

**Summary of the Decisions taken at the meeting  
of Council held on 25 February 2019**

Agenda Item No.	Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
<p align="center"><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Motions</b></p> <p>To debate the following motion which has been submitted with advance notice, in accordance with the constitution.</p> <p><b>Private Sector Housing</b> “This council notes government figures showing that 1/5 of nearly five million private sector tenants are not satisfied with their accommodation.</p> <p>Following previous years of poor performance; this council renews its commitment to driving up standards in the local private rented sector.</p> <p>As part of this, Cherwell District Council will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve engagement with private sector tenants by establishing a private tenants forum or association.</li> <li>2. Make it easier for private renters to raise concerns with dedicated, easy-to-find space on the council website.</li> <li>3. Raise awareness of the council's role in private sector housing enforcement with a dedicated campaign in the local press and on social media.</li> <li>4. Develop an accreditation and license scheme for private sector landlords to identify and reward good practice.”</li> </ol> <p>Proposer: Councillor Barry Richards Seconder: Councillor Sean Woodcock</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:</p> <p><b>Private Sector Housing</b> “This Council notes government figures showing that 1/5 of nearly five million private sector tenants are not satisfied with their accommodation. To stay ahead of this trend, this council reconfirms its commitment to high standards in the local private rental market.</p> <p>The Council notes that significant improvements to the website are nearing completion which will make it easier for tenants to understand what we can do and how to contact us.</p> <p>The Council believes that an improved website, periodic communications and press releases (especially after successful prosecutions) are likely to be the best ways to increase awareness.</p> <p>The Council instructs the Executive to periodically review the need for any further selective licensing and/or accreditation schemes, and to consider setting up a private resident’s forum.”</p>

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10	<p><b>Members' Allowances 2019/2020</b></p> <p>Report of Director Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended to:</p> <p>1.1 Consider the levels of allowances to be included in the 2019/2020 Members' Allowances Scheme, and whether the Panel's recommendations should be adopted or modified in any way</p> <p>1.2 Authorise the Monitoring Officer to prepare an amended Members' Allowances Scheme, in accordance with the decisions of the Council for implementation with effect from 1 April 2019.</p> <p>1.3 Authorise the Monitoring Officer to take all necessary action to revoke the current (2018/2019) Scheme and to publicise the revised Scheme pursuant to The Local Authorities (Members's Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).</p> <p>1.4 Thank the Independent Remuneration Panel for its report and set a fee of £300 for Panel Members for the work carried out on this review for 2018/2019 and propose the same level of fee for any reviews carried out it 2019/2020 capped at a maximum of £1200.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That, having given due consideration to the levels of allowances to be included in the 2019/2020 Members' Allowances Scheme, the Panel's recommendations (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be adopted without modification.</p> <p>(2) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to prepare an amended Members' Allowances Scheme, in accordance with the decisions of the Council for implementation with effect from 1 April 2019.</p> <p>(3) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to take all necessary action to revoke the current (2018/2019) Scheme and to publicise the revised Scheme pursuant to The Local Authorities (Members's Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).</p> <p>(4) That the Independent Remuneration Panel be thanked for its report and fee of £300 for Panel Members be set for the work carried out on this review for 2018/2019 and the same level of fee (£300) for any reviews carried out it 2019/2020 capped at a maximum of £1200 be agreed.</p>
11	<p><b>Robustness of Estimates and the Adequacy of Reserves and Balances Local Government Act 2003 (Section 25)</b></p> <p>Report of Executive Director Finance and Governance (Interim) and Section S151 Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the report be noted.</p>

Agenda Item No.	Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
	1.1. To note the contents of this report	
12	<p><b>Business Plan 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 - 2023/24</b></p> <p>Report of Executive Director Finance and Governance (Interim) &amp; Section 151 Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1. To consider and approve the Business Plan set out in Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.2. To note the Risk Register contained at Appendix 2.</p> <p>1.3. To consider and approve an increase in the level of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council of £5 for 2019/20.</p> <p>1.4. To consider and approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), Revenue Budget 2019/20 and Capital Programme including recommending the growth and savings proposals included at Appendix 9.</p> <p>1.5. To consider and approve a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £2m.</p> <p>1.6. To consider and approve that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance &amp; Governance, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Lead Member to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year.</li> <li>• Update prudential indicators in both the Prudential Indicators Report and</li> </ul>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That, having given due consideration, the Business Plan (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the Risk Register (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be noted.</p> <p>(3) That, having given due consideration, an increase in the level of Council Tax for Cherwell District Council of £5 for 2019/20 be approved.</p> <p>(4) That, having given due consideration, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), Revenue Budget 2019/20 and Capital Programme including recommending the growth and savings proposals (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p> <p>(5) That, having given due consideration, a minimum level of General Fund reserves of £2m.</p> <p>(6) That, having given due consideration, authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Management &amp; Governance, and where appropriate the relevant Director and Lead Member to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer monies to/from earmarked reserves should that become necessary during the financial year.</li> <li>• Update prudential indicators in both the Prudential Indicators Report and Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these.</li> </ul>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council, for any budget changes that impact on these.</p> <p>1.7. To consider that the Fees &amp; Charges set out in Appendix 7 be approved.</p> <p>1.8. To consider that the Treasury Management Strategy be approved, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2019/20.</p> <p>1.9. To consider and approve that authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the Council meeting of 25 February 2019, including changes related to the finalisation of the national Finance Settlement and any associated changes to Parish Precepts and Council resulting from those changes.</p> <p>1.10. To note the contents of the Section 25 report from the Chief Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves.</p> <p>1.11. To consider and approve the appended statement of pay policy for 2019/20 as required by the Localism Act and detailed in Appendix 10.</p> <p>1.12. To note the equality impact assessment for 2019/20 detailed in Appendix 11.</p>	<p>(7) That, having given due consideration, the Fees &amp; Charges (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p> <p>(8) That, having given due consideration, the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Prudential Indicators, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2019/20 (annexes to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p> <p>(9) That, having given due consideration, authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer to make any technical changes necessary to the papers for the Council meeting of 25 February 2019, including changes related to the finalisation of the national Finance Settlement and any associated changes to Parish Precepts and Council resulting from those changes.</p> <p>(10) That the contents of the Section 25 report from the Chief Finance Officer in relation to the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves be noted.</p> <p>(11) That, having given due consideration, the statement of pay policy for 2019/20 as required by the Localism Act (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p> <p>(12) That the equality impact assessment for 2019/20 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be noted.</p>
14	<p><b>Calculating the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/20 and setting the Council Tax for 2019/20</b></p> <p>Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Governance (Interim) &amp;</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That it be noted that at the Executive meeting held on 7 January 2019 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base</p>

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	<p data-bbox="379 226 635 255">Section 151 Officer</p> <p data-bbox="379 293 646 322"><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p data-bbox="379 360 837 427">It is recommended that the Council resolves:-</p> <p data-bbox="379 465 901 629">1.1 That it be noted that at the Executive meeting held on 7 January 2019 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2019/20:</p> <p data-bbox="475 667 917 869">a) for the whole Council area as 53,876.9 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and</p> <p data-bbox="475 898 917 1061">b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in the attached Appendix 1.</p> <p data-bbox="379 1099 927 1263">1.2 That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) is £6,923,182.</p> <p data-bbox="379 1301 927 1435">1.3 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-</p> <p data-bbox="475 1473 927 1809">a) £117,224,652 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 and any additional special expenses.</p> <p data-bbox="475 1839 927 2040">b) £105,174,128 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.</p>	<p data-bbox="1054 226 1173 255">2019/20:</p> <p data-bbox="1050 293 1485 495">a) for the whole Council area as 53,876.9 [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and</p> <p data-bbox="1050 533 1485 734">b) For dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish Precept relates as in the attached annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book).</p> <p data-bbox="959 763 1501 927">(2) That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) is £6,923,182.</p> <p data-bbox="959 965 1501 1099">(3) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-</p> <p data-bbox="1050 1137 1501 1473">a) £117,224,652 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 and any additional special expenses.</p> <p data-bbox="1050 1503 1501 1704">b) £105,174,128 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act.</p> <p data-bbox="1050 1742 1501 2078">c) £12,050,524 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</p>

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	<p>c) £12,050,524 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).</p> <p>d) £223.67 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (6(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 and Special Expenses);</p> <p>e) £5,127,342 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act as per the attached Schedule 2.</p> <p>f) £128.50 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 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 or special item relates;</p> <p>1.4 It be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Oxfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley have issued precepts to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local</p>	<p>Section 31B of the Act).</p> <p>d) £223.67 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (6(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 and Special Expenses);</p> <p>e) £5,127,342 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts and Special Expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act as per the attached Schedule 2 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book).</p> <p>f) £128.50 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 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 or special item relates.</p> <p>(4) That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Oxfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley 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 below :-</p>

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	<p>Government Finance Act 1992, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated below :-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="391 421 920 952"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Valuation Band</u></th> <th>Oxfordshire County Council</th> <th>Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>A</td><td>979.22</td><td>137.52</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td><td>1,142.42</td><td>160.44</td></tr> <tr><td>C</td><td>1,305.63</td><td>183.36</td></tr> <tr><td>D</td><td>1,468.83</td><td>206.28</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1,795.24</td><td>252.12</td></tr> <tr><td>F</td><td>2,121.64</td><td>297.96</td></tr> <tr><td>G</td><td>2,448.05</td><td>343.80</td></tr> <tr><td>H</td><td>2,937.66</td><td>412.56</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>1.5 The Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.</p> <p>1.6 The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p> <p>1.7 To approve the discounts and exemption set out below:</p> <p>1 Agree that in respect of properties within Class A and B as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (furnished chargeable dwelling that are not the sole or a main residence of</p>	<u>Valuation Band</u>	Oxfordshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley		£	£	A	979.22	137.52	B	1,142.42	160.44	C	1,305.63	183.36	D	1,468.83	206.28	E	1,795.24	252.12	F	2,121.64	297.96	G	2,448.05	343.80	H	2,937.66	412.56	<table border="1" data-bbox="970 217 1495 761"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Valuation Band</u></th> <th>Oxfordshire County Council</th> <th>Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>A</td><td>979.22</td><td>137.52</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td><td>1,142.42</td><td>160.44</td></tr> <tr><td>C</td><td>1,305.63</td><td>183.36</td></tr> <tr><td>D</td><td>1,468.83</td><td>206.28</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1,795.24</td><td>252.12</td></tr> <tr><td>F</td><td>2,121.64</td><td>297.96</td></tr> <tr><td>G</td><td>2,448.05</td><td>343.80</td></tr> <tr><td>H</td><td>2,937.66</td><td>412.56</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(5) That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in the annex to the Minutes (as set out in the Minute Book) as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.</p> <p>(6) That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p> <p>(7) That the following discounts and exemption be approved:</p> <p>1 In respect of properties within Class A and B as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (furnished chargeable dwelling that are not the sole or a main residence of an individual) the discount provided by Section 11a of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 shall be zero.</p> <p>2 In respect of properties</p>	<u>Valuation Band</u>	Oxfordshire County Council	Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley		£	£	A	979.22	137.52	B	1,142.42	160.44	C	1,305.63	183.36	D	1,468.83	206.28	E	1,795.24	252.12	F	2,121.64	297.96	G	2,448.05	343.80	H	2,937.66	412.56
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	<p>an individual) the discount provided by Section 11a of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 shall be zero.</p> <p>2 Agree that in respect of properties within Class C as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (a property that is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished) the discount provided by the Section 11A of the said Act shall be 25% for a period of 6 months and thereafter zero.</p> <p>3 Agree that in respect of properties within Class D as defined by the said Regulations (chargeable dwellings that are vacant and undergoing major repair work to render them habitable) the discount provided by Section 11A of the said Act shall be 25%</p> <p>4 Agree no council tax discount shall be applied to dwellings that are unoccupied and unfurnished for more than two years and that council tax payable on such properties is 200% (except for those properties which fall into prescribed Classes E and F).</p>	<p>within Class C as defined by the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (a property that is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished) the discount provided by the Section 11A of the said Act shall be 25% for a period of 6 months and thereafter zero.</p> <p>3 In respect of properties within Class D as defined by the said Regulations (chargeable dwellings that are vacant and undergoing major repair work to render them habitable) the discount provided by Section 11A of the said Act shall be 25%</p> <p>4 No council tax discount shall be applied to dwellings that are unoccupied and unfurnished for more than two years and that council tax payable on such properties is 200% (except for those properties which fall into prescribed Classes E and F).</p>
15	<p><b>Business Rates Retail Relief Policy</b></p> <p>Report of Executive Director Finance and Governance (Interim) &amp; Section 151 Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the contents of the report be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the Business Rates Retail Relief Policy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p>



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	<p>1.1 To note the contents of this report.</p> <p>1.2 To approve the proposed Business Rates Retail Relief Policy (Appendix 1).</p>	
<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme 2019-20</b></p> <p>Report of Executive Director Finance and Governance (Interim) &amp; Section 151 Officer</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note the contents of the report.</p> <p>1.2 To approve the adoption of the local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2019-20 (Appendix 1).</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the report be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the adoption of the Local Discretionary Business Rate Relief Scheme for 2019-20 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.</p>