



NOTES FOR MEETING OF COUNCIL – 23 FEBRUARY 2023

At the start of the meeting, the Lead Officer will confirm the Fire Evacuation Procedure.

The Lead Officer will announce that this meeting may be recorded and that anyone remaining at the meeting has provided their consent to any such recording – please see our protocol on [Attending and Reporting Meetings](#)

1. PRESENTATION FROM MUSTARD SEED AUTISM

Sarah Clements from Mustard Seed Autism will be in attendance to give a short presentation on the work of the organisation and to answer a small number of questions from Members.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 January 2023

Note: The only aspect of the Minutes that can be discussed is their accuracy. Members have been asked to email Committee Services in advance of the meeting if they have any questions on the accuracy of the Minutes.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence from Members*.

The Chairman will ask the Committee Services Officer if any apologies have been received. No apologies for absence have been received so far.

***Note:** Members have been asked to email Committee Services in advance of the meeting as soon as they become aware they will be absent.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare disposable pecuniary, and any other, interests*.

The Chairman to state that, if any Members have any disclosable pecuniary or any other interests to declare in any of the items on the agenda, they should declare them at this point.

***Note:** Members are asked to email Committee Services in advance of the meeting as soon as they are aware they may have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, and any other interests they may have with respect to matters which are to be considered at this meeting.

5. COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 - QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

There have been no questions received from members of the public.

6. COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

There is a question from Cllr Kennett:

“There seems to be a high turnover of staff at Hart. Please could councillors be provided with figures on this, by seniority band and department, for this council year so far, with figures from adjoining councils for comparison?”

7. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To note the Chairman’s engagements since the last full Council meeting:

5 Feb: Mayor of Yateley Town Civic Service at St Peter’s Church, Yateley
14 Feb: Visit to Abundance Finance, Fleet

8. CABINET MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will ask Cabinet Members whether they have any announcements of importance to the Council.

- The Leader of the Council, and member for Strategic Direction, Partnership and Countryside, Councillor Neighbour
- The Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Radley
- The Cabinet Member for Digital and Communications, Councillor Clarke
- The Cabinet Member for Community, Councillor Bailey
- The Cabinet Member for Place, Councillor Cockarill
- The Cabinet Member for Regulatory, Councillor Collins
- The Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Oliver
- The Cabinet Member for Commercialisation and Corporate Services, Councillor Quarterman

9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements from the Chief Executive.

10. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the following Committees, which met on the dates shown, are submitted.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.1, Members are allowed to put questions at Council without Notice in respect of any matters in the Minutes to the Leader of the Council or any Chairman of the relevant meeting at the time those Minutes are received by Council.

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Meeting	Date	Page Numbers	For Decision
Cabinet (draft)	2 February	195-200	
Overview & Scrutiny (draft)	17 January	201-206	
Planning	18 January	207-212	
Planning Enforcement Sub-Cttee (draft)	30 January	213-216	
Licensing (draft)	7 February	217-222	Minute 21, page LIC13 – the rate for all Wheelchair Accessible vehicle licenses to be zero for a period of 2 years as an incentive to encourage more wheelchair accessible vehicles in Hart district. * Minute 21, page LIC13 – the fees for all Private Hire and Hackney Carriage vehicle licenses for 100% electric vehicles to be zero for a period of 2 years as an incentive to encourage more electric vehicles in Hart district.*
Staffing (draft)	9 February	223-226	Minute 19 Page St22 – Council to approve the 2023/24 Pay Policy as recommended by the Staffing Committee

*subject to consultation outcome

*The **Chairman** will ask if there are any questions on the minutes of each Committee in turn, and to whom the question is to be put. After questions have been asked on that Committee's minutes the Chairman of the relevant Committee will ask for a vote for any recommendations to Council contained in those minutes.*

11. BUDGET 2023/24

Cllr Radley, Portfolio Holder for Finance will introduce this item. Members will be limited to 3 minutes each for speeches during debate.

RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommending to Council that it:

- i. agrees a 2.99% increase in Hart District Council's Band D Council Tax Charge for 2023/24,
- ii. agrees not to change the Council's existing Council Tax Support Scheme other than the required statutory uprating,

- iii. agrees to make changes to fees and charges for 2023/24 in line with the principles set out in this report, with full details being reported to full Council, **iiia (New officer recommendation) To approve the schedule of fees and charges as set out in Appendix 5**
- iv. approves the draft Revenue Budget for 2023/24 as summarised in paragraph 10.1 and Appendix 3, incorporating the baseline net service cost variations included at Appendix 4,
- v. approves the new Capital Bids as detailed in Appendix 1,
- vi. requests the S151 Officer to undertake a comprehensive review of reserves, provisions and SANG funds, as detailed in section 7 of this report, in Spring 2023 when the 2022/23 outturn is known and a more accurate assessment of economic conditions and business rate provisions can be made,
- vii. approves the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendix 2,
- viii. notes the emerging pressures and risks set out in the report and the S151 Officer's intention to undertake a mid-year review of detailed budgets, and
- ix. approves the capital receipt flexibility strategy detailed in the report under the Direction issued by the Government early in 2022.

There is a need for a recorded vote to be taken on this item

12. COUNCIL TAX SETTING

RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommending to Council:

- 2.1 That the Council Tax Base for 2023/24 be
 - (a) for the whole Council area as 42,313.27 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix 1A.
- 2.2 The Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2023/24 (excluding Parish precepts) is £8,141,920.11
- 2.3 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 31 and 34 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) £40,221,781 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.
 - (b) £28,104,580 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act
 - (c) £12,117,201 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.3(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(1) of the Act).
 - (d) £286.37 being the amount at 2.3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).

- (e) £3,975,281 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per Column 2 of Appendix 1A).
- (f) £192.42 being the amount at 2.3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.3(e) above by Item T (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 precept relates
- (g) The amounts set out in column 6 of Appendix 1A for each part of the Council's area being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.3(f) above the amounts of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned in Appendix 1A divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34 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) The amounts set out in columns 1 to 9 of Appendix 1B for each part of the Council's area being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.3(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.

2.4 That it be noted that for the year 2023/24 Hampshire County Council's precept figures are subject to approval on the 23rd February 2023 and are listed below. If any changes are required as a result of Hampshire County Council approval provision for delegation to change is provided in 2.8 of this report. The Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Hampshire Fire and Rescue 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 below:

Valuation Band	Hampshire County Council (£)	HCC Adult Social Care (£)	Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire (£)	Hampshire Fire & Rescue (£)
A(R)	704.74	106.51	139.7	44.68
A	845.69	127.81	167.64	53.62
B	986.63	149.12	195.58	62.56
C	1127.58	170.42	223.52	71.49
D	1268.53	191.72	251.46	80.43
E	1550.43	234.32	307.34	98.30
F	1832.32	276.93	363.22	116.18
G	2114.22	319.53	419.10	134.05
H	2537.06	383.44	502.92	160.86

2.5 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.3(h) and 2.2 above, the Council, in accordance with section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 1D as the

amounts of Council Tax for the year 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings in each of the Parishes.

- 2.6 That for the purposes of section 35 (2) (d) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, any expenses incurred by the District Council in the financial year 2023/24 in performing functions in a part of the district which elsewhere in the district are performed by a Parish Council, shall not be special expenses of the District Council.
- 2.7 That the Council concluded the 2.99% increase in Council Tax for Hart District Council for 2023/24 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992
- 2.8 That the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Cabinet member for Finance be given delegated authority to amend the final council tax calculations in the event of approved changes from the other precepting authorities

There is a need for a recorded vote to be taken on this item.

13 TREASURY MANAGEMENT, STRATEGY STATEMENT, ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND CAPITAL STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommending to Council that it:

- I. approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023/24 and the revised Minimum Revenue Provision policy contained within it,
- II. approve the Annual Investment Strategy for 2023/24 noting the changes to the counterparty financial limits and ESG criteria and approach, and;
- III. approve and draft Capital Strategy 2023/24.

Voting will be by a show of hands, and a recorded vote will only be required should the outcome not be unanimous.

14 REVIEW OF FINANCE REGULATIONS AND CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet recommends to Council that the revised Financial Regulations, as set out in Appendix 1, and Contract Standing Orders, as set out in Appendix 2 are approved and the Constitution is updated accordingly.

Voting will be by a show of hands, and a recorded vote will only be required should the outcome not be unanimous

15 CORPORATE PLAN

Council is being asked to adopt the Corporate Plan.

Voting will be by a show of hands, and a recorded vote will only be required should the outcome not be unanimous

16. OUTSIDE BODIES - FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS

To receive feedback from Members who are representatives on outside bodies.

NOTES:

Rules of Council:

When the Chairman asks, members must stop speaking at the time, and the Chairman may mute the microphone.

RULES OF DEBATE

No speeches until motion seconded

1. No speeches may be made after the mover has moved a proposal and explained the purpose of it until the motion has been seconded.

Secunder's speech

2. When seconding a motion or amendment, the Member may reserve their speech until later in the debate.

Content and length of speeches

3. No speech may exceed three minutes without the permission of the Chairman.

When a Member may speak again

4. A Member who has spoken on a motion may not speak again whilst it is the subject of debate, except:

9. to speak once on an amendment moved by another Member
 2. to move a further amendment if the motion has been amended

5. If the first speech was on an amendment moved by another Member, to speak on the main issue (whether or not the amendment on which they spoke was carried)

1. in exercise of a right of reply
2. on a point of order
3. by way of personal explanation
4. by way of a point of information.

Amendments to motions

6. An amendment to a motion must be relevant to the motion, **may not have the effect of being a direct negative to the motion itself**, and will either be:

1. to refer the matter to an appropriate body or individual for consideration or reconsideration
2. to leave out words
3. to leave out words and insert or add others
4. to insert or add words

7. Only one amendment may be moved and discussed at any one time. No further amendment may be moved until the amendment under discussion has been disposed of.

8. If an amendment is not carried, other amendments to the original motion may be moved.

9. If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended takes the place of the original motion. This becomes the substantive motion to which any further amendments may be moved.

Right of reply

10. The mover of a motion has a right to reply at the end of the debate on the motion, immediately before it is put to the vote.

11. If an amendment is moved, the mover of the original motion has the right of reply at the close of the debate on the amendment but may not otherwise speak on it.

12. The mover of the amendment has no right of reply to the debate on his or her amendment.

Point of order

13. A Member may raise a point of order at any time whilst the specific item of business is under discussion. A point of order may only relate to an alleged breach of the Rules or the law. The Member must indicate the rule or law and the way in which he considers it has been broken.

Personal explanation

14. Members do not have an automatic right to reply simply because there are named in another Members speech. A Member may, however, make a personal explanation at any time. A personal explanation may only relate to some material part of an earlier speech by the Member in the debate which may appear to have been misunderstood. The procedure should not be used as a way to continue or expand the Members' original speech but should focus solely on clarifying any misunderstanding.

Point of information

15. A Member may raise a point of information during another Members' speech. It is within the absolute discretion of the Chairman to decide to accept the information. It is also within the discretion of the speaker to accept or decline the information. During the raising of this point of information the time allowed to the speaker will be extended to include the point of information.