

## Council

7(ii)

**21 February 2018** 

Report of Assistant Director Policy & Corporate Author Sean Plummer

**282347** 

Title Precept and Council Tax Levels 2018/19

Wards Not Applicable

affected

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the statutory resolutions the Council is required to approve in order to set the Council Tax for each band for the financial year 2018/19. These include the following information:
  - A Council Tax Base of 61,960.0 Band D equivalent properties, together with details of the Council Tax base for individual parishes.
  - A Council Tax requirement for Colchester Borough Council of £11.47 million (excluding parishes).
  - Colchester's element of the Council Tax being £185.13 for Band D properties (excluding parishes). An increase of 2.75%.
  - Expected Band D Council Tax for Essex County Council, Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue Service.
  - The total Council Tax payable for the different parts of the Council's area.
  - Parish, Town and Community Councils precept amounts for 2018/19.
- 1.2 The report should be read alongside the General Fund budget report.

#### 2. Recommended Decision

2.1 To approve the statutory resolutions as set out at Appendix 1 which are in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, in respect of the Council Tax for each band for the financial year 2018/19.

## 3. Reason for Recommended Decision

3.1 The Council is required, in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, to set formally the Council Tax for each band, which will include precepting authorities.

## 4. Alternative Options

4.1 The resolutions are a statutory requirement.

## 5. Colchester Borough Council's Council Tax Requirement

5.1 Cabinet on 31 January 2018 approved and recommended to Council the 2018/19 revenue budget requirement. The final grant settlement notification was advised on 6 February. This did not contain any material changes from the earlier provisional figures for the total Settlement Funding Assessment.

#### Local Retention of Business Rates

- The Cabinet report set out the arrangements, issues and risks associated with the local retention of business rates. It was outlined that the Council is required to submit a return of estimated business rates income for 2018/19 (the NNDR1). The budget proposals in the Cabinet paper were based on additional anticipated income above the 2018/19 baseline funding level of £1.1m. The NNDR1 shows potential additional income for 2018/19 that is broadly in line with the budget estimate. In addition, the NNDR1 forecast surplus as at the end of the current year is unchanged from the budgeted figure of £600k. Any fluctuation in overall NNDR income during the year will be reflected in the surplus/deficit figure in the 2019/20 budget, and the issue of ongoing income from retained business rates will be considered as part of the budget strategy for 2019/20.
- 5.3 Cabinet recommended that Colchester's element of the Council Tax for 2018/19 be agreed at £185.13 for Band D properties, which represents an increase of £4.95 (2.75%).
- In approving Colchester's element of the Council Tax, account has to be taken of Revenue Support Grant, Retained Business Rates and any surplus or deficit arising from the Collection Fund. Colchester's Council Tax requirement also has to reflect Parish Council spending and the following table sets out the position:

	£'000	£'000
Colchester's Budget Requirement	16,252	
Add: Net contr. to Reserves & Balances	1,365	
	17,617	
Parish Councils' Requirement (Appendix 2)	1,748	
		19,365
Less:		
Revenue Support Grant	(275)	
Business Rates (baseline funding)	(4,162)	
Business Rates (growth)	(1,100)	
		(5,537)
Less: Surplus on Collection Fund		(609)
Council Tax Requirement		13,219

5.5 Colchester's Council Tax at Band D for 2018/19 is £185.13 and is determined as follows:

Council Tax Requirement (as detailed above)	13,218,640
Divided by Council Tax Base	61,960.0
Council Tax at Band D (including Parishes)	213.34
Deduct Parish Element	28.21
Council Tax at Band D for Colchester Borough Council	185.13

## 6. Essex County Council and Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

In order to determine formally the overall level of Council Tax, account has to be taken of the precept requirements of Essex County Council, Essex Police and the Fire and Rescue Service. The following table sets out the overall position based on information received at the date of writing this report. The Police Fire and Crime Panel formally approved the budgets for Essex Police and the Fire and Rescue Service on 22 January. Essex County Council is expected to formally approve its budget on 13 February. Any change to the information set out in this report will be reported to this meeting.

	Council Ta	Council Tax at Band D						
	2017/18	2017/18 2018/19 £ Increase % Incre						
Colchester Borough Council	180.18	185.13	4.95	2.75				
Essex County Council	1,163.70	1,221.75	58.05	5.00				
Police	157.05	169.02	11.97	7.62				
Fire and Rescue	69.03	70.38	1.35	1.95				
	1,569.96	1,646.28	76.32	4.86				

6.2 The overall position (excluding Parishes) for each band is as follows:

Band	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Borough	123.42	143.99	164.56	185.13	226.27	267.41	308.55	370.26
County	814.50	650.25	1,086.00	1,221.75	1,493.25	1,764.75	2,036.25	2,443.50
Police	112.68	131.46	150.24	169.02	206.58	244.14	281.70	338.04
Fire	47.12	54.97	62.83	70.38	86.39	102.09	117.80	141.36
TOTAL	1,097.52	1,280.44	1,463.36	1,646.28	2,012.12	2,377.96	2,743.80	3,292.56

6.3 The appropriate Parish elements are added to these figures. Full details of the tax rates are given in Appendix 1. (Details of the individual Parish Precepts are set out in Appendix 2).

# 7. Special Expenses

- 7.1 Special expenses are defined as those expenses incurred by the Council in performing, in part of the borough, a function performed elsewhere in the borough by a Parish Council. The Local Government Act 1992 allows the Council to treat any special expenses as general expenses, i.e. as part of its own budget requirement for Council Tax purposes, provided the Council resolved accordingly.
- 7.2 It is reasonable for the Council to continue to treat special expenses as general expenses, and for clarity it is considered sensible to reaffirm this position on an annual basis. A resolution to this effect, therefore, is included within Appendix 1.

## 8. Strategic Plan References

8.1 The Strategic Plan objectives have informed all stages of the Council's budget setting process.

## 9. Publicity Considerations

9.1 The usual arrangements will be made to publish the approved tax levels in the local press and to produce the Council Tax Information Leaflet for distribution with the Council Tax bills. These will be in accordance with the legal requirements.

## 10. Financial Implications

10.1 As set out above.

## 11. Consultation

11.1. The budget report to Cabinet set out consultation in respect of the budget including the statutory NNDR ratepayers meeting. This meeting takes place on 13 February 2018, and notes of the meeting will be added to the Council's website in due course.

#### 12. Standard References

12.1. Having considered equality, diversity and human rights, community safety, health and safety and risk management implications, there are none that are significant to the matters in this report.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Resolutions

Appendix 2: Parish Council Precepts 2018/19

# **Background Papers**

None

#### RESOLUTIONS

- 1. It be noted that the Tax Base has been approved and the following amounts were calculated for the year 2018/2019 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended ('the Act'):
  - (a) 61,960.0 equivalent band D properties being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its Council Tax base for the year. (Item T in the Act)
  - (b) Part of the Council's area for the parish of:

Parish	Parish Tax Base
Abberton & Langenhoe	435.2
Aldham	206.7
Birch	300.2
Boxted	587.4
Chappel	216.6
Copford	678.6
Dedham	921.8
East Donyland	679.5
East Mersea	127.9
Eight Ash Green	659.0
Fingringhoe	332.8
Fordham	323.6
Great Horkesley	1,047.1
Great Tey	376.0
Langham	497.0
Layer Breton	128.9
Layer de la Haye	710.8
Layer Marney	88.2
Little Horkesley	91.4
Marks Tey	937.6
Messing cum Inworth	172.2
Mount Bures	106.9
Myland	5,101.5
Stanway	3,420.6
Tiptree	3,392.2
Wakes Colne	240.0
West Bergholt	1,328.0
West Mersea	3,142.8
Winstred Hundred	490.7
Wivenhoe	2,861.2
Wormingford	190.4

Being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- 2. Calculate that the Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19 (excluding parish precepts) is £11,470,700
- 3. The following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2018/2019 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
  - (a) 149,690,440 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act. [Gross Expenditure]
  - (b) 136,471,800 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. [Gross Income including Government grants]
  - (c) 13,218,640 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act)
  - (d) 213.34 Being the amount at 3(c) above divided by the amount at 1(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. [Council Tax, including parishes]
  - (e) 1,747,939 Being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act. [Parish Precepts]
  - (f) 185.13 Being the amount at 3(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 1(a) above (Item T in the formula), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

# (g) Part of the Council's area

Abberton & Langenhoe	215.71
Aldham	238.84
Birch	214.52
Boxted	266.57
Chappel	263.77
Copford	228.62
Dedham	228.49
East Donyland	269.60
East Mersea	245.65
Eight Ash Green	232.23
Fingringhoe	219.99
Fordham	269.51
Great Horkesley	202.52
Great Tey	232.59
Langham	222.10
Layer Breton	185.13
Layer de la Haye	206.50
Layer Marney	185.13
Little Horkesley	221.15
Marks Tey	238.81
Messing cum Inworth	249.43
Mount Bures	211.19
Myland	211.04
Stanway	229.28
Tiptree	288.44
Wakes Colne	238.21
West Bergholt	249.61
West Mersea	265.78
Winstred Hundred	210.63
Wivenhoe	290.25
Wormingford	234.42
All other parts of the Council's area	185.13

Being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basis amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

## (h) Parts of the Council's Area

Parish	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Al-line (a.e. O	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Abberton &	440.04	407.77	404.74	045.74	000.05	044.50	250.50	404 40
Langenhoe	143.81	167.77	191.74	215.71	263.65	311.58	359.52	431.42
Aldham	159.23	185.76	212.30	238.84	291.92	344.99	398.07	477.68
Birch	143.01	166.85	190.68	214.52	262.19	309.86	357.53	429.04
Boxted	177.71	207.33	236.95	266.57	325.81	385.05	444.28	533.14
Chappel	175.85	205.15	234.46	263.77	322.39	381.00	439.62	527.54
Copford	152.41	177.82	203.22	228.62	279.42	330.23	381.03	457.24
Dedham	152.33	177.71	203.10	228.49	279.27	330.04	380.82	456.98
East Donyland	179.73	209.69	239.64	269.60	329.51	389.42	449.33	539.20
East Mersea	163.77	191.06	218.36	245.65	300.24	354.83	409.42	491.30
Eight Ash Green	154.82	180.62	206.43	232.23	283.84	335.44	387.05	464.46
Fingringhoe	146.66	171.10	195.55	219.99	268.88	317.76	366.65	439.98
Fordham	179.67	209.62	239.56	269.51	329.40	389.29	449.18	539.02
Great Horkesley	135.01	157.52	180.02	202.52	247.52	292.53	337.53	405.04
Great Tey	155.06	180.90	206.75	232.59	284.28	335.96	387.65	465.18
Langham	148.07	172.74	197.42	222.10	271.46	320.81	370.17	444.20
Layer Breton	123.42	143.99	164.56	185.13	226.27	267.41	308.55	370.26
Layer de la Haye	137.67	160.61	183.56	206.50	252.39	298.28	344.17	413.00
Layer Marney	123.42	143.99	164.56	185.13	226.27	267.41	308.55	370.26
Little Horkesley	147.43	172.01	196.58	221.15	270.29	319.44	368.58	442.30
Marks Tey	159.21	185.74	212.28	238.81	291.88	344.95	398.02	477.62
Messing cum Inworth	166.29	194.00	221.72	249.43	304.86	360.29	415.72	498.86
Mount Bures	140.79	164.26	187.72	211.19	258.12	305.05	351.98	422.38
Myland	140.69	164.14	187.59	211.04	257.94	304.84	351.73	422.08
Stanway	152.85	178.33	203.80	229.28	280.23	331.18	382.13	458.56
Tiptree	192.29	224.34	256.39	288.44	352.54	416.64	480.73	576.88
Wakes Colne	158.81	185.27	211.74	238.21	291.15	344.08	397.02	476.42
West Bergholt	166.41	194.14	221.88	249.61	305.08	360.55	416.02	499.22
West Mersea	177.19	206.72	236.25	265.78	324.84	383.90	442.97	531.56
Winstred Hundred	140.42	163.82	187.23	210.63	257.44	304.24	351.05	421.26
Wivenhoe	193.50	225.75	258.00	290.25	354.75	419.25	483.75	580.50
Wormingford	156.28	182.33	208.37	234.42	286.51	338.61	390.70	468.84
All other parts of	123.42	143.99	164.56	185.13	226.27	267.41	308.55	370.26
Council's area								

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (f) and (g) 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 amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

4. It be noted that for the year 2018/2019 Essex County Council, and the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

#### **Valuation Bands**

Preceptin								
g Authority	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
Essex County Council	814.5 0	950.2 5	1,086.0 0	1,221.7 5	1,493.2 5	1,764.7 5	2,036.2 5	2,443.5 0
Police	112.6 8	131.4 6	150.24	169.02	206.58	244.14	281.70	338.04
Fire and Rescue	46.92	54.74	62.56	70.38	86.02	101.66	117.30	140.76

- 5. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2018/2019 for each of the categories of dwellings shown overleaf:
- 6. For the purposes of Section 35 of the Local Government Act 1992, any expenses incurred by the Council in performing in part of its area a function performed elsewhere in its area by a parish council or chairman of a parish meeting shall not be treated as special expenses.
- Determines that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is **not excessive** in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Act, and as shown in the calculation below.
  - (a) Increase defined by the Secretary of State as constituting an excessive increase for 2018/19:
  - (i) 3%, or more than 3%, greater than its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2017-18; and
  - (ii) more than £5.00 greater than its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2017-18.
  - (b) Percentage increase in the Council's basic amount of Council Tax:

2017/18 amount £180.18 2018/19 amount £185.13

Percentage increase: £4.95 and 2.75%

The figure at 7(b) is less than the figure at 7(a) above and therefore the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is **not excessive** and no referendum is required.

8 Discretionary council tax discounts and exemptions for 2018/19 are:

Reference to:	Council position
Second Homes: (Prescribed classes of Dwelling A & B)	No discount applicable to this class
Empty dwellings undergoing major repair (formerly	No discount applicable to this class
Exempt Dwellings "Class A")	
Vacant dwellings (formerly Exempt Dwellings "Class	No discount applicable to this class
C")	

Empty Homes Premium	A maximum premium of 50% be
	charged.

# 9. Parts of the Council's Area

Parish	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Abberton &	1,117.91	1,304.22	1,490.54	1,676.86	2,049.50	2,422.13	2,794.77	3,353.72
Langenhoe								
Aldham	1,133.33	1,322.21	1,511.10	1,699.99	2,077.77	2,455.54	2,833.32	3,399.98
Birch	1,117.11	1,303.30	1,489.48	1,675.67	2,048.04	2,420.41	2,792.78	3,351.34
Boxted	1,151.81	1,343.78	1,535.75	1,727.72	2,111.66	2,495.60	2,879.53	3,455.44
Chappel	1,149.95	1,341.60	1,533.26	1,724.92	2,108.24	2,491.55	2,874.87	3,449.84
Copford	1,126.51	1,314.27	1,502.02	1,689.77	2,065.27	2,440.78	2,816.28	3,379.54
Dedham	1,126.43	1,314.16	1,501.90	1,689.64	2,065.12	2,440.59	2,816.07	3,379.28
East Donyland	1,153.83	1,346.14	1,538.44	1,730.75	2,115.36	2,499.97	2,884.58	3,461.50
East Mersea	1,137.87	1,327.51	1,517.16	1,706.80	2,086.09	2,465.38	2,844.67	3,413.60
Eight Ash Green	1,128.92	1,317.07	1,505.23	1,693.38	2,069.69	2,445.99	2,822.30	3,386.76
Fingringhoe	1,120.76	1,307.55	1,494.35	1,681.14	2,054.73	2,428.31	2,801.90	3,362.28
Fordham	1,153.77	1,346.07	1,538.36	1,730.66	2,115.25	2,499.84	2,884.43	3,461.32
Great Horkesley	1,109.11	1,293.97	1,478.82	1,663.67	2,033.37	2,403.08	2,772.78	3,327.34
Great Tey	1,129.16	1,317.35	1,505.55	1,693.74	2,070.13	2,446.51	2,822.90	3,387.48
Langham	1,122.17	1,309.19	1,496.22	1,683.25	2,057.31	2,431.36	2,805.42	3,366.50
Layer Breton	1,097.52	1,280.44	1,463.36	1,646.28	2,012.12	2,377.96	2,743.80	3,292.56
Layer de la Haye	1,111.77	1,297.06	1,482.36	1,667.65	2,038.24	2,408.83	2,779.42	3,335.30
Layer Marney	1,097.52	1,280.44	1,463.36	1,646.28	2,012.12	2,377.96	2,743.80	3,292.56
Little Horkesley	1,121.53	1,308.46	1,495.38	1,682.30	2,056.14	2,429.99	2,803.83	3,364.60
Marks Tey	1,133.31	1,322.19	1,511.08	1,699.96	2,077.73	2,455.50	2,833.27	3,399.92
Messing cum Inworth	1,140.39	1,330.45	1,520.52	1,710.58	2,090.71	2,470.84	2,850.97	3,421.16
Mount Bures	1,114.89	1,300.71	1,486.52	1,672.34	2,043.97	2,415.60	2,787.23	3,344.68
Myland	1,114.79	1,300.59	1,486.39	1,672.19	2,043.79	2,415.39	2,786.98	3,344.38
Stanway	1,126.95	1,314.78	1,502.60	1,690.43	2,066.08	2,441.73	2,817.38	3,380.86
Tiptree	1,166.39	1,360.79	1,555.19	1,749.59	2,138.39	2,527.19	2,915.98	3,499.18
Wakes Colne	1,132.91	1,321.72	1,510.54	1,699.36	2,077.00	2,454.63	2,832.27	3,398.72
West Bergholt	1,140.51	1,330.59	1,520.68	1,710.76	2,090.93	2,471.10	2,851.27	3,421.52
West Mersea	1,151.29	1,343.17	1,535.05	1,726.93	2,110.69	2,494.45	2,878.22	3,453.86
Winstred	1,114.52	1,300.27	1,486.03	1,671.78	2,043.29	2,414.79	2,786.30	3,343.56
Hundred								
Wivenhoe	1,167.60	1,362.20	1,556.80	1,751.40	2,140.60	2,529.80	2,919.00	3,502.80
Wormingford	1,130.38	1,318.78	1,507.17	1,695.57	2,072.36	2,449.16	2,825.95	3,391.14
All other parts of Council's area	1,097.52	1,280.44	1,463.36	1,646.28	2,012.12	2,377.96	2,743.80	3,292.56

# Parish Council Precepts 2018/19

Parish	Precept 2017/18	Precept 2018/19	Increase/ (Reduction)	Increase/ (Reduction)
			,	,
Abbarta Olamanbaa	£ 13,092	£	£	%
Abberton & Langenhoe	10,951	13,310	218	1.67
Aldham	8,560	11,102	151	1.38
Birch	43,555	8,823	263	3.07
Boxted	15,581	47,837	4,282	9.83
Chappel	30,228	17,034	1,453	9.33
Copford	39,528	29,512	(716)	(2.37)
Dedham	53,875	39,969	441	1.12
East Donyland	7,681	57,395	3,520	6.53
East Mersea	·	7,741	60	0.78
Eight Ash Green	28,500	31,042	2,542	8.92
Fingringhoe	8,999	11,602	2,603	28.93
Fordham	28,820	27,305	(1,515)	(5.26)
Great Horkesley	13,986	18,212	4,226	30.21
Great Tey	17,276	17,845	569	3.29
Langham	17,837	18,372	535	3.00
Layer Breton	44.040	0	0	n/a
Layer de la Haye	14,813	15,190	377	2.55
Layer Marney	0	0	0	n/a
Little Horkesley	3,076	3,292	216	7.02
Marks Tey	45,757	50,332	4,575	10.00
Messing cum Inworth	9,080	11,072	1,992	21.94
Mount Bures	2,699	2,786	87	3.22
Myland	118,124	132,180	14,056	11.90
Stanway	132,582	151,036	18,454	13.92
Tiptree	273,677	350,438	76,761	28.05
Wakes Colne	12,740	12,740	0	0.00
West Bergholt	82,962	85,636	2,674	3.22
West Mersea	211,979	253,472	41,493	19.57
Winstred Hundred	12,451	12,511	60	0.48
Wivenhoe	278,516	300,768	22,252	7.99
Wormingford	9,131	9,385	254	2.78
Totals	1,546,056	1,747,939	201,883	13.06