



South Northamptonshire Council

Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 27 February 2019

Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
<p>Agenda Item 10 Robustness of Estimates and the Adequacy of Reserves and Balances Local Government Act 2003 (Section 25)</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director Finance, Procurement and Property (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1. To note the contents of this report.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the report be noted.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 11 Business Plan 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 - 2023/24</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director Finance, Procurement and Property (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.2. To consider and approve the Business Plan set out in Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.3. To note the Risk Register contained at Appendix 2.</p> <p>1.4. To consider and approve an increase in the level of Council Tax for South Northamptonshire Council of 2.99% for 2019/20.</p> <p>1.5. To consider and approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That, having given due consideration, the Business Plan (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book), be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the Risk Register (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be noted.</p> <p>(3) That, having given due consideration, an increase in the level of Council Tax for South Northamptonshire Council of 2.99% for 2019/20 be approved.</p> <p>(4) That, having given due consideration, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), Revenue Budget 2019/20 and Capital Programme including recommending the growth and savings proposals (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book), be approved.</p>

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>(MTFS), Revenue Budget 2019/20 and Capital Programme including recommending the growth and savings proposals included at Appendix 8.</p> <p>1.6. To consider and approve a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £1.8m.</p> <p>1.7. To consider and approve that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Governance and Leader of the Council, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Portfolio Holder to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year. • Update prudential indicators in both the Prudential Indicators Report and Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these. <p>1.8. To consider that the Fees & Charges set out in Appendix 7 be approved.</p> <p>1.9. To consider the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix 6.</p> <p>1.10. To consider and approve that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the Council meeting of 27 February 2019, including changes to the Finance Settlement and change relating to Parish Precepts and Council Tax levels associated with those changes.</p>	<p>(5) That, having given due consideration, a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £1.8m be approved.</p> <p>(6) That, having given due consideration, authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Governance and Leader of the Council, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Portfolio Holder to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year. • Update prudential indicators in both the Prudential Indicators Report and Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these. <p>(7) That, having given due consideration, the Fees & Charges (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book), be approved.</p> <p>(8) That, having given due consideration, the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2019/20 (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book), be approved.</p> <p>(9) That, having given due consideration, authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the Council meeting of 27 February 2019, including changes to the Finance Settlement and change relating to Parish Precepts and Council Tax levels associated with</p>

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>1.11. To note that the contents of the Section 25 report from the Chief Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves are set out in another section of the agenda.</p> <p>1.12. To consider and approve the appended statement of pay policy for 2019/20 as required by the Localism Act and detailed in Appendix 9.</p> <p>1.13. To note the equality impact assessment for 2019/20 detailed in Appendix 10.</p>	<p>those changes.</p> <p>(10) That the contents of the Section 25 report from the Chief Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves, as set out in the previous agenda item, be noted.</p> <p>(11) That, having given due consideration, the statement of pay policy for 2019/20 as required by the Localism Act (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book), be noted.</p> <p>(12) That the equality impact assessment for 2019/20 be noted.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 13 Calculating the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/20 and setting the Council Tax for 2019/20</p> <p>Report of Section 151 Officer</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>It is recommended that the Council resolves:-</p> <p>1.1 That it be noted that the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Finance and Governance calculated the Council Tax Base 2019-20:</p> <p>a) for the whole Council area as 36,067.1 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)]; and</p> <p>b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in column 2 of the attached Appendix 1.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That it be noted that the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Finance and Governance calculated the Council Tax Base 2019-20:</p> <p>a) for the whole Council area as 36,067.1 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)]; and</p> <p>b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in column 2 of the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book).</p> <p>(2) That the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2019-20 (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) is £6,900,718.</p> <p>(3) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019-20 in</p>

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>1.2 That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019-20 (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) is £6,900,718.</p> <p>1.3 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019-20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-</p> <p>a) £38,339,986 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 and any additional special expenses.</p> <p>b) £28,355,046 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.</p> <p>c) £9,984,940 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).</p> <p>d) £276.84 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (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 and Special Expenses);</p>	<p>accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-</p> <p>a) £38,339,986 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 and any additional special expenses.</p> <p>b) £28,355,046 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.</p> <p>c) £9,984,940 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).</p> <p>d) £276.84 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (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 and Special Expenses);</p> <p>e) £3,084,222 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act as per the attached Schedule 2 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book).</p>

Agenda Item and Recommendation		Decision																																																																																									
<p>e) £3,084,222 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act as per the attached Schedule 2.</p> <p>f) £191.33 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T(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 or special item relates;</p>		<p>f) £191.33 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T(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 or special item relates;</p>																																																																																									
<p>1.4 It be noted that for the year 2019-20 the Northamptonshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire and the Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated below :-</p>		<p>(4) That it be noted that for the year 2019-20 the Northamptonshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire and the Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated below :-</p>																																																																																									
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Valuation</u></th> <th>Northamptonshire County Council</th> <th>Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire</th> <th>Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority</th> </tr> <tr> <th><u>Band</u></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>824.07</td> <td>163.36</td> <td>40.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>961.41</td> <td>190.59</td> <td>47.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>1,098.76</td> <td>217.81</td> <td>54.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>1,236.10</td> <td>245.04</td> <td>60.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>1,510.79</td> <td>299.49</td> <td>74.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>1,785.48</td> <td>353.95</td> <td>87.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>2,060.17</td> <td>408.40</td> <td>101.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>2,472.20</td> <td>490.08</td> <td>121.52</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Valuation</u>	Northamptonshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire	Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority	<u>Band</u>					£	£	£	A	824.07	163.36	40.51	B	961.41	190.59	47.26	C	1,098.76	217.81	54.01	D	1,236.10	245.04	60.76	E	1,510.79	299.49	74.26	F	1,785.48	353.95	87.76	G	2,060.17	408.40	101.27	H	2,472.20	490.08	121.52	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Valuation</u></th> <th>Northamptonshire County Council</th> <th>Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire</th> <th>Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority</th> </tr> <tr> <th><u>Band</u></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>824.07</td> <td>163.36</td> <td>40.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>961.41</td> <td>190.59</td> <td>47.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>1,098.76</td> <td>217.81</td> <td>54.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>1,236.10</td> <td>245.04</td> <td>60.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>1,510.79</td> <td>299.49</td> <td>74.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>1,785.48</td> <td>353.95</td> <td>87.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>2,060.17</td> <td>408.40</td> <td>101.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>2,472.20</td> <td>490.08</td> <td>121.52</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Valuation</u>	Northamptonshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire	Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority	<u>Band</u>					£	£	£	A	824.07	163.36	40.51	B	961.41	190.59	47.26	C	1,098.76	217.81	54.01	D	1,236.10	245.04	60.76	E	1,510.79	299.49	74.26	F	1,785.48	353.95	87.76	G	2,060.17	408.40	101.27	H	2,472.20	490.08	121.52
<u>Valuation</u>	Northamptonshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire	Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority																																																																																								
<u>Band</u>																																																																																											
	£	£	£																																																																																								
A	824.07	163.36	40.51																																																																																								
B	961.41	190.59	47.26																																																																																								
C	1,098.76	217.81	54.01																																																																																								
D	1,236.10	245.04	60.76																																																																																								
E	1,510.79	299.49	74.26																																																																																								
F	1,785.48	353.95	87.76																																																																																								
G	2,060.17	408.40	101.27																																																																																								
H	2,472.20	490.08	121.52																																																																																								
<u>Valuation</u>	Northamptonshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire	Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority																																																																																								
<u>Band</u>																																																																																											
	£	£	£																																																																																								
A	824.07	163.36	40.51																																																																																								
B	961.41	190.59	47.26																																																																																								
C	1,098.76	217.81	54.01																																																																																								
D	1,236.10	245.04	60.76																																																																																								
E	1,510.79	299.49	74.26																																																																																								
F	1,785.48	353.95	87.76																																																																																								
G	2,060.17	408.40	101.27																																																																																								
H	2,472.20	490.08	121.52																																																																																								
		<p>(5) That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in the annex to the Minutes (as set out</p>																																																																																									

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>1.5 The Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019-20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.</p>	<p>in the Minute Book) as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019-20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.</p>
<p>1.6 The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019-20 is not deemed to be excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p>	<p>(6) That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019-20 is not deemed to be excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p>
<p>1.7 To approve the discount and exemptions set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i Agree that in respect of properties within Class A and B as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012(furnished chargeable dwellings that are not the sole or a main residence of an individual) the discount provided by Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 shall be zero. ii Agree that in respect of properties within Class C as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (a property that is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished) the discount provided by Section 11A of the said Act shall be 50% for a period of three months and thereafter zero. iii Agree that in respect of properties within Class D as defined by the aid Regulations 	<p>(7) That the following discounts and exemptions be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i In respect of properties within Class A and B as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012(furnished chargeable dwellings that are not the sole or a main residence of an individual) the discount provided by Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 shall be zero. ii In respect of properties within Class C as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (a property that is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished) the discount provided by Section 11A of the said Act shall be 50% for a period of three months and thereafter zero. iii In respect of properties within Class D as defined by the aid Regulations (chargeable dwellings that are vacant and undergoing major repair work to render them habitable) the discount provided by Section 11A of the said Act shall be zero. iv No council tax discount shall be

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>(chargeable dwellings that are vacant and undergoing major repair work to render them habitable) the discount provided by Section 11A of the said Act shall be zero.</p> <p>iv Agree no council tax discount shall be applied to dwellings that are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than two years and that the council tax payable on such properties is 200% (except for those properties which fall into prescribed Classes E and F).</p>	<p>applied to dwellings that are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than two years and that the council tax payable on such properties is 200% (except for those properties which fall into prescribed Classes E and F).</p>
<p>Agenda Item 14 Business Rates Retail Relief Policy</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director Finance, Procurement and Property (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of this report.</p> <p>1.2 To approve the proposed Business Rates Retail Relief Policy (Appendix 1).</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the contents of the report be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the Business Rates Retail Relief Policy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 15 Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme 2019-20</p> <p>Report of Assistant Director: Finance, Procurement and Property (Section 151 Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of the report.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the report be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the adoption of the Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2019-20 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p>

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>1.2 To approve the adoption of the Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2019-20 (Appendix A).</p>	
<p>Agenda Item 16 Local Government Reform In Northamptonshire - Proposed Joint Committee</p> <p>Report of Executive Director: Resources (Monitoring Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended to agree that:</p> <p>1.1 A 'West Northamptonshire Joint Committee' of 16 seats (4 per council) be established with Northampton Borough Council, Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council, effective from 28 February 2019, with delegated functions as set out in the terms of reference at Appendix 1, subject to these other councils so resolving.</p> <p>1.2 The statutory allocation of seats to political groups be noted and the nominations for appointments to committees in accordance with the wishes of the political groups be approved, as detailed in the 'Membership of Committees 2018-19' schedule – to be tabled at the Full Council meeting.</p> <p>1.3 Subject to resolutions as per above, the Monitoring Officer be delegated authority to produce a 'West Northamptonshire Joint Committee Agreement' identifying appropriate standing orders and operating practices for the Committee; and in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to negotiate, finalise and</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That a 'West Northamptonshire Joint Committee' of 16 seats (4 per council) be established with Northampton Borough Council, Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council, effective from 28 February 2019, with delegated functions as set out in the terms of reference (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book), subject to these other councils so resolving.</p> <p>(2) That the statutory allocation of seats to political groups (3 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat and named substitutes) be noted and the nominations for appointments to committees in accordance with the wishes of the political groups (Joint Committee - Conservative: Councillors Breese, McCord, Rawlinson; Substitutes: Bignell, Cooper, Grant; and, Liberal Democrat: Councillor Lofts; Substitute: Councillor Johns) be approved, as detailed in the 'Membership of Committees 2018-19' schedule (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book).</p> <p>(3) That, further to the resolutions as per above, the Monitoring Officer be delegated authority to produce a 'West Northamptonshire Joint Committee Agreement' identifying appropriate standing orders and operating practices for the Committee; and in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to negotiate, finalise and enter into the proposed agreement with the other</p>

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision
<p>enter into the proposed agreement with the other councils in west Northamptonshire.</p>	<p>councils in west Northamptonshire.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 17 Local Government Reform in Northamptonshire - Structural Changes Order</p> <p>Report of Executive Director: Resources (Monitoring Officer)</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The meeting is recommended to agree that:</p> <p>1.1 The recommended preferences for a Structural Changes Order, as per Appendix 1, be included in a submission to Government.</p> <p>1.2 Amendment of the submitted preferences, as arising from negotiations with Government officials, be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and with the Monitoring Officer - where it is not expedient to formally report to Council or duly appointed Committee.</p> <p>1.3 The submission be accompanied by a statement reiterating the councils' original position that "Government commits to meeting the [significant implementation] challenges and ensures that we are collectively equipped to deliver success" as per the councils' original Joint Proposal.</p> <p>1.4 The submission includes an expression of in-principle desire for a consequential 'Section 24 direction' to apply to all of the councils, the details of which to be separately agreed between the councils and Government.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the recommended preferences for a Structural Changes Order, as per the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book), be included in a submission to Government.</p> <p>(2) That amendment of the submitted preferences, as arising from negotiations with Government officials, be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and with the Monitoring Officer - where it is not expedient to formally report to Council or duly appointed Committee.</p> <p>(3) That the submission be accompanied by a statement reiterating the councils' original position that "Government commits to meeting the [significant implementation] challenges and ensures that we are collectively equipped to deliver success" as per the councils' original Joint Proposal.</p> <p>(4) That the submission confirm no desire for a consequential 'Section 24 direction'.</p>