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MSDC COUNCIL	
DATE:	THURSDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2019 5.30 PM
VENUE:	KING EDMUND CHAMBER - ENDEAVOUR HOUSE, 8 RUSSELL ROAD, IPSWICH

For consideration at the meeting on Thursday, 21 FEBRUARY 2019, the following additional or updated papers that were unavailable when the Agenda was printed.

REVISED AGENDA ITEM 11

Page(s)

- 11 **MC/18/38 GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2019/20 AND FOUR-YEAR OUTLOOK** 1 - 18

Revised Appendix C following receipt of Claydon & Whitton Parish Council Precepts

Revised Page 6 to Budget Book – Appendix D

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Agenda Item 11

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

ITEM 11 - PAPER MC/18/38 - REVISED APPENDIX C

Budget, Funding and Council Tax Requirements

- 1) The precept requirements of Parish / Town Councils must be aggregated with the requirement of this authority to arrive at an average Council Tax figure for the district / parish purposes. This figure however is totally hypothetical and will not be paid by any taxpayer (other than by coincidence). A schedule of the precept requirements from Parish / Town Councils will be reported to Council on 21 February.
- 2) The County and the Police and Crime Commissioner's precept requirements are added to this.
- 3) The legally required calculation is set out below:
 - 1) The General Fund Budget requirement for the District Council purposes in 2019/20 will be £166.04, based on an increase to Council Tax of £3.26 per annum for a Band D property which is the equivalent to 2%.
 - 2) The County Council precept requirement is still to be determined but is likely to be £1,292.13 for a Band D property in 2019/20, an increase of 3.99%.
 - 3) The Police and Crime Commissioner's precept requirement is likely to increase by £23.94 or 13% to £212.76.
 - 4) At the time of preparing this report, not all Parish / Town Councils have supplied formal notification of their 2019/20 precept. The final figures will be reported to Council.
- 4) Mid Suffolk is a billing authority and collects council tax and non-domestic rates on behalf of the other precepting authorities i.e. Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner and Parish / Town Councils. The dates that monies collected are paid over to the County Council, and the Police and Crime Commissioner ("precept dates") need to be formally agreed under Regulation 5(i) of the Local Authorities (Funds) (England) Regulations 1992.
- 5) Established practice is for payments to be made in 12 equal instalments on the 15th of each month or the next banking day if the 15th falls on a weekend or bank holiday. Accordingly, the precept dates applicable for 2019/20 are expected to be as follows:

15 April 2019	15 May 2019	17 June 2019	15 July 2019
15 August 2019	16 September 2019	15 October 2019	15 November 2019
16 December 2019	15 January 2020	17 February 2020	16 March 2020

Budget and Council Tax Resolutions 2019/20

Summary of Budget 2019/20

	2019/20 Budget Requirement £	2019/20 Council Tax at Band D £	2018/19 Budget Requirement £
Mid Suffolk District Council			
General Fund Budget Requirement - District Council Purposes	8,023,160	217.78	7,684,980
Parish/Town Council Precepts (net of Council Tax Support Scheme grant)	2,700,731	73.31	2,551,595
	10,723,891	291.09	10,236,575
Settlement Funding from Government	(2,042,860)	(55.45)	(2,656,700)
Rural Services Delivery Grant (included as part of settlement funding in 2018/19)	(432,990)	(11.75)	-
Business Rates Collection Fund Deficit	597,000	16.20	957,000
Council Tax Collection Fund Surplus	(27,340)	(0.74)	(70,340)
MSDC's basic amount under section 33 of the 1992 Local Government Act	8,817,701	239.35	8,466,535
LESS Parish/Town Council Precepts	(2,700,731)	(73.31)	(2,551,595)
Basic amount under s.34 of the 1992 Act for dwellings to which no special items relate	6,116,970	166.04	5,914,940
Suffolk County Council Precept Requirement	47,603,943	1,292.13	45,150,661
Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner's Requirement	7,838,387	212.76	6,861,226
Basic amount for areas where there are no special items.	61,559,300	1,670.93	57,926,827

Council Tax Resolution 2018/19

1. It is a requirement for the billing authority to calculate a council tax requirement for the year as opposed to its budget requirement.
2. It be noted that the Council, as delegated to the Section 151 Officer, calculated the taxbase:
 - a) for the whole Council area as 36,841.45 and,
 - b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as further detailed in Appendix C.
3. The council tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts) is £6,116,970.
4. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

a)	49,267,291	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A)(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils (gross expenditure)
b)	(40,449,590)	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 31(A)(3) of the Act (gross income)
c)	8,817,701	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 4(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4(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 31A(4) of the Act) (net expenditure)
d)	239.34	Being the amount at 4(c) above (item R) all divided by item T (2(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 (including Parish precepts) (average council tax)
e)	2,700,731	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per Appendix C)
f)	166.04	Being the amount at 4(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(e) above by item T (2(a) above) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates (basic council tax)

5. To note that Suffolk County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in Section 7 below.

6. That the Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below and further in Appendix C as the amounts of council tax for 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

7. Since the Cabinet meeting on 4 February 2019, the precept levels of other precepting bodies have been received. These are detailed below;

a) **Suffolk County Council**

Suffolk County Council met on 14 February 2019 and set their precept at £47,603,943. This includes an adjustment for the Collection Fund contribution of £145,780 and results in a Band D council tax of £1,292.13.

b) **Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner**

The Police and Crime Commissioner has set their precept at £7,840,597, adjusted by a Collection Fund contribution of £22,155. This results in a Band D council tax of **£212.76**.

c) **Mid Suffolk District Council**

The General Fund council tax requirement for Mid Suffolk District Council is based on an increase in council tax from £162.78 to £166.04 for a Band D property.

d) **Aggregated council tax requirement**

The aggregated council tax requirement for Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner and Mid Suffolk District Council results in a Band D council tax of **£1,670.93**.

	Suffolk County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner	Mid Suffolk District Council	Aggregated Council Tax requirement
Valuation Bands	£	£	£	£
A	861.42	141.84	110.69	1,113.95
B	1,004.99	165.48	129.14	1,299.61
C	1,148.56	189.12	147.59	1,485.27
D	1,292.13	212.76	166.04	1,670.93
E	1,579.27	260.04	202.94	2,042.25
F	1,866.41	307.32	239.84	2,413.57
G	2,153.55	354.60	276.73	2,784.88
H	2,584.26	425.52	332.08	3,341.86

8. The Town and Parish Council Precepts for 2018/19 are detailed further in Appendix C and total **£2,700,731**. The increase in the average Band D for Town and Parish Councils is **4.4%** and results in an average Band D council tax figure of **£73.31** for 2018/19.

Council Taxbase for Parishes and District – 2019/20

Parish	COUNCIL TAX BASE		% Change
	18/19	19/20	
Akenham	22.32	22.48	0.71%
Ashbocking	138.95	143.70	3.31%
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	93.79	96.07	2.37%
Aspall	28.69	27.81	-3.16%
Athelington	19.65	19.96	1.55%
Bacton	447.87	450.84	0.66%
Badley	32.70	34.55	5.35%
Badwell Ash	306.89	313.63	2.15%
Barham	527.77	532.03	0.80%
Barking	169.30	169.24	-0.04%
Battisford	244.61	246.47	0.75%
Baylham	113.13	115.17	1.77%
Bedfield	157.72	156.55	-0.75%
Bedingfield	98.76	99.93	1.17%
Beyton	306.20	310.97	1.53%
Botesdale	275.22	277.30	0.75%
Braiseworth	30.02	30.54	1.70%
Bramford	830.02	862.93	3.81%
Brome and Oakley	195.22	193.72	-0.77%
Brundish	73.19	74.72	2.05%
Burgate	68.91	67.87	-1.53%
Buxhall	159.51	158.48	-0.65%
Claydon	753.39	755.95	0.34%
Coddenham	274.50	278.21	1.33%
Combs	316.70	301.88	-4.91%
Cotton	231.66	229.32	-1.02%
Creeting St Mary	293.60	304.73	3.65%
Creeting St Peter	102.61	101.38	-1.21%
Crowfield	159.86	160.56	0.44%
Darmsden	18.35	18.35	0.00%
Debenham	800.42	813.12	1.56%
Denham	77.64	77.62	-0.03%
Drinkstone	283.47	281.80	-0.59%
Earl Stonham	250.18	248.92	-0.51%
Elmswell	1,377.32	1,421.17	3.09%
Eye	791.07	801.59	1.31%
Felsham	179.12	180.42	0.72%
Finningham	196.85	206.38	4.62%
Flowton	48.99	49.77	1.57%
Framsden	140.31	142.21	1.34%
Fressingfield	420.52	421.71	0.28%
Gedding	52.37	52.36	-0.02%
Gipping	26.92	25.98	-3.62%
Gislingham	419.35	429.22	2.30%
Gosbeck	83.55	86.32	3.21%
Great Ashfield	152.82	150.54	-1.51%
Great Blakenham	667.53	720.17	7.31%
Great Bricett	203.46	212.83	4.40%
Great Finborough	314.72	318.38	1.15%
Harleston	64.80	67.65	4.21%
Haughley	571.09	572.09	0.17%
Helmingham	67.14	68.07	1.37%
Hemingstone	98.18	97.94	-0.25%
Henley	235.44	231.81	-1.57%
Hessett	202.04	201.93	-0.05%
Hinderclay	119.59	122.59	2.45%
Horham	120.76	121.99	1.01%
Hoxne	356.68	357.27	0.17%
Hunston	56.05	55.46	-1.06%
Kenton	98.46	96.45	-2.08%
Langham	40.68	42.54	4.37%
Laxfield	371.70	375.10	0.91%

Parish	COUNCIL TAX BASE		% Change
	18/19	19/20	
Little Blakenham	106.86	105.78	-1.02%
Little Finborough	26.23	26.23	0.00%
Mellis	205.92	204.00	-0.94%
Mendham	175.85	177.25	0.79%
Mendlesham	543.57	552.52	1.62%
Metfield	176.77	174.75	-1.16%
Mickfield	91.01	88.33	-3.03%
Monk Soham	73.61	73.53	-0.11%
Needham Market	1,597.76	1,606.14	0.52%
Nettlestead	39.99	40.55	1.38%
Norton	407.60	419.53	2.84%
Occold	195.09	193.60	-0.77%
Offton	148.02	150.60	1.71%
Old Newton with Dagworth	421.44	424.04	0.61%
Onehouse	280.31	281.70	0.49%
Palgrave	357.77	363.16	1.48%
Pettaugh	88.89	87.15	-2.00%
Rattlesden	383.84	380.75	-0.81%
Redgrave	261.49	262.33	0.32%
Redlingfield	52.48	51.91	-1.10%
Rickinghall Inferior	162.51	164.47	1.19%
Rickinghall Superior	321.93	322.43	0.16%
Ringshall	244.14	258.45	5.54%
Rishangles	38.59	37.48	-2.96%
Shelland	25.61	25.36	-0.99%
Somersham	243.38	244.53	0.47%
Southolt	27.88	28.84	3.33%
Stoke Ash	83.38	96.80	13.86%
Stonham Aspal	245.56	242.88	-1.10%
Stonham Parva	136.49	136.93	0.32%
Stowlangtoft	88.56	90.53	2.18%
Stowmarket	6,516.90	6,647.51	1.96%
Stowupland	654.38	685.25	4.50%
Stradbroke	557.06	559.41	0.42%
Stuston	85.10	85.94	0.98%
Syleham	96.33	94.69	-1.73%
Tannington	39.27	40.35	2.68%
Thorndon	301.02	309.77	2.82%
Thornham Magna	79.17	80.07	1.12%
Thornham Parva	27.58	26.23	-5.15%
Thrandeston	70.62	70.21	-0.58%
Thurston	1,206.53	1,219.82	1.09%
Thwaite	61.62	61.39	-0.37%
Tostock	199.35	210.28	5.20%
Walsham-le-Willows	475.84	474.43	-0.30%
Wattisfield	193.80	193.98	0.09%
Westhorpe	81.48	81.19	-0.36%
Wetherden	238.22	237.52	-0.29%
Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford	275.44	286.82	3.97%
Weybread	176.44	178.60	1.21%
Whitton	23.83	24.10	1.12%
Wickham Skeith	138.29	136.75	-1.13%
Wilby	129.06	128.29	-0.60%
Willisham	101.58	102.43	0.83%
Wingfield	147.00	146.00	-0.68%
Winston	67.29	65.96	-2.02%
Woolpit	783.09	787.79	0.60%
Worlingworth	308.74	315.82	2.24%
Worham	330.36	327.76	-0.79%
Wyverstone	134.45	137.13	1.95%
Yaxley	204.69	206.67	0.96%
Total	36,337.39	36,841.45	1.37%

Precepts and Council Tax Band D for Parishes

Parish	2018/19 Parish Precept	Tax Base	Council Tax Band D	2019/20 Parish Precept	Tax Base	Council Tax Band D	Increase / Decrease (-)
	£		£	£		£	£
Akenham	-	22.32	-	-	22.48	-	0.00
Ashbocking	1,870.00	138.95	13.46	1,950.00	143.70	13.57	0.11
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	2,700.00	93.79	28.79	2,926.58	96.07	30.46	1.68
Aspall	-	28.69	-	-	27.81	-	0.00
Athelington	279.89	19.65	14.24	421.84	19.96	21.13	6.89
Bacton	21,881.04	447.87	48.86	22,671.38	450.84	50.29	1.43
Badley	-	32.70	-	-	34.55	-	0.00
Badwell Ash	14,890.00	306.89	48.52	19,500.00	313.63	62.18	13.66
Barham	24,692.00	527.77	46.79	27,290.00	532.03	51.29	4.51
Barking	9,000.00	169.30	53.16	9,000.00	169.24	53.18	0.02
Battisford	10,725.00	244.61	43.85	10,725.00	246.47	43.51	-0.33
Baylham	-	113.13	-	-	115.17	-	0.00
Bedfield	3,000.00	157.72	19.02	3,600.00	156.55	23.00	3.97
Bedingfield	1,620.00	98.76	16.40	1,620.00	99.93	16.21	-0.19
Beyton	12,800.00	306.20	41.80	16,622.00	310.97	53.45	11.65
Botesdale	28,700.00	275.22	104.28	29,500.00	277.30	106.38	2.10
Braiseworth	-	30.02	-	-	30.54	-	0.00
Bramford	66,233.00	830.02	79.80	67,500.00	862.93	78.22	-1.58
Brome and Oakley	6,630.00	195.22	33.96	6,630.00	193.72	34.22	0.26
Brundish	3,694.44	73.19	50.48	3,860.69	74.72	51.67	1.19
Burgate	2,847.73	68.91	41.33	2,915.48	67.87	42.96	1.63
Buxhall	4,023.50	159.51	25.22	4,119.21	158.48	25.99	0.77
Claydon	42,355.29	753.39	56.22	39,728.44	755.95	52.55	-3.67
Coddenham	29,342.00	274.50	106.89	30,872.00	278.21	110.97	4.07
Combs	7,250.00	316.70	22.89	8,000.00	301.88	26.50	3.61
Cotton	6,000.00	231.66	25.90	6,180.00	229.32	26.95	1.05
Creeting St Mary	9,500.00	293.60	32.36	9,800.00	304.73	32.16	-0.20
Creeting St Peter	5,245.00	102.61	51.12	5,300.00	101.38	52.28	1.16
Crowfield	2,625.00	159.86	16.42	2,650.00	160.56	16.50	0.08
Darmsden	-	18.35	-	-	18.35	-	0.00
Debenham	71,637.00	800.42	89.50	74,232.00	813.12	91.29	1.79
Denham	3,000.00	77.64	38.64	3,090.00	77.62	39.81	1.17
Drinkstone	8,440.00	283.47	29.77	8,790.00	281.80	31.19	1.42
Earl Stonham	6,339.00	250.18	25.34	6,400.00	248.92	25.71	0.00
Elmswell	123,931.00	1,377.32	89.98	130,051.00	1,421.17	91.51	1.53
Eye	81,240.00	791.07	102.70	91,068.00	801.59	113.61	10.91
Felsham	6,550.00	179.12	36.57	6,990.00	180.42	38.74	2.18
Finningham	6,895.00	196.85	35.03	7,101.00	206.38	34.41	-0.62
Flowton	-	48.99	-	-	49.77	-	0.00
Framsden	9,384.00	140.31	66.88	9,478.00	142.21	66.65	-0.23
Fressingfield	32,416.00	420.52	77.09	25,210.00	421.71	59.78	-17.31
Gedding	1,000.00	52.37	19.09	1,000.00	52.36	19.10	0.00
Gipping	1,450.17	26.92	53.87	1,436.17	25.98	55.28	1.41
Gislingham	14,810.00	419.35	35.32	15,120.00	429.22	35.23	-0.09
Gosbeck	1,000.00	83.55	11.97	1,000.00	86.32	11.58	-0.38
Great Ashfield	2,300.00	152.82	15.05	2,415.00	150.54	16.04	0.99
Great Blakenham	42,000.00	667.53	62.92	45,300.00	720.17	62.90	-0.02
Great Bricett	10,250.00	203.46	50.38	10,350.00	212.83	48.63	-1.75
Great Finborough	11,769.00	314.72	37.40	12,393.00	318.38	38.93	1.53
Harleston	1,780.00	64.80	27.47	1,858.00	67.65	27.46	-0.00
Haughley	46,000.00	571.09	80.55	46,082.00	572.09	80.55	0.00
Helmingham	2,400.00	67.14	35.75	2,600.00	68.07	38.20	2.45
Hemingstone	2,000.00	98.18	20.37	2,040.00	97.94	20.83	0.46
Henley	12,111.00	235.44	51.44	12,111.00	231.81	52.25	0.81
Hessett	9,123.00	202.04	45.15	9,645.00	201.93	47.76	2.61
Hinderclay	4,500.00	119.59	37.63	5,000.00	122.59	40.79	3.16
Horham	1,720.11	120.76	14.24	2,578.16	121.99	21.13	6.89
Hoxne	15,386.00	356.68	43.14	15,386.00	357.27	43.07	-0.07
Hunston	-	56.05	-	-	55.46	-	0.00
Kenton	1,250.00	98.46	12.70	1,600.00	96.45	16.59	3.89
Langham	-	40.68	-	-	42.54	-	0.00
Laxfield	41,500.00	371.70	111.65	41,880.00	375.10	111.65	0.00
Little Blakenham	5,800.00	106.86	54.28	5,916.00	105.78	55.93	1.65
Little Finborough	-	26.23	-	-	26.23	-	0.00

APPENDIX C

Precepts and Council Tax Band D for Parishes

Parish	2018/19 Parish Precept	Tax Base	Council Tax Band D	2019/20 Parish Precept	Tax Base	Council Tax Band D	Increase / Decrease (-)
	£		£	£		£	£
Mellis	8,435.00	205.92	40.96	7,900.00	204.00	38.73	-2.24
Mendham	6,000.00	175.85	34.12	6,500.00	177.25	36.67	2.55
Mendlesham	35,697.00	543.57	65.67	37,700.00	552.52	68.23	2.56
Metfield	5,250.00	176.77	29.70	5,500.00	174.75	31.47	1.77
Mickfield	4,600.00	91.01	50.54	4,700.00	88.33	53.21	2.67
Monk Soham	1,500.00	73.61	20.38	1,500.00	73.53	20.40	0.02
Needham Market	114,827.00	1,597.76	71.87	119,935.00	1,606.14	74.67	2.81
Nettlestead	-	39.99	-	-	40.55	-	0.00
Norton	20,000.00	407.60	49.07	20,000.00	419.53	47.67	-1.40
Occold	8,000.00	195.09	41.01	8,500.00	193.60	43.90	2.90
Offton	5,052.61	148.02	34.13	5,406.67	150.60	35.90	1.77
Old Newton with Dagworth	22,702.83	421.44	53.87	23,440.83	424.04	55.28	1.41
Onehouse	13,000.00	280.31	46.38	13,000.00	281.70	46.15	-0.23
Palgrave	14,595.00	357.77	40.79	14,595.00	363.16	40.19	-0.61
Pettaugh	1,750.00	88.89	19.69	2,625.00	87.15	30.12	10.43
Rattlesden	12,590.00	383.84	32.80	14,600.00	380.75	38.35	5.55
Redgrave	13,300.00	261.49	50.86	15,400.00	262.33	58.70	7.84
Redlingfield	-	52.48	-	-	51.91	-	0.00
Rickinghall Inferior	7,906.78	162.51	48.65	8,323.15	164.47	50.61	1.95
Rickinghall Superior	15,663.22	321.93	48.65	16,316.85	322.43	50.61	1.95
Ringshall	7,000.00	244.14	28.67	5,900.00	258.45	22.83	-5.84
Rishangles	-	38.59	-	-	37.48	-	0.00
Shelland	100.00	25.61	3.90	100.00	25.36	3.94	0.04
Somersham	16,800.00	243.38	69.03	17,052.00	244.53	69.73	0.71
Southolt	-	27.88	-	-	28.84	-	0.00
Stoke Ash	2,420.90	83.38	29.03	3,286.88	96.80	33.96	4.92
Stonham Aspal	7,000.00	245.56	28.51	7,000.00	242.88	28.82	0.31
Stonham Parva	6,565.00	136.49	48.10	6,565.00	136.93	47.94	-0.15
Stowlangtoft	3,300.00	88.56	37.26	3,300.00	90.53	36.45	-0.81
Stowmarket	974,331.32	6,516.90	149.51	1,065,416.43	6,647.51	160.27	10.76
Stowupland	33,317.00	654.38	50.91	34,886.00	685.25	50.91	-0.00
Stradbroke	32,292.00	557.06	57.97	33,225.00	559.41	59.39	1.42
Stuston	-	85.10	-	-	85.94	-	0.00
Syleham	1,536.00	96.33	15.95	1,600.00	94.69	16.90	0.95
Tannington	-	39.27	-	-	40.35	-	0.00
Thorndon	12,875.00	301.02	42.77	13,500.00	309.77	43.58	0.81
Thornham Magna	790.00	79.17	9.98	1,200.00	80.07	14.99	5.01
Thornham Parva	300.00	27.58	10.88	300.00	26.23	11.44	0.56
Thrandeston	2,500.00	70.62	35.40	2,500.00	70.21	35.61	0.21
Thurston	94,067.00	1,206.53	77.96	96,889.00	1,219.82	79.43	1.46
Thwaite	1,789.10	61.62	29.03	2,084.52	61.39	33.96	4.92
Tostock	8,285.00	199.35	41.56	8,285.00	210.28	39.40	-2.16
Walsham-le-Willows	20,502.00	475.84	43.09	20,851.00	474.43	43.95	0.86
Wattisfield	9,680.00	193.80	49.95	9,680.00	193.98	49.90	-0.05
Westhorpe	1,600.00	81.48	19.64	1,600.00	81.19	19.71	0.07
Wetherden	12,475.00	238.22	52.37	12,911.00	237.52	54.36	1.99
Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford	8,680.00	275.44	31.51	8,850.00	286.82	30.86	-0.66
Weybread	4,400.00	176.44	24.94	4,700.00	178.60	26.32	1.38
Whitton	1,339.71	23.83	56.22	1,266.56	24.10	52.55	-3.67
Wickham Skeith	2,800.00	138.29	20.25	3,000.00	136.75	21.94	1.69
Wilby	4,205.00	129.06	32.58	5,625.00	128.29	43.85	11.26
Willisham	3,467.39	101.58	34.13	3,677.33	102.43	35.90	1.77
Wingfield	4,905.00	147.00	33.37	4,905.00	146.00	33.60	0.23
Winston	600.00	67.29	8.92	650.00	65.96	9.85	0.94
Woolpit	30,000.00	783.09	38.31	27,000.00	787.79	34.27	-4.04
Worlingworth	12,834.00	308.74	41.57	12,968.00	315.82	41.06	-0.51
Wortham	13,652.27	330.36	41.33	14,079.52	327.76	42.96	1.63
Wyverstone	3,182.00	134.45	23.67	3,182.00	137.13	23.20	-0.46
Yaxley	5,250.00	204.69	25.65	5,250.00	206.67	25.40	-0.25
Total	2,551,595.30	36,337.39	70.22	2,700,730.69	36,841.45	73.31	3.09

Precept for each banding by Parish

	Valuation Bands (£)							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Mid Suffolk District Council	110.69	129.14	147.59	166.04	202.94	239.84	276.73	332.08
Suffolk County Council	861.42	1,004.99	1,148.56	1,292.13	1,579.27	1,866.41	2,153.55	2,584.26
Police and Crime Commissioner	141.84	165.48	189.12	212.76	260.04	307.32	354.60	425.52
Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Parish	Total Amount of Council Tax for 2019/20							
	6/9 ths	7/9 ths	8/9 ths		11/9 ths	13/9 ths	15/9 ths	18/9 ths
	Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
Akenham	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Ashbocking	1,123.00	1,310.17	1,497.33	1,684.50	2,058.83	2,433.17	2,807.50	3,369.00
Ashfield-cum-Thorpe	1,134.26	1,323.30	1,512.35	1,701.39	2,079.48	2,457.56	2,835.65	3,402.78
Aspall	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Athelington	1,128.04	1,316.05	1,504.05	1,692.06	2,068.07	2,444.09	2,820.10	3,384.12
Bacton	1,147.48	1,338.73	1,529.97	1,721.22	2,103.71	2,486.21	2,868.70	3,442.44
Badley	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Badwell Ash	1,155.41	1,347.97	1,540.54	1,733.11	2,118.25	2,503.38	2,888.52	3,466.22
Barham	1,148.15	1,339.50	1,530.86	1,722.22	2,104.94	2,487.65	2,870.37	3,444.44
Barking	1,149.41	1,340.97	1,532.54	1,724.11	2,107.25	2,490.38	2,873.52	3,448.22
Battisford	1,142.96	1,333.45	1,523.95	1,714.44	2,095.43	2,476.41	2,857.40	3,428.88
Baylham	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Bedfield	1,129.29	1,317.50	1,505.72	1,693.93	2,070.36	2,446.79	2,823.22	3,387.86
Bedingfield	1,124.76	1,312.22	1,499.68	1,687.14	2,062.06	2,436.98	2,811.90	3,374.28
Beyton	1,149.59	1,341.18	1,532.78	1,724.38	2,107.58	2,490.77	2,873.97	3,448.76
Botesdale	1,184.87	1,382.35	1,579.83	1,777.31	2,172.27	2,567.23	2,962.18	3,554.62
Braiseworth	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Bramford	1,166.10	1,360.45	1,554.80	1,749.15	2,137.85	2,526.55	2,915.25	3,498.30
Brome and Oakley	1,136.77	1,326.23	1,515.69	1,705.15	2,084.07	2,462.99	2,841.92	3,410.30
Brundish	1,148.40	1,339.80	1,531.20	1,722.60	2,105.40	2,488.20	2,871.00	3,445.20
Burgate	1,142.59	1,333.03	1,523.46	1,713.89	2,094.75	2,475.62	2,856.48	3,427.78
Buxhall	1,131.28	1,319.83	1,508.37	1,696.92	2,074.01	2,451.11	2,828.20	3,393.84
Claydon	1,148.99	1,340.48	1,531.98	1,723.48	2,106.48	2,489.47	2,872.47	3,446.96
Coddenham	1,187.93	1,385.92	1,583.91	1,781.90	2,177.88	2,573.86	2,969.83	3,563.80
Combs	1,131.62	1,320.22	1,508.83	1,697.43	2,074.64	2,451.84	2,829.05	3,394.86
Cotton	1,131.92	1,320.57	1,509.23	1,697.88	2,075.19	2,452.49	2,829.80	3,395.76
Creeting St Mary	1,135.39	1,324.63	1,513.86	1,703.09	2,081.55	2,460.02	2,838.48	3,406.18
Creeting St Peter	1,148.81	1,340.27	1,531.74	1,723.21	2,106.15	2,489.08	2,872.02	3,446.42
Crowfield	1,124.95	1,312.45	1,499.94	1,687.43	2,062.41	2,437.40	2,812.38	3,374.86
Darmsden	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Debenham	1,174.81	1,370.62	1,566.42	1,762.22	2,153.82	2,545.43	2,937.03	3,524.44
Denham	1,140.49	1,330.58	1,520.66	1,710.74	2,090.90	2,471.07	2,851.23	3,421.48
Drinkstone	1,134.75	1,323.87	1,513.00	1,702.12	2,080.37	2,458.62	2,836.87	3,404.24
Earl Stonham	1,131.09	1,319.61	1,508.12	1,696.64	2,073.67	2,450.70	2,827.73	3,393.28
Elmswell	1,174.96	1,370.79	1,566.61	1,762.44	2,154.09	2,545.75	2,937.40	3,524.88
Eye	1,189.69	1,387.98	1,586.26	1,784.54	2,181.10	2,577.67	2,974.23	3,569.08
Felsham	1,139.78	1,329.74	1,519.71	1,709.67	2,089.60	2,469.52	2,849.45	3,419.34
Finningham	1,136.89	1,326.38	1,515.86	1,705.34	2,084.30	2,463.27	2,842.23	3,410.68

Precept for each banding by Parish

	Valuation Bands (£)							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Mid Suffolk District Council	110.69	129.14	147.59	166.04	202.94	239.84	276.73	332.08
Suffolk County Council	861.42	1,004.99	1,148.56	1,292.13	1,579.27	1,866.41	2,153.55	2,584.26
Police and Crime Commissioner	141.88	165.53	189.17	212.82	260.11	307.41	354.70	425.64
Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Flowton	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Framsden	1,158.43	1,351.50	1,544.57	1,737.64	2,123.78	2,509.92	2,896.07	3,475.28
Fressingfield	1,153.85	1,346.15	1,538.46	1,730.77	2,115.39	2,500.00	2,884.62	3,461.54
Gedding	1,126.73	1,314.51	1,502.30	1,690.09	2,065.67	2,441.24	2,816.82	3,380.18
Gipping	1,150.85	1,342.65	1,534.46	1,726.27	2,109.89	2,493.50	2,877.12	3,452.54
Gislingham	1,137.48	1,327.06	1,516.64	1,706.22	2,085.38	2,464.54	2,843.70	3,412.44
Gosbeck	1,121.71	1,308.67	1,495.62	1,682.57	2,056.47	2,430.38	2,804.28	3,365.14
Great Ashfield	1,124.69	1,312.13	1,499.58	1,687.03	2,061.93	2,436.82	2,811.72	3,374.06
Great Blakenham	1,155.93	1,348.58	1,541.24	1,733.89	2,119.20	2,504.51	2,889.82	3,467.78
Great Bricett	1,146.41	1,337.48	1,528.55	1,719.62	2,101.76	2,483.90	2,866.03	3,439.24
Great Finborough	1,139.95	1,329.94	1,519.93	1,709.92	2,089.90	2,469.88	2,849.87	3,419.84
Harleston	1,132.30	1,321.02	1,509.73	1,698.45	2,075.88	2,453.32	2,830.75	3,396.90
Haughley	1,167.69	1,362.31	1,556.92	1,751.54	2,140.77	2,530.00	2,919.23	3,503.08
Helmingham	1,139.46	1,329.37	1,519.28	1,709.19	2,089.01	2,468.83	2,848.65	3,418.38
Hemingstone	1,127.88	1,315.86	1,503.84	1,691.82	2,067.78	2,443.74	2,819.70	3,383.64
Henley	1,148.83	1,340.30	1,531.77	1,723.24	2,106.18	2,489.12	2,872.07	3,446.48
Hessett	1,145.83	1,336.81	1,527.78	1,718.75	2,100.69	2,482.64	2,864.58	3,437.50
Hinderclay	1,141.19	1,331.38	1,521.58	1,711.78	2,092.18	2,472.57	2,852.97	3,423.56
Horham	1,128.08	1,316.09	1,504.11	1,692.12	2,068.15	2,444.17	2,820.20	3,384.24
Hoxne	1,142.71	1,333.16	1,523.61	1,714.06	2,094.96	2,475.86	2,856.77	3,428.12
Hunston	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Kenton	1,125.05	1,312.56	1,500.07	1,687.58	2,062.60	2,437.62	2,812.63	3,375.16
Langham	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Laxfield	1,188.43	1,386.50	1,584.57	1,782.64	2,178.78	2,574.92	2,971.07	3,565.28
Little Blakenham	1,151.28	1,343.16	1,535.04	1,726.92	2,110.68	2,494.44	2,878.20	3,453.84
Little Finborough	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Mellis	1,139.81	1,329.78	1,519.75	1,709.72	2,089.66	2,469.60	2,849.53	3,419.44
Mendham	1,138.44	1,328.18	1,517.92	1,707.66	2,087.14	2,466.62	2,846.10	3,415.32
Mendlesham	1,159.48	1,352.73	1,545.97	1,739.22	2,125.71	2,512.21	2,898.70	3,478.44
Metfield	1,134.97	1,324.14	1,513.30	1,702.46	2,080.78	2,459.11	2,837.43	3,404.92
Mickfield	1,149.47	1,341.04	1,532.62	1,724.20	2,107.36	2,490.51	2,873.67	3,448.40
Monk Soham	1,127.59	1,315.53	1,503.46	1,691.39	2,067.25	2,443.12	2,818.98	3,382.78
Needham Market	1,163.77	1,357.74	1,551.70	1,745.66	2,133.58	2,521.51	2,909.43	3,491.32
Nettlestead	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Norton	1,145.77	1,336.74	1,527.70	1,718.66	2,100.58	2,482.51	2,864.43	3,437.32
Occold	1,143.26	1,333.80	1,524.35	1,714.89	2,095.98	2,477.06	2,858.15	3,429.78
Offton	1,137.93	1,327.58	1,517.24	1,706.89	2,086.20	2,465.51	2,844.82	3,413.78
Old Newton with Dagworth	1,150.85	1,342.65	1,534.46	1,726.27	2,109.89	2,493.50	2,877.12	3,452.54
Onehouse	1,144.76	1,335.55	1,526.35	1,717.14	2,098.73	2,480.31	2,861.90	3,434.28
Palgrave	1,140.79	1,330.92	1,521.05	1,711.18	2,091.44	2,471.70	2,851.97	3,422.36
Pettaugh	1,134.07	1,323.09	1,512.10	1,701.11	2,079.13	2,457.16	2,835.18	3,402.22
Rattlesden	1,139.56	1,329.49	1,519.41	1,709.34	2,089.19	2,469.05	2,848.90	3,418.68
Redgrave	1,153.13	1,345.31	1,537.50	1,729.69	2,114.07	2,498.44	2,882.82	3,459.38
Redlingfield	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Rickinghall Inferior	1,147.73	1,339.02	1,530.31	1,721.60	2,104.18	2,486.76	2,869.33	3,443.20
Rickinghall Superior	1,147.73	1,339.02	1,530.31	1,721.60	2,104.18	2,486.76	2,869.33	3,443.20
Ringshall	1,129.21	1,317.42	1,505.62	1,693.82	2,070.22	2,446.63	2,823.03	3,387.64
Rishangles	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Shelland	1,116.62	1,302.72	1,488.83	1,674.93	2,047.14	2,419.34	2,791.55	3,349.86
Somersham	1,160.48	1,353.89	1,547.31	1,740.72	2,127.55	2,514.37	2,901.20	3,481.44
Southolt	1,113.99	1,299.66	1,485.32	1,670.99	2,042.32	2,413.65	2,784.98	3,341.98
Stoke Ash	1,136.63	1,326.07	1,515.51	1,704.95	2,083.83	2,462.71	2,841.58	3,409.90
Stonham Aspal	1,133.21	1,322.07	1,510.94	1,699.81	2,077.55	2,455.28	2,833.02	3,399.62
Stonham Parva	1,145.95	1,336.95	1,527.94	1,718.93	2,100.91	2,482.90	2,864.88	3,437.86
Stowlangtoft	1,138.29	1,328.01	1,517.72	1,707.44	2,086.87	2,466.30	2,845.73	3,414.88

Precept for each banding by Parish

	Valuation Bands (£)							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Mid Suffolk District Council	110.69	129.14	147.59	166.04	202.94	239.84	276.73	332.08
Suffolk County Council	861.42	1,004.99	1,148.56	1,292.13	1,579.27	1,866.41	2,153.55	2,584.26
Police and Crime Commissioner	141.84	165.48	189.12	212.76	260.04	307.32	354.60	425.52
Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Stowmarket	1,220.80	1,424.27	1,627.73	1,831.20	2,238.13	2,645.07	3,052.00	3,662.40
Stowupland	1,147.89	1,339.21	1,530.52	1,721.84	2,104.47	2,487.10	2,869.73	3,443.68
Stradbroke	1,153.55	1,345.80	1,538.06	1,730.32	2,114.84	2,499.35	2,883.87	3,460.64
Stuston	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Syleham	1,125.22	1,312.76	1,500.29	1,687.83	2,062.90	2,437.98	2,813.05	3,375.66
Tannington	1,113.95	1,299.61	1,485.27	1,670.93	2,042.25	2,413.57	2,784.88	3,341.86
Thorndon	1,143.01	1,333.51	1,524.01	1,714.51	2,095.51	2,476.51	2,857.52	3,429.02
Thornham Magna	1,123.95	1,311.27	1,498.60	1,685.92	2,060.57	2,435.22	2,809.87	3,371.84
Thornham Parva	1,121.58	1,308.51	1,495.44	1,682.37	2,056.23	2,430.09	2,803.95	3,364.74
Thrandeston	1,137.69	1,327.31	1,516.92	1,706.54	2,085.77	2,465.00	2,844.23	3,413.08
Thurston	1,166.91	1,361.39	1,555.88	1,750.36	2,139.33	2,528.30	2,917.27	3,500.72
Thwaite	1,136.59	1,326.03	1,515.46	1,704.89	2,083.75	2,462.62	2,841.48	3,409.78
Tostock	1,140.22	1,330.26	1,520.29	1,710.33	2,090.40	2,470.48	2,850.55	3,420.66
Walsham-le-Willows	1,143.25	1,333.80	1,524.34	1,714.88	2,095.96	2,477.05	2,858.13	3,429.76
Wattisfield	1,147.22	1,338.42	1,529.63	1,720.83	2,103.24	2,485.64	2,868.05	3,441.66
Westhorpe	1,127.09	1,314.94	1,502.79	1,690.64	2,066.34	2,442.04	2,817.73	3,381.28
Wetherden	1,150.19	1,341.89	1,533.59	1,725.29	2,108.69	2,492.09	2,875.48	3,450.58
Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford	1,134.53	1,323.61	1,512.70	1,701.79	2,079.97	2,458.14	2,836.32	3,403.58
Weybread	1,131.50	1,320.08	1,508.67	1,697.25	2,074.42	2,451.58	2,828.75	3,394.50
Whitton	1,148.99	1,340.48	1,531.98	1,723.48	2,106.48	2,489.47	2,872.47	3,446.96
Wickham Skeith	1,128.58	1,316.68	1,504.77	1,692.87	2,069.06	2,445.26	2,821.45	3,385.74
Wilby	1,143.19	1,333.72	1,524.25	1,714.78	2,095.84	2,476.90	2,857.97	3,429.56
Willisham	1,137.89	1,327.53	1,517.18	1,706.83	2,086.13	2,465.42	2,844.72	3,413.66
Wingfield	1,136.35	1,325.75	1,515.14	1,704.53	2,083.31	2,462.10	2,840.88	3,409.06
Winston	1,120.52	1,307.27	1,494.03	1,680.78	2,054.29	2,427.79	2,801.30	3,361.56
Woolpit	1,136.80	1,326.27	1,515.73	1,705.20	2,084.13	2,463.07	2,842.00	3,410.40
Worlingworth	1,141.33	1,331.55	1,521.77	1,711.99	2,092.43	2,472.87	2,853.32	3,423.98
Wortham	1,142.59	1,333.03	1,523.46	1,713.89	2,094.75	2,475.62	2,856.48	3,427.78
Wyverstone	1,129.42	1,317.66	1,505.89	1,694.13	2,070.60	2,447.08	2,823.55	3,388.26
Yaxley	1,130.89	1,319.37	1,507.85	1,696.33	2,073.29	2,450.25	2,827.22	3,392.66

Section 25 report on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves

1. Background

- 1.1 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires Councils, when setting its annual General Fund budget and level of council tax, to take account of a report from its Section 151 Officer on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves. This report fulfils that requirement for the setting of the budget and council tax for 2019/20.
- 1.2 This is to ensure that when deciding on its budget for a financial year, Members are made aware of any issues of risk and uncertainty, or any other concerns by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The local authority is also expected to ensure that its budget provides for a prudent level of reserves to be maintained.
- 1.3 Section 26 of the Act empowers the Secretary of State to set a minimum level of reserves for which a local authority must provide in setting its budget. Section 26 would only be invoked as a fallback in circumstances in which a local authority does not act prudently, disregards the advice of its CFO and is heading for financial difficulty. The Section 151 Officer and Members, therefore have a responsibility to ensure in considering the budget that:
- It is realistic and achievable and that appropriate arrangements have been adopted in formulating it.
 - It is based on clearly understood and sound assumptions and links to the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities.
 - It includes an appropriate statement on the use of reserves and the adequacy of these.

2. Basis of Advice for Section 25 Report

- 2.1 In forming the advice for this year's Section 25 report, the CFO has considered the following:
- a) The role of the Chief Finance Officer
 - b) The effectiveness of financial controls
 - c) The effectiveness of budget planning and budget management
 - d) The adequacy of insurance and risk management
 - e) The mitigation of strategic financial risks
 - f) The capital programme

a) Role of the Chief Finance Officer

- 2.2 The statutory role of the Chief Finance Officer in relation to financial administration and stewardship of the Council, and its role in the organisation are both key to ensuring that financial discipline is maintained.

- 2.3 The statutory duties of the Chief Finance Officer are set out in the Financial Regulations which form part of the Council's Constitution. These include the requirement to report to council if there is an unbalanced budget (under Section 114 of the Local Government Act 1988).
- 2.4 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) published a Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in Local Government. The Statement requires that in order to meet best practice the CFO:
- a) is a key member of the Leadership Team, helping it to develop and implement strategy and to resource and deliver the organisation's strategic objectives sustainably and in the public interest;
 - b) must be actively involved in, and able to bring influence to bear on, all material business decisions to ensure immediate and longer-term implications, opportunities and risks are fully considered, and alignment with the organisation's financial strategy; and
 - c) must lead the promotion and delivery by the whole organisation of good financial management so that public money is safeguarded at all times and used appropriately, economically, efficiently and effectively.
- To deliver these responsibilities the CFO:
- d) must lead and direct a finance function that is resourced to be fit for purpose; and
 - e) must be professionally qualified and suitably experienced.

b) Financial Controls

- 2.5 Alongside the statutory role of the CFO the Council has in place a number of financial management policies and financial controls which are set out in the Financial Regulations.
- 2.6 Other safeguards which ensure that the Council does not over-commit financially include:
- a) the statutory requirement for each local authority to set and arrange their affairs to remain within prudential limits for borrowing and capital investment;
 - b) the balanced budget requirement of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Sections 32, 43 and 93); and
 - c) the auditors' consideration of whether the authority has made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources (the value for money conclusion).
- 2.7 The Council conducts an annual review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control and reports on this in the "Annual Governance Statement".
- 2.8 The internal and external audit functions play a key role in ensuring that the Council's financial controls and governance arrangements are operating satisfactorily. This is backed up by the review processes of Cabinet and the Joint Audit and Standards Committee undertaking the role of the Council's Audit Committee.

c) Budget Planning and Budget Management

- 2.9 The financial planning process is Councillor-led as Cabinet decides the principles and policies that underpin budget planning. The Budget Report describes the strategy for 2019/20 and beyond.
- 2.10 Cost pressures and variations in key areas of income and expenditure have been carefully considered and reflected in the budget.
- 2.11 Key assumptions have been made and updated during the budget process to reflect the changing economic position and latest information.
- 2.12 Detailed scrutiny, review and challenge of budgets has been undertaken by finance officers and the Senior Leadership Team.
- 2.13 There has been an examination by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in advance of the budget being approved. The recommendations made by the Committee are considered by Cabinet before the budget is presented to Council.
- 2.14 A key factor in effective budget management is the Council's regular monitoring of spending against budgets throughout the year and at year-end. Budget managers are required to update their forecasts during the year and these are subject to review by Cabinet on a quarterly basis. The development of budget managers and initiatives to strengthen budgetary control and financial management throughout the Council is an ongoing process.
- 2.15 The Council has a proven track record on budget management, which is confirmed by Ernst & Young in their Annual Audit Letter. The auditors are required to form a conclusion on the arrangements the Council has put in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. An unqualified opinion has again been issued for 2017/18.

d) Adequacy of Insurance and Risk Management

- 2.16 The Council's insurance arrangements are in the form of external insurance premiums with regular reviews being undertaken of the level at which risks are insured.
- 2.17 A critical area where risk management thinking can add significant value is to enhance the planning and budgeting process. Utilising a risk-based approach directly links to the Council's risk appetite to its core financial and economic performance, supported by the Council's Significant Risk Register. The goal when integrating risk management into budget planning is to understand the assumptions that the budget is based on.
- 2.18 The effective application of the Council's risk management principles enhances many processes within the context of managing its services and enables management to make better and more informed decision.
- 2.19 Our approach is to identify the major line items of each service budget, the personnel who contributed to them and the basis of estimation and then to ask key questions such as:

- What are the potential risks that could interfere with the accuracy of the estimate?
- What is the likelihood of these risks materialising?
- What would the impact on the organisation be if they did materialise?

e) Mitigation of Strategic Financial Risk

2.20 No budget can be completely free from risk and these are still prevalent in the ongoing financial climate. Some comments on the areas of the budget having key financial impacts or significant changes for 2019/20 are set out below:

- **Pay and Pensions** – The budget includes provision for pay increases of 2% for each of the 4 years to 2022/23 and continues to provide for annual progression through pay scales where employees are not at the top of their grades. A 1% change in pay amounts to around £90k per annum.

2019/20 is the last year of adjustment to the employers' pension fund contribution resulting from the 2016 triennial valuation. Beyond this, an increase of 1% per annum has been included.

The Council's establishment budget is based on a full establishment. To allow for in-year vacancy savings the budget includes an annual vacancy saving of £208k. This is based on previous years' outturn.

- **Price Increases** – Allowances for price increases have been made on some budgets including major contracts, where there is a contractual requirement to do so. For other areas the budget assumes any price inflation is absorbed by the service. A 1% change in the refuse and ICT contracts and the Shared Revenues Partnership is around £34k
- **Income from Fees and Charges** – A significant part of the Council's costs continues to be met from fees and charges. For some of these headings it is difficult to predict the level of income to be received e.g. planning fees, so progress against these income targets will need to be monitored throughout the year, particularly in the light of continuing economic volatility. A 1% change in income from planning, garden waste, car park and recycling performance payments income is around £34k.
- **Investment Income and Interest Payable** – Since 2009 interest rates have produced low returns from investments, but the Council has diversified its investments into a property fund and other pooled funds, following advice from Arlingclose, to increase the return on investment. One of the impacts of Brexit may be that the income from some pooled funds will be treated as capital rather than revenue income, which could require the redemption of current holdings and reduce the anticipated level of return.

The Council is making other commercial investments in order to generate income or regenerate an area. Where this investment is relying on borrowing as the funding source then any return will be subject to changes in interest rates. This is particularly relevant to the Capital Investment Fund Company (CIFCO) where borrowing is taken out for CIFCO to invest in commercial property. The 2019/20 budget includes a proposal to invest a further £25m in CIFCO to generate additional income.

As this activity is subject to both interest rate and tenant void risks a separate stress test is being undertaken and will be available for the Council meeting in February.

- **Business Rate Retention** – As business rates is an increasingly important source of income for the Council, measures for closer monitoring have been put in place. Under the current retention system, the General Fund's exposure to variances can come from economic decline, cessation of business from a major ratepayer and appeals to rateable values. The Council operates a Business Rates Equalisation Reserve to cover for this possibility as appropriate.

In 2020/21 local government is expected to be given 75% retention of business rates. The figures for this year and beyond assume a cost neutral position, but this is currently untested. If baseline funding levels should reduce, the Business Rates Equalisation Reserve could be used to support a short-term reduction, but medium-term plans and resources would need to be reviewed.

- **Government Funding** – The Council's share of Revenue Support Grant for 2019/20 is zero, so the core Government funding is now reduced to Rural Services Delivery Grant (RSDG) and New Homes Bonus (NHB). 2019/20 is the final year of a 4-year Comprehensive Spending Review and funding levels beyond this are currently unknown. The medium-term figures are based on the current level of RSDG continuing and NHB being available under the current guidelines. NHB payments assume that there will be annual growth of 1.1% above the 0.4% baseline figure.
- **Welfare Reforms, Benefits and Council Tax Reductions** – At a forecast £14.1m housing benefit remains one of the Council's largest financial transactions, which due to the welfare reforms and introduction of Universal Credit and the Council Tax Reduction scheme is subject to increasing risk and change. This will continue to be closely monitored in order to protect the Council from any emerging risks and liabilities.

f) Capital Programme

- 2.21 The Council has a significant capital programme for the next 3 years which is largely funded through borrowing and is based upon reasonable estimates of cost and capacity to deliver the programme. The programme has been developed to support the key deliverables of the Council and its ambition through the Joint Strategic Plan.
- 2.22 A key risk therefore to consider in the Council's budget planning is the interest cost and provision for repayment of debt (Minimum Revenue Provision – MRP) that it will need to meet commitments on the borrowing it undertakes for capital purposes.
- 2.23 A review of the capital programme will need to be undertaken to ensure that future borrowing is targeted on projects that deliver the most for the district and are affordable within the current revenue resources.
- 2.24 The borrowing strategy and MRP policy are set out in detail in the Capital, Investment and Treasury Management Strategies document.

Conclusion

- 2.25 Taking all of the above into consideration, the Section 151 Officer's opinion is that the Council's budget and estimates are reasonable based on the assumptions and available information, but cannot be absolutely robust, so a full assurance cannot be given that there will be no unforeseen adverse variances.
- 2.26 This is an expected and acceptable situation for any organisation that is dealing with a large number of variables. Also, the general economic situation continues to impact on expenditure and income. Provided that the minimum safe level of reserves is maintained, any variations arising as a result of lack of robustness in the estimates should be manageable.

3 Adequacy of Reserves

- 3.1 There is no available guidance on the minimum level of reserves that should be maintained. Each authority should determine a prudent level of reserves based upon their own circumstances, risk and uncertainties. Regard has been had to guidance that has been issued to CFO's and the risks and uncertainties faced.
- 3.2 The Council is required to maintain adequate financial reserves to meet the needs of the authority. This is the General Reserve and provides a safe level of contingency.
- 3.3 The CFO's opinion is that the minimum level of unearmarked reserves should, for the time being, be maintained at the current level of £1.05m without increasing the risk to the Council. This represents 10% of the annual General Fund Budget, so no action is required as part of the 2019/20 budget. This is partly based on the understanding that there are further sums available in earmarked reserves that will not be fully spent during 2019/20 as set out below.
- 3.4 Levels of earmarked reserves (excluding those relating to the Housing Revenue Account but including the Growth and Efficiency Fund and the Community Infrastructure Levy) are forecast to be £13.2m as at 31 March 2020. The level of earmarked reserves as at the 31 March 2019 will depend on the extent to which the New Homes Bonus money that is transferred to the Growth and Efficiency Fund is spent in 2019/20. The Growth and Efficiency Fund is continuing to support the delivery of the Council's Joint Strategic Plan in 2019/20.

4. Background Documents

Local Government Act 2003; Guidance Note on Local Authority Reserves and Balances – CIPFA 2003; Medium Term Financial Strategy

Katherine Steel
Assistant Director, Corporate Resources
(Section 151 Officer)

APPENDIX D - REVISED PAGE 6

Mid Suffolk District Council
Budget Book 2019/20



GENERAL FUND BUDGET - Housing

Private Sector Housing	Employee	Premises	Supplies &	Transport	Major Third Party			Transfer to / (from) earmarked reserves £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
	Costs	Costs	Services	Costs	Contracts	Payments	Income		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Housing Standards	69	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	73
Home Improvement Agency	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	14
Other Housing Matters	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
	69	0	19	4	0	0	0	0	92

Housing Options	Employee	Premises	Supplies &	Transport	Major Third Party			Transfer to / (from) earmarked reserves £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
	Costs	Costs	Services	Costs	Contracts	Payments	Income		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Housing Options	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52

Homelessness	Employee	Premises	Supplies &	Transport	Major Third Party			Transfer to / (from) earmarked reserves £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
	Costs	Costs	Services	Costs	Contracts	Payments	Income		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Homelessness Private Sector	0	0	22	3	0	0	(17)	0	8
Rent Deposit Scheme	0	25	0	3	0	0	(25)	0	3
Homeless Prevention Fund	178	0	28	0	0	0	0	(20)	186
Flexible Homeless Support Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0	(77)	0	(77)
New Burdens and Data Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0	(30)	0	(30)
The Foyer	0	32	4	0	0	0	(137)	98	(4)
Other Temporary accommodation	0	0	0	0	0	0	(35)	35	0
	178	57	55	6	0	0	(322)	113	86

Property Services	Employee	Premises	Supplies &	Transport	Major Third Party			Transfer to / (from) earmarked reserves £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
	Costs	Costs	Services	Costs	Contracts	Payments	Income		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Asset Management	38	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	44
Wenham Depot	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
PV Panels	0	10	38	0	15	0	(359)	0	(295)
Needham Middle School	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Stowmarket Middle School	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	55
Paddock House Eye	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Cedars Park Community Centre	0	2	0	0	0	0	(12)	0	(10)
11 Market Place, Stowmarket (Natwest)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(10)	0	(10)
	38	95	45	0	15	0	(381)	0	(188)

TOTAL	337	152	118	10	15	0	(703)	113	43
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