

Council tax requirement

- 3.1. Cabinet has considered the information in the officer reports and the feedback and representations from: the public, the business community, voluntary sector and employees. Following consideration, Cabinet proposes and recommends the Full County Council sets a balanced and sustainable revenue and capital budget for the next three years on 7 February 2017. This is set out in the Revenue and Capital Budget 2017/18 to 2019/20 and Treasury Management Strategy report to Full County Council and its annexes.
- 3.2. Districts and boroughs provided the County Council with estimated council tax base and council tax collection fund balance figures before the legislative deadline of 31 January 2017. The collection fund balance is the difference between the estimated council tax collectable for the current year (2016/17) and that actually collected. The districts and boroughs confirmed the council tax collection fund balance at £9,077,272.00.
- 3.3. The basic amount of council tax is the council tax requirement divided by the tax base.
- 3.4. The council tax requirement for 2017/18 is based on an overall increase of 4.99%:

	£	£
Gross expenditure		1,695,982,353.21
Unidentified savings		-29,967,770.21
Other income		-155,909,080.18
Budgeted revenue expenditure		1,510,105,502.82
Council tax collection fund balance	-9,077,272.00	
Contribution to reserves and balances	4,369,069.68	
Reserves and balances including council tax collection fund		-4,708,202.32
Budgeted net expenditure		1,505,397,300.50
Business rates income		-52,669,069.68
Core funding *		-104,742,000.00
Other Government grant		-691,164,333.34
COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENT		656,821,897.48

* Core funding includes Revenue Support Grant, Business Rates Top-Up Grant, Adult Social Care Support Grant and the Transitional Relief Grant

- 3.5. The tax base is the number of Band D equivalent properties for precepting purposes. For 2017/18 it is as follows:

Billing authority	Number of Band D equivalent properties
Elmbridge	63,415.00
Epsom & Ewell	32,324.01
Guildford	56,634.54
Mole Valley	40,257.00
Reigate & Banstead	59,076.00
Runnymede	33,327.00
Spelthorne	38,908.60
Surrey Heath	37,318.03
Tandridge	37,558.90
Waverley	53,936.10
Woking	40,521.00
Total	493,276.18

- 3.6. The Provisional Settlement for 2017/18 set a threshold for councils to increase the standard level of Council Tax by up to 2% without having to hold a referendum. In addition to this, to reflect the specific service demand and cost pressures being faced by councils with Adult Social Care service responsibilities, the Provisional Settlement gives these authorities an additional 3% flexibility on their current council tax referendum threshold, to be used entirely for adult social care. This precept is to be identified separately on the Council Tax bill. Both of these uplifts are calculated on the full Council Tax Precept for 2016/17. Accordingly, the council tax precept for 2017/18 at Band D is calculated as:

Standard Council Tax	£626,021,732.80	÷	493,276.18	=	£1,269.11
Adult Social Care	£30,800,164.68	÷	493,276.18	=	£62.44*
Council Tax Precept	£656,821,897.48	÷	493,276.18	=	£1,331.55

*The amount charged for the Adult Social Care precept is, as per regulations, the sum of the 2016/17 ASC precept and that for 2017/18. i.e £24.39 + £38.05 = £62.44
The £38.05 precept for 2017/18 is 3% of the 2016/17 precept of £1,268.26.

- 3.7. The County Council's level of council tax for each category of dwelling in its area will be as follows:

Valuation band	Standard council tax precept	Adult social care precept	Overall council tax precept
A	£846.07	£41.63	£887.70
B	£987.08	£48.57	£1,035.65
C	£1,128.10	£55.50	£1,183.60
D	£1,269.11	£62.44	£1,331.55
E	£1,551.14	£76.31	£1,627.45
F	£1,833.16	£90.19	£1,923.35
G	£2,115.19	£104.06	£2,219.25
H	£2,538.22	£124.88	£2,663.10

- 3.8. The payment for each billing authority including any Surplus or Deficit balances on the Collection Fund will be as follows:

Billing authority	£
Elmbridge	85,728,065.25
Epsom & Ewell	43,738,124.52
Guildford	76,246,236.74
Mole Valley	53,650,096.35
Reigate & Banstead	79,835,944.80
Runnymede	44,376,566.85
Spelthorne	52,941,846.33
Surrey Heath	51,190,822.85
Tandridge	51,396,753.30
Waverley	72,190,134.96
Woking	54,604,577.55
TOTAL*	665,899,169.48

*This total includes the Council Tax Collection Fund balance.

- 3.9. Each billing authority's payments to be made in ten equal instalments on the following dates, already agreed with relevant authorities:

20 April 2017	13 October 2017
26 May 2017	24 November 2017
26 June 2017	5 January 2018
28 July 2017	12 February 2018
8 September 2017	16 March 2018