

SECTION 2

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Please note that the Executive on 13th February 2006 agreed to forward this report, as amended by:

- (a) the final Greater London Authority precept; and**
- (b) any other significant changes to the budget figures,**

to Full Council on 6th March 2006 who are asked to agree the recommendations 2.1 to 2.39.

In respect of Section 3

- 2.1 Note the process, including consultation, that has led to these budget proposals.

In respect of Section 4

- 2.2 Note the final 2004/05 outturn.
- 2.3 Note the latest forecast for the General Fund outturn (Appendix A) for 2005/06.
- 2.4 Agree to fund the one-off growth items in Appendix A(i) from 2005/06 resources.

In respect of Section 5

- 2.5 Agree the General Fund revenue budget for 2006/07, as summarised in Appendix B, or consider any amendments to that budget.
- 2.6 Agree the service area budgets including the growth and savings and other adjustments detailed in Appendices C and D.
- 2.7 Note Appendix F and agree the budgets for central items and other budgets, or consider any amendments to those budgets.
- 2.8 Agree there will be a report back to the Executive on the proposed use of the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) performance reward grant and pump priming grant to enable delivery of the Local Area Agreement.
- 2.9 Note and, where appropriate, make provision for the contingent liabilities and risks set out in this section of the report.
- 2.10 Agree the approach to balances set out in the report.

- 2.11 Receive the report from the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources in paragraph 5.45 in respect of his statutory duty under Section 25 of 2003 Local Government Act.

In respect of Section 6

- 2.12 Note the GLA precept approved at the meeting of the Greater London Assembly on 15th February 2006.
- 2.13 Note the advice of officers on the capping limit.
- 2.14 Agree there is no surplus or deficit at 31st March 2006 for that part of the Collection Fund relating to community charge.
- 2.15 Note and consider the advice of the Borough Solicitor as set out in Appendix O.
- 2.16 Agree the instalments dates for council tax and NNDR for 2006/07, and the recovery policy for council tax as set out in Appendix H(ii).

In respect of Section 7

- 2.17 Agree the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the provisional service area cash limits for 2007/08 to 2009/10 set out in Appendix I.
- 2.18 Note the 30 Year General Fund Business Plan and the potential implications for the future finances of the Council.

In respect of Section 8

- 2.19 Note the new system relating to schools funding and confirm the Dedicated Schools Budget set out in Appendix K(i).

In respect of Section 9

- 2.20 Agree the Housing Revenue Account budget set out in Appendix L.

In respect of Section 10

- 2.21 Note the latest forecast outturn position on the 2005/06 capital programme, and agree the revised budgets.
- 2.22 Note the properties included within the 2006/07 and 2007/08 disposals programme set out in Appendix M(iii).
- 2.23 Agree the 2006/07 to 2009/10 programme as set out in Appendix M(ii), including the new capital allocations, and agree that:
- The Director of Finance and Corporate Resources can bring forward schemes from later years of the programme; subject to resources being available;

- The Director Housing and Community Care has flexibility to transfer funds between the private sector renewal programme and the social housing grant programme.

2.24 Note the levels of supported and unsupported borrowing forecast for 2006/07 and future years and the impact on council tax levels and housing rents.

In respect of Section 11

2.25 Agree the Treasury Management Strategy and the Annual Investment Strategy for 2006/07.

In respect of Section 12

2.26 Note the requirements of the Prudential Code.

2.27 Agree the Prudential Indicators set out in this section for affordability, capital spending, external debt and treasury management.

2.28 Note the arrangements for monitoring and reporting on Prudential Indicators.

In respect of Section 13

2.29 Note the measures in place to help deliver and monitor Value for Money.

In respect of Section 14

2.30 Note and agree the procedures for controlling expenditure set out in section 14.

2.31 Agree the updated schedule of Provisions and Earmarked Reserves set out in Schedule 1 of Appendix P.

In addition

2.32 Authorise the council's Director of Finance and Corporate Resources to:

- (a) Make payments on approved capital schemes in 2006/07.
- (b) Borrow in 2006/07 up to the limits agreed within the Prudential Indicators.
- (c) Enter such leasing arrangements as are necessary to finance the programme for 2006/07 and terminate or renegotiate any existing leases.
- (d) Make such minor adjustments to budgets as are necessary.

The following sections of the recommendations relate to the calculation of the budget and council tax as set out by the statutory framework. Amendments to the above recommendations which alter figures in Appendix B will require this section to be changed to reflect these.

- 2.33 In agreeing the above recommendations and the budget in Appendix B, we note that the effect of all these measures is to produce overall council expenditure in 2006/07 of £236.691m.
- 2.34 That we note that £1.178m is attributable to the net deficit on the Collection Fund.
- 2.35 That we note that at its meeting on 13th December 2005 the General Purposes Committee calculated the amount of 94,047 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2006/07 in accordance with the Local Authorities (calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992.
- 2.36 In relation to the council tax for 2006/07 we resolve:

That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2006/07 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

- (a) £827,776,000 being the aggregate of the amount that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act.
- (b) £592,263,000 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act.
- (c) £235,513,000 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) £146,156,000 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 and revenue support grant reduced by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its general fund to its collection fund in accordance with Section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.
- (e) £950.13 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount for the taxbase specified 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.

(f) Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
633.42	738.99	844.56	950.13	1,161.27	1,372.41	1,583.55	1,900.26

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) above by the number which, in the 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 in that proportion is 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.

- 2.37 That it be noted that for the year 2006/07 the Greater London Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, in respect of the Greater London Authority, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
192.41	224.47	256.54	288.61	352.75	416.88	481.02	577.22

- 2.38 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (f) and the precepting authority referred to in the preceding paragraph above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2006/07 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
825.83	963.46	1,101.10	1,238.74	1,514.02	1,789.29	2,064.57	2,477.48

- 2.39 (a) That the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said council tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 1992 Act.
- (b) That the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any council tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and any arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.
- (c) That the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be and is hereby authorised to collect revenues and distribute monies from the Collection Fund and is authorised to borrow or to lend money in accordance with the regulations to the maximum benefit of each fund.