

## COUNCIL

Meeting: Thursday, 24th February 2022 at 6.30 pm in Civic Suite, North Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EP

## **ADDENDUM**

The following items although provided for on the agenda front sheet were not available at the time of publication.

- 8. FINAL BUDGET PROPOSALS (INCLUDING MONEY PLAN AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME) (PAGES 5 10)
  - Revised Appendix 1 Money Plan Earmarked Reserves only
  - Liberal Democrat Group Proposed Budget Amendments
  - Labour Group Proposed Budget Amendments
- 9. COUNCIL TAX SETTING 2022/23 (PAGES 11 18)

To consider the report of the Leader of the Council concerning the setting of Council Tax for 2022/23.

Yours sincerely

D.R. M.L.X

Jon McGinty

**Managing Director** 

#### NOTES

## **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined in the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 as follows -

Prescribed description Interest

profession or vocation

Employment, office, trade, Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

**Sponsorship** Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit

> (other than from the Council) made or provided within the previous 12 months (up to and including the date of notification of the interest) in respect of any expenses incurred by you carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act

1992.

Contracts Any contract which is made between you, your spouse or

civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (or a body in which you or they have a

beneficial interest) and the Council

(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and

(b) which has not been fully discharged

Any beneficial interest in land which is within the Council's

area.

For this purpose "land" includes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you, your spouse, civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner (alone or jointly

with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.

Licences Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in

the Council's area for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –

(a) the landlord is the Council; and

(b) the tenant is a body in which you, your spouse or civil partner or a person you are living with as a spouse or

civil partner has a beneficial interest

Securities Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where –

(a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business

or land in the Council's area and

Land

Corporate tenancies

#### (b) either –

- i. The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
- ii. If the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose, "securities" means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

NOTE: the requirements in respect of the registration and disclosure of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and withdrawing from participating in respect of any matter where you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest apply to your interests and those of your spouse or civil partner or person with whom you are living as a spouse or civil partner where you are aware of their interest.

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For further details and enquiries about this meeting please contact Tanya Davies, 01452 396125, tanya.davies@gloucester.gov.uk.

For general enquiries about Gloucester City Council's meetings please contact Democratic Services, 01452 396126, democratic.services@gloucester.gov.uk.

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If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building; gather at the assembly point in the car park and await further instructions;
- Do not re-enter the building until told by a member of staff or the fire brigade that it is safe to do so.



#### 14.0 Earmarked Reserves

- 14.1 The Council has limited earmarked reserves with the balance at 31 March 2021 being £4.890m.
- 14.2 Where earmarked reserves are not ring fenced for a specific use, then if necessary, these reserves may potentially be used to support the General Fund.
- 14.3 The Council does face significant uncertainty from 2022/23 and it is expected there will be a significant reduction in retained funding from business rates either through reset or the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council will need to ensure there is sufficient funding in the Business Rates reserve to offset this. The plan assumes £1m will be drawn from this reserve.
- 14.4 During 2022/23 the Council will also draw on earmarked reserves in continuing delivery of agreed programmes. However, it is prudent and sensible to return and increase the level of earmarked reserves to protect the Council going forward particularly in these uncertain times.
- 14.5 The table below provides the current balance of reserves and a forecast by the end of 2022/23:

Reserves Forecast	Balance at 31/03/2021	Transfers 2021/22	Forecast 31/03/2022	Transfers 2022/23	Forecast 31/03/2023
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Historic Buildings	0.053		0.053		0.053
Housing Survey	0.060		0.060		0.060
Shopmobility	0.029		0.029		0.029
Regeneration	0.082	0.150	0.232	0.100	0.332
Insurance	0.010		0.010		0.010
Land Adoption	0.873		0.873		0.873
VAT Shelter	0.160	0.200	0.360	0.200	0.560
Business Rates	1.024		1.024	(0.500)	0.524
Environmental Insurance	0.900		0.900		0.900
Repairs	0.023		0.023	0.100	0.123
Community Builder	0.062	(0.015)	0.047	(0.015)	0.032
Planning Strategy	0.248	(0.150)	0.098	(0.050)	0.048
Flooding Works	0.010		0.010		0.010
Lottery	0.022		0.022		0.022
Museum Bequest	0.305		0.305		0.305
Transformation Reserve	0.100		0.100	(0.075)	0.025
Budget Equalisation Reserve	0.043	0.532	0.575	(0.210)	0.365
Monuments Reserve	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.010
Destination Marketing	0.200	(0.100)	0.100	(0.100)	0.000
Homelessness	0.100		0.100		0.100
Planning Appeals	0.050		0.050		0.050
Communities	0.030		0.030		0.030
Climate Change	0.100	(0.025)	0.075		0.075
Neighbourhood Spaces	0.100	(0.080)	0.020		0.020

Defibrillator	0.006	(0.006)	0.000		0.000
Property Sinking Fund	0.300	(0.300)	0.000		0.000
Cyber Recovery Reserve	0.000		0.000	0.380	0.380
Total	4.890	0.206	5.096	(0.160)	4.936

## Gloucester City Council Budget 2022/23 Liberal Democrat Group Amendments

- That £25,000 be put aside from the Cyber Recovery Reserve to fund an
  independent inquiry into cyber attack that knocked out the council's IT Systems in
  December. The inquiry to focus on why it happened, how the recovery was
  managed and to provide reassurance to the council that it will be properly
  protected against further such events.
- That the council applies to the Government for a grant from the £37.8m Cyber Security Fund to help cover the financial cost of recovering from the cyber-attack on the council's IT systems. Any award to be deposited in the Cyber Recovery Reserve before being used.
- That the council freezes Shopmobilty charges for the next year, which would result in lost income of £450 in next 12 months. Funded via the Shopmobility Reserve, which currently stands at £29,000.
- The city council to purchase three thermal imaging cameras (to include training) at a budget of £1,200 for use by community groups to allow residents and householders to get an understanding on how they could better insulate their homes. Funding to come from the Lottery Reserve
- That a fund is set up to allow each councillor the opportunity to nominate two locations in their ward for extra dual purpose litter bins. This would provide 78 extra bins across Gloucester. Capital cost would be £48,000 with ongoing cost of £25,000 per year for bin emptying. The funding for the capital cost and first year revenue cost to come from the Regulation 59(i) Strategic Infrastructure Fund of £380,000 that has been raised by the Community Infrastructure Levy from the Glevum Green development.
- That the General Fund be reduced by £6,000 and this £6,000 be moved to the Defibrillator Reserve. To allow for further purchases of defibrillators to be located at publicly accessible sites in Gloucester which do not currently have one in the locality.



## Gloucester City Council Budget 2022/23 Labour Group Amendments

# 1. <u>Proposed to create a homelessness prevention and cost of living assistance fund</u>

This to be funded from a reduction in transfer to reserves.

The fund to be used:

- 1. To enable families and individuals at risk of homelessness to remain in their existing homes or secure new ones.
- 2. To offer financial assistance to families and individuals experiencing difficulties from escalating domestic energy bills.
- 3. To offer assistance to families and individuals who are struggling to afford food due to increasing food costs

<u>Cost £200,000</u> <u>Funded from</u> transfer to reserves

## 2. <u>Proposed to support the recommendations of the Race Equality Commission</u> and Monuments Review

This will include:

- 1. City Council initial funding contribution towards a Race Equality legacy institution.

  Cost £30,000
- 2. Creation of a new City Council (part time) post to take a lead role, working with countywide partners to develop, deliver and monitor the recommendations in the report.

  Cost £25,000
- 3. Initial costs of implementing recommendations of the Gloucester City Monuments review.

  Cost £25,000

Cost £80,000	<u>Funded from</u> transfer to reserves.	

**Total cost of budget amendments:** £280,000 funded from transfer to reserves





Meeting: Council Date: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Subject: Council Tax Setting 2022/23

Report Of: Leader of the Council

Wards Affected: All

Key Decision: Yes Budget/Policy Framework: Yes

Contact Officer: Jon Topping, Director of Policy & Resources

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Appendices: 1. Council Tax Resolution

#### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To recommend to the Council to pass the resolution as set out in the Appendix 1 to this report relating to the setting of Council Tax for 2022/23. The Council agreed its budget and level of Council Tax for 2022/23 at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

#### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that
  - (1) Approve the statutory Council Tax resolutions as set out in the Appendix 1 to the report.

#### 3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 The Council, earlier in today's meeting, will have determined its budget for the 2022/23 financial year. Having determined the budget, the Council is asked to pass the statutory resolutions relating to Council Tax setting, which will include precepts by the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire, and Quedgeley Town Council.
- 3.2 The Localism Act 2011 made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and requires the billing authority to calculate a Council Tax requirement for the year, not its budget requirement as previously.
- 3.3 The precept levels of other precepting bodies have been received. These are detailed below:

#### 3.3.1 Quedgeley Town Council

Quedgeley Town Council Precept for 2022/23 is £257916.60. This results in an average Band D Council Tax figure of £39.30 for 2022/23. This represents an increase of 3.20% on the 2021/22 Band D of £38.08.

#### 3.3.2 Gloucestershire County Council

Gloucestershire County Council has set their precept at £55,810,191. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £1451.36. This represents an increase of 3% on the 2021/22 Band D of £1409.22.

#### 3.3.3 Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire has set their precept at £10,770,140.30. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £280.08. This represents an increase of 3.70% on the 2021/22 Band D of £270.08

## 4.0 Alternative Options Considered

4.1 There are no alternative options available

#### 5.0 Reasons for Recommendations

5.1 To comply with the statutory requirement to set the Council Tax requirement for the forthcoming year as per the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

#### 6.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 6.1 The recommendations of the Cabinet are set out in the formal Council Tax Resolution in Appendix 1.
- 6.2 If the formal Council Tax Resolution at Appendix 1 is approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2021/22	2022/23	Increase
Authority	£	£	%
City Council	211.99	216.99	2.4%
County Council	1409.22	1451.36	3%
Police and Crime	070.00	000.00	0.70/
Commissioner	270.08	280.08	3.7%
Quedgeley	38.08	39.30	3.2%

#### 7.0 Financial Implications

#### 7.1 Covered in the report

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

#### 8.0 Legal Implications

8.1 Covered in the report.

(Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

#### 9.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

9.1 It is essential that the composite Council Tax rate is set in accordance with the Council tax billing timetable. Any delay would put the Council at risk of not being able to collect the tax in time to make precept payments which would have serious cash flow implications.

## 10.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):

10.1 The report is purely financial in nature and therefore a PIA is not required.

## 11.0 Other Corporate Implications

## **Community Safety**

11.1 There are no specific Community Safety implications.

## Sustainability

11.2 There are no specific Sustainability implications.

## Staffing & Trade Union

11.3 There are no specific Staffing and Trade Union implications.

## **Background Documents:**

- Council Tax Practice Note 7
- The Local Government Finance Act 1992
- The Local Government Act 2003
- Localism Act 2011



#### **Gloucester City Council**

#### Council 24th February 2022

#### **Council Tax Resolution**

- 1. It be noted that Gloucester City Council has calculated the Council Tax Base 2022/23.
  - (a) 38453.80 for the whole Council Area as (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) (the "Act") :and
  - (b) 6562.70 or dwellings in those parts of its area to which Quedgeley Parish precepts relates as.
- 2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2022/23 (excluding Parish Council precepts) is £8,344,090
- 3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2022/23 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act.
- (a) £86,149,898 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2), (a) to (f) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by the Parish Council.
- (b) £77,547,891 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3), (a) to (d) of the Act.
- £8,602,007 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) £223.70 being the amount at 3.(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (paragraph 1. above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (Basic Band D including Parish Council precepts).
- (e) £257916.60 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Council precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as detailed in paragraph 5. below).
- (f) £216.99 being the amount at 3.(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3.(e) above by Item T (sub-paragraph 1.(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 Council precepts relate. (Basic Band D excluding Parish Council precepts).

#### Part of the Council's area (District and Parish combined at Band D)

Ī	Parish of Quedgeley	£257,916.60
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Being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3.(f) above, the amount of the Parish Council precepts relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided by the amount at 1.(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in that part of its area;

(g)

Valuation Bands	Quedgeley Town Council	All other parts of the Council's Area
Α	170.86	144.66
В	199.34	168.77
С	227.81	192.88
D	256.29	216.99
E	313.24	265.21
F	370.20	313.43
G	427.15	361.65
Н	512.58	433.98

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3.(f) by the number which, in proportion set out in Section 36(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. To note that for the year 2022/23, the County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire 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 the table below;

Valuation Bands	Gloucestershire County Council	Police & Crime Commissioner
Α	967.57	186.72
В	1128.84	217.84
С	1290.10	248.96
D	1451.36	280.08
E	1773.88	342.32
F	2096.41	404.56
G	2418.93	466.80
Н	2902.72	560.16

5. 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 tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2022/23 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Valuation Bands	Quedgeley Town Council	All other parts of the Council's Area
Α	1325.15	1298.95
В	1546.02	1515.45
С	1766.87	1731.94
D	1987.73	1948.43
E	2429.44	2381.41
F	2871.17	2814.40
G	3312.88	3247.38
Н	3975.46	3896.86

6. To note that the relevant basic amount of council tax for the financial year 2022/23, which reflects a £5 increase, is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended and the Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2022/23 and, therefore, the requirement to hold a referendum is not engaged.

