



## Draft Budget

### 1. Budget Proposals

At the meeting of Full Council held on the 27th November 2018, Council **RESOLVED** to make a number of changes to existing budgets and to create growth in certain areas to enable new projects to be undertaken in 2019/20. A summary of the changes is produced below, together with the actions taken to incorporate these matters into the draft budget presented for approval by Council.

The draft budget itself is attached to the Committee papers in the 'Next Year' column of **ATTACHMENT I** (from Item 9 on this agenda).

**Table 1. New Initiatives to be funded in 2019/20**

	Title	Description	Amount	Funded From	Comments
1	Stanley Fund	Create partnership approach to funding voluntary organisations across the Stanley are by creating and collaborating on the creation of the Stanley fund to provide a sustainable grant pot for activities delivered by the voluntary sector across the Stanley Area. The fund to be managed by the County Durham Community Foundation. Representation from STC and joint aims for the fund to be developed in line with the public and STC priorities.	£50,000 year 1 and then £35,000 PA for 3 years	Merge 19/20 MIF & 18/19 Youth Funds to create.	Created new budget Code 400 4505 for Stanley Fund  Zeroed 400 4500 (MIF) and 400 4504 (Youth Providers)
2	Stanley Town Council Strategic Grant Fund	Internal Grant Fund to be split into two rounds. First call for projects April 2019 with Projects allocated May 2019 and a further round in September 2019 with funds awarded in October 2019. Funding criteria to be around the Councils priorities and MTP.	£35,000 PA	MIF Funds	Renamed 400 4502 from Other Grants to Strategic Grants

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	Title	Description	Amount	Funded From	Comments
3	Community Engagement	Budget for engaging the community in Council Initiatives including the civic hall, Environmental services and Council funded projects.	£20,000	Re-Alignment of existing communication budget	Created new Code 115 4205 Community Engagement  Zeroed 115 4200 (Stanley Life); 115 4075 (Advertising); 115 4201 (Annual Report) and 500 4076 (Marketing & Promotion (Civic))
4	Stanley In Bloom	New fund to develop the Stanley In Bloom project including Blooming good fun.	£6,500	New budget for 2019/20	Created new code 350 4134
5	Miners Sunday	New event to celebrate our heritage and local mining history. To be developed on the back of existing contract.	£10,000	New budget for 2019/20	Created new code 320 4426
6	Annual Beacon Remembrance Event	Develop an annual event on the evening of remembrance Sunday	£1,500	New budget for 2019/20	Added £1500 to Code 320 4410 (Remembrance Events)
7	Regeneration & Development Fund	Develop a strategic fund to be used for high profile regeneration and development funds.	£ TBD	Earmarked Reserves to be moved into one single pot.	Stands at £92,099 (see <b>Figure 1 below</b> )
8	Christmas Lights	Stanley Wide Development of the Christmas Lights.	£20,000	Annual capital programme of investment.	To be met from earmarked reserves

**Table 2. Reserves & Balances**

	Balance 01/04/2017	Transfers	Additions	Expenditure	Balance 31/03/2018
<b>310-General reserve</b>	178,840	-24,757			154,083
<b>313-Grant fund</b>		36,757	1,350		38,107
<b>314-Community safety</b>			16,099		16,099
<b>315-Front St</b>	25,000	-25,000			0
<b>316-WW1 Centenary</b>	10,000				10,000
<b>317-War memorial</b>	50,000				50,000
<b>318-Parks</b>	8,000	8,000			16,000
<b>319-Election costs</b>	5,000	5,000			10,000

<b>320-Civic upgrades (balance of loan)</b>	94,192			38,059	56,133
<b>Balance</b>	<b>371,032</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,449</b>	<b>38,059</b>	<b>350,422</b>
<b>Total Earmarked Reserves</b>					<b>92,099</b>

## 2. The Draft Budget

Based on the **RECOMMENDATION** of the Finance Committee to apply an increase to the precept of 3%, the draft budget for 2019/20 (provided as **ATTACHMENT I**) is based on a precept figure of **£738,230**.

The new proposals taken together would amount to an additional budget requirement (based on this year's precept of **£92.53** and the revised tax base) of **£33,648**. In order to fund this, the Council has taken the decision to fund this growth through a mixture of increased local taxation and committing some reserves earmarked for capital work to extend the Council's festive lighting scheme.

The Council has also **RESOLVED** to establish a budget within core budgets for Discretionary Hires, to cover the costs of hiring the Civic Hall for Council meetings and to fund the hire costs of other community events which the Council decides to stage or support. A new budget code has been created in the Democracy budget (Code 200 4806) and a budget allocation of **£8,000** made. In order to achieve this within the confines of the funding envelope put forward by the Finance Committee, the draft budget is based on the full **£20,000** of growth for the Christmas lighting schemes coming from the Capital Reserve.

## 3. Worked Examples to demonstrate the effect of increases

This year's tax base is **7745.9**.

Band	Proportion (in relation to Band D)	Standstill	2% increase	2.5% increase	3.0% increase	4.7% increase
A	6/9	£61.68	£62.94	£63.24	£63.54	£64.56
B	7/9	£71.96	£73.43	£73.78	£74.13	£75.32
C	8/9	£82.84	£83.92	£84.32	£84.72	£86.08
<b>D</b>	<b>9/9</b>	<b>£92.53</b>	<b>£94.38</b>	<b>£94.84</b>	<b>£95.31</b>	<b>£96.88</b>
E	11/9	£113.08	£115.39	£115.94	£116.49	£118.36
F	13/9	£133.64	£136.37	£137.02	£137.67	£139.88
G	15/9	£154.20	£157.35	£158.10	£158.85	£161.40
H	18/9	£185.04	£188.82	£189.72	£190.62	£193.68
<b>Precept Yield</b>		<b>£716,728</b>	<b>£731,063</b>	<b>£734,646</b>	<b>£738,230</b>	<b>£750,414</b>

**4. Recommendation**

The Town Clerk has prepared a balanced budget which:

- (i) Meets all of the Town Council's commitments to staffing, overheads and ongoing (multi-year or open ended) projects;
- (ii) Takes account of the growth in the budget which the Council has requested; and
- (iii) Is achievable within the envelope of the 3% increase to the precept put forward by the Finance Committee.

On this basis, the Town Clerk **RECOMMENDS** that:

- (a) The budget put forward as **ATTACHMENT I** to this agenda be **APPROVED**; and
- (b) The Town Mayor is delegated the authority to sign and issue a precept demand to the Principal Authority for **£738,230** for the year 2019/20

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## Appendix - Council Bookings and Community uses of the Civic Hall 2018/19

Activity	Cost
Council meetings (based on 2017/18)	£1,530
South Moor Musical Theatre Group	£1,800
Stanley Starz	£1,450
Oxhill Youth Club (based on 2017/18)	£2,530
Stay safe	£130
Carol service (estimate)	£450
Advice day	£100
Deaf Club (based on 2017/18)	£2,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,290</b>