

Report to	-	Council
Date	-	27 February 2017
Report of the	-	Executive Director of Resources
Subject	-	Budget 2017/18

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**Recommendation:** It be **RESOLVED:** That the formal Council Tax Resolution at Appendix A be approved.

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## **Introduction**

1. The Localism Act 2011 requires the billing authority to calculate a Council Tax requirement for the year, not its budget requirement as previously.
2. The precept levels of other precepting bodies have all now been received. These are detailed below:

## **Town and Parish Councils**

3. The Town and Parish Council Precepts (including Special Expenses for Bexhill and Rye) for 2017/18 are detailed in Appendix B and total £2,287,455 (2016/17 £2,033,525). The increase in the average Band D Council Tax for Town and Parish Councils is 11.1% and results in an average Band D Council Tax figure of £61.39 for 2017/18.

## **East Sussex County Council**

4. East Sussex County Council met on 7 February 2017 and set their precept at £48,974,329 (2016/17 £46,080,987) for the area of Rother. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £1,314.36 (2016/17 £1,275.92). This includes the Adult Social Care Precept of £37.53 at Band D in Council Tax.

## **Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner**

5. Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner met on 14 February 2017 and set their precept at £5,734,836 (2016/17 £5,481,204) for the area of Rother. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £153.91 (2016/17 £148.91).

## **East Sussex Fire Authority**

6. East Sussex Fire Authority met on 11 February 2017 and set their precept at £3,293,870 (2016/17 £3,192,063) for the area of Rother. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £88.40 (2016/17 £86.72).

## **Excessive Council Tax increases**

7. The Localism Act 2011 introduced a requirement for a local authority to determine whether its basic amount of Council Tax for a financial year is excessive, in which case a local referendum would be needed. Schedule 5 of the Localism Act 2011 has inserted a new chapter 4ZA into part 1 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. Section 52ZB sets out the steps needed to determine the level of tax which would be 'excessive'. These steps are in

effect to compare the level of increase in Council Tax with principles set out by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State has indicated that, for 2017/18, an increase £5 or 2% (whichever is the greatest) and above in a District Council's Council Tax would be excessive. This includes the impact of changes in charges from levying bodies, in Rother's case the Internal Drainage Boards.

8. Cabinet have recommended Rother District Council's basic amount of tax for 2017/18 to be increased to £169.32 (3%); well within the Secretary of State's guidelines and is therefore not excessive.

### Budget Consultation

9. At the time of writing the Council had received 354 responses to the budget consultation. The results of the consultation are detailed in Appendix C and an update will be provided at the meeting; the full responses will be made available in the Members' Room. Overall the result so far shows:
- 10.

Option	Frequency	Percentage
Raise the Council Tax by £5 based on a Band D property?	219	61.9%
Freeze the Council Tax at its current level?	100	28.2%
Raise the Council Tax by less than £5 and find any shortfall from somewhere else?	35	9.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Conclusions

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

	2016/17	2017/18	Increase
	£	£	%
Rother District Council	164.32	169.32	3%
East Sussex County Council	1251.90	1276.83	2%
East Sussex County Council – social care precept	24.02	37.53	56.3%
Sussex Police Authority	148.91	153.91	3.4%
East Sussex Fire Authority	86.72	88.40	1.94%
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1606.97</b>	<b>1725.99</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
Town and Parish Council (average)	55.25	61.39	11.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,697.66</b>	<b>1,787.38</b>	<b>5.3%</b>

Malcolm Johnston  
Executive Director of Resources

**Budget 2017/18**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass a resolution in the following terms: -

1. (a) That Council approves the Rother District Council General Fund Council Tax Requirement of £6,309,027 for 2017/18 and the resultant Band D tax of £169.32 as set out in this report.

- (b) The expenses incurred by the Council, set out in the minutes of the Cabinet of 13 February 2017 in the sum of £664,990 in respect of Bexhill and £49,610 in respect of Rye, be approved as the Special Expenses chargeable to residents of Bexhill and Rye respectively. All other expenses incurred by the Council (excluding Parish Precepts) be approved as general expenditure for the purposes of section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. (This resolution will be reviewed annually).

2. That it be noted, the following amounts for the year 2017/18 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, made under section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- (a) 37,260.97 being the amount calculated by the Council in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012, as its Council Tax base for the year.

(b)					
Bexhill	16,200.30	Etchingham	406.41	Salehurst	1,021.35
Ashburnham & Penhurst	193.75	Ewhurst	536.53	Sedlescombe	655.22
Battle	2,686.59	Fairlight	876.95	Ticehurst	1,632.05
Beckley	531.01	Guestling	601.54	Udimore	179.86
Bodiam	157.30	Hurst Green	577.70	Westfield	1,067.84
Brede	848.58	Icklesham	1,221.89	Whatlington	158.59
Brightling	201.33	Iden	236.79	Rye	1,895.53
Burwash	1,264.05	Mountfield	202.22		
Camber	688.61	Northiam	974.26		
Catsfield	346.03	Peasmarsch	523.13		
Crowhurst	360.31	Pett	471.72		
Dallington	173.95	Playden	160.16		
East Guldeford	31.13	Rye Foreign	178.29		

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.

3. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2017/18 in accordance with sections 32 to 38 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 as amended: -

- |    |              |   |
|----|--------------|---|
| a. | £49,619,025  | Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act. (this amount is the Council's gross expenditure including the Parish Council Precepts and the Special Expenses for Bexhill and Rye).  |
| b. | £41,022,543  | Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act.   |
| c. | £8,596,482   | 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 32(4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year.   |
| d. | £230.71      | being the amount at 3(c) divided by the amount at 2 above (Item T), calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.  |
| e. | 2,287,454.61 | Being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in section 35(1) of the Act   |
| f. | £169.32      | Being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 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 special item relates. |

g.

**PARISH COUNCIL AREA**

**D**

£

Bexhill	211.16
Ashburnham & Penhurst	216.02
Battle	296.16
Beckley	208.87
Bodiam	226.54
Brede	202.06
Brightling	204.59
Burwash	200.40
Camber	262.43
Catsfield	233.34
Crowhurst	245.15
Dallington	217.81
East Guldeford	169.32
Etchingham	264.77
Ewhurst	287.15
Fairlight	222.63
Guestling	182.39
Hurst Green	233.47
Icklesham	256.08
Iden	228.44
Mountfield	234.10
Northiam	323.28
Peasmarsh	222.84
Pett	213.84
Playden	200.54
Rye Foreign	180.54
Salehurst	259.72
Sedlescombe	240.05
Ticehurst	253.91
Udimore	192.12
Westfield	201.16
Whatlington	217.24
Rye	263.45

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 2(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 those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

h.

**LOCAL TAX**

<b>AREA</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bexhill	140.78	164.23	187.70	211.16	258.09	305.00	351.94	422.32
Ashburnham & Penhurst	144.01	168.01	192.02	216.02	264.03	312.03	360.03	432.04
Battle	197.44	230.34	263.26	296.16	361.98	427.78	493.60	592.32
Beckley	139.25	162.45	185.67	208.87	255.29	301.70	348.12	417.74
Bodiam	151.03	176.19	201.37	226.54	276.89	327.22	377.57	453.08
Brede	134.71	157.15	179.61	202.06	246.97	291.86	336.77	404.12
Brightling	136.39	159.12	181.86	204.59	250.06	295.52	340.98	409.18
Burwash	133.60	155.86	178.14	200.40	244.94	289.46	334.00	400.80
Camber	174.95	204.11	233.27	262.43	320.75	379.06	437.38	524.86
Catsfield	155.56	181.48	207.42	233.34	285.20	337.04	388.90	466.68
Crowhurst	163.43	190.67	217.91	245.15	299.63	354.10	408.58	490.30
Dallington East	145.21	169.40	193.61	217.81	266.22	314.61	363.02	435.62
Guldeford	112.88	131.69	150.51	169.32	206.95	244.57	282.20	338.64
Etchingham	176.51	205.93	235.35	264.77	323.61	382.44	441.28	529.54
Ewhurst	191.43	223.34	255.25	287.15	350.96	414.77	478.58	574.30
Fairlight	148.42	173.15	197.90	222.63	272.11	321.57	371.05	445.26
Guestling	121.59	141.86	162.13	182.39	222.92	263.45	303.98	364.78
Hurst Green	155.65	181.58	207.53	233.47	285.36	337.23	389.12	466.94
Icklesham	170.72	199.17	227.63	256.08	312.99	369.89	426.80	512.16
Iden	152.29	177.67	203.06	228.44	279.21	329.97	380.73	456.88
Mountfield	156.07	182.07	208.09	234.10	286.13	338.14	390.17	468.20
Northiam	215.52	251.44	287.36	323.28	395.12	466.96	538.80	646.56
Peasmarsh	148.56	173.32	198.08	222.84	272.36	321.88	371.40	445.68
Pett	142.56	166.32	190.08	213.84	261.36	308.88	356.40	427.68
Playden	133.69	155.97	178.26	200.54	245.11	289.67	334.23	401.08
Rye Foreign	120.36	140.42	160.48	180.54	220.66	260.78	300.90	361.08
Salehurst	173.15	202.00	230.87	259.72	317.44	375.15	432.87	519.44
Sedlescombe	160.03	186.70	213.38	240.05	293.40	346.74	400.08	480.10
Ticehurst	169.27	197.48	225.70	253.91	310.34	366.76	423.18	507.82
Udimore	128.08	149.42	170.78	192.12	234.82	277.50	320.20	384.24
Westfield	134.11	156.45	178.81	201.16	245.87	290.56	335.27	402.32
Whatlington	144.83	168.96	193.11	217.24	265.52	313.79	362.07	434.48
Rye	175.64	204.90	234.18	263.45	322.00	380.53	439.09	526.90

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(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.

- That the Council notes that for the year 2016/17 East Sussex County Council the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and the East Sussex Fire Authority 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: -

<u>Precepting Authority</u>	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ESCC	876.24	1,022.28	1,168.32	1,314.36	1,606.44	1,898.52	2,190.60	2,628.72
SPCC	102.61	119.71	136.81	153.91	188.11	222.31	256.52	307.82
ES Fire	58.93	68.76	78.58	88.40	108.04	127.69	147.33	176.80

5. That, having calculated the aggregate 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 2017/18 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below: -

<u>LOCAL TAX AREA</u>	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bexhill	1,178.56	1,374.98	1,571.41	1,767.83	2,160.68	2,553.52	2,946.39	3,535.66
Ashburnham & Penhurst	1,181.79	1,378.76	1,575.73	1,772.69	2,166.62	2,560.55	2,954.48	3,545.38
Battle	1,235.22	1,441.09	1,646.97	1,852.83	2,264.57	2,676.30	3,088.05	3,705.66
Beckley	1,177.03	1,373.20	1,569.38	1,765.54	2,157.88	2,550.22	2,942.57	3,531.08
Bodiam	1,188.81	1,386.94	1,585.08	1,783.21	2,179.48	2,575.74	2,972.02	3,566.42
Brede	1,172.49	1,367.90	1,563.32	1,758.73	2,149.56	2,540.38	2,931.22	3,517.46
Brightling	1,174.17	1,369.87	1,565.57	1,761.26	2,152.65	2,544.04	2,935.43	3,522.52
Burwash	1,171.38	1,366.61	1,561.85	1,757.07	2,147.53	2,537.98	2,928.45	3,514.14
Camber	1,212.73	1,414.86	1,616.98	1,819.10	2,223.34	2,627.58	3,031.83	3,638.20
Catsfield	1,193.34	1,392.23	1,591.13	1,790.01	2,187.79	2,585.56	2,983.35	3,580.02
Crowhurst	1,201.21	1,401.42	1,601.62	1,801.82	2,202.22	2,602.62	3,003.03	3,603.64
Dallington East	1,182.99	1,380.15	1,577.32	1,774.48	2,168.81	2,563.13	2,957.47	3,548.96
Guldeford	1,150.66	1,342.44	1,534.22	1,725.99	2,109.54	2,493.09	2,876.65	3,451.98
Etchingham	1,214.29	1,416.68	1,619.06	1,821.44	2,226.20	2,630.96	3,035.73	3,642.88
Ewhurst	1,229.21	1,434.09	1,638.96	1,843.82	2,253.55	2,663.29	3,073.03	3,687.64
Fairlight	1,186.20	1,383.90	1,581.61	1,779.30	2,174.70	2,570.09	2,965.50	3,558.60
Guestling	1,159.37	1,352.61	1,545.84	1,739.06	2,125.51	2,511.97	2,898.43	3,478.12
Hurst Green	1,193.43	1,392.33	1,591.24	1,790.14	2,187.95	2,585.75	2,983.57	3,580.28
Icklesham	1,208.50	1,409.92	1,611.34	1,812.75	2,215.58	2,618.41	3,021.25	3,625.50
Iden	1,190.07	1,388.42	1,586.77	1,785.11	2,181.80	2,578.49	2,975.18	3,570.22
Mountfield	1,193.85	1,392.82	1,591.80	1,790.77	2,188.72	2,586.66	2,984.62	3,581.54
Northiam	1,253.30	1,462.19	1,671.07	1,879.95	2,297.71	2,715.48	3,133.25	3,759.90
Peasmarsh	1,186.34	1,384.07	1,581.79	1,779.51	2,174.95	2,570.40	2,965.85	3,559.02
Pett	1,180.34	1,377.07	1,573.79	1,770.51	2,163.95	2,557.40	2,950.85	3,541.02
Playden	1,171.47	1,366.72	1,561.97	1,757.21	2,147.70	2,538.19	2,928.68	3,514.42
Rye Foreign	1,158.14	1,351.17	1,544.19	1,737.21	2,123.25	2,509.30	2,895.35	3,474.42
Salehurst	1,210.93	1,412.75	1,614.58	1,816.39	2,220.03	2,623.67	3,027.32	3,632.78
Sedlescombe	1,197.81	1,397.45	1,597.09	1,796.72	2,195.99	2,595.26	2,994.53	3,593.44
Ticehurst	1,207.05	1,408.23	1,609.41	1,810.58	2,212.93	2,615.28	3,017.63	3,621.16
Udimore	1,165.86	1,360.17	1,554.49	1,748.79	2,137.41	2,526.02	2,914.65	3,497.58
Westfield	1,171.89	1,367.20	1,562.52	1,757.83	2,148.46	2,539.08	2,929.72	3,515.66
Whatlington	1,182.61	1,379.71	1,576.82	1,773.91	2,168.11	2,562.31	2,956.52	3,547.82
Rye	1,213.42	1,415.65	1,617.89	1,820.12	2,224.59	2,629.05	3,033.54	3,640.24

6. The Service Manager – Finance and Welfare as Section 151 Officer be authorised to authenticate and serve all notices etc. required in connection with the Council Tax and National Non Domestic Rate.

**Assessment as to whether change in Council Tax is excessive**

7. That the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2017/18 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under section 52B(3) of the Local Government Act 1992.



**COUNCIL TAX CALCULATION FOR EACH AREA**  
**OF ROTHER DISTRICT 2017/18**

LOCAL TAX AREA	2017/18			2016/17			COUNCIL TAX INCREASE
	LOCAL PRECEPT	<i>divided by</i> LOCAL TAX BASE	<i>gives</i> LOCAL BAND D COUNCIL TAX	LOCAL PRECEPT	<i>divided by</i> LOCAL TAX BASE	<i>gives</i> LOCAL BAND D COUNCIL TAX	
	£	no.	£	£	no.	£	£
Bexhill (note 1)	677,820	16,200.30	41.84	675,695	15,991.57	42.25	-0.97%
Ashburnham & Penhurst	9,049	193.75	46.70	8,234	188.73	43.63	7.04%
Battle	340,762	2,686.59	126.84	252,683	2,648.67	95.40	32.96%
Beckley	21,000	531.01	39.55	21,000	528.85	39.71	-0.40%
Bodiam	9,000	157.30	57.22	8,825	148.83	59.30	-3.51%
Brede	27,780	848.58	32.74	23,075	832.42	27.72	18.11%
Brightling	7,100	201.33	35.27	7,000	197.20	35.50	-0.65%
Burwash	39,283	1,264.05	31.08	35,712	1,246.52	28.65	8.48%
Camber	64,114	688.61	93.11	61,432	686.64	89.47	4.07%
Catsfield	22,153	346.03	64.02	21,777	345.34	63.06	1.52%
Crowhurst	27,323	360.31	75.83	26,920	362.18	74.33	2.02%
Dallington	8,435	173.95	48.49	8,435	176.12	47.89	1.25%
East Guldeford	0	31.13	0.00	0	31.22	0.00	0.00%
Etchingham	38,793	406.41	95.45	35,587	396.36	89.78	6.32%
Ewhurst	63,220	536.53	117.83	62,220	538.30	115.59	1.94%
Fairlight	46,750	876.95	53.31	47,000	874.09	53.77	-0.86%
Guestling	7,860	601.54	13.07	5,000	607.75	8.23	58.81%
Hurst Green	37,060	577.70	64.15	33,275	570.32	58.34	9.96%
Icklesham	106,005	1,221.89	86.76	103,811	1,218.45	85.20	1.83%
Iden	14,000	236.79	59.12	14,000	236.99	59.07	0.08%
Mountfield	13,100	202.22	64.78	13,100	199.36	65.71	-1.42%
Northiam	150,000.00	974.26	153.96	45,000	974.95	46.16	233.54%
Peasmarsh	28,000	523.13	53.52	25,770	513.48	50.19	6.63%
Pett	21,000	471.72	44.52	19,292	463.44	41.63	6.94%
Playden	5,000	160.16	31.22	5,000	166.17	30.09	3.76%

LOCAL TAX AREA	2017/18			2016/17			COUNCIL TAX INCREASE
	LOCAL PRECEPT	divided by LOCAL TAX BASE	gives LOCAL BAND D COUNCIL TAX	LOCAL PRECEPT	divided by LOCAL TAX BASE	gives LOCAL BAND D COUNCIL TAX	
Rye Foreign	2,000	178.29	11.22	2,000	172.77	11.58	-3.11%
Salehurst	92,330	1,021.35	90.40	90,825	1,004.70	90.40	0.00%
Sedlescombe	46,344	655.22	70.73	45,054	653.15	68.98	2.54%
Ticehurst	138,050	1,632.05	84.59	118,350	1,626.33	72.77	16.24%
Udimore	4,100	179.86	22.80	5,303	181.73	29.18	-21.86%
Westfield	34,000	1,067.84	31.84	33,000	1,040.55	31.71	0.41%
Whatlington	7,600	158.59	47.92	7,600	151.39	50.20	-4.54%
Rye (note 2)	178,423	1,895.53	94.13	171,550	1,834.27	93.53	0.64%

Note 1

Bexhill local precept shown above comprises

: Bexhill Charter Trustees Precept	12,830	16,200	0.79
: Bexhill Special Expenses	664,990	16,200	41.05
	<b>677,820</b>	41.84	<b>41.84</b>

Note 2

Rye local precept shown above comprises

: Rye Town Council Precept	128,813	1,896	67.96
: Rye Special Expenses	49,610	1,896	26.17
	<b>178,423</b>		<b>94.13</b>