General Fund Budget and Council Tax recommendation to Council 2012/13

Summary

This report details Cabinet's recommendation to Council on the budget and Council Tax for 2012/13.

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Robert Standley, Leader of the Council

Recommendation

Cabinet is recommended to:

A. Thank residents and organisations that responded to the consultation.

Cabinet is recommended to **recommend to Council to**:

A. Set a Council Tax Requirement, excluding Town and Parish Council Precepts of £11.061 million which gives a Band D Council Tax of £174.06 a zero increase on 2011/12;

B. Agree the budget as set out in Appendix A to the report and recognise the need to fully implement the Transformation Programme to achieve a balanced budget over the term of the Council;

C. Welcome the investment in the Leisure Centres and agree the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix B to the report; and

D. Agree the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17 based on Council Tax increases broadly in line with inflation.

Reason

The Council is required to set a balanced budget each year. The Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires the Council to estimate revenue expenditure and income for the forthcoming year from all sources, together with government grant and contributions from reserves, in order to determine a basic Council Tax Requirement.

Introduction

1. The budget this year is set against significant reductions in government grant, as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review, and the on-going economic climate which continues to put pressure on budgets.
2. Cabinet agreed the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2012 – 17 and Budget 2012/13 for consultation at its meeting on 14 December 2011.
3. In light of the consultation responses and points raised by Internal Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet is making this budget recommendation to Council so

that it can set the Budget and Council Tax at its meeting on 15 February 2012.

Consultation Response

4. Consultation on the budget and MTFS was undertaken with:
   (a) Wealden Local Strategic Partnership;
   (b) The Council's Employee Consultative Group;
   (c) Parish and Town Councils; and
   (d) Business Ratepayers.
5. The results of the consultation will be reported by oral update at the Cabinet meeting.

Internal and Audit Scrutiny Committee

6. Internal and Audit Scrutiny Committee undertook a scrutiny of the budget at its meeting on 11 January 2012.
7. The Committee raised a number of questions concerning the loss of income associated with accepting the 2012/13 Council Tax Freeze Grant and how it would be managed. The Committee also sought assurance that Reserves were adequate.
8. There was support for redevelopment of Leap Cross and assurance was sought that it would still provide small units for business start up. Questions were asked concerning the New Homes Bonus and how it would be utilised in future years and whether payments should be made to Parish Councils.
9. There were some detailed questions on Insurance arrangements. Members also asked if Special Expenses were no longer proposed for Closed Churchyards and the Leader responded that there were no proposals to take them forward in this budget.
10. The Committee did not make any observations or recommendations to Cabinet.

Formula Grant

11. The government gives support for Council activities through Formula Grant. This is distributed through a formula system that comprises four blocks.

Relative Needs

12. This block uses Relative Needs Formulae that seek to recognise the various factors that affect costs in providing services. The formulae are based on a basic amount per person plus additional top ups to reflect local circumstances such as how spread out the population is. Wealden has gained grant because of its elderly population and its rural nature in this settlement but is still assessed as having relatively low needs compared with other authorities.

Relative Resources

13. The Relative Resources Amount is a negative figure and is based on the Council Tax Base, which is the number of Band D equivalent properties. The higher the tax base the larger the Relative Resources amount. The government assumes that Councils with a higher tax base are more prosperous and can easily raise more revenue to support their services. As Wealden has a higher proportion of properties in the higher Council Tax bands than average it loses grant as the government assumes it can raise more of the money it needs locally.

Central Allocation

14. This is money distributed on a per head of population basis. Wealden receives the same amount of grant as any other District Council on this basis.

Floor Damping

15. To ensure that each Council receives a guaranteed minimum increase in grant, compared to the previous year on a like-for-like basis, the government operates a grant floor. Without the floor Councils could potentially lose large amounts of grant. The grant floor is paid for by scaling back grant increases for those authorities above the floor. This is known as floor damping.

Formula Grant 2012/13

16. The government has not announced the final Formula Grant settlement at the time of writing the report. These figures are based on the provisional draft settlement announced last year and are therefore subject to change.

Year	Relative Needs Amount £(000)	Relative Resources Amount (£000)	Central Allocation (£000)	Floor Damping (£000)	Formula Grant (£000)	Reduction %
2010/11	*	*	*	*	7,420	
2011/12	1,973	(3,210)	7,206	249	6,218	-16%
2012/13	1,796	(3,178)	6,491	178	5,287	-15%

** = Final Grant figure was adjusted for transfer of Concessionary Fares, the creation of the South Downs National Park, private sewers becoming the responsibility of Southern Water PLC and other miscellaneous adjustments while the various components are not available adjusted.*

Support for a zero Council Tax increase

17. The government offered a financial scheme to support local authorities who voluntarily set a zero Council Tax increase in 2011/12.

18. The Council resolved to set its basic amount of Council Tax for 2011/12 at a level which was no more than its basic amount of Council Tax for 2010/11, and was eligible to receive a grant equivalent to a 2.5% increase in its

2010/11 basic amount of Council Tax multiplied by the authority's tax base for 2011-12 (rounded to the nearest pound).

19. The Government intends to provide supplementary funding to local authorities in subsequent years of the Spending Review to compensate them for the council tax income foregone during the period of the freeze but this is limited to a four year period, therefore the effect of the loss of this grant has to be managed out over the period of the MTFS.

20. The Government has offered a grant in 2012/13 to freeze Council Tax for that year. The grant is again the equivalent of a 2.5% increase in Council Tax. However, the grant is payable for 2012/13 only and therefore there will be an immediate loss of resources, equivalent to a 2.5% increase in Council Tax in the 2013/14 year if the Council takes up the offer. This therefore presents a risk to the Council's financial position and will exacerbate the loss of the freeze grant from 2011/12 which runs out in 2014/15.

21. Taking into account the current financial situation, Cabinet is recommending that the Council takes the offer of the grant and freezes Council Tax in 2012/13. Cabinet also recognises the permanent loss of resources this means to the Council and that further permanent reductions in net expenditure will be required.

New Homes Bonus

22. The Government pays New Homes Bonus to the Council based on the number of new homes built, empty homes brought back into use and also the delivery of affordable housing. The grant is payable for a total of 6 years.

23. The Council was awarded £0.523 million for the period 2011 - 2017. The Council's provisional award for the period 2012 - 2018 is £0.908 million.

24. Cabinet take the view that New Homes Bonus grant, being time limited, should not be used to support the base revenue budget as this could produce a "cliff edge" funding situation when the grant ends. Cabinet's policy is to use New Homes Bonus to support the capital programme and to invest in the District's infrastructure. The New Homes Bonus offers the Council the opportunity to invest in Leisure Centres, car parks and the potential redevelopment of Leap Cross Business Centre.

Excessive Council Tax Increase Referendum

25. The Localism Act 2011 has replaced Council Tax Capping with a requirement for the Council to hold a referendum should it propose a Council Tax increase greater than a set of principals approved by Parliament.

26. The Secretary of State has issued draft principals that a Council Tax increase of more than 3.5% will be deemed "excessive" and trigger a referendum for this Council.

27. Should this Council propose an excessive increase it must have a fall back budget with an increase at no more than 3.5% and Council would be required to approve that budget at the same time - known as a substitute calculation. At the same time as bills were issued the Council would need to send polling cards for a local referendum to be held on the first Thursday in May.
28. Should the referendum reject the higher budget then the substitute calculation will apply and the Council would need to rebill all residents. The cost of a referendum is estimated at £205,000 and rebilling at £86,000.
29. The same principals apply to East Sussex County Council. The principals for Police and Fire are slightly higher at 4%. The Secretary of State has not set principals for Town and Parish Councils in 2012/13 although the Government will monitor Town and Parish increases. Since 2011/12 the Council has been required to submit precept and Council Tax levels for individual Town and Parish Councils to Government so it is likely that principals could apply to them in the future.

Employee Costs

30. Cabinet propose that there should be no budget for a general pay increase for staff in 2012/13. This will be the third year for staff and fourth year for the Chief Executive and Corporate Directors of a pay freeze.
31. For low paid staff earning £21,000 or less per year (pro-rata for part time staff) Cabinet are proposing to again make a budget provision of £66,500, equal to a £250 pay increase in line with government policy.
32. The actual pay settlement is a matter for the Council's Personnel Committee but Cabinet believe pay restraint is necessary at this time to help manage the Council's financial position.
33. The Medium Term Financial Strategy assumes that staff pay will increase by up to 1% in each of the years 2013/14 and 2014/15. No further pay award provision has been made at this time as Cabinet do not feel that they can accurately predict inflation or future reward strategies at this stage.

Members' Allowances

34. Cabinet propose that there should be no budget for an increase for Members' Allowances in 2012/13. This will be the fourth year that Members' Allowances will be frozen.
35. Recommendations on Members' Allowances are made by the Independent Remuneration Panel and the decision is a matter for Full Council but Cabinet believe remuneration restraint is necessary at this time to help manage the Council's financial position.
36. The Medium Term Financial Strategy assumes that Member's Allowances will increase by up to 1% in each of the years 2013/14 and 2014/15. No further provision has been made at this time as Cabinet do not feel that they can accurately predict inflation at this stage.

Unavoidable budget pressures

37. The unavoidable cost increases are discussed in detail below and have been fed into the budget projections.

Fuel Duty Multiplier increase

38. In line with announced central government projections, we anticipate that fuel duty will increase by 3p per litre over 2012/13. The Council purchases approximately 750,000 litres per annum for the municipal fleet, so this equates to £22,500 per annum.

Fuel Inflation estimate

39. The Council is part of a bulk fuel purchasing consortium. We expect the price to rise by at least 4p per litre on top of the fuel duty multiplier. This takes into account the general upward trend in the price of oil which is forecast to continue into 2012/13 and results in additional costs of £30,000.

Housing Benefit Administration Grant

40. In line with the Comprehensive Spending Review the Council's Housing Benefit Administration Grant has been reduced by a further £100,000. The MTFS assumes a further reduction in 2013/14 of £100,000 in line with the Comprehensive Spending Review.

Tree Works

41. Following recent Court rulings, it is essential the Council undertakes comprehensive tree surveys and resulting tree works on its land in order to prevent possible action for damages or corporate manslaughter.

Budget risk items

42. The budget has been drawn up on the assumption that the Local Development Framework proceeds according to its timetable and the Core Strategy is adopted by Council and approved after the Examination in Public. Should this not occur and the Non-Statutory Local Plan lapse the budget has not factored in the cost of defending planning appeals. This cost could be potentially very large and Cabinet would need to take urgent action to reprioritise resources.
43. The budget assumes a low level of planning appeals resulting from the development management processes. Should the number and cost of planning appeals increase it will be necessary for Cabinet to take corrective action during the year by reprioritising resources.
44. The budget assumes that Waste and Commercial Services (Refuse and Recycling, Building Cleaning, Building Maintenance and Horticultural Maintenance) are all outsourced in 2013 with savings of a least £0.5 million being achieved in the General Fund, in line with the Transformation Programme.

Fundamental Financial Planning Uncertainties

45. The Budget and MTFS has been framed in light of known commitments. There are however several fundamental financial planning uncertainties in the short term that must be brought to the attention of Members. These are:
    (e) Localisation of Business Rates;
    (f) Localisation of Council Tax Rebate;
    (g) Changes to Local Government Pension Scheme;
    (h) Universal Credit; and
    (i) The Comprehensive Spending Review 2015.

Localisation of Business Rates

46. The Government has consulted on "Localisation" of Business Rates. Fundamentally, the Council will be no better off than it is currently. The rates collected are shared between the District and County Councils and therefore there will be no additional resources available. Given the rural nature of the District and development plans in the Core Strategy it is highly unlikely there will be business rate growth above the national average and that the Council will benefit from rate growth retention proposals.
47. At present the Council collects rates on behalf of the government and receives a cost of collection allowance of £0.2 million. It is unclear with Localisation whether the Council will continue to receive an allowance and therefore costs may rise as a result.
48. At this stage, these proposals are contained in the Local Government Finance Bill and further work will be undertaken to model the impact on the Council and will be reported to Cabinet.

Localisation of Council Tax Rebate

49. The Government has consulted on localising Council Tax Benefit, rebranded as Council Tax Rebate, to Councils. The proposals are that Councils can set their own scheme criteria, except for pensioners, the disabled and some other protected groups who must retain the same level of benefit eligibility going forward. The Government has indicated it intends to introduce this change from April 2013.
50. The Government also intends to reduce grant support for Council Tax Benefit by 10% when the scheme is introduced. In order to share risk grant will be paid to the County Council, Police and Fire Authorities as well as the Council, which reduce the Basic Council Tax Requirement. The Council will then need to manage the rebate scheme in order to provide sufficient revenue to meet Basic Council Tax Requirements. As risk is shared between the authorities the Council has a duty to consult with them on the scheme design.
51. Councils have made representations that the timescale for delivery is impossible. The Council's software provider has already stated that it

simply cannot meet an April 2013 deadline for a local scheme and that software development costs will be considerable. It is unclear whether the government will fund these costs. As a result officers understand that there will be a two year transition period in which the old national benefit scheme can be operated, the so-called Government Default Scheme, in order to allow software development to take place. However, operating the old scheme will make delivery of the 10% budget reduction difficult to achieve. Officers will continue to liase with the software supplier on potential software delivery.

52. Our analysis of the caseload indicates that approximately 40% of people currently in receipt of Council Tax Benefit would not be in a protected group and would therefore face a loss of benefit entitlement of approximately 25% or an average of £230 per year. Drawing from the experience of Community Charge, where everyone had to pay a minimum of 20% of the Charge, indicates that collection rates will fall so the Council faces a high risk of reduced Council Tax collection rates.

53. At this stage, these proposals are contained in the Local Government Finance Bill and further work will be undertaken to model the impact on the Council and will be reported to Cabinet. Work is also being undertaken across the County on a potential East Sussex scheme and also on potential shared services to deliver revenue collection in the future.

Changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme

54. As there has been no agreement on reform proposals to the Local Government Pension Scheme the MTFS has not factored in any reductions in employer's contributions. Members should note that the rate paid by Wealden District Council is already at the target rate proposed in the Government's reforms for Future Service liabilities as the Council has opted to pay the Past Service deficit as a cash amount to ensure the deficit is met over the actuarial valuation period due to the expected outsourcing of staff in Waste and Commercial Services.

55. Changes to employee contributions could cause staff to opt out of the pension scheme. Analysis by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy indicates that a 20% opt out rate would place the scheme into negative cash flow and wipe out any potential savings and could, in fact, result in increased costs.

56. Given the above, there is uncertainty in the MTFS as to any possible reductions or increases in costs resulting from pension reform. Whilst it is encouraging that the main local government unions have agreed a way forward with government, there is still further detailed negotiation to be completed.

Universal Credit

57. The Government's plan to simplify the welfare system through the introduction of Universal Credit is expected to begin in late 2013. There are

proposals to convert the existing Housing Benefit caseload by claimant type and by geographical wave between 2014 and 2017. The Department for Work and Pensions has given no detailed plans for this conversion. They have also been silent on what exact responsibilities will rest with local authorities, such as Crisis Loans, and whether local authorities will have any role in the actual delivery of Universal Credit.

58. Given the above, there is uncertainty in the MTFS as to any possible reductions or increases in costs resulting from the introduction of Universal Credit.

Autumn Statement and the Comprehensive Spending Review 2015

59. The recent Autumn Statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer saw growth predictions revised downwards and an increase in Government borrowing of £111 billion. The Government also announced that the deficit reduction programme would go beyond the present Parliamentary term.

60. Therefore there is the potential for the Comprehensive Spending Review 2015 to require further savings from local authorities to meet the deficit reduction target if other government spending targets are likely to be missed and exacerbate the reduction programme.

61. Given the above, there is uncertainty in the MTFS as to any possible further savings being required resulting from the Comprehensive Spending Review 2015.

Summary Budget Proposals

62. The Summary Budget Proposals that Cabinet are recommending are based on a zero Council Tax increase with additional section 31 grant equivalent to a 2.5% increase in Council Tax.

63. The indicative Council Tax increases in the MTFS have been set at 2.5% in the table as Cabinet propose that Council Tax increases in the future will broadly be in line with the increase in the Consumer Price Index measure of inflation.

64. The Localism Act 2011 has amended the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the way the Council calculates the Council Tax. The former requirement to calculate a Budget Requirement has been replaced with an amended Council Tax Requirement calculation. The Budget presentation has been altered to reflect this new calculation methodology.

65. The summary of the budget is shown in the table below:

Wealden District Council
General Fund Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Elected Members	401	349	358	362	367	362
Chief Executive's Directorate	1,622	1,588	1,602	1,643	1,803	1,643
Corporate Services	5,873	6,349	6,130	6,193	6,201	6,210
Community and Environmental Services	9,793	9,824	8,028	7,988	7,931	7,924
Development Services	991	929	931	937	937	937
Centrally Managed Budgets	1,337	1,369	1,013	935	935	935
Total Cost of Services	20,017	20,408	18,062	18,058	18,174	18,011
Transformation Programme Savings not attributable to a Directorate						
Management Structure Changes			(75)	(75)	(75)	(75)
Further Savings to be identified				(500)	(500)	(500)
Drainage Levies	78	80	82	84	86	88
Interest from Investments	(90)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)
Interest payable on external loans	358	1	1	1	1	1
Charges to the Housing Revenue Account:						
Maintenance, Cleaning and Horticulture	(1,400)	(1,571)				
Support Services	(1,383)	(1,334)	(1,234)	(1,234)	(1,234)	(1,234)
Debt Interest	(340)					
Minimum Revenue Provision	89	184	336	844	1,045	1,049
Capital Expenditure Charged to Revenue	2,904	1,431	1,431	920	680	640
Low Pay Guarantee		67				
Net Cost of Services	20,233	19,236	18,573	18,068	18,147	17,950

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Zero Council Tax Increase Grant (2012/13)		(276)				
New Homes Bonus Grant						
2011/12 Award	(523)	(523)	(523)	(523)	(523)	(522)
2012/13 Award		(908)	(908)	(908)	(908)	(908)
Local Services Support Grant	(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)
Formula Grant						
Revenue Support Grant	(1,468)					
Business Rates	(4,750)	(5,287)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Zero Council Tax Increase Grant (2011/12)	(273)	(273)	(273)	(273)		
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	(46)	(85)				
Contributions to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(2,308)	60	60	60	60	60
Contributions to/(from) General Fund Balance	168	(777)	(485)	344	242	736
Council Tax Requirement	10,927	11,061	11,338	11,662	11,912	12,210
Funded By:						
Council Tax Demand on the Collection Fund	(10,927)	(11,061)	(11,338)	(11,662)	(11,912)	(12,210)

General Fund Balance

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Opening Balance	3,678	3,846	3,069	2,584	2,928	3,170
Movement in Year	168	(777)	(485)	344	242	736
Closing Balance	3,846	3,069	2,584	2,928	3,170	3,906

NOTE: The indicative Council Tax increases have been set at 2.5% in the table which is in line with target inflation as measured by the Consumer Prices Index. Cabinet propose that Council Tax should rise broadly in line with inflation as measured by the CPI Index.

Capital Programme

66. The Capital Programme has been framed to deliver significant investment in the Council's leisure centres, complete the delivery of the single site offices and rebuild the Leap Cross Small Business Centre which is unfit for purpose. The detailed capital programme is at Appendix B.

67. The Capital Programme assumes that the Pine Grove Office site is disposed of and that the Capital Receipt is utilised to fund the major refurbishment of the Leisure Centres, Disabled Facilities Grants and other key capital projects. Should this receipt not materialise the Council will need to undertake external borrowing or delete items from the Capital Programme. External borrowing will increase revenue costs, depending on the prevailing interest rate, and compensating savings will be required.

68. The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Council to set prudential indicators as part of the budget setting process. The indicators that Council will be asked to set are:

    (a) Estimates of capital expenditure for 2012/13 to 2014/15;

    (b) Estimates of the capital financing requirement for 2012/13 to 2014/15;

    (c) Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account for 2012/13 to 2014/15; and

    (d) Estimate of the incremental impact of the capital programme on both Council Tax and Housing Rents for 2012/13 to 2014/15.

69. The prudential indicators are linked directly to the capital programme and any changes to the programme require them to be recalculated before Council can approve them. The prudential indicators are included in the Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy report.

Overall Council Tax

70. The total Council Tax charged to residents is dominated by East Sussex County Council's precept which is 71% of the total bill. The County Council, Police and Fire are expected to set a zero increase. Some Parish and Town Councils have returned increased precepts therefore residents will see Council Tax increases in some Towns and Parishes

Report of the Chief Finance Officer under Section 25 Local Government Act 2003

71. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Council's Chief Finance Officer to report to Council on the following matters at the time the Council is making calculations under section 32 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (determination of the council tax requirement):

    (a) The robustness of the estimates made for the purpose of the calculation; and

(b) The adequacy of the proposed level of reserves.

72. In coming to a conclusion about the robustness of the estimates the Chief Finance Officer has to make an assessment of the risk of over or under spending the budget. Budgeting practices should ensure that sufficiently prudent provision is made for costs and income that are foreseeable and relatively certain.

Employee Costs

73. The Council, in common with most other local authorities, budgets for staff on the basis that all posts are fully funded for the year. This has the advantage of allowing posts to be advertised during the notice period of any employee and replacements to come into post quickly. It also provides flexibility should agency staff be required to temporarily fill posts. The alternative budgeting method of assuming a percentage vacancy factor is not used as this can lead to “vacancy freezes” and deterioration of service where posts are not filled.

74. Each post in the establishment is costed at actual spine point with relevant on-costs being added. Where a post is vacant then that post is budgeted for at the mid point of the salary range in order to provide flexibility around starting pay or to provide budgetary provision for temporary cover. In the opinion of the Chief Finance Officer this is a robust calculation for the purposes of the estimates.

75. The Council makes a central provision for pay increases and Personnel Committee, who make the pay award on behalf of the Council, can only make pay awards up to the value of the provision. Cabinet are recommending no general pay increase for staff but have provided a budget for a £250 flat increase for staff earning less than £21,000 pro rata per year in line with government policy.

Running Expenses

76. The Council includes provision for price increases in service budgets. This is based on known inflation such as fuel duty increases, inflation clauses in contracts with the balance of cost increases being contained through procurement savings. The Council is working with the East Sussex Procurement Hub partners to deliver a joint procurement programme for 2012/132 to try and use economies of scale to drive down prices.

Major Contracts

77. At present the Council’s major contracts cover the supply of energy, fuel, vehicles, insurance, advertising and stationery. These are usually based on agreed inflationary increases. Contracts due for renewal do present a risk that costs may increase. Part of the General Fund Working Balance is also retained to cushion any increases.

Demand led expenditure budgets

78. The key demand led expenditure budget is for benefit payments. This budget has been set on the best information available and projections using professional judgement. The Council is reimbursed by central government for benefit payments.

Income

79. A risk assessment has been carried out of existing major sources of income. With Refuse and Recycling moving into the Joint Waste Collection Contract the risk to commercial waste, recyclate sales, cesspool emptying and other charges will pass to the contractor. Recycling Credit payments should remain as per the signed agreement with East Sussex County Council and therefore should present a low risk. Building Control income presents a medium risk as the Council provides a joint service covering Eastbourne and work is driven by market conditions. Investment income has been reduced to reflect historically low interest rates the use of cash balances to fund the capital programme through the mechanism of "internal borrowing".

Chief Finance Officer's Conclusion on the Estimates

80. The Chief Finance Officer considers that the estimates contained within the Cabinet's recommended budget proposals in this report are robust.

Reserves and Balances

81. The Chief Finance Officer has conducted a review of the strategic, operational and financial risks facing the Council. The key risks facing the Council are detailed in the Corporate Risk Register.
82. The Chief Finance Officer has conducted a review of the earmarked reserves held on the balance sheet and is satisfied that they are required to fund specific expenditure in future years or are required to provide risk finance.
83. The Chief Finance Officer has, in the light of the risks facing the Council, calculated the minimum level of General Fund Balance that the Council should hold as £1.1 million. The rationale for this calculation is shown in the table below.

	£ million	
Wealden DC Net Cost of Services	19.236	
Cash Flow	0.800	The Council requires a minimum level of funds to maintain cash flow
Cost escalation cushion and contingency	0.300	The Council requires a minimum contingency amount to cover any unforeseen cost increases or contingencies.
Suggested minimum level of balances to be maintained	1.100	

84. The General Fund Balance estimate at 31 March 2012 for budget purposes is £3.846 million.

Chief Finance Officer's Conclusion on the adequacy of Reserves

85. In the opinion of the Chief Finance Officer the forecast reserves are adequate to meet unforeseen events or emergencies arising during 2012/13.

86. The adequacy of reserves and balances in the medium to long term will be dependent on the progress of the Transformation Programme. Providing that savings factored into the budget are delivered and further savings identified during 2012/13 then, in the Chief Finance Officer's opinion, the forecast reserves are adequate in the medium to long term.

Corporate Management Team Advice

87. Cabinet is recommended to recommend to Council:
    (a) Consider the consultation responses and the results of the scrutiny of the budget; and
    (b) Recommend a balanced budget to Council.

Financial Implications

88. These are contained in the main body of the report.

Legal Implications

89. The Council is required to set a balanced budget each year. The Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires the Council to estimate revenue expenditure and income for the forthcoming year from all sources, together with government grant and contributions from reserves, in order to determine a basic Council Tax Requirement.

90. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Chief Finance Officer to report on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves to the Council when it is considering the budget.

91. Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires the Chief Finance Officer to report to the Full Council if there is or is likely to be unlawful expenditure or an unbalanced budget. This would include situations where reserves have become seriously depleted and it is forecast that the authority will not have the resources to meet its expenditure in a particular financial year. The issuing of a Section 114 report requires the Full Council to meet within 21 days to consider the report and during that period the Council is prohibited from entering into new agreements involving the incurring of expenditure.

Human Resources Implications

92. Cabinet's proposals in relation to staff pay should balance the need for pay restraint with the inevitable impact on staff morale at a time when large sections of the workforce are being disrupted due to the proposals in the Transformation Programme and also the move to the Hailsham office in summer 2012. Staff will need to be consulted about these proposals and Personnel Committee will need to take into account these views when arriving at a decision. Personnel Committee agreed to award the low pay guarantee to staff in 2011/12 as a one-off payment rather than adding them to spinal column points.

Other Implications

93. The budget underpins delivery of the Council's policies and priorities in relation to crime and disorder.

94. The budget makes provision for the roll out of kerbside recycling to all domestic properties by the end of 2010 and also underpins other policies and priorities in relation to the environmental and sustainability areas.

95. The budget is subject to a risk assessment which will be detailed in full in the final report to Council. Key risk areas are around income and demand led services and these have been fed into the budget projections.

96. The budget underpins delivery of the Council's policies and priorities in relation to equalities and diversity.

97. The Council has a statutory duty under the Equalities Act 2010, in particular s149. This includes the requirements on the Council to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and harassment, to advance equality of opportunity, to foster good relations and to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share protected characteristics.

98. Compliance with these duties in the Equalities Act does permit the Council to treat some persons more favourably than others, but only to the extent that such conduct is not otherwise prohibited.

99. In setting the Capital Programme, decisions on matters such as the level and availability of disabled facilities grants will be particularly relevant to the

discharge of this duty and an equalities impact assessment has been undertaken on the capital programme to assess and ensure compliance with this duty.

100. Consultation arrangements are identified in the main body of the report.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	Yes
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Consultation	Yes
Environmental	Yes	Access to Information	No
Sustainability	Yes	Exempt from publication	No
Risk Management	Yes		

Director:	Nigel Hannam, Director of Corporate Services
Proper Officer:	Steven Linnett, Chief Finance Officer
Report Contact Officer:	Steven Linnett
Telephone Number:	01323 443234
e-mail address:	Steve.linnett@wealden.gov.uk
Appendices:	A Departmental Budgets B Capital Programme C Earmarked Reserves
Background Papers:	Estimate Working Paper Files held by Financial Services

Wealden District Council
General Fund Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Elected Members	401	349	358	362	367	362
Chief Executive's Directorate	1,622	1,588	1,602	1,643	1,803	1,643
Corporate Services	5,873	6,349	6,130	6,193	6,201	6,210
Community and Environmental Services	9,793	9,824	8,028	7,988	7,931	7,924
Development Services	991	929	931	937	937	937
Centrally Managed Budgets	1,337	1,369	1,013	935	935	935
Total Cost of Services	20,017	20,408	18,062	18,058	18,174	18,011
Transformation Programme Savings not attributable to a Directorate						
Management Structure Changes			(75)	(75)	(75)	(75)
Further Savings to be identified				(500)	(500)	(500)
Drainage Levies	78	80	82	84	86	88
Interest from Investments	(90)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)
Interest payable on external loans	358	1	1	1	1	1
Charges to the Housing Revenue Account:						
Maintenance, Cleaning and Horticulture	(1,400)	(1,571)				
Support Services	(1,383)	(1,334)	(1,234)	(1,234)	(1,234)	(1,234)
Debt Interest	(340)					
Minimum Revenue Provision	89	184	336	844	1,045	1,049
Capital Expenditure Charged to Revenue	2,904	1,431	1,431	920	680	640
Low Pay Guarantee		67				
Net Cost of Services	20,233	19,236	18,573	18,068	18,147	17,950

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Zero Council Tax Increase Grant (2012/13)		(276)				
New Homes Bonus Grant						
2011/12 Award	(523)	(523)	(523)	(523)	(523)	(522)
2012/13 Award		(908)	(908)	(908)	(908)	(908)
Local Services Support Grant	(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)
Formula Grant						
Revenue Support Grant	(1,468)					
Business Rates	(4,750)	(5,287)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Zero Council Tax Increase Grant (2011/12)	(273)	(273)	(273)	(273)		
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	(46)	(85)				
Contributions to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(2,308)	60	60	60	60	60
Contributions to/(from) General Fund Balance	168	(777)	(485)	344	242	736
Council Tax Requirement	10,927	11,061	11,338	11,662	11,912	12,210
Funded By:						
Council Tax Demand on the Collection Fund	(10,927)	(11,061)	(11,338)	(11,662)	(11,912)	(12,210)

General Fund Balance

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Opening Balance	3,678	3,846	3,069	2,584	2,928	3,170
Movement in Year	168	(777)	(485)	344	242	736
Closing Balance	3,846	3,069	2,584	2,928	3,170	3,906

General Fund Directorate Summary

Elected Members

Elected Members Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Chairman of the Council	10	11	11	11	11	11
Members	391	338	347	351	356	351
Total Members	401	349	358	362	367	362

Chief Executive's Directorate

Chief Executive's Directorate Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Chief Executive's Office	225	227	229	231	231	231
Policy & Review	549	491	495	500	500	500
Legal & Democratic Services	843	870	878	912	912	912
Returning Officer	5				160	
Total Chief Executive's Directorate	1,622	1,588	1,602	1,643	1,803	1,643

Policy & Review Service Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Policy & Review	79	64	65	66	66	66
Policy Unit	143	137	138	139	139	139
Communications	71	55	56	56	56	56
Performance Management	50	48	48	49	49	49
Internal Audit	115	109	110	112	112	112
Sustainability	55	57	57	57	57	57
Wealden Local Strategic Partnership	36	21	21	21	21	21
Total Policy & Review	549	491	495	500	500	500

Legal & Democratic Services Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Chief Legal Officer	103	116	117	117	117	117
Legal Services	344	334	339	345	345	345
Democratic Services	212	224	226	228	228	228
Parish Liaison	7					
Electoral Registration	172	191	191	217	217	217
Electoral & Governance Reviews	5	5	5	5	5	5
Total Legal & Democratic Services	843	870	878	912	912	912

Returning Officer Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
District Elections	5				160	
Parish Elections					0	
Parliamentary Elections					0	
County Elections			0			
European Parliament Elections				0		
Police Commissioner Elections		0				
House of Lords Elections						0
Total Returning Officer	5	0	0	0	160	0

Corporate Services Directorate

Corporate Services Directorate Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Director of Corporate Services	410	379	357	359	359	359
Human Resources	726	714	542	545	545	545
Customer Services & Systems	1,573	1,697	1,698	1,710	1,710	1,710
Finance	1,841	2,107	2,119	2,136	2,131	2,127
Corporate Assets	1,323	1,452	1,414	1,443	1,456	1,469
Total Corporate Services Directorate	5,873	6,349	6,130	6,193	6,201	6,210

Director of Corporate Services Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Director of Corporate Services	146	149	150	151	151	151
Equalities	30	30	30	30	30	30
Transformation Programme	184	200	177	178	178	178
Invest to Improve	50					
Total Director of Corporate Services	410	379	357	359	359	359

Human Resources Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Human Resources	87	88	89	90	90	90
Personnel Services	409	383	264	266	266	266
Payroll Services	67	66	48	48	48	48
Learning & Development	163	177	141	141	141	141
Total Human Resources	726	714	542	545	545	545

Customer Services & Systems Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Customer Services & Systems	76	77	78	78	78	78
Customer Services	365	473	477	482	482	482
ICT Business Analyst & Web Team	266	275	278	281	281	281
ICT Support & Infrastructure Team	324	377	379	382	382	382
ICT Infrastructure Costs	291	294	294	294	294	294
ICT Telecomms & Data Costs	181	93	83	83	83	83
Design & Print Services	19	61	61	62	62	62
National Land & Property Gazeteer	51	47	48	48	48	48
Total Customer Services & Systems	1,573	1,697	1,698	1,710	1,710	1,710

Finance Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Chief Finance Officer	335	323	304	301	296	292
Financial Services	597	604	525	529	529	529
Commissioning & Procurement	123	119	120	122	122	122
Council Tax Collection	223	223	217	219	219	219
NNDR Collection	(45)	(51)	(50)	(49)	(49)	(49)
Recovery & Enforcement Services	326	327	330	333	333	333
Benefits Assessment	7	32	142	148	148	148
Benefits Fraud, Overpayments and Control	358	338	339	341	341	341
Housing Benefit Payments	113	79	79	79	79	79
Council Tax Benefit Payments	(158)	113	113	113	113	113
Concessionary Fares	(38)					
Total Finance	1,841	2,107	2,119	2,136	2,131	2,127

Corporate Assets Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Corporate Assets	194	164	166	167	167	167
Facilities & Estates	137	253	256	258	258	258
Vicarage Lane	64	461	592	598	598	613
Pine Grove	317	180	5			
Car Parks	202	185	179	180	180	180
Emergency Planning	34	47	43	44	44	44
Closed Churchyards	49	71	71	71	71	71
Green Spaces and Amenity Land	39	40	74	84	84	75
Cuckoo Trail	61	51	52	52	51	51
Commercial Estate	(36)	(82)	(24)	(11)	3	10
Grove Road Eastbourne	230	72				
Prospects House Hailsham	32	10				
Total Corporate Assets	1,323	1,452	1,414	1,443	1,456	1,469

Community & Environmental Services Directorate Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Director of Community & Environmental Services	164	166	168	170	170	170
Public Health & Community Services	2,293	2,169	2,250	2,083	1,987	1,892
Housing (General Fund Functions)	1,168	1,018	1,023	1,032	1,032	1,032
Planning & Building Control	899	1,337	1,373	1,400	1,400	1,400
Waste & Commercial Services	5,269	5,134	3,214	3,303	3,342	3,430
Total Community & Env Servs Directorate	9,793	9,824	8,028	7,988	7,931	7,924

Public Health & Community Services Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Public Health and Community Services	194	190	192	193	193	193
Leisure, Sport and Play	734	539	603	422	326	231
Culture	36	52	52	53	53	53
Community Grants	343	355	355	356	356	356
Food Safety	208	256	259	261	261	261
Health & Safety	184	193	195	197	197	197
Health Promotion and Protection	118	52	52	53	53	53
Community Safety	2	10	10	10	10	10
Safer Wealden Partnership						
Environmental Protection	304	347	353	356	356	356
Pest Control	41	42	42	42	42	42
Animal Welfare	80	68	66	66	66	66
Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing	(51)	(32)	(31)	(30)	(30)	(30)
Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing	(15)	(25)	(24)	(23)	(23)	(23)
Gambling, Gaming and Betting Licensing	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Other Licensing	3					
Engineer and Countryside Officer	81	90	94	95	95	95
Flood Defence and Land Drainage	13	13	13	13	13	13
Coast Protection	19	20	20	20	20	20
Shoreline Management	5	5	5	5	5	5
Total Public Health & Community Services	2,293	2,169	2,250	2,083	1,987	1,892

Housing (General Fund Functions)
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Housing		44	44	44	44	44
Housing Strategy	91	72	69	69	69	69
Housing Options	336	358	359	362	362	362
Homelessness	184	160	160	160	160	160
Housing Standards	251	260	264	268	268	268
Housing Enabling	134	95	98	100	100	100
Unauthorised Occupation of Land	19	19	19	19	19	19
Private Housing Renewal	145					
Private Sector Leasing	8	10	10	10	10	10
Total Housing (General Fund Functions)	1,168	1,018	1,023	1,032	1,032	1,032

Planning & Building Control Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Planning & Building Control	129	90	91	92	92	92
Development Management	781	798	816	831	831	831
Planning Appeals	19	97	100	101	101	101
Planning Enforcement & Environment	181	324	323	326	326	326
Building Control Partnership	(151)	(80)	(72)	(68)	(68)	(68)
Building Control Non Chargeable		150	155	157	157	157
Local Land Charges	(60)	(42)	(40)	(39)	(39)	(39)
Total Planning & Building Control	899	1,337	1,373	1,400	1,400	1,400

Waste & Commercial Services Summary
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Waste & Commercial Services	170	399	296	299	299	299
Domestic Refuse & Recycling	2,581	2,240	1,896	1,960	1,977	2,044
Commercial Refuse and Recycling	(142)	(135)				
Bellbrook Materials Reclamation Facility	315	301				
External Waste Contracts	(171)	(142)				
Street Cleaning	630	738	860	882	904	925
Cesspool Emptying	(92)	(92)				
Transport Workshop	141	114				
Amberstone Depot	64	65				
Jarvis Brook Depot	66	65				
Building Cleaning	245	247				
Building Maintenance	1,088	1,028				
Horticultural Services	226	204				
Stores	3	26				
Public Conveniences	82	70	157	157	157	157
Abandoned Vehicles	20	5	5	5	5	5
Lease Car Administration	43	1				
Total Waste & Commercial Services	5,269	5,134	3,214	3,303	3,342	3,430

Development Services

Development Services Directorate Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Director of Development Services	61	70	71	71	71	71
Planning & Environmental Policy	930	859	860	866	866	866
Total Development Services Directorate	991	929	931	937	937	937

Planning & Environmental Policy Summary

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Head of Planning & Environmental Policy	77	81	80	81	81	81
Planning Policy	516	566	568	572	572	572
Building Preservation and Conservation	55					
Economic Development	147	111	111	111	111	111
Tourism	135	101	101	102	102	102
Total Head of Planning & Environmental Policy	930	859	860	866	866	866

Centrally Managed Budgets

Centrally Managed Budgets

2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Redundancy Payments	250	250				
Early Retirement Payments	195	190	190	190	190	190
Past Service Deficit Payments	369	411	473	400	400	400
Insurance Premiums	523	518	350	345	345	345
Total Centrally Managed Budgets	1,337	1,369	1,013	935	935	935

Wealden District Council
General Fund Capital Programme
2012/13 - 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Housing						
Housing Associations	247					
Disabled Facilities Grants	620	620	620	620	620	620
Housing Renewal Grants	50					
Total Housing	**917**	**620**	**620**	**620**	**620**	**620**
Land and Buildings						
Single Site HQ Provision	6,700	627				
Car Parks	80	110	110	110	50	
Leap Cross Redevelopment			700			
Cuckoo Trail	38	14				
Closed Churchyards						
Hellingly	60			80		80
Crowborough		15				
Rotherfield		60				
Birling Gap Steps		70				
Leisure Centres - Backlog Maintenance/Dilapidations	217	250	250	250		
Leisure Centre - Crowborough Major Investment		1,072	2,121			
Leisure Centre - Hailsham Major Investment		783	2,301			
Leisure Centre - Heathfield Refurbishment		100				
Leisure Centre - Uckfield Refurbishment		700				
Public Conveniences		50				
68 Hailsham High Street	39					
Total Land and Buildings	**7,134**	**3,851**	**5,482**	**440**	**50**	**80**

	2011/12 Forecast £ (000)	2012/13 Submission £ (000)	2013/14 Submission £ (000)	2014/15 Submission £ (000)	2015/16 Submission £ (000)	2016/17 Submission £ (000)
Vehicles and Equipment						
Transformation Programme - Capital Investment	170					
M3 Environmental Health System Replacement		100				
Telephony and Switchboard Renewal			100			
ICT Renewal Programme	150	100	100	100	250	180
Total Vehicles and Equipment	**320**	**200**	**200**	**100**	**250**	**180**
Other Capital Expenditure						
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	50	50	50	50	50	50
Total Other Capital Expenditure	**50**	**50**	**50**	**50**	**50**	**50**
Total General Fund Capital Programme	**8,421**	**4,721**	**6,352**	**1,210**	**970**	**930**
FUNDED BY:						
Loan	1,579	2,665	2,181			
Capital Receipts	3,648	335	2,450			
Specific Government Grants	290	290	290	290	290	290
Capital Expenditure Charged to Revenue - GF	652	1,431	1,431	920	680	640
Capital Expenditure Charged to Revenue - Reserves	2,252	0	0	0		
Total GF Capital Programme Funding	**8,421**	**4,721**	**6,352**	**1,210**	**970**	**930**

Projected Balance of Earmarked Reserves

	Balance 01/04/2012 £ (000)	Movements £ (000)	Balance 31/03/2013 £ (000)
Capital Investment Fund	485		485
Service Programme Fund	318		318
Priorities and Initiatives Fund	118		118
Continuous Improvement/Workwise Fund	324		324
Repairs and Maintenance Fund	238		238
Election Fund	50	60	110
Maintenance of open spaces	189		189
Communal Areas on Housing Estates	164		164
Croft Road Car Park Fund	171		171
Income and Cost Risk Fund	924		924
Insurance Fund	59		59
Emergencies Fund	830		830
Appeals and Legal Cost Fund	34		34
Uckfield Resilience Fund	24		24
Total Earmarked Reserves	3,928	60	3,988