Minutes



Ordinary Council Wednesday, 2nd March, 2016

Attendance

Cllr Reed (Mayor) Cllr Mrs Hones (Deputy Mayor) Cllr Aspinell Cllr Barrett Cllr Chilvers Cllr Clark Cllr Cloke Cllr Mrs Davies Cllr Mrs Davies Cllr Mrs Henwood Cllr Hirst Cllr Hossack Cllr Hossack Cllr Mrs Hubbard Cllr Keeble Cllr Kendall Cllr Kerslake Cllr McCheyne Cllr Mrs McKinlay	Cllr Morrissey Cllr Mrs Murphy Cllr Mynott Cllr Newberry Cllr Parker Cllr Poppy Cllr Pound Cllr Ms Rowlands Cllr Ms Sanders Cllr Mrs Slade Cllr Mrs Slade Cllr Sleep Cllr Mrs Squirrell Cllr Tee Cllr Trump Cllr Wiles
Cllr Mrs McKinlay	

Apologies

Cllr Barrell Cllr Carter Cllr Mrs Coe Cllr Faragher

Officers Present

Helen Gregory	 Interim Head of Housing
Chris Leslie	- Finance Director
Ramesh Prashar	 Financial Services Manager
Philip Ruck	- Head of Paid Service
Jean Sharp	- Governance and Member Support Officer
Daniel Toohey	- Monitoring Officer

360. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Barrell, Carter, Mrs Coe and Faragher.

361. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made at this point.

362. General Fund Budget 2016/17

Members were reminded that the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) considered by Policy, Finance and Resources Committee on 15 December 2015 provided an update on the various significant changes that would impact on the Council's financial position following announcements made since the General Election in May 2015 and the Autumn Statement in November 2015. Particular issues highlighted, relevant to the General Fund, included the phasing out of the Revenue Support Grant, changes to the New Homes Bonus & the Business Rates Retention schemes and the creation of Combined Authorities.

The fundamental principles of the Council's MTFP are to:

- (i) Maintain a sustainable financial position against a background of unprecedented financial uncertainty and reduced government funding, including the delivery of efficiency targets.
- (ii) Support the vision of our Borough through appropriate identification of resources required to deliver the key priorities outlined in the 'Vision for Brentwood'.
- (iii) Maximise opportunities and mitigate risks associated with the fundamental change to the way in which local government is financed.

The report before Members considered:

- (i) The General Fund budget proposals for 2016/17 to 2018/19.
- (ii) The Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2018/19.
- (iii) The Treasury Management & Investment Strategy for 2016/17.

The Leader of the Council and Chair of Policy, Finance and Resources Committee, Cllr Mrs McKinlay, introduced the proposed budget for 2016/17 and MOVED the recommendations in the report which Cllr Kerslake SECONDED.

Cllr Aspinell, as leader of the main opposition group, responded to the Leader's statement.

Two sets of amendments had been submitted in accordance with Rule 3.15 of the Council's Procedure Rules, totalling five amendments. Details of all

amendments received were included in Supplement 3 to the agenda and are appended to these minutes for information.

Cllr Kerslake MOVED and Cllr Hirst SECONDED the AMENDMENT received from the Conservative Group which added 'and Table 7.1", such Table 7.1 being included in the amendment, and Cllr Mrs McKinlay ACCEPTED the amendment.

Cllr Barrett MOVED and Cllr Morrissey SECONDED the first AMENDMENT submitted by the Labour Group which Mrs McKinlay did not accept, however she expressed her interest in further exploration.

Following a debate a vote was taken on a show of hands and the AMENDMENT was LOST.

Cllr Barrett MOVED and Cllr Morrissey SECONDED the second AMENDMENT submitted by the Labour Group which Mrs McKinlay did not accept.

Following a debate a vote was taken on a show of hands and the AMENDMENT was LOST.

Cllr Barrett MOVED and Cllr Morrissey SECONDED the third AMENDMENT submitted by the Labour Group which Mrs McKinlay did not accept.

Following a debate a vote was taken on a show of hands and the AMENDMENT was LOST.

Cllr Barrett MOVED and Cllr Morrissey SECONDED the fourth AMENDMENT submitted by the Labour Group which Mrs McKinlay did not accept.

Following a debate a vote was taken on a show of hands and the AMENDMENT was LOST.

Cllr Barrett MOVED and Cllr Morrissey SECONDED the fifth AMENDMENT submitted by the Labour Group which Mrs McKinlay did not accept.

Following a debate a vote was taken on a show of hands and the AMENDMENT was LOST.

Returning to the SUBSTANTIVE MOTION, following a debate and in accordance with Procedure Rule 9.6 of the Constitution, a recorded vote was taken. Cllr Mrs Henwood had left the Chamber during the debate and therefore did not vote.

Members voted as follows:

For: Cllrs Cloke, Hirst, Mrs Hones, Hossack, Kerslake, McCheyne, Mrs McKinlay, Mrs Murphy, Parker, Poppy, Mrs Pound, Reed, Ms Rowlands, Russell, Ms Sanders, Mrs Slade, Sleep, Tee, Trump and Wiles (20)

Against: Cllrs Aspinell, Barrett, Chilvers, Clark, Mrs Davies, Mrs Hubbard, Keeble, Kendall, Morrissey, Mynott, Newberry and Mrs Squirrell (12)

Abstain: (0)

Members RESOLVED:

- 1. To approve the General Fund Revised MTFP for 2016/17 as shown in Table 8 at paragraph 5.8 which includes the proposed savings targets as shown in Table 7 and Table 7.1 (included in Supplement 3 to the agenda) at paragraph 5.7 of the report.
- 2. To approve the proposed Capital Programme and Funding totalling £23.7 million for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in Tables 14 and 15 of the report.
- 3. To approve the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy as set out in Section 10 of the report.
- 4. To note the Section 151 Officer's Assurance Statement as set out in Section 11 of the report.

Reason for Recommendation

The Council is required to approve the Budget as part of the Budget and Policy Framework.

363. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2016/17

The report before Members considered the Medium Term Financial Plan for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

The report also included results of the tenant consultation and the consideration of the Environment & Housing Management Committee concerning the proposed rent charges for 2016/17.

Cllr Mrs McKinlay MOVED and Cllr Hossack SECONDED the recommendations and following a discussion a recorded vote was taken in accordance with Procedure Rule 9.6 of the Council's Constitution.

Cllr Chilvers left the meeting before the vote was taken.

Members voted as follows:

FOR: Clirs Aspinell, Barrett, Clark, Cloke, Mrs Davies, Mrs Henwood, Hirst, Mrs Hones, Hossack, Mrs Hubbard, Keeble, Kendall, Kerslake, McCheyne, Mrs McKinlay, Morrissey, Mrs Murphy, Mynott, Newberry, Parker, Poppy, Mrs Pound, Reed, Ms Rowlands, Russell, Ms Sanders, Mrs Slade, Sleep, Mrs Squirrell, Tee Trump and Wiles (32)

AGAINST: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Members RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

- 1. To approve the HRA Business Plan for 2016/17 and beyond as shown in Appendix C of this report.
- 2. To agree a 1% decrease in rents for General Need Housing for 2016/17 and for the following 3 years.
- 3. To agree to freeze the rents for Supported Housing for 2016/17 and then apply a 1% decrease for the following 3 years as outlined in paragraph 4.18.
- 4. To agree to freeze the proposed Service Charges for 2016/17 for tenants.
- 5. To agree to apply the formula rent to all new tenancies from April 2016/17.
- 6. To agree the Fees and Charges proposed at Environment and Housing Management Committee on 9 December 2015 (attached as Appendix A).
- 7. To note the Section 151 Officer's Assurance Statement on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of the reserves.

(Cllrs Barrett, Mrs Squirrell and Wiles each declared an interest in relation to this item but the Monitoring Officer advised that the pecuniary interest for each Member was insignificant and therefore they should not be excluded from the debate).

Reasons for recommendation

Effective financial management underpins all of the priorities for the Council.

The Council is required to compile a budget which collates all the income and expenditure relating to the Council's housing stock. The Council is also required to agree the rent levels and notify tenants of any changes to their rents.

364. Council Tax 2016/17

The Council was the billing authority for the Borough of Brentwood and was required to set a Council Tax that would not only cover its own requirements, but also those of Essex County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner, Fire Authority and the Parish Councils.

The Council Tax requirements for 2016/17 were outlined as follows:

	2015/16 £	2016/17 £
Brentwood Borough Council	5,238,503	5,504,121
Essex County Council	33,858,348	35,926,833
Police and Crime Commissioner	4,584,546	4,835,259
Fire Authority	2,069,354	2,151,547
Parishes	361,474	388,409

Council Tax Requirements

A schedule of the Parish Precepts was attached as Appendix B to the report.

Cllr Mrs McKinlay MOVED and Cllr Kerslake SECONDED the recommendations in the report and following a discussion a recorded vote was taken in accordance with Procedure Rule 9.6 of the Council's Constitution.

Members voted as follows:

FOR: Cllrs Cloke, Mrs Henwood, Hirst, Mrs Hones, Hossack, Kerslake, McCheyne, Mrs McKinlay, Mrs Murphy, Parker, Poppy, Mrs Pound, Reed, Ms Rowlands, Russell, Ms Sanders, Mrs Slade, Sleep, Tee, Trump and Wiles (21)

AGAINST: CIIrs Aspinell, Barrett, Clark, Mrs Davies, Mrs Hubbard, Keeble, Kendall, Morrissey, Mynott and Newberry (10)

ABSTAIN: (0)

The MOTION was CARRIED and it was RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Council approves the formal Council Tax resolution for Brentwood Borough Council and Parishes as contained in Appendix A to the report, as follows:

Formal Council Tax (Brentwood Borough Council and Parishes) Resolution 2016-17

- 1. That it be noted that at its meeting on 27 January 2016 Ordinary Council approved the calculation of the following amounts as the Council's Tax Base for 2016/17 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012:
 - a) for the whole Council area as 31,790 (item "T" in the formula in section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended ("the Act")), and
 - b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as follows

Parish	
Blackmore	1,424.5
Doddinghurst	1,163.2
Herongate and Ingrave	1,060.7
Ingatestone and Fryerning	2,294.8
Kelvedon Hatch	1,035.8
Mountnessing	472.7
Navestock	233.3
Stondon Massey	322.8
West Horndon	667.4

- 2. That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2016/17 (excluding Parish precepts) be calculated as £5,504,121.
- 3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Act:
 - a) £46,028,070 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - b) **£40,135,540** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - c) **£5,892,530** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (item "R" in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
 - d) **£185.36** being the amount at 3c) above divided by the amount at 1a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act as the

basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).

e) **£388,409** being the aggregate of the following special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act:

Parish	£
Blackmore	51,282
Doddinghurst	60,886
Herongate and Ingrave	36,064
Ingatestone and Fryerning	135,348
Kelvedon Hatch	34,167
Mountnessing	18,000
Navestock	6,299
Stondon Massey	13,863
West Horndon	32,500

f) £173.14 being the amount at 3d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3e) above by the amount at 1a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

g)

the amounts stated in column (3) below given by adding to the amount at 3f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area specified in 3e) above in each case by the amount at 1a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area set out in 3e) above to which one or more special items relate:

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Council	Parish	Total
	Band D Council Tax	Band D Council Tax	Band D Council Tax
	£	£	£
Blackmore	173.14	36.00	209.14
Doddinghurst	173.14	52.34	225.48

Herongate Ingrave	and	173.14	34.00	207.14
Ingatestone Fryerning	and	173.14	58.98	232.12
Kelvedon Hatch		173.14	32.99	206.13
Mountnessing		173.14	38.08	211.22
Navestock		173.14	27.00	200.14
Stondon Massey		173.14	42.95	216.09
West Horndon		173.14	48.70	221.84

the amounts set out below given by multiplying the amounts at 3g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

	Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F	Band G £	Band H £
Dicelemente	139.43	د 162.66	185.90	209.14	255.62	302.09	<u> </u>	418.28
Blackmore								
Doddinghurst	150.32	175.37	200.42	225.48	275.59	325.69	375.80	450.96
Herongate	138.10	161.10	184.12	207.14	253.18	299.20	345.24	414.28
Ingatestone	154.75	180.53	206.33	232.12	283.71	335.28	386.87	464.24
and Fryerning								
Kelvedon	137.42	160.32	183.22	206.13	251.94	297.74	343.55	412.26
Mountnessing	140.82	164.28	187.75	211.22	258.16	305.09	352.04	422.44
Navestock	133.43	155.66	177.90	200.14	244.62	289.09	333.57	400.28
Stondon	144.06	168.07	192.08	216.09	264.11	312.13	360.15	432.18
Massey								
West Horndon	147.90	172.54	197.19	221.84	271.14	320.43	369.74	443.68
Unparished	115.43	134.66	153.90	173.14	211.62	250.09	288.57	346.28

h)

2. That it be noted that for the year 2016/17 Essex County Council, Essex Police and Crime Commissioner and Essex Fire Authority have issued the following precept requirements to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the Act") for each of the categories of dwellings (valuation band) shown in Table 2 below.

Valuation Band	Essex CountyEssex Police andCouncilCrime Commissioner		Essex Fire Authority
	£	£	£
A	753.42	101.40	45.12
В	878.99	118.30	52.64
С	1,004.56	135.20	60.16
D	1,130.13	152.10	67.68
E	1,381.27	185.90	82.72
F	1,632.41	219.70	97.76
G	1,883.55	253.50	112.80
Н	2,260.26	304.20	135.36

Table 2 - Precept Schedule

3. That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands and the amounts in 2.2 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, hereby sets the amounts in Table 3 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2016/17 for each of the categories of dwellings shown:

 Table 3 - 2016/17 Council Tax for Each Categories of Dwellings

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Blackmore	1,039.37	1,212.59	1,385.82	1,559.05	1,905.51	2,251.96	2,598.42	3,118.10
Doddinghurst	1,050.26	1,225.30	1,400.34	1,575.39	1,925.48	2,275.56	2,625.65	3.150.78
Herongate	1,038.04	1,211.03	1,384.04	1,557.05	1,903.07	2,249.07	2,595.09	3,114.10
Ingatestone and Fryerning	1,054.69	1,230.46	1,406.25	1,582.03	1,933.60	2,285.15	2,636.72	3,164.06
Kelvedon	1,037.36	1,210.25	1,383.14	1,556.04	1,901.83	2,247.61	2,593.40	3,112.08

Mountnessing	1,040.76	1,214.21	1,387.67	1,561.13	1,908.05	2,254.96	2,601.89	3,122.26
Navestock	1,033.37	1,205.59	1,377.82	1,550.05	1,894.51	2,238.96	2,583.42	3,100.10
Stondon Massey	1,044.00	1,218.00	1,392.00	1,566.00	1,914.00	2,262.00	2,610.00	3,132.00
West Horndon	1,047.84	1,222.47	1,397.11	1,571.75	1,921.03	2,270.30	2,619.59	3,143.50
Unparished	1,015.37	1,184.59	1,353.82	1,523.05	1,861.51	2,199.96	2,538.42	3,046.10

Reason for Recommendation

The Council has a legal requirement to set the Council Tax for its area by 11 March 2016.

365. Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2016/17

Proposed by the Conservative Group:

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the General Fund Revised MTFP for 2016/17 as shown in Table 8 at paragraph 5.8 which includes the proposed savings targets and associated detail as shown in Table 7 and Table 7.1 at paragraph 5.7 of this report.
- 2.2 To approve the proposed Capital Programme and Funding totalling £23.7 million for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in Tables 14 and 15 of this report.
- 2.3 To approve the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy as set out in Section 10 of this report.
- 2.4 To note the Section 151 Officer's Assurance Statement as set out in Section 11 of this report.

Table 7.1 - Proposed Savings – Detail

Proposed Savings	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Additional Income			
Council Tax Increase	159	159	159
Income from the Public Sector Hub	82	272	272
Rent Reviews / New Leases	40	70	80
Crossrail Compensation	35	0	0
Income from Shops transferred from the HRA	30	30	30
Planning - Residential Pre-application Fees	25	50	50
Increased Demand for Brown Bins	20	20	20
Sale of Services	20	20	20
Community Alarm Charges	17	17	17
Planning - Review charges around Pre-application Fees for Commercial Properties	10	25	25
Total - Additional Income	438	663	673
Efficiencies			
No Inflationary Pay Increase	95	95	95

Vacancy Factor	65	65	65
Legal Services Efficiency Savings	50	50	50
Capitalisation of Project Staff	50	50	50
Shared Services	50	100	100
Senior Managers' Target Savings	40	40	40
Restructure of Housing Service	39	39	39
Review of the Community Halls Management Fees	32	32	32
Review of Support Services	25	44	44
Procurement Review	25	25	25
Introduce Joint Working Between Car Parks & CCTV	20	40	40
Review of Financial Services	15	30	30
Freeze Member Allowances & Reduce the Number of Committees by One	8	8	8
Total - Efficiencies	514	618	618
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Proposed Savings	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Proposed Savings Re-prioritisation of Services			
Re-prioritisation of Services	£'000	£'000	£'000
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic Development	£'000 50	£'000 100	£'000 100
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning	£'000 50 34	£'000 100 34	£'000 100 34
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery	£'000 50 34 30	£'000 100 34 30	£'000 100 34 30
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery and One Token Provided	£'000 50 34 30 25	£'000 100 34 30 30	£'000 100 34 30 30
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery and One Token ProvidedRemoval of Ward BudgetsGrowthRenaissance Group Grant	£'000 50 34 30 25	£'000 100 34 30 30	£'000 100 34 30 30
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery and One Token ProvidedRemoval of Ward BudgetsGrowth	£'000 50 34 30 25 25	£'000 100 34 30 30 25	£'000 100 34 30 30 25
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery and One Token ProvidedRemoval of Ward BudgetsGrowthRenaissance Group GrantTotal - Re-prioritisation of Services	£'000 50 34 30 25 25 (10) 154	£'000 100 34 30 30 25 25 0 0 219	£'000 100 34 30 30 25 0 219
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery and One Token ProvidedRemoval of Ward BudgetsGrowthRenaissance Group Grant	£'000 50 34 30 25 25 (10)	£'000 100 34 30 30 25 25	£'000 100 34 30 30 25 0
Re-prioritisation of ServicesReview of Economic DevelopmentReduction in Parish GrantsDiscontinue the Community Safety Commissioning PlanCollection Only of Green Waste Bags - No Delivery and One Token ProvidedRemoval of Ward BudgetsGrowthRenaissance Group GrantTotal - Re-prioritisation of Services	£'000 50 34 30 25 25 (10) 154	£'000 100 34 30 30 25 25 0 0 219	£'000 100 34 30 30 25 0 219

Ordinary Council meeting 2 March 2016 – Proposed amendments from the Labour

Group

Amendment 1 - Business Rates

The Brentwood Business Challenge

To establish the Brentwood Local Business Challenge, a locally determined Business Rates scheme, at a cost of £20,000 that will create a reduction of £50,000 in Business Rates for the successful geographic area to increase business confidence and encourage development. The scheme will focus on small, retail businesses.

Total reductions in Business Rates: £50,000 Brentwood Borough Council costs: £20,000

Further detail

Brentwood Borough Council launches the Brentwood Local Business Challenge that will set aside a fund of up to £50,000 for local small and medium businesses within set criteria as below, within the successful geographic area. This will be a competitive tender/pitch process for closely geographically located businesses in numbers no greater than 50 businesses, similar to the 'Clusters' within the Renaissance Group, to compete for their area to receive a Business Rates discount from the Council. If successful the area will not be permitted to tender for any future Local Business Challenge for two years.

This is permitted by the use of the locally determined Business Rate scheme, under powers found in the Localism Act 2011. Brentwood is only liable for £20,000 of this fund, with the remainder covered by other tiers of Government.

This fund will be proportionally distributed to applicable businesses and within maximum reliefs as outlined below.

To qualify for this relief, the premises must be a property (retail unit, office or warehouse) which is:

- 1. Within the designated area, and
- 2. has a rateable value between £6,000 and £50,000, and
- 3. is not among the type of retailer which the council believes should not qualify for the relief, and
- 4. relief will be offered for a maximum of 12 months for applications received between 1 July 2016 to 31 March 2017.
- 5. The scheme will be available to small and medium sized enterprises (definition of SME employ up to 250 people and have a turnover of up to £40m) only.
- 6. The maximum amount of relief will be 50% of the net liability after all mandatory or discretionary reliefs have been applied to account.
- 7. Occupiers must take out/have a minimum 12 month lease and if the business moves out the council reserves the right to request repayment of any local business rate relief granted.

Types of occupied property which can qualify for relief

1. Properties being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public, eg:

a. Shops (such as florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, chemists, supermarkets, newsagents)

b. Charity shops

c. Opticians

d. Post offices

- e. Furnishing shops/display rooms (such as carpet shops)
- f. Car showrooms
- g. Second hand car lots
- h. Markets
- i. Petrol stations
- j. Garden centres
- k. Craft Shops
- I. Art galleries

2. Properties being used for the provision of certain services to visiting members of the public, eg:

- m. Hair & beauty services (such as hair dressers, nail bars, tanning shops etc)
- n. Shoe repairs/key cutting
- o. Travel agents
- p. Estate / letting agencies
- q. Dry cleaners
- r. Launderettes
- s. PC/TV/domestic appliance repair
- t. Funeral directors
- u. Photo processing
- v. DVD/video rentals
- w. Tool hire
- x. Car hire

3. Medical services y. Vets z. Dentists aa. Doctors bb. Osteopaths cc. Chiropractors

This list is not definitive, and other businesses who are of a similar type to those listed above may also qualify for the local business rate relief.

Properties which do not qualify for relief:

- a. Accountants
- b. Solicitors
- c. Insurance brokers
- d. Employment agencies
- e. Tutors
- f. Restaurants
- g. Sandwich shops
- h. Coffee shops
- i. Pubs
- j. Wine bars
- k. Takeaways
- I. Banks
- m. Building societies
- n. Cash points
- o. Bureau de change
- p. Payday lenders
- q. Betting shops
- r. Pawnbrokers
- s. Properties that may bring the scheme / area into disrepute

Any large businesses will be excluded as they are not classified as an SME.

Relief cannot be awarded if it will breach the State Aid. Whilst the DCLG suggests that councils should get a signed declaration from the ratepayer that any award would not breach State Aid, it is for the council to ensure that the rules are not broken and the signed declaration would not exclude the council from the consequences of breaching the rules. The DCLG will not reimburse the council for any award of relief that breaches State Aid de minimus figure of €200,000 over a three year period.

Amendment 2 - Support for Brentwood Business Groups and local business led development

Re-home current economic development functions with the local business community, including the removal of the Economic Development Committee with functions moved to other committees. Investment in the development of a new Economic Strategy for Brentwood and tendering of up to a £30,000 grant to local Business Groups to provide an Economic Development service with Town Centre Management functions assigned to members of the Licensing Team. Freezing investment into the Business Directory and gifting the current list to Renaissance Group, Brentwood Chamber of Commerce and other business groups as appropriate.

Total reductions: £129,760 Cost of Grant: £30,000 Cost of Economic Strategy: £10,000 Total Savings: £89,760

Amendment 3 - Efficient use of Special Responsibility Allowances

To require as part of job role the Leader and Deputy Leader to Chair a Council Committee

Total Saving: £2,500

Amendment 4 - Town Hall Hospitality Services

Given increasing staffing levels coming into the Town Hall, to tender to local businesses bringing in a coffee van style operation or similar for a set period in the day.

Total Income: £3,000