

COUNCIL MEETING
29 FEBRUARY 2012
TO BE CONSIDERED
SUBSEQUENT TO AGENDA
ITEM 7.6
SUMMARY



| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Report for: | Council |
| Date of meeting: | 29 February 2012 |
| PART: | 1 |
| If Part II, reason: | |

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|---------------------------|--|
| Title of report: | Council Tax Declaration 2012/13 |
| Contact: | Cllr N Tiley, Portfolio Holder for Finance & Resources Sally Marshall, Corporate Director of Finance & Governance |
| Purpose of report: | As the billing authority for the borough of Dacorum, the Council is required to set the Council Tax annually. The purpose of this report is to set the Council Tax for 2012/13 in accordance with statutory requirements. |
| Recommendations | <p>It is recommended that:</p> <p>1) It be noted that the Cabinet at its meeting on 13 December 2011, as amended at the meeting of 7 February 2012, calculated the following amounts for the year 2012/13 in accordance with regulations made under Section 31B (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as inserted by Section 74 of the Localism Act 2011:</p> <p>(a) 58,664.3 being the figure calculated by the Council in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 as its Council Tax base for the year;</p> <p>(b) the amounts in Table 1 of this report (Tax Base for each part of the Council's area to which one or more special items relate) being the amounts calculated by the Cabinet in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in such parts.</p> |

- 2) the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2012/13 in accordance with Sections 31A and 31B and Sections 34 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) (referred to as “the Act”):-
- (a) £148,189,103.86 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act, including the amount which the Council estimates as Council Tax deficit which will be transferred in the year from its General Fund to its Collection Fund;
 - (b) £137,576,110.00 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act, including the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed Non-Domestic Rates and Revenue Support Grant ;
 - (c) £ 10,612,993.86 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2)(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year;
 - (d) £180.91 being the amount at 2)(c) above, divided by 1)(a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B (1) of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;
 - (e) £618,465.00 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;
 - (f) £170.37 being the amount at 2)(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 2)(e) above by the amount at 1)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates;

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| | <p>5) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2)(i), 3) and 4) above the Council in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby set the amounts set out in Table 3 of the report as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2012/13 for each part of the area and for each of the categories of dwellings shown (to be confirmed);</p> <p>6) It be noted that in setting the Council Tax for 2012/13 the Council is required to have taken account of the report of the Chief Financial Officer on the robustness of the budget.</p> |
| Corporate objectives: | Setting an appropriate level of Council Tax supports all five of the Council's strategic objectives |
| Implications: 'Value For Money Implications' | Contained within the body of Agenda Item 14 to Cabinet on 7 February 2012. |
| Risk Implications | Budget risk assessment undertaken. |
| Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments | Deputy Monitoring Officer has no additional comments Section 151 Officer – This is a S151 Officer report. |
| Consultees: | None |
| Background papers: | |

COUNCIL TAX 2012-13

BACKGROUND REPORT

Summary

1. This report sets out the statutory information and recommendations necessary to determine the Council's Council Tax requirement for 2012/13, based on the Cabinet's recommendations from its meeting on 7 February 2012, which have been referred to Council for approval on this agenda.
2. In approving the budget for 2012/13 Members will be aware that they were required to have regard to the report of the Chief Finance Officer (as included in agenda item 14 for the Cabinet meeting of 7 February, specifically sections 8 and 14 of the report) when making a decision.
3. The Council's Council Tax requirement includes precepts from parishes. The Council Tax resolutions incorporate the parish precepts and those of the County Council and the Police Authority.

Council Tax Requirement

4. The Corporate Director (Finance and Governance) incorporated within the budget report to Cabinet a statement in compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003. This requires the Chief Finance Officer (in the Council's case, the Corporate Director (Finance and Governance))

to report on a) the robustness of the estimates made for the purpose of budget calculations and b) the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves.

5. The Council's Council Tax requirement is £10,612,993.86, as follows:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| | £ |
| Base net budget recommended by Cabinet | 9,994,528.86 |
| Add Parish Precepts | 618,465.00 |
| Council Tax Requirement | 10,612,993.86 |

Council Tax Recommendations

6. The statutory Council Tax calculations require the above amount to include the Revenue Support Grant, the redistribution of Non-domestic Rates (collectively referred to as Formula Grant) and any surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund. The result is set as the Council Tax requirement and is divided by the Council Tax base to determine the "basic amount" of the Council Tax for the year. The Cabinet determined the Council Tax base (after collection rate adjustment of 99.5%) as 58,664.3, together with the amount for each parish, at its meeting on 13 December 2011. As this includes parish precepts (referred to as "special items"), these are then deducted (expressed as a Council Tax amount) from the "basic amount" to show the amount of Council Tax in any area where there is no parish precept (Hemel Hempstead only).
7. The amount of Council Tax in each parish (that is the total of the Council's amount and the parish amount) are then shown.
8. The Council Tax bill for 2012/13 includes the requirements of Hertfordshire County Council and the Hertfordshire Police Authority who are responsible for setting their own Council Tax levels. The amount of the precepts from the County Council and the Police Authority for each Council Tax "band" (A to H) are then noted and the final total amount for each parish is then shown by each band (Table 3 – to be confirmed).

Precepts

9. Hertfordshire County Council determined its Council Tax requirement at a meeting held on 21 February 2012. There was no change in the level of requirement, as shown in the table below.

The Police Authority will determine its Council Tax requirement at a meeting to be held on 23 February 2012. Confirmation of any change in Council Tax requirement will be provided following that meeting.

| | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | Increase | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | % |
| Dacorum | 170.37 | 170.37 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| County Council | 1,118.83 | 1,118.83 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Police Authority | 147.82 | x.xx | x.xx | x.xx |
| TOTAL | 1,437.02 | X.xx | x.xx | X.xx |

Resolution

10. The Council Tax resolution is in a prescribed form, designed to satisfy legal requirements, and is set out at the beginning of this report.

TABLE 1

TAX BASE FOR EACH PART OF THE COUNCIL'S AREA

| Parish | Tax Base (based on eventual 99.5% collection rate) |
|----------------------|--|
| Aldbury | 472.2 |
| Berkhamsted | 8,370.0 |
| Bovingdon | 2,115.6 |
| Chipperfield | 870.3 |
| Flamstead | 627.1 |
| Flaunden | 175.8 |
| Great Gaddesden | 441.7 |
| Kings Langley | 2,350.1 |
| Little Gaddesden | 650.5 |
| Markyate | 1,273.2 |
| Nash Mills | 905.4 |
| Nettleden | 817.8 |
| Northchurch | 1,343.4 |
| Tring Rural | 629.1 |
| Tring | 5,014.8 |
| Wigginton | 690.5 |
| Hemel Hempstead | 31,916.8 |
| TOTAL TAXBASE | 58,664.3 |

Table 2

BAND D CHARGE FOR PARISH AND DISTRICT COMBINED

| Parish | Band D Parish | Band D District | Band D Combined |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Aldbury | 10.69 | 170.37 | 181.06 |
| Berkhamsted | 19.18 | 170.37 | 189.55 |
| Bovingdon | 24.91 | 170.37 | 195.28 |
| Chipperfield | 29.24 | 170.37 | 199.61 |
| Flamstead | 42.15 | 170.37 | 212.52 |
| Flaunden | 27.33 | 170.37 | 197.70 |
| Great Gaddesden | 17.84 | 170.37 | 188.21 |
| Kings Langley | 37.92 | 170.37 | 208.29 |
| Little Gaddesden | 24.75 | 170.37 | 195.12 |
| Markyate | 31.25 | 170.37 | 201.62 |
| Nash Mills | 23.80 | 170.37 | 194.17 |
| Nettleden | 22.01 | 170.37 | 192.38 |
| Northchurch | 10.79 | 170.37 | 181.16 |
| Tring Rural | 18.11 | 170.37 | 188.48 |
| Tring Town | 23.19 | 170.37 | 193.56 |
| Wigginton | 12.93 | 170.37 | 183.30 |
| Hemel Hempstead | - | 170.37 | 170.37 |

Table 3 - To be issued subject to confirmation following the meetings of the County Council and Police Authority).

