



Andover Town Council

Item
No.

To **review** and **approve** a precept option for 2026/2027 following a decision at Item 14 on the budget for 2026/2027.

Produced for: Full Council	By: Town Clerk/RFO and Cllr S Hardstaff	Date of Report: 8 January 2026.
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The P & R Committee have reviewed the Budget and have made amendments to the Budget figures for next year taking into account estimated spending, in line with the ambitions of the Town Council's Business Plan, which was developed in consultation with residents. This has been recommended to Council and will have been considered in agenda item **14**.

Recommendation:

To note the recommendation from the P & R Committee that the Precept be set as per Option 3 of the report at the end of this paper.

The proposed Precept was considered and recommended, in line with the budget, in order to protect reserves and deliver a balanced budget whilst accommodating predicted spend in line with the Town Council's Business Plan ambitions, which was developed in consultation with residents.

The Precept value will affect Council Tax Band D households depending on the amount of houses in the tax base. The tax base is estimated by TVBC to change for this year, and how this will affect residents is shown below.

- The tax base has increased in 2026/2027 from 17361 to 17482 (an increase of 121 households)
- Councillors should set the Precept amount once the Budget has been formally approved by Full Council. It is recommended that the Precept be set at a level that balances the budget while maintaining Earmarked and General Reserves at their current levels.

This would mean that the Precept would be set by considering the formula below.

Total income - Total Expenditure = Shortfall.

Options outlined:

From [spreadsheet](#)

	Option 1 no increase	Option 2 - 5% increase	Option 3 - 5% increase + agreed amendments (10% for allotments)
Precept increase	£0.00	£29,144.71	£77,611.33
Predicted income (from allotments)	£28,875	£28,875	£28,875
Precept Option	£591,494.00	£620,638.71	£669,105.33
Predicted expenditure	£608,694.00	£649,515.71	£697,980.32
Overall gain/loss	£0.00	£29,144.71	£77,611.33
Predicted precept increase	0%	5.15%	12.34%
Increase per Band D property based on 17,482 per annum (an increase of 121 properties from 25/26)	£0	£1.67	£4.20
per month	£0	£0.14	£0.35

Total precept per annum per band D property 2026/2027	£33.83 (sum will go down because of additional 121 Band D properties)	£35.74	£38.27																																																																												
Notes		Precept increased to match expenditure	<p>Precept increased to match expenditure, and accommodates:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Committee</th><th>Minute number</th><th>Amount</th><th>Note</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 149/11/25 / CE 148/11/25</td><td>£1,000</td><td>Community Engagement budget line and that the Annual Electors meeting funds be taken from this budget line.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 150/11/25</td><td>£0</td><td>The Miscellaneous Events budget line.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 151/11/25</td><td>£7,875</td><td>Andover Pride budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 152/11/25</td><td>£50,000</td><td>The Youth Services budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 153/11/25</td><td>£20,000</td><td>The Pensioners Service (Plus 55's) budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 154/11/25</td><td>£35,000</td><td>The Grants budget line.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 155/11/25</td><td>£1,300</td><td>The Poppy Trail budget line.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 156/11/25</td><td>£1,000</td><td>The Defibrillator Provision budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 117/10/25</td><td>£200</td><td>King's Coronation budget line zeroed; new line added for Storage of Coronation Lights.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 114/10/25</td><td>£55,000</td><td>Christmas Lights budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 116/10/25</td><td>£200</td><td>Macmillan Coffee Morning budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 116/10/25</td><td>£1,000</td><td>Christmas Carol Event budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 116/10/25</td><td>£0</td><td>World War II budget line</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 116/10/25</td><td>£4,000</td><td>Andover War Memorial Hospital Centenary Community Event (CE 157/11/25).</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 116/10/25</td><td>£1,000</td><td>Town Charter Celebrations budget line.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 118/10/25</td><td>£0</td><td>Annual Electors' Meeting (subsequently agreed to come from CE 149/11/25 / CE 148/11/25).</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 118/10/25</td><td>£0</td><td>Graffiti Wall budget line.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community and Events</td><td>CE 118/10/25</td><td>£0</td><td>Community Opportunities (Item 11 – AEM; line no longer required as per CE 149/11/25 / CE 148/11/25).</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Committee	Minute number	Amount	Note	Community and Events	CE 149/11/25 / CE 148/11/25	£1,000	Community Engagement budget line and that the Annual Electors meeting funds be taken from this budget line.	Community and Events	CE 150/11/25	£0	The Miscellaneous Events budget line.	Community and Events	CE 151/11/25	£7,875	Andover Pride budget line	Community and Events	CE 152/11/25	£50,000	The Youth Services budget line	Community and Events	CE 153/11/25	£20,000	The Pensioners Service (Plus 55's) budget line	Community and Events	CE 154/11/25	£35,000	The Grants budget line.	Community and Events	CE 155/11/25	£1,300	The Poppy Trail budget line.	Community and Events	CE 156/11/25	£1,000	The Defibrillator Provision budget line	Community and Events	CE 117/10/25	£200	King's Coronation budget line zeroed; new line added for Storage of Coronation Lights.	Community and Events	CE 114/10/25	£55,000	Christmas Lights budget line	Community and Events	CE 116/10/25	£200	Macmillan Coffee Morning budget line	Community and Events	CE 116/10/25	£1,000	Christmas Carol Event budget line	Community and Events	CE 116/10/25	£0	World War II budget line	Community and Events	CE 116/10/25	£4,000	Andover War Memorial Hospital Centenary Community Event (CE 157/11/25).	Community and Events	CE 116/10/25	£1,000	Town Charter Celebrations budget line.	Community and Events	CE 118/10/25	£0	Annual Electors' Meeting (subsequently agreed to come from CE 149/11/25 / CE 148/11/25).	Community and Events	CE 118/10/25	£0	Graffiti Wall budget line.	Community and Events	CE 118/10/25	£0	Community Opportunities (Item 11 – AEM; line no longer required as per CE 149/11/25 / CE 148/11/25).
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Community and Events	CE 115/10/25		Administration and management of SIDs moved from Community & Events to Planning Committee.
Allotments	AC 038/10/25		Allotment budget increase of 10% to accommodate rising material and labour costs.
Allotments	AC 039/10/25	£2,500	Ox Drove grounds maintenance increased to £2,500 for grass cutting.
Planning	PC 136/11/25	£4,500	SID admin & management budget line increase to £4,500 to support increased management fees.
Policy and Resource	PR 053/11/25		Removal of zero-amount and duplicate budget lines to improve clarity.
Policy and Resource	PR 050/11/25	£300,000	Payroll budget line accommodate vacant role and potential LGPS payments

Recommendations

To **review** and **approve** a precept option for 2026/2027 following a decision at Item 14 on the budget for 2026/2027.