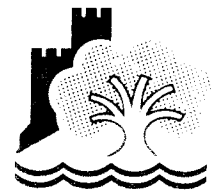


Your ref  
Our ref: **RV/CA**  
Please ask for: **Mr. Vennard**  
Direct dial no: **01424 787711**  
Date: **13 February 2007**



**Rother**  
District Council

.....Working towards Excellence

Dear Resident,

Resources Directorate  
Joy Cooper DipSW DMS  
Director

### **RDC Budget and Council Tax 2007/08**

Town Hall  
Bexhill-on-Sea  
TN39 3JX

Rother District Council has published its draft budget and Council Tax for next year. This letter explains how the budget was set and how it affects your Council Tax.

Our Overview and Scrutiny Committee is carrying out a review of the funds the Council needs to deliver its services and will report to Cabinet, our Executive Board, in mid-February.

A number of factors affect the Council's new budget:

- A poor Government settlement. Our grant increased by only £11,000 or 0.17%. This compares to a national figure of 4.9%.
- Our new Corporate Plan projects. These will invest in business and new homes and directly benefit residents.
- The new district-wide Waste and Recycling Service, starting from April 2007.
- Investment to make contacting the Council easier.

The Council had already planned for these matters in its financial strategy. (see Link 3 on page 10). Savings have been made that will not affect service quality. This helps us balance the budget. The Council is committed to being more efficient. It will drive down costs where it can.

### **So what does this mean for your Council Tax.....?**

The Council made a promise to restrict the increase in Council Tax to 5% each year for the next five years. This is despite the continuing decline in Government support.

We expect that next year's 'average' Council Tax rate for Rother District Council will be £143.59 for the year, an increase of £6.44. Please see over for full details.

Your comments are welcome. Please address them to:

Joy Cooper  
Director of Resources  
Town Hall  
Bexhill-on-Sea  
TN39 3JX

[finance@rother.gov.uk](mailto:finance@rother.gov.uk)

cont'd

## Expected Council Tax for Rother District Council 2007/08

Council Tax Band	Expected Council Tax
Band A	£95.73
Band B	£111.68
Band C	£127.64
Band D	£143.59
Band E	£175.50
Band F	£207.41
Band G	£239.32
Band H	£287.18

### Council Tax and Housing Benefits

If you are having difficulty in paying your Council Tax, I would encourage you to apply for Council Tax Benefit which could help pay towards some or all of your bill. In addition, if you pay rent for your home and are having difficulty in paying this because of low income, Housing Benefit might be available to help. Application forms and advice for both benefits are available at the Council's Community Help Points in Bexhill, Battle and Rye or on 01424 787740.

Links:

1. Draft Revenue Budget 2007/08  
[www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/r/c/c061016 - 09-Draft Revenue Budget 2007-08.pdf](#)
2. Rother District Council Corporate Plan  
[www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/e/k/Corporate\\_Plan\\_2006.pdf](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/e/k/Corporate_Plan_2006.pdf)
3. Rother District Council Financial Strategy  
[www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/r/c/c061016 - 09-Appendix 3 Financial Strategy.pdf](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/r/c/c061016 - 09-Appendix 3 Financial Strategy.pdf)

Yours sincerely



Robin Vennard  
Head of Finance