



COUNCIL

All Members of the Council are
HEREBY SUMMONED
to attend a meeting of the Council to
be held on

Wednesday, 2nd March, 2016

at 7.00 pm

in the Assembly Halls, Hackney Town Hall,
Mare Street, London E8 1EA

Tim Shields
Chief Executive

Contact: Emma Perry
Governance Services
Tel: 020 8356 3338
governance@hackney.gov.uk

The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting

MEETING INFORMATION

Future Meetings

Contact for Information

Emma Perry, Governance Services
Tel: 020 8356 3338
governance@hackney.gov.uk

Location

Hackney Town Hall is on Mare Street, bordered by Wilton Way and Reading Lane. For directions please go to <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us>

Facilities

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls, rooms 101, 102 & 103 and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

Council Agenda

9 Report from Cabinet: Budget and Council Tax Report 2016/17

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2016/17 Revenue Estimates and Council Tax

TABLED PAPER: Conservative Group budget amendment

This Council therefore amends as set out below the 2016/17 budget proposals, by proposing a reduction in the Hackney element of the Council Tax of £36.02 per Band D equivalent, which when added to the reduction of £19.00 per Band D equivalent property in the GLA levy, represents an overall £55.02 decrease in the Council Tax at Band D.

	£'000s
Proposed reductions in ongoing revenue expenditure	
Reduce number of graffiti removal crews from 5 to 4	(100)
Sub-total of proposed reductions in ongoing revenue expenditure	(100)
Proposed changes in capital expenditure	
Reduce investment in planned highways maintenance	(1,500)
<i>Note: the Corporate Director of Finance & Resources and the AD Public Realm would strongly advise that this reduction is only maintained for one year and will need to be reversed as part of the development of the 2017/18 Budget</i>	
Reduction in expenditure on general parks infrastructure	(300)
Reduction investment in respect of Shoreditch Action Plan from £700k to £300k	(400)
Reduction in expenditure on updating traffic calming measures	(100)
Sub-total of proposed changes in capital expenditure	(2,300)
TOTAL CHANGE IN BUDGET REQUIREMENT	(2,400)

n.b. the proposed change in capital expenditure will take the form of a one-off reduction in Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay to fund the reduction in Council tax as set out above.

Council therefore amends as follows the 2016/17 budget proposals, including a reduction in the Hackney element of the Council Tax of £36.02 per Band D equivalent and a £55.02 decrease in the overall Band D Council Tax when the GLA levy is included. The Corporate Director of Finance & Resources advises that he can give the reassurances required by Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 with regard the adequacy of the reserves and the robustness of the estimates on the basis of the notes included with the proposed amendments. It is also important to note that where resources identified above are only one off resources they can only be used to fund expenditure for the one year.

The proposed amendments set out above will generate a Council Tax Requirement of £65.451m, which equates to a Council Tax of £982.40 at the Band D level for Hackney purposes. When added to the proposals of the preceptor, the Greater London Authority, this would produce a total at band D level of £1,258.40 for residents, which equates to a £35.05 reduction from 2015/16.

In addition to the proposed amendments for 2016/17, the Conservative group propose the following reviews take place during 2016/17 in order to identify further efficiencies, to include

- Ending the publication of Hackney Today, in line with other authorities, and to explore more efficient means of publishing statutory notices and other service information
- Ending the implementation of public realm schemes relating to road closures and other traffic calming measures
- No further expenditure to be incurred on Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ)
- A review of the consultation process, particularly regarding CPZs, to ensuring that the final decisions take full account of the views expressed by residents and business
- A review of the application of s106 funds to ensure that those with some flexibility regarding their use are used appropriately and most efficiently in pursuit of the Council's overall aims and objectives
- Review of schemes agreed with TfL as part of the Local Implementation Plan (LIP) with a view to agreeing a reprioritisation of funding in order to reduce call on the Council's discretionary capital programme for general repairs. This review and any subsequent proposed changes to the approved LIP will need to be agreed by TfL.
- Consider proposals to combine the Planning and Enforcement services with those of Haringey Council to achieve efficiencies and better understanding of the approach to large families, alongside a full review of grants available to planning authorities in order to ensure these are fully exploited.
- Explore more fully the potential of providing some of our services to other Council's, such as Registrars to LB Waltham Forest, thus maximising efficiencies and generating income for the Council
- A review of assistance to small business to ensure that optimum level of support is provided, focusing on areas such as increasing take up of small business rate relief
- A review of the promotion of youth services specifically aimed at increasing further knowledge of what is available in order to increase use of the services provided
- A review of the ward forums with a view to combining with other meetings and forums held with residents and businesses within the borough
- A review of any proposals brought forward by officers in relation to the way in which members are supported, ensuring efficiency and reduced cost of the support provided,
- A review of members allowances with a view to reducing costs of the cabinet and a recommendation to cap Mayor's allowance at £50k per annum
- A review of the structure of the Scrutiny function within the Council with a view to reducing the number of Commissions, whilst still meeting statutory requirements.
- Discontinue the Standards Committee with immediate effect given this is no longer a legal requirement, whilst ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Localism Act and other statutory guidance.

Proposer: Cllr Simche Steinberger

Secunder: Cllr Michael Levy

2016/17 Revenue Estimate and Council Tax

TABLED PAPER: Liberal Democrat Group Budget Amendment

The Council therefore amends as set out below the 2016/17 budget proposals, by proposing a further 1.99% increase in the Hackney element of the Council Tax, which when added to the reduction of £19.00 per Band D equivalent property in the GLA levy, represents an overall £20.84 increase in the Council Tax at Band D.

	£'000s
Proposed additional ongoing revenue expenditure	
Provision of grants to support community advice centres	100
Sub-total of proposed additional ongoing expenditure	100
Proposed reductions in ongoing revenue expenditure	
Reduce number of graffiti removal crews from 5 to 4	(100)
Sub-total of proposed reductions in ongoing revenue expenditure	(100)
Proposed additional one-off revenue expenditure	
Grants to community centres to explore and implement schemes to improve intergenerational relations	200
Additional support to voluntary community groups via community grants scheme	350
Fund evening courses in schools for parents with "English as Second Language"	300
Increase support to residents with difficulties paying Council Tax via the Local Hardship Fund	1,624
Sub-total of proposed changes in one-off revenue expenditure	2,474
Proposed changes in capital expenditure	
Reduce investment in respect of Shoreditch Action Plan from £700k to £500k with view to reviewing impact in future years	(200)
Reduce investment in expenditure on parks infrastructure with a view to reprofiling £450k over subsequent years 2017/18-2018/19	(750)
Cancellation of installation of CCTV in libraries	(200)
Sub-total of proposed changes in capital expenditure	(1,150)
TOTAL CHANGE IN BUDGET REQUIREMENT	1,324

NB: the proposed change in capital expenditure will take the form of a one-off reduction in Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay to fund additional one-off expenditure listed above

Council therefore amends as follows the 2016/17 budget proposals, including a 3.99% increase in the Hackney element of the Council Tax and a £20.84 increase in the overall Band D Council Tax when the GLA precept is included. The Corporate

Director of Finance and Resources advises that he can give reassurances required by section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 with regard the adequacy of the reserves and the robustness of the estimates on the basis of the notes included with the proposed amendments. It is also important to note that where resources identified above are only one off resources they can only be used to fund expenditure for the one year.

The proposed amendments set out above will generate a Council Tax Requirement of £69.175m, which equates to a Council Tax of £1,038.29 at Band D level for Hackney purposes. When added to the proposals of the preceptor, the Greater London Authority, this would produce a total at Band D level of £1,314.29 for residents, which equates to a £20.84 increase from 2015/16.

Proposer: Councillor Ian Sharer

Seconder: Councillor Abraham Jacobson