

Item	2025-26 Budget	2026-2027 proposed budget	Change 25-26 to 26-27	% Change 25/26 to 2026/27
			£	
Staffing : Salaries	846,008.00	912,739.00	66,731.00	Increases relating to cost of living and the adjusted payscale following the salary review
Staffing : Salaries (DEFRA Funded)	(48,326.00)	(45,526.00)	2,800.00	income from DEFRA used to fund the Cockle Officer
Staffing : Recruitment & Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Staffing : Medical, Insurance & Health and Safety Expenses	5,235.00	7,611.00	2,376.00	A new drysuit is needed in 2026/27 and there are increases to charges for Stay Safe App, while budget for other PPE has reduced.
Staffing : Travel & Subsistence Expenses	12,430.00	8,800.00	(3,630.00)	The 2025/26 travel / subsistence budget was increased to cover for site visits for the Nemo build will not be required in 2026/27
Staffing : Uniform	2,015.00	2,300.00	285.00	
Staffing Total	817,362.00	885,924.00	68,562.00	8%
Premises : Repairs, Alterations & Maintenance	5,250.00	5,650.00	400.00	
Premises: Utilities	9,656.00	11,166.00	1,510.00	Increased budget to cover for general increases in utility costs
Premises: Rent, Rates, Service Charges & Insurance	35,670.00	39,610.00	3,940.00	increases are for rent and rates at Brightlingsea office and Tamesis
Premises: Security Charges	280.00	500.00	220.00	
Premises: Office Equipment & Furniture	1,250.00	750.00	(500.00)	
Premises: Office Expenses	10,228.00	5,800.00	(4,428.00)	Decrease is due to reductions in forecast for stationery, postage and printing as these were increased in 2025/26 for the T24 Regulatory Order administrative work
Premises: IT	32,230.00	34,600.00	2,370.00	increases in IT charges in the coming year for computer equipment, software and cloud storage. There is a new cost for computer equipment for Nemo in the budget
Premises Total	94,564.00	98,076.00	3,512.00	4%
Vessels : Repairs & Maintenance	54,475.00	47,985.00	(6,490.00)	Forecast based on expected maintenance requirements, this results in a small budget decrease
Vessels : Fuel & Oil	37,066.00	36,629.00	(437.00)	Forecast based on expected vessel requirements, this results in a small budget decrease
Vessels : Insurance	27,900.00	26,900.00	(1,000.00)	Forecast based on expected maintenance requirements, this results in a small budget decrease
Vessels : Harbour Fees	15,350.00	16,360.00	1,010.00	Budget increased due to rising costs for harbour dues
Vessels : Specialist Equipment	17,166.00	8,328.00	(8,838.00)	in 2025/26 this budget included some of the Health & Safety software and equipment that is now included in staffing following the change in coding structure
Vessels Total	151,957.00	136,202.00	(15,755.00)	-12%
Vans : Servicing, Repairs & Maintenance	12,950.00	13,220.00	270.00	
Quad Bikes : Sales / Purchase	5,500.00	9,310.00	3,810.00	includes cost of storage of the quad bikes which in 2025/26 was included in the Research: Cockles budget
Vehicles Total	18,450.00	22,530.00	4,080.00	18%
Research : Cockles	12,200.00	15,328.00	3,128.00	Increase in costs for VMS and cockle survey related subsistence costs
Research : Whelks	4,600.00	6,600.00	2,000.00	2026/27 has two paid trips to local fishermen and purchase of fleet of pots additionally included in the budget which is an increase on 2025/26
Research : Manila Clams	0.00	2,950.00	2,950.00	New budget line

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Research : Other Research Costs	7,750.00	0.00	(7,750.00)	The 2025/26 budget included 7.75k for Manila Clam Trials. There are trials and surveys planned for 2026/27 which are now coded directly to Manila Clams and the expected costs are just under 3k.
Research Total	24,550.00	24,878.00	328.00	1%
Training :	12,720.00	17,325.00	4,605.00	Budget is variable year to year depending on essential training requirements for staff. Increases in 2026/27 relate to MMO and red snapper training
Training : Reserves drawdown	0.00	(17,325.00)	(17,325.00)	In order to reduce the levy burden, the 2026/27 training costs will be reimbursed from the Training Reserve
Training Total	12,720.00	0.00	(12,720.00)	100%
Administration : IFCA Management	17,204.00	13,604.00	(3,600.00)	A significant amount of the 25/26 budget was for T24, not required in 26/27 budget
Administration : Bank Fees & Charges	120.00	150.00	30.00	
Administration : Subscriptions to Professional Bodies	15,000.00	29,162.00	14,162.00	In 2026/27 this budget line includes items that were in Professional Services in 2025/26 (CLUE, MCSS, Seaflux, GIS)
Administration : Subscriptions to Professional Bodies	0.00	(800.00)	(800.00)	GIS subscription costs will be drawdown from the GIS reserve to reduce the levy burden
Administration : Audit	3,200.00	3,200.00	0.00	
Administration : Professional Services	35,527.00	27,100.00	(8,427.00)	This relates to a coding change - CLUE, MCSS and Seaflux now coded to Subscriptions to Professional Bodies
Administration : Legal Costs	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	
Administration : Byelaw Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Administration Total	81,051.00	82,416.00	1,365.00	2%
Communications:	2,700.00	3,895.00	1,195.00	Increased costs for website security and hosting and an increase in the costs for printing
Communications Total	2,700.00	3,895.00	1,195.00	31%
Income : Cockles	(205,381.00)	(213,978.00)	(8,597.00)	Increase due to CPI at the November 2025 rate applied to licence fees for 2026/27
Income : Whelks	(4,000.00)	(4,000.00)	0.00	
Income : Manila Clams	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Income : Earned Income	(3,328.00)	(5,325.00)	(1,997.00)	increase in earned income is for charges to Thanet District Council for cockle sampling at Margate Sands
Income Total	(212,709.00)	(223,303.00)	(10,594.00)	5%
Net Cost of Services	990,645.00	1,030,618.00	39,973.00	4%
Income : KCC Interest Received	(51,981.00)	(61,094.00)	(9,113.00)	15% The budget for interest received has been increased, however as this can't be accurately forecast, any shortfall at year end 2027 will be covered by general reserves.
Net Operating Expenditure	938,664.00	969,524.00	30,860.00	3%
Appropriations: Renewals Reserve	90,000.00	90,000.00	0.00	90k for Renewals reserve
Amount to be met from Levies	1,028,664.00	1,059,524.00	30,860.00	3%
Income : Levies	(1,028,664.00)	(1,059,524.00)	(30,860.00)	3% Increase to cover the forecast budget
Net (Surplus)/(Deficit) for the Year	0.00	0.00	0.00	