



## **INTRODUCTION**

Faversham Town Council's Medium Term Financial Plan puts in place a strategy to guide the Council's financial planning over a three year period to address the national and local challenges faced, deliver the Council's strategic aims and meet community priorities.

## **AIMS OF THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

1. To ensure that a strategic approach is taken in the planning of the Council's future spending and finances;
2. To create stronger links between the Council's strategic aims and the priorities of local tax payers and future spending decisions;
3. To put in place a clear, understandable and forward looking financial planning framework;
4. To make it clear how the Council plans its spending and who is responsible for making spending decisions;
5. To help the Council to demonstrate and achieve value for money;
6. To help ensure that the views of the community are taken into account in deciding where and how the Councils spends public money.

## **FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES**

- A strong financial strategy that enables the Council to take a long term view of its finances;
- A level of spending that is affordable and sustainable;
- A prudent but realistic assessment of future revenue spending commitments, capital investment, levels of income, tax base and external grant funding;
- A strong culture of financial management;
- A prudent level of balances and reserves.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To review the Council's level of reserves
- To seek grants wherever possible
- To increase revenue opportunities
- To consider economies of scale

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

A vital part of this strategy is to maintain and develop sound financial management by staying on track and monitoring financial plans and the use of resources. This will be achieved through a system of:

- ✓ Regular budget monitoring and analysis of spending within Committees.
- ✓ Regular financial and performance reporting to the Town Council.