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Chief Executive

A SPECIAL MEETING OF CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL will be held remotely via Microsoft Teams on WEDNESDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY, 2021 at 7.p.m (Note new time) or on conclusion of the Cabinet meeting whichever is later and all Members of the Council, listed below, are hereby summoned to attend to transact the undermentioned business.

Councillors, C.G. Riley,(The Worshipful the Mayor), Mrs P. Haunts,(Deputy Mayor), A.J. Acott, J. Anderson, D.A. Blackwell, Mrs.J.A Blissett, B. Campagna, S. Cole, D.T. Cross, J.M.Cutler, W.J.C. Dick, Ms.N.B.Drogman, Mrs B. Egan, E. Egan, M.J Fuller, P.C. Greig, S.Hart, N.R. Harvey,G.I. Isaacs, W. Johnson, C.A. MacLean, P.J. May, C.E. Mumford, B.A. Palmer, J.A.Payne, Mrs. J. Payne, Mrs C.J Sach, W.K.Sharp, A.G. Sheldon, T.F. Skipp, N.G. Smith, J.A. Stanley, A. Taylor, D.J.Thomas, Mrs J Thornton M.A Tucker, P.E.Varker, A.C.Walter, Mrs L. Wass, and G.St.J. Withers.

Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART I

(Business to be taken in public)

1. Apologies for absence

2. Members' Interests

3. Policy Framework and Budget Setting for 2021/22

A report is attached. Council is asked to consider recommendations from the Cabinet held earlier.

Council is reminded that as result of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 voting on the recommendations will be a recorded vote.

SPECIAL COUNCIL

24th February 2021

Subject: Policy Framework and Budget Setting for 2021/22

Cabinet Member: Councillor Varker – Resources

1. Purpose of Report

This report supplements the report to Cabinet earlier this evening.

2. Links to Council's priorities and objectives

- 2.1 This report is linked to the Council's priority of A Commercial and Democratically Accountable Council. Sound and strategic financial management is essential in order to ensure that resources are available to support the Council's priorities and maintain or improve services.
- 2.2 This report is designed to provide Members with the latest information on the future cost of spending plans and levels of resources.

3. Recommendations

Implementation of Council policies and related spending plans

1. That the Cabinet approves the continued funding of priority projects and other items of discretionary expenditure, as set out in table 3.4.
2. That the Cabinet notes the cost pressures and budget increases (growth) as set out in table 3.5.
3. That the Cabinet note the efficiency savings, cost reductions and additional income summarised in table 3.6.
4. That subject to recommendations 1 to 3 above, the revenue spending plans for 2020/21 (revised) and 2021/22, set out in section 3, tables 3.1 (summary) and 3.2 (net services expenditure) of the accompanying report, are approved.

Capital spending plans and prudential indicators

5. That the capital spending plan described in section 9 of the accompanying report (tables 9.2 and 9.3) is approved in respect of 2020/21 (revised) and 2021/22.
6. That as required by section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003, and the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code), the following Prudential Indicators are approved as set out in the appropriate sections of the accompanying report:

Prudential Indicator - Reference to sections 9, 10 and 11 of accompanying report	
Capital expenditure	Tables 9.2 and 9.3
Capital financing requirement (CFR)	Table 9.4
Authorised limit for external debt	Table 9.5
Operational boundary for external debt	Table 9.6
Ratio of financing costs to new revenue stream	Table 9.7 (a & b)
Gross external borrowing does not exceed CFR	Section 9 – para 51
Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing - upper and lower limits	Table 10.2
Upper limits of fixed and variable interest rate exposures	Table 10.3
Maximum period and counterparty limits for specified and non-specified investments	Table 11.2, 11.3 & 11.4

7. That the Statement of Minimum Revenue Provision for 2021/22, as stated in paragraphs 53 to 57 of section 9 of the accompanying report is approved.
8. That no new capital proposals are allowed until:
 - the proposal has been evaluated in accordance with relevant evaluation criteria;
 - the Cabinet has confirmed affordability and compliance with the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities;
 - the Cabinet has considered and approved details of the proposal.
9. That, as stated in paragraph 65 of section 9 of the accompanying report, and as required by the Prudential Code, the statement of the Strategic Director (Resources) in respect of the affordability, deliverability and appropriateness of risk management arrangements with respect to the Capital Strategy is noted.
10. That the policies and strategies supporting the budget framework and contained within the accompanying report are approved.

Statutory report of the Strategic Director (Resources)

11. That as required by section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, the report of the Strategic Director (Resources) set out in section 13 of the accompanying report in respect of robustness of the estimates is noted.
12. That as required by section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, the report of the Strategic Director (Resources) set out in section 7 of the accompanying report in respect of the adequacy of proposed financial reserves is noted.

Statutory calculations in respect of the budget requirement & Council Tax as required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (“the Act”)

13. That as set out in section 4 of the accompanying report it is noted that acting under delegated authority and in consultation with the Cabinet Member responsible for Finance, the Strategic Director (Resources) has calculated:
- a) A tax base for the Borough of Castle Point of **30,965** being the amount **T** required by section 31B of the Act; and
 - b) A tax base for Canvey Island to which a Town Council precept applies as **11,962**.
14. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2021/22 in accordance with sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

Ref	Amount £	Item
(a)	55,501,120	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish (Town) Councils.
(b)	46,938,813	being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
(c)	8,562,307	being the amount by which the aggregate at 14(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 14(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the act)
(d)	276.52	being the amount at 14(c) above (item R), divided by item T (14(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish (Town) precepts).
(e)	251,920	being the aggregate amount of the (Parish (Town) precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
(f)	268.38	being the amount at 14(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 14(e) above by item T (14(a) above), calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

15. That the Cabinet recommends that Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2021/22 for each part of its area and for each category of dwelling. This information is included within section 14 of the accompanying report:

Castle Point Borough Council Tax 2021/22, including and excluding Town Council precept, for each of the following categories of dwelling:

Council Tax Band	Ratio in 9ths	Canvey Residents Council Tax Including Town Council	Mainland Residents Council Tax Excluding Town Council
A	6	192.96	178.92
B	7	225.12	208.74
C	8	257.28	238.56
D	9	289.44	268.38
E	11	353.76	328.02
F	13	418.08	387.66
G	15	482.40	447.30
H	18	578.88	536.76

16. To note that the County Council, the Police Authority and the Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwelling in the Council's area, as indicated in the table below:

Council Tax for each band	Castle Point Borough Council	Essex County Council	Essex PFCC - Fire and Rescue Authority	Essex PFCC - Policing and Community Safety	Total excluding Town Council	Canvey Island Town Council	Total including Town Council
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A	178.92	893.94	49.26	139.02	1,261.14	14.04	1,275.18
B	208.74	1,042.93	57.47	162.19	1,471.33	16.38	1,487.71
C	238.56	1,191.92	65.68	185.36	1,681.52	18.72	1,700.24
D	268.38	1,340.91	73.89	208.53	1,891.71	21.06	1,912.77
E	328.02	1,638.89	90.31	254.87	2,312.09	25.74	2,337.83
F	387.66	1,936.87	106.73	301.21	2,732.47	30.42	2,762.89
G	447.30	2,234.85	123.15	347.55	3,152.85	35.10	3,187.95
H	536.76	2,681.82	147.78	417.06	3,783.42	42.12	3,825.54

17. To note that, in accordance with the requirements of section 52ZC of the Act the Council has determined whether it's Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is excessive.

For 2021/22, the relevant basic amount of Council Tax for Castle Point would be deemed excessive if the authority's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is:

- 2%, or more than 2%, greater than its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2020/21; and
- More than **£5.00** greater than its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2020/21.

Ref	Amount £	Item
(a)	263.16	being the Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2020/21, excluding local precepts.
(b)	2.0%	being the percentage increase above which the Secretary of State has determined the Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 would be excessive.
(c)	268.42	being the amount above which the Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2021/22, excluding local precepts, would be excessive (rounded down to the nearest penny).
(d)	268.38	being the Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2021/22, excluding local precepts.

The Relevant Basic Amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is therefore not excessive and the duty to make substitute calculations and hold a referendum does not apply (Chapter 4ZA of Part 1 of the Act).

Resolution required.

4. Background

- 4.1 At the meeting held earlier this evening, Cabinet considered the report on the Policy Framework and Budget Setting for 2021/22. The Cabinet recommended that Council resolve recommendations 1 to 17 as set out in the report.

5. Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The Council must make certain statutory calculations in relation to the budget requirement and Council Tax for 2021/22. These are set out in full in the Policy Framework and Budget Setting report.
- 5.2 The corporate implications are as set out in the report presented to Cabinet earlier this evening.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Council should consider and resolve recommendations 1 to 17 (above) previously submitted to Cabinet. This will complete the budget process for 2021/22.

Background Papers: Final local government finance settlement: England, 2021 to 2022 (published 4th February 2021)

Report Author: Chris Mills – Strategic Director (Resources), Section 151 Officer