

Teignbridge District Council
Overview & Scrutiny
4 February 2025
Part i

FINAL FINANCIAL PLAN PROPOSALS 2025/26 TO 2027/28

Purpose of Report

To consider the final financial plan proposals 2025/26 to 2027/28 for recommendation to Council on 25 February 2025.

These proposals include recommended revenue and capital budgets for 2025/26 and planned in outline for 2026/27 and 2027/28.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is recommended to resolve:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends that these proposals be considered together with any subsequent consultation comments for approval by Council as the final budget for 2025/26 and the outline plan for the subsequent years 2026/27 and 2027/28.

The proposed budget includes:

- An increase in council tax of £5.87 or 2.99% to £202.28
- Maintaining 100% council tax support
- Continuing to react to the climate change emergency by maintaining ongoing revenue budgets for a climate change officer and associated spending in revenue and provision in the capital programme, including ongoing provisions for corporate decarbonization schemes as per 5.5
- A £2 million provision for employment sites funded by borrowing
- Continued funding for a Scrutiny Officer to assist Members with the Scrutiny function and working groups and other temporary resources for facilitating the Modern 25 work
- Authority for Executive to exceed the approved overall revenue budget by up to £200,000 per 4.25
- Support for housing including the Teignbridge 100 (see 5.3) whilst backing business and bringing people and organisations together for local neighbourhood planning
- Other central funding reductions – in particular provisional assumptions for business rates for future years and reset of the baseline
- Reserves at 12.7% of the net revenue budget or £2.5 million
- Infrastructure delivery plan investment funded by community infrastructure levy and external sources where available as per 5.4
- Continuation of grant funded South West Regional Monitoring Programme as per 5.6

- **Town centre investment in infrastructure and employment as per 5.7**
- **Revenue contributions to capital increasing from £500,000 to £1,500,000 per annum**
- **Increase the 'invest to save' reserve to £500,000**
- **Councillors community fund set at £1,000 each**
- **Providing additional 5% funding to core voluntary group grant contributions**
- **The Financial Plan 2025 – 2030 as updated for adoption (at Appendix 8) and to facilitate Member progression of work plans by Overview & Scrutiny to address the budgetary position and deliver savings**

Financial Implications

The financial implications are contained throughout the Executive report attached. The main purpose being to formulate the initial budget proposals for both revenue and capital budgets and medium term financial plan covering the years 2024/25 to 2027/28.

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Legal Implications

The Executive is required under the budget and policy framework procedure rules in the constitution (section 7(a) and 7 (b)) to agree and recommend a budget to Council each year. See section 8 of the attached report.

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Risk Assessment

The risks involved in not setting a balanced budget are highlighted throughout the attached report. The major risks are in 3.9, 4.14, 4.16 and 4.27 with reference to uncertainties as to income projections, future funding – particularly business rates retention and New Homes Bonus and an alternative funding stream to replace New Homes Bonus when this is scrapped. A programme of identifying savings or increased income is required to meet the budget gaps in 2026/27 and future years thereafter if additional funding is not provided from Government.

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Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

The revenue budget supports the funding of a Climate Change Officer and associated revenue budget and capital projects are highlighted which contribute towards our climate change objectives in appendix 7 – capital programme. Additional resources are proposed within the revenue budget to assist with the implementation of various works to meet our climate change aspirations.

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Executive Member

Councillor John Parrott – Executive Member for Finance & Corporate

Appendices/Background Papers

Executive report 11 February 2025 and associated appendices
Budget and settlement files
The Constitution

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1** To consider the final financial plan proposals 2025/26 to 2027/28 as appended, to be considered by the Executive on 11 February 2025.
- 1.2** These proposals include recommended revenue and capital budgets for 2025/26 and planned in outline for 2026/27 and 2027/28.
- 1.3** The report and appendices to be considered by the Executive on 11 February 2025 are appended for ease of reference. Members are asked to refer to these papers for all background information.