M E D I A R E L E A S E

Ref: 001DN : council tax

Release date: 1 March 2012

Zero council tax rise

Top of the good news for residents of South Kesteven is that SKDC is freezing its share of council tax for 2012/13.

Even better, SKDC staff continue to deliver all front line services despite seeing its Government grant reduced by £2.25m over the last two years.

That's thanks to a carefully managed efficiency programme which began in earnest 18 months ago, as SKDC's Cabinet prepared for expected cuts in annual Government grant.

Extensive consultation with residents, including a series of workshops and face to face interviews, mapped out a programme to include streamlining management, cutting back office costs and looking at different ways to deliver key services.

SKDC leader Cllr Linda Neal said: "We have developed a long term strategy to help see the district safely through this recession, developing building blocks as a base for future economic regeneration and driving home the fact that this is a well run district and a good place to live and work.

"We have listened to what residents have told us matters most to them, especially on our agenda for a cleaner, greener, safer district and in the interests of delivering on the council's goals and priorities.

"We will continue to invest in more street cleaning and highway verge litter picking, funded by the reduction in winter green waste collection that residents supported."

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