

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

30 January 2013

The meeting commenced at 3.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Paul Thompson (Finance and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder)
John Morton, Assistant Chief Finance Officer
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

58. Council Tax Base 2013/14 *(Chief Finance Officer)*

Type of decision

Non-key decision

Purpose of report

The report sought approval to the calculated Council Tax Base for 2013/14 which will be used for council tax billing purposes.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Chief Finance Officer reported that the Council was required by law to calculate its Council Tax Base for the forthcoming year, and inform the major precepting authorities (Cleveland Police Authority and Cleveland Fire Authority) and local precepting authorities (Parish Councils), before 31st January 2013. The Council Tax Base was expressed as the number of band D equivalent properties. The report set out how the Tax Base was calculated and a statement showing the calculation of the Council Tax Base for the Borough of Hartlepool was included as an appendix to the report.

The Assistant Chief Finance Officer indicated that in the current economic climate it would not be unreasonable to expect bad debts to increase. This would normally lead to an increase in the non-collection level which was currently set at 1.5%. However, the level of in year collection of Council Tax for 2012/13 was being sustained and long term collection rates continued to be positive, therefore, it was not proposed to amend the non-collection level.

Appendices to the report set out the statement of calculation of the Council Tax Bases for the various Parishes who levied precepts on the Collection Fund. The calculations followed the same principles as those adopted in the calculation of the Council Tax Base for the whole Borough. As it was necessary to request details of precepts from the Parishes, tax base calculation information had been transmitted, on a provisional basis, to the various Chairpersons in advance of this meeting.

Decision

- a) That a Council Tax Base for 2013/14, of £21,701.70 be approved.
- b) That a Council Tax Base for those Parishes who intended to levy a precept upon the Council's General Fund be approved as follows: -

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|---------------|-------|----------|-------|
| Dalton Piercy | 99.2 | Elwick | 446.5 |
| Greatham | 558.3 | Hart | 291.5 |
| Newton Bewley | 31.7 | Headland | 687.5 |

The meeting concluded at 3.15 pm.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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