

A MEETING of the SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST. BOSWELLS on TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY, 2018
at 10.00 AM

J. J. WILKINSON,
Clerk to the Council,
13 February 2018

BUSINESS		
1.	Apologies for Absence.	
2.	Order of Business.	
3.	Declarations of Interest.	
4.	Scottish Border Council's Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (Pages 7 - 66) Consider report by the Chief Executive seeking approval for a new Corporate Plan for Scottish Borders Council for the period 2018-2023. (Copy attached.)	20 mins
5.	Corporate Transformation Programme Progress Report (Pages 67 - 80) Consider report by Executive Director providing an update on the delivery of the Corporate Transformation Programme over the last year and setting out proposed changes to ensure that the programme remains best placed to respond to the challenges facing the Council. (Copy attached.)	15 mins
6.	Budget Communication Strategy 2018/19 (Pages 81 - 98) Consider report by Chief Financial Officer on the steps taken to engage with stakeholders as part of consultation exercise on the budget. (Copy attached.)	10 mins
7.	Revenue and Capital Resources and Council Tax 2018/19 (Pages 99 - 120) Consider report by Chief Financial Officer on the estimated revenue and capital resources available for financial year 2018/19 (Copy attached.)	10 mins
8.	Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19 (Pages 121 - 168) Consider report by Chief Financial Officer seeking approval for the Treasury Management and Investment Strategies 2018/19. (Copy attached.)	10 mins
9.	Financial Plan Equality Impact Assessments (Pages 169 - 180)	10 mins

	Consider report by Chief Financial Officer on potential equality impacts of the savings proposals. (Copy attached.)	
10.	Draft 5 Year Revenue and 10 Year Capital Financial Plans	60 mins
	Consider:-	
	<p>(a) Motion by Councillor Haslam (Pages 181 - 236)</p> <p>1. The Conservative Independent Administration recommend approval of the 5 year revenue budget and the 10 year capital plan set out in document 10(a)(i) and in doing so ask Council to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Administration's budget plans include a five year revenue plan of £1.3bn and a ten year capital plan of £294m. • The budget builds on opportunities and improves the lives of Borderers, whatever their age. It focuses on delivering quality services, opportunities for all in a thriving economy, empowering communities and enabling people to live independently and achieve their goals. • This Administration are committed to investing in services to help the most vulnerable in society, both young and old, deliver improvements to our roads, build new schools and support businesses by stimulating the local economy and improving our town centres. • This budget also protects teacher numbers and frontline Council services, whilst also recognising that we must modernise service delivery and make efficiencies. • The Administration's budget specifically proposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ £2.1m over three years for new and improved outdoor community spaces ➢ £0.282m for a community policing team to prevent low level criminal activity and deal with issues such as parking in our towns ➢ £4.8m for a new specialist dementia residential facility ➢ Over £22m investment in roads and bridges over three years, with £79m planned investment over the next 10 years ➢ £89m to improve the school estate over 10 years ➢ £8.3m contribution to the £41m Hawick Flood Protection Scheme ➢ £1m to assist in delivering town centre regeneration including investment in Eyemouth and £150,000 match funding to progress a new Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) in Hawick. <p>2. On behalf of the Conservative and Independent Administration it is proposed that:</p> <p>a) Scottish Borders Council approves a band D Council Tax of £1,150.02 in 2018/19, a 3% increase on the 2017/18 charge, with revised charges applying from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 for all council tax bands as shown</p>	

below. This Council Tax being sufficient, net of government grant and other sources of income, to fund the financial plan of the Council

2018/19 Band	Proportion of Band D Tax	£
A	6/9	£766.68
B	7/9	£894.46
C	8/9	£1,022.24
D	9/9	£1,150.02
E	12/9	£1,510.99
F	15/9	£1,868.78
G	18/9	£2,252.11
H	22/9	£2,817.54

- b) Scottish Borders Council proceeds to approve the revenue and capital plans as set out in document 10(a)(i).
- c) Scottish Borders Council agrees the fees and charges applicable for financial year 2018/19 as set out in document 10(a)(ii).

(Copies attached of 10(a)(i) Administration's Draft Financial Plan for Revenue & Capital and 10(a)(ii) Administration's Fees & Charges Schedule.)

(b) **Motion by Councillor Bell** (Pages 237 - 294)

1. The Opposition Parties on Scottish Borders Council – the Scottish National Party and the Liberal Democrat Party - recommend approval of an alternative 5 year budget for the Scottish Borders including the following principals and proposals:
 - Scottish Borders Council upholds the key principle of fairness for all our citizens and communities;
 - Council initiates and finances a two year pilot of a Fairness Fund to address rural poverty and isolation;
 - Council initiates and finances a Cleaner Communities Initiative in conjunction with Police Scotland;
 - Council reschedules its Capital Plan as detailed in document 10(b)(i) to put more resource into school rebuilding and refurbishment;
 - Council approves the detail of expenditures and resourcing in the 5 year Revenue plan and in the 10 year Capital plan as set out in document 10(b)(i);
 - Council approves the schedule of fees and charges as set out in document 10(b)(ii);

- Scottish Borders Council approves a band D Council Tax of **£1,150.02** in 2018/19, a 3% increase on the 2017/18 charge, with revised charges applying from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 for all council tax bands as shown below. This Council Tax being sufficient, net of government grant and other sources of income, to fund the financial plan of the Opposition Parties.
2. On behalf of the Opposition Parties it is proposed that:
- a) Scottish Borders Council approves a band D Council Tax of **£1,150.02** in 2018/19, a 3% increase in the 2017/18 charges with charges applying from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 for all bands as shown below. This Council Tax being sufficient, net of government grant and other sources of income, to fund the financial plan as set out in document 10(b)(i).

2018/19 Band	Proportion of Band D Tax	£
A	6/9	£766.68
B	7/9	£894.46
C	8/9	£1,022.24
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F	15/9	£1,868.78
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H	22/9	£2,817.54

The increase in Council Tax by 3% across all bands ensures that Scottish Borders Council can both continue to deliver core services and also increase investment in roads, schools, footpaths and communities, as well as providing value for money for the taxpayer.

For 85% of households in the Scottish Borders, this increase amounts to less than 86p per week. For 55% of households it is equivalent 50p per week or less. For 15% it represents an increase of between £1.05 and £1.58 per week.

Support through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme will continue to be available for those most in need and eligible.

The Council will also continue to provide a welfare advice service to protect the most vulnerable through the introduction of Universal Credit later this year.

- b) Scottish Borders Council proceeds to approve the revenue and capital plans as set out in document 10(b)(i).
- c) Scottish Borders Council agrees the fees and charges applicable for financial year 2018/19 as set out in document 10(b)(ii).

(Copies attached of 10(b)(i) Opposition's Draft Financial Plan for Revenue & Capital and 10(b)(ii) Opposition's Fees & Charges Schedule.)

11.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated	
12.	Any Other Items Which the Convener Decides Are Urgent	

NOTES

- 1. Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.**
- 2. Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.**

Please direct any enquiries to Louise McGeoch Tel 01835 825005
email lmcgeoch@scotborders.gov.uk
