



WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL BRIEFING PAPER – 02.12.2024

REVISED BUDGET & PRECEPT FOLLOWING NI INCREASES

Author: Clerk/RFO
Summary: Financial impact of recent National Insurance Employer Contributions.

Background

At the last WPC meeting (4th Nov) the council approved the budget and precept, however at that time the full financial impact on the council had not been fully explored. There was also some speculation as to whether local councils would be exempt, however despite NALC challenging the government on its position as it stands we are liable for the NI increases and the impact of the change in thresholds. In summary the financial impact is shown below:

	2024-25	2025-26	Variance
Office	£ 2,976.60	£ 4,377.30	£ 1,400.70
Grounds	£ 715.02	£ 2,007.19	£ 1,292.18
TOTAL	£ 3,691.62	£ 6,384.49	£ 2,692.87

Salaries and pensions

The salary and pensions are based on the current payroll and could increase to £63,842 and £4,810.73 if the SCP for the Clerk/RFO vacancy are expanded to SCP 30.

The pension figures are based on the current NEST provision.

Salaries **£ 62,563.28**

Pensions **£ 3,213.29**

[To make these calculations I have used a spreadsheet supplied by SLCC.](#)

Budget impact

At the council meeting in November, council did agree its [budget and precept request](#), however with this new information it was timely that the council revisit these.

The budget sheet has been updated with additional columns reflecting the increases in NI increases and a more accurate figure for pension and salaries for 2025-26 which does increase the expenditure budget and unbalances the overall budget.

Financially there are several options:

1. Acknowledge the new information and understand that this will create an unbalanced budget, using reserves to cover any additional expenditure.
2. Acknowledge the new information and relook at the budget, making changes; reducing other budget lines, increase the [precept figures](#) to balance the budget or a combination of both.

Cllr Street has proposed that the precept is increased by 6% and the Meeting Costs budget is reduced by £1,100 in addition the Learning and Development budget could be reduced by £688.