

East Sussex County Council
12 February 2013

Agenda Item 5, Section 1: Reconciling Policy, Performance & Resources - Updated Papers

The Final Finance Settlement for 2013/14 has now been published, and will be debated and approved by the House of Commons on Wednesday 13 February 2013.

There are only small and incidental changes within the Final Settlement resulting in a reduction of just £4,000 compared to the provisional settlement (£164.144m compared to £164.148m).

Final announcements on some related grants (such as the Education Services Grant and return of retained funding) are still awaited but this in itself is not unusual and can and will be addressed through normal budget management.

The papers attached update the relevant parts of Appendix 2 of the Cabinet's report to Council to reflect the final settlement.

Appendix 2 Annexes Updated:-

- 1a. Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2013/14
- 1b. Precept
2. Service Budgets for 2013/14
3. Proposed Revenue Budgets 2014/15 and 2015/16
4. Final Grant Settlement Briefing

Members should additionally note that:-

- 1) **Paragraph 1.7 (i) should now read,**

“a net revenue budget of £379.6m;”;

- 2) **Recommendation 3 (i) at paragraph 1.13 should now read,**

“the net budget requirement is £379.6m and the amount calculated by East Sussex County Council as its requirement for the year 2013/14 is £213.6m”;

- 3) **Recommendation 5 at paragraph 1.13 is no longer required.**

Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2013/14

	Budget
	2013/14
	£000
Adult Social Care	
Older People	57,892
Working Age Adults	70,222
Universal Services (inc Community Safety)	46,178
Total	174,292
Childrens Services	
SEN and Disability	10,712
Children's Social Care	39,660
Learning & Schools Effectiveness	28,748
Total	79,120
Economy, Transport & Environment	
Economy	1,495
Transport	28,901
Environment	31,431
Total	61,827
Governance and Community Services	
Community Services	9,269
Corporate Governance	2,971
Corporate Support Services	553
Public Health	23,839
Total	36,632
Corporate Resources	
Corporate Governance	244
Corporate Support Services	8,014
Total	8,258
Service Spend Total	360,129
New Capital Finance	5,050
Treasury Management etc	41,098
Inflation & Price Changes	5,000
Funding Risks & Future Uncertainties	4,800
Other Levies	456
Corporate Spend Total	56,404
Local Services Support Grant	-1,530
Public Health Grant	-23,839
Council Tax Freeze Grant 2013/14	-2,420
Education Services Grant	-6,800
Government Funding Retentions	-1,000
New Homes Bonus Allocation	-1,295
Corporate Grants Total	-36,884
Net Budget Requirement	379,649
Made up of:-	
Aggregate Gross Expenditure	833,507
Aggregate Income	-453,858
Net Budget Requirement	379,649
Funded by New Funding Streams:	
Business Rates Retention	10,878
Business Rates Top-up	54,697
RSG	98,569
Business Rates Retention Total	164,144
Council Tax Requirement (A)	213,583
Collection Fund Surplus	1,922
Total	379,649
Estimated Taxbase (B)	184,393.70
Therefore, Band D Council Tax (A/B)	£1,158.30
Increase	0.0%

**EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
PRECEPT FOR 2013/14**

	£	£
Net budget requirement		379,649,000
Revenue Support Grant	98,569,000	
Business Rates Retention	10,878,000	
Business Rates Top up	54,697,000	
Previous year's surpluses (deficits(-))	1,922,000	
Council tax requirement		213,583,000
Tax base	184,393.70	
Basic council tax		£1,158.30
Basic council tax as calculated above	£1,158.30	Council tax (£) :-
Band A	6/9	772.20
Band B	7/9	900.90
Band C	8/9	1,029.60
Band D	9/9	1,158.30
Band E	11/9	1,415.70
Band F	13/9	1,673.10
Band G	15/9	1,930.50
Band H	18/9	2,316.60
Basic council tax as calculated above	£1,158.30	Precept (£) :-
Tax base Eastbourne	32,476.60	37,617,646
Hastings	23,319.00	27,010,398
Lewes	34,436.00	39,887,219
Rother	35,021.30	40,565,172
Wealden	59,140.80	68,502,789

East Sussex County Council
Service Budgets 2013/14

(Updated) Appendix 2, Annex 2

	Adjusted Budget	Unavoidable Additional Service Spend		Savings		Cash Reduction		Provisional Budget	
	2012/13	2013/14						2013/14	
	£000	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%	£000	%
Adult Social Care									
Older People	62,378	-1,351	-2.2%	-3,135	-5.0%	-4,486	-7.2%	57,892	92.8%
Working Age Adults	73,862	594	0.8%	-4,234	-5.7%	-3,640	-4.9%	70,222	95.1%
Universal Services (inc Community Safety)	46,602	784	1.7%	-1,208	-2.6%	-424	-0.9%	46,178	99.1%
Total	182,842	27	0.0%	-8,577	-4.7%	-8,550	-4.7%	174,292	95.3%
Childrens Services									
SEN and Disability	10,395	776	7.5%	-459	-4.4%	317	3.0%	10,712	103.0%
Children's Social Care	41,451	3,092	7.5%	-4,883	-11.8%	-1,791	-4.3%	39,660	95.7%
Learning & Schools Effectiveness	30,099	950	3.2%	-2,301	-7.6%	-1,351	-4.5%	28,748	95.5%
Total	81,945	4,818	5.9%	-7,643	-9.3%	-2,825	-3.4%	79,120	96.6%
Economy, Transport & Environment									
Economy	1,721	0	0.0%	-226	-13.1%	-226	-13.1%	1,495	86.9%
Transport	30,042	208	0.7%	-1,349	-4.5%	-1,141	-3.8%	28,901	96.2%
Environment	33,397	0	0.0%	-1,966	-5.9%	-1,966	-5.9%	31,431	94.1%
Total	65,160	208	0.3%	-3,541	-5.4%	-3,333	-5.1%	61,827	94.9%
Governance and Community Services									
Community Services	9,503	154	1.6%	-388	-4.1%	-234	-2.5%	9,269	97.5%
Corporate Governance	3,072	0	0.0%	-101	-3.3%	-101	-3.3%	2,971	96.7%
Corporate Support Services	968	0	0.0%	-415	-42.9%	-415	-42.9%	553	57.1%
Public Health	23,839	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	23,839	100.0%
Total	37,382	154	0.4%	-904	-2.4%	-750	-2.0%	36,632	98.0%
Corporate Resources									
Corporate Governance	244	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	244	100.0%
Corporate Support Services	9,364	34	0.4%	-1,384	-14.8%	-1,350	-14.4%	8,014	85.6%
Total	9,608	34	0.4%	-1,384	-14.4%	-1,350	-14.1%	8,258	85.9%
Service Spend Total	376,937	5,241	1.4%	-22,049	-5.8%	-16,808	-4.5%	360,129	95.5%

**East Sussex County Council
Proposed Revenue Budgets 2014/15 to 2015/16**

(Updated) Appendix 2, Annex 3

	2013/14	Unavoidable Additional Service Spend		Savings		Cash Reduction		2014/15	Unavoidable Additional Service Spend		Savings		Cash Reduction		2015/16
		£000	%	£000	%	£000	%		£000	%	£000	%	£000	%	
Adult Social Care															
Older People	57,892	1,609	2.8%	-7,929	-13.7%	-6,320	-10.9%	51,572	539	1.0%	-4,766	-9.2%	-4,227	-8.2%	47,345
Working Age Adults	70,222	1,245	1.8%	-4,788	-6.8%	-3,543	-5.0%	66,679	1,063	1.6%	-2,295	-3.4%	-1,232	-1.8%	65,447
Universal Services	46,178	0	0.0%	-2,698	-5.8%	-2,698	-5.8%	43,480	0	0.0%	-1,230	-2.8%	-1,230	-2.8%	42,250
	174,292	2,854	1.6%	-15,415	-8.8%	-12,561	-7.2%	161,731	1,602	1.0%	-8,291	-5.2%	-6,689	-4.1%	155,042
Childrens Services															
SEN and Disability	10,712	4	0.0%	-574	-5.4%	-570	-5.3%	10,142	0	0.0%	-1,296	-1.8%	-1,296	-12.8%	8,846
Children's Social Care Learning & Schools Effectiveness	39,660	17	0.0%	-2,177	-5.5%	-2,160	-5.4%	37,500	1	0.0%	632	-1.8%	633	1.7%	38,133
	28,748	73	0.3%	-2,393	-8.3%	-2,320	-8.1%	26,428	61	0.2%	-2,623	-1.8%	-2,562	-9.7%	23,866
	79,120	94	0.1%	-5,144	-6.5%	-5,050	-6.4%	74,070	62	0.1%	-3,287	-4.4%	-3,225	-4.4%	70,845
Economy, Transport & Environment															
Economy	1,495	0	0.0%	-8	-0.5%	-8	-0.5%	1,487	0	0.0%	-70	-1.8%	-70	-4.7%	1,417
Transport	28,901	0	0.0%	-5,064	-0.5%	-5,064	-17.5%	23,837	0	0.0%	-3,532	-1.8%	-3,532	-14.8%	20,305
Environment	31,431	0	0.0%	-804	-0.5%	-804	-2.6%	30,627	0	0.0%	-509	-1.8%	-509	-1.7%	30,118
	61,827	0	0.0%	-5,876	-9.5%	-5,876	-9.5%	55,951	0	0.0%	-4,111	-1.8%	-4,111	-7.3%	51,840
Governance and Community Services															
Community Services	9,269	58	0.6%	-774	-8.4%	-716	-7.7%	8,553	0	0.0%	-269	-3.1%	-269	-3.1%	8,284
Corporate Governance	2,971	0	0.0%	-167	-5.6%	-167	-5.6%	2,804	0	0.0%	-135	-4.8%	-135	-4.8%	2,669
Corporate Support Services	553	0	0.0%	-617	-111.6%	-617	-111.6%	-64	0	0.0%	-346	540.6%	-346	540.6%	-410
Public Health	23,839	668	2.8%	0	0.0%	668	2.8%	24,507	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	24,507
	36,632	726	2.0%	-1,558	-4.3%	-832	-2.3%	35,800	0	0.0%	-750	-2.1%	-750	-2.1%	35,050
Corporate Resources															
Corporate Governance	244	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	244	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	244
Corporate Support Services	8,014	0	0.0%	-2,700	-33.7%	-2,700	-33.7%	5,314	0	0.0%	-1,350	-25.4%	-1,350	-25.4%	3,964
	8,258	0	0.0%	-2,700	-32.7%	-2,700	-32.7%	5,558	0	0.0%	-1,350	-24.3%	-1,350	-24.3%	4,208
Service Spend Total	360,129	3,674	1.0%	-30,693	-8.6%	-27,019	-7.5%	333,110	1,664	0.5%	-17,789	-5.3%	-16,125	-4.8%	316,985
				Change							Change				
	£000			£000				£000			£000				£000
New Capital Finance	5,050			0				5,050			0				5,050
Treasury Management etc	41,098			2,828				43,926			-1,208				42,718
Inflation & Price Changes	5,000			6,381				11,381			6,420				17,801
Funding Risks & Future Uncertainties	4,800			0				4,800			0				4,800
Other Levies	456			9				465			0				465
Corporate Spend Total	56,404			9,218				65,622			5,212				70,834
Local Services Support Grant	-1,530			17				-1,513			256				-1,257
Public Health Grant	-23,839			-668				-24,507			0				-24,507
Council Tax Freeze Grant 2013/14	-2,420			0				-2,420			2,400				-20
Education Services Grant	-6,800			0				-6,800			0				-6,800
Government Funding Retentions	-1,000			0				-1,000			0				-1,000
New Homes Bonus Allocation	-1,295			-467				-1,762			-467				-2,229
Corporate Grants Total	-36,884			-1,118				-38,002			2,189				-35,813
Net Budget Requirement	379,649	3,674		-22,593				360,730	1,664		-10,388				352,006

Funded by:

	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Business Rates Retention	10,878				326		11,204			715	11,919
Business Rates Top-up	54,697				1,260		55,957			2,496	58,453
RSG	98,569				-23,923		74,646			-17,408	57,238
Business rates Retention Total	164,144				-22,337		141,807			-14,197	127,610
Council Tax Requirement (A)	213,583				5,340		218,923			5,473	224,396
Collection Fund Surplus	1,922				-1,922		0			0	0
Total	379,649				-18,919		360,730			-8,724	352,006

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Final) SETTLEMENT 2013/14

1. BACKGROUND

On 4 February 2013, the Under Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, made a written statement to the House of Commons concerning the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2013/14. This would be debated and the Finance Settlement approved by the House of Commons on 13 February 2013. It follows a four week consultation on the Provisional Settlement which commenced on 19 December 2013. Key points are:

- Only small and incidental (data) changes within the Final Settlement figures, though some related grants (such as the Education Services Grant and some retained funding) are yet to be announced.
- The Secretary of State announced that local authorities will face an average reduction in spending power of 1.5%; and that no local authority would experience a decrease of more than 8.8%. Elements of the Spending Power calculation have been revised following the consultation on the Provisional Settlement.
- Local government will be exempt from the 1% reduction in funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2012 (this exemption was originally announced in the Autumn Statement by the Chancellor).

The Settlement this year remains by far the most complex of recent years.

2. FUNDING FOR EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL FOR 2013/14

The headlines of updated funding announcements can be summarised as follows:

	Settlement announcement 4 Feb 2013
	£m
General Formula Grant funding	164.1
Additional managed grants	45.2
Total Managed Grant funding	209.3

The main changes on grant funding from November Cabinet planning are:

	£m
Loss of general grant from November estimate	-3.0
Retentions Grant (Initial Estimate)	+1.0
Education Services Grant due to estimated Academy pupil numbers and funding	-1.4
Loss of Early Intervention Grant to Dedicated Schools Grant	- 4.6
An increase in the expected sum for Public Health Grant	+2.5
Council tax freeze grant 2013/14	+2.4
Other New Grants which will be matched by expenditure	+1.9

Further details of the General Formula Grant Settlement (£164.1m) and Additional managed grants (£45.2m) are set out in paragraphs 3.0 and 4.0 respectively, below.

3.0 GENERAL FORMULA GRANT FUNDING

3.1 Summary of the position

New Revenue Funding Streams from 1 April 2013	Nov Cabinet 2013/14 £'000	Nov Cabinet updated 2013/14 £'000	Final Settlement 2013/14 £'000	Variance from Cabinet updated £'000	Notes
New Funding Streams:					
Business Rates Retention	11,765	11,126	10,878	-248	1
Business Rates Top-up	55,020	55,422	54,697	-725	2
RSG	89,562	97,328	98,569	1,241	3
Funding transferred to separate grant streams	20,210				4
Provisional Settlement Announcement	176,557	163,876	164,144	268	

Notes:					
1	This baseline element will vary according to growth in local business rate collection				
2	This element will in future increase year on year with indexed inflation				
3	RSG is the balance of baseline funding after other funding streams have been distributed. Shared according to baseline funding				
4	Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG), and funding for Safety Net, capitalisation, topslice retentions and New Homes Bonus become new grant funding streams				

3.2 Government Funding Retentions

Whilst some of the Government Funding Retention matters have been covered in the Settlement, this continues to be an area where there remains uncertainty. Funding retentions were held back by the Government pending finalisation of Safety Net/capitalisations/new homes bonus payments. It is understood that the retention balances will be repaid via new grants To this extent the New Homes Bonus Adjustment Grant (£0.555m) has now been announced. Although the sums held back are much smaller than earlier announced, payment arrangements are yet to be provided. An estimate of £1.0m is provided for this, of which the New Homes Bonus Adjustment grant is an element.

3.3 More detail on the Final Settlement

In fact, Settlement figures now absorb many “current” funding streams (totalling £86.2m) that have transferred into the Business Rates Retention methodology, as follows:

Business Rates Retention Derived from current funding streams to 1 April 2013	£m	£m	Notes
Relative Needs Amount		120.490	
Relative Resource Amount		-74.546	
Central Allocation		50.087	
Floor Damping		-9.282	
Central Education Functions Within LACSEG		-8.808	5
Grants previously rolled in Using Tailored Distributions	17.665		6
New Grants rolled in Using Tailored Distributions	68.538	86.203	7
Provisional Settlement Announcement		164.144	

Notes:

Note 5 – For further details of Central Education Functions within LACSEG see para.5.3 below.

Note 6	2013/14
Grants previously rolled in Using Tailored Distributions	£m
Local Transport Services	0.802
Supporting People	12.635
Housing Strategy for Older People	0.163
LSC Staff Transfer	0.348
Preserved rights	3.453
HIV/AIDS	0.238
Animal Welfare	0.026
Total Grants previously rolled in Using Tailored	17.665

Note 7	2013/14
New Grants rolled in Using Tailored Distributions	£m
Council Tax Freeze Compensation	5.980
Council Tax Support Funding	30.185
Early Intervention Funding	13.913
Lead Local Flood Authority	0.158
Learning Disability and PH Reform	18.301
New Grants rolled in Using Tailored Distributions	68.537

Total Grants rolled in Using Tailored Distributions	86.202
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4.0 ADDITIONAL MANAGED GRANTS

Additionally managed grants finance County Council services, but they are announced by Government departments outside of the Settlement. These sources of finance may be managed either centrally (para. 4.1) or within departments (para.4.2), as is appropriate to the particular grant. Details of these grants are being updated as on-going Government department announcements are made:

4.1 Centrally Managed Specific Grants

	£'000	Notes		
Centrally Managed Specific grants				
Public Health Grants	23,839	New grant 2013/14 as announced		
Education Services Grant	6,800	Est. new grant 2013/14 announcement awaited		
Council Tax Freeze Grant 2013/14	2,420	New grant 2013/14 as anticipated		
"Retentions" Grants	1,000	Est. new grants 2013/14 announcement awaited		
New Homes Bonus Grant	1,295			
Community Right to Challenge	9			
Stronger Safer Communities	232			
Extended Rights & General Duty to promote Sustainable Travel	1,024			
Young Peoples Substance Misuse	39			
Lead Local Flood Authorities	168			
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	58			
Centrally Managed Grants	36,884			

4.2 Departmentally Managed Grants assumed

	£'000	Notes		
Departmentally Managed Specific Grants				
PFI Grant	4,754			
Home Office Youth Offending Teams	614			
Asylum Seekers	270			
Defra- Aonb	283			
Dept of Transport etc	693			
Local Reform and Community Voices Grant	453	New grant 2013/14 as announced		
Social and Crisis Funding	1,202	New grant 2013/14 as announced		
Departmentally Managed Specific Grants	8,269			

Additional Grants Assumed	45,153			
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4.3 Reduction in Spending Power

As stated above, local authorities will face an average reduction in spending power of 1.5% in 2013/14; and no local authority will experience a decrease of more than 8.8%. The Government will pay a revenue grant (Efficiency Support Grant) to local authorities in 2013/14 and 2014/15 who would otherwise have seen a reduction in 'revenue spending power' of more than 8.8% in 2013/14 (see paragraph 6.6 "Efficiency Support Grant – Hastings BC" below). For the County Council, the Government measures the reduction in spending power at 1.52% as follows:

Spending Power	2012/13 adj £m	2013/14 £m	change £m	change %
Settlement Funding	171.704	164.144	-7.560	-4.40%
Other Grants and adjustments	0.269	-1.179		
S256 NHS Funding	6.604	9.254		
Council tax	240.823	240.823		
Total Spending Power	419.400	413.042	-6.358	-1.52%

For County Councils, the spending power reduction ranges from 0.18% for Surrey CC to (-) 2.30% for Oxfordshire CC.

4.4 2014/15 Provisional Settlement and forward

More limited information is currently available for the 2014/15. On a like-for-like basis, funding of £151.7m is announced for 2014/15 to compare with £164.1m for 2013/14. This represents a year-on-year reduction of (-) £12.6m. It is uncertain how the currently announced 2% spending cuts announced for 2014/15 (nationally, -£445m) will be applied.

A Government Spending review (SR13) is expected later this year, which will inform spending decisions for 2015/16 onwards. Ministers have provisionally indicated that spending reductions in these years will "follow the current trajectory".

The medium term financial plan currently assumes a spending reduction for 2014/15 of (-) £22.3m, and for 2015/16 of (-)£13.2m.

5. OTHER MATTERS

5.1 Public Health

The Secretary of State for Health announced on 10 January 2013 the new ringfenced Public Health Grant allocations for 2013/14 and 2014/15. The national funding amount of £2.66bn has been distributed according to adjusted previous year expenditure, with growth applied proportional to distance from a calculated target expenditure. The target is principally based on the population size of each local authority and also the standardised mortality ratio (SMR) for those aged under 75 years (taken as the major indicator of overall health). Thus over time the authority will be brought into line with its target expenditure – East Sussex is currently above target and can therefore expect increases below the increase in the national pot for some years to come.

East Sussex has received the following:-

- 2013/14 allocation £23.839m
- 2014/15 allocation £24.507m

This grant is ringfenced. The allocation per head by the DoH's calculation for ESCC is £45, whereas the national average is £49. We did receive significantly more than neighbours – West Sussex £32, Kent £33, Surrey £20.

5.2 NHS funding transfer to local authorities

Under current funding arrangements, the NHS is required to passport funding to the County Council to help the County achieve specified health outcomes in the Social Care arena. The funding will be transferred to ESCC ASC under a Section 256 agreement. We show this as Income from Health in the accounts. This is in place with the PCT at the moment as they receive the funding. The funding for Health for Social Care in 2013/14 transfers from PCT to NHS Commissioning Board. The funding will increase from £6.6m this year to £9.3m in 2013/14. This increase features in the Spending Power calculations of the Government (paragraph 4.3 above), which otherwise would have indicated a greater reduction in Local Government funding.

5.3 LACSEG and Education Services Grant

A significant adjustment is the transfer out of general funding totals for the Local Authority Central Schools Equivalent Grant (LACSEG). LACSEG is intended to represent the Local Authority expenditure on “central” services provided to Schools (which includes central support, welfare, school improvement, health and regulatory services etc). By removing it from the funding total, the Government intend to redirect sums for these central services away from local authorities to independently pay for equivalent “back office” services within academies schools. A total LACSEG sum (£8.808m) is taken in the first instance before returning a reduced grant amount back to Local Authorities (est. £6.8m) based on reduced pupil numbers that have transferred to Academies. This grant will be called “Education Services Grant”. Announcement of this grant (and amount) is expected in the next month or so.

5.4 Council Tax Freeze Grant and local referenda

Confirmation is given of the previously announced council tax freeze grant offer: i.e. an amount equivalent to a 1% increase in funding for 2013/14 and 2014/15, for a 0% council tax increase in 2013/14; and up to a 2% increase being allowable before a referendum is required. An allowable £5 increase in council tax (even if it is above the 2% threshold) is available for Shire Districts, Police and Crime Commissioners and Fire and Rescue Authorities whose 2012/13 council tax was in the lower quartile of their category of authority. Due to the taxbase assumed for this grant, an amount of £2.4m is planned for.

5.5 Councillors and the Local Government Pension Scheme

Subject to consultation, the Government propose that there will be no access for councillors to the Local Government Pension Scheme in England from April 2014.

Please note:

- Statutory consultation is required before making this change and an amendment to the regulations which govern the scheme is required.
- Councillors' accrued rights which have been built up in the scheme up to April 2014 will be fully protected. Our expectation is that at the point of which councillors become no longer eligible to be members of the LGPS in April 2014 they would become deferred members. The normal scheme rules will then apply and if eligible a member will be able to apply for payment of their benefits.
- This will of course be subject to any changes that may be made to the regulations prior to April 2014.

5.6 Efficiency Support Grant ~ Hastings BC

The Government will pay a revenue grant (Efficiency Support Grant) to local authorities in 2013/14 and 2014/15 who would otherwise have seen a reduction in ‘Spending Power’ of more than 8.8% in 2013/14. The grant will be offered to these authorities, providing they sign up to conditions for 2013/14 e.g. joint working. This grant will not be offered for

2014/15 to an authority if it fails to deliver on the conditions agreed upon. There are seven authorities eligible for the Efficiency Support Grant, which include Hastings BC.

5.7 “50 Ways to Save”

A publication is made of “50 ways to save: examples of sensible savings in local government”; which has the stated intention of offering ‘practical tips and guidance’ for councils on achieving savings. This is currently being reviewed so we can assess progress.

6.0 FOOTNOTE: Funding proposals this year are complex; and some consequences and uncertainties (including for schools and academies etc) are still awaiting announcement

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