

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		
<b>Staffing Total</b>	<b>817,362.00</b>	<b>885,924.00</b>	<b>68,562.00</b>	<b>8%</b>	
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
Premises: IT	32,230.00	34,600.00	2,370.00		administrative work 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
<b>Premises Total</b>	<b>94,564.00</b>	<b>98,076.00</b>	<b>3,512.00</b>	<b>4%</b>	
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
<b>Vessels Total</b>	<b>151,957.00</b>	<b>136,202.00</b>	<b>(15,755.00)</b>	<b>-12%</b>	
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
<b>Vehicles Total</b>	<b>18,450.00</b>	<b>22,530.00</b>	<b>4,080.00</b>	<b>18%</b>	
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.
<b>Research Total</b>	<b>24,550.00</b>	<b>24,878.00</b>	<b>328.00</b>	<b>1%</b>	
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
<b>Training Total</b>	<b>12,720.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(12,720.00)</b>	<b>100%</b>	
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		
<b>Administration Total</b>	<b>81,051.00</b>	<b>82,416.00</b>	<b>1,365.00</b>	<b>2%</b>	
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
<b>Communications Total</b>	<b>2,700.00</b>	<b>3,895.00</b>	<b>1,195.00</b>	<b>31%</b>	
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
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>(212,709.00)</b>	<b>(223,303.00)</b>	<b>(10,594.00)</b>	<b>5%</b>	
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>990,645.00</b>	<b>1,030,618.00</b>	<b>39,973.00</b>	<b>4%</b>	
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.
<b>Net Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>938,664.00</b>	<b>969,524.00</b>	<b>30,860.00</b>	<b>3%</b>	
Appropriations: Renewals Reserve	90,000.00	90,000.00	0.00		90k for Renewals reserve
<b>Amount to be met from Levies</b>	<b>1,028,664.00</b>	<b>1,059,524.00</b>	<b>30,860.00</b>	<b>3%</b>	
Income : Levies	(1,028,664.00)	(1,059,524.00)	(30,860.00)	3%	Increase to cover the forecast budget
<b>Net (Surplus)/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		