

Statement by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management

21 February 2012

Since the last meeting of Council the area for which I have been spokesperson has concentrated upon budgeting and preparation of the proposals relating to the level of Council Tax to be proposed for 2011/12. Proposals relating to Council Tax are to be found elsewhere in the agenda.

There are well rehearsed problems surrounding the acceptance of the Governments offer of 2.5% increase in their support grant subject to the Council setting a Nil increase in the Council Tax levied.

It is thanks to the impact of Shared Services with Richmondshire District Council and the efficiency savings achieved that not only are we able to balance our budget but also able to maintain a high level of service provision. The goodwill and commitment of staff through this period of change is greatly valued.

Undoubtedly the coming year and years will have many financial challenges whilst trying to meet the high standards of service expected by our electorate but I consider we are in as robust a position as possible to meet that future.

Councillor Ron Kirk
Cabinet Member for Corporate Management