

# Public Document Pack

# Blackpool Council

12 February 2016

To: Councillors Blackburn, Cain, Campbell, Collett, Cross, Jackson, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

The above members are requested to attend the:

## EXECUTIVE

Monday, 22 February 2016 at 6.00 pm  
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool

## A G E N D A

### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

- (1) the type of interest concerned; and
- (2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 COUNCIL TAX 2016/17 (Pages 1 - 8)

3 HEADSTART FUNDING BID (Pages 9 - 14)

#### Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

#### Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Tel: (01253) 477157, e-mail [lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk)

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at [www.blackpool.gov.uk](http://www.blackpool.gov.uk).



<b>Report to:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2016

## COUNCIL TAX 2016/17

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 Proposals for Blackpool Council's level of Council Tax for 2016/17 and the General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider all information received since the meeting of the Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 including the Final Settlement Funding Assessment which was announced on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and to determine whether or not to confirm the Executive's recommendation to Council regarding the General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17.
- 2.2 To recommend to Council approval of a level of Council Tax for the year 2016/17 of £1,358.05 at valuation band D equivalent which includes the additional 2% Adult Social Care Precept.
- 2.3 To recommend to Council the level of net expenditure for the General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 of £122,999,000.
- 2.4 To note that the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority will meet on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to set its precept for the financial year 2016/17. This will be reported verbally at this meeting.
- 2.5 To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire's precept for the year 2016/17 at valuation band D equivalent will be agreed on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and will again be reported verbally at this meeting.

**3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):**

3.1 The Executive is required to consider the outcome of consultation meetings and surveys before finalising its Budget proposals.

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 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The Council Tax level recommended balances all 8 principles of the approved Medium Term Financial Strategy against the real risk of further service cuts.

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 the Council's new approved Budget

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None, as although one of the 8 guiding principles of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/16 – 17/18 is "to keep Council Tax levels as low as possible", Government funding reductions alongside increasing service demands and inflationary pressures on the Council's Budget in 2016/17 (including Adult Social Care pressures of 4 times the allowable Precept and new burdens such as Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the transfer to Academies) prevent a Council Tax level any lower than the capped level being prudent or practicable.

The Council Tax level recommended balances all 8 principles against the real risk of further service cuts. Although the level of Council Tax at valuation band D that is recommended is £1,358.05, the profile of hereditaments in Blackpool with bands A and B comprising 74% of the total means that the average council tax payable in 2016/17 is estimated at £795.

**4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

## 5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 At its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016, the Executive considered a report of the Director of Resources that recommended to Council approval of a net expenditure for the General Fund Revenue Budget of £122,999,000 that would result in a level of Council Tax for the year 2016/17 of £1,358.05 at valuation band D equivalent. This is an increase of 3.99% and includes the additional and allowable 2% Adult Social Care Precept.
- 5.2 The Final Settlement of Blackpool Council's 2016/17 Settlement Funding Assessment was announced by the Department for Communities and Local Government on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Compared to the Provisional Settlement there have been no changes to the method of distributing Revenue Support Grant and as such the Settlement Funding Assessment and Core Spending Power are unchanged for 2016/17 at £75.8m and £125.0m respectively.
- 5.3 As part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement the threshold for 'excessive' Council Tax increases was set at 2%, with an increase of 2% or more requiring a local referendum to be held. This 2% threshold excludes the additional 2% allowed for the Adult Social Care Precept. The level of Council Tax recommended in this report will not invoke this requirement.
- 5.4 Besides the ongoing dialogue with the Trade Unions throughout the budget-setting process, the draft General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 and supporting information was further considered at a meeting of the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee with Trade Union representatives and Business Ratepayers held on 12<sup>th</sup> February. The views presented at this meeting will be reported to the Executive.
- 5.5 The precepts of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire for the year 2016/17 will be agreed on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016 respectively and will be reported verbally to this meeting of the Executive.
- 5.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No
- 5.7 **List of Appendices:**  
None

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 Human Resources considerations were outlined in the General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 report.

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 An Equality Analysis was produced for the General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 report to the Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 [available via this link](#) - this remains applicable.

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 As outlined in this report.

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 A Risk Analysis was produced for the General Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 report to the Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 [available via this link](#) - this remains applicable.

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 In the context of a budget savings requirement of £25.1m in 2016/17 with inevitable cuts to some services, a Council tax increase of 3.99% which will yield £1.85m is a necessary contribution to ensure that key Council services are maintained.

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 Consultation has taken place at a meeting with the Trade Unions and Business Ratepayers on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016. As is the usual practice engagement on the Council's overall budgetary position – including possible impacts on revenue raising, service cuts and Council Tax has also taken place at meetings of the Disability Partnership (5th January 2016), Blackpool Equalities Forum (20th January 2016) and Faith Forum (25th January 2016). The relevant minutes have been circulated to the Executive.

12.2 The Council commissioned Research for Today to undertake early engagement with the public via a Simalto budget-setting exercise. The intention was to inform residents about the services which the Council delivers and the current budget situation, then seek their informed views on how the Council budget could be re-set.

- 12.3 The process ran for 5 weeks from the start of September. It was open to anyone to participate in and was promoted via the Council’s website, third sector organisations, the emerging Citizen’s Panel, the Council’s followers on social media, plus formal “completion” sessions and outreach work in the community. A video on the website explained the work of the Council and the budgetary situation.
- 12.4 The information gathered has been presented to the Council’s Executive for consideration and used throughout the budget-setting process. It has informed the content of this report. It is important to emphasise that the broad nature of this exercise plus the self-selection of participants means it can only provide a guide to public opinion and perception.
- 12.5 The Council’s Executive considered feedback from the Simalto exercise as part of the paper “Council Budget 2016/17 Consultation Process” on 23rd November 2015.
- 12.6 As the Provisional and Final Local Government Finance Settlements required a further £5.1m of budget savings in 2016/17 to that previously consulted upon above, then approval of this report will commence a further 3-month consultation process on service proposals listed at Appendix 2b [available via this link](#) to the General Fund Budget Report. The Council is required to consider the views offered and take them into account throughout further meetings and discussions with residents, trade unions and other stakeholders.

**13.0 Background papers**

- 13.1 Budget working papers and above consultation minutes and feedback.

**14.0 Key decision information:**

- 14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes
- 14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 29/2015
- 14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No
- 14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**15.0 Call-in information:**

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016 Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

**20.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

20.1



**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes:**

22.1

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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Executive</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Carmel McKeogh, Deputy Chief Executive
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2016

## HEADSTART FUNDING BID

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide Executive with an update on a bid for funding under round 3 of the Big Lottery Fund's HeadStart Programme.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To acknowledge and support the principle of making a HeadStart stage 3 bid.
- 2.2 To delegate authority for determining the final content of the stage 3 bid to the Chief Executive on the publication of an officer decision, after consultation with the Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities).
- 2.3 To note that a further report will be brought to the Executive in due course to report the result of the stage 3 bid and to agree further actions.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 HeadStart – Blackpool will involve whole systems change, including the embedding of a universal resilience building approach in all primary and secondary schools and across community services. This approach will reach out to all parents and carers as part of the universal offer to young people and consider how digital solutions can be developed where appropriate, as well as raising awareness of the dangers associated with the internet. This will involve significant improvement of the support young people get around mental health issues.

The programme will also involve targeted interventions available through the investment. These will be specifically for “Our Children” (those accommodated by the Local Authority), young people who self harm and young people with significantly low resilience.

Delegating authority to submit the final bid to the Chief Executive after consultation with the Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities) will allow the Council flexibility on the final content of the submission until the last possible moment to take cognisance of the ongoing advice from the Big Lottery.

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? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not to submit a bid which will need that the Council is unable to progress Stage 3 of Headstart.

#### **4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

#### **5.0 Background Information**

5.1 HeadStart is a Big Lottery Fund 5 year strategic investment that aims to increase the mental well being of young people aged 10-16, achieving the overall outcome of decreasing those who go on to develop mental health conditions. Blackpool is one of 12 areas involved in the investment that offers both universal and targeted interventions and considers the young person life at home, in school, in the local community and in the digital environment.

5.2 The purpose of HeadStart – Blackpool is:

- To embed a resilience approach across the young people's workforce
- To embed co-productive practice across the council, working with young people to develop appropriate and effective initiatives
- To gather and analyse evidence on the programme, using this intelligence to re-allocate resources from crisis services to prevention services where appropriate
- To develop resilience-promoting work environments for the young people's workforce

- 5.3 The detailed HeadStart programme has been developed in conjunction with young people, with the governance of the programme including both an adult and young people’s executive board that feeds into the Children and Young People’s Partnership (CYPP). The proposed governance structure for the stage 3 bid outlines how the HeadStart Executive Board will report to the Children and Young People’s Partnership and consequently the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 5.4 The Council received funding at Stages 1 and 2 to pilot initiatives in primary and secondary school settings. The Council is now preparing the stage 3 bid for submission by 26th February 2016, with Big Lottery Fund requesting that the bid includes scenarios based on them awarding £6m, £8m, or £10m.
- 5.5 A detailed programme has been developed in co-production with young people, with the governance of the programme including both an adult and young people’s executive board that feeds into the Children and Young People’s Partnership (CYPP). The proposed governance structure for the stage 3 bid outlines how the HeadStart Executive Board will report to the Children and Young People’s Partnership and consequently the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 5.6 As part of the programme, the HeadStart team will be working with Boing Boing. Led by Professor Angie Hart of the University of Brighton, Boing Boing is a Community Interest Company (CIC) which is recognised as a leader in developing young people’s resilience. The HeadStart programme will use their evidence-based approaches. Ultimately, the intention is to develop a separate Boing Boing Blackpool Community Interest Company as an alternative model for funding the sustainable development of resilience research and practice work in Blackpool.
- 5.7 A report will be submitted to a future Executive meeting for approval of further detail on the programme and governance arrangements once the Council has received confirmation of the outcome of the bidding process
- 5.8 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No
- 5.9 Appendices Attached:**
- None
- 6.0 Legal considerations:**
- 6.1 None

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 The bid is to the Big Lottery for up to £10m over 5 years. The accountancy team has been involved from the outset with regard to costings and will provide the financial requirements of the bid.

9.2 In the event of a successful bid, the HeadStart – Blackpool programme will involve embedding initiatives which create resilience into services and institutions in contact with the target age group. In time, the plan is that this will lead to systems change with an ambition that the HeadStart programme will be fully sustainable by year 5, therefore, close working with partners will be critical in ensuring the long term success of the project.

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 There have been two wide scale consultations with young people during the delivery of stage 1 and stage 2. These consultations have enabled over 3,000 young people to have their say and drive forward the development of the project.

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

**14.0 Key decision information:**

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**15.0 Call-in information:**

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed:

Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

**20.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

20.1

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes:**

22.1