

Report to:	COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	28 February 2018

COUNCIL TAX 2018/ 2019

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the recommendations of the Executive in relation to the draft General Fund Revenue Budget and the setting of a Council Tax for the 2018/2019 Financial Year.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the recommendations of the Executive from its meetings on the 5 February 2018 and on 19 February 2018, as summarised in Appendix 6 (c).

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The setting of the General Fund Revenue Budget and the level of Council Tax is consistent with the principles approved by the Executive at its meeting on 5 February 2018.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Not applicable - the report once approved will become part of the Council's new approved budget

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

A different makeup of the Revenue budget could be applied. The 8 guiding principles of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy are referred to in the report to the Executive and how they have been balanced.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:
'The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool' and
'Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.'

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The purpose of this report is to determine the overall level of net expenditure to be included in the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2018/2019 and to identify a budget savings plan that will ensure a balanced Budget.
- 5.2 The draft budget was referred by the Executive for consultation with a meeting of the Trade Unions and Non Domestic Ratepayers and the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, which was held on Friday 9 February 2018. The Executive at its meeting on 19 February 2018 considered the comments from this meeting.
- 5.3 Following the Executive meeting on 19 February 2018, a copy of the recommendations from that meeting together with a summary Appendix 6(c) detailing the full recommendations to Council has been produced.
- 5.4 All Members of the Council should have received copies of the papers considered by the Executive at its meeting on 5 February 2018, in connection with the General Fund Revenue Budget [available via this link](#) A copy of the Executive agenda for the 19 February 2018 meeting was also sent to all members on Friday 9 February 2018. Attached at Appendix 6 (a) is the decision notice from the meeting of the Executive on 5 February 2018.
- 5.5 In accordance with The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, the Council is asked to note that a recorded vote is required on all budget decisions taken by Council including any amendment to it.
- 5.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.7 List of Appendices:

Appendix 6 (a) – Executive Decision Notice EX4/2018 – General Fund Revenue Budget – Monday 5 February 2018.

Appendix 6 (b) – Executive Decision Notice EX10/2018– Council Tax 2018/2019 - Monday 19 February 2018.

Appendix 6 (c) – A summary document detailing all the recommendations for Council to consider relating to the setting of a Council Tax in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 It is a Council function to determine the level of Council Tax and to set a budget.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 Human Resources considerations were detailed in the budget report, which was circulated with the Executive agenda for its meeting on 5 February 2018.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An Equalities Analysis forms was produced for the budget report, which was circulated with the Executive agenda for its meeting on 5 February 2018.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 As outlined in the Budget report, which was circulated with the Executive agenda for its meeting on 5 February 2018 and the Council Tax report circulated with the Executive agenda for the meeting on 19 February 2018.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 As outlined in the Budget, which was circulated with the Executive agenda for its meeting on 5 February 2018.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Details of the consultation undertaken is listed within the Council Tax report circulated with the Executive agenda for the meeting on 19 February 2018.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Budget working papers and the aforementioned consultation minutes and feedback.