



Chelmsford City Council

25 February 2026

Reports from the Cabinet

Report by: Cabinet Member for Finance

Officer contact:

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Purpose

To inform Council of the decisions of the Cabinet on 27 January 2026.

Recommendations:

That the recommendations of the Cabinet on Agenda Items 7.1, 7.2 & 7.3 be approved.

1. Budget Report 2026/27

RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL the Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2026/27, as set out in Appendix 1 including:

- the new **revenue and capital investments in services** identified in **Section 5**;
- the **Capital Programme** in **Section 11**;
- the **Revenue Budgets** in **Section 10**.

- i. An increase in the average Band D level of Council Tax for the City Council to £234.85 (+2.97%), which is within the referendum threshold, in Section 9.
- ii. The movement in reserves and the Medium-Term forecast shown in Section 7 and note the s151 Officer's assessment.
- iii. The inclusion of special expenses, parish-tier council precepts, and other precepting authority charges, once confirmed, as detailed in Section 9. (These will not be available until Full Council.)
- iv. A delegation to the Chief Executive to agree, after consultation with the Leader of the Council, the pay award for 2026/27 within the normal financial delegations.
- v. A delegation to manage the use of the LGR reserve. The proposal is set out in Section 7.

2. Capital, Treasury and Investment Strategies for 2026/27

RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL that they approve the Capital, Treasury Management and Investment Strategies.

3. Discretionary Exception to Council Tax Premiums in respect of second homes

RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL to agree the implementation of additional local discretionary exception to Council Tax premiums imposed on second homes as defined in paragraph 2.4 and to delegate future decisions on such matters to the Director of Connected Chelmsford in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member (Option 1)

Background papers:

None

Appendices:

None

Corporate Implications

As set out in the original reports to the Cabinet
