



**TRAFFORD**  
**COUNCIL**

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Dear Mr Megainey

### **Adult Social Care Council Tax Precept 2017/18**

In reply to your letter of 21 February 2017 I am writing to confirm that Trafford Council has increased its council tax to fund adult social care services in 2017/18.

Trafford's council tax has increased by 4.99% for 2017/18, comprising a general increase of 1.99% and a 3% rise for adult social care.

I have completed the table below, comparing the changes in adult social care budgets (including overheads and running costs) with those of other non-ringfenced services, including and excluding the precept. Please note that the 2016/17 adult social care figure has been adjusted to reflect BCF contributions from the CCG which had been classed as specific grants and that both figures are on a like-for-like basis.

	2016-17 budget (£000)	Total ASC 2017/18 precept (£000)	2017/18 budget (£000)	ASC % change 2016/17 to 2017/18 budget excluding precept ((C-B)/A)
	A	B	C	D
Budget for non- ring-fenced services	44,055		39,737	90.20
Budget for Adult Social Care	49,862	2,533	51,103	97.41

Below is a description of how my authority proposes to use the funding from the precept, in support of this table.

There have been significant pressures on the adult social care budget for 2016/17 which will have an impact on the 2017/18 budget. This precept will enable us to continue to provide adult social care services to an increasing number of clients. The precept will be used to support:-

- Increasing demographic pressures, levels of care required and delayed transfers of care £3.7m
- Impact of the national living wage £1.4m
- Increase in costs associated with Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards £0.3m

Trafford Council has agreed an increase in council tax of 4.99% for 2017/18, including 3% in respect of the social care precept. I certify that the authority will use the funding above 2% to improve the way social care services are delivered in my area, and have set out below how we propose to do so.

As a Greater Manchester local authority we are a key signatory to the Taking Charge STP which clearly articulates an intention to integrate health and social care at pace and in order to reduce demand on urgent and specialist health care services. Our local BCF plan takes full account of the ambitions for improvement within the STP, including a trajectory for delayed transfers of care, set by the Chief Officer of the GM Health and Social Care Partnership. The trajectory is ambitious in a borough with the demographics of Trafford, ie an ageing population of over 85 year olds and a reduced population of adults of working age.

The social care precept will do a number of things in Trafford. It will stabilise existing service provision whilst we implement change programmes, for example, redesign of aids and adaptations, the development of enhanced intermediate care, and the commissioning of an enhanced reablement service called SAMS. It will also protect access to third sector community service provision.

The Council's budget plans had always assumed the 2% increase for 2017/18 but during our budget process and robustness review a number of "deep-dive" reviews were undertaken in high risk budget areas including adult social care. This identified additional budget pressures caused by reducing delayed transfers of care and increasing care requirements which were estimated to need further investment of £2.5m and therefore the decision was taken to make the full 3% increase in the social care precept for 2017/18.

Yours sincerely

**Nikki Bishop**  
**Chief Finance Officer**

**Jill Colbert**  
**Corporate Director Children, Families and Wellbeing**