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SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2014

Present:

The Sheriff, Councillor Mrs Blatchford (In the Chair)
Councillors Baillie, Barnes-Andrews, Bogle, Burke, Chaloner, Claisse, Cunio, Daunt, Fitzhenry, Furnell, Hammond, Hannides, B Harris, L Harris, Kaur, Inglis, Jeffery, Keogh (item 85 onwards), Kolker, Letts, Lewzey, Lloyd, Mead, McEwing, Mintoff, Morrell, Moulton (item 85 onwards), Noon, Norris, Dr Paffey, Parnell, Payne, Pope, Rayment, Shields, Smith, Spicer, Stevens (item 85 onwards), Thomas, Tucker, Turner, Vassiliou, Vinson and Whitbread

THE SHERIFF (COUNCILLOR MRS BLATCHFORD) IN THE CHAIR

83. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Laming, Thorpe, and White.

84. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (i) The Council received and noted a deputation from Ann MacGillivray, concerning the budget;
- (ii) The Council received the following Public Questions from Mr Geering which were responded to by Councillor Rayment, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport:

Question 1.

When did the Council make the decision to withdraw the local pass from disabled persons?

Answer

A decision was taken at Full Council in February 2013 that no new passes would be issued after 1 April 2013. It was also agreed that existing passes in use would continue to be valid until they expired.

Question 2.

How many disabled people have been affected by this decision and what is the impact on them?

Answer

There were 1,200 local disabled passes in use in April 2013. This figure has now reduced to around 800 as passes expire and all of the remaining passes

in use will expire during 2014. It is estimated that around 2/3 of the local bus pass holders will qualify for an English National Concessionary pass.

The English National concessionary scheme entitles disabled people of all ages who meet the following criteria to travel free of charge:

You will need to be over 5 years of age, have a long term disability (in excess of 12 months) and meet one of the following eligibility criteria:

- be blind or partially sighted
- be profoundly or severely deaf
- be without speech
- have a disability, or injury, which has a substantial and long-term effect on your ability to walk
- have no arms or have long-term loss of the use of both arms
- have a learning disability, that is, a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind which started before adulthood and includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning
- would be refused a licence to drive a motor vehicle, should an application be made under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, under section 92 of the Act (physical fitness) otherwise than on the grounds of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol

The Council currently enhances the national scheme, which runs from 09:30 to 23:00, by providing free travel from 09:00 until 00:30. In addition to this we also provide companion passes for those who are unable to travel alone.

Question 3.

What savings have been made by the withdrawal of the local bus pass?

Answer

The Council budgeted for a saving of £30,000 in 2013/14, £70,000 in 2014/15 and £100,000 in 2015/16.

85. COUNCIL TAX SETTING AND RELATED MATTERS

(A) GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 TO 2016/17

(B) GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2014/15 TO 2016/17

The reports of the Cabinet Member for Resources were submitted seeking approval to the updated Capital Programme for 2013/14 - 2016/17 together with the latest estimated overall financial position on the General Fund Revenue Budget for 2014/15 - 2016/17 and outlining the main issues that needed to be addressed in considering the Cabinet's budget proposals. The recommendations therein as amended by Executive Budget Resolution 2014/15 to comprise the Executive's budget proposals were moved by Councillor Barnes-Andrews and seconded by Councillor Hammond (copies of reports circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes and a copy of the amended Executive Budget resolution as circulated at the meeting attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes).

The Council agreed to suspend Council Procedure Rules 14.2, 14.4, 14.5, 14.6, 14.7, 14.8, 14.9 and 16.2:-

- (i) to enable the above items to be considered together;
- (ii) to enable any amendments to be proposed, seconded and considered at the same time;
- (iii) to enable any amendment to be re-introduced later into the meeting; and
- (iv) to revise the time allowed for speakers as follows:-

Movers of motions - 20 minutes

Seconders - 10 minutes

Other Speakers - 4 minutes

An altered amendment setting out the Liberal Democrat Group's budget proposals (Liberal Democrat Budget Resolution 2014/15) was moved by Councillor Vinson and seconded by Councillor Turner (copy attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes).

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP'S PROPOSALS WERE DECLARED LOST.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE EXECUTIVE'S BUDGET PROPOSALS AS AMENDED WERE DECLARED CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the General Fund Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17 and the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17, as amended by Executive Budget Resolution 2014/15 (Appendix 1 to these minutes) be adopted.

86. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET REPORT AND BUSINESS PLAN

The report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainability was submitted setting out the Housing Revenue Account budget proposals and long term business plan (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Tenant Resource Group be thanked for their input to the capital and revenue budget setting process and their endorsement of the recommendations set out in the report and also the broad support for the proposals received at the Tenants' Winter Conference be noted;
- (ii) that the following be approved to calculate the dwelling rent increase from 1 April 2014:
 - That the standard increase applied to all dwelling rents should be 3.7% (RPI plus 0.5% as set out in paragraph 9), equivalent to an average increase of £2.91 per week; and
 - That dwelling specific rent restructuring adjustments should be made to give an additional increase in average rent levels of 3.25% (£2.55 per week), subject to the total increase from both elements not exceeding £10.00 per week for any individual property (as set out in paragraph 16 of the report);

- (iii) that, based on the calculation set out in resolution (ii) above, that with effect from the 1 April 2014, the current average weekly dwelling rent figure of £78.53 be increased by 6.95%, which would equate to an average increase of £5.46 per week;
- (iv) that it be noted that the actual total increase in individual rents would vary by property as explained in paragraph 17 of the report;
- (v) that the following weekly service charges from 1 April 2014 based on a full cost recovery approach be noted:
 - Digital TV £0.42 (unchanged from 2013/14)
 - Concierge £1.20 (unchanged from 2013/14)
 - Tower Block Warden charge £4.97 (unchanged from 2013/14)
- (vi) that the proposed service charges for supported accommodation, as set out in paragraph 33 of the report, should be used as the basis for consultation with tenants;
- (vii) that it be noted that a new cleaning charge for walk up blocks of £0.91 per week, approved in the February 2013 budget report, will be introduced from 1 April 2014;
- (viii) that it be noted that the charges for garages and parking spaces for 2014/15 would be increased by 3.2% in line with the increase in RPI used in the calculation of the increase in average rents;
- (ix) that the Housing Revenue Account Revenue Estimates as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (x) that the principle that the HRA Business Plan should have minimum 'borrowing headroom' of £6M, at the time of its annual approval by Council, as detailed in paragraph 8 of the report be approved;
- (xi) that the revised Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved and that the key variances and issues in Appendix 3 to the report be noted;
- (xii) that the 30 year Business Plans for revenue and capital expenditure set out in Appendices 4 and 5 of the report respectively be approved;
- (xiii) that the HRA Business Plan assumptions set out in Appendix 6 to the report be noted; and
- (xiv) that rental income and service charge payments would continue to be paid by tenants over a 48 week period be noted.

87. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL LIMITS 2014/15 TO 2016/17

The report of the Chief Financial Officer was submitted regarding the Council's proposed treasury management strategy for the coming year in relation to the Council's cash flow, investment and borrowing, and the management of the numerous risks related to this activity (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council's Treasury Management (TM) Strategy and Prudential Indicators for 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, as detailed within the report be approved;
- (ii) that the 2014 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement as detailed in paragraphs 74 to 83 of the report be approved;
- (iii) that the Annual Investment Strategy as detailed in paragraphs 36 to 50 of the report be approved;
- (iv) that it be noted that at the time of writing the report the recommendations in the Capital Programme Update report, submitted to Council on the 12 February 2014, had not yet been approved. The indicators in the report are based on the assumption that they would be approved, but should the recommendations change, the Prudential Indicators may have to be recalculated; and
- (v) that delegated authority continue to be granted to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources to approve any changes to the Prudential Indicators or borrowing limits that will aid good treasury management. For example, agreeing an increase in the percentage for variable rate borrowing to take advantage of the depressed market for short term rates. Any amendments would be reported as part of quarterly financial and performance monitoring and in revisions to the TM Strategy.

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LABOUR GROUP BUDGET RESOLUTION 2014/15

It is recommended that Council :

- i) Notes the Consultation process that was followed as outlined in Appendix 1 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda and notes that this year's process took into consideration feedback from last year on how to improve the process.
- ii) Notes that the consultation feedback has been taken into consideration by the Cabinet and has informed their final budget proposals.
- iii) Notes the Equality and Safety Impact Assessment process that was followed as set out in paragraphs 25 to 27 of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda, and the details contained in Appendix 2 to the report which reflect the feedback received through the consultation process.
- iv) Approves the revised estimate for 2013/14 as set out in Annex 1 to this Resolution.
- v) Accepts grants which total £3.6M (£3.35M from the Cabinet Office and £250,000 from the Department for Work & Pensions) to support unemployed adults and young people into employment as part of the City Deal and approves in accordance with financial procedure rules revenue expenditure for the delivery of the programme over a period of three years.
- vi) Approves the Council to act as Lead Accountable Body for the administration of the grant funding which totals £3.6M across the Solent LEP area.
- vii) Delegates authority to the Assistant Chief Executive to undertake such actions necessary to enable the successful delivery of the programme.
- viii) Notes the position on the forecast roll forward budget for 2014/15 as set out in paragraphs 44 to 72 of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda as amended by the changes in Annex 2 to this Resolution.
- ix) Notes the explanation of the changes to the revised estimate for 2013/14 and the forecast roll forward budget for 2014/15 as set out in Annex 3 to this Resolution.
- x) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer to grant Business Rates Retail Relief to qualifying ratepayers using the Council's discretionary relief powers, under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 for the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16 only, as set out in Annex 3 to this Resolution.
- xi) Approves the revenue pressures as set out in Appendix 4 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda.
- xii) Approves the revenue bids set out in Appendix 5 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda.
- xiii) Approves the efficiencies, income and service reductions as set out in Appendix 6 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda.

- xiv) Approves the General Fund Revenue Budget as set out in Annex 4 to this Resolution which assumes a council tax increase of 1.99%.
- xv) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer to action all budget changes arising from the approved pressures, bids, efficiencies, income and service reductions and incorporate any other approved amendments into the General Fund estimates.
- xvi) Approves the allocation of up to £500,000 from the Organisational Development Fund which is part of the Strategic Reserve to fund the resourcing requirements to complete the Pay & Allowances Review.
- xvii) Notes that after taking these items into account, there is an estimated General Fund balance of £6.5M at the end of 2017/18 as set out in Annex 6 to this Resolution.
- xviii) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Director of Corporate Services, to do anything necessary to give effect to the recommendations in this Resolution.
- xix) Sets the Council Tax Requirement for 2014/15 at £73,467,000.
- xx) Notes the estimates of precepts on the Council Tax collection fund for 2014/15 as set out in Annex 7 to this Resolution.
- xxi) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer to implement any variation to the overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority precept and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire precept.
- xxii) Notes the Medium Term Forecast as set out in Annex 8 to this Resolution.
- xxiii) Authorises the Chief Executive and Chief Officers to pursue the development of the options for efficiencies, income and service reductions as set out in Appendix 6 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda for the financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17 and continue to develop options to close the remaining projected gaps in those years.
- xxiv) Approves the following amounts now calculated by the Council for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the Act).
- xxv) Determines in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Act that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2014/15 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Act.

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act. | £649,589,050.00 |
| b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. | £576,122,050.00 |
| c) Calculation in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, of the Council's council tax requirement for the year, being the amount by which the aggregate at a) above exceeds the aggregate at b) above. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act). | £73,467,000.00 |
| d) The amount at c) above (Item R), divided by the Council Tax base of 57,044.0 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. | £1,287.90 |

e) Precepting authority - Southampton City Council	Valuation Bands	Amount
	A	£858.60
	B	£1,001.70
	C	£1,144.80
	D	£1,287.90
	E	£1,574.10
	F	£1,860.30
	G	£2,146.50
	H	£2,575.80

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the 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 Act, as the amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- f) That it be noted for the year 2014/15 that the Police And Crime Commissioner for Hampshire are provisionally recommending 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 dwellings shown in the following table:

	Valuation Bands	Amount
	A	£102.84
	B	£119.98
	C	£137.12
	D	£154.26
	E	£188.54
	F	£222.82
	G	£257.10
	H	£308.52

- g) That it be noted for the year 2014/15 that the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority are provisionally recommending 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 dwellings shown in the following table:

Valuation Bands	Amount
A	£40.92
B	£47.74
C	£54.56
D	£61.38
E	£75.02
F	£88.66
G	£102.30
H	£122.76

- h) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at e), f) and g) above, the Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts of the Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below subject to final notification of the precepts for the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority:

Valuation Bands	Amount
A	£1,002.36
B	£1,169.42
C	£1,336.48
D	£1,503.54
E	£1,837.66
F	£2,171.78
G	£2,505.90
H	£3,007.08

GENERAL FUND 2013/14 - REVISED BUDGET

	Working Budget £000's	Revised Budget £000's	Variance £000's
Portfolio Total	214,798.0	214,798.0	0.0
Levies & Contributions			
Southern Seas Fisheries Levy	31.4	31.4	0.0
Flood Defence Levy	31.8	31.8	0.0
Coroners Service	560.0	600.0	40.0 A
	623.2	663.2	40.0 A
Capital Asset Management			
Capital Financing Charges	13,356.6	13,568.6	212.0 A
Capital Asset Management Account	(24,585.1)	(25,997.1)	1,412.0 F
	(11,228.5)	(12,428.5)	1,200.0 F
Other Expenditure & Income			
Direct Revenue Financing of Capital	401.0	401.0	0.0
Net Housing Benefit Payments	(881.9)	(881.9)	0.0
Non-Specific Government Grants	(134,449.6)	(138,282.2)	3,832.6 F
Contribution to Pay Reserve	1,400.0	1,400.0	0.0
Contribution to Transformation Fund	1,000.0	1,000.0	0.0
Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(1,041.6)	(1,041.6)	0.0
Open Spaces and HRA	435.7	435.7	0.0
Risk Fund	752.4	450.8	301.6 F
Contingencies	410.7	410.7	0.0
(Surplus) / Deficit on Trading Areas	35.8	35.8	0.0
	(131,937.5)	(136,071.7)	4,134.2 F
NET GF SPENDING	72,255.2	66,961.0	5,294.2 F
Draw from Balances:			
To fund the Capital Programme	(401.0)	(401.0)	0.0
Draw from Balances (General)	(980.1)	4,314.1	5,294.2 F
Draw from Strategic Reserve	(825.0)	(825.0)	0.0
	(2,206.1)	3,088.1	5,294.2 F
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT	70,049.1	70,049.1	0.0

LABOUR GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS
AMENDMENTS TO FORECAST ROLL FORWARD BUDGET 2014/15

REF.		BETTER £000's	WORSE £000's
	<u>SECTION A - Business Rates</u>		
NEW a	Increased Deficit to be Recovered in 2014/15		4,022.4
	<u>Section B - Other</u>		
NEW b	Net Impact of Final Local Government Finance Settlement	(5.4)	
	<u>Section C - Balances</u>		
NEW c	Increased Draw From Balances in 2014/15	(4,017.0)	
		<u>(4,022.4)</u>	<u>4,022.4</u>
	Net Gap / (Surplus)		<u><u>0.0</u></u>

EXPLANATION OF CHANGES

When the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report was published, it was acknowledged that a number of factors would potentially change which would affect the budget proposed. It was advised that any changes required would be highlighted and taken into account if necessary in a revised budget proposal for the Council meeting on 12 February.

The areas that remained to be clarified were:

- The final Local Government Settlement.
- Referendum limits and principals and the impact on council tax setting.
- Regulations and guidance in relation to the Business Rates Retention Scheme.

The final position for each of these three elements is set out below.

FINAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT

The final settlement was published on 5 February 2014 and confirmed that there are no changes to the proposals that were previously announced at the provisional settlement (i.e. the methodology used to determine Settlement Funding Assessment figures and related specific grants remain unchanged).

However, there has been an increase to Revenue Support Grant (RSG) nationally of £3.1M for 2014/15, as the Efficiency Support Grant and the Efficiency Support Grant for Services in Sparse Areas (now to be known as the Rural Services Delivery Grant) allocations remained unchanged from the provisional settlement and so amounts held back are not required. This has resulted in an increase in funding to the Council of £10,600. No changes were made to the illustrative figures for 2015/16.

COUNCIL TAX

At the time of writing the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report, the Government had yet to announce the Council Tax Referendum threshold for the 2014/15 budget year. The referendum level was set at 2%, but government had indicated that they were minded to consider representations for a lowering of the threshold. There was therefore a distinct possibility that the referendum threshold would be lowered, and if this were the case Council would have had to decide whether to proceed with the proposed council tax increase of just under 2%, which would trigger a referendum, or to consider a lower council tax increase taking account of any revised referendum limit.

The Minister's written statement for the Final Local Government Finance Settlement confirmed that the referendum limit is set at 2% but that this will apply to the level of Band D council tax including levies, which was not previously the case. The impact of this change on the level of council tax is to set a basic amount of council tax for the year of £1,287.90, which is a 1.99% increase. This reduces the overall level of council tax to be raised by £5,200 in 2014/15.

BUSINESS RATES RETENTION (BRR) SCHEME

This is the first year of the new Business Rates Retention Scheme and the estimated position for the year is a deficit of £17.6M of which the Council's share is 49% or £8.6M. However, in January 2013 the Government announced its intention to make regulations allowing the liability for prior year appeals (which are a major factor in the deficit position) to be spread over five years from 2013/14 to 2017/18. At the point of writing the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report these regulations were still awaited.

Regulations have been laid that confirm local authorities' ability to spread this liability. However, further regulations have yet to be finalised and discussions with the DCLG have confirmed that they intend to amend the regulations for 2013/14, which will affect the BRR Scheme and change the financial consequences in that year of decisions to spread the liability for prior year appeals.

The changes in essence will mean that if the Council does not spread the liability for prior year appeals and bears the full deficit in 2014/15 that it will be eligible for a Safety Net payment in 2013/14 that is forecast to be almost £1.5M. In addition, a Section 31 grant will be payable in 2013/14 to compensate the Council for lost income due to changes made to small business rate relief which is anticipated to be £0.8M. These changes are reflected in Annex 1, which sets the revised budget for 2013/14 to be approved by Council.

The impact of the decision not to spread the liability for prior year appeals and how this will be managed through balances is shown below:

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Safety Net Payment	(1,494.2)				
Section 31 Grant	(800.0)				
Collection Fund Deficit Profile		4,022.4	(1,340.8)	(1,340.8)	(1,340.8)
Addition to / (Draw From) Balances	2,294.2	(4,022.4)	1,340.8	1,340.8	1,340.8
Net Impact of Changes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

This change in treatment has enabled the Council to add an additional £2.3M to balances which will be drawn in 2015/16 and 2017/18 and will reduce the forecast gap in those years by £1.8M and £0.5M respectively.

FORECAST ROLL FORWARD BUDGET 2014/15

The roll forward gap remains at £14.4M, as set out in the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda but there are changes to how this figure has been arrived at due to the items explained above.

The overall impact on the forecast revenue position is shown in the Table below:

	2014/15
	£000's
Forecast Deficit in Budget Report	14,401.0
Settlement Change in Grant Funding	(10.6)
Council Tax Referendum Limits	5.2
BRR Scheme – Deficit Profile	4,022.4
– Draw From Balances	(4,022.4)
Addition to Balances	5.4
Revised Forecast Deficit	14,401.0

PROPOSED BUDGET PACKAGE 2014/15

Summarised below is the proposed budget package put forward by the Executive for consideration. The detailed analysis is reflected in the General Fund Revenue Account set out in Annex 4 to this Resolution. The proposals are based on a Council Tax increase of 1.99% and include a draw from balances of £8.4M.

	£000,s
Total GF Spending (After Draw From Balances & Pressures)	87,868.0
Bids (Appendix 5)	50.0
Efficiencies, Income and Service Reductions (Appendix 6)	(14,451.0)
Council Tax Requirement	73,467.0

GRANTING OF BUSINESS RATES RETAIL RELIEF (2014/15 & 2015/16)

As part of the 2013 Autumn Statement the Government announced a range of measures in relation to Business Rates. One of these was to grant a discount of up to £1,000 against business rates bill for retail premises such as pubs, cafes, restaurants and charity shops with a rateable value of up to £50,000 in 2014/15 and 2015/16. A definition of the properties that will benefit from this relief is set out in the Business Rates Retail Relief Guidance issued by the DCLG.

As this is a measure for 2014/15 and 2015/16 only, the Government is not changing the legislation around the reliefs available to properties. Instead the Government has set out in the guidance that it expects local authorities to use their discretionary relief powers, introduced by the Localism Act (under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended) to grant relief. As a consequence, it will be for individual local billing authorities to adopt a local scheme and decide in each individual case when to grant relief under section 47. Central government will fully reimburse local authorities for the local share of the discretionary relief (using a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003). The Government expects local government to grant relief to qualifying ratepayers and Council are therefore asked to delegate authority to the Chief Financial Officer to grant Business Rates Retail Relief to qualifying ratepayers for the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16, as per recommendation (x) of this Resolution.

2014/15 GENERAL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT

Portfolios	2014/15 Forecast £000's	Revenue Pressures £000's	Revenue Bids £000's	Savings & Income £000's	2014/15 Budget £000's
Children's Services	55,692.5	3,300.0		(140.0)	58,852.5
Communities	3,780.8			(166.0)	3,614.8
Economic Development & Leisure	13,752.8		50.0	(170.0)	13,632.8
Environment & Transport	38,835.4	128.0		(1,942.7)	37,020.7
Health & Adult Social Care	71,720.2	91.0		(7,766.0)	64,045.2
Housing & Sustainability	2,341.6			(87.3)	2,254.3
Leader's Portfolio	3,265.4	105.0		(268.0)	3,102.4
Resources	22,822.6			(3,911.0)	18,911.6
Sub-total for Portfolios	212,211.3	3,624.0	50.0	(14,451.0)	201,434.3
Levies & Contributions					
Southern Seas Fisheries Levy	31.4				31.4
Flood Defence Levy	39.8				39.8
Coroners Service	560.0				560.0
	631.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	631.2
Capital Asset Management					
Capital Financing Charges	12,588.4				12,588.4
Capital Asset Management Account	(24,525.7)				(24,525.7)
	(11,937.3)	0.0	0.0	0.0	(11,937.3)
Other Expenditure & Income					
Direct Revenue Financing of Capital	100.0				100.0
Trading Areas (Surplus) / Deficit	0.0				0.0
Net Housing Benefit Payments	(758.2)				(758.2)
Non-Specific Government Grants & Other Funding	(70,371.9)				(70,371.9)
Business Rates (*)	(40,455.9)				(40,455.9)
Council Tax Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(1,781.9)				(1,781.9)
Open Spaces and HRA	435.7				435.7
Risk Fund	4,400.0				4,400.0
Contingencies	250.0				250.0
	(108,182.2)	0.0	0.0	0.0	(108,182.2)
NET GF SPENDING	92,723.0	3,624.0	50.0	(14,451.0)	81,946.0
Draw from Balances:					
Addition to / (Draw From) Balances	(8,379.0)				(8,379.0)
To fund the Capital Programme	(100.0)				(100.0)
	(8,479.0)	0.0	0.0	0.0	(8,479.0)
Revenue Pressures	3,624.0	(3,624.0)			0.0
Net Gap in Budget After Pressures	14,401.0	0.0	50.0	(14,451.0)	0.0
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT	73,467.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	73,467.0

(* Includes Section 31 Grant in respect of reduced Business Rates income due to changes announced in the Autumn Statement, Collection Fund deficit / surplus in respect of Business Rates and also the Top Up paid to the Council as part of the Business Rates Retention Scheme)

COUNCIL TAX CALCULATION 2014/15

	2013/14 £000's	2014/15 £000's	Change £000's	Change %
Budget Requirement (a)	194,861.7	173,136.1	(21,725.6)	-11.15%
Less NDR	(49,534.0)	(45,562.1)	3,971.9	-8.02%
Less Top Up Payment	(1,548.8)	(1,579.0)	(30.2)	1.95%
Less RSG	(72,688.2)	(59,393.1)	13,295.0	-18.29%
Aggregate External Finance	(123,771.0)	(106,534.2)	17,236.8	-13.93%
Deficit / (Surplus) on Council Tax Collection Fund	(1,041.6)	(1,781.9)	(740.3)	71.07%
Deficit / (Surplus) on Business Rates Collection Fund		8,646.9	8,646.9	
Net Grant Income (b)	(124,812.6)	(99,669.2)	25,143.4	-20.14%
Amount to be met from Council Tax (a - b)	70,049.1	73,467.0	3,417.9	4.88%
Tax base	55,471.7	57,044.0	1,572.3	2.83%
Basic amount of Council Tax (Band D)	1,262.79	1,287.90	25.11	1.99%
Last years Council Tax		1,262.79		
Increase (Cash)		25.11		
Increase (Cash per Week)		0.48		
Increase (%)		1.99%		

BALANCES

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Opening Balance	29,923.5	28,967.6	15,247.7	8,733.4	6,500.0
Draw to Support Capital	(401.0)	(100.0)	0.0	0.0	0.0
(Draw to Support) / Contribution from Revenue	6,714.1	(8,379.0)	(2,084.2)	2,506.8	4,000.0
Contributions (to) / from Other Reserves	(1,400.0)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Draw for Strategic Schemes	(5,869.0)	(5,240.9)	(4,430.1)	(4,740.2)	(4,000.0)
Closing Balance	28,967.6	15,247.7	8,733.4	6,500.0	6,500.0

COLLECTION FUND ESTIMATES 2014/15

	2013/14 £000's	2014/15 £000's	Change £000's	Change %
Southampton City Council Precept	70,049.1	73,467.0	3,417.9	4.88%
Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire Precept	8,390.1	8,799.6	409.5	4.88%
Fire and Rescue Authority Precept	3,404.9	3,501.4	96.5	2.83%
Income due from Council Tax Payers	<u>81,844.0</u>	<u>85,767.9</u>	<u>3,923.9</u>	<u>4.79%</u>
Tax Base for Area	55,471.7	57,044.0	1,572.3	2.83%
Basic Amount of Tax for Band D Property	<u>1,475.42</u>	<u>1,503.54</u>	<u>28.12</u>	<u>1.91%</u>

(The tax base and resulting precepts are now calculated on a slightly different basis than in previous years, reflecting the required adjustments as a result of the localisation of Council Tax Benefit and the changes to associated funding. Changes to the scheme approved by Council in January 2013 for implementation from April 2014 have the impact of increasing the overall taxbase going forward).

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL FORECAST

Portfolios	2014/15 Forecast £000's	Base Changes £000's	2015/16 Forecast £000's	Base Changes £000's	2016/17 Forecast £000's
Children's Services	58,852.5		58,852.5		58,852.5
Communities	3,614.8		3,614.8		3,614.8
Economic Development & Leisure	13,632.8		13,632.8		13,632.8
Environment & Transport	37,020.7		37,020.7		37,020.7
Health & Adult Social Care	64,045.2		64,045.2		64,045.2
Housing & Sustainability	2,254.3		2,254.3		2,254.3
Leader's Portfolio	3,102.4		3,102.4		3,102.4
Resources	18,911.6		18,911.6		18,911.6
Add Pressures - Future Years (Unknown)		1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	2,000.0
Base Changes & Inflation		3,639.9	3,639.9	7,904.0	11,543.9
Sub-total for Portfolios	201,434.3	4,639.9	206,074.2	8,904.0	214,978.2
Levies & Contributions					
Southern Seas Fisheries Levy	31.4		31.4		31.4
Flood Defence Levy	39.8		39.8		39.8
Coroners Service	560.0		560.0		560.0
	631.2	0.0	631.2	0.0	631.2
Capital Asset Management					
Capital Financing Charges	12,588.4	1,000.0	13,588.4	960.0	14,548.4
Capital Asset Management Account	(24,525.7)	(500.0)	(25,025.7)	(460.0)	(25,485.7)
	(11,937.3)	500.0	(11,437.3)	500.0	(10,937.3)
Other Expenditure & Income					
Direct Revenue Financing of Capital	100.0	(100.0)	0.0		0.0
Trading Areas (Surplus) / Deficit	0.0		0.0		0.0
Net Housing Benefit Payments	(758.2)		(758.2)		(758.2)
Non-Specific Government Grants & Other Funding	(70,371.9)	26,423.0	(43,948.9)	12,718.2	(31,230.7)
Business Rates	(40,455.9)	(6,891.3)	(47,347.2)	(937.2)	(48,284.4)
Council Tax Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(1,781.9)	1,781.9	0.0		0.0
Open Spaces and HRA	435.7		435.7		435.7
Risk Fund	4,400.0	100.0	4,500.0	100.0	4,600.0
Contingencies	250.0		250.0		250.0
	(108,182.2)	21,313.6	(86,868.6)	11,881.0	(74,987.6)
NET GF SPENDING	81,946.0	26,453.5	108,399.5	21,285.0	129,684.5
Draw from Balances:					
Addition to / (Draw From) Balances	(8,379.0)	6,294.8	(2,084.2)	4,591.0	2,506.8
To fund the Capital Programme	(100.0)	100.0	0.0		0.0
NET GAP IN BUDGET	(8,479.0)	6,394.8	(2,084.2)	4,591.0	2,506.8
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT	73,467.0	32,848.3	106,315.3	25,876.0	132,191.3
Council Tax	73,467.0	1,463.1	74,930.1	1,494.0	76,424.1
Roll Forward Gap	0.0	31,385.2	31,385.2	24,382.0	55,767.2
Less Savings - Future Years (Known)		(427.0)	(427.0)	(600.0)	(1,027.0)
REVISED GAP	0.0	30,958.2	30,958.2	23,782.0	54,740.2

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP BUDGET RESOLUTION 2014/15

It is recommended that Council :

- i) Notes the Consultation process that was followed as outlined in Appendix 1 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda and notes that this year's process took into consideration feedback from last year on how to improve the process.
- ii) Notes that the consultation feedback has been taken into consideration by the Cabinet and has informed their final budget proposals.
- iii) Notes the Equality and Safety Impact Assessment process that was followed as set out in paragraphs 25 to 27 of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda, and the details contained in Appendix 2 to the report which reflect the feedback received through the consultation process.
- iv) Approves the revised estimate for 2013/14 as set out in Annex 1 to this Amendment.
- v) Notes that this revised estimate reflects a reduced contribution from the Environment & Transport Portfolio to provide Direct Revenue Funding to finance the Capital Programme of £2,585,000 and that this funding will be replaced by Council Resources.
- vi) Accepts grants which total £3.6M (£3.35M from the Cabinet Office and £250,000 from the Department for Work & Pensions) to support unemployed adults and young people into employment as part of the City Deal and approves in accordance with financial procedure rules revenue expenditure for the delivery of the programme over a period of three years.
- vii) Approves the Council to act as Lead Accountable Body for the administration of the grant funding which totals £3.6M across the Solent LEP area.
- viii) Delegates authority to the Assistant Chief Executive to undertake such actions necessary to enable the successful delivery of the programme.
- ix) Notes the position on the forecast roll forward budget for 2014/15 as set out in paragraphs 44 to 72 of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda as amended by the changes in Annex 2 to this Resolution.
- x) Notes the explanation of the changes to the revised estimate for 2013/14 and the forecast roll forward budget for 2014/15 as set out in Annex 3 to this Resolution as a result of the final Local Government Finance Settlement and amendments to the Business Rates Retention Scheme.
- xi) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer to grant Business Rates Retail Relief to qualifying ratepayers using the Council's discretionary relief powers, under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 for the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16 only, as set out in Annex 3 to this Resolution.
- xii) Approves the revenue pressures as set out in Appendix 4 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda.

- xiii) Approves the revenue bids set out in Appendix 5 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda as amended by the changes in Section A of Annex 2 and set out in more detail in Annex 4 to this Resolution.
- xiv) Approves the efficiencies, income and service reductions as set out in Appendix 6 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda as amended by the changes in Section B & C of Annex 2 and set out in more detail in Annex 5 to this Resolution.
- xv) Approves the General Fund Revenue Budget as set out in Annex 6 to this Resolution which assumes a council tax increase of 1.99%.
- xvi) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer to action all budget changes arising from the approved pressures, bids, efficiencies, income and service reductions and incorporate any other approved amendments into the General Fund estimates.
- xvii) Approves the allocation of up to £500,000 from the Organisational Development Fund which is part of the Strategic Reserve to fund the resourcing requirements to complete the Pay & Allowances Review.
- xviii) Notes that after taking these items into account, there is an estimated General Fund balance of £6.9M at the end of 2017/18 as set out in Annex 8 to this Resolution.
- xix) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Director of Corporate Services, to do anything necessary to give effect to the recommendations in this Resolution.
- xx) Sets the Council Tax Requirement for 2014/15 at £73,467,000.
- xxi) Notes the estimates of precepts on the Council Tax collection fund for 2014/15 as set out in Annex 9 to this Resolution.
- xxii) Delegates authority to the Chief Financial Officer to implement any variation to the overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority precept and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire precept.
- xxiii) Notes the Medium Term Forecast as set out in Annex 10 to this Resolution.
- xxiv) Authorises the Chief Executive and Chief Officers to pursue the development of the options for efficiencies, income and service reductions as set out in Appendix 6 to the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda for the financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17 as amended by the changes in Section B & C of Annex 2 to this Amendment and continue to develop options to close the remaining projected gaps in those years.
- xxv) Approves the following amounts now calculated by the Council for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the Act).
- xxvi) Determines in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Act that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2014/15 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Act.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act. | £648,966,250.00 |
| b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. | £575,499,250.00 |
| c) Calculation in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, of the Council's council tax requirement for the year, being the amount by which the aggregate at a) above exceeds the aggregate at b) above. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act). | £73,467,000.00 |
| d) The amount at c) above (Item R), divided by the Council Tax base of 57,044.0 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. | £1,287.90 |

e) Precepting authority - Southampton City Council	Valuation Bands	Amount
	A	£858.60
	B	£1,001.70
	C	£1,144.80
	D	£1,287.90
	E	£1,574.10
	F	£1,860.30
	G	£2,146.50
	H	£2,575.80

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the 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 Act, as the amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- f) That it be noted for the year 2014/15 that the Police And Crime Commissioner for Hampshire are provisionally recommending 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 dwellings shown in the following table:

	Valuation Bands	Amount
	A	£102.84
	B	£119.98
	C	£137.12
	D	£154.26
	E	£188.54
	F	£222.82
	G	£257.10
	H	£308.52

- g) That it be noted for the year 2014/15 that the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority are provisionally recommending 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 dwellings shown in the following table:

Valuation Bands	Amount
A	£40.92
B	£47.74
C	£54.56
D	£61.38
E	£75.02
F	£88.66
G	£102.30
H	£122.76

- h) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at e), f) and g) above, the Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts of the Council Tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below subject to final notification of the precepts for the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority:

Valuation Bands	Amount
A	£1,002.36
B	£1,169.42
C	£1,336.48
D	£1,503.54
E	£1,837.66
F	£2,171.78
G	£2,505.90
H	£3,007.08

GENERAL FUND 2013/14 - REVISED BUDGET

	Working Budget £000's	Revised Budget £000's	Variance £000's
Portfolio Total	214,798.0	212,213.0	2,585.0 F
Levies & Contributions			
Southern Seas Fisheries Levy	31.4	31.4	0.0
Flood Defence Levy	31.8	31.8	0.0
Coroners Service	560.0	600.0	40.0 A
	623.2	663.2	40.0 A
Capital Asset Management			
Capital Financing Charges	13,356.6	13,568.6	212.0 A
Capital Asset Management Account	(24,585.1)	(25,997.1)	1,412.0 F
	(11,228.5)	(12,428.5)	1,200.0 F
Other Expenditure & Income			
Direct Revenue Financing of Capital	401.0	401.0	0.0
Net Housing Benefit Payments	(881.9)	(881.9)	0.0
Non-Specific Government Grants	(134,449.6)	(138,282.2)	3,832.6 F
Contribution to Pay Reserve	1,400.0	1,400.0	0.0
Contribution to Transformation Fund	1,000.0	1,000.0	0.0
Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(1,041.6)	(1,041.6)	0.0
Open Spaces and HRA	435.7	435.7	0.0
Risk Fund	752.4	450.8	301.6 F
Contingencies	410.7	410.7	0.0
(Surplus) / Deficit on Trading Areas	35.8	35.8	0.0
	(131,937.5)	(136,071.7)	4,134.2 F
NET GF SPENDING	72,255.2	64,376.0	7,879.2 F
Draw from Balances:			
To fund the Capital Programme	(401.0)	(401.0)	0.0
Draw from Balances (General)	(980.1)	6,899.1	7,879.2 F
Draw from Strategic Reserve	(825.0)	(825.0)	0.0
	(2,206.1)	5,673.1	7,879.2 F
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT	70,049.1	70,049.1	0.0

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS
AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET PAPERS

REF.	<u>2014/15</u>	
	BETTER £000's	WORSE £000's
<u>Section A - Revenue Bids / Initiatives</u>		
NEW a		100.0
NEW b		50.0
NEW c		50.0
NEW d		25.0
NEW e		25.0
NEW f		130.0
NEW g		100.0
NEW h		100.0
NEW i		40.0
NEW j		75.0
NEW k		75.0
NEW l		75.0
NEW m		75.0
NEW n		75.0
<u>Section B - Additional Savings</u>		
NEW a	(15.0)	
NEW b	(70.0)	
NEW c	(30.0)	
NEW d	(4,183.0)	
NEW e	(222.8)	
NEW f	(282.9)	

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS
AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET PAPERS

2014/15

REF.		BETTER £000's	WORSE £000's
<u>Section C - Rejected / Mitigated Savings Proposals</u>			
COMM 2	Reduce Community Centre budgets		12.0
COMM 3	Review of all community safety, youth offending and emergency planning activities across the council		102.0
EDL 5	Reduction in Archives opening hours		9.0
EDL 6	Reduction in Museum and Gallery Education Team		29.0
E&T 2	Pest Control - Reduce number of vans and staff		25.0
E&T 4	Reduction in staff delivering the Environmental Health Service		43.0
E&T 6	Use efficiencies to rationalise parks and street cleansing waste disposal and recycling costs. Reduce transport costs.		70.0
E&T 9	Reduction in overtime costs		10.0
E&T 10	Review external cleaning contracts		5.0
E&T 24	Reduction in staff delivering the Trading Standards Service		60.0
E&T 27	Disband the City Patrol Service		150.0
E&T 31	Review and redesign the way the Out of Hours Noise Service is delivered to reduce costs whilst still maintaining a responsive service on the busiest nights of the week including the weekend.		17.0
E&T 33	Restructure of Parking & Transport Teams		15.0
E&T 34	Restructure of the City Design group		24.0
E&T 35	Remove Conservation Officer		23.0
E&T 36	Restructure of Planning Policy and Sustainability teams		34.0
HS 3	Reduction of working hours for posts within housing development		22.0

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP BUDGET PROPOSALS
AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET PAPERS

REF.	<u>2014/15</u>	
	BETTER £000's	WORSE £000's
<u>SECTION D - Business Rates</u>		
		4,022.4
<u>Section E - Other</u>		
	(5.4)	
<u>Section F - Balances</u>		
		(858.3)
	<u>(4,809.1)</u>	<u>4,809.1</u>
Net Gap / (Surplus)		<u><u>0.0</u></u>

EXPLANATION OF CHANGES

When the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report was published, it was acknowledged that a number of factors would potentially change which would affect the budget proposed. It was advised that any changes required would be highlighted and taken into account if necessary in a revised budget proposal for the Council meeting on 12 February.

The areas that remained to be clarified were:

- The final Local Government Settlement.
- Referendum limits and principals and the impact on council tax setting.
- Regulations and guidance in relation to the Business Rates Retention Scheme.

The final position for each of these three elements is set out below.

FINAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT

The final settlement was published on 5 February 2014 and confirmed that there are no changes to the proposals that were previously announced at the provisional settlement (i.e. the methodology used to determine Settlement Funding Assessment figures and related specific grants remain unchanged).

However, there has been an increase to Revenue Support Grant (RSG) nationally of £3.1M for 2014/15, as the Efficiency Support Grant and the Efficiency Support Grant for Services in Sparse Areas (now to be known as the Rural Services Delivery Grant) allocations remained unchanged from the provisional settlement and so amounts held back are not required. This has resulted in an increase in funding to the Council of £10,600. No changes were made to the illustrative figures for 2015/16.

COUNCIL TAX

At the time of writing the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report, the Government had yet to announce the Council Tax Referendum threshold for the 2014/15 budget year. The referendum level was set at 2%, but government had indicated that they were minded to consider representations for a lowering of the threshold. There was therefore a distinct possibility that the referendum threshold would be lowered, and if this were the case Council would have had to decide whether to proceed with the proposed council tax increase of just under 2%, which would trigger a referendum, or to consider a lower council tax increase taking account of any revised referendum limit.

The Minister's written statement for the Final Local Government Finance Settlement confirmed that the referendum limit is set at 2% but that this will apply to the level of Band D council tax including levies, which was not previously the case. The impact of this change on the level of council tax is to set a basic amount of council tax for the year of £1,287.90, which is a 1.99% increase. This reduces the overall level of council tax to be raised by £5,200 in 2014/15.

BUSINESS RATES RETENTION (BRR) SCHEME

This is the first year of the new Business Rates Retention Scheme and the estimated position for the year is a deficit of £17.6M of which the Council's share is 49% or £8.6M. However, in January 2013 the Government announced its intention to make regulations allowing the liability for prior year appeals (which are a major factor in the deficit position) to be spread over five years from 2013/14 to 2017/18. At the point of writing the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report these regulations were still awaited.

Regulations have been laid that confirm local authorities' ability to spread this liability. However, further regulations have yet to be finalised and discussions with the DCLG have confirmed that they intend to amend the regulations for 2013/14, which will affect the BRR Scheme and change the financial consequences in that year of decisions to spread the liability for prior year appeals.

The changes in essence will mean that if the Council does not spread the liability for prior year appeals and bears the full deficit in 2014/15 that it will be eligible for a Safety Net payment in 2013/14 that is forecast to be almost £1.5M. In addition, a Section 31 grant will be payable in 2013/14 to compensate the Council for lost income due to changes made to small business rate relief which is anticipated to be £0.8M. These changes are reflected in Annex 1, which sets the revised budget for 2013/14 to be approved by Council.

The impact of the decision not to spread the liability for prior year appeals and how this will be managed through balances is shown below:

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Safety Net Payment	(1,494.2)				
Section 31 Grant	(800.0)				
Collection Fund Deficit Profile		4,022.4	(1,340.8)	(1,340.8)	(1,340.8)
Addition to / (Draw From) Balances	2,294.2	(4,022.4)	1,340.8	1,340.8	1,340.8
Net Impact of Changes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

This change in treatment has enabled the Council to add an additional £2.3M to balances which will be drawn in 2015/16 and 2017/18 and will reduce the forecast gap in those years by £1.8M and £0.5M respectively.

FORECAST ROLL FORWARD BUDGET 2014/15

The roll forward gap remains at £14.4M, as set out in the General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 to 2016/17 report on the Council agenda but there are changes to how this figure has been arrived at due to the items explained above.

The overall impact on the forecast revenue position is shown in the Table below:

	2014/15
	£000's
Forecast Deficit in Budget Report	14,401.0
Settlement Change in Grant Funding	(10.6)
Council Tax Referendum Limits	5.2
BRR Scheme – Deficit Profile	4,022.4
– Draw From Balances	(4,022.4)
Addition to Balances	5.4
Revised Forecast Deficit	14,401.0

PROPOSED BUDGET PACKAGE 2014/15

Summarised below is the proposed budget package put forward for consideration. The detailed analysis is reflected in the General Fund Revenue Account set out in Annex 6 to this Resolution. The proposals are based on a Council Tax increase of 1.99% and include a draw from balances of £7.8M.

	£000,s
Total GF Spending (After Draw From Balances & Pressures)	88,535.8
Bids (Annex 4)	1,045.0
Efficiencies, Income and Service Reductions (Annex 5)	(13,916.0)
Reduced Direct Revenue Funding (Net of Interest & MRP Costs)	(2,197.8)
Council Tax Requirement	73,467.0

GRANTING OF BUSINESS RATES RETAIL RELIEF (2014/15 & 2015/16)

As part of the 2013 Autumn Statement the Government announced a range of measures in relation to Business Rates. One of these was to grant a discount of up to £1,000 against business rates bill for retail premises such as pubs, cafes, restaurants and charity shops with a rateable value of up to £50,000 in 2014/15 and 2015/16. A definition of the properties that will benefit from this relief is set out in the Business Rates Retail Relief Guidance issued by the DCLG.

As this is a measure for 2014/15 and 2015/16 only, the Government is not changing the legislation around the reliefs available to properties. Instead the Government has set out in the guidance that it expects local authorities to use their discretionary relief powers, introduced by the Localism Act (under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended) to grant relief. As a consequence, it will be for individual local billing authorities to adopt a local scheme and decide in each individual case when to grant relief under section 47. Central government will fully reimburse local authorities for the local share of the discretionary relief (using a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003). The Government expects local government to grant relief to qualifying ratepayers and Council are therefore asked to delegate authority to the Chief

Financial Officer to grant Business Rates Retail Relief to qualifying ratepayers for the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16, as per recommendation (xi) of this Resolution.

SUMMARY OF REVENUE BIDS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	Impact / Issues	Recurring or One Off (R or O)	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Head of Service
					£000's	£000's	£000's	
<u>Children's Services Portfolio</u>								
NEW a	Prevention	Investment in the Youth Service		R	100	150	150	Graham Talbot
		Children's Services Portfolio Total			100	150	150	
<u>Communities</u>								
NEW b	Community Development	Support to Food Banks		R	50	50	50	Suki Sitaram
NEW c	Community Development	Support to Credit Unions		R	50	50	50	Suki Sitaram
		Communities Portfolio Total			100	100	100	
<u>Economic Development & Leisure Portfolio</u>								
EDL 1	Leisure Events	Queens Baton Relay	Funding to deliver an event as part of the Queens Baton Relay, a national programme	O	50			Mike Harris
NEW d	Libraries, Arts & Heritage	Leisure Volunteers Coordinator	To support re-establishment of library, gallery and museum opening hours. To rise to £35,000 in 2015/16 and 2016/17	R	25	35	35	Mike Harris
		Economic Development & Leisure Portfolio Total			75	35	35	

SUMMARY OF REVENUE BIDS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	Impact / Issues	Recurring or One Off (R or O)	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Head of Service
					£000's	£000's	£000's	
<u>Environment & Transport Portfolio</u>								
NEW e	Planning	Planning Enforcement	To rise to £35,000 in 2015/16 and 2016/17	R	25	35	35	Paul Nichols
NEW f	Parking & Transport	Residents Parking Permits	Abolish charge for First Parking permit.	R	130	130	130	Frank Baxter
NEW g	Parking & Transport	Evening Parking Charges	£1 for any period between 6pm and 8am	R	100	100	100	Frank Baxter
NEW h	Parking & Transport	Investment in support to bus services	Focusing on service gaps e.g. Mansbridge	R	100	100	100	Frank Baxter
NEW i	Integrated grounds maintenance & management	Investment in play areas	Focusing on areas unable to benefit from Section 106 agreements e.g. St Denys Community Centre, Portswood Recreation Ground	R	40	40	40	Jon Dyer-Slade
NEW j	Waste Collection	Investment in Waste Collection	Investment to enhance service in respect of fly tipping and response to clearance at key points in the year.	R	75	100	100	Jon Dyer-Slade
Environment & Transport Portfolio Total					470	505	505	
<u>Health & Adult Social Care Portfolio</u>								
NEW k	Adult Social Care	Investment in Tele Care		R	75	100	100	Jane Brentor - Lead / Carol Valentine - BH
NEW l	Adult Social Care	Investment in Adult Services Community Assets		R	75	100	100	Jane Brentor - Lead / Carol Valentine - BH
NEW m	Adult Disability Care Services	Investment in reablement		R	75	100	100	Jane Brentor - Lead / Carol Valentine - BH
Health & Adult Social Care Portfolio Total					225	300	300	

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE**2014/15**

Portfolio	Efficiencies	Income	Service Reductions	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Children's Services	(120)	(20)	0	(140)
Communities	(52)	0	0	(52)
Economic Development & Leisure	(62)	0	(70)	(132)
Environment & Transport	(991)	(248)	(278)	(1,517)
Health & Adult Social Care	(6,811)	0	0	(6,811)
Housing & Sustainability	(20)	(10)	0	(30)
Leader's Portfolio	(288)	(80)	0	(368)
Resources	(1,614)	0	(832)	(2,446)
Sub-Total	(9,958)	(358)	(1,180)	(11,496)
Capita "Relaunch" Savings*				(1,500)
People Transformation				(920)
Total	(9,958)	(358)	(1,180)	(13,916)

*Estimated General Fund savings from Capita renegotiated contract price resulting from a combination of "Efficiencies" and "Service Reductions".

IMPACT OF PROPOSALS ON STAFFING

Portfolio	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	FTE Total
Children's Services	0.00	1.00	1.00
Communities	0.00	1.00	1.00
Economic Development & Leisure	3.06	0.90	3.96
Environment & Transport	5.00	8.40	13.40
Health & Adult Social Care	0.50	3.00	3.50
Housing & Sustainability	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leader's Portfolio	0.00	3.90	3.90
Resources	1.60	3.00	4.60
Sub-Total	10.16	21.20	31.36
People Transformation	8.30	24.28	32.58
Total	18.46	45.48	63.94

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant			
<u>Children's Services - Efficiencies</u>											
CS 1	Infrastructure	School PFI contract savings	(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)					Graham Talbot
CS 2	Early Years	Efficiencies at two Council run nurseries - Startpoint Northam and Startpoint Sholing	(100)	(110)	(110)	(110)			1.00		Graham Talbot
		Sub-total	(120)	(130)	(130)	(130)	0.00	0.00	1.00		
<u>Children's Services - Income</u>											
CS 3	Inspire	Increased charges to schools for traded services	(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)					Graham Talbot
		Sub-total	(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)	0.00	0.00	0.00		
		Children's Services Portfolio Total	(140)	(150)	(150)	(150)	0.00	0.00	1.00		
<u>Communities - Efficiencies</u>											
COMM 1	Community Development	Review of community development activities across the council, including deletion of a vacant post	(52)	(67)	(67)	(67)	TBC		1.00		Suki Sitaram
		Sub-total	(52)	(67)	(67)	(67)	0.00	0.00	1.00		
<u>Communities - Service Reductions</u>											
COMM 2	Communities	DELETE - Reduce community centres budget and reinvest in community safety	0	0	0	0					Suki Sitaram
COMM 3	Community Safety and Emergency Planning	DELETE - Review of all community safety, youth offending and emergency planning activities across the council	0	0	0	0			0.00		Suki Sitaram
		Sub-total	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00		
		Communities Portfolio Total	(52)	(67)	(67)	(67)	0.00	0.00	1.00		

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant			
<u>Economic Development & Leisure - Efficiencies</u>											
EDL 1	Development & Economy	Reductions in Economic Development Team but maintaining Inward Investment service	(42)	(48)	(48)	(48)	1.00	0.70			Barbara Compton
EDL 2	Major Projects	Efficiencies in Leisure Major Projects team	(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)					Mike Harris
		Sub-total	(62)	(68)	(68)	(68)	1.00	0.70			
<u>Economic Development & Leisure - Service Reductions</u>											
EDL 3	Gallery & Museums	Reduce opening hours of Tudor House museum	(58)	(70)	(70)	(70)	2.06				Mike Harris
EDL 4	Development & Economy	Reductions in City Development Team - deletion of 0.2 FTE vacant post	(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)		0.20			Barbara Compton
EDL 5	Arts & Heritage	DELETE - Reduction in Archives opening hours	0	0	0	0	0.00				Mike Harris
EDL 6	Gallery & Museums	DELETE - Reduction in Museum and Gallery Education Team	0	0	0	0	0.00				Mike Harris
		Sub-total	(70)	(82)	(82)	(82)	2.06	0.20			
		Economic Development & Leisure Portfolio Total	(132)	(150)	(150)	(150)	3.06	0.90			

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service	
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant		
<u>Environment & Transport - Efficiencies</u>												
E&T 1	Bereavement	Energy efficiency measures	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)					Mitch Sanders	
E&T 2	Pest Control	DELETE - Reduce number of vans and staff	0	0	0	0			0.00	0.00	Mitch Sanders	
E&T 3	Kennels	More efficient delivery of the kennels service to deal with stray dogs	(34)	(34)	(34)	(34)			1.00	1.00	Mitch Sanders	
E&T 4	Environmental Health	MITIGATE - Reduction in staff delivering the Environmental Health Service	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)			0.00	1.00	Mitch Sanders	
E&T 5	Street lighting	Savings from dimming	(53)	(60)	(60)	(60)					Rob Harwood	
E&T 6	Parks and Street Cleansing	Mitigate - Use efficiencies to reinvest in parks and street cleansing waste disposal and recycling costs. Reduce transport costs.	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)					Jon Dyer-Slade	
E&T 7	Integrated Grounds Maintenance & Management	Efficiencies in management structure	(20)	(60)	(60)	(60)			1.50		Jon Dyer-Slade	
E&T 8	Integrated Grounds Maintenance & Management	Saving from employment of seasonal staff	(20)								Jon Dyer-Slade	
E&T 9	Street Cleansing	Mitigate - Reduction in overtime costs	(5)	(10)	(10)	(10)					Jon Dyer-Slade	
E&T 10	Street Cleansing	Mitigate - Reinvest savings from review of external cleaning contracts	(5)	(10)	(10)	(10)					Jon Dyer-Slade	
E&T 11	Waste Collection	Increase efficiency of the new garden waste service	(22)	(22)	(22)	(22)					Jon Dyer-Slade	
E&T 12	Waste Collection	Restructure Waste & Recycling management structure	(45)	(50)	(50)	(50)			0.50	1.00	Jon Dyer-Slade	

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE Post	FTE Vacant	FTE Post	FTE Vacant	
E&T 13	Waste Disposal	Housekeeping efficiencies within the waste disposal contract	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)					Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 14	Waste Disposal	Reduced support required for introducing the New Glass Recycling service	(410)								Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 15	Integrated grounds maintenance & management services	Introduce two year rolling apprenticeships into grounds maintenance and street cleansing	(22)	(22)	(22)	(22)	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 16	Waste & Recycling Collection	More efficient method of collecting household waste, dry mixed recycling materials and glass	(228)	(240)	(240)	(240)					Jon Dyer-Slade
		Sub-total	(991)	(635)	(635)	(635)	4.00	4.00	5.00		
		<u>Environment & Transport - Income</u>									
E&T 17	Planning	Increased Planning fee income	(40)	(40)	(40)	(40)					Paul Nichols
E&T 18	Port Health	Increased income arising from the work of the Port Health Team	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)					Mitch Sanders
E&T 19	Trading Standards	Use of existing resources to deliver services funded by government grant income as an alternative to staff reduction.	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)					Mitch Sanders
E&T 20	Waste Collection	One off income from implementation phase of the new glass collection service	(60)								Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 21	Waste Collection	Revise the charging mechanism and work flow for removal of bulky waste collection service	(7)	(10)	(10)	(10)					Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 22	Waste Collection	Increase textile recycling on Southampton City Council owned sites	(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)					Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 23	Waste Disposal	Support other local authorities with waste disposal strategies and contract management	(14)	(14)	(14)	(14)					Jon Dyer-Slade

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	
NEW a	Parking & Transport	Increase charge for Residents second parking permit to £60	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)					Frank Baxter
		Sub-total	(248)	(191)	(191)	(191)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Environment & Transport - Service Reductions											
E&T 24	Trading Standards	Delete - Reduction in staff delivering the Trading Standards Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00			Mitch Sanders
E&T 25	Planning	Reduction in Planning Policy external costs	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)					Paul Nichols
E&T 26	Transport	Remove funding for City Centre Shuttle Bus	(110)	(110)	(110)	(110)					Frank Baxter
E&T 27	City Patrol	Delete - Disband the City Patrol Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00			Mitch Sanders
E&T 28	Integrated grounds maintenance & management	Restructure play area funding and remove the play area development officer post from revenue funding.	(40)	(40)	(40)	(40)					Jon Dyer-Slade
E&T 29	Environmental Health	Reduction in staff providing technical support to the Environmental Health team.	(23)	(23)	(23)	(23)		0.40			Mitch Sanders
E&T 30	Bereavement & Registration Services	Reduction in staff delivering the Registration Service.	(40)	(40)	(40)	(40)		1.00			Mitch Sanders
E&T 31	Environmental Health	Delete - Review and redesign the way the Out of Hours Noise Service is delivered to reduce costs whilst still maintaining a responsive service on the busiest nights of the week including the weekend. Retain full 7-nights a week operation	0	0	0	0					Mitch Sanders
E&T 32	Scientific Services	Rationalisation of air quality continuous monitoring network	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)					Mitch Sanders
E&T 33	Parking & Transport	Mitigate - Restructure of Parking & Transport Teams reinvesting part savings in service enhancements	(15)	(60)	(60)	(60)	0.00	0.00	3.00		Frank Baxter

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	
E&T 34	Planning	Delete - Restructure of the City Design group	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	Paul Nichols
E&T 35	Planning	Delete - Remove Conservation Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	Paul Nichols
E&T 36	Planning	Delete - Restructure of Planning Policy and Sustainability teams	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	Paul Nichols
E&T 37	Planning	Reduce Learning & Development, travel and subsistence budgets	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)			Paul Nichols
		Sub-total	(278)	(323)	(323)	(323)	(323)	1.00	1.00	3.40	
		Environment & Transport Portfolio Total	(1,517)	(1,149)	(1,149)	(1,149)	5.00	5.00	5.00	8.40	

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service	
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant				
<u>Health & Adult Social Care - Efficiencies</u>												
H&ASC 1	Adult Disability Care Services	Improve outcomes from reablement service so fewer people need care packages and for those where ongoing care is required they have reduced support needs.	(348)	(697)	(697)						Jane Brentor Lead / Carol Valentine - BH	
H&ASC 2	Adult Disability Care Services	Proactively assisting up to 600 people to access low level services to delay access to long term care by between 3 and 6 months	(168)	(337)	(337)						Jane Brentor Lead / Carol Valentine - BH	
H&ASC 3	Provider Day Services	Move from SCC provided horticultural and woodwork Day Service to an alternative model of delivery for same service	(30)	(60)	(60)	(60)		0.50	1.00		Jane Brentor / Stephanie Ramsey	
H&ASC 4	Learning Disability and Adult Disability Care Services	Retender of Domiciliary Care across all care groups. Increased focus on improving quality and reducing/delaying future long term care needs of clients	(360)	(420)	(420)						Stephanie Ramsey - Lead / Carol Valentine - BH	
H&ASC 5	Learning Disability and Adult Disability Care Services	Review above standard cost Residential and Nursing Packages	(500)	(500)	(500)						Stephanie Ramsey - Lead / Carol Valentine - BH	
H&ASC 6	Learning Disability	Review of placements for 1) clients with an acquired Brain Injury and 2) clients with a Learning Disability to ensure appropriateness of current accommodation	(140)	(140)	(140)						Stephanie Ramsey - Lead / Carol Valentine - BH	

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	
H&ASC 7	Adult Disability Care Services	Reviewing day service provision for older people and improving Community Options to support reablement	(80)	(120)	(120)			Stephanie Ramsey / Carol Valentine
H&ASC 8	Portfolio Wide	Remodelling through use of Social Care transfer funding allocated via NHS and maintaining eligibility criteria	(2,300)	(2,300)	(2,300)			Stephanie Ramsey
H&ASC 9	Portfolio Wide	Savings from various recurring and one off contingencies no longer required	(1,400)	(400)	(400)			Alison Elliot
H&ASC 10	Mental Health Commissioning	Remodelling in Substance Misuse Provision	(135)	(135)	(135)		2.00	Stephanie Ramsey
H&ASC 11	Public Health	Review of Current Public Health Supported Services & Refocus of Investment to improve outcomes for children and young people and reduce health inequalities	(1,350)	(1,750)	(1,750)			Andrew Mortimore / Stephanie Ramsey
H&ASC 12	Adult Disability Commissioning	Reduction in Nursing Block Contract Beds		(20)	(40)			Stephanie Ramsey
Sub-total			(6,811)	(6,879)	(6,899)	0.50	3.00	
Health & Adult Social Care Portfolio Total			(6,811)	(6,879)	(6,899)	0.50	3.00	

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service	
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant				
	<u>Housing & Sustainability - Efficiencies</u>											
HS 1	Estate Regeneration and Housing Delivery	Further charge to HIRA	(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)					Barbara Compton	
		Sub-total	(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
	<u>Housing & Sustainability - Income</u>											
HS 2	Sustainability	Income from non General Fund areas	(10)	(15)	(15)	(15)					Paul Nichols	
		Sub-total	(10)	(15)	(15)	(15)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
	<u>Housing & Sustainability - Service Reductions</u>											
HS 3	Housing Development	Delete - Reduction of working hours for posts within housing development	0	0	0	0					Barbara Compton	
		Sub-total	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
		Housing & Sustainability Portfolio Total	(30)	(35)	(35)	(35)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	
<u>Leader's - Efficiencies</u>								
LEAD 1	Legal Services	Review and reduction of service provision and minor restructure in Legal Services	(98)	(105)	(105)	1.40		Richard Ivory
LEAD 2	Democratic Services	Restructure in Democratic Services to reflect changing requirements and reduction in member support	(64)	(64)	(64)	2.50		Richard Ivory
LEAD 3	Democratic Services	Renegotiation of current lease arrangements for Mayoral car	(6)	(6)	(6)			Richard Ivory
LEAD 4	Chief Executive & Communications	Reduction in overall spend	(50)	(50)	(45)			Suki Sitaram
NEW b	Democratic Services	10% reduction in all Members Allowances	(70)	(70)	(70)			Richard Ivory
		Sub-total	(288)	(295)	(290)	0.00	3.90	
<u>Leader's - Income</u>								
LEAD 5	Communications	Activity undertaken by the Contracts team has resulted in a contract for provision of a wireless network service to be managed by Communications, that will provide a minimum guaranteed income from the provider	(50)	(10)	(10)			John Spiers
NEW c	Licensing	Introduction of a Late Night Levy	(30)	(30)	(30)			Richard Ivory
		Sub-total	(80)	(40)	(40)	0.00	0.00	
		Leader's Portfolio Total	(368)	(335)	(330)	0.00	3.90	

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service	
			£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant				
<u>Resources - Efficiencies</u>												
RES 1	Admin Buildings	Savings arising from the rationalisation of central office accommodation (Accommodation Strategy) including the vacation of buildings	(569)	(569)	(569)	(569)					John Spiers	
RES 2	Property Portfolio Management	Disposal of some investment property leads to a reduction in overall management costs and fees payable to Capita	(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)					John Spiers	
RES 3	Contract Management	Savings achieved from the Capita Contract	(572)	(572)	(572)	(572)					John Spiers	
RES 4	Customer Services	Reduction in postage costs across the council following a review of current postal charges and work to streamline future provider arrangements	(50)	(52)	(52)	(52)					John Spiers	
RES 5	Risk Management & Insurance	Reduction in the annual contribution to the internal Self-Insurance Fund	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)					Andy Lowe	
RES 6	Cross Council	Reduction in colour photocopying / printing	(23)	(23)	(23)	(23)					Andy Lowe	
RES 7	Investment Property	Reduction in the annual contribution towards the provision for bad debts	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)					John Spiers	
RES 8	Procurement	Efficiencies / reduction in costs from future procurement activity relating to sub £100k spend / contracts		(300)	(300)	(400)					John Spiers	
Sub-total			(1,614)	(1,916)	(2,016)	(2,016)	0.00	0.00	0.00			

SUMMARY OF EFFICIENCIES, ADDITIONAL INCOME AND SERVICE REDUCTIONS

Portfolio Ref	Service Activity	Description of Item	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Net Reduction in Posts		Head of Service
			£000's	£000's	£000's	FTE In Post	FTE Vacant	
<u>Resources - Service Reductions</u>								
RES 9	Finance Service	Redirection of resources and reduction in current service provision.	(100)	(100)	(100)	1.00	1.00	Andy Lowe
RES 10	Admin Buildings	Reductions in cleaning, general supplies, services and budgets maintaining Civic Buildings where there is discretionary spend	(90)	(90)	(90)	1.00	1.00	John Spiers
RES 11	Central Repairs & Maintenance	Further reduction in planned maintenance programme resulting from fewer properties and the setting up of sinking funds for future maintenance of Civic Centre and One Guildhall Square	(300)	(300)	(300)			John Spiers
RES 12	Cross Council	Reduction in general supplies & services budgets across all Directorates	(250)	(250)	(250)			Andy Lowe
RES 13	Property Client	Reduction of Accommodation Planning role in Property Team. Current rationalisation of office accommodation will be complete by September 2014, after the vacation of Marland House	(8)	(16)	(16)	0.60		John Spiers
RES 14	Admin Buildings	Deletion of Project and Safety Officer as significant part of the role (project management) is now minimal due to other budget reductions. The safety aspects of the role have also diminished due to fewer buildings	(24)	(24)	(24)	1.00		John Spiers
RES 15	Admin Buildings	Reduction in some out of hours services through reductions in overtime and deletion of one vacant Town Sergeant post	(40)	(40)	(40)		1.00	John Spiers
RES 16	HR Services	Reduction in General Supplies & Services budgets	(20)	(20)	(20)			Richard Ivory
Sub-total			(832)	(840)	(840)	1.60	3.00	
Resources Portfolio Total			(2,446)	(2,756)	(2,856)	1.60	3.00	
GRAND TOTAL			(11,496)	(11,521)	(11,636)	10.16	21.20	

2014/15 GENERAL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT

Portfolios	2014/15 Forecast £000's	Revenue Pressures £000's	Revenue Bids £000's	Savings & Income £000's	2014/15 Budget £000's
Children's Services	55,692.5	3,300.0	100.0	(140.0)	58,952.5
Communities	3,780.8		100.0	(52.0)	3,828.8
Economic Development & Leisure	13,752.8		75.0	(132.0)	13,695.8
Environment & Transport	38,835.4	128.0	470.0	(4,025.7)	35,407.7
Health & Adult Social Care	71,720.2	91.0	225.0	(7,766.0)	64,270.2
Housing & Sustainability	2,341.6			(65.3)	2,276.3
Leader's Portfolio	3,265.4	105.0		(368.0)	3,002.4
Resources	22,822.6		75.0	(3,911.0)	18,986.6
Sub-total for Portfolios	212,211.3	3,624.0	1,045.0	(16,460.0)	200,420.3
Levies & Contributions					
Southern Seas Fisheries Levy	31.4				31.4
Flood Defence Levy	39.8				39.8
Coroners Service	560.0				560.0
	631.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	631.2
Capital Asset Management					
Capital Financing Charges	12,588.4			446.2	13,034.6
Capital Asset Management Account	(24,525.7)				(24,525.7)
	(11,937.3)	0.0	0.0	446.2	(11,491.1)
Other Expenditure & Income					
Direct Revenue Financing of Capital	100.0			(100.0)	0.0
Trading Areas (Surplus) / Deficit	0.0				0.0
Net Housing Benefit Payments	(758.2)				(758.2)
Non-Specific Government Grants & Other Funding	(70,371.9)				(70,371.9)
Business Rates (*)	(40,455.9)				(40,455.9)
Council Tax Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(1,781.9)				(1,781.9)
Open Spaces and HRA	435.7				435.7
Risk Fund	4,400.0				4,400.0
Contingencies	250.0				250.0
	(108,182.2)	0.0	0.0	(100.0)	(108,282.2)
NET GF SPENDING	92,723.0	3,624.0	1,045.0	(16,113.8)	81,278.2
Draw from Balances:					
Addition to / (Draw From) Balances	(8,379.0)			567.8	(7,811.2)
To fund the Capital Programme	(100.0)			100.0	0.0
	(8,479.0)	0.0	0.0	667.8	(7,811.2)
Revenue Pressures	3,624.0	(3,624.0)			0.0
Net Gap in Budget After Pressures	14,401.0	0.0	1,045.0	(15,446.0)	0.0
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT	73,467.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	73,467.0

(* Includes Section 31 Grant in respect of reduced Business Rates income due to changes announced in the Autumn Statement and also the Top Up paid to the Council as part of the Business Rates Retention Scheme)

COUNCIL TAX CALCULATION 2014/15

	2013/14 £000's	2014/15 £000's	Change £000's	Change %
Budget Requirement (a)	194,861.7	173,136.1	(21,725.6)	-11.15%
Less NDR	(49,534.0)	(45,562.1)	3,971.9	-8.02%
Less Top Up Payment	(1,548.8)	(1,579.0)	(30.2)	1.95%
Less RSG	(72,688.2)	(59,393.1)	13,295.0	-18.29%
Aggregate External Finance	(123,771.0)	(106,534.2)	17,236.8	-13.93%
Deficit / (Surplus) on Council Tax Collection Fund	(1,041.6)	(1,781.9)	(740.3)	71.07%
Deficit / (Surplus) on Business Rates Collection Fund		8,646.9	8,646.9	
Net Grant Income (b)	(124,812.6)	(99,669.2)	25,143.4	-20.14%
Amount to be met from Council Tax (a - b)	70,049.1	73,467.0	3,417.9	4.88%
Tax base	55,471.7	57,044.0	1,572.3	2.83%
Basic amount of Council Tax (Band D)	1,262.79	1,287.90	25.11	1.99%
Last years Council Tax		1,262.79		
Increase (Cash)		25.11		
Increase (Cash per Week)		0.48		
Increase (%)		1.99%		

BALANCES

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Opening Balance	29,923.5	33,413.6	20,991.4	11,906.4	6,917.3
Draw to Support Capital	(401.0)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(Draw to Support) / Contribution from Revenue	9,299.1	(7,811.2)	(4,654.9)	(248.9)	4,000.0
Contributions (to) / from Other Reserves	(1,400.0)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Draw for Strategic Schemes	(4,008.0)	(4,611.0)	(4,430.1)	(4,740.2)	(4,000.0)
Closing Balance	33,413.6	20,991.4	11,906.4	6,917.3	6,917.3

COLLECTION FUND ESTIMATES 2014/15

	2013/14 £000's	2014/15 £000's	Change £000's	Change %
Southampton City Council Precept	70,049.1	73,467.0	3,417.9	4.88%
Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire Precept	8,390.1	8,799.6	409.5	4.88%
Fire and Rescue Authority Precept	3,404.9	3,501.4	96.5	2.83%
Income due from Council Tax Payers	<u>81,844.0</u>	<u>85,767.9</u>	<u>3,923.9</u>	<u>4.79%</u>
Tax Base for Area	55,471.7	57,044.0	1,572.3	2.83%
Basic Amount of Tax for Band D Property	<u>1,475.42</u>	<u>1,503.54</u>	<u>28.12</u>	<u>1.91%</u>

(The tax base and resulting precepts are now calculated on a slightly different basis than in previous years, reflecting the required adjustments as a result of the localisation of Council Tax Benefit and the changes to associated funding. Changes to the scheme approved by Council in January 2013 for implementation from April 2014 have the impact of increasing the overall taxbase going forward).

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL FORECAST

Portfolios	2014/15 Forecast £000's	Base Changes £000's	2015/16 Forecast £000's	Base Changes £000's	2016/17 Forecast £000's
Children's Services	58,952.5		58,952.5		58,952.5
Communities	3,828.8		3,828.8		3,828.8
Economic Development & Leisure	13,695.8		13,695.8		13,695.8
Environment & Transport	35,407.7		35,407.7		35,407.7
Health & Adult Social Care	64,270.2		64,270.2		64,270.2
Housing & Sustainability	2,276.3		2,276.3		2,276.3
Leader's Portfolio	3,002.4		3,002.4		3,002.4
Resources	18,986.6		18,986.6		18,986.6
Add Pressures - Future Years (Unknown)		1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	2,000.0
Base Changes & Inflation		6,378.9	6,378.9	7,904.0	14,282.9
Sub-total for Portfolios	200,420.3	7,378.9	207,799.2	8,904.0	216,703.2
Levies & Contributions					
Southern Seas Fisheries Levy	31.4		31.4		31.4
Flood Defence Levy	39.8		39.8		39.8
Coroners Service	560.0		560.0		560.0
	631.2	0.0	631.2	0.0	631.2
Capital Asset Management					
Capital Financing Charges	13,034.6	1,297.5	14,332.1	960.0	15,292.1
Capital Asset Management Account	(24,525.7)	(500.0)	(25,025.7)	(460.0)	(25,485.7)
	(11,491.1)	797.5	(10,693.6)	500.0	(10,193.6)
Other Expenditure & Income					
Direct Revenue Financing of Capital	0.0		0.0		0.0
Trading Areas (Surplus) / Deficit	0.0		0.0		0.0
Net Housing Benefit Payments	(758.2)		(758.2)		(758.2)
Non-Specific Government Grants & Other Funding	(70,371.9)	26,423.0	(43,948.9)	12,718.2	(31,230.7)
Business Rates	(40,455.9)	(6,891.3)	(47,347.2)	(937.2)	(48,284.4)
Council Tax Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(1,781.9)	1,781.9	0.0		0.0
Open Spaces and HRA	435.7		435.7		435.7
Risk Fund	4,400.0	100.0	4,500.0	100.0	4,600.0
Contingencies	250.0		250.0		250.0
	(108,282.2)	21,413.6	(86,868.6)	11,881.0	(74,987.6)
NET GF SPENDING	81,278.2	29,590.0	110,868.2	21,285.0	132,153.2
Draw from Balances:					
Addition to / (Draw From) Balances	(7,811.2)	3,156.3	(4,654.9)	4,406.0	(248.9)
To fund the Capital Programme	0.0		0.0		0.0
NET GAP IN BUDGET	(7,811.2)	3,156.3	(4,654.9)	4,406.0	(248.9)
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT					
	73,467.0	32,746.3	106,213.3	25,691.0	131,904.3
Council Tax	73,467.0	1,463.1	74,930.1	1,494.0	76,424.1
Roll Forward Gap	(0.0)	31,283.2	31,283.2	24,197.0	55,480.2
Less Savings - Future Years (Known)		(325.0)	(325.0)	(415.0)	(740.0)
REVISED GAP	(0.0)	30,958.2	30,958.2	23,782.0	54,740.2
<i>Executive Position</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>30,958.2</i>	<i>30,958.2</i>	<i>23,782.0</i>	<i>54,740.2</i>
<i>Varaince</i>	<i>(0.0)</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>

