

CCC BUDGET AMENDMENT 2017-18

POLITICAL PARTY/PARTIES	UKIP
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TOTAL ADULT SOCIAL CARE PRECEPT INCREASE	+0%
TOTAL GENERAL COUNCIL TAX INCREASE	+0%

TOTAL ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT	-
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CHANGES TO FUNDING: (compared to S151 Officer proposed budget)		
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ASC PRECEPT	-£5,135,000	
GENERAL COUNCIL TAX		
MRP FUNDING	+£3,100,000	
RESERVES	+£2,035,000	
OTHER		
TOTAL CHANGES TO FUNDING		-

UKIP amendment to the 2017 CCC Budget

UKIP has identified 5 core goals

1. To freeze council tax
2. To identify new revenue streams for CCC
3. To identify savings with no impact on service delivery
4. To better integrate the council with partner organisations
5. To ultimately move to a unitary authority.

This report identifies the UKIP group's proposal for new savings, new revenue streams and new ways of working not currently in the proposed CCC budget proposal adopted by CCC. The UKIP proposal identifies what we will do differently in order to achieve a council tax freeze whilst providing a balanced budget and no extra cuts to key front line services.

Background and national scene

The UKIP statement on the CCC budget plan proposal is aimed at achieving the five core goals above. We aim to make the organisation as efficient as possible while also addressing the critical need for new revenue streams.

Above all UKIP aims to initiate a cultural change in CCC to develop into an organisation willing to blur the organisational boundaries with partners and to start the transformational process into an organisation willing and capable of ultimately becoming a Unitary Authority.

We will illustrate how we will fund a tax freeze for Cambridgeshire tax payers without direct cuts to front line services beyond the current plan proposed by CCC.

The UKIP group recognises that these are difficult economic times for the people of Cambridgeshire. Residents and communities are suffering from the results of poor government decisions and difficult economic conditions.

At a time when residents are finding it difficult to pay their mortgage, heat their homes, put fuel in their cars to get to work and put food on their table, we believe that it is wrong for CCC to compound this problem further by taking more money from household budgets by increasing council tax.

UKIP is the party of small government and low tax, passionate about keeping money where it belongs, in the householder's purse, paying for essential and escalating household bills, rather than in the County Council's coffers.

UKIP is the party of efficiency, believing that councils should be as lean as possible in good economic times as well as bad.

UKIP is the party of transformation, seeking a radical agenda of change management to break down the barriers in the way of the council so that its partners are fit and willing to move to unitary status.

UKIP recognises that the changes that we seek to make would have been less challenging to implement in previous better economic times and regrets that the previous administrations did not tackle waste, inefficiencies and new revenue streams that financial pressures are now forced upon them. We are now suffering from the impact of poor past decisions.

UKIP believes that the move to the committee system of governance has allowed a more collegiate approach to decision making that has achieved greater consensus, better scrutiny and better and wider debate, more input from members and communities and better decisions.

UKIP regrets that previous administrations had not grasped the nettle of introducing new revenue streams and efficiencies over the last two decades that could have created a situation where the current financial pressures would be much less challenging.

The impact on Cambridgeshire households of the planned year on year tax rises is cumulative not just over time but also across other tax raising authorities in Cambridgeshire including district councils, Police and Crime Commissioner, Fire Authority and many town and parish councils planning to increase their tax take from limited household budgets.

UKIP opposed the introduction of a Mayor for Cambridgeshire and suggested that the original claims that the mayoral office need not cause extra cost beyond existing staff within local authorities were grossly exaggerated and whilst pleased to see more honesty in the figures of the cost of the Mayor's office being presented we believe that this is an unnecessary extra burden on the residents of Cambridgeshire. Two of the powers that the new Mayor will have are to add another line to council tax payers and business rates payers bills. UKIP oppose this extra taxation.

We recognise the urgent need for UKIP to enter the decision making institutions of national government that can positively impact local government budgets.

Despite the results of the referendum on UK membership of the EU, £55 million is still being given to the European Union every day by the UK, money which UKIP would use to provide services and infrastructure in Britain. Brexit provides the opportunity to move this spend back to the UK and directly back into local services. UKIP supports the Local Government Association position of demanding that significant amounts of the Brexit dividend are channelled to services provided by local government.

UKIP strongly believes that the UK must reduce the amount of money given away in the foreign aid budget and that it should be reduced to around £2bn which is still enough to provide essential foreign aid of water, inoculations and disaster relief. The remaining £10bn, that is currently in the foreign aid budget and which is often used on wasteful, ineffective and aspirational projects, and often provided to countries that are spending money on military, space and nuclear programmes. It is UKIP policy to channel this money back home to support British residents in need in the UK. This is the only way of solving the funding gap in adult and children's social care and the

NHS. Council tax rises fail to provide enough extra money to make a difference and add substantial extra pressure to already stretched household budgets.

Some EU legislation directly impacts CCC. Landfill tax alone costs CCC over £9 million per year.

UKIP's national policies on health, education, defence, immigration, procurement, transport and Whitehall departmental structures will also have a positive impact on local government finance and service provision.

We acknowledge, however, that UKIP is not yet in government and Cambridgeshire County Council has to work within the constraints of the poor government decisions currently being made. We therefore have not used any of these figures in our plan.

Amendments to the 2017/8 budget

1. That Council tax be frozen.

This creates a deficit in the 2017/18 budget of £5,135m.

2. Use MRP to balance the budget which will have a positive impact on the revenue budget this year of up to £3.1m of the £8.6m available leaving the remainder to further seed fund revenue generating and transformational projects.
3. Reduce the general reserve being held which is currently at £16.3m by £2.035m to £14.265m

UKIP will separately provide a statement on our medium and long term savings and investment strategy that will ensure future tax freezes without service reductions that will remain possible beyond the 2017/8 budget.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The figures below are the **differences** to the S151 Officer proposed budget and are in absolute figures.

Increases in expenditure and corresponding increases in funding are shown as positive figures.

Expenditure

	2017-18 £000	2018-19 £000	2019-20 £000	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000
TOTAL*	-	-	-	-	-

Funding

	2017-18 £000	2018-19 £000	2019-20 £000	2020-21 £000	2021-22 £000
Council Tax will be frozen	-5,135	-5,135	-5,135	-5,135	-5,135
Use MRP funding	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,100
Reduce General Reserve balance	2,035	2,035	2,035	2,035	2,035
TOTAL*	-	-	-	-	-

*Totals must be equal as all budget amendments must balance.