

**To the Members of St Davids City Council****14 January 2026**

Dear Member,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of St Davids City Council, convened by the Mayor, Councillor DJ Griffiths, to be held in the Memorial Hall, High Street, St Davids on Monday 19 January 2026 at 8.00pm for the transaction of the business set out in the agenda below.

Yours faithfully,



S. Mann Clerk

**AGENDA****Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday 19 January 2026 in the Memorial Hall at 8.00pm**

Members of the public wishing to attend on a remote basis should notify the Clerk to the Council in advance so that guidance can be provided on how to attend the meeting.

- 1 **Apologies for Absence:** Elected members summoned to this meeting who cannot attend must notify the Clerk in advance. Apologies are formally recorded in the minutes with reasons given and approved by the Council, as required by Standing Order 4 and the Local Government Act 1972. The attendance or absence of council officers is recorded in the minutes but does not require formal approval, as officers are not summoned under statutory requirements.
- 2 **Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in matters on the agenda in accordance with Standing Order 7(s) and the Council's Code of Conduct. Members are reminded that they should withdraw from discussions where their interest could reasonably be viewed by a member of the public, with knowledge of the facts, as significant enough to prejudice judgment. This procedure maintains public confidence in the Council's decision-making process.
- 3 **Public Representations:** Members of the public may address the Council regarding matters already listed on this agenda only, in accordance with Section 48 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and Standing Orders section 7. This is distinct from formal presentations by invited speakers on specific agenda items. Public representation is limited to 20 minutes total; 3 minutes per speaker; directed to Chair only. Public participation in debate is not permitted as Council meetings are formal decision-making forums where elected Councillors deliberate and vote on behalf of the community. Questions requiring detailed responses should be submitted to the Clerk outside of meetings.
- 4 **Precept Recommendation for the Financial Year April 2026 to March 2027**

**(Deferred: 12 January 2026 *RESOLVED* to defer the item to an Extraordinary Meeting of Council on Monday 19 January 2026 to include the Finance Committee information with options to consider)**

The recommendation by the Finance Committee is that the precept is increased from £60000 to £108000. I have attached a summary of the budget which the committee has scrutinised in detail and as you can see this means that on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 the anticipated deficit for the year will be just £606.

The impact of the increase of the precept from £60000 to £108000 on households in each Council tax band is illustrated in the table below.

For example, for a household in Council tax band D the recommended precept will represent a monthly increase of £2.92.

	<b>£60,000</b>			<b>£108,000</b>	
<b>BAND</b>	<b>ANNUAL PRECEPT COUNCIL TAX</b>	<b>Additional Amount Monthly</b>		<b>ANNUAL PRECEPT COUNCIL TAX</b>	<b>Additional Amount Monthly</b>
A	£29.14	£2.43		<b>£52.46</b>	£4.37
B	£34.00	£2.83		<b>£61.20</b>	£5.10
C	£38.86	£3.24		<b>£69.94</b>	£5.83
<b>D</b>	<b>£43.71</b>	<b>£3.64</b>		<b>£78.69</b>	£6.56
E	£53.43	£4.45		<b>£96.17</b>	£8.01
F	£63.14	£5.26		<b>£113.66</b>	£9.47
G	£72.86	£6.07		<b>£131.14</b>	£10.93
H	£87.43	£7.29		<b>£157.37</b>	£13.11

The major consideration by the committee was the need to maintain Council general (revenue) reserves within an accepted range of between three to twelve months of gross expenditure. This is requirement outlined in the recommended guidelines provided by Welsh Government and outlined in the statutory accounting practices for community Councils in Wales.

#### **Impact of budget deficit and precept increase on reserves.**

Based upon our current reserves (at December 2025) and the anticipated income and expenditure between January 2026 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 the anticipated deficit on 1<sup>st</sup> April is calculated to be £29243.

The diagram below shows the values of Council reserves on 31<sup>st</sup> March of each year from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and includes the anticipated reserves on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and the impact of the 2026/ 2027 budget recommendation on reserves on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027.

The figures on the left illustrate how reserves are maintained at £101,278 by March 2027 following the precept recommendation and the diagram on the right illustrates the impact if the precept is not increased.

ILLUSTRATION OF THE IMPACT OF PRECEPT UPON RESERVES at 31st MARCH 2027							
Increasing Precept from £60000 to £108000				Not increasing Increasing Precept from £60000			
Mar-22			£106,451	Mar-22			£106,451
Mar-23			£125,950	Mar-23			£125,950
Mar-24			£114,568	Mar-24			£114,568
Mar-25			£131,127	Mar-25			£131,127
Mar-26	Anticipated Projection	-£29,243	£101,884	Mar-26	Anticipated Projection	-£29,243	£101,884
Mar-27	Anticipated Projection	-£606	£101,278	Mar-27	Anticipated Projection	-£48,606	£53,278

### Conclusion

Without an increase in the precept the anticipated Council reserves in March 2027 will have fallen to £53,278 which would have been significantly below the statutory guidelines of at least one third of gross revenue expenditure.

### Decision Required:

- To consider the Finance Committee's recommendation regarding the precept for the financial year 2026-27, which was resolved at the Finance Committee meeting on 19 December 2025.
- To review the detailed budget information and supporting notes that informed the Finance Committee's deliberations.
- To consider the financial position of the Council, including the need to maintain reserves within the statutory guidelines of between three to twelve months of gross expenditure, as outlined in Welsh Government recommendations.
- To determine the precept level for 2026-27 and authorise the Clerk to submit the Council's decision to Pembrokeshire County Council by the requested deadline of 23 January 2026.