

TEAM BRIEFING SHEET NO. 157

DEPT:	DEPT MANAGER FOR QUESTIONS:	TEAM:
DATE OF BRIEFING: 13 January 2016	DATE AND METHOD OF ISSUE: 13 January 2016 via email to HoS secretaries	PRIORITY LEVEL: 1= Circulation Vital in 2 days- ED&SC services 2= Circulation Ideally in 1 week – other services
<p>1. <i>Departments must enter the name of the appropriate manager prior to circulation within their services to provide a contact for questions.</i></p> <p>2. <i>The information in the Brief must be circulated to the target audience (which may not be all employees) according to the priority above. This is a management responsibility and is not optional. An appropriate means of passing on the information should be adopted.</i></p> <p>3. <i>A reply must be sent to the source of the brief in each department to confirm that the information has been passed to employees as required.</i></p>		
<p>ADMINISTRATION GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT ON COUNCIL TAX INCREASE</p> <p>Earlier on today the Administration Group of councillors announced their intention to include an 18% increase in council tax as part of their budget proposals for the year ahead. The budget for 2016/17 will be considered by the council at its meeting on 10 February. The Council Leader also announced that he has written to the Deputy First Minister to advise him of the Administration Group’s intention and that he would welcome the opportunity to discuss the council’s financial position further with the Minister.</p> <p>The position for 2016/17 is a budget shortfall of £11.9M and the Administration Group has identified £1.8M from savings and increases in service charges. That leaves a shortfall of £10.1M and an increase in council tax of 18% will raise an additional £4.6M in income. The balance would be met by reserves and therefore the council is likely to be facing a significant shortfall when it comes to set the 2017/18 budget and further briefings on that year will be issued during 2016.</p> <p>You may be aware that the government will reduce the council’s grant further if council tax is not kept at the 2007/08 level. The reduction will be £1.1M which is equivalent to the first 3.6% of the increase. This has is reflected in the £4.6M which is net of the £1.1M reduction in grant.</p>		<p>Target Audience All MC Employees</p> <p>Priority Level 1 OR 2 AS ABOVE</p>