

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Executive to be held in The John Meikle Room, The Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton on 2 February 2010 at 18:15.

Agenda

- 1 Apologies.
- 2 Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 13 January 2010 (attached).
- 3 Public Question Time.
- 4 Declaration of Interests
To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. The usual declarations made at meetings of the Executive are set out in the attachment.
- 5 Corporate Strategy 2010-2013. Report of the Strategy Officer (attached).
Reporting Officer: Mark Leeman
- 6 General Fund Revenue Estimates 2010/2011. Report of the Section 151 Officer and the Financial Services Manager (attached).
Reporting Officers: Maggie Hammond
Paul Fitzgerald
- 7 Housing Revenue Account, Revenue Estimates and Rent Levels and Deane Helpline for the 2010/2011 Financial Year. Joint report of the Chief Housing Officer, the Section 151 Officer and the Financial Services Manager (attached).
Reporting Officers: John Williams
Maggie Hammond
Paul Fitzgerald
- 8 Capital Programme 2010/2011 Onwards. Report of the Financial Services Manager (attached).
Reporting Officer: Paul Fitzgerald
- 9 Council Tax Setting 2010/2011. Report of the Section 151 Officer and the Financial Services Manager (attached).
Reporting Officers: Maggie Hammond
Paul Fitzgerald
- 10 Executive Forward Plan - details of forthcoming items to be considered by the Executive and the opportunity for Members to suggest further items (attached)

Tonya Meers
Legal and Democratic Services Manager

26 January 2010

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussions.

There is time set aside at the beginning of most meetings to allow the public to ask questions.

Speaking under “Public Question Time” is limited to 4 minutes per person in an overall period of 15 minutes. The Committee Administrator will keep a close watch on the time and the Chairman will be responsible for ensuring the time permitted does not overrun. The speaker will be allowed to address the Committee once only and will not be allowed to participate further in any debate.

If a member of the public wishes to address the Committee on any matter appearing on the agenda, the Chairman will normally permit this to occur when that item is reached and before the Councillors begin to debate the item.

This is more usual at meetings of the Council’s Planning Committee and details of the “rules” which apply at these meetings can be found in the leaflet “Having Your Say on Planning Applications”. A copy can be obtained free of charge from the Planning Reception Desk at The Deane House or by contacting the telephone number or e-mail address below.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

These arrangements do not apply to exempt (confidential) items on the agenda where any members of the press or public present will be asked to leave the Committee Room.

Full Council, Executive, Committees and Task and Finish Review agendas, reports and minutes are available on our website: www.tauntondeane.gov.uk



Lift access to the John Meikle Room and the other Committee Rooms on the first floor of The Deane House, is available from the main ground floor entrance. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are also available off the landing directly outside the Committee Rooms.



An induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter.

For further information about the meeting, please contact Democratic Services on 01823 356382 or email d.durham@tauntondeane.gov.uk

Executive Members:-

Councillor R Henley - Leader of the Council

Councillor R Lees

Councillor A Paul

Councillor T Slattery

Councillor H Prior-Sankey

Councillor F Smith

Councillor A Wedderkopp

Councillor N Wilson

Councillor S Coles

Executive – 13 January 2010

Present: Councillor Henley (Chairman)
Councillors Coles, R Lees, Paul, Prior-Sankey, Slattery, Mrs Smith,
A Wedderkopp and Mrs Wilson

Officers: Penny James (Chief Executive), Joy Wishlade (Strategic Director),
James Barrah (Community Services Manager), Judith Jackson (Legal
Services Manager), Maggie Hammond (Strategic Finance Officer),
Paul Fitzgerald (Financial Services Manager), Adrian Priest (Asset
Holdings Manager) and Richard Bryant (Democratic Services
Manager)

Also present: Councillors Cavill, Hayward, Morrell, Mrs Stock-Williams, Stuart-
Thorn and Mrs Waymouth

(The meeting commenced at 6.15 pm.)

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 30 November 2009 and 2 December 2009, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and were signed.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Henley, Paul and Prior-Sankey declared personal interests as Members of Somerset County Council. Councillor Coles declared a personal interest as a Director of Southwest One. Councillor Mrs Smith declared a personal interest as an employee of Somerset County Council. Councillor Slattery declared personal interests both as a Member of the Somerset Waste Board and as an employee of Sedgemoor District Council.

3. Pest Control Service

Considered report previously circulated, concerning the current in-house Pest Control Service and the feasibility of contracting the service to an external provider as part of the Core Council Review.

Taunton Deane Borough Council currently operated the Pest Control Service at the cost of £109,620 for the 2008/2009 financial year. The cost included two full time Pest Control Officers, two vans, one store and an office at the DLO depot, pest control equipment and chemicals. Income for the service during 2008/2009 was £35,950, which gave a net cost to the Council for the year of £73,670.

The service was also supported by a part time (0.6 FTE) Environmental Health Support Assistant who carried out the administration at a cost of around £13,000.

The potential savings from contracting out the service made a contribution to, and was therefore included within, the £450,000 savings identified in the Core Council Review for Themes 2 and 4. The estimated potential savings arising from contracting out the service were estimated at £46,000.

The Council's statutory duty under The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, was to take steps to ensure that Taunton Deane was kept free from rats and mice, and in particular to:-

- Carry out inspections from time to time;
- Destroy rats and mice on Council occupied land and otherwise keep such land free from rats and mice where practicable; and
- Enforce the duties of owners and occupiers of land under the provisions of the Act.

The current service provision and the cost to users was reported. High levels of satisfaction were reflected in the continuing customer satisfaction survey.

The Council currently charged £15 for the treatment of rodents in domestic residential properties. This included three visits by a Pest Control Officer, a survey, placing baits and advice. It was proposed to increase the charge to £25, in line with neighbouring Local Authorities.

This new fee would still remain significantly cheaper than the private sector but would also appreciably reduce the cost of any potential contract.

The Council currently operated a subsidy system for residents on specified benefits where they would pay half the cost of all treatments other than rodents. Unless the Council actually specified the requirement in the contract, it was possible the appointed contractor might not continue to offer subsidised treatments.

As all neighbouring Authorities continued to offer subsidies to customers on specified benefits it was recommended that Taunton Deane should do the same in the future even though this would have an impact on the cost of the contract.

As a social landlord, the Council paid the cost for all rodent treatments required in Council accommodation. Discussions had been undertaken with Housing Management and the Portfolio Holder concerning the proposed increase in cost of treating rodents and it had been agreed that the full cost should continue to be met from the Housing Revenue Account.

Details of a number of commercial and domestic contracts currently operated by the Pest Control Service were submitted. It was suggested that any future contractor should continue to honour these contracts until expiry, when customers would have the option of negotiating new contracts with the appointed contractor directly.

Approximate costs to the Council of contracting the service were estimated to be between £7,000 and £15,000, plus additional TUPE (The Transfer of Undertakings Protection Employment Regulations 2006) costs for staff transferring across to the new service provider.

Reported that operating a reduced in-house service with only one Pest Control Officer was unlikely to produce the appropriate savings required for the detailed reasons set out in the report.

The potential contract would include the following:-

- Provision of a front line customer contact centre 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;
- Booking appointments;
- Payments made by telephone;
- Guaranteed emergency next day appointments;
- Inclusion of all existing subsidies; and
- Free service for all surveys on Council premises, thereby discharging Taunton Deane's statutory duty.

The provision of a contracted Pest Control Service was unlikely to have an increased detrimental impact on public health. The increased charge to the customer for rodent control might receive criticism, but it remained significantly lower than the same service offered in the private sector. It was possible that Environmental Health could receive an increased number of complaints about rats and mice, but enquiries with neighbouring Local Authorities suggested that this would not be the case.

The Council's Dog Warden Service was operated by SDK and it might be possible for the Pest Control Service to be bolted on to the existing contact. This could have advantages, as a number of SDK operatives were competent as both Dog Wardens and Pest Control Officers and fewer officers could cover the area and possibly reduce costs.

It was also possible that the Somerset Districts might, in the future, be able to offer a Pest Control Service operated by a single contract. Alternatively, it could be agreed with the preferred contractor to arrange a joint contract before the natural expiry of existing contracts.

The procurement process was being discussed with the Southwest One Procurement Team and it was anticipated that an initial three year contract would be undertaken and would take between two and three months to complete.

Consultations had been undertaken with the Unison Change Forum and the staff affected had been contacted directly about the potential implications for the service and themselves.

The Community Scrutiny Committee had considered the matter at its meeting on 15 December 2009 and its comments were noted.

Resolved that a procurement process and tenders for an externalised Pest Control Service be instigated which would incorporate the principals of the Draft Specification documents and would include the following features:-

- To increase the charge for rodent treatment from £15 to £25;
- The Council (via the Housing Revenue Account) to pay the cost of £25 for all rodent treatments on behalf of Taunton Deane Borough Council residential tenants in Council property;
- The Council to continue to offer subsidies to all customers on specified benefits; and
- Any future contractor would be expected to honour all current Taunton Deane Pest Control contracts until expiry. At the point of contract expiry, the customer would then have the option of negotiating and arranging any new contract with the appointed contractor directly.

4. **Proposed Compulsory Purchase of land at Victoria Gate, Taunton**

Reference Minute No. 80/2009, considered report previously circulated, concerning the proposed issue of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in order to facilitate redevelopment and the provision of affordable housing.

Reported that an area of land at Victoria Gate, Taunton, to the rear of 56 to 59 East Reach, had lain unused and neglected for many years and it was now required to achieve the overall redevelopment of the area. Knightstone Housing had expressed an interest in acquiring the land for affordable housing and would fund the ultimate acquisition costs.

Although the Executive had previously agreed to support the scheme, a formal resolution to take CPO action was required to meet the statutory requirements.

Extensive inquiries had been made since 2003 to establish ownership of the land but without success. In such circumstances, there was provision for a CPO to be made subject to a valuation being carried out by the Lands Tribunal and the amount of the valuation being paid into Court, prior to the transfer of title.

It had originally been envisaged that the compensation would be paid directly by Knightstone Housing with a "back to back" transfer of the land. However, since the monies had to be paid into Court before the transfer of the title could

take place, it was likely that the Council would have to fund the compensation for the period between the paying of the monies into Court and the “back to back” transfer to the Knightstone Housing.

A valuation carried out by Knightstone Housing had put the value at £150,000 and it had been confirmed that this amount could be made available from the Enabling Budget to cover that period of time.

Resolved that the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the area of land at Victoria Gate, Taunton, to the rear of 56 to 59 East Reach, for the purpose of facilitating the development of the land for the provision affordable housing by Knightstone Housing or other appropriate body, be authorised.

5. **Council Tax Base 2010/2011**

Reported that the Council Tax Base, which was calculated annually, had to be set between 1 December and 31 January each year.

The Council Tax Base was the “Band D” equivalent of the properties included in the Valuation Officer’s banding list as at 15 October 2009, as adjusted for voids, appeals and new properties and the provision for non-collection.

The Band D equivalent was arrived at by taking the laid down proportion of each Band as compared to Band D, and aggregating the total. The approved base had to be notified to the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and to each of the Parishes.

Adjustments had also been included for new dwellings and for initial void exemptions for empty properties.

The Council Tax Base also had to reflect the provision for losses on collection. The rate for 2010/2011 was 0.8%, as in the previous year, giving an anticipated collection rate of 99.2%.

The Council Tax Base for 2009/2010 was 40,399.85 and the recommended base for 2010/2011 of 40,384.49 represented a decrease of 15.36 or 0.04%. This marginal reduction reflected the economic conditions of the past year.

Resolved that:-

- (a) the report of the Financial Services Manager for the calculation of the Council Tax base for the whole and parts of the area for 2010/2011 be approved; and
- (b) pursuant to the Financial Services Manager’s report, and in accordance with the Local Authority (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount calculated by Taunton Deane Borough Council as its Tax Base for the whole area for the year 2010/2011 shall be 40,384.49 and for the parts of the area listed below shall, for 2010/2011 be: -

Ash Priors	76.05
Ashbrittle	97.07
Bathealton	84.57
Bishops Hull	1,072.38
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	1,937.47
Bradford on Tone	283.61
Burrowbridge	204.78
Cheddon Fitzpaine	648.71
Chipstable	124.72
Churchstanton	331.27
Combe Florey	122.01
Comeytrowe	2,086.27
Corfe	134.15
Creech St Michael	950.07
Durston	59.02
Fitzhead	121.87
Halse	144.75
Hatch Beauchamp	261.29
Kingston St Mary	446.32
Langford Budville	238.40
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	200.64
Milverton	600.46
Neroche	255.85
North Curry	742.96
Norton Fitzwarren	826.06
Nynehead	156.55
Oake	333.46
Otterford	168.39
Pitminster	459.04
Ruishton/Thornfalcon	615.34
Sampford Arundel	131.90
Staplegrove	714.77
Stawley	131.00
Stoke St Gregory	387.38
Stoke St Mary	206.72
Taunton	16,087.45
Trull	1,025.28
Wellington	4,631.59
Wellington (Without)	304.46
West Bagborough	163.62
West Buckland	446.17
West Hatch	143.28
West Monkton	1,115.05

Wiveliscombe

1,112.28

40,384.49

6. **Executive Forward Plan**

Submitted for information the Forward Plan of the Executive over the next few months.

Resolved that the Forward Plan be noted.

7. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item because of the likelihood that exempt information would otherwise be disclosed relating to Clause 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) to the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

8. **Potential Purchase of Capital Asset, Taunton**

Reference Minute Nos. 55 and 89/2009, submitted report previously circulated, which detailed the negotiations that had been undertaken with the current leaseholder of the asset in Taunton since the meeting of the Executive in October 2009.

The report also set out the reasons why the other action considered previously would be of no advantage to the Council.

Reported that despite there being a possibility of part of the asset being sub-let, the opportunity to purchase it still remained. Members received a presentation from the Asset Holdings Manager on the likely costs involved and what income could perhaps be generated from the asset in the future.

Before any final decision was taken, Members asked for a full assessment of the asset's employment potential to be undertaken.

Resolved that subject to the provision of funding:-

(a) approval to seek to purchase the asset as an investment as outlined in the report be given; and

(b) Southwest One be authorised to proceed with negotiations accordingly.

(The meeting ended at 7.41 p.m.)

Usual Declarations of Interest by Councillors

Executive

- **Members of Somerset County Council – Councillors Henley, Paul and Prior-Sankey**
- **Employee of Somerset County Council – Councillor Mrs Smith**
- **Director of Southwest One – Councillor Coles**
- **Member of Somerset Waste Board and employee of Sedgemoor District Council – Councillor Slattery**

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive – 2 February 2010

Corporate Strategy 2010-2013

Report of the Strategy Officer

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Nicola Wilson)

Executive Summary

This report presents the Corporate Strategy 2010-2013, providing direction for the Council and setting our objectives and desired outcomes for the next three years. The Executive is requested to approve the Corporate Strategy, for adoption by Full Council

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek the Executive's consideration of the Corporate Strategy 2010-2013

2. Background

- 2.1 The Corporate Strategy contains the Borough Council's Vision, Business Principles and Core values. It describes the key outcomes that we intend to achieve in the community over the next three years. Until now these outcomes have been delivered by achieving 20 objectives that are closely aligned to the Council's ETCHED aims.
- 2.2 Following both Member and manager involvement, our proposal for this year is to rewrite the Corporate Strategy and undertake the following:
- Replace ETCHED (our Corporate Aims based on Economy, Transport, Crime, Healthy Living, Environment & Delivery)
 - Introduce a new Vision and have four new Corporate Aims with fewer Objectives
 - Priorities that are focussed / measurable
 - Alignment with the Local Area Agreement (LAA)
 - Integration with the Medium Term Financial Plan & Core Council Review
 - Comprehensive Area Assessment - Fit for purpose
- 2.3 The timetable for the review of the Corporate Strategy is set out below.

Date	Meeting	Purpose	✓
1 Oct 09	Scrutiny	Proposed direction and timetable	✓

29 Oct 09	Scrutiny	Consideration of first draft	✓
21 Jan 10	Scrutiny	Consider final draft reflecting Executive's Proposed Budget	✓
2 Feb 10	Executive	To reflect final Budget Proposals and Executive approval	
9 Feb 10	Full Council	Final approval	

2.4 Corporate Scrutiny has considered the Corporate Strategy on three occasions. Feedback over these three meetings can be summarised as follows:-

- The initial proposals (1 October and 29 October 2009) did not fully reflect the importance of the growth agenda
- A general view that pockets of deprivation exist across the Deane and that the problem is not restricted to North Taunton and Taunton East (1 October 2009)
- More detail needed concerning the Performance Indicators (29 October 2009)
- There needs to be more emphasis given to the proposal to create a Green Knowledge Economy (21 January 2010)*
- We should state our commitment to deliver transport infrastructure in Wellington i.e. Northern Relief Road and Railway Station (21 January 2010)*

These matters have now been addressed.

3. Corporate Aims and Objectives

3.1 Having worked with Members and considered their initial feedback through Scrutiny, we are now proposing four corporate priorities:-

- Tackling Deprivation and Sustainable Community Development
- Regeneration (economic development and housing growth)
- Affordable Housing
- Climate Change

3.2 Supporting the Corporate Aims are objectives. These have been reduced from 20 in the existing strategy to 9 in the proposed strategy. There has been a similar proportionate reduction in the number of key activities.

3.3 Appendix A provides a short summary of the proposed corporate aims, objectives, key activities and performance indicators

3.4 Appendix B provides more contextual detail to each of the proposed Corporate Aims

3.5 The proposed corporate aims are all directly related to the growth agenda. Growth is the overarching context and will provide significant opportunities to address all of our priorities.

- 3.6 We have made an amendment to the Vision to reflect the importance of the Growth agenda and the possibilities that it provides:-

Taunton Deane will be recognized nationally as a place that is developing in a sustainable way, securing a better life and future for its people, businesses and communities.

- 3.7 At this stage the majority of the proposed objectives will need to be set at a high (strategic) level. For example, there is still much work to be done on developing the following strategies:-

- Tackling Deprivation: A strategy is required;
- Regeneration: Economic Development Strategy is still in preparation, as is the Core Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Plans;
- Climate change: An action plan needs to be developed.

- 3.8 More clarity will be provided at the next review of the Corporate Strategy. Work on this will commence during Autumn 2010.

4. Performance Management

- 4.1 We need to monitor performance against the Corporate Strategy in order to understand how effective we are being at delivering our aims objectives. This will be done in two ways:-

- Activity monitoring: We shall contact appropriate managers on a quarterly basis for an update against each of the activities;
- Performance Indicators: We have chosen a number of performance indicators that will provide statistical evidence to support an assessment of our performance. A number of these are drawn from the National Indicator Set (NIS) whilst a small number have been locally defined. It is worth noting that the chosen National Indicators are within the Local Area Agreement. Data collection for most of the National Indicators is on a yearly basis, so preventing in year monitoring. Some of these locally defined indicators need more work in order to define data sources, baselines and targets.

- 4.2 The detail of the performance regime is provided at Appendix A (page 3).

5. Profile of Services

- 5.1 In developing this Corporate Strategy, we needed to understand what the priorities and non-priorities of the Council should be over the next three years, so that we can focus our efforts and resources on tackling the most important issues.

- 5.2 We consulted the Executive, the Shadow Executive and the Independents through facilitated workshops to understand their views on 75 different service areas historically provided by the Council.
- 5.3 To determine what our future priorities should be, Councillors considered the community priorities as identified through consultation, central government requirements and what we had already committed to in partnership with the LAA, Sustainable Community Strategy and other local agreements.
- 5.4 Councillors then used this context to consider in which service areas we should increase, decrease and maintain investment. This was further refined through two meetings with the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.
- 5.5 The headline results for the increase / decrease areas are captured in this table:-

Service Area	Increase Investment	Decrease Investment
Climate Change	Yes	
Tackling Deprivation	Yes	
Growth and Economic regeneration	Yes	
Affordable Housing	Yes	
Tourist Information Centre		Yes
The Town Centre Company		Yes
Golf and Tennis		Yes
Pest Control		Yes
Conservation and Heritage		Yes
Licensing		Yes
Food Control		Yes
Scrutiny		Yes

- 5.6 This profile of services has been fed into the Council's Core Council Review and has helped shape the restructure of the Council. This will ensure that we are 'fit for purpose' and can effectively deliver against these new priorities from 2010 to 2013.
- 5.7 Themes and Service Areas will need to work closely together in order to deliver the corporate aims. This needs to be set in the context of further budget pressures over the next few years, certainly within the lifespan of the emerging Corporate Strategy.

6. Delivering the Corporate Aims – Service Planning

- 6.1 A top down approach will be required to lead this process, involving the development of a Strategic Aims Delivery Plan for each of the

corporate aims. The Strategic Aim Delivery Plan will be the equivalent of a service plan that outlines time-scales, key actions, risks, resource requirements, expected outcomes and key performance indicators etc. It will also describe individual projects that are to be led by Theme Managers or Lead Officers within an agreed project management framework. The 'aim leader' (who will be a Director) will have the ability to call upon support from services across the Authority as and when required. Producing these plans to the necessary level of detail will take time and resource.

- 6.2 It will be important to help support managers to understand their connection to the corporate strategy. This includes an understanding of the Corporate Aims and other commitments within (for example) the Local Area Agreement and the Sustainable Community Strategy.

7. Thematic Working

"The ultimate purpose of local government should not be solely to manage a collection of public services, but rather pursue the well-being of a place and the people who live there by whatever means are necessary and available"

Sir Michael Lyons 2007

- 7.1 We need to develop an enthusiastic and flexible workforce that can move between priorities. This will involve the development of 'thematic working' where staff from different themes can be seconded to work in a project team as part of their 'day job'. This will be aided by the development of more flexible / generic job roles. These developments will enable the Council to become more flexible and better able to adapt to an environment of continuous and multiple change. However, 'thematic working' is a change that will take time to develop and is likely to be an area where investment and external support is required. The principle of thematic working has been approved as part of the proposals for Core Council Review

8. Service Delivery, Business Process Reengineering and Asset Management

- 8.1 We need to have a detailed look at the quality of (and expectations for) service delivery, particularly for those services that do not relate closely to corporate aims. This is a significant area of work. The intention will be to investigate different ways of delivering the same service at less cost i.e. Business Process Re-engineering. Services will be reviewed to identify opportunities for income generation and further streamlining. The CCR was the start of the process and we will need to continue the review of services to increase efficiencies. This work will take place during 2010.

- 8.2 We also need a thorough review of assets and asset management to explore opportunities for new revenue streams in the future. Southwest One is currently leading this process.
- 8.3 The above (sections 6 -8) are critical to the delivery of the Corporate Strategy and the Core Council Review. These are significant areas of work and will take time to develop and implement.

9. Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 9.1 A working group, made from various leads and specialists on each of the proposed corporate aims, was formed to carry out an EIA on the Corporate Strategy. The group met on the 4 January 2010 to look at the potential negative impacts on protected groups (age, race, disability, gender, faith and belief, sexual orientation) and also considered the impact on people's socio-economic status that may occur as a result of the proposed aims.
- 9.2 Several negative impacts were identified and due to the complex nature of the assessment a second workshop took place on 12 January 2010 to complete the EIA and to recommend actions against each proposed aim to remove any negative impact that has been identified.
- 9.3 The headline results are that we are at risk of negatively impacting upon protected groups if we do not
- Consult and engage with our communities to understand the diverse needs and aspirations of the people we wish to serve.
 - Understand the demographics of our population, to plan effectively for the future needs of our communities.
 - Ensure that initiatives and delivery plans do not exclude certain groups from taking part or discriminate against certain groups.
 - Ensure that planning of growth and design of developments take into account the needs of different age groups, accessibility and the cultural and religious needs of the growing population.
 - Ensure that protected groups are consulted with on the provision and design of affordable housing to ensure it meets their needs.
- 9.4 The draft EqIA is attached at Appendix C. The results of the EqIA will be used to inform public consultations (Section 10 below). We shall also be meeting with Theme Managers to discuss the implications for project design and service delivery.

10. Public Consultation

- 10.1 Public consultation will occur in Spring 2010. This will inform both the delivery of the Corporate Aims and the next review of the Corporate Strategy. The focus of the consultation will be to challenge whether we have chosen the right key activities, and whether there are any alternative suggestions. We shall consult as follows:-

- On-line (through Limehouse / TDBC website)
- Focus on key partners and hard to reach groups
- 'Involve' leaflet
- Link in to other relevant consultations that may be programmed for Spring 2010

10.2 A consultation programme will be developed during February / March 2010 and the detail will be informed by the results of the EqIA.

11. Resource Implications

11.1 The aims and objectives of the Corporate Strategy provide an important lead-in to budget setting and service planning activity. Increasingly, local authorities are being challenged to demonstrate a clear link between priorities and resource allocation.

12. Impact on Corporate Priorities

12.1 The Corporate Strategy establishes the priorities of the Council.

13. Recommendation

13.1 The Executive is recommended to approve the Corporate Strategy for adoption by Full Council.

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Appendix A

Corporate Strategy

On TRAC.....!

Tackling Deprivation, Regeneration of the District, Affordable Housing & Climate Change

VISION

Taunton Deane will be recognized nationally as a place that is developing in a sustainable way, securing a better life and future for its people, businesses and communities.

Aims, Objectives & Key Activities

AIM 1: TACKLING DEPRIVATION & SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Deprivation will be tackled so that disadvantaged communities will have better access to jobs, training and local services

Objective 1: Focus on deprivation within Taunton East (the most deprived area), North Taunton and Rural Deprivation (the hidden problem)

- Work with partners to develop a Community Development Plan by April 2011 involving:
 - Data analysis
 - Community engagement
 - A vision that will contain elements of economic and community development and regeneration activity
- Deliver an Implementation Plan by September 2011 that will contain details of:
 - Priorities
 - Projects
 - Delivery mechanisms
- Work with partners to adopt a 'Total Place' approach to tackle deprivation
 - Alignment and pooling of budgets
- Develop a TDBC staff volunteering scheme
 - Recruit suitable volunteers
 - Support volunteers / projects

Objective 2: Work with partners to deliver 'one-stop' advice on skills, employment and apprenticeships direct to communities suffering most from deprivation

- Deliver Enterprise Gateway (Job Club) at Taunton East, work with partners (Somerset Skills & Learning) to enhance existing delivery of back-to-work skills programme in North Taunton and to develop back-to-work skills programme in Wellington

Objective 3: Support the work of key partners: North Taunton Partnership and Link Partnership

- Work with partners to help secure the medium term future of the Priorswood Resource Centre and Link Centre by sourcing appropriate funding to be released within an Service Level Agreement

AIM 2: REGENERATION

The growth and regeneration of Taunton Deane will have been planned and successfully managed. Nationally we shall be recognised as a leading 'Green Knowledge Economy'. Businesses will have located to the area to provide jobs in line with housing growth. Homes will have been provided to cater for the needs of a growing and diverse population within communities that people are proud of

Objective 4: Facilitate the creation of a leading Green Knowledge Economy

- An approved Economic Development Strategy by April 2010 that will state the intention to 'green and grow' the local economy
- Work with partners to identify innovative economic development projects that will deliver a leading Green Knowledge Economy, and to commence delivery during 2010/11
- Identify and promote the delivery of an increased supply of employment land in Taunton
- Promote Taunton as an attractive place to do business and work with businesses wishing to relocate to the area. Work with local businesses to ensure their needs continue to be catered for within Taunton Deane

Objective 5: Facilitate the provision of new homes to meet the needs of a growing population

- An adopted Core Strategy by September 2011
- Commence work on Urban Extensions Masterplanning and identify strategic deliverables by July 2010
- An annual review of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Study (SHLAA)
- Utilise council owned land and work pro-actively with developers on other sites to develop all forms of housing
- Ensure a 5 year supply of housing land within Taunton by September 2011

Objective 6: Deliver infrastructure to support the growth of the economy and local communities

- Secure the medium term financial funding for Project Taunton for the period beyond March 2011
- An adopted Infrastructure Delivery Plan by September 2011
- Adopt the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document by September 2011
- Campaign and lobby for improvements to Junction 25
- Begin work on the redevelopment of Castle Green during 2010/11
- Major transport infrastructure for Wellington to be adopted within the LDF by September 2011

AIM 3: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Everyone will have access to a decent home at a price they can afford, in a place where they want to live and work

Objective 7: Making Homes More Affordable

- Explore the full range of affordable housing solutions to meet the diverse needs of communities and to better understand the Taunton Deane housing market by March 2011

- Identify and implement the key actions that will improve our ability to increase the number of affordable homes available in the Borough March 2011
- Improve conditions in the existing private sector and social housing stock where this will make living more affordable by March 2013

AIM 4: CLIMATE CHANGE

Carbon emissions across the Deane will have been reduced through partnership and community action. Local communities will be more resilient to the twin threat of climate change and peak oil.

Objective 8: Meet the 10:10 challenge by reducing the Council's carbon emissions by 10% by the end of 2010 and then to achieve year on year reductions thereafter, with the aim of becoming a carbon neutral authority in energy use in the future

- Produce an action plan to reduce carbon emissions for all Council buildings and assets including vehicles by May 2010 and to implement the agreed actions over the following twelve months. Work towards carbon neutrality in energy use by setting future targets and reviewing the action plan on an annual basis

Objective 9: Work with communities to significantly reduce individual carbon emissions across the Taunton Deane area, with measurable achievements by March 2013

- Work with the LSP and local community to produce a 'Community energy descent plan' by the end of 2013 to provide a deliverable action plan to reduce per capita carbon emissions across Taunton Deane.
- Actively seek external funding as a Council and in partnership to support Climate Change initiatives

Performance Indicators

Objective 1

Activities 1 and 2

Actions monitoring

QoL – Reduction in the proportion of residents who are defined as living in the most deprived super output areas in the country

Activity 3

Total volunteer hours

Objective 2

Actions monitoring

Numbers referred / back to work

Objective 3

Actions monitoring

Local PI – Funding secured against target

Objective 4

Activities 1, 2 and 3

Actions monitoring

Local PI – No of jobs created against 1,000pa target

Activity 4

NI170 – previously developed land that has been derelict for more than 5 years

Objective 5

Activities 1,2 and 3

Actions monitoring

NI154 Net additional homes provided

Activity 4

NI159 Supply of ready to develop housing sites

Objective 6

Actions monitoring

Objective 7

Activities 1 and 2

NI155 – Number of affordable homes delivered

Activity 3

NI158 - % of non decent council homes

NI187 – Tackling fuel poverty: People receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy rating

Objective 8

Local PI – 10% reduction in Council's CO2 emissions by 2010 from 2009 baseline

NI 185 – Reduction in CO2 emissions from LA operations

MI 188 – Adapting to climate change (process only)

Objective 9

Activity 1

NI 188 – Per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area

Activity 2

Actions monitoring

Appendix B

Vision

Taunton Deane will be recognized nationally as a place that is developing in a sustainable way, securing a better life and future for its people, businesses and communities.

Aim 1: Tackling Deprivation and Sustainable Community Development

Vision

Deprivation will be tackled so that disadvantaged communities will have better access to jobs, training and local services

Context and Challenges

Deprivation is calculated using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation – IMD. The IMD analyses performance data relating to income, employment, education, crime, health, access to services and living environment.

IMD data (2007) identifies that overall deprivation is improving across the Deane. We are 204th out of 354 local authorities, where 1 is the worst.

However, deprivation is worsening in certain areas. We now have 6 areas that are classified as being within the 25% most deprived areas in England (an increase from 4 in 2004). We have one area that is within the 10% most deprived areas in England (we had none in 2004). 8% of our population lives in comparatively high deprivation (compared to 5.6% in 2004). The six areas comprising the worst deprivation are:

- Halcon North (Roman Rd)
- Halcon West (Lambrook Rd)
- Lyngford North (Cheddon Rd)
- Lyngford West (Lyngford Rd)
- Pyrland and Rowbarton Central (Dorchester Rd)
- Eastgate South-West (East Reach)

However, deprivation is not confined to Taunton and it can often be hidden from statistical analysis within IMD. Examples of deprivation elsewhere are:

Rural: Fuel Poverty

Rural: Access to broadband and mobile phone networks

North Wellington / Rockwell green: Income & employment

Rural: Access to services and public transport

Over the past few years there has been much effort and resource devoted to tackling deprivation. And yet the problem is worsening at certain locations (both urban and rural). This would suggest that we need a more coordinated and focussed approach to the problem. This has now been recognised by other partners. The Local Strategic Partnership has prioritised this issue. It has provided funding to help support community development and is now in the process of establishing better connections between strategy and delivery. It is important that the work of the Borough Council aligns itself to this process and provides leadership.

There are a number of factors that will be critical to tackling deprivation:

- Leadership – Political and managerial
- Community engagement – Communities need to be part of the solution
- Partnerships – Forging effective partnerships with public, private, voluntary and community sectors
- Budgets – Channelling investment (aligning and pooling budgets)

At this stage it is considered too early to be committing the Borough Council to specific actions. A bottom-up approach is critical to resolving deprivation. A key objective must therefore be the delivery of a Community Development Plan. This would then inform delivery through an Implementation Plan.

Of direct relevance to tackling deprivation is the delivery of Enterprise Gateways. This work is being led by the Economic Development Unit, and links closely to the emerging Economic Development Strategy. Enterprise Gateways are multi-agency (e.g. Business Link, Job centre+ etc, training providers etc) and act as 'one-stop-shops' to provide business, employment and training advice direct to local communities. They typically provide the following advice:

- Interview skills, job application advice and CV writing
- One to one support and advice to help people become self employed
- Referral to training and personal skill development
- Access to employment

Enterprise Gateways are recognised as best practice from the Business Support Simplification Programme (BERR). There are many successful examples nationwide. We are working to provide Enterprise Gateways in North Taunton, Taunton East & Wellington.

Enterprise gateways (and many other activities that will flow from the Community Development Plan) will naturally be delivered from the community offices at North Taunton and Taunton East. These are staffed by a paid worker (currently absent at Taunton East) and volunteers. These offices are central to tackling deprivation and their continued existence must be a priority objective.

The following objectives and key activities are proposed:

Objective 1

Focus on deprivation within Taunton East (the most deprived area), North Taunton and Rural Deprivation (the hidden problem)

Key Activities

- Work with partners to develop a Community Development Plan by April 2011 involving
 - Data Analysis
 - Community engagement
 - A vision that will contain elements of economic and community development and regeneration activity
- Deliver an Implementation Plan by September 2011 that will contain details of:
 - Priorities
 - Projects
 - Delivery mechanisms
- Work with partners to adopt a 'Total Place' approach to tackle deprivation
 - Alignment and pooling of budgets
- Develop a TDBC staff volunteering scheme
 - Recruit suitable volunteers
 - Support volunteers / projects

Performance Indicators

Activities 1 and 2

- Actions monitoring
- QoL – Reduction in the proportion of residents who are defined as living in the most deprived super output areas in the country

Activity 3

- Total volunteer hours

Objective 2

Work with partners to deliver 'one-stop' advice on skills, employment and apprenticeships direct to communities suffering most from deprivation

Key Activity

- Deliver Enterprise Gateway (Job Club) at Taunton East, work with partners (Somerset Skills & Learning) to enhance existing delivery of back-to-work skills programme in North Taunton and to develop back-to-work skills programme in Wellington

Performance Indicators

- Actions monitoring
- Numbers referred / back to work

Objective 3

Support the work of key partners: North Taunton Partnership and Link Partnership

Key Activities

- Work with partners to help secure the medium term future of the Priorswood Resource Centre and Link Centre by sourcing appropriate funding to be released within a Service Level Agreement

Performance Indicators

- Actions monitoring
- Local PI – Funding secured against target

Aim 2: Regeneration

Vision

The regeneration and growth of Taunton Deane will have been planned and successfully managed. Nationally we shall be recognised as a leading 'Green Knowledge Economy'. Businesses will have located to the area to provide jobs in line with housing growth. Homes will have been provided to cater for the needs of an expanding and diverse population within communities that people are proud of

The Economy

Context and Challenges

Taunton has reached a watershed in its economic development. The challenges it faces are new and different, and require a highly ambitious approach:

Taunton is a national "Growth Point". To meet this challenge, the local economy has to generate 16,500 new jobs by 2026, nearly 30 per cent more jobs than now in order to support major housing expansion plans. The recession has obviously made this a more challenging task. Taunton has to grow strongly and steadily for the next 15 years, at a time when the economic outlook is highly uncertain.

Public spending will be weak over the next 5-8 years. Taunton is highly exposed to spending cuts, given that 40 per cent of residents work for public sector employers – who also account for 70 per cent of Taunton's high skill, high wage jobs. These impacts are hard to predict. Taunton needs to develop stronger business drivers to compensate for an adverse outlook in the public sector of the local economy.

Prior to the recession, there were concerns over Taunton's economic competitiveness. This is reflected, for example, in the persistent workplace-based earnings gap between Taunton and the rest of the South West and the rest of Britain: 5 per cent and 15 per cent in 2008 respectively. To achieve parity with regional workplace earnings levels 48% of the new jobs created must be high-value high-skill employment within knowledge intensive businesses. Local businesses are of the view that there is a strong need to modernise Taunton's economy. They underlined Taunton's lack of economic dynamism, evident from low levels of inward investment, tourism and high-value consumer services, and mooted the prospect of Taunton becoming a suburban extension of Exeter and Bristol.

In order to become a successful knowledge economy Taunton will need to strengthen the recognised drivers of competitiveness: Skills and talent – universal and generic, graduate and skilled craft/technical/process skills

- Innovation – new products, new processes in all sectors
- Enterprise – new start ups and dynamic, knowledge-intensive small firms
- Infrastructure – marketable employment sites/buildings, sustainable transport, ICT and 21st century 'green economy' energy, water and waste networks
- Finance – new business models and sources for financing projects

Delivery of the emerging Economic Development Strategy (EDS) will be based on *existing* economic development related initiatives – such as the regeneration work of Project Taunton and the University of Somerset project. However, in order to underline Taunton's new contemporary vision and sense of economic ambition, the EDS will also be driven forward by a new 'engine of growth' – dubbed the "Green Knowledge Economy" (GKE). This signals Taunton's intent to fully exploit the new business and job opportunities emerging from the 'green agenda' – tackling climate change (cutting Green House Gas emissions), managing resources more efficiently and responsibly and protecting eco-systems and biodiversity.

The GKE dimension of the EDS will be taken forward through three thematic programmes, which are channels for developing and implementing individual projects. The names and missions of the programmes are:

- **Green and Grow Communities:** *To develop community-based, driven and owned approaches to the green knowledge economy, linking green initiatives (renewable energy, resource conservation and management and sustainable development) with business and employment growth initiatives*
- **Business Development:** *To accelerate business growth and innovation and new enterprise development, particularly in knowledge-intensive sectors of Taunton's economy*
- **Promoting Taunton:** *To establish Taunton as an important destination for inward investment and tourism, at the regional, national and international levels*

Objective 4

Facilitate the creation of a leading Green Knowledge Economy

Key Activities

- An approved Economic Development Strategy by April 2010 that will state the intention to 'green and grow' the local economy
- Work with partners to identify innovative economic development projects that will deliver a Green Knowledge Economy, and to commence delivery during 2010/11
- Identify and promote the delivery of an increased supply of employment land in Taunton
- Promote Taunton as an attractive place to do business and work with businesses wishing to relocate to the area. Work with local businesses to ensure their needs continue to be catered for within Taunton Deane

Performance Indicators

Activities 1, 2 and 3

- Actions monitoring
- Local PI – No of jobs created against 1,000pa target

Activity 4

- NI170 – previously developed land that has been derelict for more than 5 years

Housing Growth

Context and Challenges

Emerging regional plans recognise Taunton as a major focus for growth over the next twenty years. Proposed changes to the Revised Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West identify a requirement for at least 21,800 new homes to be provided over the period 2006 – 2026 with some 18,000 at the Taunton urban area.

New housing development can deliver many benefits. An increased supply of housing can help to meet housing needs and demand, improve affordability and contribute towards us achieving our affordable housing aim. New housing development will help to unlock additional investment in local services and facilities as well as critical infrastructure, the benefits of which will be wide. Accommodating housing growth creates an opportunity to create sustainable, mixed-use urban extensions that are well-integrated with communities and which represent something residents can be proud of.

However, it must be recognised that there are significant challenges:

- The global recession and the downturn in the housing market
- Availability of finance for developers affecting the delivery of schemes
- A shortfall in the supply of ready to develop housing sites
- Fundamentally increasing the rate of delivery in order to meet strategic housing requirements significantly higher than those previously prescribed
- Ensuring developments retain viability whilst contributing towards meeting infrastructure and affordable housing requirements

The Borough Council is leading the preparation of a number of strategies and plans. This will help to ensure that these challenges are managed successfully:

Core Strategy: This will frame the Council's planning policy across a series of themes including housing. It will be central to enabling and facilitating housing growth. It will identify strategic housing allocations which will deliver a large proportion of the new homes needed. It will also establish a wider spatial strategy that will outline the approach to accommodating the remainder of the housing growth.

Urban Extensions Masterplanning: Central to meeting challenging growth targets for Taunton is the delivery of two large scale sustainable urban extensions at Monkton Heathfield and Comeytrowe. These developments will require detailed masterplanning to ensure that these developments are

- integrated with the existing urban area
- offer an appropriate mix of uses, services and facilities
- deliver a high quality design

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA): There is a need to increase the supply of deliverable housing sites ahead of both the Core Strategy and the major urban extensions at Monkton Heathfield and Comeytrowe, both of

which are longer term strategic sites. To enable this, we plan to release a number of suitable housing sites in Spring 2010. These sites have been identified by the SHLAA (July 2009). It is anticipated that each will make a contribution towards the requirement to maintain five year supply of deliverable housing sites.

A comprehensive review of the SHLAA will commence in the Spring of 2010. This will help the Council to identify further potential deliverable development sites across the Borough, including identifying any of its own assets which may be available for housing. The SHLAA is developed through the active involvement of the Strategic Housing Partnership, which includes representatives from the Local Authorities as well as the housebuilding industry and Registered Social Landlords. The work of the SHP also involves the development of common LDF housing policies across different planning authorities and the commissioning and updating of different components of the housing evidence base.

Objective 5

Facilitate the provision of new homes to meet the diverse needs of a growing population

Key Activities

- An adopted Core Strategy by September 2011
- Commence work on Urban Extensions Masterplanning and identify strategic deliverables by July 2010
- An annual review of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
- Utilise council owned land and work pro-actively with developers on other sites to develop all forms of housing
- Ensure a 5 year supply of housing land within Taunton by September 2011

Performance Indicators

Activities 1,2 and 3

- Actions monitoring
- NI154 Net additional homes provided

Activity 4

- NI159 Supply of ready to develop housing sites

INFRASTRUCTURE

Context and Challenges

Expansion of the economy and the development of new housing should not be provided in isolation of essential infrastructure. There are two broad types of infrastructure.

Physical infrastructure includes the following:

- Roads and bridges, including the Third Way and Northern Inner Distributor

- Flood defences and flood related infrastructure e.g. weirs and dams
- Green infrastructure, such as open spaces and country parks
- Public spaces, such as works to enhance the setting of the town centre
- Waste to power initiatives
- District wide energy and waste systems
- IT connectivity (both domestic and commercial)
- Sustainable transport solutions, such as cycleways and public transport

Public service infrastructure includes the following:

- School places
- Doctor's surgeries and health centres
- Libraries
- Provision of policing, fire and rescue, youth services etc to new and expanded communities

The anticipated high levels of future growth place significant pressures on existing communities, their services and facilities. In addition, some of the larger urban extensions and development sites are likely to give rise to significant infrastructure requirements of their own. Development does however provide a major opportunity to ensure that the benefits arising from growth are wide-reaching and benefit the communities of Taunton Deane. It is therefore critical that we have a good understanding of the infrastructure requirements of the Borough over the next 20 years and how they can be realised.

The Single Conversation is the means by which the Homes and Communities Agency (the HCA is the government body with responsibility for housing and regeneration) engage with local authorities and their partners. The HCA has funding available to local authorities which can help to 'unlock' development and remove barriers to delivery, it is therefore important that the Council continues to engage with the Single Conversation process which is partly facilitated by Somerset County Council.

An important component of the Council's Core Strategy will be an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP). The preparation of the IDP will involve a range of partners (e.g. Taunton Growth Board, LSP, developers etc). The IDP will identify critical infrastructure, when it is likely to be required and how it can be delivered, i.e. paid for. A Planning Obligations SPD will then be prepared to develop the approach to collecting planning obligations to fund the necessary infrastructure.

Project Taunton is a small team that was formed in 2004. They help to manage the regeneration of Taunton, bringing together experience from both the public and private sectors. They will play a key role in securing key infrastructure for Taunton Town Centre and the proposed urban extensions. Their coordinating work (e.g. New Growth Point) has been central to securing large sums of Government funding towards key infrastructure projects. They have worked closely with the County Council to help secure Local Transport Plan (LTP) funding, and with the Borough Council to help secure Housing and Planning Delivery Grant (HPDG) funding. Project Taunton are currently funded until March 2011. It is essential that they are funded beyond this date so that they can continue to provide valuable support to the regeneration process.

Work on the preparation of the Ec Dev strategy has identified that J25 will be a significant barrier to east west movements within the Taunton TWA (text to be developed).

Castle Green (text to be developed)

Wellington – Major transport infrastructure (Northern Distributor Road and Railway Station) (text to be developed)

Objective 6

Deliver infrastructure to support the regeneration of both the economy and local communities

Key Activities

- Secure the medium term financial funding for Project Taunton for the period beyond March 2011
- An adopted Infrastructure Delivery Plan by September 2011
- Adopt the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document by September 2011
- Campaign and lobby for improvements to Junction 25
- Begin work on the redevelopment of Castle Green during 2010/11
- Major transport infrastructure for Wellington to be adopted within the LDF by September 2011

Performance Indicators

Activities Monitoring

Aim 3: Affordable Housing

Vision

Everyone will have access to a decent home at a price they can afford, in a place where they want to live and work

Definitions

The clearest definition of affordable housing is in the Government's 2007 Housing Green Paper which contains the aspiration that "everyone should have access to a decent home at a price they can afford, in a place where they want to live and work."

National, Regional and Local Challenges

The national and regional context for affordable housing sets the following key priorities:

- increase housing supply to achieve a better balance between supply and demand
- provide a mix and balance of housing sizes, types and tenures that reflect local needs
- locate housing developments in suitable places, which give easy access to jobs, services and facilities
- achieve well designed, good quality homes that support sustainable communities.

Locally, the Strategic Housing Market Assessment indicated that around 1800 new affordable homes per annum were required in the Taunton Housing Market Area, but this need is far bigger than can be met in any feasible affordable house building programme.

Objective 7: Making Homes More Affordable

Everyone should have access to a decent home at a price they can afford to live in, which is why our Affordable Housing Objective is simply Making Homes More Affordable.

Essentially, Taunton Deane is aiming to make homes more affordable, not just by maximising the delivery of new affordable homes, but also by tackling the affordability of existing homes.

The underlying aims of this objective are to:

- make Taunton Deane a more affordable place to live
- ensure people have sufficient choices of housing
- meet the varied needs of people wanting to live here
- improve housing conditions throughout the Borough
- create homes and communities people are proud of.

Key Activities

In order to make homes more affordable in Taunton Deane we will:

- Explore the full range of affordable housing solutions to meet the diverse needs of communities and to better understand the Taunton Deane housing market by March 2011
- Identify and implement the key actions that will improve our ability to increase the number of affordable homes available in the Borough March 2011
- Improve conditions in the existing private sector and social housing stock where this will make living more affordable by March 2013

These key activities will also involve close and effective collaborative working with a wide range of partner organisations.

Performance Indicators

Activities 1 and 2

- NI155 – Number of affordable homes delivered

Activity 3

- NI158 - Percentage of non decent council homes
- NI187 – Tackling fuel poverty: People receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy rating

Aim 4: Climate Change

Vision

Carbon emissions across the Deane will have been reduced through partnership and community action. Local communities will be more resilient to the twin threat of climate change and peak oil

Challenges:

Tackling Climate Change is a huge global, national and local challenge, with far-reaching consequences. There are three main elements of this:

- Reduce carbon emissions to mitigate the extent of global warming and climate change
- Reduce the dependence on oil and oil derivatives to prepare for when the global 'Peak Oil' point is reached, after which the rate of production of oil goes into terminal decline (and the price increases accordingly)
- Help our communities to adapt to Climate Change and Peak Oil by preparing for and managing the risk of increased flooding, warmer weather and more expensive fuels

There is an increasing responsibility for Councils to act as community leaders and place shaper to co-ordinate and lead local partners in tackling Climate Change.

Taunton Deane Borough Council has publicly committed to tackling the causes and impacts of Climate Change as one of its main priorities.

Objective 8

Meet the 10:10 challenge by reducing the Council's carbon emissions by 10% by the end of 2010 and then to achieve year on year reductions thereafter, with the aim of becoming a carbon neutral authority in energy use in the future

Key Activity

- Produce an action plan to reduce carbon emissions for all Council buildings and assets including vehicles by May 2010 and to implement the agreed actions over the following twelve months. Work towards carbon neutrality in energy use by setting future targets and reviewing the action plan on an annual basis

Performance Indicators

- Local PI – 10% reduction in Council's CO2 emissions by 2010 from 2009 baseline
- NI 185 – Reduction in CO2 emissions from LA operations
- NI 188 – Adapting to climate change (process only)

Objective 9

Work with communities to significantly reduce individual carbon emissions across the Taunton Deane area, with measurable achievements by March 2013

Key Activities

- Work with the LSP and local community to produce a 'Community energy descent plan' by the end of 2013 to provide a deliverable action plan to reduce per capita carbon emissions across Taunton Deane
- Actively seek external funding as a Council and in partnership to support Climate Change initiatives

Performance Indicators

- NI 188 – Per capita CO2 emissions in the LA area
- Actions monitoring

DRAFT Equality Impact Assessment Form

(Note: Action table to be developed)

What are you completing this impact assessment for?	The 2010- 2013 Corporate Strategy
Section One – Aims and objectives of the policy /service	
The three main aims are;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To establish the council's overall vision and aims for the District and how we will deliver them• To give a clear lead for service planning activities and budget settings decision• To guide our dealings with partners and the community.	
Section two – Groups that the policy or service is targeted at	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff• Residents• Those who work in / trade in Taunton Deane• Visitors to Taunton Deane• Partner organisation	
Section three – Groups that the policy or service is delivered by	
All sections of the Council will be involved, although the main responsibility will lie with Directors and senior managers. It can only be delivered through partnership working and so will also involve our partners, in the private, public and voluntary sectors.	
Section four – Evidence and Data used for assessment	
Given the broad nature of the Corporate Strategy, a wide range of evidence was used, including:	
For general community profiling: NHS Health Profile (2009), IMD Data, IDeA/ ESD profiles, Somerset Joint Needs Assessment and Housing and Social Needs Assessment (HSNAG) data.	

For information on public perception, preferences and satisfaction: The 2008 Place Survey and Talking Tomorrow's Taunton Deane consultations results.

To guide in the setting of priorities: Members Corporate Strategy Workshop (2009)

For the Affordable Housing priority: Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Affordable Housing Events, the Choice Based Letting (CBL) reports, the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA).

For Climate Change priority: Transition Town workshops, Somerset Joint Needs Assessment and Housing Stock Conditions data.

For Tackling Deprivation priority: Halcon Away Day feedback, the Deprivation Workshop and community profiling information as listed above.

For Growth priority: The Local Development Framework (LDF) consultation (2010), Accommodating Growth and Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) consultations, Local Economic Assessment, Employment Land Survey and Economic Development Strategy Consultation.

Section Five - Conclusions drawn about the impact of service/policy/function on different groups highlighting negative impact or unequal outcomes

These have been considered in line with the corporate priorities and associated objectives:

Growth/ Regeneration:

a) Economic growth

The Economic Development Strategy is undergoing an impact assessment utilising the knowledge of Equality South West and Somerset Racial Equalities Network.

- Potential negative impact on low skilled and low educated members of the community. These groups may find accessing jobs within the High knowledge Economy which the authority plans to attract to the area.
- Potential negative impact on part-time workers, parents, carers, disabled people if businesses that support part-time working are not attracted to the area.
- Potential negative impact gender groups. Construction industries will be attracted to the area due to the high amount of growth, this industry does not attract a high number of female employees.
- Potential negative impact on age groups. Older people may find it difficult to access jobs in the emerging sectors,

such as the Green Knowledge Economy and high knowledge sectors requiring recent training and up-to-date knowledge.

- Potential risk to socio-economic groups. Many part-time workers and low earners are employed by the Public sector, a reduction in public sector employment and a rise in private sector employment may affect many people in the area.
- Potential negative impact on our partners if our vision and aims are not communicated to them effectively. Partners may have objectives which contradict our own, especially communicating with Schools and education and skills training establishments who will be providing training for the people to fill the jobs we plan to attract to the area. Communicate with the EBP and other partners (LSP and skills group) to align our plans for the future economy of Taunton Deane.

b) Enabling housing growth

A comprehensive EqIA on the Local Development Framework (LDF) will be carried out in September 2010.

- There are potential negative impacts on all groups if the urban extension master planning does not take into account the views of the community regarding housing and community provision, all consultation must be accessible and carried out regularly to reflect the changing needs and aspirations of our communities.
- Potential negative impacts on all protected groups due to the lack of profile information on our communities. A lack of understanding of the needs of our diverse communities may lead to a lack of suitable and appropriate provision. Especially for the increasing elderly population and people. Data projecting the future profile of Taunton Deane should be used during the planning and design process. Specifically around the provision of 'Homes for Life' and cultural, religious and community provision. Profiling should include the mapping of current provision to identify gaps.

c) Delivering the infrastructure

- Potential for negative impact if the infrastructure delivery action plan is not impact assessed.
- A potential negative impact on all groups could occur if the authority does not communicate its plans for growth effectively. If the borough sees an increase in the diversity of its communities due to the economic development and increase in housing provision issues of community cohesion could be raised. The authority must take an active role in promoting the value of diversity.
- A potential negative impact on all groups could occur if the authority focuses on areas of growth to the exclusion of existing communities.

Affordable Housing:

- Potential negative impact if all protected groups are not consulted with.

- Potential negative impact if consultation is not fully accessible and therefore not representative of our community's diverse needs and aspirations.
- All protected groups could be negatively impacted on if their views on housing providers, location and the types of homes and design of infrastructure are not considered.
- Potential negative impact if we offer inappropriate housing.
- Providing more choice should positively impact on vulnerable groups allowing disadvantaged families to move from areas of deprivation. However in allowing more choice some cultural groups may choose to live together, this has the potential to exclude other people from the area, or create ghetto's or further pockets of deprivation.
- Potential negative impact on faith or belief groups due the a lack of places of worship in an area attracting growth.
- Potential negative impact on all groups if cohesive and sustainable communities are not built into the design process in consultation with local people. Planners must also ensure suitable community and cultural provision and accessible facilities.

Climate Change:

a) To meet the 10:10 challenge by reducing the Councils carbon emissions by 10% by 2010 and continue reductions with the aim of becoming a carbon neutral authority.

- Potential negative impacts for employees. Consideration should be made for staff for whom homeworking is not an easy option. For example, disabled staff, parents and carers and those who are digitally excluded. Also if the use of public transport is encouraged this could discriminate against employees that live in rural areas where public transport links are limited.
- Potential negative impacts on partner organisations, especially those supporting vulnerable groups if we have a lack of staff in the office to answer queries.
- Potential negative impacts on customers if this objective reduces our availability to carry out home visits – this will particularly affect those with disabilities, those who need an interpretation service, parent and carers.
- Potential negative impact on all groups, including those in rural and deprived areas if there is a lack of accessible and affordable public transport when car use is being discouraged. A lack of facility to travel to work or places of education or training may increase levels of disadvantage.

b) Work with communities to significantly reduce carbon emissions.

- Potential negative impact for certain socio-economic groups and rural communities for whom there may not be the same level of opportunity to participate. This might also apply to certain older or disabled individuals and small businesses
- Potential negative impact on certain groups who for cultural or religious/ belief reasons do not accept or agree with

the theory of climate change and do not wish to participate, leading to potential community cohesion issues.

- Potential negative impact if we do not understand the issues faced by the community and protected groups in taking part in Climate Change initiatives. Consulting with the community on possible issues and solutions will help to engage the community and help them to understand and be willing to accept some changes to their standard of living if choices taken away.
- Higher fuel poverty and less energy efficient homes are usually in rural areas, initiatives should be targeted in these high priority areas where protected groups are made more vulnerable

Tackling Deprivation/ Community Development:

a) To focus on deprivation and disadvantage within Taunton East, North Taunton and Rural deprivation

- There is a potential negative impact on those disadvantaged and vulnerable groups that are not included in the Community Development Plan which focuses on geographical areas (Taunton East, Taunton North, Rural areas).
- Potential negative impact on some vulnerable individuals which are not identified through the use of area profiling. Some disadvantage may be 'lost' in otherwise affluent areas. Through consultation and the use of a wider range of data vulnerable groups may be identified and work prioritised to support these groups of people.
- There is a potential negative disadvantage groups and communities due to the lack of plans for a community volunteering scheme. A scheme could support and encourage youth engagement and the opportunity to transfers skills from older people.
- Potential negative impact if accessible consultation on Community Needs is not carried out during the design of the Community Development Plan. Consultation must include listening to the views of young people, parents, the Gypsy and Travelling community, disabled groups, the elderly and carers.
- Potential negative impact on all groups due gaps in service provision and duplication of work by partners to support this aim. A partnership response must be taken to support the Total Place initiative. The authority must work across its themes and with the Local Strategic Partnership and other agencies who provide key work on the ground to support the achievement of this aim.

There is a need to research and utilise best practise schemes, delivered by similar authorities to reduce deprivation, ensure the effective delivery of our targets.

b) Work with partners to deliver 'one-stop' advice on skills, employment and apprenticeships direct to communities.

- Potential negative impact on young people, especially those not in education, employment or training to utilise a service aimed at getting them into work without a bridge between secondary school education and applying for employment. Young people, especially young men aged 18-25 and young parents will need extra support before gaining employment. Consideration should be made to how the service is advertised you young people to make it

attractive.

- Potential negative impact on gender groups (returning to work after time off with children), lone parents, carers if the service does not taken into account their specific needs.
- Potential negative impact on staff providing the service and vulnerable groups if staff providing the service are not trained to take into account and provide services for protected groups, such as providing translated services, issues faced by disabled people, helping those who are illiterate etc.
- Potential negative impact on disabled and ethnic groups if information is not provided in an accessible way (ie the use of translation service, Somerset Total Communications signs). The service should be advertised in a way that ensures different cultural and ethnic groups are encouraged to take part in activities and projects.
- Potential negative impact on ethnic and religious groups. Cultural differences must be understood and supported by the service to overcome cultural barriers and ensure the service can be used by all.

c) To support the work of the North Taunton Partnership and Link Partnership

- Potential negative impact on employees of the Partnerships if the Partnerships do not adopt the TDBC equal opportunities policy for recruitment.
- Potential negative impact if the Partnerships do not adopt the TDBC Equalities Policy.
- Potential negative impact on other vulnerable groups due to funding being redirected towards this aim, the redirecting of funding should take this into consideration.

Section six – Examples of best practise

To be identified.

Signed: Person/Manager completed by		Signed: Group Manager/Director	
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Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive – 2 February 2010

General Fund Revenue Estimates 2010/2011

Report of the S151 Officer and Financial Services Manager

Report of the Legal Services Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ross Henley)

Executive Summary

This report presents the Executive's final 2010/2011 budget proposals. These are submitted for consideration prior to submission to Full Council on 16 February 2010 for approval. This report contains details on

- 1 The General Fund Revenue Budget proposals for 2010/2011, including the proposed Council Tax Increase and Prudential Indicators.
- 2 Draft figures on the predicted financial position of the Council for the following four years within the Medium Term Financial Plan.

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Executive to present its final General Fund Revenue Budget proposals for 2010/2011.
- 1.2 All Councillors were presented with the Draft Budget Consultation Pack in December, which contained details of the draft General Fund Revenue and Capital budgets, along with updated Savings Delivery Plans. Councillors were requested to feedback their views on the budget plans to the Executive so they could be taken into account before their final budget was presented for approval.
- 1.3 The Executive have considered the feedback made by individual Councillors and Corporate Scrutiny Board, and now present their final General Fund Revenue budget proposals for 2010/2011.

2 Budget Strategy

- 2.1 Each year the Council sets an annual budget, which sets out in detail the resources needed to meet operational requirements. The Council's approach follows key objectives of the Budget Strategy which are to:
 - Maintain an affordable and sustainable Council Tax position
 - Run an inclusive, open and transparent budget setting process
 - Ensure budgets are realistic, balanced, sustainable, and support corporate priorities

- Maintain a strong balance sheet position
- Manage spending within budgets
- Deliver year on year cash and non-cash efficiency savings in line with Government targets
- Continue to improve on Financial Management, Use of Resources, and Value for Money assessments
- Maintain General Fund Reserves at a minimum of £1.25m (or £1m if being replenished via invest to save initiatives)
- Maintain Housing Revenue Reserves at no less than £150 per dwelling.

2.2 The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is set out within the Financial Strategy Framework, which is a key link between the Corporate Strategy and financial planning, and recognises the difficult issues and challenges facing this Council. The annual budget is also prepared within the context of the MTFP, and is essentially focussed on setting the budget for the first year of a 5-year rolling financial plan.

2.3 The context for budget setting this year is considerably influenced by the overall global and UK economic climate and the major changes faced by the organisation e.g. the Core Council Review. The investment in services and consideration of savings targets and delivery plans aims to ensure that the Council is directing resources towards its highest priorities.

3 Budget Process

3.1 There are two main aims of this budget setting process – to ensure the increase in council tax is minimised, and, at the same time to try and maintain good front-line service provision.

3.2 The MTFP was updated over the summer to reflect the latest estimates from officers reflecting demographic, legislative and other known changes considered to be unavoidable. The initial view of the General Fund financial position was subsequently presented to Corporate on 1 October 2009.

3.3 The initial Budget Strategy for 2010/11 was presented to Corporate Scrutiny on 29 October, which set out to identify options to close the General Fund Budget Gap which at that time stood at close to £1.4m. The three key options were:

- The Core Council Review (CCR) was confirmed as an essential vehicle for identifying sustainable budget savings.
- Corporate Management Team and Executive Members issued savings targets to managers, who were tasked with developing Savings Delivery Plans to provide options for meeting the targets.
- A comprehensive review of Fees and Charges would consider ways of generating additional income.

4 The General Fund Grant Settlement

Background

- 4.1 The General Fund Revenue Account is the Council's main fund and shows the income and expenditure relating to the provision of services which residents, visitors and businesses all have access to including Planning, Environmental Services, Car Parks, Leisure Services, certain Housing functions, Community Services and Corporate Services.
- 4.2 The Council charges individual consumers for some of its services, which means that less has to be funded from local taxpayers and central Government. The expenditure that remains is funded by central government via the Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates, and the Council Taxpayer.

Local Government Finance Settlement 2010/2011

- 4.3 In 2009/2010 the Council received a total of £8.536m from Central Government via the Finance Settlement. On 20 January the Council received the final settlement figures from Central Government for 2010/11 and these are unchanged to the draft settlement figures received prior to Christmas, and from those announced in January 2008. As 2010/11 is the final year of the current three-year settlement, we do not have draft figures from Government for future years. For the purposes of the MTFP we are predicting a fall in funding during the next three year financial settlement period (see section 16 below).
- 4.4 Part of the methodology ensures that each local authority receives a minimum increase in cash granted: this is known as the "floor". For 2010/11 the floor in place for district tier councils is 0.5%, as included in the following table.

	Floor 2008/09 %	Floor 2009/10 %	Floor 2010/11 %
Shire Districts	1.00	0.50	0.50
Education / Social Services Authorities	2.00	1.75	1.50
Police Authorities	2.50	2.50	2.50
Fire Authorities	1.00	0.50	0.50

- 4.5 In total, the Government's contribution towards TDBC's spending requirement has risen from £8,536,140 in 2009/2010 to **£8,721,220** for 2010/2011, an increase of **£185,080 (2.17%)**.
- 4.6 The following table summarises the grant settlements across Somerset local authorities:-

RSG/NNDR Increases 2009/10 to 2010/11

	2009/10 £m	2010/11 £m	Increase %	£ Per Population
Mendip	8.312	8.419	1.29	75.33
Sedgemoor	9.902	10.083	1.83	87.28

South Somerset	10.984	11.128	1.31	68.59
Taunton Deane	8.536	8.721	2.17	77.04
West Somerset	3.277	3.300	0.71	91.04
Somerset CC	104.129	109.897	5.54	203.90

4.7 The DCLG have confirmed that they do not 'expect' to see Council Tax increases above 3%.

5 The Executive's Budget Proposals 2010/11

5.1 The main changes within the Budget Proposals for 2010/11 are summarised as follows:-

	£'000	£'000
Budget Requirement 2009/10 (excluding parishes)		14,216
General Inflationary increases	386	
Unavoidable increases		
Ongoing impact of 2009/10 pressures/savings	271	
Loss of car parking income (impact of P&R / Project Taunton)	257	
Waste service contract inflation / reduced Recycling Credits	136	
Removal of DLO contribution to general fund (2009/10 only)	112	
Impact of VAT increase from 15% to 17.5%	73	
Loss of income from market site	21	
Repayment of capital borrowing (MRP)	10	
New initiatives / spending on services		
Waste service enhancements and withdrawal of bring banks	84	
Reinstatement of 'frozen' staff posts	133	
Removal of grant income for posts removed in the CCR	100	
Removal of vacancy factor	50	
Software licences for system enhancements (QAS/GIS)	26	
Castle Green maintenance	22	
Youth initiatives (includes £15k one-off)	30	
Statutory BV Place Survey	11	
Tree planting (one-off)	10	
Parish precepts	13	
Other	25	
Revenue Financing of Capital Programme	49	
Savings		
Core Council Review	(450)	
Income generation - fees and charges	(478)	
Savings Delivery Plans	(315)	
HB Administration Subsidy	(71)	
Reduction in Discretionary Rate Relief budget	(49)	
Concessionary travel demand	(40)	
Removal of Deprived Areas Fund	(36)	
Reduced maintenance following cremator enhancements	(44)	
Other Savings	(98)	
Net change in interest costs and investment income	58	
Increase in Net Operating Costs		<u>296</u>
Budget Requirement 2010/11		<u>14,512</u>
Net increase to be met by:		
Government grants and taxation base budget		14,216
Government grant increase	185	
Increase/decrease in Collection Fund surplus / (deficit)	(48)	
Impact of change in Tax Base	(2)	
Parish Precepts and Special expenses	30	
Council tax	131	
	<u> </u>	<u>296</u>
		<u>14,512</u>

6 Inflationary Costs

6.1 The budget estimates for next year (before growth and savings) have been based on the following assumptions for inflation.

	Assumed Inflation	Non-contract inflation	Assumed Inflation
RSG/NNDR	2.17%	Electricity	10.0%
Council Tax Base	-0.04%	Gas	10.0%
Pay Award/Increments	1.5%	NNDR	5.9%
Members' Allowances	2.0%	Water	10.0%
Superannuation Rate	15.0%	Insurance	3.0%
		Other	2.3%

6.2 These general inflationary increases add £386,000 to the budget requirement for 2010/11.

7 Inescapable Budget Pressures

7.1 In addition to general inflationary pressures on the Council's expenditure, there are other inescapable factors affecting the budget for next year.

7.2 **Ongoing impact of 2009/10 budget pressures and savings:** add £271,000 to the budget requirement for 2010/11:

- **Falling income from Planning Fees and Land Charges:** An ongoing loss of income of £290,000 is predicted due to the impact of the recession in the housing and construction sector.
- **Waste Collection and Recycling:** Increased contract costs of £101,000 in 2009/10, due to an acceleration of the phased introduction of enhanced recycling services (see also 8.1 below), will have an ongoing impact on the base budget requirement.
- **Staff Pay Award:** The staff pay award in 2009 was settled at 1%, which is 1.5% lower than the Council allowed for in the 2009/10 budget, and provides a base budget saving of £120,000 (before the 2010 Award).

7.3 **Loss of Car Parking Income:** The introduction of the second Park & Ride site by M5 Junction 25 and the extension of the Silk Mills site, together with the impact of Project Taunton on parking in/near the town centre, are expected to reduce parking income by £257,000.

7.4 **Waste Collection and Recycling:** TDBC's share of the expected decrease in Recycling Credits, together with price inflation on the contract, will add a combined estimated £136,000 to the cost of these services.

8 New Initiatives and Increased Spending on Services

8.1 **Recycling Service:** As agreed when the 2009/10 Budget was approved in February 2009, the implementation of the enhanced recycling service is being phased over two years (2009/10 – 2010/11). The cost of the enhanced service is partially offset by the withdrawal of the Council's

existing bring banks. In addition to the ongoing impact from 2009/10 (see 7.2 above), a further budget increase of £84,000 is required in 2010/11.

- 8.2 **Reinstatement of 'frozen' posts:** A total of 8 posts that had previously been held vacant are reinstated within the 2010/11 budget proposals. The posts are within the following service areas: parking administration, environmental health, planning, TIC, housing and economic development.
- 8.3 **Removal of Grant income:** Two posts within Development Control and Forward Planning are being deleted from the Establishment as a result of the Core Council Review. These were funded by non-recurring grant income in 2009/10 therefore the grant income is also removed from the budget.
- 8.4 **Vacancy factor:** It is proposed to remove the £50,000 vacancy factor budget in recognition of the reduction in the overall establishment and the need to provide temporary cover for vacant posts in order to maintain services.
- 8.5 **Software Maintenance:** There is an annual license maintenance cost related to investment in new Quick Address System (QAS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) software.
- 8.6 **Castle Green Maintenance:** Increased maintenance costs related to Castle Green new open space development.
- 8.7 **Youth Initiatives:** The Executive is minded to include a new budget of £30,000 in 2010/11 to support youth initiatives in the Borough. This will comprise: £15,000 one-off amount to support one-off initiatives, to be part-funded by a £10,000 use of GF Reserves; and £15,000 ongoing support to initiatives in the unparished area of Taunton, which it is proposed to fund through an increase in the Special Expenses Rate (see paragraph 17 below). If approved, robust governance arrangements will be established to prioritise the use of these funds.
- 8.8 **BV Place Survey:** There is a statutory requirement to undertake a Best Value Place Survey every two years, with the next one due in 2010/11 with an estimated cost of £11,000.
- 8.9 **Tree Planting Scheme:** The Executive is minded to provide an additional £10,000 one off budget in 2010/11 for a tree planting scheme, and it is proposed to fund this from GF Reserves.
- 8.10 **Revenue financing of Capital Programme:** As commented within the Capital Programme Report which is reported separately on this agenda, it is proposed to continue to fund recurring capital schemes by revenue contribution. The increase of £49,000 for 2010/11 relates to investment in information technology infrastructure and building control software.

9 Savings Proposals

- 9.1 The Council needs to consider a range of savings options in order to balance the budget, and these have been widely reported and considered through the budget setting process.
- 9.2 **Core Council Review.** Proposals for Themes 2 and 4 were approved by the Executive on 11 November and by Full Council on 23 November. The proposals are expected to contribute £450,000 savings from 2010/11 onwards.
- 9.3 **Fees and Charges:** Whilst the Council would aim to limit price increases in the current economic climate, the recession has had a significant impact on demand in some areas – notably related to the construction and housing markets – and means we must look at opportunities to protect this source of funding for Council services. Proposals for revisions to fees and charges were considered by the Executive on 2 December. In addition, car parking fee increases were approved by the TRO Panel on 18 January 2010 following a period of consultation. Increases in fees and charges will generate an estimated additional £478,000 income for the Council in 2010/11.
- 9.4 **Savings Delivery Plans (SDPs):** As part of the Budget Strategy for 2010/11, savings targets were issued to managers to identify options for savings within services. These have been widely reported and debated, culminating in latest proposals totalling £352,890 being submitted to Corporate Scrutiny Board for comment earlier this month. **There are three changes to the proposals as at 13 January, presented to Corporate Scrutiny at the meeting on 21 January** as follows, which reduce the overall savings proposals to £315,140.
- a) Grass cutting: The Executive has confirmed its intention not to support the proposals to seek to transfer grass-cutting services back to Somerset County Council. This potential £41,000 saving has therefore been removed from the SDPs.
 - b) Public conveniences: The costing for the savings related to potential transfer to parishes or closure of public conveniences have been finalised, with the saving increased by £13,250, to £20,100 in total.
 - c) Parking: The option to introduce parking charges in Wiveliscombe is not recommended by the Executive; therefore the potential saving of £10,000 through additional income has been removed from the SDPs.
- 9.5 **HB Administration Subsidy:** The Council will receive an additional £71,000 income from the government related to housing benefit administration costs.
- 9.6 **Discretionary Rate Relief:** The discretionary rate relief budget is projected to be underspent in the current year, and updated estimates suggest this underspend will continue in 2010/11.

9.7 **Concessionary Fares:** The expenditure estimates included in the draft 2010/11 budget, up to the report to Corporate Scrutiny on 21st January 2010, anticipated an increase of £110,000. However, **officers have received an updated projection** which suggests there will actually be a saving of £40,000 next year. The County Council have negotiated fixed fare arrangements with operators for the majority of usage which are better than previously anticipated.

9.8 **Deprived Areas Fund:** It is proposed to remove this discretionary budget in 2010/11, which will provide a budget saving of £35,000.

9.9 **Cremators maintenance:** The capital programme includes an £1m investment at the Taunton Deane Crematorium (see separate Capital Programme report on this agenda). The annual maintenance costs of the crematorium will be reduced by £44,000 per annum as a result.

10 Investments, Borrowing and Capital Financing Costs

10.1 The Council manages its investment and borrowing activity in line with the Treasury Management Strategy, and controls this activity through the application of the approved Treasury Management Practices.

10.2 Movement in interest rates has a direct impact on the revenue budget for the Council. The current low interest rates are predicted to continue at least for the majority of 2010/11, and the Council is currently taking advantage of low variable rate borrowing with a positive impact on the revenue budget. Although borrowing costs are lower, investment interest income is also expected to fall below current year budgeted levels due to low interest rates. The net change in interest costs and income estimates requires a budget increase of £58,000 in 2010/11.

10.3 Where the Council undertakes prudential borrowing, the repayment of the borrowing is a charge to the revenue account. This is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The MRP budget is increasing by £10,000 in 2010/11, however this is £18,000 less than previously estimated within the MTFP.

11 Budget Gap – Amendments to Proposals in the Scrutiny Budget Report

11.1 The Budget Gap reported to Corporate Scrutiny Board on 21 January 2010 for the draft proposals under consideration was a £23,000 surplus.

11.2 The various changes to estimates information and proposals up to this point are clearly presented and summarised within that report. The budget proposals have been updated further as expenditure and income estimates, and budget proposals have been finalised. The changes to the Budget Gap since the report was submitted to Scrutiny are shown in the table below. The overall impact of the proposed changes **results in a nil budget gap**, with explanation for the changes provided after the table.

	£000	£000
Budget Gap Reported to Scrutiny 21 January 2010		-23
Collection Fund Deficit – updated forecast	18	
Grass Cutting – savings option not recommended	41	
Public Conveniences – estimated savings updated	-13	
Concessionary Travel – updated forecast	-150	
DLO – Remove one-off item from Base Budget	112	
Tree Planting – one-off item from GF reserves	10	
Youth Projects – one-off item from GF reserves	15	
Youth Initiatives in unparished area of Taunton	15	
Car parking – Remove proposal to introduce parking fees in Wiveliscombe	10	
One-off transfer from GF Reserves	-25	
Increase Special Expenses for Youth Initiatives	-15	
Net impact of changes		23
Budget Gap		0

- 11.3 Collection Fund Deficit: As the billing authority for Somerset, the Council is required calculate the projected surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund based on data as at 15 January each year. The forecast deficit has increased compared to previous estimates, reflecting the impact of the recession on collection rates. TDBC's budget requirement for its share of the deficit has therefore increased by £18,000, to £130,000 for 2010/11.
- 11.4 Concessionary Travel: Through the budget monitoring process for 2009/10 the current demand trend for concessionary travel is not expected to reach previously estimated levels, based on information received from the administering authority for this service – Somerset County Council. Officers have therefore reduced the estimated budget requirement for 2010/11 by £150,000.
- 11.5 DLO: During the 2009/10 budget setting, the DLO budget included a contribution to the general fund of £112,000. Given the overall trading environment, and the proposals for the DLO under consideration through the Core Council Review process, it is prudent to remove this contribution from the 2010/11 DLO budget.
- 11.6 Youth Initiatives and Tree Planting: see 8.7 and 8.9 above.
- 11.7 Grass cutting, public conveniences and car parking: see 9.4 above.

12 Corporate Scrutiny Comments

- 12.1 The Corporate Scrutiny Board considered the Executive's draft budget proposals at their meeting on 21 January 2010. During the discussion of this item, Members made the following comments:

- The proposal to cease the Council's contribution to Somerset County Council highway grass cutting should not be supported;

- The work that was done with the Youth Liaison Group was to be commended and the grant should not be cut. Consideration should also be given to disaffected and disadvantaged youths in Wellington;
- Moving the start time of the Planning Committee to 6.15pm and cessation of teas should not be supported;
- A review of Reserves should be carried out to determine whether they can contribute to funding.

12.2 The Executive have considered these comments in relation to completing the final Proposed Budget contained in this report.

13 Council Tax

13.1 In order to balance the budget for 2010/11, the Executive recommends that Council Tax is increased by 2.5%.

Proposed Total Council Tax Increase = 2.5%

13.2 The council tax calculation and formal setting resolution is considered in a separate report on the agenda. The proposed budget for Taunton Deane (shown below) will result in a **Band D Council Tax of £135.19**, an increase of £3.30 on 2009/10.

13.3 This represents an increase of 6 pence per week. The Band D taxpayer will receive all the services provided by the Borough Council in 2010/11 at a cost of £2.59 per week.

14 General Fund Budget 2010/11

14.1 The following table compares the 2010/11 Proposed Budget with the 2009/10 Original Budget, based on the information contained in this report.

	Original Estimate 2009/10 £	Proposed Budget 2010/11 £
Total Spending on Services	15,280,880	15,500,550
Capital Charges Credit	(1,930,000)	(1,930,000)
Interest payable on Loans	266,090	226,430
Minimum Revenue Provision	332,910	342,500
Interest Income	(167,000)	(69,000)
Contribution from G Fund Balances	0	(20,000)
AUTHORITY EXPENDITURE	13,782,880	14,050,480
Less: Revenue Support Grant	(1,600,772)	(1,105,826)
Less: Contribution from NNDR Pool	(6,935,368)	(7,615,394)
Surplus/Deficit on Collection Fund	81,600	130,210
Expenditure to be financed by District Council Tax	5,328,340	5,459,470
Divided by Council Tax Base	40,399.85	40,384.49
Council Tax @ Band D	£131.89	£135.19
Cost per week per Band D equivalent	£2.54	£2.59

14.2 Appendix A provides a more detailed analysis of the general fund budget by service. Once the final budget has been considered and approved by Full Council on 16 February, the officers will produce a detailed Budget Book for information.

14.3 Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme estimates are included within separate reports on the agenda.

15 General Fund Reserve Position

15.1 The 2008/09 Statement of Accounts has been formally signed off by our Auditor and has received an unqualified audit opinion. This confirms the General Fund Reserve balance as at 1 April 2009.

15.2 The following table sets out a summary of the current predicted General Fund Reserve position as at 31 March 2010, which therefore represents estimated general balances prior to the 2010/11 Budget setting decision.

	£
Opening Balance at 1 April 2009	1,574,008
Less: Supplementary Estimate – Core Council Review	-148,000
Less: Q2 Budget Monitoring Forecast Outturn deficit	-220,000
Less: Core Council Review costs (worst case)	-592,000
	<hr/> 614,008
Add: Windfall VAT receipt (ring-fenced for CCR costs)	649,119
Add: repayment to reserves for early retirements granted in recent years	145,634
Add: repayment to reserves for new Christmas lights supplementary estimate	4,750
Add: repayment to reserves for DLO Highways restructure costs in 2008/09	5,365
Predicted General Reserve Balance 31 March 2010	<hr/> 1,418,876 <hr/>

- 15.3 The current predicted balance of £1.42m may change between now and the end of the financial year. The above table includes a worst case scenario for the costs of CCR implementation in 2009/10, and the forecast outturn deficit as at Quarter 2 budget monitoring. As noted in the Executive Report on the CCR Proposals issued to the Executive on 11 November 2009, the estimated CCR implementation costs range from £134k to £592k. The actual costs are unlikely to be known with certainty until March 2010, which will be after the budget for 2010/11 has been set, however current cost estimates are very close to the £592k worst case.
- 15.4 Whilst the forecast position is currently above the minimum amount in the budget strategy, Members are advised that maintaining a strong general reserves position is prudent in the current economic climate and in view of the medium term reserves forecast provided later in this report.
- 15.5 A review of Earmarked Reserves will be undertaken shortly, and is due to be reported to the Executive in March. At this point in time there is no reason to suggest these funds are not required for the purposes for which they were originally set aside. The statement of the S151 Officer regarding the robustness of the estimates, included in Appendix C, comments further on this matter. Members are advised that funds set aside in earmarked reserves are 'one-off' funds set aside for specific purposes, and should not be used to fund ongoing/permanent budget commitments.
- 15.6 The impact of the 2010/11 Proposed Budget on the predicted general reserves position is included in the next part of this report.

16 Medium Term Financial Plan

- 16.1 As stated earlier in this report, the Council prepares its annual budget within the context of the Medium Term Financial Plan. This provides estimates of the budget requirement and budget gap into future years. The following table provides a summary of the current indicative MTFP. The budget requirement figure on the following table includes parish council precepts in addition to this Council's expenditure.

Indicative MTFP Summary

	2010/11 £m	2011/12 £m	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
Expected Budget Requirement	14.513	15.109	16.763	17.268	17.820
<i>Financed By:</i>					
External Government Support	8.721	7.849	7.457	7.457	7.457
Council tax (increase assumed 2.5% each year)	5.922	6.058	6.198	6.342	6.489
Predicted Budget Gap	0	1.289	3.152	3.470	3.875

Note: negative budget gap figure equals a surplus.

General Reserves Forecast

	2010/11 £m	2011/12 £m	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
Estimated Balance B/F	-1.419	1.703	0.515	2.596	5.991
Planned Transfers to / from Reserves	-0.284	0.101	0.04	0	0
Predicted Budget Gap	0.000	1.289	3.152	3.470	3.875
Estimated Balance C/F	-1.703	-0.515	2.596	6.066	9.941

Note: Negative reserve figures equal amounts in hand.

- 16.2 Members should note that the table above has been prepared on the assumption of a 2.5% increase in Council Tax each year within the MTFP period.
- 16.3 The MTFP also assumes that Government support will be hit hard in the next 3-year financial settlement, due to the overall state of the economy and pressures on government spending and debt. The LGA holds the opinion that councils we face a 15% reduction in funding in the period 2011/12 – 2013/14. At this stage we are planning on the basis of a 10% reduction in 2011/12 followed by a further 5% reduction in 2012/13. The Council would expect to have a clearer idea of funding prospects in the latter part of 2010.
- 16.4 As in previous years the MTFP will be updated over the summer and the results reported to Members.

17 Special Expenses - Taunton Unparished Area

- 17.1 The Executive are minded to increase expenses chargeable to the non-parished area of Taunton in 2010/11 to £47,050, an increase of 50% on the Band D equivalent, and this forms part of the total expenditure of the Council. The precept in 2009/10 was £30,620, representing the costs arising in respect of street/footway lighting and bus shelters. The proposed increase in 2010/11 incorporates enhanced funding for youth initiatives in the Taunton unparished area. At the time of submitting this report, the Council is still waiting for precept demands from 4 parishes, and this proposal will need to be considered in light of this information when it is received. Finance officers are requesting this information as a matter of urgency.

18 Deane DLO

18.1 Budgets have been prepared for the Deane DLO. Figures for each business unit are shown in the table below. DLO managers will charge work to clients on the basis of recovering this expenditure and with the aim of breaking even or making a modest surplus. However it should be noted that due to the uncertainty of their income sources – they are trading services operating in a competitive environment – these figures are very much an estimate and are based on the best information at this time.

	Gross Expenditure £	Gross Income £	(Surplus) / Deficit £
Highways	682,190	-682,190	0
Grounds	2,685,730	-2,685,730	0
Buildings	4,056,970	-4,056,970	0
Cleansing	777,510	-777,510	0
Nursery	110,160	-110,160	0
Transport	116,630	-116,630	0
	8,429,190	-8,429,190	0

18.2 The DLO is currently being reviewed as part of the Core Council Review, and a report is being considered at Corporate Scrutiny Board on 28 January 2010.

19 Additional Information

19.1 The Executive is minded to support a number of further proposals.

19.2 **Brewhouse Theatre Grant / Carbon Neutral Projects:** The Executive is minded to provide an additional £50,000 one off budget in 2010/11 for each of these (£100,000 in total). These are not included within the Proposed Budget, but further reports will be submitted after the 2009/10 accounts, to confirming the need for funding and the availability of Council funds to support this cost.

19.3 **Taunton East and Taunton North:** The Council is in early stages developing proposals, subject to the development of 3-year service level agreements (SLAs), to provide support to Taunton East Development Trust and North Taunton Partnership. The total funding sought is in the region of £130,000 over the three year period. It is proposed that £10,000 per annum for each area will be provided by the HRA (£60,000 in total over three years), £10,000 per annum (£30,000 in total over three years) from the Community Leadership existing budget. Opportunities to obtain contributions for the balance from other partner organisations through the LSP are being explored. The Executive is also minded to allocate a further £35,000 in total from existing Economic Development budgets, not towards the SLA but to support specific and related projects.

20 Prudential Indicators 2009/10 to 2012/13

20.1 As part of the Prudential Code for Capital Finance there is a requirement for Full Council to approve the indicators as shown in Appendix B. The Prudential Indicators are important as they detail the expected borrowing requirement for both the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account. They also set the operational boundaries for borrowing and investment levels and the interest rate exposure for the Council.

21 The Robustness of the Budget Process

21.1 The Local Government Act 2003 (Clause 25) requires a report on the adequacy of the Council's financial reserves; this Act also introduces a requirement for the S151 Officer to report on the robustness of the budget plans. The S151 Officer's statement is shown as Appendix C.

22 Recommendation

22.1 The Executive is asked to recommend to Full Council the budget for General Fund services for 2010/11 as outlined above. In particular the Executive is requested to recommend to Full Council to:

- a) Approve the transfer of any potential underspend in 2009/10 to the General Fund reserves.
- b) Approve the 2010/11 Proposed Budget and recommend approval of the same to Full Council, being Authority expenditure of £14,050,480 and Special Expenses of £47,050 in accordance with the Local Government Act 1992.
- c) Note the predicted General Fund Reserve balance of £1.419m at 31 March 2010.
- d) Note the forecast budget position within the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- e) Recommend the Prudential Indicators for 2010/11, as set out in Appendix B, for approval by Full Council.

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General Fund Summary Page

Description
Communications Community Leadership Corporate Resources Economic Development & the Arts Environmental Services General Services Housing Services Planning Policy & Transportation Sports, Parks & Leisure
Total Services Expenditure
Asset Management Revenue Account Capital Charges Credit Interest Payable on Loans Minimum Revenue Provision Interest Income Contribution to GF Balances from previous Invest to Save Schemes Contribution from GF Balances - Sup Est Agreed by Full Council 09/10 Contribution from GF Balances
Authority Expenditure
Special Expenses: Taunton Area
Borough Expenditure
<i>Parish Precepts (draft)</i>
Budget Requirement
Contribution from NNDR Pool Revenue Support Grant <u>Surplus on Collection Fund</u> Community Charge Council Tax

Net Expenditure to be raised by Council Tax

Appendix A

Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
0	(71,780)	11,000
769,860	987,210	988,110
1,427,290	1,560,760	1,570,370
1,025,060	1,035,340	1,085,750
4,651,360	4,659,940	4,639,140
1,021,470	1,161,940	1,010,630
2,595,880	2,588,330	2,486,620
817,060	649,390	824,930
2,817,150	2,738,000	2,773,180
15,125,130	15,309,130	15,389,730
0	0	0
(1,930,000)	(1,930,000)	(1,930,000)
266,090	266,090	226,430
332,910	332,910	342,500
(167,000)	(167,000)	(69,000)
155,750	155,750	110,820
0	(148,000)	0
0	0	(20,000)
13,782,880	13,818,880	14,050,480
30,620	30,620	47,050
13,813,500	13,849,500	14,097,530
402,703	402,703	415,320
14,216,203	14,252,203	14,512,850
(6,935,368)	(6,935,368)	(7,615,394)
(1,600,772)	(1,600,772)	(1,105,826)
81,600	81,600	130,210

5,761,663

5,797,663

5,921,840

Communications

Cost centre Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
102783	Public Relations	0	(71,780)	11,000
	Total	0	(71,780)	11,000

Community Leadership

Cost centre Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
103518	Strategy	0	307,210	0
101819	Housing Strategy	0	(4,470)	184,140
102100	LDF	0	88,260	170,060
109257	Community Grants	0	192,380	202,570
102129	Shopmobility	65,270	65,230	76,120
101570	Community Safety	704,590	338,600	355,220
	Total	769,860	987,210	988,110

Corporate Resources

Cost Centre	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
101070	Council Tax Collection	647,280	647,280	708,780
101117	Council Tax Benefit Admin	0	158,030	171,990
101148	Council Tax Benefit	103,030	(55,000)	(55,000)
101149	NNDR Collection	144,650	144,650	121,340
101192	Register of Electors	163,150	139,790	141,030
101203	Conducting of Elections	0	21,530	21,530
101273	Local Land Charges	0	0	(5,960)
101825	Housing Advances	11,980	11,980	13,140
102019	Rent Allowances	382,050	382,050	357,420
102029	Rent Rebates	155,760	155,760	149,560
102155	Property	(116,100)	(116,150)	(80,100)
102276	ICT	0	(35,180)	0
102281	Retained ICT	0	34,000	0
102310	Facilities Management	0	0	0
102312	Property Management	0	(11,060)	0
102329	Retained Property	0	10,000	0
102417	Wellington Office	34,170	34,170	30,390
102418	Deane House	13,920	13,920	0
102459	Flook House	0	(70)	0
102461	Procurement	0	(330)	0
102535	Design and Print	0	0	0
102567	Legal Services	0	(460)	0
102571	Democratic Services	0	(520)	0
102580	Customer Contact	0	0	0
102588	HR	0	(126,780)	0
102606	Retained HR	0	90,650	0
102627	Finance	(112,600)	405,600	0
102649	Retained Finance	0	(406,350)	0
102679	Insurance	0	0	0
102686	Treasury Management	0	0	0
102693	CTAX	0	(910)	0
102754	Benefits	0	(600)	10
102755	Performance	0	(22,970)	(5,180)
102769	Client	0	75,240	620
102797	Training and OD	0	36,130	0
102803	CEO	0	(11,070)	800
102807	Director	0	(770)	0
102819	Director	0	(630)	0
102832	Director	0	(10,680)	0

102834	Director	0	0	0
102839	PAs	0	(490)	0
102857	Change Managers	0	0	0
	Total	1,427,290	1,560,760	1,570,370

Economic Development and Arts

Cost centre Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
103532	Economic development	748,100	454,500	379,990
102190	Theatre & Public Entertainment	0	152,000	152,000
102270	Visitor Centre (TIC)	97,800	97,780	110,880
102267	Visitor Centres (STP)	0	106,340	166,900
102157	Project Taunton (TDBC)	104,400	104,400	96,860
102188	Art Development & Support	0	35,010	71,690
102152	Market Undertakings	3,840	3,840	23,100
101281	General Grants	70,920	81,500	84,330
102407	Priory Depot	0	(30)	0
	Total	1,025,060	1,035,340	1,085,750

Environmental Services

Cost centre Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
101458	Crematoria	(588,230)	(589,100)	(619,330)
101431	Cemeteries	219,280	239,210	190,900
101328	Cleansing	0	0	0
101689	Household Waste	2,594,540	1,129,310	1,279,730
101726	Recycling	0	1,465,230	1,389,080
101640	Flood defences	217,890	217,890	229,720
101495	Pest Control	74,880	74,880	72,690
101563	Public Conveniences	333,090	332,730	307,750
101533	Dog Wardens	73,060	73,060	68,220
101464	Pollution Reduction	524,120	522,630	589,250
101542	Licensing	26,720	26,230	49,850
101648	Street Cleaning	660,710	653,860	653,720
101478	Health & Safety	187,290	187,040	179,420
101458	Food Safety	328,010	326,970	248,140
	Total	4,651,360	4,659,940	4,639,140

General Services

Cost Centre	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)
101015	Democratic Representation and Management	768,740	768,740
101017	Corporate Management	66,900	66,900
101055	Non Distributed Costs	122,430	122,430
101232	Emergency Planning	63,400	62,860
101287	Precepts and Levies	0	56,710
102791	Internal Audit	0	0
109236	Appropriations	0	(119,700)
109237	Core Council Review	0	204,000
	Total	1,021,470	1,161,940

Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
729,250
54,800
125,650
62,340
53,290
0
(14,700)
0
1,010,630

Housing Services

Cost Centre	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
101291	Building Maintenance	0	(2,790)	0
101468	Housing Standards	167,530	163,130	130,490
101838	Cont. to HRA re Shared	660,390	660,390	301,150
101944	Admin of Ren & Imp Grants	1,036,300	1,035,580	1,047,670
101974	Control & Closing Orders	0	4,140	4,140
101987	B&B Accommodation	0	358,900	371,400
101822	Housing Advice	0	0	548,030
102007	Homelessness Admin	731,660	372,760	17,630
103547	Deane Helpline	0	(3,780)	0
109226	Housing Enabling	0	0	66,110
		2,595,880	2,588,330	2,486,620

Planning and Transport

Cost centre Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
101785	Concessionary Travel	1,862,780	1,862,780	1,824,910
101809	Co-ordination	120,550	99,970	110,240
102058	Advice	0	12,960	515,490
102059	Dealing with Applications	672,590	668,370	40,470
102093	Regional Planning	425,830	250,390	536,320
102083	Enforcement	0	0	78,730
102104	Sustainable Development	0	104,030	42,770
102045	Building Control - Fee Earning	0	58,200	0
102053	Building Control - Non Fee Earning	114,190	53,580	124,030
101734	On Street Parking	133,920	132,460	210,650
101779	Off Street Parking	(2,839,220)	(2,843,940)	(2,931,670)
102103	Conservation & Listed Buildings	326,420	250,590	272,990
	Total	817,060	649,390	824,930

Sports Parks and Leisure

Cost centre Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Current Estimate 2009/10 (£)	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 (£)
102243	Golf Courses	17,310	17,310	18,250
102256	Allotments	4,080	4,080	4,500
101317	Grounds Maintenance	31,880	(1,420)	0
102212	Indoor Sports	489,570	513,070	477,950
101384	Vivary Park Trading Acc	26,380	26,380	30,620
101338	Highways	0	(1,290)	0
101818	Environmental Maintenance	0	41,880	46,700
102246	Community Open Spaces & Parks	0	1,143,250	959,400
102216	Outdoor Spots	1,131,870	6,360	160,770
102196	Sports Development	1,116,060	988,380	1,074,990
	Total	2,817,150	2,738,000	2,773,180

PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	outturn	estimate	estimate	estimate	estimate
Capital Expenditure					
General Fund	£8,506	£3,088	£2,852	£2,528	£1,785
HRA	£5,428	£6,724	£4,560	£4,300	£4,399
TOTAL	£13,934	£9,812	£7,412	£6,828	£6,184
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream					
General Fund	-3.28%	1.08%	1.07%	1.13%	1.15%
HRA	2.57%	1.83%	1.82%	1.47%	1.24%
Net borrowing projection					
brought forward 1 April	£9,425	£9,900	£10,520	£11,910	£13,274
Carried forward 31 March	£9,900	£10,520	£11,910	£13,274	£13,894
in year borrowing requirement	£475	£620	£1,390	£1,364	£620
Capital Financing Requirement as at 31 March					
General Fund	£8,354	£8,594	£9,021	£9,448	£9,867
HRA	£14,451	£14,451	£14,451	£14,451	£14,451
TOTAL	£22,805	£23,045	£23,472	£23,899	£24,318
Incremental impact of capital investment decisions	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p
Increase in council tax (band D)	0.65	0.86	0.83	0.15	0.03
Authorised limit for external debt -					
TOTAL	£40,000,000	£40,000,000	£40,000,000	£40,000,000	£40,000,000
Operational boundary for external debt -					
TOTAL	£30,000,000	£30,000,000	£30,000,000	£30,000,000	£30,000,000
Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure					
Net interest re fixed rate borrowing/ investments	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Upper limit for variable rate exposure					
Net interest re variable rate borrowing/ investments	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing					
(Upper and lower limits)					
under 12 months	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%
12 months and within 24 months	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%
24 months and within 5 years	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%
5 years and within 10 years	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%	0% to 50%
10 years and above	20% to 100%	20% to 100%	20% to 100%	20% to 100%	20% to 100%
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days					
(per maturity date)	£2m or 20%	£2m or 20%	£2m or 20%	£2m or 20%	£2m or 20%

Appendix C

Robustness of Budget Estimates and the Adequacy of the Council's Reserves

Statement by the S151 Officer

1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this appendix is to outline and meet the statutory requirements contained in the Local Government Finance Act 2003 which requires the Council's Section 151 Officer to report to Members on:

- The robustness of budget estimates; and
- The adequacy of proposed reserves

1.2 This appendix provides evidence of assessment of the levels of the non-earmarked General Fund Reserve, specific earmarked reserves, and usable capital receipts and also makes comment on the Housing Revenue Account reserves.

2 Robustness of the Estimates

2.1 The proposed budget for 2010/11 (and the forecast position for future years) is the financial interpretation of the Council's strategic priorities and, as such, has implications for every citizen of Taunton Deane together with all other stakeholders.

2.2 In commenting on the robustness of the budget and level of reserves and balances, the following factors have been taken into consideration and are considered in the remainder of this appendix:

- Government funding
- Capital programme funding
- Inflation and other key assumptions
- Treatment of savings
- Risks and opportunities with partnerships
- Financial standing of the Council (level of borrowing, debt outstanding)
- Track record in budget management & in-year budget pressures
- Virement and control procedures
- Risk management procedures
- Key risk issues in 2010/11 budget

3 Government Funding

3.1 The Government now provide three-year indicative settlements to local authorities. This provides the Council with a greater degree of certainty on future Government funding, but requires Councils to consider their potential tax positions over a longer term period.

3.2 The Government has declared that it does not expect to see Council Tax increases in England for 2010/11 above 3%.

4 Capital Programme Funding

- 4.1 The Prudential Regime came into force in 2004 and requires Councils to publish and monitor a set of Prudential Indicators. These must be taken into account when formulating capital spending plans. The underlying principle of the regime is that there will be less central control and more local discretion in determining investment strategies. Local authorities are allowed to self regulate their approach to funding capital spend through borrowing, based on the principles of affordability, sustainability, and prudence.
- 4.2 The system works within a framework of principles – namely that the:-
- Council will maintain a balanced budget
 - The impact of the capital programme will be reflected in the medium term financial plan
 - The prudential indicators will be used to provide performance measurement in managing key investment decisions.
- 4.3 The Council is following the principles of the Prudential Code, and the latest Prudential Indicators are shown in Appendix B of this report.

5 Inflation and Other Key Budget Assumptions

- 5.1 I have reviewed the budget proposals and confirm the following key assumptions:-

Area of Budget	How is this addressed within the TDBC budget process?
Inflation assumptions	Inflation has been provided for in the budget at the following rates: General – inflation has not been applied to budgets unless there is direct justification ie as a contract condition. Salaries – 1.5% for 2010/11, 2% thereafter. Insurance – 3% (based on current market conditions) Utilities - based upon known contract increases Pension Contributions – 15.0%
Income Levels	Income projections are based on realistic assumptions, current usage levels and the most recent Government guidance on fee levels. They also take into account historic trends and current year variations against budget.
Economic assumptions	Investment interest assumptions are based on independent economic forecasts provided by our advisors Arlingclose.

Area of Budget	How is this addressed within the TDBC budget process?
Salaries Budgets	As one of the largest areas of spend, the salaries budgets have been reviewed in detail. They have been built up by costing each individual post. These have been discussed in detail and agreed with individual Service Managers. The impact of the phase 2 & 4 of the Core Council Review has been costed in detail.
Growth in service requirements	The MTFP identifies service growth areas ie refuse collection; this is then firmed up by detailed discussions with Managers during the budget process. Growth assumptions for future years in the Council Tax base have been revised downwards to reflect the current economic slump
Efficiency Initiatives	The Council is involved in several initiatives, which will benefit the Council, for example the Southwest One contract – the negotiated fixed price of support services has been included in the budget.
Significant Budget areas which are subject to change during the year	The high risk/high value budgets of the Council are rigorously examined and only prudent increases built into them. In addition when forecasting, the performance in both previous and current years is taken into account.
Choices available to Members	All Members have been presented with extensive options for closing the budget gap through the Savings Delivery Plan process. The Core Council Managers Group and Corporate Management Team have also rigorously examined these.
Changes in Legislation	Legislative changes are analysed by officers and their effect built into the MTFP and budget.
Sustainability	The proposed budget outlined in section 14 takes into account the future financial pressures faced by the Council. Effective financial planning for the medium term is in place. The forthcoming implementation of phase 2 & 4 of the Core Council review will help with the Council's ongoing financial position, and the development of phases 3 & 5 of the review will be reported once known.
Sensitivity Analysis	The financial planning model allows the Authority to predict the likely outcomes of changes to key data ie inflation, council tax, government grant etc.
Prudential Indicators	Have been revised during 2009/10 and their results have informed the setting of the 2010/11 indicators.

Area of Budget	How is this addressed within the TDBC budget process?
The impact of the Capital Programme on the Revenue Budget	The MTFP identifies changes to the base budget as a result of the capital programme.

6 Treatment of Savings

- 6.1 All Managers are responsible for ensuring the savings ideas presented to Members are realistic and deliverable in terms of the level of savings and the timing.
- 6.2 All savings proposals have been reviewed for robustness – and will continue to be monitored during 2010/11 to ensure the benefits are realised.

7 Partnership Risks & Opportunities

- 7.1 The Council has several key partnership arrangements in place to support our ambitions and deliver key services. These are supported by contractual arrangements. There are performance management arrangements in place on each partnership to ensure the Council's interests are protected, and that the expected benefits are fully realised. Risk registers are kept for each key partnership and are regularly reviewed by lead officers.

8 Financial Standing of the Council

- 8.1 The Council fully complies with the Prudential Code.
- 8.2 The Council has a recently updated Financial Strategy in place and is operating within the agreed parameters.
- 8.3 The Council has an up to date Treasury Management Policy in place and is operating within the agreed parameters. The Council currently has £15m of outstanding debt (which is within our maximum borrowing level of £30m). The Council currently has £17.8m of investments placed in the markets in accordance with our policies.
- 8.4 The Council's Treasury Management Practices are prudent and robust, ensuring the Council is not exposed to unnecessary risk in terms of its investment policies. This does mean lower interest rates, but the first priority must be to protect the capital invested.
- 8.5 The adequacy of the Council's reserves is discussed later in the appendix.

9 Track Record in Budget Management & In Year Budget Pressures

- 9.1 The Council has an excellent track record in budget management. The most recent years have resulted in the following outturn positions:-

Year	£Variance	%Variance of Approved Budget
2004/05	(£163,000)	(1.49%)

2005/06	(£45,000)	(0.39%)
2006/07	£242,000	1.9%
2007/08	£49,000	0.37%
2008/09	£46,000	0.09%

9.2 In the context of a gross expenditure budget of £51m, the above results are pleasing and reflect the robust budget management arrangements in place. Members are provided with regular in-year updates on key budget variances

10 Virement & Control Procedures

10.1 The Financial Regulations contain formal rules governing financial processes and approvals (virements are simply transfers of budget between departments).

10.2 The Council updated its Financial Regulations during 2008 to ensure they will still fit for purpose. The Financial Regulations are being complied with throughout the organisation.

11 Risk Management

11.1 The Council has a Risk Management Policy in place which defines how risk is managed at different levels in the organisation. It defines roles, responsibilities, processes and procedures to ensure we are managing risk effectively.

11.2 The Council operates a self-insurance fund and has recently reviewed the level of funding required for this.

11.3 The Council changed its insurance provision arrangements during 2008. As part of this, the Council thoroughly reviewed its exposures to risk and made appropriate arrangements to mitigate this where possible. I am satisfied that the Council has adequate insurance arrangements in place, and that the cover is structured appropriately to protect the Council.

12 Key Risk Issues In 2010/11 Budget

12.1 There are some areas of the proposed budget for 2010/11 where uncertainty exists. They are detailed below for Members attention. The figures in the proposed budget for 2010/11 are based on our best estimates. These will require intensive monitoring throughout the year, and swift corrective action taken should they vary from budget. The issues I need to bring to Members attention are:-

- **Concessionary Travel** – the success of the scheme within the Borough is welcomed, however the expected level of growth in the scheme for 2010/11 is based on estimates received from the administering authority, Somerset County Council. The budget takes into account expected fee increases from First Bus, however actual

passenger usage is estimated. This will be monitored closely throughout the year and regular updates provided to Members.

- **Housing & Council Tax Benefit Subsidy** - The funding regime for housing benefit and council tax benefit subsidy has remained constant for 2010/11. However, the subsidy budgets are difficult to estimate due to the fluctuating volume of claims received and the different levels of subsidy payable of types of claimant error. This will be difficult to predict accurately due to the expected growth in claims arising from the current economic slump. The total benefit subsidy budget is in excess of £23m – and *therefore small fluctuations in this budget can have a big impact on the budget of the Council.* Systems are in place to ensure this is monitored on a monthly basis. In addition assumptions on the level of subsidy payable on Local Authority overpayments is at a prudent level.
- **Interest Rates** - The interest rates for 2009/10 have had a radical impact on the on the Council's budget. With assumptions on investment returns remaining low. However the budget has been based on cautious and prudent assumptions on interest rate movements taken from forecasts issued by our Treasury Management advisors, Arlingclose.
- **Impact of Economic Changes** – the Councils budgets reflect our best estimates of the impact of the continuing downturn in the general economy. This has affected income levels on some services in the current year, and our view is that this is likely to continue in 2010/11.
- **Procurement Savings** - The funding of the Southwest One transformation projects has been initially financed by prudential borrowing. The strategy is that this debt will be repaid once the procurement strategy of the council, in partnership with Southwest One, begins to deliver savings. This is dependant on cashable savings being identified and whilst the Council is confident of this strategy, progress in 2009/10 was not as good as anticipated and plans are being drawn to ensure that the savings are o track in 2010/11. This remains an area of risk.
- **Waste Collection Contract** – at the time of writing this report the contract negotiations by the Somerset Waste Partnership with the contractor May Gurney are still ongoing. This means that the final contract price for 2010/11 is not yet firm and based on best estimates.
- **Core Council Review** – The figures in the budget proposal for 2010/11 reflect the savings that can be delivered from theme 2 and theme 4 of the Core Council Review. The cost of facilitating these savings will not be known with certainty until the recruitment process is complete. The sensitivity analysis carried out on these costs suggest a best case of £134k and worst case of £592k. I recommended that the Council makes provision for £592k of one-off costs from the

General Fund Reserves. This gives Members some assurances on affordability and value for money.

13 Adequacy of Reserves

- 13.1 With the existing statutory and regulatory framework, it is my responsibility as s151 Officer to advise the Council about the adequacy of the Council's reserves position.
- 13.2 All reserves are reviewed at least annually and my opinion updated during the budget setting process each year. The annual review considers not only the adequacy but the necessity of the reserves. Reserves are not held without a clear purpose.
- 13.3 My opinion is given in the knowledge that known risks (strategic, operational and financial) are managed and mitigated appropriately in line with the Council's policies and strategies.
- 13.4 The headlines of my findings on each key reserve are set out in section 14 – 16 below.
- 13.5 My opinion is set out in section 17 below.

14 General Fund Reserve

- 14.1 The predicted General Fund Reserve position is set out in section 11 of the main report. The Proposed Budget includes the use of £25,000 from general reserves to support one-off items only.
- 14.2 The predicted balance on this reserve, having set the 2010/11 budget is £1.7m.
- 14.3 CIPFA make it clear in LAAP Bulletin No.77 (Nov 08) that the level of reserves for each Authority cannot be decided by the application of a standard formula and each authority must assess their own reserve levels based on the specific risks and pressures which they face. This has been done and is clearly set out in the Council's Financial Strategy.
- 14.4 The Financial Strategy approved during 2008/09 states that General Fund Reserves should be maintained at a minimum of £1.25m (or £1m if being replenished via invest to save initiatives).

15 Housing Revenue Account Reserve

- 15.1 The housing Revenue Account balance is forecast to be £2.393m at 31/03/2011. The current funding arrangements for local authority housing are under review and make forward planning fairly challenging. The medium term financial plan for the HRA predicts as follows:

	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
Total Income	(15,658)	(16,155)	(16,669)	(17,201)
Expenditure	14,004	15,337	15,263	15,648
Capital Financing/ Contributions to Reserves	1,865	865	563	449
Repayment of 'invest to save' to reserves re ISIS Transformation		(200)		
(Surplus)/Deficit	211	153	(843)	(1,104)
Working Balance b/f	2,757	2,546	2,393	3,236
Working Balance c/f	2,546	2,393	3,236	4,340

15.2 The Council aims to preserve this reserve at no lower than £150 per dwelling (which would be the equivalent of £0.9m).

16 Earmarked Reserves

16.1 At 31 March 2010, the Council expects to have £7m in earmarked reserves. The main reserves include the self-insurance fund, capital financing, and housing enabling reserves.

17 Conclusions

17.1 **My professional opinion is based on the Council's circumstances at this time, having due regard to future plans, and the risks inherent within any budget setting process.**

17.2 **The Council is facing a very challenging year ahead, and the robustness of the budget depends on the accuracy of some key assumptions.**

17.3 **Based on the above factors, and my knowledge of our insurance cover, my view remains that the Council needs, within the medium term financial period a prudent level of non-earmarked reserves of at least £1.25m – no change from the recommendation set out in the Councils Financial Strategy. The adequacy of the reserves over the medium term will be reviewed again as each phase of the Core Council Review is presented to Members for approval.**

17.4 **Based on the above, I am pleased to report that I believe the Council's reserves to be adequate and the budget estimates used in preparing the 2010/11 budget as robust as possible at this time.**

**Maggie Hammond
Acting S151 Officer**

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive – 2 February 2010

Housing Revenue Account, Revenue Estimates and Rent Levels and Deane Helpline for the 2010/2011 Financial Year

Joint Report of the Chief Housing Officer, Section 151 Officer and Financial Services Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Hazel Prior-Sankey)

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the 2010/2011 Financial Year. It also includes details of the proposed new rent charges for the year, and it provides information on the Deane Helpline Trading Account.
- 1.2 Where there are large variances from those budgets set for this current financial year and those being recommended for this forthcoming year, these have been explained in more detail within the narrative of this report.

2. Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 To consider the detailed estimates and rent levels for the 2010/2011 financial year for submission to Full Council.

3. Housing Revenue Account 2010/2011

- 3.1 Attached to this report are the following appendices:

- Appendix A: Proposed Housing Revenue Account 2010/2011
- Appendix B: HRA Maintenance Budget
- Appendix C: HRA Management General Budget
- Appendix D: HRA Management Special Budget
- Appendix E: HRA Special Expenses OAP Budget
- Appendix F: Deane Helpline Trading Account

3.2 Rent Levels for 2010/2011

Members will recall that via budget setting last year the Council set a rent increase of 6.2%, this was subsequently reduced to 2.95% following a last minute review by Government of average national rent levels.

- 3.3 For 2010/2011 via the subsidy mechanism the Government has requested that average rents increase by no more than 3.1% and this

report recommends an increase at that level. It is therefore recommended that the average weekly rent increase will be £1.93 per week or 3.1%. The average weekly rent (excluding service charges) will increase from £62.10 to £64.03. Members will be interested to note that this increase is much lower than originally anticipated when the Government originally announced their subsidy plans last year.

	<u>Average Rent Increase</u>	
2006/2007	£2.58	4.99%
2007/2008	£2.71	4.99%
2008/2009	£3.88	6.79%
2009/2010	£1.87	2.95%
2010/2011	£1.93	3.1%

3.4 Fees and Charges for 2010/2011

All Housing fees and charges for 2010/2011 have been considered by both the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and Executive at their meetings on 26 November 2009 and 2 December 2009 respectively. The financial implications of these fees have been built into the estimates presented in this report. On average the majority of fees have increased by RPI 2.5% in total.

3.5 Supporting People

From 2010/2011 we are anticipating overall reductions of 5% per annum in Supporting People funding each year over the next two years. For 2010/2011 it is anticipated that the income will be in the region of £405k. It should be noted that the budget-setting timetable of the Supporting People commissioning body is later than that of this Council and so the level of funding has not yet been finalised. As a result negotiations with Somerset County Council are continuing at the time of writing this report. Should these negotiations lead to a variance in the expected income of the Council this will be reported to Members via the usual budget monitoring report.

4. **Main Expenditure Changes Relating to Appendix A - Resource Accounting**

4.1 Housing Subsidy

Members should note that the Government has yet to provide the final Housing Subsidy determination for 2010/2011 and the figures in this report are based upon the draft determination released by Government recently. On this basis the repayment to Government is estimated to be £5.61m for 2010/2011. Members may be interested to note that this is an increase of 2.2% (£121k) over the repayment for 2009/2010.

The final determination is expected in early February and the implications of this will be reported to the Executive at their next meeting if this is received in time, otherwise this will be dealt with via the normal budget monitoring processes.

4.2 Rents

The figures shown reflect the rent increases outlined in section 3.3 above.

4.3 Increase in provision for bad debts

Officers have included in the 2010/2011 budget a £50k increase in the provision for bad debts, this is in recognition of the continuing economic hardships that many tenants are facing. This will be reviewed throughout the year and any amendments reported through budget monitoring.

4.4 Revenue Contribution to Capital

Members will note that the Revenue Contribution to Capital is around £735k for 2010/2011. Members may note that this is considerably lower than the figure for 2009/10 and recognises the reduced amount of capital expenditure required in order to maintain the Decent Homes Standard. The report of the Chief Housing Officer to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 16 April 2009 provides details on the Council's progress towards meeting this standard.

4.5 Surplus / Deficit

Based on the budget contained within this report, the expected deficit for 2010/2011 is forecast to be in the region of £153k. This is after making a revenue contribution to capital of £735k.

4.6 Working Balance

Members will note that the working balance is forecast to decrease from £2.5m as it currently stands to around £2.4m at the end of 2010/2011. This amount is £1.6m above the Audit Commission recommended minimum Working Balance of £150 per unit.

5 Main Expenditure Changes Relating to Appendix B – (HRA Maintenance)

5.1 Specialist Works

There have been a number of areas of required expenditure identified during the 2010/2011 budget setting process. These represent maintenance works that have been identified as being necessary over the medium term and include:

- Maintenance spend includes all slippage identified in the Qtr 2 budget monitoring report namely -
 - Replacement of soffits £650k
 - Replacement of smoke detectors £50k
 - Asbestos survey and register £175k
- The budget for heating systems has been increased to reflect the additional standards required of the Council as

recommended by the Audit Commission. The estimated cost of this in 2010/2011 is around £1.22m.

- A contingency budget for Sustainable Energy work has been included at £220k to encompass works to provide more efficient heating systems for some Council properties.

6 Main Expenditure Changes Relating to Appendix' C and D – (HRA Management and Supervisory Expenditure)

Appendix C

- 6.1 A new on-going budget of £30k entitled Tenant Empowerment has been created to meeting the costs of the Tenant Management Services Board.
- 6.2 A new £20k budget has been included for grants available to Taunton East Development Trust (TEDT) and North Taunton Partnership (NTP), subject to the negotiation of robust SLA's, which deliver significant contributions to the Council's corporate aims in relation to tackling deprivation.
- 6.3 A new on-going budget of £10k has been included to IT licences and upgrades to the Codeman element of the integrated housing management system.

Appendix D

- 6.4 An additional sum has been included within the premises related expenses of £25k for repairs and maintenance of lifts and doors at offices within sheltered accommodation, This was a recommendation from the recently completed Fire Action Plan.

7 Deane Helpline Trading Account

- 7.1 The Deane Helpline Trading Account is maintained separately from the HRA as a stand-alone enterprise. Details of the Account may be seen in Appendix F.
- 7.2 The forecast surplus for 2009/2010 is £30,490 leaving a projected working balance of £43,154 at the end of 2009/10. The forecast position for 2010/2011 is an estimated surplus of £48,640 leaving a working balance at 31 March 2011 of £91,794. These budgets also include a contribution to the General Fund of £30,000 as agreed in previous years plus a further £50,000 identified in the Core Council Review.

8 Next Steps

- 8.1 This report was taken to the Tenant's Forum meeting on 19 January for their consideration.

8.2 This report was taken to Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 21 January and they requested that details of the DLO budget be provided, this will be included in the General Fund Budget proposals.

9 Recommendation

9.1 That the Executive recommends the Housing Revenue Account budget proposals for 2010/11 to Full Council for their consideration.

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Background Papers: Corporate Scrutiny Committee 26th November, Fees and Charges 2010/11.

Decent Homes in Taunton Deane – Overview and Scrutiny Board 16th April 2009.

Rent Increase Decrease Executive 11th August 2009

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RESOURCE ACCOUNTING

Executive Councillor - Cllr Prior-Sankey
Responsible Officer - John Williams

Description	Forward Estimate 2009/10 £	Current Estimate 2009/10 £	Forward Estimate 2010/11 £	Indicative Budget 2011/12	Indicative Budget 2012/13	Indicative Budget 2013/14
INCOME						
Dwelling Rents	20,153,520	19,533,520	20,122,560	20,746,360	21,389,500	22,052,570
Non Dwelling Rents	493,680	493,680	506,700	522,410	538,600	555,300
Charges for services/facilities	479,800	479,800	476,860	488,780	501,000	513,530
Contributions towards expenditure	246,820	246,820	257,540	263,460	269,520	275,720
Government Subsidy	- 6,112,310	- 5,492,310	- 5,613,320	-5,736,810	-5,863,020	-5,992,010
Supporting People Income	396,740	396,740	405,070	384,820	365,580	347,300
TOTAL INCOME	15,658,250	15,658,250	16,155,410	16,669,020	17,201,180	17,752,410
EXPENDITURE						
Management	4,381,310	4,429,710	4,378,480	4,466,050	4,555,370	4,646,480
Maintenance	6,378,620	5,503,620	7,013,120	6,299,420	6,444,310	6,592,530
Rent Rebates	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent Rebates-Contribution to general fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Increase in provision for bad debts	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	-
Capital Charges-Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Charges-Depreciation	3,704,420	3,704,420	3,784,620	3,866,370	3,949,880	4,035,200
Debt Management Expenses	51,120	51,120	30,160	30,460	30,760	31,070
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	14,565,470	13,738,870	15,256,380	14,662,300	14,980,320	15,305,280
NET COST OF SERVICES	- 1,092,780	- 1,919,380	- 899,030	-2,006,720	- 2,220,860	- 2,447,130
Capital Charges-Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loan Charges-Interest	566,910	566,910	498,570	498,570	498,570	498,570
Interest Receivable	- 302,100	- 302,100	- 111,470	101,770	169,420	213,570
NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	- 827,970	- 1,654,570	- 511,930	-1,406,380	- 1,552,870	- 1,734,990
APPROPRATIONS						
Legal & Democratic restructure						
Transfer to Earmarked Reserve	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	-	-
ISIS Transformation Projects						
ISIS Project Costs			- 200,000			
Transfer From General Fund	-	-	-		-	
Revenue Contributions To Capital	1,735,580	1,735,580	735,380	433,130	449,160	-
(SURPLUS)/DEFICIT	1,037,610	211,010	153,450	-843,250	- 1,103,710	- 1,734,990
FUND BALANCE						
Balance b/f 1 April	2,646,570	2,756,810	2,545,800	2,392,350	3,235,600	4,339,310
Net Expenditure in Year	- 1,037,610	- 211,010	- 153,450	843,250	1,103,710	1,734,990
Balance c/f 31st March	1,608,960	2,545,800	2,392,350	3,235,600	4,339,310	6,074,300

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Repairs and Maintenance

Main Codes

Executive Councillor - Cllr Prior-Sankey

A1-A15 108920/103097/103106

Responsible Officer - Phil Webb

Sub Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/2010 £	Current Estimate 2009/2010 £	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 £
	EXPENDITURE			
A01	<u>R & M Reconditions on lettings</u>			
H005	Re-lets - Painting	347,740	347,740	363,390
H006	Re-lets - Maintenance	474,300	474,300	545,640
A03	<u>R & M General Maintenance</u>			
H010	Structure	493,870	475,380	496,770
H015	Structural Finishings and Fixings	487,040	487,040	508,960
H020	Water and Sanitary Services	375,830	375,830	392,740
H025	Other Domestic Services	8,740	8,740	9,130
H030	External Site Works	52,250	52,250	54,600
H035	Miscellaneous	62,700	62,700	65,520
H040	Damp and Condensation	26,130	26,130	27,310
H060	Vandalism	92,700	92,700	96,870
H065	Re-instatement of Aids & Adaptions	1,750	1,750	1,830
H070	Enhancement of DAP Accommodations	3,280	3,280	3,430
A04	<u>R & M Electrical</u>			
H045 000	Electrical Repairs	274,530	274,530	286,880
H045 001	Repairs to Storage Heaters	13,100	13,100	13,690
A05	<u>R & M Spec. Rep. Gas Servicing</u>			
H090	Gas Maintenance	1,080,190	1,080,190	1,223,210
A06	<u>R & M Spec.Rep. Roofing</u>			
H075	Felt Roofing	21,840	21,840	22,820
A07	<u>R & M Spec. Rep. Windows</u>			
H080	Metal Windows and Doors	70,000	70,000	73,150
A08	<u>R & M Spec. Rep. Fencing</u>			
H085	Fencing	43,680	43,680	45,650
A09	<u>R & M Underground Drainage</u>			
H031	Misc Expenditure	103,910	103,910	108,590
A10	<u>R & M Garages</u>			
H050 000	R & M Garage Buildings	30,000	30,000	31,350
A11	<u>R & M Shops</u>			
H055 111	R & M - Shops and Commercial Premises	8,000	8,000	8,360
A12	<u>Planned Maintenance/Ext Painting</u>			
	<u>PPM Rention Payments</u>			
H205	45 PPA	10,000	10,000	0
	<u>PPM 2008/09, 2009/10</u>			
H210	46 PPM	948,840	298,840	0
	<u>PPM 2009/10, 2010/11</u>			
	47 PPM	0	0	1,338,490
A13	<u>Specialist Works</u>			
	Asbestos Survey	243,800	68,800	225,000
	Asbestos register maintenance	0	0	7,500
	Training in operation of energy performance certificates	0	0	15,000
	Heating Renewal	181,040	181,040	0
	DDA	20,000	20,000	20,900
	Door Entry System Maintenance	5,720	5,720	5,720
	Smoke Detector Replacement	100,520	50,520	134,140
	Water Main Failure Replacement	39,940	39,940	41,740
	Fencing	35,000	35,000	36,580
H205	Sustainable energy contingency works	70,000	70,000	220,000
A14	<u>R & M Leasehold Flats</u>			
H310	Re-chargeable Works on Sold Flats	38,400	38,400	40,130
A15	<u>R & M Miscellaneous & Support</u>			
H300	Emergency Call Out	75,000	75,000	78,380
	<u>Internal Recharges</u>	479,780	479,780	469,650
	J E Contingency	59,000	59,000	0
	Total Expenditure	6,378,620	5,485,130	7,013,120
	INCOME			
C201	Fees & Charges	0	0	0
C500	Miscellaneous Repairs	80,000	80,000	80,000
C501	Other Income	0	0	0
	Total Income	80,000	80,000	80,000
	Net Expenditure	6,298,620	5,405,130	6,933,120

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Management and Supervisory Expenditure General Expenses

Main Code
A20/108931

Executive Councillor - Cllr Prior-Sankey
Responsible Officer - John Williams

Sub Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/2010 £	Current Estimate 2009/2010 £	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 £
	EXPENDITURE			
	<u>Employee Related Expenses</u>			
E300	Training/Conference Expenses	40,000	40,000	40,600
	Emergency Standby Cover	-	-	13,200
E600	J E Contingency	-	-	-
	<u>Premises Related Expenses</u>			
P200	Rent	21,700	21,700	22,790
P210	Rates	460	460	480
P300	Electricity	70,380	69,680	77,420
P500	Insurances	127,610	127,610	131,440
	<u>Hostels</u>			
P010	Repairs Winckworth Way	30,380	30,380	31,900
P200 001	Rent	2,770	2,770	2,910
	<u>Internal Recharges</u>	2,304,030	2,304,030	2,201,330
	<u>Supplies & Services</u>			
S010	Printing and Stationery	17,250	17,250	17,250
S022	Photocopying			
S305	Equipment	7,250	7,250	7,250
S510	Insurance	1,060	1,060	1,060
S520	Advertising	12,680	12,680	15,000
	Tenant Empowerment	-	-	30,000
	Grants available to Taunton East Development Trust and North Taunton Partnership	-	-	20,000
S528	Tenant's Forum	27,000	27,000	27,000
S530	Subscriptions	9,500	9,500	9,500
S545 003	I. T. Licences	39,640	39,640	39,640
	IT data handling software licences & upgrades	-	-	10,000
S600	Giro Charge	30,000	30,000	30,000
S620	Audit Fee	5,200	5,200	5,200
S653	Removal Expenses	35,000	35,000	35,000
S990	Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	2,000
S990 003	Management Contingency Budget	15,000	15,000	15,000
S990 006	Reorganisation of filing system	35,000	35,000	-
S999	Annual Report	1,500	1,500	1,500
	Total Expenditure	2,835,409	2,834,711	2,787,470
	INCOME			
C200	Fees and Charges	28,940	28,940	29,660
C201	Fees and Charges (non vat)	-	-	-
C301	Rents and Wayleaves	20,760	20,760	21,280
	Total Income	49,700	49,700	50,940
	Net Expenditure	2,785,710	2,923,720	2,736,530

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Management and Supervisory Expenditure Special Expenses

Main Code
A21/108929

Executive Councillor - Cllr Prior-Sankey
Responsible Officer - John Williams

Sub Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/2010 £	Current Estimate 2009/2010 £	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 £
	EXPENDITURE			
	<u>Premises Related Expenses</u>			
P030	Maintenance of lifts and doors at Kilkenny/Lodge Close and Dowell Close	2,340	2,340	25,000
	<u>Sewage Plants</u>			
P122	Maintenance-Routine	100,080	100,080	102,380
	Estate Roads Maintenance	42,850	42,850	43,840
P300	Electricity	24,340	23,640	26,770
P310	Water/NRA	2,370	2,370	2,610
P311	Housing Estates - Non-Routine	19,000	19,000	19,440
P410	Cleaning windows - Communal	7,080	7,080	7,240
P410 001	Cleaning Communal Areas	4,950	4,950	5,060
	<u>Maintenance of Grass Areas and Trees</u>			
P100	Housing Estates - General	367,810	367,810	376,270
	<u>Outside Lighting</u>			
P170 001	Maintenance - stair lighting	36,810	36,810	37,660
P170 003	Maintenance -estate lighting	7,150	7,150	7,310
P300 100	Energy Consumed	28,890	28,890	31,780
	<u>Internal Recharges</u>	72,080	72,080	88,090
	<u>Supplies and Services</u>			
S547	Special Estate Projects	12,620	12,620	12,910
S548	Risk Management Inspections	-	-	-
S549	Anti Social Behaviour Initiatives	20,700	20,700	20,700
S665	Clearing Streams and Waterways	20,840	20,840	20,840
S665 001	Clearing Rubbish from estates	38,170	38,170	38,170
S665 002	Clearing Clinical Waste	1,310	1,310	1,310
	Total Expenditure	809,389	808,690	867,380
	INCOME			
C400	Service Charges	-	-	-
C201	Fees & Charges Non VAT	-	-	-
C019	Fees & Charges	19,540	19,540	20,030
C501	Other income non VAT	-	-	-
	Total Income	19,540	19,540	20,030
	Net Expenditure	789,849	789,150	847,350

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Management & Supervisory Expenditure Special Expenses O.A.P

Main Code - A22/108928

Executive Councillor - Cllr Prior-Sankey
Responsible Officer - Christine Thompson

Resp. Officer	Sub Code A22	Description	Original Estimate 2009/2010 £	Current Estimate 2009/2010 £	Forward Estimate 2010/2011 £
		EXPENDITURE			
		<u>Employee Related Expenses</u>			
	E001 001	Salaries	340,810	340,810	331,840
	E002	Overtime	21,500	21,500	20,200
	E004	Superannuation	33,570	33,570	36,210
	E005	Employers NI	27,920	27,920	23,830
PP	E200	Car leasing	0	0	0
PP	E201	NI on leased cars	0	0	0
PP	E202	Other NI contributions	0	0	0
PP	E220	Private Health Insurance	0	0	0
PP	E300	Training	10,000	10,000	10,000
	E415	Criminal Records Bureau	450	450	450
		<u>Premises Related Expenses</u>			
PP	P200	Rent on Offices	5,000	5,000	5,000
PP	P210	Rates - Meeting Halls/Guest Apartments	14,260	14,260	12,930
PP	P300	Electricity - Meeting Halls	92,500	91,250	93,430
PP	P410	Cleaning and cleaning materials	27,620	27,620	28,260
		<u>Internal Recharges</u>	37,020	37,020	35,040
		<u>Supplies and Services</u>			
PP	S010	Printing & Stationery	2,100	1,600	2,100
PP	S022	Photocopying	200	200	200
PP	S100	Telephone Charges	6,500	6,500	6,500
	S120	Mobile Pagers	7,000	7,000	7,000
PP	S305	Furniture & Equipment - Meeting Halls	9,500	9,500	9,500
	S314	Uniforms	2,000	2,000	2,000
PP	S305	Maintenance & Equipment - Kilkenny Lodge	6,000	6,000	6,000
	S601	Purchase of Meals	53,060	53,060	53,060
PP	S990	Miscellaneous	14,500	14,500	14,500
		<u>Transport Related Expenses</u>			
PP	T900	Wardens	25,000	22,460	25,580
		Total Expenditure	736,510	732,220	723,630
		INCOME			
PP	C019	Fees & Charges	20,170	20,170	20,670
	C101	Sales non VAT	53,060	53,060	53,060
	C400	Electricity - Meeting Halls	18,660	18,660	4,500
		Total Income	91,890	91,890	78,230
		Net Expenditure	644,620	640,330	645,400

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Deane Helpline Trading Account

Main Code
A30/A31

Executive Councillor - Cllr Prior - Sankey
Responsible Officer - Christine Thompson

Sub Code	Description	Original Estimate 2009/10 £	Current Estimate 2009/10 £	Forward Estimate 2010/11 £
	EXPENDITURE			
	<u>Employee Related Expenses</u>			
E001 001	Salaries	628,130	628,130	586,800
E004	Superannuation	64,440	64,440	68,110
E005	Employers NI	46,230	46,230	46,920
E300	Training	5,000	5,000	5,000
E320	Conferences	1,500	1,500	1,500
E410	Advertising for Staff	2,000	2,000	2,000
E415	Criminal Records Bureau	200	200	200
	<u>Premises Related Expenses</u>			
P011	Repairs and Maintenance	1,100	1,100	11,100
P200	Rent & Energy - 26 Kilkenny Court	10,170	10,170	10,490
P310	Water / Sewerage	2,500	2,500	2,750
P410	Contract Cleaners	830	830	830
	<u>Internal Recharges</u>	86,420	86,420	70,780
	<u>Supplies & Services</u>			
S010	Printing & Stationery	6,000	6,000	6,000
	TSA Accreditation	-	-	2,000
S022	Photocopying	250	250	250
S100	Telephone	17,000	17,000	7,000
S305	Equipment	6,000	6,000	6,000
S314	Uniforms For Staff	1,500	1,500	1,500
S522	Publicity	5,000	5,000	5,000
S635 001	Eye Tests	250	250	250
S990	Miscellaneous	2,500	2,500	2,500
S900	Contribution to Reserves	30,000	30,000	80,000
	<u>Transport Related Expenses</u>			
T900	Travelling	23,000	23,000	20,660
	Total Expenditure	940,020	940,020	937,640
	INCOME			
C200	Private Sector Contract Work	327,260	327,260	327,260
C201	Charges to Subscribers - Private Sector	296,240	296,240	303,650
C202	Charges to Subscribers - Public Sector	334,300	334,300	342,660
C500	Miscellaneous Income	12,210	12,210	12,210
C924	Transfer from General Fund - Interest on Working Balance	500	500	500
	Total Income	970,510	970,510	986,280
	Net (Surplus)/Deficit	(30,490)	(30,490)	(48,640)
	Balance b/f - 1 April	19,890	12,664	43,154
	Net Expenditure	30,490	30,490	48,640
	Balance c/f - 31 March	50,380	43,154	91,794

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive – 2 February 2010

Capital Programme 2010/2011 Onwards

Report of the Financial Services Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ross Henley)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the proposed General Fund (GF) and Housing Account (HRA) capital programmes for the period 2010/11 to 2014/15.

For the General Fund the estimated unallocated resources available are £65k, and given these constrained resources the Executive propose to approve no new one-off schemes. The Executive proposes to fund recurring capital schemes by a revenue contribution to capital.

For all Housing schemes, both GF and HRA, the estimated resources available for 2010/11 amount to £6.547m. The proposed capital programmes include expenditure in 2010/11 totalling £6.154m. The projected unallocated resources of £393k are proposed to be carried forward to support the Housing Capital Programme in future years.

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Executive to consider the proposed General Fund Capital Programme as outlined in Appendix A, and the proposed Housing Capital Programme as outlined in Appendix B. The programme is due to be considered by Full Council on 16 February.
- 1.2 An indicative Capital Programme was included within the Budget Consultation Pack that was issued to all Members on 22 December 2009.
- 1.3 The report was considered by the Corporate Scrutiny Board on 21 January 2010.

2 Capital Resources

- 2.1 All capital expenditure has to be financed from either borrowing, capital receipts, capital grants and contributions, or from revenue funds set aside for capital purposes.
- 2.2 The table below provides an overview of the gross estimated resources available for capital investment at the start of 2010/11, plus an indicative forecast of additional resources made available during the year.

	Estimated Balance 1 April £'000	Estimated Additional Resources £'000	Estimated Total Resources 2010/11 £'000
GF Capital Reserve (RCCO funding)	238	249	487
Usable Capital Receipts - General	65	0	65
Usable Capital Receipts - Housing	417	100	517
Grants and Contributions	0	742	742
Supported Borrowing - Housing	0	620	620
General Fund Capital Resources	720	1,711	2,431
HRA Capital Reserve (RCCO funding)	108	735	843
Major Repairs Allowance	0	3,785	3,785
Grants and Contribution	40	0	40
HRA Capital Resources	148	4,520	4,668
Overall Total Capital Resources	868	6,231	7,099

3 General Fund Resources

- 3.1 **Revenue Financing Reserve:** This represents revenue funds that have been set aside to finance capital expenditure. Of the £238,000 sum brought forward, £231,000 is funding committed to the Crematorium Mercury Abatement scheme. The estimated additional resources added in the year takes into account the funding of proposed recurring schemes (as detailed later in this report) at £166,000, plus a further £77,000 related to the above crematorium scheme.
- 3.2 **Usable Capital Receipts – General:** The balance of unallocated capital receipts is small, and represents resources available to the Council. There are currently no additional receipts included during 2010/11, however there is a future capital receipt expected from the sale of the existing Nursery Site. If the sale is completed during 2010/11 this would add to the funds available.
- 3.3 **Usable Capital Receipts – Housing:** This relates to income from the sale of council houses, and officers estimate that there will be only 5 Right to Buy sales in 2010/11. The Council is required to return 75% of these proceeds to central Government; therefore the above projections assume a net amount of £100,000 per annum will be retained by the Council as usable capital receipts.
- 3.4 **Capital Grants and Contributions:** These relate to Regional Housing Grant and Disabled Facilities Grant funding provided by central

government. Members should note that at the time of writing this report the Department of Communities and Local Government has yet to announce the final allocations for 2010/11 but, at this point, officers are estimating that the amounts will be the same as in 2009/10.

- 3.5 **Supported borrowing:** This is borrowing for capital purposes, for which central Government provides revenue support to meet the cost of debt repayment. The estimated amount for 2010/11 is £620k (2009/10 = £620k), related to social housing. As with the grants in the previous paragraph, the final allocation has yet to be announced.

4 HRA Resources

- 4.1 Capital resources attributable to HRA-related capital expenditure includes the Major Repairs Allowance (MRA) (HRA Subsidy from central Government) and revenue contributions to capital (RCCO).

- 4.2 **Major Repairs Allowance:** The MRA is allocated to the Council via the HRA Subsidy. The above table uses the 2010/11 allocation included in the Draft HRA Subsidy Determination. The final determination is likely to be received from DCLG in early February. This forms a significant proportion of the available funding for maintaining the Council's housing stock.

- 4.3 **HRA Capital Reserve:** Where the estimated required major repairs expenditure exceeds the MRA subsidy, the difference is included as an revenue contribution from the Housing Revenue Account. The additional allocation in 2010/11 included in the above capital resources table is an estimate based on the proposed capital programme in this report.

5 Unsupported Borrowing

- 5.1 Where the overall amount of capital expenditure exceeds the available resources, the Council would be required to undertake prudential borrowing for the difference. The Executive on 2 December recommended approval to borrow £770,000 related to a proposed General Fund investment in the Crematorium (see below). If the scheme is approved this, plus any further new loan debt required if capital approvals exceed all other available resources, will only be taken after full consideration of the Authority's treasury management strategy and the indicators prescribed by the Prudential Code.

6 General Fund Capital Programme

- 6.1 The Council approved a Capital Programme for 2009/10 General Fund schemes totalling £1,955k, in February 2009. Slippage from the previous year plus supplementary approvals during the current year has increased the estimated programme expenditure in 2009/10 to £3,088k. Although there have not been any formal decisions to update the approved budget since the original budget was set, the draft capital programme included in this report incorporates the higher amount of expenditure in 2009/10.

6.2 The draft Capital Programme proposed for 2010/11 totals £2.852m. At this stage, this assumes nil slippage from 2009/10.

New Schemes

6.3 Two schemes were supported at the Executive on 2 December 2009, and these are included in the proposed Capital Programme for 2010/11.

	Scheme	Proposed Budget 2010/11 £000
1	Taunton Deane Crematorium Mercury Abatement Scheme. Planned to fund from earmarked reserves £230k, and borrowing £770k.	1,000
2	Play and Youth Projects in Taunton totalling £142,500, funded by a combination of TDBC capital budget, grants from SCC, and S106 contributions. This is shown in the Programme at £92,500, as £50,000 of this is proposed to be funded from a carry forward of capital budget from previous years, which will be confirmed at the end of the current financial year. Assuming the carry forward is approved in due course, the budget for this scheme will increase to the full £142,500.	93
	Totals	1,093

6.4 Due to the limited amount of capital resource currently available the Executive are minded not to approve the following one-off schemes in 2010/11:

	Scheme	Officers Requested Amount £000
1	ICT Network Hardware Replacement	75
2	Wellington Cemetery Extension	30
3	Taunton Cemetery Extension	100
4	Development Control software	3
	Totals	208

6.5 Although these schemes are not included in the current draft budget proposals for 2010/11, it is proposed to include the cemetery extensions in 2012/13. Officers and the Executive are still considering whether the other schemes should be included in later years.

Recurring Schemes

- 6.6 The Executive are minded to fund recurring capital schemes through a specific revenue contribution to capital (RCCO), continuing the policy of recent years, and from external grants where these are received.
- 6.7 The specific RCCO-funded schemes proposed for 2010/11 total £165,000 as shown in the table below. This is an increase of £43,000 on the current year's programme related to ICT hardware replacement in line with the programme approved in February 2009. Members are advised to note that this increase in RCCO has been included in the revenue budget report considered elsewhere on this agenda.

	General Schemes	Approved Budget 2009/10 £000	Proposed Budget 2010/11 £000
1	Leisure Grants to Clubs	45	45
2	Play Equipment – grants to parishes	20	20
3	Replacement Play Equipment	10	10
4	New Play Equipment	10	10
5	Desktop Hardware Replacement	17	60
6	Replacement Car Parking Pay & Display Machines	5	5
7	Replacement Car parking Hand Held enforcement equipment	5	5
8	Taunton Canal Grant (sustainable transport scheme)	10	10
	Totals	122	165

- 6.8 In addition, recurring funding is proposed for General Fund (Non-HRA) Housing schemes. These schemes have previously been funded by a combination of specific government grants, supported borrowing and use of capital receipts from sale of housing stock.
- 6.9 As mentioned previously, at the time of preparing this report the Council's grant allocations for 2010/11 have not yet been confirmed. The proposals included within this report, for the same amount of capital expenditure as in 2009/10, are set out as provisional estimates on the assumption that resources available for financing also continue at the same level as the current year.

	General Fund Housing Schemes	Approved Budget 2009/10 £000	Proposed Budget 2010/11 £000
1	Disabled Facility Grants	450	450
2	Private Sector Renewals Grants	335	335
3	Grants to Residential Social Landlords (RSLs)	809	809
	Totals	1,594	1,594

- 6.10 Further commentary on these housing schemes is included in Appendix C.
- 6.11 Future General Fund projects can be undertaken when resources become available. This could be through either borrowing, revenue contributions or through the sale of assets.
- 6.12 The proposed Capital Programme for 2010/11 to 2014/15 is included as Appendix A. Members are being asked at this stage to recommend the proposed 2010/11 programme to Full Council for approval on 16 February. Indicative allocations are included in later years to provide members with a longer term perspective on potential future capital investment and the implications on estimated available resources.

7 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme

- 7.1 The table in paragraph 2.2 shows the levels of resources available to finance the proposed Housing Capital Programme for 2010/11, totalling £4.668m. This ensures that the HRA will not have to meet any unsupported borrowing costs (i.e. debt repayment and interest costs).
- 7.2 The proposed HRA Capital Programme for 2010/11 totals £4.560m. Appendix B provides a breakdown of the programme and Appendix C provides further commentary. Members should note this programme will leave resources available to carry forward, to support the future Housing Capital Programmes, of £108,000.
- 7.3 For both the GF and HRA any new schemes, which emerge during the lifespan of the programmes, will be funded through existing unallocated resources or through new resources, such as new capital receipts. Bids for additional schemes to those set out above should be made through the Executive.

8 Recommendation

- 8.1 The Executive is asked to recommend both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme proposals for 2010/11 to Full Council for approval.

Contact Officers:

GF Capital Programme & General Enquires
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Background Papers:

Members Budget Consultation Pack 2009/10 (brown folder)
Overview and Scrutiny Board Papers 16 April 2009 (Decent Homes item)

Please note:

In order for this item to be debated in the most efficient manner at the Corporate Scrutiny Board, Members who have queries with any aspect of the report are requested to contact the appropriate officer(s) named above before the meeting.

TDBC CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 ONWARDS

Appendix A

PRIMARY CODE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PORTFOLIO	SCHEME / PROJECT	BUDGET PROFILE				
				2008/09 £	2009/10 £	2010/11 £	2011/12 onwards £	Total
T30	George Stark	CORPORATE	Public Buildings -Disabled Access (aka DDA Works)	0	0	0	18,170	18,170
T31	George Stark	CORPORATE	Energy Conservation/Water Management	0	0	0	43,530	43,530
T53	Claire Bramley	CORPORATE	CCTV Flook House	2,000	0	0		2,000
T58	Fiona Kirkham	CORPORATE	IT Improvements	84,360	59,000	60,000	60,000	263,360
T59	George Stark	CORPORATE	Asbestos Removal	0	0	0	21,650	21,650
W46	Shirlene Adam	CORPORATE	SAP Transformation Project	678,780	0	0		678,780
W47	Shirlene Adam	CORPORATE	Procurement Transformation Project	944,750	0	0		944,750
W48	Shirlene Adam	CORPORATE	Customer Access Initiation	417,130	0	0		417,130
-	Shirlene Adam	CORPORATE	Transformation Project Staff Backfill	67,000	0	0		67,000
		CORPORATE Total		2,194,020	59,000	60,000	81,650	2,456,370
T40	Tony Turner	ECONOMIC	Grass Cutting Equipt.	36,000	0	0		36,000
T41	Tony Turner	ECONOMIC	Vehicle Acquisitions	198,000	138,230	0		336,230
T61	Tim Haynes	ECONOMIC	Parking on Estates	0	0	0	15,000	15,000
T67	Alex Stevens	ECONOMIC	Tone Mill	10,000				10,000
W37	Joy Wishlade	ECONOMIC	Project Taunton - Firepool	302,000	0	0		302,000
W70	Adrian Preist	ECONOMIC	Blackdown Business Park	10,000	0	0	26,200	36,200
W71	Phil Sharritt	ECONOMIC	Business Park Development, Wiveliscombe	0	0	0	150,000	150,000
		ECONOMIC Total		556,000	138,230	0		885,430
T27	Paul Rayson	ENVIRONMENTAL	Wellington Cemetery Extension	0	0	0	6,960	6,960
T74	Ian Clark	ENVIRONMENTAL	Taunton/Bridgwater Canal	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
W12	Paul Rayson	ENVIRONMENTAL	Crematorium - Exension	0	0	0	37,100	37,100
W13	Paul Rayson	ENVIRONMENTAL	Cemetery & Crematorium Car Park Lighting	0	0	0	5,500	5,500
W36	Ian Clark	ENVIRONMENTAL	Neroche Project	14,700	14,700	0		29,400
W43	Paul Rayson	ENVIRONMENTAL	Mercury Abatement Works (Extension and Filters)	85,000	0	0	285,000	370,000
W45	George Stark	ENVIRONMENTAL	Highfields Nursery	510,000	0	0		510,000
W68	Bruce Carpenter	ENVIRONMENTAL	Waste Initiative *	15,000	44,000	0		59,000
		ENVIRONMENTAL Total		634,700	68,700	10,000	344,560	1,057,960
V95	David Whitehead	HOUSING (NON HRA)	Disabled Facilities Grants - Private Sector	350,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	1,700,000
V97	David Whitehead	HOUSING (NON HRA)	Private Sector Renewal Grants	335,000	335,000	335,000	335,000	1,340,000
V99	David Whitehead	HOUSING (NON HRA)	Grants to RSLs	809,000	809,000	809,000	809,000	3,236,000
		HOUSING Total		1,494,000	1,594,000	1,594,000	1,594,000	6,276,000

TDBC CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 ONWARDS

Appendix A

PRIMARY CODE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PORTFOLIO	SCHEME / PROJECT	BUDGET PROFILE				Total
				2008/09 £	2009/10 £	2010/11 £	2011/12 onwards £	
T01	Karen Hughes	LEISURE	Corporate Priorities - Grants to Clubs	220,900	45,000	45,000	45,000	355,900
T04	Karen Hughes	LEISURE	Corporate Priorities - Play Equipt. Grants to Parishes	88,300	20,000	20,000	20,000	148,300
T05	Karen Hughes	LEISURE	Play Equipt. Replacement	220,370	20,000	20,000	20,000	280,370
T46	Steve Hughes	LEISURE	Taunton Green Multi Use Games Area	0	0	0	8,650	8,650
W09	Steve Hughes	LEISURE	Tennis Centre Extension	0	0	0	8,340	8,340
W39	Steve Hughes	LEISURE	Hamilton Gault Pavillion	425,500	0	0		425,500
W40	Steve Hughes	LEISURE	Galmington Pavillion	425,500	0	0		425,500
W41	Steve Hughes	LEISURE	Vivary Park Tennis Courts	0	0	0	6,200	6,200
W44	Joy Wishlade	LEISURE	Museum Funding Grant	20,000	0	0		20,000
		LEISURE Total		1,400,570	85,000	85,000	108,190	1,678,760
T45	John Lewis	PLANNING	Parking Strategy - Payment Equipment Replacement	1,860	10,000	10,000	11,860	33,720
T60	John Herrington	PLANNING	Contributions to Footpaths and Streetlighting	25,000	0	0	65,200	90,200
T82	John Lewis	PLANNING	Paul St Car Park	0	0	0	100,550	100,550
T86	George Stark	PLANNING	Town Centre Improvements	0	0	0	7,600	7,600
W32	John Lewis	PLANNING	Multi-Storey Car Park - Drying Room	0	0	0	10,000	10,000
W33	John Lewis	PLANNING	Anti Suicide Measures - Paul St Car Park	55,000	0	0		55,000
		PLANNING Total		81,860	10,000	10,000	195,210	297,070
			Total Expenditure	6,361,150	1,954,930	1,759,000	2,323,610	12,651,590

* Includes £44,000 supplementary estimate which has been approved by the Executive but has yet to be formally considered by Full Council.

TDBC INDICATIVE GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11 TO 2014/15

Portfolio	Project Name	Revised Estimate 2009/10	Proposed					Total 2010/11 - 2014/15
			Budget 2010/11	Indicative 2011/12	Indicative 2012/13	Indicative 2013/14	Indicative 2014/15	
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Corporate	Public Buildings - Disabled Access (aka DDA Works)	0	0	18,170	0	0	0	18,170
Corporate	Energy Conservation/Water Management	0	0	43,530	0	0	0	43,530
Corporate	IT Improvements	138,150	59,500	59,500	59,500	59,500	59,500	297,500
Corporate	CCTV Flook House	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corporate	Asbestos Removal	0	0	21,650	0	0	0	21,650
Corporate	SAP Transformation Project	32,450	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corporate	Procurement Transformation Project	114,140	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corporate	Transformation Project Staff Backfill	12,240	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Corporate		298,980	59,500	142,850	59,500	59,500	59,500	380,850
Economic	Vehicle Acquisitions	138,230	0	0	0	0	0	0
Economic	Parking on Estates	0	0	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
Economic	Tone Mill	6,890	0	0	0	0	0	0
Economic	Blackdown Business Park	0	0	26,200	0	0	0	26,200
Economic	Business Park Development, Wiveliscombe	0	0	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
Total Economic		145,120	0	191,200	0	0	0	191,200
Environmental	Taunton Deane Crematorium - Mercury abatement	0	1,000,000	0	0	0	0	1,000,000
Environmental	Taunton/Bridgwater Canal	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
Environmental	Crematorium - Extension	0	0	37,100	0	0	0	37,100
Environmental	Cemetery & Crematorium Car Park Lighting	0	0	5,500	0	0	0	5,500
Environmental	Taunton Cemetery Extension	0	0	0	100,000	0	0	100,000
Environmental	Wellington Cemetery Extension	0	0	0	30,000	0	0	30,000
Environmental	Neroche Project	14,700	0	0	0	0	0	0
Environmental	Mercury Abatement Works (Extension and Filters)	85,000	0	285,000	0	0	0	285,000
Environmental	Waste Initiative	44,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Environmental		153,700	1,010,000	337,600	140,000	10,000	10,000	1,507,600

TDBC INDICATIVE GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11 TO 2014/15

Portfolio	Project Name	Revised Estimate 2009/10	Proposed				Total 2010/11	
			Budget 2010/11	Indicative 2011/12	Indicative 2012/13	Indicative 2013/14	Indicative 2014/15	- 2014/15
Leisure	Corporate Priorities - Grants to Clubs	189,770	46,000	46,000	46,000	46,000	46,000	230,000
Leisure	Corporate Priorities - Play Equipt. Grants to Parishes	89,840	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000
Leisure	Play Equipt. Replacement	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000
Leisure	Play and Youth Projects	562,000	92,500	0	0	0	0	92,500
Leisure	Taunton Green Multi Use Games Area	0	0	8,650	0	0	0	8,650
Leisure	Tennis Centre Extension	0	0	8,340	0	0	0	8,340
Leisure	Vivary Park Tennis Courts	0	0	6,200	0	0	0	6,200
Total Leisure		861,610	178,500	109,190	86,000	86,000	86,000	545,690
Planning	Parking Strategy - Payment Equipment Replacement	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
Planning	Contributions to Footpaths and Streetlighting	25,000	0	25,000	25,000	15,200	0	65,200
Planning	Paul Street Car Park	0	0	100,550	0	0	0	100,550
Planning	Town Centre Improvements	0	0	7,600	0	0	0	7,600
Planning	Multi-Storey Car Park - Drying Room	0	0	10,000	0	0	0	10,000
Total Planning		35,000	10,000	153,150	35,000	25,200	10,000	233,350
Sub Total (excluding Housing)		1,494,410	1,258,000	933,990	320,500	180,700	165,500	2,858,690
Housing (Non-HRA)	Disabled Facilities Grants - Private Sector	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	2,250,000
Housing (Non-HRA)	Private Sector Renewal Grants	335,000	335,000	335,000	335,000	335,000	335,000	1,675,000
Housing (Non-HRA)	Grants to RSLs	809,000	809,000	809,000	809,000	698,000	677,000	3,802,000
Total Housing (Non-HRA)		1,594,000	1,594,000	1,594,000	1,594,000	1,483,000	1,462,000	7,727,000
Grand Totals		3,088,410	2,852,000	2,527,990	1,914,500	1,663,700	1,627,500	10,585,690

PROPOSED HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMMES 2010/11 to 2013/14

Area	Revised Estimate 2009/10 £	Indicative Budget 2010/11 £	Indicative Budget 2011/12 £	Indicative Budget 2012/13 £	Indicative Budget 2013/14 £
Decent Homes					
Kitchen Improvements & bathroom fittings }	3,742,550	2,678,000			
Roofing - Pitched - age renewal }					
Roofing - Pitched - early failure }					
Roofing - flat - age renewal }					
Roofing - flat - early failure }	600,000	275,000	3,654,500	3,754,040	3,375,000
Windows & doors }	630,000	602,000			
Electrical Testing - 10 years }					
Rewiring }					
Heating Improvements }	115,000	250,000			
Refurbishments - one-off }					
Sub-total	5,087,550	3,805,000	3,654,500	3,754,040	3,375,000
Other Works					
Integrated Housing Management System	15,000	80,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Communal TV Aerials	20,710	10,000	0	0	0
Door Entry Systems	36,340	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Aids and Adaptations	290,320	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Soundproofing	37,800	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
DDA Work	30,880	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Asbestos Works	58,700	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Works to Priory Depot to support Housing Restructure	108,800	0	0	0	0
Roland Close/Sneddon Grove - renovation works	16,770	0	0	0	0
Choice based lettings system	19,440	0	0	0	0
Cash Incentive Scheme	19,990	0	0	0	0
Lindley House	627,000	0	0	0	0
Sub-total	1,281,750	370,000	295,000	295,000	295,000
Community Alarm Systems	45,000	80,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Tenants Imps.	9,700	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Disabled Facilities Grants (HRA Stock)	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Sub-total	354,700	385,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
Total HRA Capital	6,724,000	4,560,000	4,299,500	4,399,040	4,020,000

Note: The Revised Estimate for 2009/10 includes £1.17m slippage from 2008/09

FOR INFORMATION - EXTRACT FROM GF CAPITAL PROGRAMME

General Fund Housing Capital Schemes					
Grants to RSLs	809,000	809,000	809,000	809,000	698,000
Private Sector Renewal Grants	335,000	335,000	335,000	335,000	335,000
Disabled Facility Grants - Private Sector	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Total GF Housing Capital	1,594,000	1,594,000	1,594,000	1,594,000	1,483,000
Total Housing Capital Programme	8,318,000	6,154,000	5,893,500	5,993,040	5,503,000

Housing Capital Programme 2010/11 Funding (Estimated)	
HRA Schemes	
Major Repairs Allowance	3,784,620
Revenue Contribution to Capital	735,380
Capital Grants	0
Supporting People Reserve	40,000
Total	4,560,000
GF Housing Schemes	
Regional Housing Grant	532,000
Supported Borrowing	620,000
Govt support for Disabled Facility Grants	210,000
Capital Receipts	232,000
Total	1,594,000
Grand Total	6,154,000

Appendix C

Proposed HRA Capital Programme 2010/11 – Additional Information

1 Introduction

1.1 The proposed Capital Programme for 2010/11 is based on a realistic assessment of the resources that are available. The programme is designed to achieve an investment strategy to meet the demands for the improvement of public and private housing and to make a significant contribution to Joint Commissioning for the provision of new homes. The programme follows the priorities outlined in our housing strategy and HRA business plan, which in turn properly considers the links to the overall strategy of the Council.

1.2 The comments that follow focus on the main items of expenditure set out in Appendix B.

2 Local Authority Owned Stock

2.1 The future major investment into the Housing Stock will concentrate on delivering 'Decent Homes'.

Ref	Commentary	£'000
a)	<p>Delivering Decent Homes (HP 4, Continued Investment in Management and Maintenance of Housing Stock)</p> <p>A detailed report was submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 16 April 2009, concerning investment in delivering decent homes. The proposed programme for 2010/11 reflects the content of that report.</p>	3,805
b)	<p>New Housing Management IT System (HP 4 Continued Investment in Management and Maintenance of Housing Stock)</p> <p>This project commenced in 2006/07, however due to some delays in implementation will be complete during 2010/11. Annual upgrades are included in the programme from 2011/12 onwards at a cost of £15k p.a.</p>	80
c)	<p>Communal TV Aerials</p> <p>This scheme is required to complete digitalisation of communal aerials.</p>	10
d)	<p>Door Entry Systems (HP 4 Continued Investment in Management and Maintenance of Housing Stock)</p> <p>Historically door entry systems have been installed in Sheltered Housing schemes and in blocks of flats subject to Anti-Social Behaviour. Work is continuing where there is a demonstrated need relating to serious and persistent reported incidents.</p>	20

Ref	Commentary	£'000
e)	<p>Aids and Adaptations (inc parking) (HP 5 Continued Support for Vulnerable Groups)</p> <p>Continued assistance to provide small, essential adaptations to Council dwellings to meet the needs of disabled and elderly tenants.</p>	200
f)	<p>Soundproofing Work (HP 4 Continued Investment in Management and Maintenance of Housing Stock)</p> <p>The programme, which started with the Duplex flats at Holway, Taunton in 1997 has been extended to other flats with timber floors where sound transmission problems exist and is now carried out in conjunction with Decent Homes work.</p>	20
g)	<p>DDA Work</p> <p>In order to ensure that buildings used by the public comply with the Disability Discriminations Act, certain modifications are necessary. Work is concentrating on sheltered scheme meeting halls on a five year programme.</p>	20
h)	<p>Asbestos Investigations (HP 4 Continued Investment in Management and Maintenance of Housing Stock)</p> <p>Work is underway to survey property types within the Housing stock to identify where asbestos based products exist and to compile a register of these.</p>	20
i)	<p>Tenants Improvements and the provision of Community Alarm Systems</p> <p>This budget allows continued investment into the Community Alarm Service, assisting elderly, infirm and vulnerable people to remain in their homes. It also compensates tenants for improvements they have undertaken under the Rights to Compensation legislation when they vacate their homes. The programme includes an annual provision of £50k (£45k + £5k) plus a one off increase of £35k in 2010/11 for upgrading alarm systems to digital.</p>	85
j)	<p>Disabled Facilities Grants (HRA Stock) (HP 5 Continued Support for Vulnerable Groups)</p> <p>These means tested grants are given for large adaptations to the homes of Council tenants in order to meet the needs of their disabilities, based upon recommendations made by Occupational Therapists. This budget was increased in 2009/10 by £100k to take account of additional demand for DFGs due to changes in SCC policy re care for the elderly.</p>	300
	2010/11 PROPOSED HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME	4,560

3 General Fund Housing – Private Sector Renewal

3.1 The following housing related schemes are included in the proposed General Fund capital programme, but are included here to provide a full picture of housing related capital expenditure.

Ref	Commentary	£'000
a)	Grants to Registered Social Landlords (HP 1) These grants are given to provide Affordable Housing through RSLs to complement additional funding provided through the Housing Corporation.	809
b)	Private Sector Renewal Grants (HP 3) Grants and supported loans are given on a discretionary basis for essential repairs for Owner Occupiers. Home Aid, the Council's Home Improvement Agency, acts on behalf of vulnerable residents using grants to carry out essential repairs, improvements and adaptations to their homes.	335
c)	Disabled Facilities Grants – Private Sector (HP 5) Disabled and elderly Owner Occupiers qualify for mandatory means tested grants for large, essential adaptations to their homes based on recommendations made by Occupational Therapists. Again this budget was increased by £100k in 2009/10 to fund the expected additional demand for DFGs due to changes in SCC policy re care for the elderly.	450
	2010/11 PROPOSED GF HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME	1,594

4 Total Housing Capital Programme

4.1 Taking into account both HRA and GF capital investment, the total proposed housing capital programme is **£6.154m**.

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive – 2 February 2010

Council Tax Setting 2010/2011

Report of the S151 Officer and the Financial Services Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ross Henley)

Executive Summary

The Executive is to consider and recommend to Full Council the level of Council Tax for 2010/2011.

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider, and make recommendations to Full Council on the proposed level of Council Tax for 2010/11.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 Following approval of the budget for 2010/11, the Council must formally approve the Council Tax. The calculations and the proformas to set the Council Tax are prescribed and therefore not open to debate.

3 Annual Determination

- 3.1 The Council is required to make an annual determination, which sets its gross expenditure and gross income (including the Housing Revenue Account and balances brought forward), with the difference as its budget requirement. This determination is set out in paragraph 9.2.2 of this report.

4 Somerset County Council, Avon and Somerset Police Authority, and Devon and Somerset Fire Authority Precepts

- 4.1 At the time of writing this report, the figures for the County Council, the Police Authority and the Devon and Somerset Fire authority were not available. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.
- 4.2 Members should note that if the County Council, Police and Fire Authorities tax levels are not advised by the date of the meeting, this element of the total Council Tax determination will be advised directly to the Full Council meeting on 16 February 2010. Even at this meeting, the Council will be required to approve the tax levels "subject to" the County Council element receiving formal approval by Somerset County Council at their Full Council meeting on 17 February 2010. Should their element of tax change at either meeting, this Council will need to reconsider the Council Tax position at a special meeting during the first week of March 2010.

5 Taunton Non-Parished Area

- 5.1 The estimated expenses chargeable to the non-parished area of Taunton in 2010/11 amount to £47,047 and this forms part of the total net expenditure of the Council.

5.2 This total “special expenses” represents a Council Tax Band D of £2.92 for the unparished area.

6 Parish Precepts

6.1 Details of the precepts levied, and the appropriate Council Tax at Band D, by the Parish Councils’ within the Borough are set out in Appendix A. Members should note that we have yet to receive final confirmation from all parish councils of their precept requirements therefore some of the parish precept figures may be subject to change (draft figures are shown shaded in the attached appendices). Final figures will be included in the Tax Setting report considered by Full Council on 16 February.

7 Collection Fund Surpluses and Deficits

7.1 The estimated balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund is forecast on 15th January each year. Any surplus or deficit is shared between the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and ourselves, in shares relative to our precept levels.

7.2 The estimated balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund is a deficit of £1,248,350. Taunton Deane’s share of this amounts to £130,210, and this is reflected in the General Fund revenue estimates.

8 Calculation of Band D Council Tax

8.1 The determination calculation made in paragraph 9.2.2 (c) below sets out this Council’s budget requirement at £14,512,850 including draft Parish Precepts and non-parished Special Expenses. This amount is then reduced by the amount notified in respect of the Borough’s Revenue Support Grant (RSG) amounting to £1,105,826 and the Non Domestic Rates Distribution (NDR) from the national pool, amounting to £7,615,394. This is summarised as follows:-

	£	£
Total Budget Requirement		14,512,850
Less:		
Revenue Support Grant	1,105,826	
NNDR Distribution from Pool	7,615,394	
Collection Fund Deficit	<u>(130,210)</u>	
		<u>8,591,010</u>
Amount To Be Raised By Council Tax		<u>5,921,840</u>

8.2 The net amount, having taking the collection fund position into account, of £5,921,840 is used to calculate the Council Tax at Band D, reflecting the Parish Precepts etc, by dividing it by the total of the Council Tax Base as approved by the Executive on 13 January 2010.

8.3 Members will note that the Council Tax for the borough (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses for the non-parished area) is £135.19, an increase of £3.30 (2.5%) compared to the 2009/10 Council Tax. The total

Council Tax, including the County Council, Police and Fire Authorities precepts is still subject to confirmation and will be advised at a later date.

9 Recommendations

9.1 The format of the Council Tax setting resolution, which the Council must approve, has been previously agreed between the Local Government Association and the then Department of the Environment, Transport and Regions, and the following recommendations follow that format.

9.2 The Executive is recommended to submit the following for approval by the Council, and note that the final determination will include the Council Tax for Somerset County Council, the Police and Fire Authorities, which is to be advised.

9.2.1 That it be noted that at its meeting on 13th January 2010 the Executive calculated the following amounts for the year 2009/10 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended):-

(1) 40,384.49 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its Council Tax base for the year.

(2)

Ash Priors	76.05	Neroche	255.85
Ashbrittle	97.07	North Curry	742.96
Bathealton	84.57	Norton Fitzwarren	826.06
Bishops Hull	1,072.38	Nynehead	156.55
Bishops Lydeard / Cothelstone	1,937.47	Oake	333.46
Bradford on Tone	283.61	Otterford	168.39
Burrowbridge	204.78	Pitminster	459.04
Cheddon Fitzpaine	648.71	Ruishton/Thornfalcon	615.34
Chipstable	124.72	Sampford Arundel	131.90
Churchstanton	331.27	Staplegrove	714.77
Combe Florey	122.01	Stawley	131.00
Comeytrove	2,086.27	Stoke St Gregory	387.38
Corfe	134.15	Stoke St Mary	206.72
Creech St Michael	950.07	Taunton	16,087.45
Durston	59.02	Trull	1,025.28
Fitzhead	121.87	Wellington	4,631.59
Halse	144.75	Wellington (Without)	304.46
Hatch Beauchamp	261.29	West Bagborough	163.62
Kingston St Mary	446.32	West Buckland	446.17
Langford Budville	238.40	West Hatch	143.28

Lydeard St Lawrence/ Tolland	200.64	West Monkton	1,115.05
Milverton	600.46	Wiveliscombe	1.112.28

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.

9.2.2 That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- (a) £79,952,444 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) of the Act. (*Gross Expenditure including amount required for working balance*)
- (b) £65,439,594 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. (*Gross Income including reserves to be used to meet Gross Expenditure*)
- (c) £14,512,850 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year
- (d) £8,591,010 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, additional grant or SSA reduction grant (increased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (*Council Tax Surplus*) and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its Collection Fund to its General Fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charge) directions under Sec. 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 made on 7th February 1994 (*Community Charge Surplus*)
- (e) £146.64 $\frac{(c) - (d)}{9.2.1(1)} = \frac{14,512,850 - 8,591,010}{40,384.49}$

being the amount calculated at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount at 9.2.1(1) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year. (*Average Council Tax at Band D for Borough Including Parish Precepts and Special Expenses*)

(f) £462,370 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act. (*Parish Precepts and Special Expenses*).

(g) £135.19 (e) $\frac{-(f)}{9.2.1(1)}$ = $\frac{146.64 - \frac{462,370}{40,384.49}}{9.2.1(1)}$

being the amount at (e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (f) above by the amount at 9.2.1(1) 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 items relate. (*Council Tax at Band D for Borough Excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses*)

(h)	Ash Priors	135.19	Neroche	149.07
	Ashbrittle	147.55	North Curry	157.40
	Bathealton	142.28	Norton Fitzwarren	164.15
	Bishops Hull	153.84	Nynehead	157.55
	Bishops Lydeard / Cothelstone	152.10	Oake	149.43
	Bradford on Tone	154.58	Otterford	135.19
	Burrowbridge	158.47	Pitminster	151.57
	Cheddon Fitzpaine	144.44	Ruishton/Thornfalcon	156.32
	Chipstable	149.22	Sampford Arundel	168.85
	Churchstanton	158.19	Staplegrove	149.18
	Combe Florey	148.30	Stawley	153.51
	Comeytrowe	147.17	Stoke St Gregory	150.68
	Corfe	146.37	Stoke St Mary	149.74
	Creech St Michael	153.35	Taunton	138.11
	Durston	135.19	Trull	148.85
	Fitzhead	166.86	Wellington	151.72
	Halse	147.28	Wellington (Without)	151.28
	Hatch Beauchamp	152.41	West Bagborough	147.41
	Kingston St Mary	148.63	West Buckland	153.12
	Langford Budville	151.97	West Hatch	150.06

Lydeard St Lawrence / Tolland	151.14	West Monkton	161.90
Milverton	154.34	Wiveliscombe	153.17

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (g) 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 9.2.1(2) 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. (*Council Taxes at Band D for Borough, Parish and Special Expenses*)

- (i) See table
overleaf

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (h) above by the number which, in 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 is that proportion 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. (Council Tax for Individual Parishes and the Borough)

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Background Papers

Council Tax Base 2010/11, Executive 13 January 2010

(a)

2010/11 by Parish by Band at 2.5%

Shaded figures represent indicative data only

Valuation Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ash Priors	90.13	105.15	120.17	135.19	165.23	195.27	225.32	270.38
Ashbrittle	98.37	114.76	131.16	147.55	180.34	213.13	245.92	295.11
Bathealton	94.86	110.67	126.48	142.28	173.90	205.52	237.14	284.57
Bishops Hull	102.56	119.65	136.75	153.84	188.03	222.21	256.40	307.68
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	101.40	118.30	135.20	152.10	185.90	219.69	253.49	304.19
Bradford on Tone	103.06	120.23	137.41	154.58	188.93	223.29	257.64	309.17
Burrowbridge	105.65	123.26	140.87	158.47	193.69	228.91	264.12	316.95
Cheddon Fitzpaine	96.29	112.34	128.39	144.44	176.54	208.63	240.73	288.88
Chipstable	99.48	116.06	132.64	149.22	182.38	215.54	248.70	298.44
Churchstanton	105.46	123.04	140.62	158.19	193.35	228.50	263.65	316.39
Combe Florey	98.87	115.35	131.83	148.30	181.26	214.22	247.17	296.61
Comeytrowe	98.12	114.47	130.82	147.17	179.88	212.58	245.29	294.35
Corfe	97.58	113.84	130.11	146.37	178.90	211.43	243.95	292.74
Creech St Michael	102.23	119.27	136.31	153.35	187.42	221.50	255.58	306.69
Durston	90.13	105.15	120.17	135.19	165.23	195.27	225.32	270.38
Fitzhead	111.24	129.78	148.32	166.86	203.94	241.02	278.10	333.72
Halse	98.19	114.55	130.92	147.28	180.01	212.74	245.47	294.56
Hatch Beauchamp	101.61	118.54	135.48	152.41	186.28	220.15	254.02	304.82
Kingston St Mary	99.09	115.60	132.12	148.63	181.66	214.69	247.72	297.27
Langford Budville	101.31	118.20	135.08	151.97	185.74	219.51	253.28	303.94
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	100.76	117.55	134.35	151.14	184.73	218.31	251.90	302.28
Milverton	102.89	120.04	137.19	154.34	188.64	222.94	257.24	308.68
Neroche	99.38	115.94	132.50	149.07	182.19	215.32	248.44	298.13
North Curry	104.93	122.42	139.91	157.40	192.38	227.35	262.33	314.80
Norton Fitzwarren	109.43	127.67	145.91	164.15	200.63	237.11	273.58	328.30
Nynehead	105.03	122.54	140.04	157.55	192.56	227.57	262.58	315.09
Oake	99.62	116.23	132.83	149.43	182.64	215.85	249.06	298.87
Otterford	90.13	105.15	120.17	135.19	165.23	195.27	225.32	270.38
Pitminster	101.05	117.89	134.73	151.57	185.25	218.94	252.62	303.14
Ruishton/Thornfalcon	104.21	121.58	138.95	156.32	191.05	225.79	260.53	312.63
Sampford Arundel	112.57	131.33	150.09	168.85	206.38	243.90	281.42	337.71
Staplegrove	99.45	116.03	132.60	149.18	182.33	215.48	248.63	298.36
Stawley	102.34	119.40	136.45	153.51	187.62	221.74	255.85	307.02
Stoke St Gregory	100.45	117.19	133.94	150.68	184.16	217.65	251.13	301.36
Stoke St Mary	99.83	116.47	133.10	149.74	183.02	216.29	249.57	299.48
Taunton	92.07	107.42	122.76	138.11	168.80	199.49	230.18	276.22
Trull	99.23	115.77	132.31	148.85	181.92	215.00	248.08	297.69
Wellington	101.15	118.01	134.87	151.72	185.44	219.16	252.87	303.45
Wellington Without	100.86	117.67	134.47	151.28	184.90	218.52	252.14	302.57
West Bagborough	98.28	114.65	131.03	147.41	180.17	212.93	245.69	294.83
West Buckland	102.08	119.09	136.11	153.12	187.15	221.17	255.20	306.24
West Hatch	100.04	116.71	133.38	150.06	183.40	216.75	250.09	300.11
West Monkton	107.93	125.92	143.91	161.90	197.87	233.85	269.83	323.79
Wiveliscombe	102.11	119.13	136.15	153.17	187.21	221.25	255.29	306.34

PARISH PRECEPTS 2010/2011

Shaded figures represent indicative data only

Council Tax at Band D 2009/10	Parish	Precept 2010/11	Tax Base 2010/11	Parish Precept at Band D 2010/11
£		£		
0	Ash Priors	0	76.05	0.00
1,200	Ashbrittle	1,200	97.07	12.36
650	Bathealton	600	84.57	7.09
20,000	Bishops Hull	20,000	1,072.38	18.65
32,860	Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	32,860	1,943.65	16.91
5,000	Bradford on Tone	5,500	283.61	19.39
4,813	Burrowbridge	4,768	204.78	23.28
6,000	Cheddon Fitzpaine	6,000	648.71	9.25
1,850	Chipstable	1,750	124.72	14.03
7,620	Churchstanton	7,620	331.27	23.00
1,600	Combe Florey	1,600	122.01	13.11
22,000	Comeytrowe	25,000	2,086.27	11.98
1,500	Corfe	1,500	134.15	11.18
17,250	Creech St Michael	17,250	950.07	18.16
0	Durston	0	59.02	0.00
2,439	Fitzhead	3,860	121.87	31.67
1,500	Halse	1,750	144.75	12.09
4,180	Hatch Beauchamp	4,500	261.29	17.22
6,000	Kingston St Mary	6,000	446.32	13.44
4,500	Langford Budville	4,000	238.40	16.78
2,900	Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	3,200	200.64	15.95
11,500	Milverton	11,500	600.46	19.15
3,400	Neroche	3,550	255.85	13.88
16,000	North Curry	16,500	742.96	22.21
23,391	Norton Fitzwarren	22,517	777.50	28.96
3,450	Nynehead	3,500	156.55	22.36
4,500	Oake	4,750	333.46	14.24
0	Otterford	0	168.39	0.00
7,043	Pitminster	7,520	459.04	16.38
11,250	Ruishton/Thornfalcon	13,000	615.34	21.13
4,440	Sampford Arundel	4,440	131.90	33.66
9,000	Staplegrove	10,000	714.77	13.99
2,000	Stawley	2,400	131.00	18.32
6,000	Stoke St Gregory	6,000	387.38	15.49
3,008	Stoke St Mary	3,008	206.72	14.55
12,000	Trull	14,000	1,025.27	13.66
76,872	Wellington	76,872	4,649.24	16.53
4,900	Wellington (Without)	4,900	304.46	16.09
1,000	West Bagborough	2,000	163.62	12.22
8,000	West Buckland	8,000	446.17	17.93
2,130	West Hatch	2,130	143.28	14.87
29,597	West Monkton	29,778	1,115.05	26.71
19,360	Wiveliscombe	20,000	1,112.28	17.98
30,620	Taunton Special Expenses	47,047	16,112.21	2.92
	TOTAL	462,370	40,384.49	

Report	Objectives	Details Of Consultation	Officer	Decision To Be Made By	Date
Tourist Information Centre Review			Tim Burton		09/02/2010
Somerset Waste Partnership Business Plan			Joy Wishlade		09/02/2010
Establishment of a Taunton Growth Board			Joy Wishlade		09/02/2010
Proposed scheme of charges for Building Control for 2010/2011			Brian Yates		09/02/2010
Carbon Reduction Plan			Kevin Toller		03/03/2010
Proposed extension of Wellington Cemetery			Paul Rayson		03/03/2010
Review of Essential Users and Car Allowances			Martin Griffin		03/03/2010
Quarterly Corporate Performance/Finance Update			Dan Webb		03/03/2010
Private Sector Housing Partnership			Martin Daly		03/03/2010
Firepool Compulsory Purchase Order			Joy Wishlade		03/03/2010
Somerset Tourism Partnership Business Plan			David McCubbin		31/03/2010
Corporate Equality Scheme and Action Plan 2010 - 2013			Lisa Redston		31/03/2010
Economic Development Strategy			Phil Sharratt		31/03/2010
Asset Management Plan			Joy Wishlade		31/03/2010
Treasury Management Strategy Statement			Maggie Hammond		31/03/2010
Quarterly Corporate Performance/Finance Update (Outturn)			Dan Webb		16/06/2010