



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **FROM**

# **SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**

5.2.18 for immediate release

### **Sandy Town Council Precept 2018/19**

Sandy Town Council has set the budget and precept for the year ending 31 March 2019 at a Full Council meeting on Monday 29 January 2018. The budget and precept were both unanimously voted through by those Members in attendance.

The agreed 2018/19 budget will result in an increase of £4.69 a year, or 9 pence a week for the average Band D tax payer in Sandy. Residents will pay £140.65 in 2018-19 for all the services Sandy Town Council provides.

All aspects of the Council's budget were scrutinised and evaluated to reduce costs and make efficiency savings where possible while ensuring that its core functions are adequately resourced. This included renegotiating service contracts and insurance premiums to achieve cost savings for the next financial years.

The major issues which account for a growth in spending include essential tree work that must be carried out to safely maintain the Councils tree stock. An allowance has also been made for the provision of more tree planting in Sandy. In addition, the Council has had to increase its Streetlight maintenance budget due to increased costs resulting from damaged lighting and to continue its gradual conversion to LED streetlighting. The refuse and waste budget has been increased to help meet costs associated with fly tipping and waste clearance around the parish and the Council agreed to purchase a new mobile CCTV camera for the benefit of the town.

The Council has also had to budget for costs associated with ensuring it will meet the new General Data Protection Regulations in 2018.

The Town Council recognises the importance of providing a best value service and keeping costs down, as such service providers and contracts are continually reviewed to ensure best value and the Council actively applies for additional support funding wherever possible to help alleviate the burden on the Precept.

- ENDS -

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