

COUNCIL

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON THURSDAY 1ST MARCH, 2018**

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Robinson) in the Chair

Councillors Ashton, Atkinson, David Barton, Bennett, Bliss, Brodie - Browne, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Linda Cluskey, Cummins, Dawson, Dodd, Dutton, Fairclough, Friel, Gannon, Grace, Hardy, Jamieson, Keith, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Lappin, Daniel Lewis, Dan T. Lewis, Maher, McCann, McGinnity, McGuire, McKinley, Moncur, Murphy, Brenda O'Brien, Michael O'Brien, O'Hanlon, Page, Pitt, Preece, Pugh, David Pullin, Roscoe, Sayers, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman, Weavers, Webster, Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh

87. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jo Barton, Booth, Bradshaw, Brennan, Kevin Cluskey, Hands, Jones, Owens and Roche.

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interest were received.

89. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 January 2018 be approved as a correct record subject to Minute No. 67 – "Declarations of Interest" being amended to reflect that Councillor Spencer declared a personal interest by virtue of being a member of the Planning Committee in Minute No. 82 – "Notice of Motion by Councillor Bennett" and left the room and took no part in the consideration of the item.

90. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Mayoral Charity Ball – 17 March 2018

The Mayor reported that the Mayoral Charity Ball would be held on Saturday 17 March 2018 at the Floral Hall, Southport Theatre and Convention Centre. He urged Members to attend to support his Mayoral Charities and stated that tickets and further details of the event could be obtained from the Mayor's office in Bootle Town Hall before 9 March 2018.

VC Commemorative Paving Stone for Richard George Masters

The Mayor reported that on Saturday 21st April at 11.00am, the VC Commemorative Paving Stone for Richard George Masters would take place at Southport War Memorial on Lord Street. He further reported that the service would start at 11.00am, with a Parade conducted by 238 Squadron Royal Logistics Core from 10.30am prior to the service and he invited all Members of the Council to attend.

The Mayor also reported that following the service in Southport, there would be an official new road sign unveiling that will see Pelham Drive re-named to George Masters Drive.

91. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The Mayor reported that no matters had been raised by members of the public.

92. QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council considered a schedule setting out the written questions submitted by:

1. Question submitted by Councillor Dawson to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
2. Question submitted by Councillor Dawson to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur)
3. Question submitted by Councillor Dawson to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur)
4. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson)
5. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services (Councillor Lappin)
6. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Locality Services (Councillor Fairclough)
7. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson)
8. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur)
9. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy)

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11. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services (Councillor Lappin)
12. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Locality Services (Councillor Fairclough)
13. Question submitted by Councillor David Barton to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control (Councillor Veidman)
14. Question submitted by Councillor Pugh to the Cabinet Member for Locality Services (Councillor Fairclough)
15. Question submitted by Councillor John Kelly to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy)
16. Question submitted by Councillor Daniel Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services (Councillor Lappin)
17. Question submitted by Councillor Dawson to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Safeguarding (Councillor John Joseph Kelly)

together with responses given. Supplementary questions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14 and 17 were responded to by the Leader of the Council and by Cabinet Members for Regeneration and Skills, Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services, Communities and Housing and Health and Wellbeing.

93. THE PRUDENTIAL CODE FOR CAPITAL FINANCE IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES - PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2018/19

Further to Minute No. 121 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 February 2018, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources on proposals to establish the Prudential Indicators required under the Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities. This would enable the Council to effectively manage its Capital Finance Activities and comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Prudential Indicators as detailed in the report, and summarised in Annex A of the report, be approved as the basis for compliance with The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities;
- (2) approval be given to the relevant Prudential Indicators being amended, should any changes to unsupported borrowing be approved as part of the 2018/19 Revenue Budget;
- (3) it be noted that estimates of capital expenditure may change as grant allocations are received, as indicated in paragraph 2.2 of the report; and
- (4) the Head of Corporate Resources be granted delegated authority in conjunction with the Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services to manage the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for external debt as detailed in Section 5 of the report

94. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2018/19

Further to Minute No. 120 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 February 2018, the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources which provided details of the proposed procedures and strategy to be adopted in respect of the Council's Treasury Management Function in 2017/18.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to:

- (1) the Treasury Management Policy Document for 2018/19 as set out in Annex A of the report;
- (2) the Treasury Management Strategy Document for 2018/19 as set out in Annex B of the report; and
- (3) the basis to be used in the calculation of the Minimum Revenue Provision for Debt Repayment in 2018/19 as set out in Annex C of the report.

95. ROBUSTNESS OF THE 2018/19 BUDGET ESTIMATES AND THE ADEQUACY OF RESERVES - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2003 - SECTION 25

Further to Minute No. 122 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 February 2018 the Council considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources which provided an assessment of the robustness of the estimates and the tax setting calculations, the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves and the production of longer term revenue and capital

plans, based on the proposals set out in the report on the Revenue and Capital Budget Plan 2018/19 – 2019/20 (Minute No. 96 below refers).

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

That the matters raised in the report be noted and taken into account during the determination of the Budget for 2018/19.

96. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET PLAN 2017/18 – 2019/20

Further to Minute No. 123 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 February 2018, the Council considered the joint report of the Chief Executive and the Head of Corporate Resources which provided details of the Revenue Budget for the period 2018/19 – 2019/20, and also the level of Council Tax for 2018/19 and information on:-

- An assessment of the Council's current financial position and approach to the 2018/19 to 2019/20 Budget Plan;
- Progress that has been made during the last year within the Council's Framework for Change programme;
- An update on the Government's announcement of resources that are available to the Council for 2018/19 (subject to final confirmation by the Government);
- The Council's current financial position and the assumptions built into the Medium Term Financial Plan;
- The options available for the Council's Budget;
- The proposed Capital Programme for 2018/19 and 2019/20; and
- The first budget estimate of the funding gap that the Council will face in 2020/21.

As such, the report set out the approach to the financial strategy of the Council and the national and local financial context within which it was operating; indicated that the Council had a statutory requirement to remain financially sustainable; that the Council's Framework for Change Programme was a comprehensive and ambitious programme that sought to support the delivery of the Council's core purpose; that as would be expected with a programme of this size and complexity that spanned a number of financial years, the detailed proposals had been and would continue to be the subject of change as they were developed and ultimately implemented; and that within this context, work had been undertaken to confirm that change proposals for 2018/19 were viable and would help deliver financial sustainability.

In respect of the overall financial context for the Council and its approach to the 2017/18 to 2019/20 Budget Plan the report indicated that in 2010, Central Government imposed, what were thought at the time, to be significant reductions in local government financial support; that rather than this being a short term restriction in spending, the austerity

programme had extended into a ten-year long period of severe budget reductions; that for Sefton this had resulted in a funding gap of £233m being required to be met by the end of 2019/20, with a direct loss of 51% of government funding which equated to £722 per Sefton household; that due to the scale of this financial challenge (and taking into account the significant savings that had already been made since 2010) the Council undertook a comprehensive review of its role within the Borough, via the Imagine Sefton 2030 consultation and as a result, updated its core purpose; and that it was subsequently determined that the delivery vehicle for the Council's core purpose and to ensure financial sustainability would be the "Framework for Change" programme, the key pillars of which were detailed in the diagram in paragraph 2.4 of the report.

The report also detailed the progress to date made on the "Framework for Change" programme and that the Council remained focused on: -

- Creating more and better jobs for local people – Economic Growth
- Working with partners to deliver affordable services which achieve the best possible outcomes – Public Sector Reform
- Making every pound count in everything we do – Service Delivery Options
- Investing wisely and creatively to make and save money, grow faster and enable our communities to thrive – Strategic Investment

The report also provided information on the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2018/19 – 2019/20 and in particular on the following issues:-

- Additional budget pressures associated with Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care
- Key MTFP assumption revisions relating to the Local Government Pay Offer, the Transport Levy, Business Rates and Council Tax Base, the Waste Levy, VAT Shelter Income, Leisure Income – VAT Liability Change, and the New Homes Bonus reduced funding
- Impact of the Local Government Financial Settlement
- Review of Budget proposals and planning assumptions

Regarding the Two-Year Budget Plan 2018/19 to 2019/20 the report indicated that, based upon the revisions to the MTFP and the savings that were forecast from the Public Sector Reform programme, it was now estimated that the funding shortfall in the following two years would be £11.227m and £2.542m respectively, before any Council Tax decisions were made and any additional service delivery options were considered; and that in order to support this two year package and the revised funding gap, a number of Service Delivery Options were now proposed relating to:

-

- Supplies and Services Saving
- Sefton New Directions Contract Saving
- The annual income stream arising from the acquisition of the Strand Shopping Centre

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- PSR2 – Re-phasing of Saving Achievement
- Transforming Sefton Reserve
- Risk Management, Financial Monitoring and Sustainability

The report then set out specific Budget 2018/19 issues relating to charges relating to external / levying bodies and the proposed overall Council Tax increase; provided information on schools' related grants; other Government grant notifications in 2018/19; a summary of budget proposals for 2018/19; and precepts to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Fire and Rescue Service.

The following appendices were attached to the report:-

Appendix A	Individual School Budgets
Appendix B	Draft Council Budget Summary 2018/19 – 2019/20
Appendix C	Fees and Charges 2018/19
Appendix D	Capital Programme 2018/19 - 2019/20

In conclusion, the Budget Plan 2018/19 to 2019/20 had proved to be a very positive first year of the financial plan period; and indicated that the Council would continue to play its part and show strong and visible leadership in delivering the Vision 2030; and that the Council had adopted the 2030 Sefton Vision of 'A confident and connected Sefton' and would continue to strive to deliver key priorities, ensuring everything it did had a contributory focus to the future of the Borough.

The report requested the Council to consider and determine the following issues:

- Budget for 2018/19 and the Financial Plan to 2019/20;
- Setting the Council Tax for Sefton Council for 2018/19; and
- Approving the overall Council Tax resolution for 2018/19.

The Council also considered the draft Council Tax resolution for 2018/19 which had been prepared by the Head of Corporate Resources and circulated to Members of the Council in the supplementary agenda.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough;

That:

Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan to 2019/20

1. the update of the Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2018/19 to 2019/20 which includes the implications of the local government finance settlement (Section 4) be noted;
2. Approval be given the budget for 2018/19 and the two-year financial plan to 2019/20 and officers be authorised to undertake

the necessary actions relating to the implementation associated with the recommendations (Section 5);

3. Approval be given of a one-off revenue contribution, to be repaid of £1.209m to the Liverpool City Region Mayoral Combined Authority to support the Single Investment Fund in 2018/19. (Paragraph 7.2);
4. Approval be given to the changes in the use of one-off resources in 2018/19 and 2019/20 to phase the impact of the required savings over the budget plan (Paragraphs 5.6 and 7.2);
5. Approval be given to a Council Tax increase of 2.99% and a Social Care Council Tax Precept of 3% in 2018/19 resulting in an overall increase in Council Tax for Sefton of 5.99% for 2018/19;
6. the Schools' Forum decisions on the Dedicated Schools Grant and Individual School Budgets (Section 8 and Appendix A) be noted;
7. the allocation of specific grants as detailed in the report (Section 9) be approved;
8. the Fees and Charges as proposed in the draft Council budget (Appendix C) be noted; and
9. Subject to the recommendations above, the overall Council Tax resolution for 2018/19 including Social Care, Police, Fire and Parish Precepts be approved.

Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2019/20

10. the Capital schemes to be funded from school and transport grants in 2018/19 as outlined in paragraphs 2.2 and 3.2 of Appendix D be approved for inclusion within the Capital Programme;
11. the transfer of the funding for work at Litherland Moss Primary School Phase 2 towards Essential and Planned schools maintenance as outlined in Section 2 of Appendix D be approved; and
12. the inclusion within the Capital Programme of the fully grant funded schemes as detailed in paragraphs 4.2 of Appendix D be approved.

Councillors Maher, Pugh, Jamieson and Bennett each gave a statement expressing the views of their political groups on the content of the report.

Following debate on the report, an **amendment** was moved by Councillor Pugh, seconded by Councillor Daniel Lewis that the Motion be amended as follows:

“In order to immediately improve the condition of roads within the Borough, approve the inclusion of an additional one-off resource in 2018/19 of £44,000 to be spent on highway maintenance. This will be capital expenditure and will be funded by Prudential Borrowing. The annual costs of this (£400,000 per year for ten years) will be funded from the Highways Maintenance – Carriageway Resurfacing revenue budget. The net increase in annual expenditure in 2018/19 will therefore be £357,000.”

“The net impact of the proposed amendment above would still ensure that the Council’s three year budget plan remains balanced.”

Following debate and in accordance with Rule 96 of Chapter 4 in the Constitution, the voting on the Amendment was recorded and the Members of the Council present at the time, voted as follows:

FOR THE AMENDMENT:

Councillors Ashton, Brodie-Browne, Dawson, Dodd, Keith, Daniel Lewis, McGuire, Preece, Pugh, Pullin, Shaw, Lynne Thompson and Weavers.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:

Councillors Atkinson, Bennett, Bliss, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Linda Cluskey, Cummins, Dutton, Fairclough, Friel, Gannon, Grace, Hardy, Jamieson, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Lappin, Daniel Terence Lewis, Maher, McCann, McGinnity, McKinley, Moncur, Murphy, Brenda O’Brien, Michael O’Brien, O’Hanlon, Page, Pitt, Roscoe, Sayers, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman, Webster, Bill Welsh, Marianne Welsh and The Mayor.

ABSTENTIONS:

Councillor David Barton.

The Mayor declared that the Amendment was **lost** by 42 votes to 13 with 1 abstention.

Following further debate and in accordance with Rule 96 of Chapter 4 in the Constitution, the voting on the Motion was recorded and the Members of the Council present at the time, voted as follows:

FOR THE MOTION:

Councillors Atkinson, Bennett, Bliss, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Linda Cluskey, Cummins, Dutton, Fairclough, Friel, Gannon, Grace, Hardy, Jamieson, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Lappin, Daniel Terence Lewis, Maher, McCann, McGinnity, McKinley, Moncur, Murphy, Brenda O’Brien,

Michael O'Brien, O'Hanlon, Page, Pitt, Roscoe, Sayers, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman, Webster, Bill Welsh, Marianne Welsh and The Mayor.

AGAINST THE MOTION:

Councillors Ashton, David Barton, Brodie-Browne, Dawson, Dodd, Keith, Daniel Lewis, McGuire, Preece, Pugh, Pullin, Shaw, Lynne Thompson and Weavers.

The Mayor declared that the Motion was carried by 42 votes to 14 and it was

RESOLVED:

That:

Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan to 2019/20

1. the update of the Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2018/19 to 2019/20 which includes the implications of the local government finance settlement (Section 4) be noted;
2. Approval be given the budget for 2018/19 and the two-year financial plan to 2019/20 and officers be authorised to undertake the necessary actions relating to the implementation associated with the recommendations (Section 5);
3. Approval be given of a one-off revenue contribution, to be repaid of £1.209m to the Liverpool City Region Mayoral Combined Authority to support the Single Investment Fund in 2018/19. (Paragraph 7.2);
4. Approval be given to the changes in the use of one-off resources in 2018/19 and 2019/20 to phase the impact of the required savings over the budget plan (Paragraphs 5.6 and 7.2);
5. Approval be given to a Council Tax increase of 2.99% and a Social Care Council Tax Precept of 3% in 2018/19 resulting in an overall increase in Council Tax for Sefton of 5.99% for 2018/19;
6. the Schools' Forum decisions on the Dedicated Schools Grant and Individual School Budgets (Section 8 and Appendix A) be noted;
7. the allocation of specific grants as detailed in the report (Section 9) be approved;
8. the Fees and Charges as proposed in the draft Council budget (Appendix C) be noted; and

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9. Subject to the recommendations above, the overall Council Tax resolution for 2018/19 including Social Care, Police, Fire and Parish Precepts be approved.

Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2019/20

10. the Capital schemes to be funded from school and transport grants in 2018/19 as outlined in paragraphs 2.2 and 3.2 of Appendix D be approved for inclusion in the Capital Programme;
11. the transfer of the funding for work at Litherland Moss Primary School Phase 2 towards Essential and Planned schools maintenance as outlined in Section 2 of Appendix D be approved; and
12. the inclusion within the Capital Programme the fully grant funded schemes as detailed in paragraphs 4.2 of Appendix D be approved.
13. It be noted that at its meeting on 25th January 2018, the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2018/2019 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 1992 (as amended):
- (a) 82,939.50 Band D equivalent properties, for the whole area [item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended]; and
- (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as shown in the table below:

Parish	Council Tax Base (Band D Equivalent Properties)
Aintree Village	2,037.00
Formby	9,125.50
Hightown	864.60
Ince Blundell	162.60
Little Altcar	330.90
Lydiate	2,047.80
Maghull	6,545.40
Melling	999.60
Sefton	236.50
Thornton	763.20

14. The Council calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/2019 (excluding Parish Precepts) is £126,458,685.
15. the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2018/2019 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

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(a)	£584,459,546	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 Councils.																						
(b)	-£456,974,888	Being the aggregate amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.																						
(c)	£127,484,658	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(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)	£1,537.08	Being the amount at 3(c) above (item R), divided by the amount at 1(a) above (item T), 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 Precepts).																						
(e)	£1,025,973	Being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.																						
(f)	£1,524.71	Being the amount at 3(d) above, less the amount given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount at 1(a) above (item T), 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 item relates.																						
(g)	<p>The amounts below, being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act as basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parish</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Aintree Village</td> <td>1,580.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Formby</td> <td>1,533.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hightown</td> <td>1,531.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ince Blundell</td> <td>1,537.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Little Altcar</td> <td>1,534.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lydiate</td> <td>1,598.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maghull</td> <td>1,623.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Melling</td> <td>1,544.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sefton</td> <td>1,539.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thornton</td> <td>1,531.26</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Parish	£	Aintree Village	1,580.18	Formby	1,533.48	Hightown	1,531.03	Ince Blundell	1,537.07	Little Altcar	1,534.00	Lydiate	1,598.24	Maghull	1,623.00	Melling	1,544.72	Sefton	1,539.51	Thornton	1,531.26
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(h) The amounts below being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3(f) and 3(g) 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.

Proportion of Band D	Property Valuation Band							
	A 6/9	B 7/9	C 8/9	D 9/9	E 11/9	F 13/9	G 15/9	H 18/9
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Parish								
Aintree Village	1,053. 45	1,229. 03	1,404. 60	1,580. 18	1,931. 33	2,282. 48	2,633. 63	3,160. 36
Formby	1,022. 32	1,192. 71	1,363. 09	1,533. 48	1,874. 25	2,215. 03	2,555. 80	3,066. 96
Hightown	1,020. 69	1,190. 80	1,360. 92	1,531. 03	1,871. 26	2,211. 49	2,551. 72	3,062. 06
Ince Blundell	1,024. 71	1,195. 50	1,366. 28	1,537. 07	1,878. 64	2,220. 21	2,561. 78	3,074. 14
Little Altcar	1,022. 67	1,193. 11	1,363. 56	1,534. 00	1,874. 89	2,215. 78	2,556. 67	3,068. 00
Lydiate	1,065. 49	1,243. 08	1,420. 66	1,598. 24	1,953. 40	2,308. 57	2,663. 73	3,196. 48
Maghull	1,082. 00	1,262. 33	1,442. 67	1,623. 00	1,983. 67	2,344. 33	2,705. 00	3,246. 00
Melling	1,029. 81	1,201. 45	1,373. 08	1,544. 72	1,887. 99	2,231. 26	2,574. 53	3,089. 44
Sefton	1,026. 34	1,197. 40	1,368. 45	1,539. 51	1,881. 62	2,223. 74	2,565. 85	3,079. 02
Thornton	1,020. 84	1,190. 98	1,361. 12	1,531. 26	1,871. 54	2,211. 82	2,552. 10	3,062. 52
All Other Parts of the Council's Area	1,016. 47	1,185. 89	1,355. 30	1,524. 71	1,863. 53	2,202. 36	2,541. 18	3,049. 42

16. it be noted that for the year 2018/2019 the Police and Crime Commissioner and Fire and Rescue Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for

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each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Proportion of Band D	Property Valuation Band							
	A 6/9	B 7/9	C 8/9	D 9/9	E 11/9	F 13/9	G 15/9	H 18/9
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Precepting Authority</u>								
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority	51.04	59.55	68.05	76.56	93.57	110.59	127.60	153.12
Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner	118.65	138.42	158.20	177.97	217.52	257.07	296.62	355.94

17. the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2018/2019 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Proportion of Band D	Property Valuation Band							
	A 6/9	B 7/9	C 8/9	D 9/9	E 11/9	F 13/9	G 15/9	H 18/9
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Parish</u>								
Aintree Village	1,223.14	1,427.00	1,630.85	1,834.71	2,242.42	2,650.14	3,057.85	3,669.42
Formby	1,192.01	1,390.68	1,589.34	1,788.01	2,185.34	2,582.69	2,980.02	3,576.02
Hightown	1,190.38	1,388.77	1,587.17	1,785.56	2,182.35	2,579.15	2,975.94	3,571.12
Ince Blundell	1,194.40	1,393.47	1,592.53	1,791.60	2,189.73	2,587.87	2,986.00	3,583.20
Little Altcar	1,192.36	1,391.08	1,589.81	1,788.53	2,185.98	2,583.44	2,980.89	3,577.06
Lydiate	1,235.18	1,441.05	1,646.91	1,852.77	2,264.49	2,676.23	3,087.95	3,705.54
Maghull	1,251.69	1,460.30	1,668.92	1,877.53	2,294.76	2,711.99	3,129.22	3,755.06
Melling	1,199.50	1,399.42	1,599.33	1,799.25	2,199.08	2,598.92	2,998.75	3,598.50
Sefton	1,196.03	1,395.37	1,594.70	1,794.04	2,192.71	2,591.40	2,990.07	3,588.08
Thornton	1,190.53	1,388.95	1,587.37	1,785.79	2,182.63	2,579.48	2,976.32	3,571.58
<u>All Other Parts of the Council's Area</u>	1,186.16	1,383.86	1,581.55	1,779.24	2,174.62	2,570.02	2,965.40	3,558.48

18. the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/2019 is not deemed to be excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

97. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2017/18

The Council considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance which indicated that Councillor Dawson had been re-instated as a Member of the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 29 January 2018. The report also referred to the resignation of former Councillor Andy Dams on 10 November 2017 and that the changes had changed the Political Balance on the Council and that the change in proportionality affected the entitlement to formal Committee Places.

The impact of the change was that the Liberal Democrat Group would be entitled to one additional place on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) and a corresponding decrease in the Labour Group entitlement of one place on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills). As a consequence Councillor Pugh had appointed Councillor Dawson as a Member and Councillor Jo Barton as his Substitute Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).

Councillor Grace referred to a number of changes to the membership of Committees by the Labour Group.

Councillor Keith referred to a number of changes to the membership of Committees by the Liberal Democrat Group.

Councillor Jamieson referred to a number of changes to the membership of Committees by the Conservative Group.

It was moved by Councillor Grace, seconded by Councillor Atkinson and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) it be noted that the change in proportionality resulted in an increase in the entitlement of the Liberal Democrat Group of one Committee place and a corresponding decrease in the Labour Group entitlement;
- (2) Councillor Dawson be appointed as a Member and Councillor Jo Barton as his Substitute Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills);
- (3) the following changes to the membership of Committees, as submitted by the Labour Group be approved:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)

- Councillor Webster and her Substitute Member Councillor Bradshaw to be taken off the Committee.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services)

- Councillor McGinnity to be appointed Substitute Member for Councillor Linda Cluskey.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health)

- Councillor Bill Welsh be appointed as a Member.

Licensing and Regulatory Committee

- Councillor Marianne Welsh be appointed as a Member.

- (4) the following changes to the membership of Committees, as submitted by the Liberal Democrat Group be approved:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)

Councillor Pullin to replace Councillor Shaw and Councillor Keith be appointed as his Substitute.

- (5) the following changes to the membership of Committees, as submitted by the Conservative Group be approved:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)

Councillor Bliss to replace Councillor Jamieson and Councillor Jones be appointed as his Substitute Member.

- (6) it be noted that due to the resignation of former Councillor Andy Dams, Blundellsands Ward, there is one vacancy on the Council and that Ward vacancy will remain a vacancy until 3 May 2018 Borough Elections.

98. MATTERS DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 46 OF THE SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES (CALL-IN AND URGENCY) OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Council considered the report of the Leader of the Council setting out the details of an urgent matter dealt with in accordance with Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules in Chapter 6 of the Council Constitution.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

99. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR B. MCCANN - WOMEN AGAINST STATE PENSION INEQUALITY (WASPI)

It was moved by Councillor McCann, seconded by Councillor Bennett:

Women Against State Pension Inequality

This Council:

Reaffirms its support for the organisation Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) and the campaign to seek recompense for those women, and their families, affected by there not being enough time to make alternative plans to protect their income.

Supports the WASPI campaign to complain to the Department for Work and Pensions as described on their website.

Believes that the Government should review the effect of the Pension Acts of 1995 and 2011 on women born on or after 6 April 1957, and whose pension has been unfairly curtailed by the affects of those Acts.

Believes that the Government should provide a fair transition for women affected by the Acts.

Recognises the need for a non-means tested bridging pension that will secure the financial stability of those affected by the 1995 and 2011 Pension Acts and compensation for those at risk of losing in the region of £45,000.

Calls on the Government to bring forward transitional arrangements to provide pension certainty for the women disproportionately affected by this system.

Calls on the Chief Executive of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions requesting that the aforementioned effects on women be addressed, and object to the suggestion that women affected negatively by the Acts should seek out an apprenticeship.

Following debate and on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the Motion was **carried** by 51 votes to 4 abstentions and it was

RESOLVED:

That the Motion be approved as follows:

This Council:

Reaffirms its support for the organisation Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) and the campaign to seek recompense for those

women, and their families, affected by there not being enough time to make alternative plans to protect their income.

Supports the WASPI campaign to complain to the Department for Work and Pensions as described on their website.

Believes that the Government should review the effect of the Pension Acts of 1995 and 2011 on women born on or after 6 April 1957, and whose pension has been unfairly curtailed by the affects of those Acts.

Believes that the Government should provide a fair transition for women affected by the Acts.

Recognises the need for a non-means tested bridging pension that will secure the financial stability of those affected by the 1995 and 2011 Pension Acts and compensation for those at risk of losing in the region of £45,000.

Calls on the Government to bring forward transitional arrangements to provide pension certainty for the women disproportionately affected by this system.

Calls on the Chief Executive of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions requesting that the aforementioned effects on women be addressed, and object to the suggestion that women affected negatively by the Acts should seek out an apprenticeship.

100. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MCKINLEY - NATIONAL POLICY PLANNING FRAMEWORK

It was moved by Councillor Sayers, seconded by Councillor McKinley:

National Planning Policy Framework

This Council condemns the inherent bias in the National Planning Policy Framework (sometimes called the Developer's Charter) that ascribes a much greater weighting given in its application to the profit/interests of developers and landowners potentially at the cost of local communities in terms of adverse social impact.

This Council calls on the government to develop a robust methodology to assess local social impact(in addition to existing measures) and amend the NPPF to give equal weighting to local social impacts as it does to the level of profit for developers and landowners when considering development proposals.

And

This Council calls on the Secretary of State to revoke Paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework which states that "Local Planning Authorities cannot require a developer to engage with them before

submitting a planning application. Local Planning Authorities should also encourage any applicants who are not already required to do so by law, to engage with the local community before submitting applications” and make it compulsory for developers to consult with the community before applying for planning permissions.

Furthermore

This Council seeks an explanation and apology from Sir Vince Cable Leader of the Liberal Democrats, who together with Conservative Ministers was responsible for forcing these new regulations through Parliament and in effect created a Land owners and developer’s charter and effectively destroying the Labour Government’s of 1945 far sighted Town And Country Planning acts that created our much envied planning laws and green belt creation and protection.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Bennett, seconded by Councillor McCann that the Motion be amended by adding the following words (shown in *italics*):

This Council condemns the inherent bias in the National Planning Policy Framework (sometimes called the Developer’s Charter) that ascribes a much greater weighting given in its application to the profit/interests of developers and landowners potentially at the cost of local communities in terms of adverse social *and environmental* impact.

This Council calls on the government to develop a robust methodology to assess local social *and environmental* impact (in addition to existing measures) and amend the NPPF to give equal weighting to local social *and environmental* impacts as it does to the level of profit for developers and landowners when considering development proposals.

This Council notes with regret that this approach along with the differing interpretations of the NPPF by all parties to include developers and councils has led to a disjointed approach to sustainable development. This is particularly evident in development on local green belt land and the failure to provide a robust strategic infrastructure plan.

And

Given that the government (as outlined in the Housing White Paper) are seeking powers to remove from LPAs the power to determine the Housing OAN (Section 159 NPPF) and replace it with a housing target determined by central government and/or Regional Government, this Council believes that any such future Housing Target should fully consider the cost to the community in terms of the environmental and social impact of any imposed target, including the appropriate housing units needed, built in places where people wish to live and where the impact on the environment and resources could be minimised.

And

This Council calls on the Secretary of State to revoke Paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework which states that “Local Planning Authorities cannot require a developer to engage with them before submitting a planning application. Local Planning Authorities should also encourage any applicants who are not already required to do so by law, to *meaningfully* engage with the local community before submitting applications” and make it compulsory for developers to *meaningfully* consult with the community before applying for planning permissions.

On a show of hands, the Mayor declared the **amendment** was **lost** by 38 votes to 15 with 1 abstention.

Thereafter, on a show of hands, the Mayor declared that the Motion was carried by 37 votes to 16 with 1 abstention and it was

RESOLVED:

That the Motion be approved as follows:

This Council condemns the inherent bias in the National Planning Policy Framework (sometimes called the Developer’s Charter) that ascribes a much greater weighting given in its application to the profit/interests of developers and landowners potentially at the cost of local communities in terms of adverse social impact.

This Council calls on the government to develop a robust methodology to assess local social impact(in addition to existing measures) and amend the NPPF to give equal weighting to local social impacts as it does to the level of profit for developers and landowners when considering development proposals.

And

This Council calls on the Secretary of State to revoke Paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework which states that “Local Planning Authorities cannot require a developer to engage with them before submitting a planning application. Local Planning Authorities should also encourage any applicants who are not already required to do so by law, to engage with the local community before submitting applications” and make it compulsory for developers to consult with the community before applying for planning permissions.

Furthermore

This Council seeks an explanation and apology from Sir Vince Cable Leader of the Liberal Democrats, who together with Conservative Ministers was responsible for forcing these new regulations through Parliament and in effect created a Land owners and developer’s charter and effectively destroying the Labour Government’s of 1945 far sighted Town And Country Planning acts that created our much envied planning laws and green belt creation and protection.

101. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BENNETT - LIVING WITH AUTISM/ASPERGERS WITHIN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

It was moved by Councillor Bennett, seconded by Councillor Spencer and unanimously:

RESOLVED:

Living with Autism/Aspergers within the Education System

Autism is a disability, one that cannot be seen but is a disability that is for life. It does not go away or disappear but if managed properly and systems put into place, certainly in the early years, can help these children live a better life.

Without understanding autistic people they are at risk of being isolated and developing mental health problems. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is much more common than many people think. There are around 700,000 people on the autism spectrum in the UK, that's more than 1 in 100. If you include their families, autism is a part of daily life for 2.8 million people.

For young people with ASD their emotional state often captures the essence of the day. A student who is confused, scared and anxious cannot focus on the teacher's tasks or their own learning. For many young people with ASD, anxiety is part of their daily life.

Children with ASD who attend mainstream schools have to put up with daily "bullying", "feeling isolated", "being excluded" and dealing with the stigma that is attached ASD. They can't often clearly articulate their emotional predicament, and may communicate their discomfort in more basic ways such as hitting out, screaming, avoiding situations, running away or closing down, 34% of children with ASD say that the worst thing about being at school is being picked on.

Due to the lack of training in ASD, many teachers expect these children to behave like everyone else, which is impossible. A recent study finds that while the academic provision for children with ASD has "improved tremendously" in recent years, much remains to be done. Practitioners trained in ASD education say that one of the biggest challenges is a lack of knowledge and understanding among schoolteachers. Despite the government's policy of inclusion of pupils with special needs, mainstream schools find it difficult to integrate pupils with ASD. For a child to be successful in mainstream school, the school must want to make the most of every opportunity for the child and include the parents.

Instead of recognising the atypical development of children and young people with ASD, teachers tend to view them through a "typical lens", comparing their behaviour with children who do not have the condition.

Some believe they can force autistic children to behave as other pupils do, or that it is a condition that they will grow out of. Many teachers do not realise, for example, that the challenging behaviour can be accompanied by high intelligence.

Children who have Aspergers, which is now ASD have been deemed to be "too bright" for support, and yet "can't work with other children and they struggle to understand some instructions". Autistic pupils make the most progress when teachers provide an individualised programme that addresses specific social, personal and learning difficulties.

It is remarkable that emotional wellbeing and the pursuit of it, although being highly valued for every human being, has received so little attention in the field of ASD. Studies of the effects and outcomes of certain interventions rarely include emotional wellbeing as a desired outcome. Criteria for success in life focuses exclusively on the level of independence and adaptive functioning, not on quality of life and certainly not on the personal experience of emotional wellbeing. Underneath this approach is the assumption that success in life and happiness are based on high levels of independence and adaptive functioning. That assumption should be challenged.

Although ASD is not a mental health condition, people on the autism spectrum are more vulnerable to mental health problems. Research indicates that 70% of children with ASD develop mental health problems and it is vital that intervention is given at an early age. Accurate diagnosis of mental health issues can be challenging in individuals with ASD, yet appropriate treatment is particularly crucial. Psychiatric disorders can worsen autism symptoms, interfere with education and reduce the benefits of behavioral therapies. Some studies suggest that high-functioning individuals with ASD experience particularly high rates of anxiety disorders – perhaps because they're more aware of "not fitting in."

Individuals with ASD may be particularly prone to depression as they enter adolescence and adulthood. Research suggests depression can be particularly difficult to diagnose in those with ASD. Compared to other depressed individuals, those with ASD may be less likely to express their feelings typically used to diagnose depression. These include saying one feels depressed, worthless, unable to concentrate or suicidal. In the absence of such statements, tell-tale signs can include neglect in personal hygiene and other self-care activities.

Autism doesn't just affect children. Autistic children grow up to be autistic adults. While autism is incurable, the right support at the right time can make an enormous difference to both theirs and their family's lives.

This Council resolves:

1. To request the Head of Schools and Families to write to all schools in Sefton to encourage all of them to become actively involved in the World Autism Awareness Week from the 26th March 2018 to the 2nd

April 2018, details of which can be obtained from the National Autistic Society.

2. Sefton Council to support World Autism Awareness week and to promote this via their social media.
3. to request the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds asking that additional funds are made available immediately to:
 - a) Work with local authorities, schools and multi-academy trusts to make sure that the right mix of educational provision and support for children with ASD/Aspergers is available in all areas and to provide for more high needs funding for children who don't have a EHCP but have a diagnosis
 - b) Ensure that training and awareness of ASD/Aspergers is embedded across the education system to include existing teachers and all support staff not just new teachers who are training.

102. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DAWSON - INTEGRATED HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

It was moved by Councillor Dawson, seconded by Councillor Brodie-Browne and unanimously:

RESOLVED:

Integrated Health and Social Care

This Council recognises the urgency of producing an integration of health and social care nationally and locally in a manner which is sensitive to both local democratic and clinical inputs.

Council recognises that the present crisis concerns both governance and finance, each of which requires addressing urgently.

Council welcomes the cross-Party initiative by a large group of Labour, Lib Dem, Conservative and Green Members of Parliament seeking to push this agenda of reform of governance and finance of Health & social care forward on a cross-party basis.

103. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CUMMINS - MINISTER FOR OLDER PEOPLE

It was moved by Councillor Cummins and seconded by Councillor Moncur and unanimously:

RESOLVED:

Minister for Older People

Sefton Council calls upon Her Majesty's Government to create the post of a Minister for Older People.

The role of this Minister would be to work across government looking at issues which affect older people and look to ways in which quality of life can be improved.

The post would operate in a similar way to that of the Minister for Disabled People which is has a cross-government remit.

This motion is in support of a campaign by The Older Peoples Elected Members Champions Network for the North West which has cross-party support for the creation of a Minister for Older People.

This Council also calls upon Sefton's three Members of Parliament to show active support for this initiative.