To receive a report on the Town Council Precept leaflet for the year 2025/26 and consider any actions and associated expenditure

Overview

In the year 2024/2025 the Town Council opted to advertise the precept leaflet in a few distribution avenues, which included a Facebook paid advertisement, and a two-page centre spread in the Observer. This report will outline some advertisement and design options for the 2025/2026 precept leaflet.

In some previous years the Town Council opted to send a printed version of the precept leaflet to all postcodes within the PL12 4,5,6 and 9 catchment area to ensure residents are kept informed of the Town Council precept. Neighbouring Town and Parish Councils were approached to advise how they distribute their precept information to residents.

Town		
Callington	Do not create or distribute any publication specifically for precept information purposes.	
Liskeard	Have not printed and distributed precept information since 2016 due to increased postal and printing costs.	
Torpoint	Share information on their website and social media channels. Produce a quarterly newsletter with precept information contained within.	

To Note: It is a legal requirement for Town and Parish Councils to upload their precept statement to Cornwall Councils Website:

https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/council-tax/your-council-tax-bill/council-tax-2023/parish-councils-with-a-precept-over-140-000-in-2023/

Advertising/Distribution

1. Royal Mail Distribution

In previous years, Royal Mail has been used to distribute our precept leaflets. However, it is now recommended that we avoid this option due to its higher costs and its misalignment with our Business Plan's strategic priorities. Specifically, continuing with this approach does not support our commitment to addressing the climate emergency or advancing a local climate change strategy. Printing and distributing the leaflets in this way could be seen as a step backwards in our efforts to protect the environment and reduce the Town Council's carbon footprint.

Furthermore, for the year 2024/25, the Town Council spent £1,560.00 plus VAT on printing and distribution, compared to £1,810.08 plus VAT in 2023/24. By opting not to print and distribute leaflets via Royal Mail, and instead using The Observer, the Council achieved a saving of £250.08. Additionally, opting to use the Observer supports local business and aligns with our strategic priority to boost jobs and economic prosperity.

Some alternative advertising streams have been provided for members' consideration.

2. Facebook

Advertising through this method has been proven to reach various audiences through its targeted approach. It is a vital tool that could be used in various ways to reach multiple audiences if used appropriately. Please refer to Appendix 3 for examples of a Facebook Advert using the new Branding Kit. This can then be advertised with a short description to encourage viewers to find out more.

3. Bus shelters

Bus shelter advertising can offer access to footfall traffic across a wide range of space in Saltash. Fernbank advertising offers various locations for a poster at one bus stop for a two-week period, as seen in Appendix 1. Members are asked to consider Fore Street as a viable option due to its high footfall. An example design can be found in Appendix 4.

4. The Guildhall

Display printed versions of the Town Council precept leaflet in the reception area.

5. The Library

Display printed versions of the Town Council precept leaflet with a digital version available on the TV to catch visitors' attention.

6. Town Council Noticeboards

Display A4 or A5 designs advertising the various outlets you can collect or digitally view a leaflet.

7. The Observer

This option continues to be a great avenue to advertise the precept leaflet and is available for collection at the Guildhall, the Library, and to view online via the Town Council website. This can be captured in the monthly Town Messenger with a small QR code to direct readers to the Town Council website. An example of the two-page centre spread design can be found in Appendix 2.

8. The Town Council Website

Will have a digital version of the precept information A3 leaflet available for viewing via the finance web page.

9. Meet Your Councillors

Provides an opportunity to hand leaflets out to residents and to talk about the precept.

Associated advertising costs:

Item	Cost	Proposal	Start Dates (Approximate Dates – TBC to match with Cornwall Council)
Facebook Advertising	£60	Individual design for each Town Council strategic priority two Facebook adverts per week over a three- week period	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 – Saturday 5 th April 2025.
Bus Shelters	£220 per panel, per two-week period. £33 per poster to print for bus stop panel.	Trial one poster in Fore Street	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 – Saturday 5 th April 2025.
The Library	N/A	N/A	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 – Saturday 5 th April 2025 on TV. Leaflets on display until following March 2026.
The Guildhall	N/A	N/A	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 Leaflets on display until following March 2026.
Noticeboards	N/A	N/A	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 – Saturday 5 th April 2025.
The Observer	£1,500 (she is happy to honour the same price as last year)	Produce the same as 2024/2025 and use a two-page centre spread.	March 2025 edition of Town Messenger
Website	N/A	N/A	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 until March 2026
Meet Your Councillors	Additional Leaflets may wish to be printed	N/A	TBC

Budget Code: 6301 Stationery / Postage / Printing

Budget Availability: £2,501.00

Next Steps

Members are requested to consider all associated costs, printing options and methods of distributing precept information, confirming how they would like to proceed with for the year 2025/26.

End of Report Development and Engagement Manager

Appendix 1: Fernbank Advertising Location Options

To Note: The images are snapshots from the website, apologies for the hard to read text that is overlapping the images.



































Appendix 2: Example of the two-page centre spread

The updates on this option for 2025/2026 are as follows:

- 1. The new version will elaborate on the launch of the business plan, focusing on funding and deliverables.
- 2. The right-hand blue box at the bottom will feature how the strategic priorities are starting to be supported by highlights of delivery progress, with a supporting image.
- 3. Example images have been included, and if the design is chosen, improved images will be researched and used for the final design.
- 4. An updated list will be produced to show examples of projects and investment that are used to support the community in the bottom left-hand box.
- 5. Additional links to STC social media accounts will be updated and added.

Saltash Town Council Working for people





To be able to continue to preserve and maintain services for the community of Saltash it is necessary to increase your Council Tax for 2025/2026 by XXX%.







This equates to £XX.XX per yearwhich is just XX pence per week

The larger portion of your Council Tax is set by Cornwall Council, Devon and Cornwall Police, and Adult Social Care.

for a typical Band D property.

The Saltash Town Council portion of council tax is used to support the community in many ways. Here are just a few examples of how your Saltash portion of council tax money has been reinvested in the community during 2024-2025:

AN UPDATED LIST WILL BE INCLUDED HERE OF RELEVANT EXAMPLES

Funding Streams
The Town Council has committed to investing into projects as well as continuously searching for new funding opportunities to support the town.

Saltash Town Council have been successful in securing various funding during the year 2024-2025. Funds have been received from Town Vitality (Working in partnership with Town Team) and the Community Infrastructure Levy to be able to start reinvesting into the community

Business Plan
Saltash Town Council has officially launched the new
Business Plan for the period 2024-2027, setting out a
roadmap for the town's development over the next few

Deliverables

The Town Council has been focused on advancing key strategic priorities, with significant progress already made in several key areas. A summary of some of these achievements is highlighted in the following section.









Climate Emergency

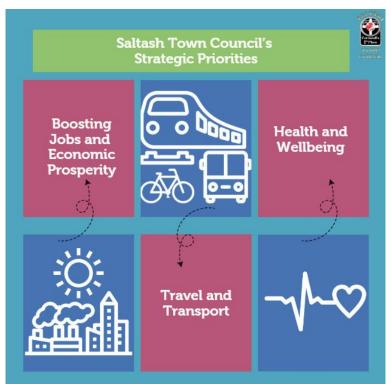


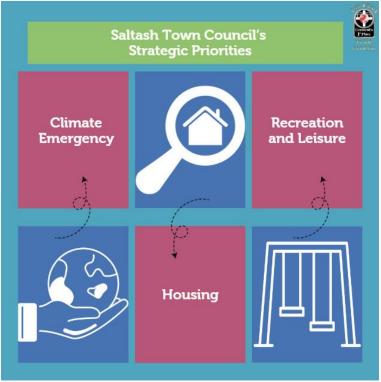




Appendix 3: Facebook Advert Example - DRAFTS

This Facebook advert would be a video that can be viewed here: Example video for STC
Precept FB.mp4







Appendix 4: Bus Shelter Design

To Note:

- 1. This design will be updated with the branding kit colours if the design is chosen.
- 2. The design will include updated strategic priorities to reflect the Business Plan.

