



COUNCIL MEETING

24 FEBRUARY 2016

TO BE CONSIDERED SUBSEQUENT TO AGENDA ITEM: Cabinet Referral 7.1

SUMMARY

Report for:	Council
Date of meeting:	24 February 2016
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Council Tax Declaration 2016/17
Contact:	Cllr Graeme Elliot, Portfolio Holder for Finance & Resources James Deane, Corporate Director of Finance & Operations
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 2016/17 in accordance with statutory requirements.
Recommendations	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) It be noted that the Cabinet, at its meeting on 15 December 2015, calculated the following amounts for the year 2016/17 in accordance with regulations made under Section 31B (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended), as inserted by Section 74 of the Localism Act 2011:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 55,282.0 being the figure calculated by the Council in accordance with regulation 3 of The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 as its Council Tax base for the year; (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 The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in such parts; 2) the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2016/17 in accordance with Sections 31A and 31B and Sections 34 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

	<p>(as amended) (referred to as “the Act”):</p> <p>(a) £143,421,094.03 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act, taking account of all precepts;</p> <p>(b) £132,513,272.60 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 ;</p> <p>(c) £10,907,821.43 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 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year;</p> <p>(d) £197.31 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;</p> <p>(e) £690,049.37 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;</p> <p>(f) £184.83 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;</p> <p>(g) Part of the Council’s Area Band D Equivalent Combined</p>
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	£
	Hemel Hempstead 184.83
	Aldbury 203.59
	Berkhamsted 206.25
	Bovingdon 211.20
	Chipperfield 219.73
	Flamstead 235.54
	Flaunden 214.77
	Great Gaddesden 203.60
	Kings Langley 228.94
	Little Gaddesden 210.44
	Markyate 219.64
	Nash Mills 207.83
	Nettleden 209.68
	Northchurch 199.94
	Tring Rural 214.57
	Tring Town 209.99
	Wigginton 198.99
	(Band D charge for Parish and District combined), being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2)(f) above, the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1)(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in parts of its area to which special items relate;
	3) it be noted that for the year 2016/17 Hertfordshire County Council have stated the amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings as set out in table 3(a);
	4) That it be noted that for the year 2016/17 the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner has proposed the amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings as set out in table 3(a);
	5) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2)(g), 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 3b of the report as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2016/17 for each part of the area and for each of the categories of dwellings shown;
	6) It be noted that in setting the Council Tax for 2016/17 the Council is required to have taken account of the report of the Chief Financial Officer on the robustness of the budget.
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 7 to Cabinet on 9 February 2016.
Risk Implications	Budget risk assessment undertaken.
Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments	Monitoring Officer has no additional comments. Section 151 Officer – This is a S151 Officer report.
Consultees:	None
Background papers:	Budget Report - Agenda Item 7, Cabinet on 9 February 2016 Council Tax Base - Agenda Item 8, Cabinet on 15 December 2015

COUNCIL TAX 2016/17

BACKGROUND REPORT

Summary

1. This report sets out the statutory information and recommendations necessary to determine the Council's Council Tax requirement for 2016/17, based on the Cabinet's recommendations from its meeting on 9 February 2016, which have been referred to Council for approval on this agenda.
2. In approving the budget for 2016/17 Members will be aware that they were required to have regard to the report of the Chief Finance Officer (as included in agenda item 8 for the Cabinet meeting of 15 February 2016, specifically sections 10 to 19 and appendix M 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 and Crime Commissioner.

Council Tax Requirement

4. The Corporate Director (Finance and Operations) 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 Operations)) 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 £10,907,821.43 as follows:

	£
Base net budget recommended by Cabinet	10,217,772.06
Add Parish Precepts	690,049.37
Council Tax Requirement	<u>10,907,821.43</u>

Council Tax Recommendations

6. The statutory Council Tax calculations require the above amount to include the Revenue Support Grant, the retained Business 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. At its meeting on 15 December 2015 Cabinet determined the Council Tax base (after collection rate adjustment of 99.4%) as 55,282.0, together with the amount for each parish. 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) is then shown.
8. The Council Tax bill for 2016/17 includes the requirements of Hertfordshire County Council and the Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner which are responsible for setting their own Council Tax levels. The amount of the precepts from the County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner 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 3a).

Precepts

9. Hertfordshire County Council determined its Council Tax requirement at a meeting held on 23 February 2016, at which an increase of 3.99% was agreed (inclusive of a 2% increase for social care).

The Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner has proposed a Council Tax requirement held on 28 January 2016, at which a decrease of 0.55% was agreed

	2014/15	2015/16	Increase	
	£	£	£	%
Dacorum	179.83	184.83	5.00	2.78
County Council	1,141.09	1,186.62	45.53	3.99
Police and Crime Commissioner	147.82	147.00	(0.82)	(0.55)
TOTAL	1,468.74	1,518.45	49.71	3.38

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 99.4% collection rate)
Hemel Hempstead	28,925.2
Aldbury	454.0
Berkhamsted	8,278.8
Bovingdon	2,043.9
Chipperfield	841.1
Flamstead	613.4
Flaunden	177.0
Great Gaddesden	437.1
Kings Langley	2,279.2
Little Gaddesden	637.1
Markyate	1,308.8
Nash Mills	1,033.9
Nettleden	791.3
Northchurch	1,265.8
Tring Rural	614.0
Tring	4,911.4
Wigginton	670.0
TOTAL TAXBASE	55,282.0

Table 2

BAND D CHARGE FOR PARISH AND DISTRICT COMBINED

Parish	Band D Parish	Band D District	Band D Combined
	£	£	£
Hemel Hempstead	-	184.83	203.59
Aldbury	18.76	184.83	206.25
Berkhamsted	21.42	184.83	211.20
Bovingdon	26.37	184.83	219.73
Chipperfield	34.90	184.83	235.54
Flamstead	50.71	184.83	214.77
Flaunden	29.94	184.83	203.60
Great Gaddesden	18.77	184.83	228.94
Kings Langley	44.11	184.83	210.44
Little Gaddesden	25.61	184.83	219.64
Markyate	34.81	184.83	207.83
Nash Mills	23.00	184.83	209.68
Nettleden	24.85	184.83	199.94
Northchurch	15.11	184.83	214.57
Tring Rural	29.74	184.83	209.99
Tring Town	25.16	184.83	198.99
Wigginton	14.16	184.83	203.59

COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH VALUATION BAND 2015/16

Table 3

Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Band 'D' Equivalent Proportions	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
Analysis of Major Precepting Authorities								
								Table 3(a)
Herts County Council	791.08	922.93	1054.77	1186.62	1450.31	1714.01	1977.70	2373.24
Herts Police and Crime Commissioner	98.00	114.33	130.67	147.00	179.67	212.33	245.00	294.00
Dacorum Borough Council	123.22	143.76	164.29	184.83	225.90	266.98	308.05	369.66
Council Tax Rates Including All Precepts								
								Table 3(b)
Aldbury	1,024.81	1,195.61	1,366.41	1,537.21	1,878.81	2,220.42	2,562.02	3,074.42
Berkhamsted	1,026.58	1,197.68	1,368.77	1,539.87	1,882.06	2,224.26	2,566.45	3,079.74
Bovingdon	1,029.88	1,201.53	1,373.17	1,544.82	1,888.11	2,231.41	2,574.70	3,089.64
Chipperfield	1,035.57	1,208.16	1,380.75	1,553.35	1,898.54	2,243.73	2,588.92	3,106.70
Flamstead	1,046.11	1,220.46	1,394.81	1,569.16	1,917.86	2,266.57	2,615.27	3,138.32
Flaunden	1,032.26	1,204.31	1,376.34	1,548.39	1,892.47	2,236.57	2,580.65	3,096.78
Great Gaddesden	1,024.81	1,195.62	1,366.41	1,537.22	1,878.82	2,220.43	2,562.03	3,074.44
Kings Langley	1,041.71	1,215.33	1,388.94	1,562.56	1,909.79	2,257.03	2,604.27	3,125.12
Little Gaddesden	1,029.37	1,200.94	1,372.49	1,544.06	1,887.18	2,230.31	2,573.43	3,088.12
Markyate	1,035.51	1,208.09	1,380.67	1,553.26	1,898.43	2,243.60	2,588.77	3,106.52
Nash Mills	1,027.63	1,198.91	1,370.17	1,541.45	1,883.99	2,226.54	2,569.08	3,082.90
Nettleden/Potten End	1,028.87	1,200.35	1,371.82	1,543.30	1,886.25	2,229.21	2,572.17	3,086.60
Northchurch	1,022.37	1,192.77	1,363.16	1,533.56	1,874.35	2,215.15	2,555.93	3,067.12
Tring Rural	1,032.13	1,204.15	1,376.17	1,548.19	1,892.23	2,236.28	2,580.32	3,096.38
Tring Town	1,029.07	1,200.59	1,372.09	1,543.61	1,886.63	2,229.66	2,572.68	3,087.22
Wigginton	1,021.74	1,192.03	1,362.32	1,532.61	1,873.19	2,213.77	2,554.35	3,065.22
Unparished (Hemel Hempstead)	1,012.30	1,181.02	1,349.73	1,518.45	1,855.88	2,193.32	2,530.75	3,036.90