicable.

8. Risk Management

- 8.1. The Council operates its treasury management activity within the approved Treasury Management Code of Practice and associated guidance.
- 8.2. The Council has borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are therefore central to the Authority's treasury management strategy as no treasury management activity is without risk. The aim is to operate in an environment where risk is clearly identified and managed.
- 8.3. To reduce the risk that the Council will suffer a loss as a result of its treasury management activities down to an acceptable level a number of risk management procedures have been put in place. The procedures cover liquidity risk, credit and counterparty risk, re-financing risk, legal and regulatory risk, and fraud, error and corruption risk. These are referred to within the borrowing and investment strategies, prudential indicators and the Treasury Management Practices Principles and Schedules.
- 8.4. The arrangements for the identification, monitoring and controlling of risk will be reported on a regular basis in accordance with the Strategy.

9. Access to Information/Bibliography

9.1 *CIPFA Capital Finance – The Prudential Code (2013 Edition)*

CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services – Code of Practice

Guidance and information provided by Arlingclose can be accessed via the Treasury Management team, Financial Strategy & Reporting.

10. Contact Information

Contact details for this report are as follows:

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Appendices:

Appendix A – Treasury Management Strategy Statement & Investment Strategy 2017/18 – 2019/20

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20



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- A. Economic & Interest Rate Forecast (Section 2.10)
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- C. Prudential indicators
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1. Background

- 1.1. On 23rd February 2012 the Authority adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2011 Edition* (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Authority to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year.
- 1.2. In addition, the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) issued revised *Guidance on Local Authority Investments* in March 2010 that requires the Authority to approve an investment strategy before the start of each financial year.
- 1.3. The report fulfils the Authority's legal obligation under the *Local Government Act 2003* to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the CLG Guidance.
- 1.4. The Authority has borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are therefore central to the Authority's treasury management strategy.
- 1.5. **Revised strategy:** In accordance with the CLG Guidance, the Authority will be asked to approve a revised Treasury Management Strategy Statement should the assumptions on which this report is based change significantly. Such circumstances would include, for example, a large unexpected change in interest rates, or in the Authority's capital programme or in the level of its investment balance.

2. External Context

- 2.1 **Economic background:** The major external influence on the Authority's treasury management strategy for 2017/18 will be the UK's progress in negotiating a smooth exit from the European Union. Financial markets, wrong-footed by the referendum outcome, have since been weighed down by uncertainty over whether leaving the Union also means leaving the single market. Negotiations are expected to start once the UK formally triggers exit in early 2017 and last for at least two years. Uncertainty over future economic prospects will therefore remain throughout 2017/18.
- 2.2 The fall and continuing weakness in sterling and the near doubling in the price of oil in 2016 have combined to drive inflation expectations higher. The Bank of England is forecasting that Consumer Price Inflation will breach its 2% target in 2017, the first time since late 2013, but the Bank is expected to look through inflation overshoots over the course of 2017 when setting interest rates so as to avoid derailing the economy.
- 2.3 Initial post-referendum economic data showed that the feared collapse in business and consumer confidence had not immediately led to lower GDP growth. However, the prospect of a leaving the single market has dented business confidence and resulted in a delay in new business investment and, unless counteracted by higher public spending or retail sales, will weaken economic growth in 2017/18.
- 2.4 Looking overseas, with the US economy and its labour market showing steady improvement, the market has priced in a high probability of the Federal Reserve increasing interest rates in December 2016. The Eurozone meanwhile has continued to struggle with very low inflation and lack of momentum in growth, and the European Central Bank has left the door open for further quantitative easing.
- 2.5 The impact of political risk on financial markets remains significant over the next year. With challenges such as immigration, the rise of populist, anti-establishment parties and negative interest rates resulting in savers being paid nothing for their frugal efforts or even penalised for them, the outcomes of Italy's referendum on its constitution

(December 2016), the French presidential and general elections (April - June 2017) and the German federal elections (August - October 2017) have the potential for upsets.

- 2.6 **Credit outlook:** Markets have expressed concern over the financial viability of a number of European banks recently. Sluggish economies and continuing fines for pre-crisis behaviour have weighed on bank profits, and any future slowdown will exacerbate concerns in this regard.
- 2.7 Bail-in legislation, which ensures that large investors including local authorities will rescue failing banks instead of taxpayers in the future, has now been fully implemented in the European Union, Switzerland and USA, while Australia and Canada are progressing with their own plans. The credit risk associated with making unsecured bank deposits has therefore increased relative to the risk of other investment options available to the Authority; returns from cash deposits however continue to fall.
- 2.8 **Interest rate forecast:** The Authority's treasury adviser Arlingclose's central case is for UK Bank Rate to remain at 0.25% during 2017/18. The Bank of England has, however, highlighted that excessive levels of inflation will not be tolerated for sustained periods. Given this view and the current inflation outlook, further falls in the Bank Rate look less likely. Negative Bank Rate is currently perceived by some policymakers to be counterproductive, but although a low probability, this cannot entirely be ruled out later in the medium term, particularly if the UK enters recession as a result of concerns over leaving the European Union.
- 2.9 Gilt yields have risen sharply, but remain at low levels. The Arlingclose central case is for yields to decline when the government triggers Article 50. Long-term economic fundamentals remain weak, and the quantitative easing (QE) stimulus provided by central banks globally has only delayed the fallout from the build-up of public and private sector debt. The Bank of England has defended QE as a monetary policy tool, and further QE in support of the UK economy in 2017/18 remains a possibility, to keep long-term interest rates low.
- 2.10 A more detailed economic and interest rate forecast provided by the Authority's treasury management advisor is attached at **Annex A**.
- 2.11 For the purpose of setting the budget, it has been assumed that new investments will be made at an average rate of 0.75%.

3. Local Context

- 3.1 The Authority currently has borrowings of £110m and investments of £67m. This is set out in further detail at **Annex B**. Forecast changes in these sums are shown in the balance sheet analysis in table 1 below.

Table 1: Balance Sheet Summary and Forecast

	31.3.16 Actual £m	31.3.17 Estimate £m	31.3.18 Estimate £m	31.3.19 Estimate £m	31.3.20 Estimate £m
General Fund CFR	256	274	293	324	367
Less: Other long-term liabilities *	-30	-28	-27	-25	-23
Borrowing CFR	226	246	266	299	344
Less: External borrowing **	-109	-103	-96	-89	-82
Internal (over) borrowing	117	143	170	210	262
Less: Usable reserves	-93	-76	-70	-65	-63
Less: Working capital	-42	-42	-42	-42	-42
Investments (or New borrowing)	(18)	25	58	103	157

* finance leases and PFI liabilities that form part of the Authority's debt

** shows only loans to which the Authority is committed and excludes optional refinancing

- 3.2 The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. The Authority's current strategy is to maintain borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, sometimes known as internal borrowing, subject to holding a minimum investment balance of around £20m for liquidity purposes.
- 3.3 The Authority has an increasing CFR due to the capital programme and will therefore be required to borrow up to £98m over the forecast period.
- 3.4 CIPFA's *Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities* recommends that the Authority's total debt should be lower than its highest forecast CFR over the next three years. Table 1 shows that the Authority expects to comply with this recommendation during 2017/18.

4. Borrowing Strategy

- 4.1 The Authority currently holds loans of £110m which are reducing by £6m per year, as part of its strategy for funding previous years' capital programmes.
- 4.2 The Authority's chief objective when borrowing money is to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing low interest costs and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required. The flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Authority's long-term plans change is a secondary objective.
- 4.3 Given the significant cuts to public expenditure and in particular to local government funding, the Authority's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio. With short-term interest rates currently much lower than long-term rates, it is likely to be more cost effective in the short-term to either use internal resources, or to borrow short-term loans instead.
- 4.4 By doing so, the Authority is able to reduce net borrowing costs (despite foregone investment income) and reduce overall treasury risk. The benefits of internal

borrowing will be monitored regularly against the potential for incurring additional costs by deferring borrowing into future years when long-term borrowing rates are forecast to rise modestly. Arlingclose will assist the Authority with this 'cost of carry' and breakeven analysis. Its output may determine whether the Authority borrows additional sums at long-term fixed rates in 2017/18 with a view to keeping future interest costs low, even if this causes additional cost in the short-term.

- 4.5 Alternatively, the Authority may arrange forward starting loans during 2017/18, where the interest rate is fixed in advance, but the cash is received in later years. This would enable certainty of cost to be achieved without suffering a cost of carry in the intervening period.
- 4.6 In addition, the Authority may borrow short-term loans to cover unexpected or planned temporary cash flow shortages.
- 4.7 The approved sources of long-term and short-term borrowing are:
- Public Works Loan Board and any successor body
 - UK local authorities
 - any institution approved for investments (see below)
 - any other bank or building society authorised to operate in the UK
 - UK public and private sector pension funds (except Cheshire Pension Fund)
 - capital market bond investors
 - UK Municipal Bonds Agency plc and other special purpose companies created to enable local authority bond issues
 - European Investment Bank
 - Salix Finance Ltd energy efficiency loans
- 4.8 In addition, capital finance may be raised by the following methods that are not borrowing, but may be classed as other debt liabilities:
- operating and finance leases
 - hire purchase
 - Private Finance Initiative
 - sale and leaseback
- 4.9 The Authority has previously raised the majority of its long-term borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board, but it continues to investigate other sources of finance, such as local authority loans and bank loans, that may be available at more favourable rates.
- 4.10 **Municipal Bond Agency:** UK Municipal Bonds Agency plc was established in 2014 by the Local Government Association as an alternative to the PWLB. It plans to issue bonds on the capital markets and lend the proceeds to local authorities. This will be a more complicated source of finance than the PWLB for two reasons: borrowing authorities will be required to provide bond investors with a joint and several guarantee to refund their investment in the event that the agency is unable to for any reason; and there will be a lead time of several months between committing to borrow and knowing the interest rate payable. Any decision to borrow from the Agency will therefore be the subject of a separate report
- 4.11 **LOBO's:** The Authority holds £17m of LOBO (Lender's Option Borrower's Option) loans where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate as set dates, following which the Authority has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost. All of these LOBOS have options during 2016/17, and although the Authority understands that lenders are unlikely to exercise their options in the current low interest rate environment, there remains an element of refinancing risk. The Authority will take the option to repay LOBO loans at no cost if it has the opportunity to do so.

- 4.12 **Short-term and variable rate loans:** These loans leave the Authority exposed to the risk of short-term interest rate rises and are therefore subject to the limit on the net exposure to variable interest rates in the treasury management indicators below.
- 4.13 **Debt Rescheduling:** The PWLB allows authorities to repay loans before maturity and either pay a premium or receive a discount according to a set formula based on current interest rates. Other lenders may also be prepared to negotiate premature redemption terms. The Authority may take advantage of this and replace some loans with new loans, or repay loans without replacement, where this is expected to lead to an overall saving or reduction in risk.

5. Investment Strategy

- 5.1 The Authority holds significant invested funds, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. In the past 12 months, the Authority's investment balance has ranged between £23m and £94m. Slightly reduced levels are expected to be maintained in the forthcoming year.
- 5.2 Both the CIPFA Code and the CLG Guidance require the Authority to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Authority's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.
- 5.3 If the UK enters into a recession in 2017/18, there is a small chance that the Bank of England could set its Bank Rate at or below zero, which is likely to feed through to negative interest rates on all low risk, short-term investment options. This situation already exists in many other European countries. In this event, security will be measured as receiving the contractually agreed amount at maturity, even though this may be less than the amount originally invested.
- 5.4 Given the increasing risk and continued low returns from short-term unsecured bank investments, the Authority aims to continue to diversify into more secure and/or higher yielding asset classes during 2017/18. This is especially the case for any longer-term investment. The majority of the Authorities surplus cash is currently invested in short-term unsecured bank deposits and money market funds. This diversification will therefore represent a continuation of the new strategy adopted over the last few years.
- 5.5 The Authority may invest its surplus funds with any of the counterparties in table 2 below, subject to the cash and time limits shown.

Table 2: Approved Investment Counterparties and Limits

Credit Rating	Banks* Unsecured	Banks* Secured	Government	Corporates	Registered Providers
UK Govt	n/a	n/a	£ Unlimited 50 years	n/a	n/a
AAA	£6m 5 years	£12m 20 years	£12m 50 years	£6m 20 years	£6m 20 years
AA+	£6m 5 years	£12m 10 years	£12m 25 years	£6m 10 years	£6m 10 years
AA	£6m 4 years	£12m 5 years	£12m 15 years	£6m 5 years	£6m 10 years
AA-	£6m 3 years	£12m 4 years	£12m 10 years	£6m 4 years	£6m 10 years
A+	£6m 2 years	£12m 3 years	£6m 5 years	£6m 3 years	£6m 5 years

A	£6m 13 months	£12m 2 years	£6m 5 years	£6m 2 years	£6m 5 years
A-	£6m 6 months	£12m 13 months	£6m 5 years	£6m 13 months	£6m 5 years
BBB+	£3m 100 days	£6m 6 months	£3m 2 years	£3m 6 months	£3m 2 years
None	£1m 6 months	n/a	£12m 25 years	£50,000 5 years	£6m 5 years
Pooled funds	£12m per fund				

*Banks includes Building Societies

The above limits apply to individual counterparties and represent the maximum amount and maximum duration of any investment per counterparty.

- 5.6 **Credit Rating:** Investment limits are set by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Where available, the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used, otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used. However, investment decisions are never made solely based on credit ratings, and all other relevant factors including external advice will be taken into account.
- 5.7 **Banks Unsecured:** Accounts, deposits, certificates of deposit and senior unsecured bonds with banks and building societies, other than multilateral development banks. These investments are subject to the risk of credit loss via a bail-in should the regulator determine that the bank is failing or likely to fail.
- 5.8 **Banks Secured:** Covered bonds, reverse repurchase agreements and other collateralised arrangements with banks and building societies. These investments are secured on the bank's assets, which limits the potential losses in the unlikely event of insolvency, and means that they are exempt from bail-in. Where there is no investment specific credit rating, but the collateral upon which the investment is secured has a credit rating, the highest of the collateral credit rating and the counterparty credit rating will be used to determine cash and time limits. The combined secured and unsecured investments in any one bank will not exceed the cash limit for secured investments.
- 5.9 **Government:** Loans, bonds and bills issued or guaranteed by national governments, regional and local authorities and multilateral development banks. These investments are not subject to bail-in, and there is an insignificant risk of insolvency. Investments with the UK Central Government may be made in unlimited amounts for up to 50 years.
- 5.10 **Corporates:** Loans, bonds and commercial paper issued by companies other than banks and registered providers. These investments are not subject to bail-in, but are exposed to the risk of the company going insolvent. Loans to unrated companies will only be made as part of a diversified pool in order to spread the risk widely.
- 5.11 **Registered Providers:** Loans and bonds issued by, guaranteed by or secured on the assets of Registered Providers of Social Housing, formerly known as Housing Associations. These bodies are tightly regulated by the Homes and Communities Agency and, as providers of public services, they retain the likelihood of receiving government support if needed.
- 5.12 **Pooled Funds:** Shares in diversified investment vehicles consisting of the any of the above investment types, plus equity shares and property. These funds have the advantage of providing wide diversification of investment risks, coupled with the services of a professional fund manager in return for a fee. Short term Money Market Funds that offer same-day liquidity and very low or no volatility will be used as an alternative to instant access bank accounts, while pooled funds whose value changes

with market prices and/or have a notice period will be used for longer investment periods.

- 5.13 Bond, equity and property funds offer enhanced returns over the longer term, but are more volatile in the short term. These allow the Authority to diversify into asset classes other than cash without the need to own and manage the underlying investments. Because these funds have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period, their performance and continued suitability in meeting the Authority's investment objectives will be monitored regularly.
- 5.14 **Risk Assessment and Credit Ratings:** Credit ratings are obtained and monitored by the Authority's treasury advisers, who will notify changes in ratings as they occur. Where an entity has its credit rating downgraded so that it fails to meet the approved investment criteria then:
- no new investments will be made,
 - any existing investments that can be recalled or sold at no cost will be, and
 - full consideration will be given to the recall or sale of all other existing investments with the affected counterparty.
- 5.15 Where a credit rating agency announces that a credit rating is on review for possible downgrade (also known as "rating watch negative" or "credit watch negative") so that it may fall below the approved rating criteria, then only investments that can be withdrawn on the next working day will be made with that organisation until the outcome of the review is announced. This policy will not apply to negative outlooks, which indicate a long-term direction of travel rather than an imminent change of rating.
- 5.16 **Other Information on the Security of Investments:** The Authority understands that credit ratings are good, but not perfect, predictors of investment default. Full regard will therefore be given to other available information on the credit quality of the organisations in which it invests, including credit default swap prices, financial statements, information on potential government support and reports in the quality financial press. No investments will be made with an organisation if there are substantive doubts about its credit quality, even though it may meet the credit rating criteria.
- 5.17 When deteriorating financial market conditions affect the creditworthiness of all organisations, as happened in 2008 and 2011, this is not generally reflected in credit ratings, but can be seen in other market measures. In these circumstances, the Authority will restrict its investments to those organisations of higher credit quality and reduce the maximum duration of its investments to maintain the required level of security. The extent of these restrictions will be in line with prevailing financial market conditions. If these restrictions mean that insufficient commercial organisations of high credit quality are available to invest the Authority's cash balances, then the surplus will be deposited with the UK Government, via the Debt Management Office or invested in government treasury bills for example, or with other local authorities. This will cause a reduction in the level of investment income earned, but will protect the principal sum invested.
- 5.18 **Specified Investments:** The CLG Guidance defines specified investments as those:
- denominated in pound sterling,
 - due to be repaid within 12 months of arrangement,
 - not defined as capital expenditure by legislation, and
 - invested with one of:
 - the UK Government,
 - a UK local authority, parish council or community council, or
 - a body or investment scheme of "high credit quality".

- 5.19 The Authority defines “high credit quality” organisations as those having a credit rating of A- or higher that are domiciled in the UK or a foreign country with a sovereign rating of AA+ or higher. For money market funds and other pooled funds “high credit quality” is defined as those having a credit rating of A- or higher.
- 5.20 **Non-specified Investments:** Any investment not meeting the definition of a specified investment is classed as non-specified. The Authority does not intend to make any investments denominated in foreign currencies, nor any that are defined as capital expenditure by legislation, such as company shares. Non-specified investments will therefore be limited to long-term investments, i.e. those that are due to mature 12 months or longer from the date of arrangement, and investments with bodies and schemes not meeting the definition on high credit quality. Limits on non-specified investments are shown in table 3 below.

Table 3: Non-Specified Investment Limits

	Cash limit
Total long-term investments	£40m
Total investments without credit ratings or rated below A-	£25m
Total investments (except pooled funds) domiciled in foreign countries rated below AA+	£15m
Total non-specified investments	£80m

- 5.21 **Investment Limits:** The Authority’s revenue reserves available to cover investment losses are forecast to be £84m on 31st March 2017. In order that no more than 15% of available reserves will be put at risk in the case of a single default, the maximum that will be lent to any one organisation (other than the UK Government) will be £12m. A group of banks under the same ownership or a group of funds under the same management will be treated as a single organisation for limit purposes. Limits will also be placed on investments in brokers’ nominee accounts, foreign countries and industry sectors as below. Investments in pooled funds and multilateral development banks do not count against the limit for any single foreign country, since the risk is diversified over many countries.

Table 4: Investment Limits

Type of Counterparty	Cash limit
Any single organisation, except the UK Central Government	£12m each
UK Central Government	unlimited
Any group of organisations under the same ownership	£12m per group
Any group of pooled funds under the same management	£25m per manager
Negotiable instruments held in a broker’s nominee account	£35m per broker
Foreign countries	£12m per country
Registered Providers	£25m in total
Unsecured investments with Building Societies	£12m in total
Loans to unrated corporates	£12m in total
Money Market Funds	£12m in each (£50m in total)

- 5.22 **Liquidity management:** The Authority maintains a cash flow forecasting model to determine the maximum period for which funds may prudently be committed. Limits on long-term investments are set by reference to the Authority's medium term financial plan and cash flow forecast.

6. Treasury Management Indicators

- 6.1 The Authority measures and manages its exposures to treasury management risks using the following indicators.

- 6.2 **Interest Rate Exposures:** This indicator is set to control the Authority's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limits on fixed and variable rate interest rate exposures, expressed as the proportion of net principal borrowed will be:

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Upper limit on fixed interest rate exposure	100%	100%	100%
Upper limit on variable interest rate exposure	100%	100%	100%

Fixed rate investments and borrowings are those where the rate of interest is fixed for the whole financial year. Instruments that mature during the financial year are classed as variable rate.

- 6.3 **Maturity Structure of Borrowing:** This indicator is set to control the Authority's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing will be:

	Upper	Lower
Under 12 months	35%	0%
12 months and within 24 months	25%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	35%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	50%	0%
10 years and within 20 years	100%	0%
20 years and above	100%	0%

Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment

- 6.4 **Principal Sums Invested for Periods Longer than 364 days:** The purpose of this indicator is to control the Authority's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The limits on the total principal sum invested to final maturities beyond the period end will be:

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Limit on principal invested beyond year end	£40m	£25m	£15m

7. Other Items

- 7.1 There are a number of additional items that the Authority is obliged by CIPFA or CLG to include in its Treasury Management Strategy.

- 7.2 **Policy on Use of Financial Derivatives:** Local authorities have previously made use of financial derivatives embedded into loans and investments both to reduce interest rate

risk (e.g. interest rate collars and forward deals) and to reduce costs or increase income at the expense of greater risk (e.g. LOBO loans and callable deposits). The general power of competence in Section 1 of the *Localism Act 2011* removes much of the uncertainty over local authorities' use of standalone financial derivatives (i.e. those that are not embedded into a loan or investment).

- 7.3 The Authority will only use standalone financial derivatives (such as swaps, forwards, futures and options) where they can be clearly demonstrated to reduce the overall level of the financial risks that the Authority is exposed to. Additional risks presented, such as credit exposure to derivative counterparties, will be taken into account when determining the overall level of risk. Embedded derivatives, including those present in pooled funds and forward starting transactions, will not be subject to this policy, although the risks they present will be managed in line with the overall treasury risk management strategy.
- 7.4 Financial derivative transactions may be arranged with any organisation that meets the approved investment criteria. The current value of any amount due from a derivative counterparty will count against the counterparty credit limit and the relevant foreign country limit.
- 7.5 **Investment Advisers:** The Authority has appointed Arlingclose Limited as treasury management advisers and receives specific advice on investment, debt and capital finance issues. The quality of this service is controlled through regular meetings and periodic tendering for services.
- 7.6 **Investment Training:** The needs of the Authority's treasury management staff for training in investment management are assessed as part of the staff appraisal process, and additionally when the responsibilities of individual members of staff change. Staff regularly attend training courses, seminars and conferences provided by our treasury management advisers, Arlingclose Limited and other relevant providers.
- 7.7 **Investment of Money Borrowed in Advance of Need:** The Authority may, from time to time, borrow in advance of need, where this is expected to provide the best long term value for money. Since amounts borrowed will be invested until spent, the Authority is aware that it will be exposed to the risk of loss of the borrowed sums, and the risk that investment and borrowing interest rates may change in the intervening period. These risks will be managed as part of the Authority's overall management of its treasury risks.
- 7.8 The total amount borrowed will not exceed the authorised borrowing limit of £ million. The maximum period between borrowing and expenditure is expected to be two years, although the Authority is not required to link particular loans with particular items of expenditure.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 Anticipated investment income in 2017/18 is £300,000, based on an average investment portfolio of £40 million at an interest rate of 0.75%. The budget for debt interest paid in 2017/18 is £4 million, based on an average debt portfolio of £99 million at an average interest rate of 4%. If actual levels of investments and borrowing, and actual interest rates differ from those forecast, performance against budget will be correspondingly different.

Annex A - Arlingclose Economic & Interest Rate Forecast

Underlying assumptions:

- The medium term outlook for the UK economy is dominated by the negotiations to leave the EU. The long-term position of the UK economy will be largely dependent on the agreements the government is able to secure with the EU and other countries.
- The global environment is also riddled with uncertainty, with repercussions for financial market volatility and long-term interest rates. Donald Trump's victory in the US general election and Brexit are symptomatic of the popular disaffection with globalisation trends. The potential rise in protectionism could dampen global growth prospects and therefore inflation. Financial market volatility will remain the norm for some time.
- However, following significant global fiscal and monetary stimulus, the short term outlook for the global economy is somewhat brighter than earlier in the year. US fiscal stimulus is also a possibility following Trump's victory.
- Recent data present a more positive picture for the post-Referendum UK economy than predicted due to continued strong household spending.
- Over the medium term, economic and political uncertainty will likely dampen investment intentions and tighten credit availability, prompting lower activity levels and potentially a rise in unemployment.
- The currency-led rise in CPI inflation (currently 1.0% year/year) will continue, breaching the target in 2017, which will act to slow real growth in household spending due to a sharp decline in real wage growth.
- The depreciation in sterling will, however, assist the economy to rebalance away from spending. The negative contribution from net trade to GDP growth is likely to diminish, largely due to weaker domestic demand. Export volumes will increase marginally.
- Given the pressure on household spending and business investment, the rise in inflation is highly unlikely to prompt monetary tightening by the Bank of England, with policymakers looking through import-led CPI spikes to the negative effects of Brexit on economic activity and, ultimately, inflation.
- Bank of England policymakers have, however, highlighted that excessive levels of inflation will not be tolerated for sustained periods. Given this view and the current inflation outlook, further monetary loosening looks less likely.

Forecast:

- Globally, the outlook is uncertain and risks remain weighted to the downside. The UK domestic outlook is uncertain, but likely to be weaker in the short term than previously expected.
- The likely path for Bank Rate is weighted to the downside. The Arlingclose central case is for Bank Rate to remain at 0.25%, but there is a 25% possibility of a drop to close to zero, with a very small chance of a reduction below zero.
- Gilt yields have risen sharply, but remain at low levels. The Arlingclose central case is for yields to decline when the government triggers Article 50.

Annex B

Existing Investment & Debt Portfolio Position

	31/12/16 Actual Portfolio £m	31/12/16 Average Rate %
External Borrowing:		
PWLB - Fixed Rate	86	3.85%
PWLB - Variable Rate	0	-
Local Authorities	5	0.30%
LOBO Loans	17	4.63%
Other	2	-
Total External Borrowing	110	3.86%
Other Long Term Liabilities:		
PFI	25	-
Finance Leases	5	-
Total Gross External Debt	140	-
Investments:		
<i>Managed in-house</i>		
Short-term investments:		
Instant Access	11	0.27%
Notice Accounts	6	0.86%
Fixed Term Deposits	26	0.57%
Certificates of Deposit	4	0.82%
Covered Bonds	3	0.48%
<i>Managed externally</i>		
Fund Managers	9	0.62%
Property Funds	8	4.67%
Total Investments	67	1.05%
Net Debt	73	-

Annex C

Prudential Indicators revisions to 2016/17 and 2017/187 - 2019/20

1. Background:

There is a requirement under the Local Government Act 2003 for local authorities to have regard to CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the "CIPFA Prudential Code") when setting and reviewing their Prudential Indicators.

The key feature of the prudential system is that councils should determine the level of their capital investment - and how much they borrow to finance that investment - based on their own assessment of what they can afford, not just for the current year but also for future years.

Individual authorities are responsible for deciding the level of their affordable borrowing. Prudential limits apply to all borrowing, qualifying credit arrangements and other long-term liabilities - whether supported by government or entirely self-financed. The system is designed to encourage authorities that need and can afford to undertake capital investment to do so.

In considering the affordability of its capital plans, the authority is required to consider all of the resources currently available to it/estimated for the future, together with the totality of its capital plans, revenue income and revenue expenditure forecasts for the forthcoming year and the following two years. The authority is also required to consider known significant variations beyond this timeframe.

2. Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement:

This is a key indicator of prudence. In order to ensure that over the medium term debt will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years.

If in any of these years there is a reduction in the capital financing requirement, this reduction is ignored in estimating the cumulative increase in the capital financing requirement which is used for comparison with **gross** external debt. The Chief Operating Officer reports that the Authority had no difficulty meeting this requirement in 2016/17, nor are there any difficulties envisaged for future years. This view takes into account current commitments, existing plans and the proposals in the approved budget.

3. Estimates of Capital Expenditure:

3.1 This indicator is set to ensure that the level of proposed capital expenditure remains within sustainable limits and, in particular, to consider the impact on Council Tax.

Capital Expenditure	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/20	Future years
	Estimate £m	Estimate £m	Estimate £m	Estimate £m	Estimate £m
Total	92.9	116.3	136.0	56.4	23.8

Source: Cheshire East Finance

3.2 Capital expenditure will be financed or funded as follows:

Capital Financing	2016/2017 Estimate	2017/2018 Estimate	2018/2019 Estimate	2019/20 Estimate	Future years Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital receipts	10.8	10.4	13.1	17.2	0.0
Government Grants	26.7	39.2	105.6	23.0	0.0
External Contributions	7.4	5.6	3.0	10.8	21.6
Revenue Contributions	1.1	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Financing	46.0	55.7	121.6	50.9	21.6
Prudential Borrowing	46.9	60.6	14.3	5.5	2.2
Total Funding	46.9	60.6	14.3	5.5	2.2
Total Financing and Funding	92.9	116.3	136.0	56.4	23.8

Source: Cheshire East Finance

4. Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream:

4.1 This is an indicator of affordability and highlights the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure by identifying the proportion of the revenue budget required to meet financing costs. The definition of financing costs is set out in the Prudential Code.

4.2 The ratio is based on costs net of investment income.

Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	2016/2017 Estimate	2017/2018 Estimate	2018/2019 Estimate	2019/2020 Estimate
	%	%	%	%
Total	5.65	5.67	5.59	5.60

Source: Cheshire East Finance

5. Capital Financing Requirement:

5.1 The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) measures the Authority's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose. The calculation of the CFR is taken from the amounts held in the Balance Sheet relating to capital expenditure and financing.

Capital Financing Requirement	2016/2017 Estimate	2017/2018 Estimate	2018/2019 Estimate	2019/2020 Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Total	256	274	293	324

Source: Cheshire East Finance

6. Actual External Debt:

6.1 This indicator is obtained directly from the Council's balance sheet. It is the closing balance for actual gross borrowing plus other long-term liabilities. This Indicator is measured in a manner consistent for comparison with the Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit.

Actual External Debt as at 31/03/2016	£m
Borrowing	109
Other Long-term Liabilities	30
Total	139

Source: Cheshire East Finance

7. Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions:

7.1 This is an indicator of affordability that shows the impact of capital investment decisions on Council Tax levels. The incremental impact is calculated by comparing the total revenue budget requirement of the current approved capital programme with an equivalent calculation of the revenue budget requirement arising from the proposed capital programme.

Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions	2017/2018 Estimate	2018/2019 Estimate	2019/2020 Estimate
	£	£	£
Band D Council Tax	12.15	15.17	7.30

Source: Cheshire East Finance

8. Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for External Debt:

8.1 The Authority has an integrated treasury management strategy and manages its treasury position in accordance with its approved strategy and practice. Overall borrowing will therefore arise as a consequence of all the financial transactions of the Authority and not just those arising from capital spending reflected in the CFR.

8.2 The **Authorised Limit** sets the maximum level of external debt on a gross basis (i.e. excluding investments) for the Authority. It is measured on a daily basis against all external debt items on the Balance Sheet (i.e. long and short term borrowing, overdrawn bank balances and long term liabilities). This Prudential Indicator separately identifies borrowing from other long term liabilities such as finance leases. It is consistent with the Authority's existing commitments, its proposals for capital expenditure and financing and its approved treasury management policy statement and practices.

8.3 The Authorised Limit is the statutory limit determined under Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (referred to in the legislation as the Affordable Limit).

8.4 The Operational Boundary has been set on the estimate of the most likely, i.e. prudent but not worst case scenario with sufficient headroom over and above this to allow for unusual cash movements.

8.5 The Operational Boundary links directly to the Authority's estimates of the CFR and estimates of other cash flow requirements. This indicator is based on the same estimates

as the Authorised Limit reflecting the most likely, prudent but not worst case scenario but without the additional headroom included within the Authorised Limit.

	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Authorised Limit for Borrowing	240	260	275	310
Authorised Limit for Other Long-Term Liabilities	30	28	27	25
Authorised Limit for External Debt	270	288	302	335
Operational Boundary for Borrowing	230	250	265	300
Operational Boundary for Other Long- Term Liabilities	30	28	27	25
Operational Boundary for External Debt	260	278	292	325

Source: Cheshire East Finance

9. Adoption of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code:

9.1 This indicator demonstrates that the Authority has adopted the principles of best practice.

Adoption of the CIPFA Code of Practice in Treasury Management

The Council approved the adoption of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code at its Council meeting on 23rd February 2012

The Authority has incorporated the changes from the revised CIPFA Code of Practice into its treasury policies, procedures and practices.

10. Upper Limits for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure and Variable Interest Rate Exposure:

10.1 These indicators allow the Authority to manage the extent to which it is exposed to changes in interest rates. This Authority calculates these limits on net principal outstanding sums, (i.e. fixed rate debt net of fixed rate investments).

10.2 The upper limit for variable rate exposure has been set to ensure that the Authority is not exposed to interest rate rises which could adversely impact on the revenue budget. The limit allows for the use of variable rate debt to offset exposure to changes in short-term rates on investments

	Existing level (or Benchmark level) at 31/10/16	2016/2017 Approved	2016/2017 Revised	2017/2018 Estimate	2018/2019 Estimate	2019/2020 Estimate
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Upper Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Upper Limit for Variable Interest Rate Exposure	0%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

10.3 The limits above provide the necessary flexibility within which decisions will be made for drawing down new loans on a fixed or variable rate basis; the decisions will ultimately be determined by expectations of anticipated interest rate movements as set out in the Authority's treasury management strategy.

11. Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate borrowing:

11.1 This indicator highlights the existence of any large concentrations of fixed rate debt needing to be replaced at times of uncertainty over interest rates and is designed to protect against excessive exposures to interest rate changes in any one period, in particular in the course of the next ten years.

11.2 It is calculated as the amount of projected borrowing that is fixed rate maturing in each period as a percentage of total projected borrowing that is fixed rate. The maturity of borrowing is determined by reference to the earliest date on which the lender can require payment.

11.3 LOBOs are classified as maturing on the next call date i.e. the earliest date that the lender can require repayment. As all LOBOs are can be called within 12 months the upper limit for borrowing maturing within 12 months is relatively high to allow for the value of LOBOs and any potential short term borrowing that could be undertaken in 2017/18.

	Level as at 31 st March 2017 (based on Current Borrowing)	Lower Limit for 2017/2018	Upper Limit for 2017/2018
	%	%	%
Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing			
under 12 months	23%	0%	35%
12 months and within 24 months	6%	0%	25%
24 months and within 5 years	11%	0%	35%
5 years and within 10 years	0%	0%	50%
10 years and within 20 years	26%	0%	100%
20 years and within 30 years	9%	0%	100%
30 years and within 40 years	23%	0%	100%
40 years and within 50 years	2%	0%	100%
50 years and above	0%	0%	100%

Source: Cheshire East Finance

12. Credit Risk:

- 12.1 The Authority considers security, liquidity and yield, in that order, when making investment decisions.
- 12.2 Credit ratings remain an important element of assessing credit risk, but they are not a sole feature in the Authority's assessment of counterparty credit risk.
- 12.3 The Authority also considers alternative assessments of credit strength, and information on corporate developments of and market sentiment towards counterparties. The following key tools are used to assess credit risk:
- Published credit ratings of the financial institution (minimum A- or equivalent) and its sovereign (minimum AA+ or equivalent for non-UK sovereigns);
 - Sovereign support mechanisms;
 - Credit default swaps (where quoted);
 - Share prices (where available);
 - Economic fundamentals, such as a country's net debt as a percentage of its GDP);
 - Corporate developments, news, articles, markets sentiment and momentum;
 - Subjective overlay.
- 12.4 The only indicators with prescriptive values remain to be credit ratings. Other indicators of creditworthiness are considered in relative rather than absolute terms.

Annex D - MRP Statement 2017/18

Where the Authority finances capital expenditure by debt, it must put aside resources to repay that debt in later years. The amount charged to the revenue budget for the repayment of debt is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), although there has been no statutory minimum since 2008. The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Authority to have regard to the Department for Communities and Local Government's *Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision* (the CLG Guidance) most recently issued in 2012.

The broad aim of the CLG Guidance is to ensure that debt is repaid over a period that is either reasonably commensurate with that over which the capital expenditure provides benefits, or, in the case of borrowing supported by Government Revenue Support Grant, reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of that grant.

The CLG Guidance requires the Authority to approve an Annual MRP Statement each year, and recommends a number of options for calculating a prudent amount of MRP. The following statement incorporates options recommended in the Guidance.

For capital expenditure incurred before 1st April 2008 and for supported capital expenditure incurred on or after that date, MRP will be determined as 4% of the Capital Financing Requirement in respect of that expenditure. (*Option 2 in England & Wales*)

For capital expenditure incurred after 31st March 2008, MRP will be determined by charging the expenditure over the expected useful life of the relevant assets in equal instalments or as the principal repayment on an annuity with an average annual interest rate, starting in the year after the asset becomes operational. MRP on purchases of freehold land will be charged over 50 years. MRP on expenditure not related to fixed assets but which has been capitalised by regulation or direction will be charged over 20 years. (*Option 3 in England and Wales*)

For assets acquired by finance leases or the Private Finance Initiative, MRP will be determined as being equal to the element of the rent or charge that goes to write down the balance sheet liability.

For capital expenditure loans to third parties that are repaid in annual or more frequent instalments of principal, the Council will make nil MRP, but will instead apply the capital receipts arising from principal repayments to reduce the capital financing requirement instead. In years where there is no principal repayment, MRP will be charged in accordance with the MRP policy for the assets funded by the loan, including where appropriate, delaying MRP until the year after the assets become operational.

Capital expenditure incurred during 2017/18 will not be subject to a MRP charge until 2018/19.

COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 23 February 2017
Report of: Chief Operating Officer
Subject/Title: Council Tax 2017/18 - Statutory Resolution
Portfolio Holder: Cllr Peter Groves

1. Report Summary

- 1.1. Cheshire East Council, as a billing authority, is responsible for the billing and collection of Council Tax due from local taxpayers and must therefore make a resolution to set the overall Council Tax level. This means that the Authority also collects Council Tax income to cover not only its own services but also precepts set by other authorities.
- 1.2. The Council Tax levied is therefore made up of four elements:
 - Cheshire East Borough Council element (includes Social Care Precept)
 - Town & Parish Council precepts
 - Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire precept
 - Cheshire Fire Authority precept

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. To set the Council Tax for Cheshire East Council for the financial year 2017/18, at £1,324.92, in accordance with the formal resolutions as shown in section 13 of the report.

3. Other Options Considered

- 3.1. The recommendation in this report reflect the results of a comprehensive consultation process, but no further options are being considered as part of this report.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1. In accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 the Council is required to set the amounts of the Council Tax for 2017/18 for each of the categories of dwelling in the Council Tax area. This requirement is achieved by approving the statutory resolution shown in this report.

5. Background/Chronology

5.1. The Council Tax levied is made up of four elements as follows:

- the Council Tax Base for 2017/18 - **Annex A**.
- the statutory calculation required to arrive at the amount of Council Tax for each area in respect of Borough Council, Town and Parish Council requirements - **Annexes B and C**.
- the precepts issued by Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire and Cheshire Fire Authority under Section 40 of the Act – sections 10 and 11 of the report.
- the statutory calculation of the aggregate of the Borough Council, Parish Council, Police & Crime Commissioner and Cheshire Fire Authority amount of Council Tax for each of the categories of the dwelling for each Council Tax area - **Annex D**.

6. Council Tax Base

6.1. The Council Tax base was agreed at the Cheshire East Council meeting of [15th December 2016](#) as 144,201.51 for the year 2017/18. A breakdown of the calculation by Parish is attached at **Annex A**.

7. General Fund Budget

7.1. On 7th February 2017 [Cabinet](#) recommended a General Fund Budget of £246,794,119. The calculation reflects the detailed Medium Term Financial Strategy prepared by Cabinet and uses estimated values in relation to the treatment of late funding announcements.

8. Cheshire East Borough Council Tax

8.1. The Council Tax Requirement for the Borough Council is £191,055,465.

8.2. The Band D Council Tax is therefore £1,324.92 (the requirement of £191,055,465 divided by the tax base of 144,201.51).

8.3. The Council froze Council Tax levels for five consecutive years, from 2011/12 to 2015/16 inclusive, with some government support, saving local taxpayers a total of nearly £50m in that period, and yet continued to provide services that meet the needs of local residents. Growth in the local tax base (for houses and businesses) supports the ambition in the Corporate Plan of creating economic independence from government grant. Within four years there will be no general government grant support to the revenue budget of Cheshire East Council. The speed of this change is a major challenge and when increases in demand related to protecting vulnerable people and inflation in costs are taken into account then this

creates a requirement to increase Council Tax levels in line with government expectations.

- 8.4. The ability to raise additional ringfenced council tax for use solely on Adult Social Care (ASC) has been increased further for 2017/18 with the measures announced as part of the Provisional Settlement in December 2016. Local authorities are now able to raise a maximum of 6% over the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20. Cheshire East are proposing to apply this increase equally over the coming two years. As such it is recommended that Council Tax is increased by 4.99% (including the 3% rise for ASC) to give a Band D charge of £1,324.92 for 2017/18.

9. Parish Council Precepts

- 9.1. Each Parish Council has notified the Council with its precept requirement for the year. The total amount of these special items is £6,890,994 which produces an average Band D Council Tax of £47.79.

10. Police & Crime Commissioner Precept for Cheshire

- 10.1. The precept demand issued by Police & Crime Commissioner is £23,712,496 which produces a Band D Council Tax of £164.44. This represents a 1.99% increase on the 2016/17 Band D Council Tax level. The Police & Crime Commissioner has 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 dwelling shown below:-

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
109.63	127.90	146.17	164.44	200.98	237.52	274.07	328.88

11. Fire Authority Precept

- 11.1. The precept demand issued by Cheshire Fire Authority is £10,568,528.67 which produces a Band D Council Tax of £73.29. This represents a 1.99% increase on the 2016/17 Band D Council tax level. Cheshire Fire Authority has 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 dwelling shown below:-

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
48.86	57.00	65.15	73.29	89.58	105.86	122.15	146.58

12. Total Council Tax

12.1. The average Council Tax to be charged to taxpayers in Band D can be summarised as follows:

Element	Charge
	£
Cheshire East Borough Council	1,324.92
Average for Parish Councils	47.79
Average Local Council Tax	1,372.71
Police & Crime Commissioner	164.44
Cheshire Fire Authority	73.29
Total Council Tax	1,610.44

13. Formal Resolution

13.1. That it be noted that on 15th December 2016 the Council calculated the Council Tax base 2017/18.

(a) for the whole Council area as 144,201.51 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")).

(b) for individual parishes, as in **Appendix A**.

13.2. Calculated that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2017/18 (excluding Parish precepts) is £191,055,465.

13.3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2017/18 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

- a. £641,840,165 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. £443,893,706 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- c. £197,946,459 being the amount by which the aggregate at 13.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 13.3(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 31B of the Act).

- d. £1,372.71 being the amount at 13.3(c) above divided by the amount at 13.1(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- e. £6,890,994 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act
- f. £1,324.92 being the amount at 13.3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 13.3(e) above by the amount at 13.1(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 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.
- g. **Appendix A** being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulations 3 and 6 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its total council tax base for the year and council tax base for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.
- h. **Appendix B** being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (f) above, the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided by in each case the appropriate tax base from Annex A, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the 1992 Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which one or more special items relate. (Band D charges for each Parish area).
- i. **Appendix C** being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the 1992 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 1992 Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands (Local charges for all Bands).
- j. **Appendix D** being the aggregate of the local charges in (i) above and the amounts levied by major precepting authorities, calculated in accordance with Section 30(2) of the 1992 Act (The total Council Tax charge for each band in each Parish area).

13.4. To note that the Police & Crime Commissioner and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to Cheshire East Council in accordance with section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as shown in sections 10 and 11 above.

13.5. Determine whether Cheshire East Council's basic amount of Council tax for 2017/18 is excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB and 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

14. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members

14.1. Not applicable.

15. Implications of Recommendation

15.1. Policy Implications

15.1.1. None.

15.2. Legal Implications

15.2.1. As covered in the report.

15.3. Financial Implications

15.3.1. As covered in the report.

15.4. Equality Implications

15.4.1. None.

15.5. Rural Community Implications

15.5.1. None.

15.6. Human Resources Implications

15.6.1. None.

15.7. Public Health Implications

15.7.1. None.

15.8. Other Implications (Please Specify)

15.8.1. None.

16. Risk Management

16.1. The steps outlined in this report will address the main legal and financial risk to the Council's financial management in the setting of a legal Council Tax level for 2017/18.

17. Access to Information/Bibliography

17.1. The following are links to key background documents:

[Taxbase Report 2017/18 \(Council 15th December 2016\)](#)

[Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017-20 \(Cabinet 7th February 2017\)](#)

18. Contact Information

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

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Designation: Chief Finance Officer
Tel. No: 01270 686013
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COUNCIL TAX - TAX BASE 2017/18 - by Parish

	Tax Base
Acton, Edleston, Henhull	294.72
Adlington	589.21
Agden	70.85
Alderley Edge	2,687.00
Alpraham	189.69
Alsager	4,415.60
Arclid	115.74
Ashley	159.17
Aston-by-Budworth	177.58
Audlem	898.43
Barthomley	98.72
Betchton	272.55
Bickerton, Egerton	161.54
Bollington	3,023.69
Bosley	201.87
Bradwall	85.13
Brereton	611.06
Brindley, Faddiley	144.85
Buerton	219.77
Bulkeley, Ridley	191.04
Bunbury	633.54
Burland	293.17
Calveley	134.18
Chelford	620.84
Cholmondeley, Chorley	141.54
Cholmondeston, Wettenhall	208.71
Chorley	263.68
Church Lawton	850.07
Church Minshull	209.76
Congleton	9,742.70
Cranage	647.02
Crewe	13,548.23
Crewe Green	98.17
Disley	2,018.98
Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley	212.81
Doddington, Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Hunsterson, Lea	302.24
Eaton	221.16
Gawsworth	818.17
Goostrey	1,051.29
Great Warford	452.45
Handforth	2,250.61
Hankelow	144.44
Haslington	2,407.02
Hassall	110.86
Hatherton, Walgherton	250.77
Haughton	100.59
Henbury	345.32
High Legh	901.08
Higher Hurdsfield	323.99
Holmes Chapel	2,542.64
Hough, Chorlton	843.11
Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths	161.81
Kettleshulme	165.55
Knutsford	5,738.78
Little Bollington	86.80
Little Warford	38.13
Lower Peover	70.58
Lower Withington	305.31

	Tax Base
Lyme Handley	73.36
Macclesfield	18,013.74
Macclesfield Forest / Wildboardclough	108.37
Marbury-cum-Quoisley, Norbury, Wirswall	270.81
Marton	112.99
Mere	441.59
Middlewich	4,761.61
Millington	99.94
Minshull Vernon, Leighton, Woolstanwood	2,069.35
Mobberley	1,438.32
Moston	235.19
Mottram St Andrew	398.00
Nantwich	5,290.39
Nether Alderley	372.84
Newbold Astbury-cum-Moreton	354.43
Newhall	408.25
North Rode	121.10
Odd Rode	1,965.43
Ollerton / Marthall	308.46
Over Alderley	215.77
Peckforton	72.11
Peover Superior	406.94
Pickmere	375.58
Plumley with Toft and Bexton	398.42
Pott Shrigley	145.27
Poynton with Worth	5,790.24
Prestbury	2,143.07
Rainow	604.54
Rope	825.51
Rostherne	79.79
Sandbach	7,191.77
Shavington-cum-Gresty	1,757.25
Siddington	184.02
Smallwood	321.75
Snelson	82.61
Somerford	299.24
Sound, Austerson, Baddiley, Baddington, Broomhall, Coole Pilate	481.27
Spurstow	191.23
Stapeley, Batherton	1,560.80
Stoke, Hurleston	149.03
Styal	366.79
Sutton	1,135.23
Swettenham	175.98
Tabley	212.07
Tatton	9.98
Twemlow	110.48
Wardle	51.18
Warmingham	118.77
Weston, Basford	1,025.19
Willaston	1,322.32
Wilmslow	11,270.15
Windle	93.08
Wistaston	2,991.46
Worleston, Poole, Aston Juxta Mondrum	284.73
Wrenbury-cum-Frith	449.49
Wybunbury	599.92
TOTAL TAX BASE	144,201.51

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COUNCIL TAX - BAND D PER PARISH 2017/18

	£
Acton, Edleston, Henhull	1,351.66
Adlington	1,346.98
Agden	1,335.22
Alderley Edge	1,391.91
Alpraham	1,350.38
Alsager	1,404.46
Arclid	1,348.51
Ashley	1,343.77
Aston-by-Budworth	1,336.18
Audlem	1,367.53
Barthomley	1,355.31
Betchton	1,334.48
Bickerton, Egerton	1,337.30
Bollington	1,382.92
Bosley	1,343.47
Bradwall	1,342.54
Brereton	1,363.39
Brindley, Faddiley	1,338.73
Buerton	1,342.21
Bulkeley, Ridley	1,343.24
Bunbury	1,356.49
Burland	1,334.55
Calveley	1,373.36
Chelford	1,361.14
Cholmondeley, Chorley	1,339.05
Cholmondeston, Wettenhall	1,341.45
Chorley	1,342.47
Church Lawton	1,339.04
Church Minshull	1,347.03
Congleton	1,406.85
Cranage	1,343.47
Crewe	1,368.06
Crewe Green	1,355.48
Disley	1,399.32
Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley	1,348.42
Doddington, Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Hunsterson, Lea	1,335.00
Eaton	1,345.72
Gawsworth	1,357.92
Goostrey	1,366.32
Great Warford	1,339.84
Handforth	1,362.69
Hankelow	1,356.07
Haslington	1,346.52
Hassall	1,361.00
Hatherton, Walgherton	1,339.68
Haughton	1,333.62
Henbury	1,345.19
High Legh	1,338.79
Higher Hurdsfield	1,337.27
Holmes Chapel	1,402.41
Hough, Chorlton	1,353.02
Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths	1,380.54
Kettleshulme	1,387.14
Knutsford	1,374.76
Little Bollington	1,337.59
Little Warford	1,324.92
Lower Peover	1,345.24
Lower Withington	1,345.46

	£
Lyme Handley	1,324.92
Macclesfield	1,363.52
Macclesfield Forest / Wildboardclough	1,324.92
Marbury-cum-Quoisley, Norbury, Wirswall	1,343.38
Marton	1,354.13
Mere	1,342.36
Middlewich	1,411.88
Millington	1,347.43
Minshull Vernon, Leighton, Woolstanwood	1,335.07
Mobberley	1,349.95
Moston	1,354.68
Mottram St Andrew	1,343.21
Nantwich	1,429.52
Nether Alderley	1,370.52
Newbold Astbury-cum-Moreton	1,353.13
Newhall	1,333.74
North Rode	1,346.39
Odd Rode	1,365.43
Ollerton / Marthall	1,352.48
Over Alderley	1,337.67
Peckforton	1,344.72
Peover Superior	1,351.49
Pickmere	1,361.26
Plumley with Toft and Bexton	1,362.21
Pott Shrigley	1,349.70
Poynton with Worth	1,399.06
Prestbury	1,358.59
Rainow	1,343.12
Rope	1,339.91
Rostherne	1,373.80
Sandbach	1,404.12
Shavington-cum-Gresty	1,376.14
Siddington	1,341.22
Smallwood	1,332.69
Snelson	1,339.45
Somerford	1,361.68
Sound, Austerson, Baddiley, Baddington, Broomhall, Coole Pilate	1,332.19
Spurstow	1,343.22
Stapeley, Batherton	1,335.81
Stoke, Hurleston	1,340.21
Styal	1,347.28
Sutton	1,341.26
Swettenham	1,346.19
Tabley	1,338.88
Tatton	1,324.92
Twemlow	1,361.13
Wardle	1,354.23
Warmingham	1,356.49
Weston, Basford	1,354.18
Willaston	1,340.04
Wilmslow	1,352.37
Windle	1,335.66
Wistaston	1,343.81
Worleston, Poole, Aston Juxta Mondrum	1,336.98
Wrenbury-cum-Frith	1,338.27
Wybunbury	1,357.40

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LOCAL COUNCIL TAX (BOROUGH + PARISH)

	VALUATION BAND							
	BAND A £	BAND B £	BAND C £	BAND D £	BAND E £	BAND F £	BAND G £	BAND H £
Acton, Edleston, Henhull	901.11	1,051.29	1,201.48	1,351.66	1,652.03	1,952.39	2,252.77	2,703.32
Adlington	897.99	1,047.65	1,197.32	1,346.98	1,646.31	1,945.63	2,244.97	2,693.96
Agden	890.15	1,038.50	1,186.87	1,335.22	1,631.94	1,928.65	2,225.37	2,670.44
Alderley Edge	927.94	1,082.59	1,237.26	1,391.91	1,701.23	2,010.53	2,319.85	2,783.82
Alpraham	900.25	1,050.29	1,200.34	1,350.38	1,650.47	1,950.55	2,250.63	2,700.76
Alsager	936.31	1,092.35	1,248.41	1,404.46	1,716.57	2,028.66	2,340.77	2,808.92
Arclid	899.01	1,048.84	1,198.68	1,348.51	1,648.18	1,947.84	2,247.52	2,697.02
Ashley	895.85	1,045.15	1,194.47	1,343.77	1,642.39	1,941.00	2,239.62	2,687.54
Aston-by-Budworth	890.79	1,039.25	1,187.72	1,336.18	1,633.11	1,930.03	2,226.97	2,672.36
Audlem	911.69	1,063.63	1,215.59	1,367.53	1,671.43	1,975.32	2,279.22	2,735.06
Barthomley	903.54	1,054.13	1,204.72	1,355.31	1,656.49	1,957.67	2,258.85	2,710.62
Betchton	889.65	1,037.93	1,186.21	1,334.48	1,631.03	1,927.58	2,224.13	2,668.96
Bickerton, Egerton	891.53	1,040.12	1,188.71	1,337.30	1,634.48	1,931.65	2,228.83	2,674.60
Bollington	921.95	1,075.60	1,229.27	1,382.92	1,690.24	1,997.55	2,304.87	2,765.84
Bosley	895.65	1,044.92	1,194.20	1,343.47	1,642.02	1,940.56	2,239.12	2,686.94
Bradwall	895.03	1,044.19	1,193.37	1,342.54	1,640.89	1,939.22	2,237.57	2,685.08
Brereton	908.93	1,060.41	1,211.91	1,363.39	1,666.37	1,969.34	2,272.32	2,726.78
Brindley, Faddiley	892.49	1,041.23	1,189.99	1,338.73	1,636.23	1,933.72	2,231.22	2,677.46
Buerton	894.81	1,043.94	1,193.08	1,342.21	1,640.48	1,938.74	2,237.02	2,684.42
Bulkeley, Ridley	895.49	1,044.74	1,193.99	1,343.24	1,641.74	1,940.23	2,238.73	2,686.48
Bunbury	904.33	1,055.04	1,205.77	1,356.49	1,657.94	1,959.37	2,260.82	2,712.98
Burland	889.70	1,037.98	1,186.27	1,334.55	1,631.12	1,927.68	2,224.25	2,669.10
Calvey	915.57	1,068.17	1,220.77	1,373.36	1,678.55	1,983.74	2,288.93	2,746.72
Chelford	907.43	1,058.66	1,209.91	1,361.14	1,663.62	1,966.09	2,268.57	2,722.28
Cholmondeley, Chorley	892.70	1,041.48	1,190.27	1,339.05	1,636.62	1,934.18	2,231.75	2,678.10
Cholmondeston, Wettenhall	894.30	1,043.35	1,192.40	1,341.45	1,639.55	1,937.65	2,235.75	2,682.90
Chorley	894.98	1,044.14	1,193.31	1,342.47	1,640.80	1,939.12	2,237.45	2,684.94
Church Lawton	892.69	1,041.47	1,190.26	1,339.04	1,636.61	1,934.17	2,231.73	2,678.08
Church Minshull	898.02	1,047.69	1,197.36	1,347.03	1,646.37	1,945.71	2,245.05	2,694.06
Congleton	937.90	1,094.21	1,250.54	1,406.85	1,719.49	2,032.11	2,344.75	2,813.70
Cranage	895.65	1,044.92	1,194.20	1,343.47	1,642.02	1,940.56	2,239.12	2,686.94
Crewe	912.04	1,064.04	1,216.06	1,368.06	1,672.08	1,976.08	2,280.10	2,736.12
Crewe Green	903.65	1,054.26	1,204.87	1,355.48	1,656.70	1,957.91	2,259.13	2,710.96
Disley	932.88	1,088.36	1,243.84	1,399.32	1,710.28	2,021.24	2,332.20	2,798.64
Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley	898.95	1,048.77	1,198.60	1,348.42	1,648.07	1,947.71	2,247.37	2,696.84
Doddington, Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Hunsterson, Lea	890.00	1,038.33	1,186.67	1,335.00	1,631.67	1,928.33	2,225.00	2,670.00
Eaton	897.15	1,046.67	1,196.20	1,345.72	1,644.77	1,943.81	2,242.87	2,691.44
Gawsworth	905.28	1,056.16	1,207.04	1,357.92	1,659.68	1,961.44	2,263.20	2,715.84
Goostrey	910.88	1,062.69	1,214.51	1,366.32	1,669.95	1,973.57	2,277.20	2,732.64
Great Warford	893.23	1,042.09	1,190.97	1,339.84	1,637.59	1,935.32	2,233.07	2,679.68
Handforth	908.46	1,059.87	1,211.28	1,362.69	1,665.51	1,968.33	2,271.15	2,725.38
Hankelow	904.05	1,054.72	1,205.40	1,356.07	1,657.42	1,958.76	2,260.12	2,712.14
Haslington	897.68	1,047.29	1,196.91	1,346.52	1,645.75	1,944.97	2,244.20	2,693.04
Hassall	907.33	1,058.55	1,209.78	1,361.00	1,663.45	1,965.89	2,268.33	2,722.00
Hatherton, Walgherton	893.12	1,041.97	1,190.83	1,339.68	1,637.39	1,935.09	2,232.80	2,679.36
Houghton	889.08	1,037.26	1,185.44	1,333.62	1,629.98	1,926.34	2,222.70	2,667.24
Henbury	896.79	1,046.26	1,195.73	1,345.19	1,644.12	1,943.05	2,241.98	2,690.38
High Legh	892.53	1,041.28	1,190.04	1,338.79	1,636.30	1,933.80	2,231.32	2,677.58
Higher Hurdfield	891.51	1,040.10	1,188.69	1,337.27	1,634.44	1,931.61	2,228.78	2,674.54
Holmes Chapel	934.94	1,090.76	1,246.59	1,402.41	1,714.06	2,025.70	2,337.35	2,804.82
Hough, Chorlton	902.01	1,052.35	1,202.69	1,353.02	1,653.69	1,954.36	2,255.03	2,706.04
Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths	920.36	1,073.75	1,227.15	1,380.54	1,687.33	1,994.11	2,300.90	2,761.08
Kettleshulme	924.76	1,078.88	1,233.02	1,387.14	1,695.40	2,003.64	2,311.90	2,774.28
Knutsford	916.51	1,069.25	1,222.01	1,374.76	1,680.27	1,985.76	2,291.27	2,749.52
Little Bollington	891.73	1,040.34	1,188.97	1,337.59	1,634.84	1,932.07	2,229.32	2,675.18
Little Warford	883.28	1,030.49	1,177.71	1,324.92	1,619.35	1,913.77	2,208.20	2,649.84
Lower Peover	896.83	1,046.29	1,195.77	1,345.24	1,644.19	1,943.12	2,242.07	2,690.48
Lower Withington	896.97	1,046.47	1,195.97	1,345.46	1,644.45	1,943.44	2,242.43	2,690.92
Lyme Handley	883.28	1,030.49	1,177.71	1,324.92	1,619.35	1,913.77	2,208.20	2,649.84
Macclesfield	909.01	1,060.51	1,212.02	1,363.52	1,666.53	1,969.53	2,272.53	2,727.04
Macclesfield Forest / Wildboardclough	883.28	1,030.49	1,177.71	1,324.92	1,619.35	1,913.77	2,208.20	2,649.84
Marbury-cum-Quoisley, Norbury, Wirswall	895.59	1,044.85	1,194.12	1,343.38	1,641.91	1,940.43	2,238.97	2,686.76
Marton	902.75	1,053.21	1,203.67	1,354.13	1,655.05	1,955.96	2,256.88	2,708.26
Mere	894.91	1,044.05	1,193.21	1,342.36	1,640.67	1,938.96	2,237.27	2,684.72

LOCAL COUNCIL TAX (BOROUGH + PARISH)

	VALUATION BAND							
	BAND A £	BAND B £	BAND C £	BAND D £	BAND E £	BAND F £	BAND G £	BAND H £
Middlewich	941.25	1,098.13	1,255.01	1,411.88	1,725.63	2,039.38	2,353.13	2,823.76
Millington	898.29	1,048.00	1,197.72	1,347.43	1,646.86	1,946.28	2,245.72	2,694.86
Minshull Vernon, Leighton, Woolstanwood	890.05	1,038.38	1,186.73	1,335.07	1,631.76	1,928.43	2,225.12	2,670.14
Mobberley	899.97	1,049.96	1,199.96	1,349.95	1,649.94	1,949.92	2,249.92	2,699.90
Moston	903.12	1,053.64	1,204.16	1,354.68	1,655.72	1,956.76	2,257.80	2,709.36
Mottram St Andrew	895.47	1,044.72	1,193.97	1,343.21	1,641.70	1,940.19	2,238.68	2,686.42
Nantwich	953.01	1,111.85	1,270.69	1,429.52	1,747.19	2,064.86	2,382.53	2,859.04
Nether Alderley	913.68	1,065.96	1,218.24	1,370.52	1,675.08	1,979.64	2,284.20	2,741.04
Newbold Astbury-cum-Moreton	902.09	1,052.43	1,202.79	1,353.13	1,653.83	1,954.52	2,255.22	2,706.26
Newhall	889.16	1,037.35	1,185.55	1,333.74	1,630.13	1,926.51	2,222.90	2,667.48
North Rode	897.59	1,047.19	1,196.79	1,346.39	1,645.59	1,944.78	2,243.98	2,692.78
Odd Rode	910.29	1,062.00	1,213.72	1,365.43	1,668.86	1,972.28	2,275.72	2,730.86
Ollerton / Marthall	901.65	1,051.93	1,202.21	1,352.48	1,653.03	1,953.58	2,254.13	2,704.96
Over Alderley	891.78	1,040.41	1,189.04	1,337.67	1,634.93	1,932.19	2,229.45	2,675.34
Peckforton	896.48	1,045.89	1,195.31	1,344.72	1,643.55	1,942.37	2,241.20	2,689.44
Peover Superior	900.99	1,051.16	1,201.33	1,351.49	1,651.82	1,952.15	2,252.48	2,702.98
Pickmere	907.51	1,058.75	1,210.01	1,361.26	1,663.77	1,966.26	2,268.77	2,722.52
Plumley with Toft and Bexton	908.14	1,059.49	1,210.86	1,362.21	1,664.93	1,967.63	2,270.35	2,724.42
Pott Shrigley	899.80	1,049.76	1,199.74	1,349.70	1,649.64	1,949.56	2,249.50	2,699.40
Poynton with Worth	932.71	1,088.15	1,243.61	1,399.06	1,709.97	2,020.86	2,331.77	2,798.12
Prestbury	905.73	1,056.68	1,207.64	1,358.59	1,660.50	1,962.40	2,264.32	2,717.18
Rainow	895.41	1,044.65	1,193.89	1,343.12	1,641.59	1,940.06	2,238.53	2,686.24
Rope	893.27	1,042.15	1,191.03	1,339.91	1,637.67	1,935.42	2,233.18	2,679.82
Rostherne	915.87	1,068.51	1,221.16	1,373.80	1,679.09	1,984.37	2,289.67	2,747.60
Sandbach	936.08	1,092.09	1,248.11	1,404.12	1,716.15	2,028.17	2,340.20	2,808.24
Shavington-cum-Gresty	917.43	1,070.33	1,223.24	1,376.14	1,681.95	1,987.75	2,293.57	2,752.28
Siddington	894.15	1,043.17	1,192.20	1,341.22	1,639.27	1,937.31	2,235.37	2,682.44
Smallwood	888.46	1,036.53	1,184.62	1,332.69	1,628.85	1,924.99	2,221.15	2,665.38
Snelson	892.97	1,041.79	1,190.63	1,339.45	1,637.11	1,934.76	2,232.42	2,678.90
Somerford	907.79	1,059.08	1,210.39	1,361.68	1,664.28	1,966.87	2,269.47	2,723.36
Sound, Austerson, Baddiley, Baddington, Broomhall, Coole Pilate	888.13	1,036.14	1,184.17	1,332.19	1,628.24	1,924.27	2,220.32	2,664.38
Spurstow	895.48	1,044.72	1,193.98	1,343.22	1,641.72	1,940.20	2,238.70	2,686.44
Stapeley, Batherton	890.54	1,038.96	1,187.39	1,335.81	1,632.66	1,929.50	2,226.35	2,671.62
Stoke, Hurleston	893.47	1,042.38	1,191.30	1,340.21	1,638.04	1,935.86	2,233.68	2,680.42
Styal	898.19	1,047.88	1,197.59	1,347.28	1,646.68	1,946.07	2,245.47	2,694.56
Sutton	894.17	1,043.20	1,192.23	1,341.26	1,639.32	1,937.37	2,235.43	2,682.52
Swettenham	897.46	1,047.03	1,196.62	1,346.19	1,645.35	1,944.49	2,243.65	2,692.38
Tabley	892.59	1,041.35	1,190.12	1,338.88	1,636.41	1,933.93	2,231.47	2,677.76
Tatton	883.28	1,030.49	1,177.71	1,324.92	1,619.35	1,913.77	2,208.20	2,649.84
Twemlow	907.42	1,058.65	1,209.90	1,361.13	1,663.61	1,966.07	2,268.55	2,722.26
Wardle	902.82	1,053.29	1,203.76	1,354.23	1,655.17	1,956.11	2,257.05	2,708.46
Warmingham	904.33	1,055.04	1,205.77	1,356.49	1,657.94	1,959.37	2,260.82	2,712.98
Weston, Basford	902.79	1,053.25	1,203.72	1,354.18	1,655.11	1,956.03	2,256.97	2,708.36
Willaston	893.36	1,042.25	1,191.15	1,340.04	1,637.83	1,935.61	2,233.40	2,680.08
Wilmslow	901.58	1,051.84	1,202.11	1,352.37	1,652.90	1,953.42	2,253.95	2,704.74
Wincle	890.44	1,038.84	1,187.26	1,335.66	1,632.48	1,929.28	2,226.10	2,671.32
Wistaston	895.87	1,045.18	1,194.50	1,343.81	1,642.44	1,941.06	2,239.68	2,687.62
Worleston, Poole, Aston Juxta Mondrum	891.32	1,039.87	1,188.43	1,336.98	1,634.09	1,931.19	2,228.30	2,673.96
Wrenbury-cum-Frith	892.18	1,040.87	1,189.58	1,338.27	1,635.67	1,933.05	2,230.45	2,676.54
Wybunbury	904.93	1,055.75	1,206.58	1,357.40	1,659.05	1,960.69	2,262.33	2,714.80

TOTAL COUNCIL TAX

	VALUATION BAND							
	BAND A £	BAND B £	BAND C £	BAND D £	BAND E £	BAND F £	BAND G £	BAND H £
Acton, Edleston, Henhull	1,059.60	1,236.19	1,412.80	1,589.39	1,942.59	2,295.77	2,648.99	3,178.78
Adlington	1,056.48	1,232.55	1,408.64	1,584.71	1,936.87	2,289.01	2,641.19	3,169.42
Agden	1,048.64	1,223.40	1,398.19	1,572.95	1,922.50	2,272.03	2,621.59	3,145.90
Alderley Edge	1,086.43	1,267.49	1,448.58	1,629.64	1,991.79	2,353.91	2,716.07	3,259.28
Alpraham	1,058.74	1,235.19	1,411.66	1,588.11	1,941.03	2,293.93	2,646.85	3,176.22
Alsager	1,094.80	1,277.25	1,459.73	1,642.19	2,007.13	2,372.04	2,736.99	3,284.38
Arclid	1,057.50	1,233.74	1,410.00	1,586.24	1,938.74	2,291.22	2,643.74	3,172.48
Ashley	1,054.34	1,230.05	1,405.79	1,581.50	1,932.95	2,284.38	2,635.84	3,163.00
Aston-by-Budworth	1,049.28	1,224.15	1,399.04	1,573.91	1,923.67	2,273.41	2,623.19	3,147.82
Audlem	1,070.18	1,248.53	1,426.91	1,605.26	1,961.99	2,318.70	2,675.44	3,210.52
Barthomley	1,062.03	1,239.03	1,416.04	1,593.04	1,947.05	2,301.05	2,655.07	3,186.08
Betchton	1,048.14	1,222.83	1,397.53	1,572.21	1,921.59	2,270.96	2,620.35	3,144.42
Bickerton, Egerton	1,050.02	1,225.02	1,400.03	1,575.03	1,925.04	2,275.03	2,625.05	3,150.06
Bollington	1,080.44	1,260.50	1,440.59	1,620.65	1,980.80	2,340.93	2,701.09	3,241.30
Bosley	1,054.14	1,229.82	1,405.52	1,581.20	1,932.58	2,283.94	2,635.34	3,162.40
Bradwall	1,053.52	1,229.09	1,404.69	1,580.27	1,931.45	2,282.60	2,633.79	3,160.54
Brereton	1,067.42	1,245.31	1,423.23	1,601.12	1,956.93	2,312.72	2,668.54	3,202.24
Brindley, Faddiley	1,050.98	1,226.13	1,401.31	1,576.46	1,926.79	2,277.10	2,627.44	3,152.92
Burton	1,053.30	1,228.84	1,404.40	1,579.94	1,931.04	2,282.12	2,633.22	3,159.88
Bulkeley, Ridley	1,053.98	1,229.64	1,405.31	1,580.97	1,932.30	2,283.61	2,634.95	3,161.94
Bunbury	1,062.82	1,239.94	1,417.09	1,594.22	1,948.50	2,302.75	2,657.04	3,188.44
Burland	1,048.19	1,222.88	1,397.59	1,572.28	1,921.68	2,271.06	2,620.47	3,144.56
Calvey	1,074.06	1,253.07	1,432.09	1,611.09	1,969.11	2,327.12	2,685.15	3,222.18
Chelford	1,065.92	1,243.56	1,421.23	1,598.87	1,954.18	2,309.47	2,664.79	3,197.74
Cholmondeley, Chorley	1,051.19	1,226.38	1,401.59	1,576.78	1,927.18	2,277.56	2,627.97	3,153.56
Cholmondeston, Wettenhall	1,052.79	1,228.25	1,403.72	1,579.18	1,930.11	2,281.03	2,631.97	3,158.36
Chorley	1,053.47	1,229.04	1,404.63	1,580.20	1,931.36	2,282.50	2,633.67	3,160.40
Church Lawton	1,051.18	1,226.37	1,401.58	1,576.77	1,927.17	2,277.55	2,627.95	3,153.54
Church Minshull	1,056.51	1,232.59	1,408.68	1,584.76	1,936.93	2,289.09	2,641.27	3,169.52
Congleton	1,096.39	1,279.11	1,461.86	1,644.58	2,010.05	2,375.49	2,740.97	3,289.16
Cranage	1,054.14	1,229.82	1,405.52	1,581.20	1,932.58	2,283.94	2,635.34	3,162.40
Crewe	1,070.53	1,248.94	1,427.38	1,605.79	1,962.64	2,319.46	2,676.32	3,211.58
Crewe Green	1,062.14	1,239.16	1,416.19	1,593.21	1,947.26	2,301.29	2,655.35	3,186.42
Disley	1,091.37	1,273.26	1,455.16	1,637.05	2,000.84	2,364.62	2,728.42	3,274.10
Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley	1,057.44	1,233.67	1,409.92	1,586.15	1,938.63	2,291.09	2,643.59	3,172.30
Doddington, Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Hunsterson, Lea	1,048.49	1,223.23	1,397.99	1,572.73	1,922.23	2,271.71	2,621.22	3,145.46
Eaton	1,055.64	1,231.57	1,407.52	1,583.45	1,935.33	2,287.19	2,639.09	3,166.90
Gawsworth	1,063.77	1,241.06	1,418.36	1,595.65	1,950.24	2,304.82	2,659.42	3,191.30
Goostrey	1,069.37	1,247.59	1,425.83	1,604.05	1,960.51	2,316.95	2,673.42	3,208.10
Great Warford	1,051.72	1,226.99	1,402.29	1,577.57	1,928.15	2,278.70	2,629.29	3,155.14
Handforth	1,066.95	1,244.77	1,422.60	1,600.42	1,956.07	2,311.71	2,667.37	3,200.84
Hankelow	1,062.54	1,239.62	1,416.72	1,593.80	1,947.98	2,302.14	2,656.34	3,187.60
Haslington	1,056.17	1,232.19	1,408.23	1,584.25	1,936.31	2,288.35	2,640.42	3,168.50
Hassall	1,065.82	1,243.45	1,421.10	1,598.73	1,954.01	2,309.27	2,664.55	3,197.46
Hatherton, Walgherton	1,051.61	1,226.87	1,402.15	1,577.41	1,927.95	2,278.47	2,629.02	3,154.82
Houghton	1,047.57	1,222.16	1,396.76	1,571.35	1,920.54	2,269.72	2,618.92	3,142.70
Henbury	1,055.28	1,231.16	1,407.05	1,582.92	1,934.68	2,286.43	2,638.20	3,165.84
High Legh	1,051.02	1,226.18	1,401.36	1,576.52	1,926.86	2,277.18	2,627.54	3,153.04
Higher Hurdfield	1,050.00	1,225.00	1,400.01	1,575.00	1,925.00	2,274.99	2,625.00	3,150.00
Holmes Chapel	1,093.43	1,275.66	1,457.91	1,640.14	2,004.62	2,369.08	2,733.57	3,280.28
Hough, Chorlton	1,060.50	1,237.25	1,414.01	1,590.75	1,944.25	2,297.74	2,651.25	3,181.50
Hulme Walfield & Somerford Booths	1,078.85	1,258.65	1,438.47	1,618.27	1,977.89	2,337.49	2,697.12	3,236.54
Kettleshulme	1,083.25	1,263.78	1,444.34	1,624.87	1,985.96	2,347.02	2,708.12	3,249.74
Knutsford	1,075.00	1,254.15	1,433.33	1,612.49	1,970.83	2,329.14	2,687.49	3,224.98
Little Bollington	1,050.22	1,225.24	1,400.29	1,575.32	1,925.40	2,275.45	2,625.54	3,150.64
Little Warford	1,041.77	1,215.39	1,389.03	1,562.65	1,909.91	2,257.15	2,604.42	3,125.30
Lower Peover	1,055.32	1,231.19	1,407.09	1,582.97	1,934.75	2,286.50	2,638.29	3,165.94
Lower Withington	1,055.46	1,231.37	1,407.29	1,583.19	1,935.01	2,286.82	2,638.65	3,166.38
Lyme Handley	1,041.77	1,215.39	1,389.03	1,562.65	1,909.91	2,257.15	2,604.42	3,125.30
Macclesfield	1,067.50	1,245.41	1,423.34	1,601.25	1,957.09	2,312.91	2,668.75	3,202.50
Macclesfield Forest / Wildboardclough	1,041.77	1,215.39	1,389.03	1,562.65	1,909.91	2,257.15	2,604.42	3,125.30
Marbury-cum-Quoisley, Norbury, Wirswall	1,054.08	1,229.75	1,405.44	1,581.11	1,932.47	2,283.81	2,635.19	3,162.22
Marton	1,061.24	1,238.11	1,414.99	1,591.86	1,945.61	2,299.34	2,653.10	3,183.72
Mere	1,053.40	1,228.95	1,404.53	1,580.09	1,931.23	2,282.34	2,633.49	3,160.18

TOTAL COUNCIL TAX

	VALUATION BAND							
	BAND A £	BAND B £	BAND C £	BAND D £	BAND E £	BAND F £	BAND G £	BAND H £
Middlewich	1,099.74	1,283.03	1,466.33	1,649.61	2,016.19	2,382.76	2,749.35	3,299.22
Millington	1,056.78	1,232.90	1,409.04	1,585.16	1,937.42	2,289.66	2,641.94	3,170.32
Minshull Vernon, Leighton, Woolstanwood	1,048.54	1,223.28	1,398.05	1,572.80	1,922.32	2,271.81	2,621.34	3,145.60
Mobberley	1,058.46	1,234.86	1,411.28	1,587.68	1,940.50	2,293.30	2,646.14	3,175.36
Moston	1,061.61	1,238.54	1,415.48	1,592.41	1,946.28	2,300.14	2,654.02	3,184.82
Mottram St Andrew	1,053.96	1,229.62	1,405.29	1,580.94	1,932.26	2,283.57	2,634.90	3,161.88
Nantwich	1,111.50	1,296.75	1,482.01	1,667.25	2,037.75	2,408.24	2,778.75	3,334.50
Nether Alderley	1,072.17	1,250.86	1,429.56	1,608.25	1,965.64	2,323.02	2,680.42	3,216.50
Newbold Astbury-cum-Moreton	1,060.58	1,237.33	1,414.11	1,590.86	1,944.39	2,297.90	2,651.44	3,181.72
Newhall	1,047.65	1,222.25	1,396.87	1,571.47	1,920.69	2,269.89	2,619.12	3,142.94
North Rode	1,056.08	1,232.09	1,408.11	1,584.12	1,936.15	2,288.16	2,640.20	3,168.24
Odd Rode	1,068.78	1,246.90	1,425.04	1,603.16	1,959.42	2,315.66	2,671.94	3,206.32
Ollerton / Marthall	1,060.14	1,236.83	1,413.53	1,590.21	1,943.59	2,296.96	2,650.35	3,180.42
Over Alderley	1,050.27	1,225.31	1,400.36	1,575.40	1,925.49	2,275.57	2,625.67	3,150.80
Peckforton	1,054.97	1,230.79	1,406.63	1,582.45	1,934.11	2,285.75	2,637.42	3,164.90
Peover Superior	1,059.48	1,236.06	1,412.65	1,589.22	1,942.38	2,295.53	2,648.70	3,178.44
Pickmere	1,066.00	1,243.65	1,421.33	1,598.99	1,954.33	2,309.64	2,664.99	3,197.98
Plumley with Toft and Bexton	1,066.63	1,244.39	1,422.18	1,599.94	1,955.49	2,311.01	2,666.57	3,199.88
Pott Shrigley	1,058.29	1,234.66	1,411.06	1,587.43	1,940.20	2,292.94	2,645.72	3,174.86
Poynton with Worth	1,091.20	1,273.05	1,454.93	1,636.79	2,000.53	2,364.24	2,727.99	3,273.58
Prestbury	1,064.22	1,241.58	1,418.96	1,596.32	1,951.06	2,305.78	2,660.54	3,192.64
Rainow	1,053.90	1,229.55	1,405.21	1,580.85	1,932.15	2,283.44	2,634.75	3,161.70
Rope	1,051.76	1,227.05	1,402.35	1,577.64	1,928.23	2,278.80	2,629.40	3,155.28
Rostherne	1,074.36	1,253.41	1,432.48	1,611.53	1,969.65	2,327.75	2,685.89	3,223.06
Sandbach	1,094.57	1,276.99	1,459.43	1,641.85	2,006.71	2,371.55	2,736.42	3,283.70
Shavington-cum-Gresty	1,075.92	1,255.23	1,434.56	1,613.87	1,972.51	2,331.13	2,689.79	3,227.74
Siddington	1,052.64	1,228.07	1,403.52	1,578.95	1,929.83	2,280.69	2,631.59	3,157.90
Smallwood	1,046.95	1,221.43	1,395.94	1,570.42	1,919.41	2,268.37	2,617.37	3,140.84
Snelson	1,051.46	1,226.69	1,401.95	1,577.18	1,927.67	2,278.14	2,628.64	3,154.36
Somerford	1,066.28	1,243.98	1,421.71	1,599.41	1,954.84	2,310.25	2,665.69	3,198.82
Sound, Austerston, Baddiley, Baddington, Broomhall, Coole Pilate	1,046.62	1,221.04	1,395.49	1,569.92	1,918.80	2,267.65	2,616.54	3,139.84
Spurstow	1,053.97	1,229.62	1,405.30	1,580.95	1,932.28	2,283.58	2,634.92	3,161.90
Stapeley, Batherton	1,049.03	1,223.86	1,398.71	1,573.54	1,923.22	2,272.88	2,622.57	3,147.08
Stoke, Hurleston	1,051.96	1,227.28	1,402.62	1,577.94	1,928.60	2,279.24	2,629.90	3,155.88
Styal	1,056.68	1,232.78	1,408.91	1,585.01	1,937.24	2,289.45	2,641.69	3,170.02
Sutton	1,052.66	1,228.10	1,403.55	1,578.99	1,929.88	2,280.75	2,631.65	3,157.98
Swettenham	1,055.95	1,231.93	1,407.94	1,583.92	1,935.91	2,287.87	2,639.87	3,167.84
Tabley	1,051.08	1,226.25	1,401.44	1,576.61	1,926.97	2,277.31	2,627.69	3,153.22
Tatton	1,041.77	1,215.39	1,389.03	1,562.65	1,909.91	2,257.15	2,604.42	3,125.30
Twemlow	1,065.91	1,243.55	1,421.22	1,598.86	1,954.17	2,309.45	2,664.77	3,197.72
Wardle	1,061.31	1,238.19	1,415.08	1,591.96	1,945.73	2,299.49	2,653.27	3,183.92
Warmingham	1,062.82	1,239.94	1,417.09	1,594.22	1,948.50	2,302.75	2,657.04	3,188.44
Weston, Basford	1,061.28	1,238.15	1,415.04	1,591.91	1,945.67	2,299.41	2,653.19	3,183.82
Willaston	1,051.85	1,227.15	1,402.47	1,577.77	1,928.39	2,278.99	2,629.62	3,155.54
Wilmslow	1,060.07	1,236.74	1,413.43	1,590.10	1,943.46	2,296.80	2,650.17	3,180.20
Wincle	1,048.93	1,223.74	1,398.58	1,573.39	1,923.04	2,272.66	2,622.32	3,146.78
Wistaston	1,054.36	1,230.08	1,405.82	1,581.54	1,933.00	2,284.44	2,635.90	3,163.08
Worleston, Poole, Aston Juxta Mondrum	1,049.81	1,224.77	1,399.75	1,574.71	1,924.65	2,274.57	2,624.52	3,149.42
Wrenbury-cum-Frith	1,050.67	1,225.77	1,400.90	1,576.00	1,926.23	2,276.43	2,626.67	3,152.00
Wybunbury	1,063.42	1,240.65	1,417.90	1,595.13	1,949.61	2,304.07	2,658.55	3,190.26

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Council

Date of Meeting:	23 rd February 2017
Report:	Head of Strategic Human Resources
Subject/Title:	Pay Policy Statement 2017/2018
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Paul Findlow

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 requires Local Authorities to produce a Pay Policy Statement by 31 March on an annual basis. Regard continues to be given to any guidance from the Secretary of State in producing this statement and the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.
- 1.2 The Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18, which reflects the expected position as at 1st April 2017, is attached as **Appendix 1**. Changes since last year's Statement are outlined in Section 12 of this summary report.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the changes since the 2016/17 Pay Policy Statement be noted as outlined in Section 12.2 of this report.
- 2.2 That the attached Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18 recommended by Staffing Committee, be approved by Council and published accordingly.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 A Pay Policy Statement has been required to be produced annually since 2012/2013 under Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011. Local Authorities must have their Pay Policy Statement approved by full Council and published on their web site no later than the 31st March, prior to the financial year to which it relates.

4.0 Background

- 4.1 The purpose of the Pay Policy Statement is to increase accountability, transparency and fairness with regard to the Council's approach to pay, with particular focus on its Chief Officers.

5.0 Wards Affected

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Local Ward Members

OFFICIAL

6.1 Not applicable.

7.0 Policy Implications

7.1 Any decisions relating to the pay and remuneration of Chief Officers must comply with the Pay Policy Statement in place at the time for that financial year and, whilst the Statement can be amended during the year, should the need arise, changes are subject to the approval of full Council.

8.0 Implications for Rural Communities

8.1 Not applicable.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with approving the updated Pay Policy Statement 2017/18 and no budgetary adjustments are proposed in relation to this report.

10.0 Legal Implications

10.1 The Council is required to produce and publish a Pay Policy Statement, agreed by Council each year, under Section 38 of the Localism Act.

10.2 In addition, the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 requires information on organisational structure, senior salaries and pay multiples to be published annually each year.

10.3 This report and accompanying Pay Policy Statement, with associated links in Annex 1, once approved and adopted, ensures that Council complies with these requirements.

11.0 Risk Management

11.1 If the Council does not follow specific aspects of the guidance issued by DCLG and therefore not achieve appropriate levels of openness and accountability, DCLG can take steps to require the Council to adapt particular policies.

12.0 Key updates to the Pay Policy Statement

12.1 The Pay Policy Statement 2017/18 follows the style and format of the Statement published in 2016/17. The Statement focuses on the broad principles and policies regarding pay and has links to further information and statistical data available on the Council's website and associated policies. The Statement has again been designed to be user friendly for public consumption and should require minimal updates each year. The links to further information will be updated, as appropriate, though the coming year.

12.2 The changes since the last Pay Policy Statement are:

- Section 3.5 – reflects a small change in the broad remuneration ranges for Chief Officers (Tiers 1 – 3) due to a 1% national pay increase in April 2016.
- Section 8 – provides an update on the Government’s consultation on a range of wider reforms to exit payments across the public sector.

13.0 Access to Information

13.1 The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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Appendix 1

Pay Policy Statement 2017/18

1. Introduction and Purpose

Under Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the “power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as the authority thinks fit”. This Pay Policy Statement (the ‘statement’) sets out the Council’s approach to pay policy in accordance with the requirements of Section 38-43 of the Localism Act 2011 and due regard to the associated Statutory Guidance including the Supplementary Statutory Guidance issued in February 2013 and guidance issued under the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.

The purpose of the statement is to provide transparency with regard to the Council’s approach to setting the pay of its senior employees (excluding teaching staff, employees working in local authority schools and academies) by identifying:

- The methods by which salaries of all employees are determined;
- The detail and level of remuneration of its most senior employees i.e. ‘Chief Officers’, as defined by the relevant legislation;

“Remuneration” for the purposes of this statement includes three elements - basic salary, pension and all other allowances arising from employment.

Once approved by Council, this policy statement will come into immediate effect, superseding the 2016/17 statement and will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis.

2. Background

In determining the pay and remuneration of all of its employees, the Council takes account of the need to ensure value for money in respect of the use of public expenditure, This is balanced against the need to recruit and retain employees who are able to deliver the Council’s Residents First commitment and meet the requirements of providing high quality services, which are delivered effectively and efficiently and at times at which those services are required.

The Council complies with all relevant employment legislation and codes of practice. The Council ensures there is no pay discrimination within its pay structures and that all pay differentials can be objectively justified through the

use of job evaluation mechanisms and the application of key criteria, which directly establish the relative levels of posts in grades according to the requirements, demands and responsibilities of the role.

A light touch Equal Pay analysis on the Council's pay structure, including senior managers conducted in November 2015 determined that no major issues exist between men and women's pay in the workforce. The analysis was based on the Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance concerning pay variances. This will be kept under review by the Head of Strategic HR.

3. Pay Structure

Senior Management

3.1 Principles

There are a number of overriding principles which govern the Council's approach to senior management reward:

- The policy will be affordable; with reward being commensurate with individual and corporate performance.
- Reward policy for senior post-holders will be transparent, clearly defined and readily understood.
- The policy will offer the flexibility to reward for job size, capability, performance (objectives and behaviour), and market rates (where relevant, with evidence).
- Reward for senior roles will be fair and proportionate to reward for the wider workforce.

3.2 Reward components

For the majority of senior posts, reward will comprise basic salary, an annual performance related pay incentive and a range of benefits.

The components are described as follows:

- **Basic salary (Achieving Rate):** this is guaranteed fixed cash remuneration, paid monthly. The level of basic salary is contractual.
- **'Exceeding' Performance Award:** this is paid as a lump sum annually with basic salary for the previous year's performance. After the year, it is withdrawn unless re-earned. This element is pensionable.
- **Benefits:** the Council provides a range of benefits, some of which are guaranteed and form a part of the contract of employment. Generous holiday and access to the Local Government Pension Scheme are principal benefits.

A small number of the Council's most senior managers no longer receive a performance related pay incentive. This has been replaced by an inclusive salary which comprises basic pay, plus a market supplement, where appropriate.

3.3 Job Evaluation and Banding

The Council uses the Hay Group job evaluation to position roles into the Cheshire East Senior Management bands. The bands are linked to Hay Job Evaluation point's ranges which have been determined as part of the Council's operating model.

3.4 Senior Manager Pay Structure

This defined pay structure determines the salaries of senior managers on JNC (Joint National Council for Local Government Services). All other jobs are evaluated under the national Job Evaluation Scheme and the evaluated job scores will equate to a pay band on the Council's salary scale.

Each grade within the senior management population has an achieving rate and the potential for a defined exceeding performance award, within each role. The defined pay structure which determines the salaries of senior managers who are on JNC conditions of service can be seen by accessing the [senior manager pay and grading structure](#).

In addition, a number of public health employees transferred to the Council on 1/4/2013. Those employees who have transferred remained, after transfer, on the terms and conditions of their previous employer under TUPE Regulations.

3.5 Chief Officer remuneration

When applying the senior manager pay structure, for the purposes of this statement, the definition of Chief Officers is as set out in Section 43 of the Localism Act.

The posts falling within the statutory definition are set out below, with details of their salary package as at 1st January 2017.

Chief Executive – Tier 1

- The salary package of the post is within the range of £151,500 to £161,500

Chief Officer – Tier 2 (three direct reports to the Chief Executive, plus the Monitoring Officer)

- The salary package of these posts fall within a range of £90,900 to £,136,250

Deputy Chief Officer – Tier 3 (direct reports to Tier 2 managers)

- The salary package of these posts fall within a range of £59,752 to £120,000

3.6 Pay and grading structure for staff

The [pay and grading structure for staff](#) on NJC (National Joint Council) is also available.

4. Commitment to the Living Wage

The Council implemented on the 1st November 2015 a “local” Living Wage of £7.85 an hour for directly employed staff (excluding apprentices, work placements and traineeships, which have been created to enable access to work place training and job opportunities).

The rate is paid by adding a clear supplement to the NJC pay scale points up to and including scp 10 rates. Enhancements for working unsocial hours will continue to be calculated on the NJC pay rates.

The National Living Wage will rise to £7.50 from April 2017 and is due to rise to £9 an hour in 2020. The Council will continue to monitor its’ position in relation to the National Living Wage.

5. Recruitment of Chief Officers

The Council’s policy and procedures with regard to recruitment of Chief Officers is set out in the Council’s Constitution and Scheme of Delegation and is undertaken by an Appointment Panel made up of members of the Staffing Committee in accordance with Constitutional arrangements. Full Council approval will be sought for the establishment of a role on a salary package exceeding £100,000.

When recruiting to all posts, the Council will take full and proper account of all provisions of relevant employment law and its own Recruitment Policy and Procedure, Disability Confident Commitment, Mindful Employer, Redeployment Policy and Procedure and Equality in Employment Policy.

The determination of the remuneration to be offered to any newly appointed Chief Officer will be in accordance with the pay structure and relevant policies in place at the time of recruitment and in line with this Pay Policy Statement. New appointments will normally be made at the achieving rate for the grade, although this can be varied on an exceptional basis where necessary to secure the best candidate and will take into account the appointee’s existing pay and their relevant experience and qualifications taking account of equal pay within the Council.

From time to time, it may be necessary to take account of the external pay levels in the labour market in order to attract and retain employees with particular experience, skills and capacity. Where necessary, the Council will ensure the requirement for such is objectively justified by reference to clear and transparent evidence of relevant market comparators, using data sources available from within the local government sector and outside, as appropriate. Any such payments will be reviewed at regular intervals to ensure their ongoing suitability and appropriateness.

Where the Council is unable to recruit Chief Officers, or there is a need for interim support to provide cover for a substantive Chief Officer post, the Council will, where necessary, consider engaging individuals under a contract for service's. These will be sourced through a relevant procurement process ensuring the Council is able to demonstrate maximum value for money, in securing the relevant service. In assessing such, it should be noted that in respect of such engagements, the Council is not required to make either pension or national insurance contributions for such individuals.

6. Additions to Chief Officers' Salaries

The following payments can be applied to Chief Officers' salaries:

- Returning and Deputy Returning Officers' Fees
- Travel Allowances and Expenses
- Green Salary Sacrifice Lease Car Scheme
- Relocation Expenses
- Professional Fees and Subscriptions

Further details of [additions to Chief Officers' salaries](#), are published in the Council's Transparency Data and in the Statement of Accounts. A link to these documents is included in Appendix 1 of this Statement

Public health employees who have transferred to the Council and have remained on NHS terms and conditions, receive additional allowances such as clinical excellence award, extra programmed activities and on call availability supplement.

7. Local Government Pension Scheme

Details of the [Local Government Pension Scheme](#), the discretions exercised, contribution bands, actuarial rates, and discretions policy application are available.

8. Redundancy Payments and Payments on Termination

The Council has a Redundancy Scheme which is applicable to all employees and is based on the statutory formula, and payment for any leave for employees leaving the Council's employment with accrued leave which by agreement is untaken at the date of leaving.

The Voluntary Redundancy Scheme is also applicable to all employees. Employees who leave on grounds of voluntary redundancy will normally be entitled to receive a redundancy payment in accordance with the statutory formula but based on the employee's actual week's pay plus an additional severance payment of 0.8 times the statutory payment, bringing the total payment to 1.80 times the statutory formula and up to a maximum of 50 week's pay. This was reviewed in 2015 and the formula has not been changed. The government is currently consulting on and finalising a range of

wider reforms to exit payments across the public sector and the Council's position will be considered once these changes are published. The Council reserves the right to change all discretionary elements.

The Council's approach to statutory and discretionary payments on termination of employment of Chief Officers, prior to reaching normal retirement age, is set out within the Redundancy Policy and Procedure and for those eligible for retirement, in the Retirement and Severance Policy and are in accordance with the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006 and Local Government Pension scheme Regulations 2007. All payments under this section are subject to the approval process set out in the Redundancy Policy and Procedure.

9. Severance and Retirement on Grounds of Efficiency

In line with the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006, the Council also operates a voluntary scheme to facilitate early retirement or severance on grounds of efficiency to enable the Council to continue to achieve effective use of resources and provide value for money. The terms of this are set out in the discretionary policy.

10. Settlement Agreements

The Council uses settlement agreements as a matter of course for all voluntary redundancies/severances and this applies to all employees, including Chief Officers. The use of standard settlement agreements on this basis minimises any risk of future claims against the Council and can ensure that any threatened or pending legal proceedings and their associated legal costs can be avoided. The Council follows the current guidance for public sector settlement agreements in these circumstances.

11. Pay Multiples

The Council publishes a range of information to meet the Transparency Code requirements and has used the recommended formulae in the code guidance and LGA guidance to calculate the relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid, median and Chief Officers, known as [pay multiples](#). This has been updated to reflect the introduction of the Living Wage into the Council in November 2015. See also section on the Living Wage in 3.4

12. Re-employment or re-engagement

Any decision to re-employ an individual (including Chief Officers) already in receipt of a Local Government Pension (with same or another local authority) will be made on merit, taking into account the use of public money and the exigencies of the Council.

In particular, the Voluntary Redundancy Scheme provides that former Cheshire East/ Legacy Authority employees who left their employment on

grounds of voluntary retirement or severance will not be re-employed or re-engaged in any capacity, except in exceptional circumstances and subject to the agreement of the Head of Strategic HR in consultation with the Leader and the relevant Portfolio Holder. Re-engagement includes all types of contractual relationships whether they are a contract of employment, contract for service's etc. and whether the individual is appointed as an employee or engaged as an interim, direct consultancy or via an agency or other supplier.

13. Publication and access to information

Upon approval by Council, this Statement will be published on the Council's website. Additionally, in line with Code of Practice and Accounts and Audit Regulations, salary, allowances and bonus compensation and employers pension contributions will be published for:

- a) Senior employees whose salary is £150,000 or more (who will also be identified by name)
- b) Senior employees whose salary is £50,000 or more.

Prepared by: HR Strategy and Policy Team
Date: February 2017
Review date: February 2018

Annex 1 – Links

All of the relevant policies and procedures as referred to in the Pay Policy Statement can be found using the links in section 1 below. Please contact HREnquiries@cheshireeast.gov.uk should you have any difficulties accessing this information.

Section 1. Additional information

Link 1 – [Pay and grading structure for senior managers and staff](#)

Link 2 – [Additions to Chief Officers' salaries](#)

Link 3 – [Local government pension scheme](#)

Link 4 – [Pay multiples](#)

[Statement of Accounts for 2015/16](#)

Section 2. Internal intranet links to the further relevant policies, procedures and other relevant information:

[Payment of Market Supplements](#)

[Pay and Allowances Policy](#)

[Pensions Discretions Policy](#)

[Redundancy Policy *and* Procedure](#)

[Retirement and Severance Policy](#)

[Recruitment Policy *and* Procedure](#)

[Disability at Work Commitment](#)

[Mindful Employer](#)

[Redeployment Policy *and* Procedure](#)

[Equality in Employment Policy](#)

[Relocation Expenses Policy](#)

For those seeking to access copies of policies externally via www.cheshireeast.gov.uk please contact HREnquiries@cheshireeast.gov.uk to request copies of the policies.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Council

Date of Meeting:	23 February 2017
Report of:	Head of Governance and Democratic Services
Subject/Title:	Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2017-18 Civic Year

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 Council is required to to consider nominations for the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2017-18.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Council is requested to:-

Resolve that Councillor Arthur Moran be designated as Mayor Elect and that a second Member be designated as Deputy Mayor Elect, with a view to their formal election and appointment as Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Cheshire East for 2017-18, at the Mayor Making ceremony to be held on 17 May 2017.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The reasons for the recommendations are to ensure that appropriate arrangements can be made for the Mayor Making ceremony on 17 May 2017 and to agree a process to ensure that matters affecting the Mayoralty can be dealt with in a timely manner, with appropriate Member input.

4.0 Policy Implications

- 4.1 None.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Legal Implications

The meeting of Annual Council must formally elect the Mayor and appoint a Deputy Mayor.

7.0 Risk Management

7.1 There are no risks in respect of the recommendations. There is advantage in Council designating Members as Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elect in advance of the Annual Meeting, in order for there to be certainty prior to the beginning of the new civic year.

8.0 Background and Options

8.1 This report asks Council to agree which Members will be put forward for election as Mayor and Deputy Mayor, at the Annual Council meeting. Such a decision will assist the proposed civic office holders, and officers, in making arrangements for the new civic year.

9.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Officer: Brian Reed Head of Governance and Democratic Services

Tel No: 01270 686670

Email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Background Documents: None

COUNCIL MEETING – 23RD FEBRUARY 2017**Extract from the Minutes of the Constitution Committee meeting on
13th February 2017****31 NEW JNC HANDBOOK FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVES AND CONSEQUENTIAL
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

The Committee considered a report setting out the changes made in the new JNC handbook for Chief Executives which reflected changes made to the statutory employment protections for the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer (the Section 151 Officer) and Monitoring Officer who, together, were referred to as the “Protected Officers”. The report also recommended changes to the Constitution to comply with the new requirements.

The changes were required to comply with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 and followed the issuing of the revised JNC handbook in October 2016.

Full details of the proposals were set out in the report and its appendices.

In addition to the report, the Committee had regard to a supplementary paper which set out a number of points of clarification in respect of matters within the main report and its appendices. This had followed discussion with the Chairman of the Staffing Committee who had provided additional helpful perspectives and suggestions on the matter. The clarification paper recommended a number of consequential amendments to the appendices to the report.

The Committee was informed that external solicitors had advised on the constitutional and employment law issues and had contributed to the report. Such external advice had been sought so that the Council could benefit from the experience of a firm that had advised a number of councils on how best to align their constitutions and procedures with the new regulations and JNC handbook. In this respect, the approach recommended in the report reflected best practice.

The Committee discussed the relative merits of a single set of procedures to apply to all three Protected Officers as opposed to one process for the Head of Paid Service and another for the Section 151 and Monitoring Officers. A single approach for all three officers would provide clarity and consistency, and would avoid any unnecessary complexity. If two separate processes were adopted, they would be unlikely to differ to any great extent, given the need to comply with the rules of natural justice. It was not clear what particular benefits would be gained by such an approach. The report therefore recommended a single set of processes for all three Protected Officers.

RESOLVED

That the Constitution Committee recommends to Council that

1. a single, uniform dismissal and disciplinary procedure as set out in the report be adopted in relation to the Head of Paid Service, the Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer; and
2. subject to the additional recommendations set out in paragraphs 13, 14 and 15 of the clarification paper:
 - a) the Staff Employment Procedure Rules be amended as set out in Appendix 2;
 - b) the Terms of Reference of the Staffing Committee be amended as set out in Appendix 3;
 - c) an Investigation and Disciplinary Committee (comprising 7 elected Members) be established with the terms of reference set out in Appendix 4;
 - d) a Disciplinary Appeals Committee (comprising 7 elected Members) be established with terms of reference as set out in Appendix 5;
 - e) an Independent Persons Panel be established with the terms of reference set out in Appendix 6;
 - f) the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer be authorised to invite the Council's current Independent Persons (being those persons appointed to advise on member conduct complaints under the Localism Act 2011) and if necessary one or more of the Independent Persons of neighbouring authorities (following consultation with the Monitoring Officers of those authorities), to be considered for appointment to the Independent Persons Panel;
 - g) the Constitution Committee be authorised to confirm appointments to the Independent Persons Panel;
 - h) the Constitution Committee be authorised to approve the payment of a reasonable and proper allowance/expenses for the work undertaken by those Independent Persons appointed to the Independent Persons Panel; and
 - i) the Director of Legal Services be authorised to make any further consequential amendments to the Constitution to ensure consistency with the above changes.

NOTE: THE CLARIFICATION PAPER REFERRED TO IN THIS MINUTE IS INCLUDED WITH THE REPORT AND APPENDICES ON THIS AGENDA.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Constitution Committee

Date of Meeting:	13 th February 2017
Report of:	Deputy Monitoring Officer
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Paul Findlow – Corporate Policy & Legal Services
Subject/Title:	New JNC Handbook for Chief Executives and Consequential Amendments to the Constitution

1.0 Report Summary

1.1 The report explains the changes made in the new (October 2016) JNC handbook for Chief Executives which reflect changes made to the statutory employment protections for the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer (the Section 151 Officer) and Monitoring Officer who, together, are referred to as the “Protected Officers”. The report also recommends changes to the Constitution to comply with the new requirements.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Constitution Committee recommend to Council that:-

- a) The Staff Employment Procedure Rules be amended as set out in **Appendix 2**.
- b) The Terms of Reference of the Staffing Committee be amended as set out in **Appendix 3**.
- c) An Investigation and Disciplinary Committee (comprising 7 elected Members) be established with the terms of reference set out in **Appendix 4**
- d) A Disciplinary Appeals Committee (comprising 7 elected Members) be established with terms of reference as set out in **Appendix 5**.
- e) An Independent Persons Panel be established with the terms of reference set out in **Appendix 6**
- f) The Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer be authorised to invite the Council’s current Independent Persons (being those persons appointed to advise on member conduct complaints under the

Localism Act 2011) and if necessary one or more of the Independent Persons of neighbouring authorities (following consultation with the Monitoring Officers of those authorities), to be considered for appointment to the Independent Persons Panel.

- g) The Constitution Committee be authorised to confirm appointments to the Independent Persons Panel.
- h) The Constitution Committee be authorised to approve the payment of a reasonable and proper allowance/expenses for the work undertaken by those Independent Persons appointed to the Independent Persons Panel.
- i) The Director of Legal Services be authorised to make any further consequential amendments to the Constitution to ensure consistency with the above changes.

3.0 Reasons for the Recommendation

- 3.1 To comply with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015; and to ensure that the Council's constitution and procedures are consistent with the revised JNC handbook for Chief Executives (October 2016).

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All wards are affected.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications

- 6.1 None Identified.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 The administrative and legal costs of making the changes are limited and can be contained within existing budgets.
- 7.2 The cost of any committee/panel meetings will only arise if disciplinary proceedings are taken against a Protected Officer. Any such costs are likely to be met from existing budgets.

8.0 Legal implications

- 8.1 The changes are required to comply with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 and to ensure consistency with the revised JNC handbook for Chief Executives (October

2016) and the Council's contractual obligations. External solicitors have advised on the constitutional and employment law issues, and have contributed to this report.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 Failure to make the changes could leave the Council vulnerable to claims if its processes do not fully comply with the legislation and its contractual obligations.
- 9.2 These procedures are relatively new and untested. Issues may emerge in the context of national debate and negotiations or as individual cases come forward. It will be possible for changes to be made at a future date if necessary and any matters requiring attention will be reported to the Staffing Committee and/or to the Constitution Committee and/or Council.

10.0 Background and Options

Background

- 10.1 The Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 require local authorities to designate officers as the "head of paid service", the "monitoring officer" and the officer "responsible for the administration of the authority's financial affairs" (called the "chief finance officer" or "section 151 officer"), each of whom has a personal statutory duty to report to Cabinet or Full Council in certain circumstances. Their duties are, in very broad terms, to prevent or highlight organisational, legal or financial problems. This Council has designated the Chief Executive, the Director of Legal Services and the Chief Operating Officer to these respective roles.
- 10.2 As a result of the personal duties upon them, the post holders have a degree of statutory protection from dismissal or other disciplinary action. Section 8 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that local authorities must make the standing orders relating to staff that are specified in Regulations. Regulations were made in 1993 about the appointment of chief officers, and in 2001 about the appointment, discipline and dismissal of certain senior officers. Under the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001/3384, as amended, local authorities were required to adopt standing orders to provide that, beyond suspension on full pay for no more than two months, disciplinary action could not be taken in relation to the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer, or the Monitoring Officer, unless it was recommended by a Designated Independent Person ("DIP") appointed to carry out an investigation.
- 10.3 The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015/881 changed that protection. These regulations came into force in May 2015.

- 10.4 The Council's Staff Employment Procedure Rules have already been revised and are compliant with the 2015 Regulations. The current Staff Employment Procedure Rules are attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 10.5 Whilst the Staff Employment Procedure Rules already contain the information required by the Regulations, they do not yet specify the procedure which the Council will adopt if disciplinary action is to be taken against one of the Protected Officers. Nor does the constitution currently contain the "machinery" required to operate the new procedures. This is because there has been uncertainty as to how the legislation ought to be applied in practice.
- 10.6 The uncertainty that has existed, since the legislation changed in May 2015, over how the legislation will apply in practice stems from the fact that the previous DIP process was embedded within the terms and conditions for Chief Executives as set out in the JNC handbook. The JNC handbook has contractual effect where an authority has agreed to be bound by JNC terms and conditions. Thus there was, until recently, a scenario where the contractual obligations owed under JNC terms required different steps to be taken to those set out in the new regulations.
- 10.7 The JNC issued a revised handbook in October 2016 to resolve this ambiguity. The main purpose of the revised handbook is to reflect the changes in the law. Now that ambiguity has been resolved, the Council needs to adopt new processes in the light of the revised handbook.

The New Process - Dismissal

- 10.8 The 2015 Regulations replaced the previous DIP arrangements with a new system. There is now no requirement to appoint a DIP where disciplinary action against a Protected Officer is being considered. The law now requires that full Council must approve the dismissal of any of the Protected Officers (previously this had only applied to the head of paid service). So, Council must now approve a decision to dismiss any of the Protected Officers before notice of dismissal can be given.
- 10.9 The following procedure must be followed before a Protected Officer can be dismissed. The Council must invite a number of the independent persons appointed to advise on member conduct complaints under the Localism Act 2011 ("IPs") to be appointed to a Panel. If the Council has fewer than two IPs, it must extend the invitation to one or more IPs from another authority. If more accept the invitation than are needed, the appointments must give priority to IPs of the Council who are on the Council's electoral roll, then to IPs of the Council who are not, then to other authorities' IPs. At least two of those who have accepted must be appointed, but there is no upper limit. They can be paid an allowance or expenses, but no more than they would receive for their Localism Act work. The appointment must be made at least 20 days before Council takes a decision to approve the dismissal of a Protected Officer. At the full Council meeting, the authority must take into account any advice,

views or recommendations of the Panel as well as the conclusions of any investigation and any representations made by the officer concerned.

- 10.10 The JNC has sought clarification from DCLG on whether the Independent Persons Panel should be comprised solely of IPs or whether it can or should also include elected members. DCLG has indicated that the intention is that the Independent Persons Panel should consist solely of IPs. The proposal is to follow that approach.
- 10.11 This procedure only applies to dismissal on disciplinary grounds. Disciplinary action other than dismissal is not now covered by the Regulations.

The Model Disciplinary Procedure

- 10.13 The October 2016 handbook also contains a model disciplinary procedure. Whilst strictly speaking the procedure only applies to the head of paid service, best practice advice received from external solicitors is to apply the procedure to the other Protected Officers too (i.e. to the monitoring officer and Section 151 officer). That is reflected in the 13 October 2016 JNC Circular introducing the revised handbook. That is what this report proposes.
- 10.14 The main features of the model procedure are:
- a) That there should be a standing Investigation and Disciplinary Committee which oversees any disciplinary process and determines the outcome.
 - b) That any disciplinary investigation should be carried out by an Independent Investigator.
 - c) That there should be a Disciplinary Appeals Committee to consider any appeal against a decision of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee to take any disciplinary action short of dismissal.
- 10.15 The model procedure suggests that any decision to suspend the head of paid service should be made by the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee, but that the power to make such a decision in urgent circumstances should be delegated. The model procedure suggests that the power should be delegated to the Chair of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee. However, this is a council-side (as opposed to an Executive) function and thus may only be exercised by the full Council, a committee, sub-committee, or an officer (Local Government Act 1972, section 101). It cannot lawfully be delegated to a single Member.
- 10.16 Whilst a number of options have been considered as to where an urgency power might rest, the view is taken that in practice the difficulties in convening a quorate meeting of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee to take an urgent decision on whether or not to suspend would

not be so insurmountable such that there arises a compelling case that there is in fact a need to delegate an urgency power to any other committee, sub-committee or an officer.

- 10.16 Where a decision to suspend has to be taken in respect of one of the other Protected Officers, in officer structure hierarchical terms it would not be extraordinary for that power to rest with the head of paid service. However, in keeping with the principle of a consistent application of the protections to all of the Protected Officers, it is proposed that the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee also be responsible for deciding whether or not to suspend the monitoring officer or the S151 officer. For the reasons set out above, it is also considered that there is no compelling case to delegate a power to suspend in urgent circumstances.
- 10.17 The model procedure suggests that any suspension of the head of paid service (and so, by extension, the monitoring officer and S151 officer) is reviewed after a period of two months by the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee. In doing so it should consult with the Independent Investigator and consider any representations from the officer concerned.
- 10.15 It is proposed that amendments are made to the Employment Procedure Rules to reflect the model procedure. The proposed amended Rules attached as **Appendix 2**.

The Investigation and Disciplinary Committee

- 10.16 It is proposed that an Investigation and Disciplinary Committee be established. This will determine any suspension of any of the Protected Officers. It will also determine whether any allegation against any of the Protected Officers warrants investigation. The Investigation and Disciplinary Committee may, if it considers it appropriate, appoint an Independent Investigator. The Committee will consider any report of the Independent Investigator and, if appropriate conduct a hearing. The Investigation and Disciplinary Committee may determine that no action should be taken, that some action short of dismissal should be taken, or that the officer should be dismissed. If the action is short of dismissal the officer may appeal to the Disciplinary Appeals Committee. If the action proposed is dismissal then the matter must be considered by the Independent Persons Panel, prior to consideration by full council.
- 10.17 If the Investigation and Disciplinary Committees decides that the officer should be dismissed it must ascertain if any cabinet member(s) object. The Committee will forward its proposal and the necessary information to the Independent Persons Panel. The Panel will consider the proposal and the necessary particulars and decide what advice, views or recommendations, if any, to make to full Council. Full Council will decide whether or not to dismiss the officer, having regard to any advice, views or recommendations of the Panel, the conclusions of any investigation, and any representations from the officer.

The Independent Persons Panel

- 10.18 It is recommended that a standing Independent Persons Panel should be established, comprising two IPs and a substitute IP, appointed in priority order in accordance with the Regulations. The substitute would take the place of any IP who was unable to participate because he or she was not available at the time, or had a personal conflict of interest. The Council currently has three IPs who it is recommended are invited to be considered for appointment. It is recommended that the Director of Legal Services is authorised to make that invitation, and to collaborate through consultation with the Monitoring Officers of neighbouring authorities (if needs be) from time to time in the event that a need is identified to appoint to the Panel a neighbouring authority's IP(s). It is recommended that the Constitution Committee is authorised to confirm such appointments.
- 10.18 The authority to deal with dismissal of chief officers is currently delegated to Staffing Committee. It is proposed that its terms of reference are amended to remove that power in relation to the Protected Officers and, instead, delegate it to the newly established Investigation and Disciplinary Committee, in accordance with the model procedure. The proposed Terms of Reference of the Staffing Committee are attached at **Appendix 3**. It is proposed that these are amended by removing paragraph 4. The proposed Terms of Reference for the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee, the Disciplinary Appeals Committee and the Independent Persons Panel are attached at **Appendices 4, 5 and 6 respectively**.
- 10.19 It is recommended, in accordance with the model procedure, that the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee will be comprised of 7 members on a politically proportionate basis. In line with the model procedure, at least one of the members of the committee shall be a member of the cabinet.
- 10.20 It is recommended the Council also established a Disciplinary Appeals Committee to consider any appeals against any decision by the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee to take action short of dismissal. The Disciplinary Appeals Committee will be comprised of 7 members, who were not members of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee which made the decision being appealed, on a politically proportionate basis. In line with the model procedure, at least one of the members of the committee shall be a member of the cabinet.
- 10.22 The alternative to what is proposed would be for the Council to keep its current arrangements, but these do not set out how any disciplinary process against a Protected Officer will operate in practice. This could lead to difficulties should action be needed and may increase the risk of claims. The Council could seek local agreement to adopt a different process. However, the model procedure adopts a balanced approach to disciplinary process, adoption of which will ensure that the Council has a fair process which is unlikely to be susceptible to successful challenge. It

has taken over a year for the JNC to reach agreement on this process, any attempt to seek local agreement to a different process is likely to cause further delay and it may be difficult to reach agreement. Any alternative process would have to be fair and comply with employment law, so it would be unlikely to be radically different from the model procedure.

For further information:

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Constitution Committee 13.2.16

Council 23.2.16

New JNC Handbook for Chief Executives and Consequential Amendments to the Constitution

Points of Clarification

1. This clarification note is offered in respect of matters contained in the above-mentioned report and its 6 Appendices. It is offered following helpful discussions with the Chair of Staffing Committee, who brings experience and perspective as Chair of Staffing Committee, as a former Cabinet Member and with the benefit of experience of the operation of the former Designates Independent Persons processes which these new processes replace.

Context

2. By way of context, Members should be aware that the first draft of the report (and its appendices) was provided by external solicitors (as referenced in paragraph 8.1 of the report). External input was sought primarily because there has been uncertainty as to how the new processes should be applied in practice. This is referenced in the report (paragraphs 10.5 to 10.7). External support was sought so that this council could benefit from the experience of a firm that has advised a number of councils on how best to align their constitutions and processes with the new regulations and JNC Chief Executive's Handbook Model Disciplinary Procedures.

Number of Committee Members

3. The first point of clarification relates to the suggested number of members of the proposed new Investigation and Disciplinary Committee ("IDC") and Disciplinary Appeals Committee ("DAC") (paragraphs 10.19 and 10.20 of the report respectively). There is a need to achieve the right balance between having a committee that is large enough to provide a rounded and balanced view on matters that will come before it, and a committee that is not so big that its ability to be convened on a quorate and rapid basis, and to then deal with sensitive matters rapidly and confidentially, is impeded.
4. External advice and best practice suggested a Membership of 5 properly achieved this balance. Membership of 7 was proposed in the report as that assisted the council in terms of complying with the political proportionality requirements upon it across all of its committees in the round. Ultimately, the number of Members is a matter for Council to decide.

Appointing Members

5. Clarification has been sought as to how Members are to be appointed to the IDC and DAC. Again, there are a number of options and this is ultimately a matter for Members.
6. The overriding consideration here is to ensure that the council is able to convene quorate IDC and DAC meetings, perhaps at short notice, comprised of Members who will be clear of any conflict of interests in the matters to be considered. In that regard, flexibility in the appointments process and appointable Members is considered to be the key. That needs to be balanced with the need to ensure that Members of either committee can be appropriately briefed/trained.
7. One option is to provide that IDC and/or DAC members are to be drawn from some identified wider pool of members. The benefit to that approach is there is a more closely identified group of members to whom training could be delivered. The difficulty with that approach however is that the more constrained the group of Members available for appointment, the more difficulties there may be in convening a quorate unconflicted committee at short notice.
8. Hence the approach taken in the report (albeit not clearly articulated) is to simply rely upon the appointments process that now applies to all committees as agreed by Council at its meeting on 15 December 2016. That is that Council establishes committees by determining how many members a committee shall have and setting its terms of reference, but that appointments (and changes) of Members to serve on a committee (once established by Council) shall be done, when required, by way of notification to the Head of Governance and Democratic Services by the leader or whip of the political group in question.
9. To clarify then, the approach proposed through the report is that in the event an IDC or DAC committee meeting is required, the leaders/whips of the political groups who have places to fill on those committees will be asked to nominate the required number of Members from their group through notification to the Head of Governance and Democratic Services. The duly nominated Members would then comprise the committee for the purposes of transacting the business that is required to be put to the IDC/DAC process. For consistency in the handling of a matter, it is expected that the membership of the IDC/DAC considering a discreet matter would remain the same at each stage that either IDC or DAC input is required into that matter.

10. It is considered that this approach would enable the flexibility required by not constraining appointments from a narrower pool, enabling instead appointments to be made from the full membership of the council.
11. In terms of training, it is considered that the infrequency with which such committees are expected to meet, coupled with narrow nature of the issues it is likely to need to address and the fact that specialist external legal advice is most likely to be available to the committees when they do meet, means that adequate training and briefing can be provided to members as follows:-
 - a) e-learning materials made available to all members on the IDC/DAC/IPP committee purpose, processes and terms of reference.
 - b) Bespoke briefing/training on a case by case basis for the members nominated in the event that an IDC/DAC is convened.

Members will be required to have completed this training before sitting on the IDC or DAC.

Drafting Changes to the Appendices

12. The following matters of clarification are proposed to be addressed through drafting alterations to the appendices to the report.
13. Appendix 4 – Proposed Terms of Reference for the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee (“IDC”).
 - a) To align with the format of the Terms of Reference of other committees in the constitution, and to more clearly explain what the IDC does and how it interacts with the DAC and IPP, it is suggested that:-
 - i) The agreed number of committee members be inserted immediately before the first sub-heading in the terms of reference.
 - ii) the section headed “scope” is changed to “Statement of Purpose”
 - iii) There is then inserted into the “Statement of Purpose” section three new paragraphs (and numbering adjusted accordingly) as follows. It is suggested that the first paragraph is inserted at the beginning of the “Statement of Purpose” section of the Terms of Reference, and the last two paragraphs be inserted at the end of that section.

1.1 Members shall be appointed to the committee, as and when a

committee is required to be convened, under the normal processes for making appointments to committees (via group leader/whip notification to the Head of Governance and Democratic Services). For consistency, unless unavoidably indisposed or conflicted, once appointed, the same Members shall comprise the committee (and any adjournment of it) over the course of the full consideration of the matter (and any related matter) that it has been convened to consider, until such time as the matter is disposed of.

1.7 In the event that the Committee recommends dismissal then that recommendation shall be referred to the Independent Persons Panel prior to being referred to Council for a determination in accordance with the Staff Employment Procedure Rules

1.8 With the exception of a decision to recommend to Council that a DSO be dismissed, there shall be a right of appeal to the Disciplinary Appeals Committee against any decisions made by the Committee to take disciplinary action against a DSO.

14. Appendix 5 – Proposed Terms of Reference for the Disciplinary Appeals Committee (“DAC”)

a) The same suggestion at 13 a) above to change “Scope” to “Statement of Purpose” is made in respect of the terms of reference for the DAC.

b) In section 2.0 (Membership of the DAC), it is suggested that the content of paragraph 13 a) iii) is repeated in respect of the DAC.

15. Appendix 6 – Proposed Terms of Reference for the Independent Persons Panel (“IPP”)

a) The same suggestion at 13 a) above to change “Scope” to “Statement of Purpose” is made in respect of the terms of reference for the IPP.

b) In section 2.0 (Terms of Reference) two further paragraphs be added:-

2.2 The advice of the Independent Persons Panel must be sought in accordance with the Staff Employment Procedure Rules where the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee propose to recommend the dismissal of a DSO (Note: DSO definition to be inserted into para 1.1)

2.3 The advice of the Independent Persons Panel may (but need not be) sought by the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee at any other point in

an investigation or disciplinary process or (if not conflicted) by the Disciplinary Appeals Committee.

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APPENDIX 1 – CURRENT STAFF EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE RULES

1 General

- 1.1 Staff within the organisation are employed, appointed, designated or engaged on behalf of the whole Council and not by parts of the organisation or individuals.
- 1.2 The employment, appointment, designation or engagement of all staff will be in compliance with the law and any policies and practices of the Council.
- 1.3 Persons employed, appointed, designated or engaged by contractors under specific agreements or contracts are not staff of the Council, but are employees engaged by the contractor.
- 1.4 The Council will provide the necessary resources to support the appointed officer structure.
- 1.5 Generally (except for certain senior staff appointments) the function of appointment and dismissal of, and taking disciplinary action against a member of staff of the Council must be discharged on behalf of the authority by the Head of the Paid Service or by an officer nominated by him/her.

2 Recruitment and Appointment of Staff

- 2.1 Subject to the provisions of these Procedures, the recruitment, designation and appointment of staff will be conducted in accordance with the law and the Council's policies and procedures.
- 2.2 Any candidate for any designation or appointment with the Council who knows that he/she is related to a Member or employee of the Council shall, when making application, disclose, in writing, that relationship to the Head of Human Resources. A person who deliberately fails to disclose such a relationship shall be disqualified from designation or appointment and, if designated or appointed, shall be liable to dismissal.
- 2.3 Every Member and employee of the Council shall disclose to the Head of Human Resources any relationship known to him/her to exist between him/herself and any person he/she knows is a candidate for a designation or appointment by the Council.
- 2.4 Any candidate for designation or appointment who directly or indirectly seeks the support of a Councillor or officer of the Council in any designation or appointment shall be disqualified and, if designated or appointed, shall be liable to dismissal. A Councillor shall not solicit for any person in respect of any designation or appointment with the Council, but may give a written testimonial of a candidate's ability, experience or character.
- 2.5 Persons shall be deemed to be related to a candidate or officer if they are a spouse, partner (i.e. member of a couple living together) parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, child, stepchild, adopted child, grandchild, child of partner, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece or the spouse or partner of any of the preceding persons.

- 2.6 In the case of a dispute under paragraph 2.5 above about the status of a relationship in relation to an appointment, the Head of Human Resources will rule and such ruling will be applied.
- 2.7 The Head of Human Resources will ensure that the provisions of these Rules are reflected, as appropriate, in application forms or in any accompanying detailed procedures for each post, following advertisement.

3 Responsibility of the Staffing Committee

- 3.1 The responsibilities of the Staffing Committee are set out in this Constitution within “Responsibility for Functions” and these Rules.
- 3.2 Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the Committee is also responsible for hearing and determining appeals as set out in the Staffing Committee terms of reference under the Council’s employment-related policies. In determining these matters the Committee will have regard to the appropriate provisions of this procedure. The Committee may agree to discharge some of these functions through a Sub-Committee.
- 3.3 Subject to any matters reserved to the Council, the Staffing Committee is responsible for the approval of corporate personnel policies and for determining and monitoring such policies and for the operational implementation of those policies.
- 3.4 The Cabinet Member with responsibilities for individual Departments or Services and the associated resources is required to ensure that corporate personnel policies and procedures are applied by the Council, including training, matters relating to discipline, workforce performance management, and grievance.

4 Appointment of Head of the Paid Service

- 4.1 The appointment of Head of the Paid Service is subject to specific requirements as set out below.
- 4.2 Where the Council proposes to appoint to the Head of the Paid Service, the Staffing Committee will oversee the arrangements for filling the vacancy. For this purpose the Committee shall include at least one Member of the Cabinet in its membership.
- 4.3 The Staffing Committee shall:
- draw up a statement specifying the duties of the officer concerned and any qualifications or guidelines to be sought in the person to be appointed;
 - make arrangements for the post to be advertised in such a way as is likely to bring it to the attention of persons who are qualified to apply for it;
 - make arrangements for a copy of the statement mentioned above to be sent to any person on request;

- where a post has been advertised as required above, the Committee will select from the applications a short list of qualified candidates and will then interview those included in the short list.
- 4.4 Following the interview of candidates, the Committee will come to a view as to the most suitable person for the position.
- 4.5 The Committee must advise the Head of Human Resources of:
- the name of the person in question;
 - any other particulars which the Committee consider are relevant to the appointment.
- 4.6 Within two clear working days of receiving the notification in 4.5 above, the Head of Human Resources will notify each Member of the Cabinet of:
- the information notified under paragraph 4.5 above;
 - the period within which any objection to the making of the offer is to be made by the Leader on behalf of the Cabinet to the Head of Human Resources; such period shall not exceed five clear working days.
- 4.7 An offer of appointment must wait until:
- the Leader has, within the period of the notice under paragraph 4.6 above, notified the Committee through the Head of Human Resources that neither he/she nor any Member of the Cabinet has any objection to the making of the offer; or
 - the Head of Human Resources has notified the Committee that no objections have been received by her within the period of the notice under 4.6 above; or
 - the Committee is satisfied that any objection received from the Leader within the notice period is not material or is not well founded. In this regard, where necessary, the advice of the Director of Legal Services be sought.
- 4.8 Where following the above procedure there are no objections to the proposed appointment or any objections are not up-held, the Committee will recommend that person for appointment at the next meeting of the full Council or at a specially convened meeting of the Council. If the Council approve the recommendation, then a formal offer of appointment can be made.
- 4.9 Where following the interviews the Committee are of the view that there is no suitable candidate, it will re-advertise the post.
- 4.10 Where the Council do not approve the recommendation of the Committee, it shall indicate how it wishes to proceed.

5 Appointment/dismissal of Head of Paid Service, Statutory Chief Officers, Non-Statutory Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers

The requirements of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England) Regulations 2001 as amended by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2014 and 2015 ("the Regulations") will be adhered to in respect of those posts which fall within the definitions of Head of Paid Service, Statutory Chief Officer, Non-Statutory Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer. The requirements of the Regulations include the following, which is an extract from those Regulations:

Part II

Authority with Leader and Cabinet Executive

1

In this Part--

"the 1989 Act" means the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;

"the 2000 Act" means the Local Government Act 2000;

"disciplinary action" has the same meaning as in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001;

"executive" and "executive leader" have the same meaning as in Part II of the 2000 Act;

"member of staff" means a person appointed to or holding a paid office or employment under the authority; and

"proper officer" means an officer appointed by the authority for the purposes of the provisions in this Part.

2

Subject to paragraphs 3 and 7, the function of appointment and dismissal of, and taking disciplinary action against, a member of staff of the authority must be discharged, on behalf of the authority, by the officer designated under section 4(1)

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of the 1989 Act (designation and reports of head of paid service) as the head of the authority's paid service or by an officer nominated by him.

3

Paragraph 2 shall not apply to the appointment or dismissal of, or disciplinary action against--

(a) the officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service;

(b) a statutory chief officer within the meaning of section 2(6) of the 1989 Act (politically restricted posts);

- (c) a non-statutory chief officer within the meaning of section 2(7) of the 1989 Act;
- (d) a deputy chief officer within the meaning of section 2(8) of the 1989 Act; or
- (e) a person appointed in pursuance of section 9 of the 1989 Act (assistants for political groups).

4

(1) Where a committee, sub-committee or officer is discharging, on behalf of the authority, the function of the appointment of an officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service, the authority must approve that appointment before an offer of appointment is made to that person.

(1A) Where a committee, sub-committee or officer is discharging, on behalf of the authority, the function of the dismissal of an officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service, as the authority's chief finance officer, or as the authority's monitoring officer, the authority must approve that dismissal before notice is given to that person.

(2) Where a committee or a sub-committee of the authority is discharging, on behalf of the authority, the function of the appointment or dismissal of any officer referred to in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) of paragraph 3, at least one member of the executive must be a member of that committee or sub-committee.

5

(1) In this paragraph, "appointor" means, in relation to the appointment of a person as an officer of the authority, the authority or, where a committee, sub-committee or officer is discharging the function of appointment on behalf of the authority, that committee, sub-committee or officer, as the case may be.

(2) An offer of an appointment as an officer referred to in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) of paragraph 3 must not be made by the appointor until--

(a) the appointor has notified the proper officer of the name of the person to whom the appointor wishes to make the offer and any other particulars which the appointor considers are relevant to the appointment;

(b) the proper officer has notified every member of the executive of the authority of--

(i) the name of the person to whom the appointor wishes to make the offer;

(ii) any other particulars relevant to the appointment which the appointor has notified to the proper officer; and

(iii) the period within which any objection to the making of the offer is to be made by the executive leader on behalf of the executive to the proper officer; and

(c) either--

(i) the executive leader has, within the period specified in the notice under sub-paragraph (b)(iii), notified the appointor that neither he nor any other member of the executive has any objection to the making of the offer;

(ii) the proper officer has notified the appointor that no objection was received by him within that period from the executive leader; or

(iii) the appointor is satisfied that any objection received from the executive leader within that period is not material or is not well-founded.

6

(1) In this paragraph, "dismissor" means, in relation to the dismissal of an officer of the authority, the authority or, where a committee, sub-committee or another officer is discharging the function of dismissal on behalf of the authority, that committee, sub-committee or other officer, as the case may be.

(2) Notice of the dismissal of an officer referred to in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) of paragraph 3 must not be given by the dismissor until--

(a) the dismissor has notified the proper officer of the name of the person who the dismissor wishes to dismiss and any other particulars which the dismissor considers are relevant to the dismissal;

(b) the proper officer has notified every member of the executive of the authority of--

(i) the name of the person who the dismissor wishes to dismiss;

(ii) any other particulars relevant to the dismissal which the dismissor has notified to the proper officer; and

(iii) the period within which any objection to the dismissal is to be made by the executive leader on behalf of the executive to the proper officer; and

(c) either--

(i) the executive leader has, within the period specified in the notice under sub-paragraph (b)(iii), notified the dismissor that neither he nor any other member of the executive has any objection to the dismissal;

(ii) the proper officer has notified the dismissor that no objection was received by him within that period from the executive leader; or

(iii) the dismissor is satisfied that any objection received from the executive leader within that period is not material or is not well-founded.

7

Nothing in paragraph 2 shall prevent a person from serving as a member of any committee or sub-committee established by the authority to consider an appeal by--

(a) another person against any decision relating to the appointment of that other person as a member of staff of the authority; or

(b) a member of staff of the authority against any decision relating to the dismissal of, or taking disciplinary action against, that member of staff.

Schedule

1.

In the following paragraphs—

(a) “the 2011 Act” means the Localism Act 2011;

(b) “chief finance officer”, “disciplinary action”, “head of the authority’s paid service” and “monitoring officer” have the same meaning as in regulation 2 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001;

(c) “independent person” means a person appointed under section 28(7) of the 2011 Act;

(d) “local government elector” means a person registered as a local government elector in the register of electors in the authority’s area in accordance with the Representation of the People Acts;

(e) “the Panel” means a committee appointed by the authority under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the purposes of advising the authority on matters relating to the dismissal of relevant officers of the authority;

(f) “relevant meeting” means a meeting of the authority to consider whether or not to approve a proposal to dismiss a relevant officer; and

(g) “relevant officer” means the chief finance officer, head of the authority’s paid service or monitoring officer, as the case may be.

2.

A relevant officer may not be dismissed by an authority unless the procedure set out in the following paragraphs is complied with.

3.

The authority must invite relevant independent persons to be considered for appointment to the Panel, with a view to appointing at least two such persons to the Panel.

4.

In paragraph 3 “relevant independent person” means any independent person who has been appointed by the authority or, where there are fewer than two such persons, such independent

persons as have been appointed by another authority or authorities as the authority considers appropriate.

5.

Subject to paragraph 6, the authority must appoint to the Panel such relevant independent persons who have accepted an invitation issued in accordance with paragraph 3 in accordance with the following priority order—

- (a) a relevant independent person who has been appointed by the authority and who is a local government elector;
- (b) any other relevant independent person who has been appointed by the authority;
- (c) a relevant independent person who has been appointed by another authority or authorities.

6.

An authority is not required to appoint more than two relevant independent persons in accordance with paragraph 5 but may do so.

7.

The authority must appoint any Panel at least 20 working days before the relevant meeting.

8.

Before the taking of a vote at the relevant meeting on whether or not to approve such a dismissal, the authority must take into account, in particular—

- (a) any advice, views or recommendations of the Panel;
- (b) the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal; and
- (c) any representations from the relevant officer.

9.

Any remuneration, allowances or fees paid by the authority to an independent person appointed to the Panel must not exceed the level of remuneration, allowances or fees payable to that independent person in respect of that person's role as independent person under the 2011 Act."

APPENDIX 2 - PROPOSED NEW STAFF EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE RULES

1 General

- 1.1 Staff within the organisation are employed, appointed, designated or engaged on behalf of the whole Council and not by parts of the organisation or individuals.
- 1.2 The employment, appointment, designation or engagement of all staff will be in compliance with the law and any policies and practices of the Council.
- 1.3 Persons employed, appointed, designated or engaged by contractors under specific agreements or contracts are not staff of the Council, but are employees engaged by the contractor.
- 1.4 The Council will provide the necessary resources to support the appointed officer structure.
- 1.5 Generally (except for certain senior staff appointments) the function of appointment and dismissal of, and taking disciplinary action against a member of staff of the Council must be discharged on behalf of the authority by the Head of the Paid Service or by an officer nominated by him/her.

2 Recruitment and Appointment of Staff

- 2.1 Subject to the provisions of these Procedures, the recruitment, designation and appointment of staff will be conducted in accordance with the law and the Council's policies and procedures.
- 2.2 Any candidate for any designation or appointment with the Council who knows that he/she is related to a Member or employee of the Council shall, when making application, disclose, in writing, that relationship to the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR. A person who deliberately fails to disclose such a relationship shall be disqualified from designation or appointment and, if designated or appointed, shall be liable to dismissal.
- 2.3 Every Member and employee of the Council shall disclose to the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR any relationship known to him/her to exist between him/herself and any person he/she knows is a candidate for a designation or appointment by the Council.
- 2.4 Any candidate for designation or appointment who directly or indirectly seeks the support of a Councillor or officer of the Council in any designation or appointment shall be disqualified and, if designated or appointed, shall be liable to dismissal. A Councillor shall not solicit for any person in respect of any designation or appointment with the Council, but may give a written testimonial of a candidate's ability, experience or character.

- 2.5 Persons shall be deemed to be related to a candidate or officer if they are a spouse, partner (i.e. member of a couple living together) parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, child, stepchild, adopted child, grandchild, child of partner, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece or the spouse or partner of any of the preceding persons.
- 2.6 In the case of a dispute under paragraph 2.5 above about the status of a relationship in relation to an appointment, the Head of Strategic HR will rule and such ruling will be applied.
- 2.7 The ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR will ensure that the provisions of these Rules are reflected, as appropriate, in application forms or in any accompanying detailed procedures for each post, following advertisement.

3 Responsibility of the Staffing Committee

- 3.1 ~~In addition to these rules, the responsibilities of the Staffing Committee are set out in the Staffing Committee's Terms of Reference under the "Responsibilities for Functions" Section of this Constitution. ~~within "Responsibility for Functions" and these Rules.~~~~
- 3.2 Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the Committee is **also** responsible for hearing and determining appeals as set out in the Staffing Committee terms of reference under the Council's employment-related policies. In determining these matters the Committee will have regard to the appropriate provisions of this procedure. The Committee may agree to discharge some of these functions through a Sub-Committee.
- 3.3 ~~Subject to any matters reserved to the Council, the Staffing Committee is responsible for the approval of corporate personnel policies and for determining and monitoring such policies and for the operational implementation of those policies.~~[DD1]
- 3.4 The Cabinet Member with responsibilities for individual Departments or Services and the associated resources is required to ensure that corporate personnel policies and procedures are applied by the Council, including training, matters relating to discipline, workforce performance management, and grievance.

4 Appointment of Head of the Paid Service

- 4.1 The appointment of Head of the Paid Service is subject to specific requirements as set out below.
- 4.2 Where the Council proposes to appoint to the Head of the Paid Service, the Staffing Committee will oversee the arrangements for filling the vacancy. For

this purpose the Committee shall include at least one Member of the Cabinet in its membership.

4.3 The Staffing Committee shall:

- draw up a statement specifying the duties of the officer concerned and any qualifications or guidelines to be sought in the person to be appointed;
- make arrangements for the post to be advertised in such a way as is likely to bring it to the attention of persons who are qualified to apply for it;
- make arrangements for a copy of the statement mentioned above to be sent to any person on request;
- where a post has been advertised as required above, the Committee will select from the applications a short list of qualified candidates and will then interview those included in the short list.

4.4 Following the interview of candidates, the Committee will come to a view as to the most suitable person for the position.

4.5 The Committee must advise the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR of:

- the name of the person in question;
- any other particulars which the Committee consider are relevant to the appointment.

4.6 Within two clear working days of receiving the notification in 4.5 above, the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR will notify each Member of the Cabinet of:

- the information notified under paragraph 4.5 above;
- the period within which any objection to the making of the offer is to be made by the Leader on behalf of the Cabinet to the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR; such period shall not exceed five clear working days.

4.7 An offer of appointment must wait until:

- the Leader has, within the period of the notice under paragraph 4.6 above, notified the Committee through the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR that neither he/she nor any Member of the Cabinet has any objection to the making of the offer; or

- the ~~Head of Human Resources~~Head of Strategic HR has notified the Committee that no objections have been received by her within the period of the notice under 4.6 above; or
- the Committee is satisfied that any objection received from the Leader within the notice period is not material or is not well founded. In this regard, where necessary, the advice of the Director of Legal Services be sought.

4.8 Where following the above procedure there are no objections to the proposed appointment or any objections are not up-held, the Committee will recommend that person for appointment at the next meeting of the full Council or at a specially convened meeting of the Council. If the Council approve the recommendation, then a formal offer of appointment can be made.

4.9 Where following the interviews the Committee are of the view that there is no suitable candidate, it will re-advertise the post.

4.10 Where the Council do not approve the recommendation of the Committee, it shall indicate how it wishes to proceed.

5.0 ~~Appointment/d~~Dismissal of Head of Paid Service, Statutory Chief Officers and Executive Director of Place, ~~Non-Statutory Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers~~

5.1 The provisions of Clause 1.5 shall not apply to any proposal to dismiss the Head of Paid Service, Statutory Chief Officers or the Executive Director of ~~Growth and Prosperity~~Place. This shall be the responsibility of the Staffing Committee, save that any dismissal of Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) or Monitoring Officer must be approved by full Council, following a decision of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee and consideration by the Independent Persons Panel. Any disciplinary action short of dismissal against the Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer, or Monitoring Officer shall be the responsibility of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee.

5.2 For the avoidance of doubt, action short of dismissal against the Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer, or Monitoring Officer shall include a decision to suspend the same. Such a decision shall be the responsibility of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee.

5.32 The Investigation and Disciplinary Committee is designated as the Committee discharging, on behalf of the Council, the function of dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer, or Monitoring Officer. The full Council must however approve that dismissal before notice of dismissal is given to him/her.

5.43 Notice of dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer, or Monitoring Officer must not be given until:

(a) the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee has notified the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR** that it wishes to dismiss the officer and any other particulars which the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee considers are relevant to the dismissal;

(b) the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR** has notified every member of the Cabinet of:

(i) the fact that the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee wishes to dismiss the officer;

(ii) any other particulars relevant to the dismissal which the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee has notified to the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR**;

(iii) the period within which any objection to the dismissal is to be made by the Leader on behalf of the Cabinet to the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR**; and

(c) either –

(i) the Leader has within the period specified in the notice under subparagraph (b) (iii), notified the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR** that neither he/she nor any member of the Cabinet has any objection to the dismissal;

(ii) the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR** has notified the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee that no objection was received by him/her within that period from the Leader on behalf of the Cabinet to the ~~Head of Human Resources~~ **Head of Strategic HR**;

(iii) the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that any objection received from the Leader within that period is not well founded or material. In this regard, where necessary, the advice of the ~~Head Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer~~ (or, if appropriate an alternative legal adviser) should be sought.

- 5.53 Where following the above procedure there are no objections to the proposed dismissal or the objections are not upheld, the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee will:
- (a) follow the procedure set out in paragraph 5.85; and
 - (b) recommend the dismissal to a meeting of the full Council.
- 5.65 (a) This procedure applies if the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee proposes disciplinary action involving the dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer, or Monitoring Officer.
- (b) Where this procedure applies, the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee will provide the Independent Persons Panel with the matters provided to members of the Cabinet and any other particulars relevant to the dismissal that the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee considers appropriate or that the Panel may reasonably require.
 - (c) The Independent Persons Panel will meet to consider what, if any, advice, views or recommendations to give to the full Council.
 - (d) The Council may pay such remuneration, allowances or fees to an Independent Person appointed to the Panel as it thinks appropriate but the payment must not exceed the level of remuneration, allowances or fees payable to that Independent Person in respect of his or her role as an independent person under the Localism Act 2011.
 - (d) Full Council will not meet to consider whether or not to approve the proposal of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee to dismiss the officer until a period of at least 20 working days has elapsed from the appointment of the Independent Persons Panel.
 - (e) Before full Council takes a vote at a meeting on whether or not to approve such a dismissal, they must take into account, in particular—
 - (i) any advice, views or recommendations of the Independent Persons Panel;
 - (ii) the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal; and
 - (iii) any representations from the officer.
- 5.76 If the full Council approve the recommendation of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee, then notice of dismissal can be issued. Where the

full Council do not approve the recommendation, they shall indicate how they wish to proceed

5.87 The requirements of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England) Regulations 2001 as amended by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2014 and 2015 (“the Regulations”) will be adhered to in respect of those posts which fall within the definitions of Head of Paid Service, Statutory Chief Officer, Non-Statutory Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer. The requirements of the Regulations include the following, which is an extract from those Regulations:

Part II

Authority with Leader and Cabinet Executive

1

In this Part--

"the 1989 Act" means the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;

"the 2000 Act" means the Local Government Act 2000;

"disciplinary action" has the same meaning as in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001;

"executive" and "executive leader" have the same meaning as in Part II of the 2000 Act;

"member of staff" means a person appointed to or holding a paid office or employment under the authority; and

"proper officer" means an officer appointed by the authority for the purposes of the provisions in this Part.

2

Subject to paragraphs 3 and 7, the function of appointment and dismissal of, and taking disciplinary action against, a member of staff of the authority must be discharged, on behalf of the authority, by the officer designated under section 4(1) of the 1989 Act (designation and reports of head of paid service) as the head of the authority's paid service or by an officer nominated by him.

3

Paragraph 2 shall not apply to the appointment or dismissal of, or disciplinary action against--

(a) the officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service;

(b) a statutory chief officer within the meaning of section 2(6) of the 1989 Act (politically restricted posts);

(c) a non-statutory chief officer within the meaning of section 2(7) of the 1989 Act;

(d) a deputy chief officer within the meaning of section 2(8) of the 1989 Act; or

(e) a person appointed in pursuance of section 9 of the 1989 Act (assistants for political groups).

4

(1) Where a committee, sub-committee or officer is discharging, on behalf of the authority, the function of the appointment of an officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service, the authority must approve that appointment before an offer of appointment is made to that person.

(1A) Where a committee, sub-committee or officer is discharging, on behalf of the authority, the function of the dismissal of an officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service, as the authority's chief finance officer, or as the authority's monitoring officer, the authority must approve that dismissal before notice is given to that person.

(2) Where a committee or a sub-committee of the authority is discharging, on behalf of the authority, the function of the appointment or dismissal of any officer referred to in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) of paragraph 3, at least one member of the executive must be a member of that committee or sub-committee.

5

(1) In this paragraph, "appointor" means, in relation to the appointment of a person as an officer of **the authority, the authority or, where a committee, sub-committee or officer is discharging the** function of appointment on behalf of the authority, that committee, sub-committee or officer, as the case may be.

(2) An offer of an appointment as an officer referred to in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) of paragraph 3 must not be made by the appointor until--

(a) the appointor has notified the proper officer of the name of the person to whom the appointor wishes to make the offer and any other particulars which the appointor considers are relevant to the appointment;

(b) the proper officer has notified every member of the executive of the authority of--

- (i) the name of the person to whom the appointor wishes to make the offer;
 - (ii) any other particulars relevant to the appointment which the appointor has notified to the proper officer; and
 - (iii) the period within which any objection to the making of the offer is to be made by the executive leader on behalf of the executive to the proper officer; and
- (c) either--
- (i) the executive leader has, within the period specified in the notice under sub-paragraph (b)(iii), notified the appointor that neither he nor any other member of the executive has any objection to the making of the offer;
 - (ii) the proper officer has notified the appointor that no objection was received by him within that period from the executive leader; or
 - (iii) the appointor is satisfied that any objection received from the executive leader within that period is not material or is not well-founded.

6

- (1) In this paragraph, "dismissor" means, in relation to the dismissal of an officer of the authority, the authority or, where a committee, sub-committee or another officer is discharging the function of dismissal on behalf of the authority, that committee, sub-committee or other officer, as the case may be.
- (2) Notice of the dismissal of an officer referred to in sub-paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) of paragraph 3 must not be given by the dismissor until--
- (a) the dismissor has notified the proper officer of the name of the person who the dismissor wishes to dismiss and any other particulars which the dismissor considers are relevant to the dismissal;
 - (b) the proper officer has notified every member of the executive of the authority of--
 - (i) the name of the person who the dismissor wishes to dismiss;
 - (ii) any other particulars relevant to the dismissal which the dismissor has notified to the proper officer; and
 - (iii) the period within which any objection to the dismissal is to be made by the executive leader on behalf of the executive to the proper officer; and
 - (c) either--
 - (i) the executive leader has, within the period specified in the notice under sub-paragraph (b)(iii), notified the dismissor that neither he nor any other member of the executive has any objection to the dismissal;

(ii) the proper officer has notified the dismissor that no objection was received by him within that period from the executive leader; or

(iii) the dismissor is satisfied that any objection received from the executive leader within that period is not material or is not well-founded.

7

Nothing in paragraph 2 shall prevent a person from serving as a member of any committee or sub-committee established by the authority to consider an appeal by--

(a) another person against any decision relating to the appointment of that other person as a member of staff of the authority; or

(b) a member of staff of the authority against any decision relating to the dismissal of, or taking disciplinary action against, that member of staff.

Schedule

1.

In the following paragraphs—

(a) “the 2011 Act” means the Localism Act 2011;

(b) “chief finance officer”, “disciplinary action”, “head of the authority's paid service” and “monitoring officer” have the same meaning as in regulation 2 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001;

(c) “independent person” means a person appointed under section 28(7) of the 2011 Act;

(d) “local government elector” means a person registered as a local government elector in the register of electors in the authority's area in accordance with the Representation of the People Acts;

(e) “the Panel” means a committee appointed by the authority under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the purposes of advising the authority on matters relating to the dismissal of relevant officers of the authority;

(f) “relevant meeting” means a meeting of the authority to consider whether or not to approve a proposal to dismiss a relevant officer; and

(g) “relevant officer” means the chief finance officer, head of the authority's paid service or monitoring officer, as the case may be.

2.

A relevant officer may not be dismissed by an authority unless the procedure set out in the following paragraphs is complied with.

3.

The authority must invite relevant independent persons to be considered for appointment to the Panel, with a view to appointing at least two such persons to the Panel.

4.

In paragraph 3 “relevant independent person” means any independent person who has been appointed by the authority or, where there are fewer than two such persons, such independent persons as have been appointed by another authority or authorities as the authority considers appropriate.

5.

Subject to paragraph 6, the authority must appoint to the Panel such relevant independent persons who have accepted an invitation issued in accordance with paragraph 3 in accordance with the following priority order—

- (a) a relevant independent person who has been appointed by the authority and who is a local government elector;
- (b) any other relevant independent person who has been appointed by the authority;
- (c) a relevant independent person who has been appointed by another authority or authorities.

6.

An authority is not required to appoint more than two relevant independent persons in accordance with paragraph 5 but may do so.

7.

The authority must appoint any Panel at least 20 working days before the relevant meeting.

8.

Before the taking of a vote at the relevant meeting on whether or not to approve such a dismissal, the authority must take into account, in particular—

- (a) any advice, views or recommendations of the Panel;
- (b) the conclusions of any investigation into the proposed dismissal; and
- (c) any representations from the relevant officer.

9.

Any remuneration, allowances or fees paid by the authority to an independent person appointed to the Panel must not exceed the level of remuneration, allowances or fees payable to that independent person in respect of that person's role as independent person under the 2011 Act.”

Appendix 3 – Proposed Staffing Committee Terms of Reference

STAFFING COMMITTEE (Terms of Reference)

8 Members

Statement of Purpose

- 1 The Staffing Committee is a key component of Cheshire East's corporate governance. It provides an independent and high level focus on Human Resources, Organisational Development and Health & Safety matters affecting the Council.

- 2 The purpose of the Staffing Committee is:-
 - (a) to provide independent assurance to the members of the adequacy of the HR service and staffing related matters,

 - (b) with regard to the Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer (Statutory Officers):
 - To undertake the recruitment and selection process in accordance with the Staff Employment Procedure Rules; and

 - Make a recommendation to the Council to approve the proposed appointment before an offer of appointment is made to that person.

 - (c) appoint/dismiss the Statutory Chief Officers, namely:
 - The Executive Director of People and Deputy Chief Executive (Director of Children's Services);
 - Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health (Director of Adult Social Services); and
 - Director of Public Health.including undertaking the recruitment and selection process.

 - (d) to appoint/dismiss the Executive Director of Place including undertaking the recruitment and selection process.

 - (e) to approve "in year" salary or other benefit increases to the Head of Paid Service

Functions of the Committee

Recruitment and Selection

3 With regard to Statutory Officers:

- To undertake the recruitment and selection process in accordance with the Staff Employment Procedure Rules; and
- make a recommendation to the Council to approve the proposed appointment

before an offer of appointment is made to that person.

~~4 To make a recommendation to the Council to approve the dismissal of any of the Statutory Officers prior to notice being given to that person, and provided that the procedure set out in the Staff Employment Procedure Rules has been complied with.~~

45. To appoint/dismiss Statutory Chief Officers and the Executive Director of Place

HR Policies

56.1 To have the opportunity to review the Council's HR Policies and Procedures as required and to make recommendations to the Portfolio Holder. It is noted that the authority to approve HR Policies and Procedures remains with the Executive

56.2 To make recommendations to Council in relation to the annual Pay Policy Statement and any amendments to such statement.

56.3 To make recommendations to Council in relation to decisions affecting the remuneration of any new post whose remuneration is or is proposed to be or would become £100,000 p.a. or more.

56.4 To make decisions in relation to proposed severance packages with a value of £100,000 or more.

56.5 To exercise the functions relating to local government pensions, so far as they relate to Regulations made under sections 7, 12, or 24 of the Superannuation Act 1972.

Appeals

7.46.1 For a Staffing Appeals Sub Committee:

- to consider appeals from Staff in the following circumstances:-
 - Appeals against dismissal
 - Appeals against grievance
 - Appeals against policy (but only the first appeal where the appeals are based on the same issues/circumstances)

67.2 With effect from 1st January 2016, Members appointed to the Staff Appeals Sub Committee may only hear appeals if they have received the mandatory training on appeals procedures offered by the Council (tailored in accordance with the individual Member's existing knowledge and experience).

Organisational Performance

78 To receive regular updates on performance information in order to assess the effectiveness of current Human Resources Organisational Development and Health & Safety policies and practices .These will include as a minimum:

- Appeals against dismissal
- Headcount Data
- Sickness Absence
- Turnover
- HR Casework (including disciplinary, grievance and capability)
- Health and Safety Accidents Records
- Health and Safety Training

DRAFTING NOTE – Members may have recognised that the “base” text in this version of the Staffing Committee’s Terms of Reference (to which tracked changes are proposed) differs from the version of the Staffing Committee’s Terms of Reference that appears in the version of the Constitution that is available on line. This is because this version incorporates changes made to the Staffing Committee’s Terms of Reference at Council on 15 December 2016 which have not been included in the version of the constitution that appears on line.

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**APPENDIX 4 - INVESTIGATION AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE –
DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1.0 Scope

- 1.1 To consider allegations/issues regarding disciplinary matters relating to the designated statutory officers of the Council (the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer) (the 'DSOs') and to authorise initial investigation.
- 1.2 To appoint an Independent Investigator ("II") to investigate allegations of misconduct against any DSO of the Council and to commission reports from an II.
- 1.3 To determine appropriate action upon receipt of any preliminary investigation.
- 1.4 To decide whether to suspend a DSO and to review decisions taken to suspend a statutory officer.
- 1.5 To determine what action should be taken against a DSO following an investigation. This could include action short of dismissal or dismissal.

2.0 Membership of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee

- 2.1 The Committee shall be politically balanced, shall consist of 7 Members of the Council and at least 1 member of the committee shall be a member of the Cabinet.

3.0 Procedure for Investigation and Disciplinary Committee

Investigation

- 3.1 It is in the interests of all parties that the proceedings be conducted expeditiously and fairly.
- 3.2 In the exercise of its function, the Committee is to receive and consider any complaint/allegations made. It may:
 - make such enquiries of the relevant officer or any other person as it considers appropriate
 - request additional information, explanations or documents from any person
 - Invite or receive representations from any person.
- 3.3 The Committee having carried out such steps as it considers appropriate and having heard representations from the DSO or his or her adviser shall decide whether the issues;

- a) require no further formal action, or
 - b) should be referred to an II
- 3.4 In considering whether the threshold in deciding to appoint an II has been met the Committee will assess whether:
- if the allegations are proved it would be such as to lead to the dismissal or other action which would be recorded on the DSO's personal file; and
 - there is evidence in support of the allegation/issue sufficient to require further investigation.
- 3.5 In deciding whether the threshold for the appointment of an II has been reached the Committee may carry out such preliminary investigations as it considers appropriate or necessary or authorise officers to do so. This shall be solely for the purpose of establishing whether or not the threshold for appointing an II to carry out an investigation has been met.
- 3.6 Before deciding to appoint an II or suspend a DSO the Committee shall invite the representations of the DSO unless it is impracticable to do so. The DSO shall have the right to be accompanied at the Committee Meeting.

Receiving the II's Report/ Hearing

- 3.7 The Committee should receive any report produced by an II in relation to a DSO within one month of the receipt of the report by the Council.
- 3.8 The DSO shall have the right to attend and be accompanied at the Committee Meeting which considers the II's report.
- 3.9 The Committee shall consider the II's report and shall invite representations from the DSO and/or his/her representative. The Committee may impose disciplinary sanctions as set out in the Council's disciplinary procedures, the JNC Terms and Conditions Handbook for Chief Officers and the JNC Terms and Conditions Handbook for Chief Executives. In conducting any hearing the Committee shall have regard to the model disciplinary procedure in the JNC handbook for Chief Executives.

Decision

- 3.10 If the Committee decides that the DSO shall be dismissed the Full Council shall consider the Committee's recommendation of dismissal. Prior to consideration by Full Council the Independent Persons Panel shall consider the matter and the Committee shall give all members of the Cabinet the opportunity to raise any objections to the decision. This process is governed by the Staff Employment Procedure Rules set out in this Constitution.
- 3.11 In the case of any disciplinary action other than dismissal the DSO may appeal to the Disciplinary Appeals Committee against the decision.

Suspension

- 3.12 If a DSO has been suspended for a period of 2 months (or in the case of a decision to suspend taken under urgency provisions) then the Committee shall review that suspension. In carrying out that review the Committee shall consider any representations made by the II and the DSO and/or his or her representative. Further reviews of suspension shall be carried out at appropriate periods thereafter.

Access to Information

- 3.13 The Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules shall apply to meetings of the Committee.

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APPENDIX 5 - DISCIPLINARY APPEALS COMMITTEE – DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.0 Scope

- 1.1 To consider any appeals brought by the designated statutory officers of the Council (the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or Chief Finance Officer/S151 Officer) (the 'DSOs') against any decision made by the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee to take disciplinary action against a DSO short of dismissal.

2.0 Membership of the Disciplinary Appeals Committee

- 2.1 The Committee shall be politically balanced, shall consist of 7 Members of the Council at least 1 member of the committee shall be a member of the Cabinet. No member who was a member of the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee making the decision which is the subject of the appeal may be a member of the Disciplinary Appeals Committee.

3.0 Procedure for the Disciplinary Appeals Committee

- 3.1 The DSO shall have the right to attend and be accompanied at the Committee Meeting which considers the appeal.
- 3.2 The Committee shall consider the appeal in accordance with the Council's normal procedure for dealing with appeals.

Access to Information

- 3.3 The Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules shall apply to meetings of the Committee.

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Appendix 6 - Proposed Terms of Reference of Independent Persons Panel

1.0 Introduction and Composition

- 1.1 The Independent Persons Panel is an advisory committee appointed by the authority under section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the purposes of advising the authority on matters relating to the dismissal of the officers designated as the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer in accordance with Schedule 3 to The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
- 1.2 The Panel comprises two of the Independent Persons appointed under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 (to advise on member conduct allegations) by the Council or, where there are fewer than two such persons, such independent persons as have been appointed by another authority or authorities as the Council considers appropriate.
- 1.3 The Panel will be appointed from those Independent Persons who have accepted an invitation to be considered for appointment, in accordance with the following priority order—
 - (a) an Independent Person who has been appointed by the authority and who is a local government elector in the Council's area;
 - (b) any other Independent Person who has been appointed by the authority;
 - (b) a Independent Person who has been appointed by another authority or authorities.
- 1.4 One or more reserve members will be appointed to the Panel from Independent Persons who have been appointed under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 by the authority or by another authority or authorities. A reserve member will take the place of any member of the Panel who is unable to act for the duration of the Panel meeting in question, or any adjournment of it. If more than one reserve member is available for the meeting then selection will be by the alphabetical order of their surnames.
- 1.5 The appointment of a Panel Member to preside at the meeting will be the first item of business at each Independent Persons Panel meeting. Where there are equal votes cast at a meeting on any matter the Chairman may exercise a second or casting vote.
- 1.6 The quorum for a meeting shall be two members of the Panel.

2.0 Terms of reference

- 2.1 To advise the Council on matters relating to the dismissal of the officers designated as the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Council

Date of Meeting: 23 February 2017

Report of: Head of Governance and Democratic Services

Title: Political Representation on the Council's Committees

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Constitution Committee, on 13th February 2017, will make recommendations to Council, which will result in the creation of two new decision-making bodies. Council must therefore determine any consequential changes to the political representation on the Council's Committees.
- 1.2 In addition, if the Cheshire East Council-Bollington Ward by-election results in a change to the Council's political proportionalities, the Council will similarly need to determine the changed political representation on the Council's Committees.
- 1.3 This will ensure that political proportionality is achieved.
- 1.4 At the time this report was written and published with the Council agenda, the result of the election was not known, and the minute of the Constitution Committee was not available.
- 1.5 In summary, each relevant Council decision making body must be politically balanced, as far as is reasonably practicable, and the total of Committee seats allocated to the Council's political groups must balance perfectly.

2.0 Decision Required as a consequence of the creation of two new decision-making bodies, and in the event that the Cheshire East Council-Bollington Ward by-election results in a change to the Council's political proportionalities

(a) That the political group representation, as set out in a circulated and amended Appendix to this report and the methods, calculations and conventions used in determining this, as outlined in the report be adopted, and the revised allocations of places to Committees be approved;

(b) That the adjustments to Committee places indicated as being required in such Appendix, to achieve the correct political proportionality across all Committees, be agreed; and

(c) That the unchanged Committee Chairman and Vice Chairmen allocations be noted as set out in Appendix 1; "(C)" denoting the allocation of the office of Chairman to political groups and "(VC)" denoting the allocation of the office of Vice Chairman to political groups.

3.0 Legal Implications

- 3.1 The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, made pursuant to the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, make provisions in respect of the political group representation on a local authority's committees in relation to the overall political composition of the Council. The legislation applies to overview and scrutiny committees and the decision-making committees and sub committees of the Council.
- 3.2 The legislation requires that, where proportionality applies, and seats are allocated to different political groups, the authority must abide by the following principles, so far as is reasonably practicable:
- 3.2.1 Not all of the seats can be allocated to the same political group. (i.e. there are no single group committees.)
 - 3.2.2 The majority of seats on a body are to be allocated to a political Group with a majority membership of the authority.
 - 3.2.3 The total number of seats on all ordinary committees and sub committees allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the proportion on the full Council. Appendix 1 indicates the proportionalities which apply at the time of writing this report, as agreed by Council on 15th December 2016.
 - 3.2.4 The number of seats on each ordinary committee allocated to each Political Group bears the same proportion to the proportion on full Council.
- 3.3 The proposals contained in this report meet the requirements of the legislation.
- 3.4 The 1990 Regulations require Political Group Leaders to notify the Proper Officer of the Groups' nominations to the bodies in question.

4.0 Risk Assessment

- 4.1 Failure to comply with the Act and Regulations when appointing its committee memberships would leave the Council open to legal challenge.

5.0 Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

- 5.1 Appendix 1 to this report sets out the political representation on ordinary committees and sub committees which applied prior to: the proposed creation of two new bodies (which will be considered at the Council meeting); and the Cheshire East Council-Bollington Ward by-election, this being based on the political structure of the Council as a whole.

5.2 The proportionalities in Appendix 1 have been arrived at by the following methods and conventions:

- applying the relevant percentage to each body
- rounding up from 0.5 and above and rounding down below 0.5
- where the required numbers of members for a decision-making body cannot be achieved using the above methods and calculations, the political group having the largest residual percentage for that body will be entitled to be awarded the additional place (eg, if one group is entitled to 4.25 places, and another group is entitled to 1.48 places, the first group will awarded 4 places on the body in question, and the second group will be awarded 2 places).

5.3 The Act provides that where this approach results in a Group having a total of more or fewer seats than its proportional entitlement, the number of seats will be adjusted to ensure that the final allocation to each Group equals the proportional entitlement. Appendix 1 shows the allocation of seats which applied at the time of writing this report. An amended Appendix will be circulated, if possible, prior to the meeting, or around the Council Chamber. The proportionality rules only apply to those bodies listed in Appendix 1.

6. Reasons for Recommendations

6.1 To determine political representation on the Council's committees and to receive the Groups nominations to the different bodies referred to in the report.

7.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer.

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APPENDIX 1

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL - POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITIES ON ALL BODIES
(other than those to be appointed on an ad-hoc basis)****Based upon the following:****Con:52; Lab:16; Ind:11; Lib Dem:2; Non Grouped ind:1**

Committee	Con	Lab	Ind	Lib Dem	Total Allocated
Corporate (Resources) Overview and Scrutiny	8 (C)	2 (VC)	2	0	12
Environment & Regeneration (places) Overview and Scrutiny	7 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	12
Children and Families (People) Overview and Scrutiny	7 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	12
Health and Adult Social Care (People) Overview and Scrutiny	9 (C) (VC)	4	2	0	15
Audit and Governance Committee	7 (C) (VC)	1	1	1	10
Constitution	9 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	14
Strategic Planning Board	7 (C) (VC)	2	2	1	12
Northern Planning Committee	8 (C)	2	2 (VC)	0	12
Southern Planning Committee	8 (C) (VC)	2	2	0	12

Committee	Con	Lab	Ind	Lib Dem	Total
Public Rights of Way	5 (C)	1 (VC)	1	0	7
Licensing Committee	10 (C) (VC)	3	2	0	15
Staffing	5 (C) (VC)	2	1	0	8
Lay Members Appointments	3	1	0	1	5
Local Authority School Governor Appointments Panel	3 (C) (VC)	1	1	0	5
Civic Sub Committee	5	2	1	0	8
Community Governance Review Sub Committee	5	1	0	0	6
Outside Organisations Sub Committee	4	1	0	1	6
Committee	Con	Lab	Ind	Lib Dem	Total
Total Places allocated	110	34	23	4	171
Total places available					
Proportional Entitlement	110 (109.78) (64.2%)	34 (33.77) (19.75%)	23 (23.22) (13.58%)	4 (4.22) (2.47%)	171 (100%)
Difference*	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)