

East Herts Council

Council

Date of Meeting: 3 March 2020

Report by: Councillor Geoff Williamson, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Financial Sustainability

Report title: Council Tax – Formal Resolution

Ward(s) affected: ALL

Summary

- This report sets proposals to set the Council Tax for 2020/21

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL:

- (a) that the Council Tax resolution, as now submitted, be approved;**
- (b) that the local precepts as set out at Appendix 'A' be noted; and**
- (c) that the Hertfordshire County Council and Hertfordshire Police Authority precepts be noted.**

1.0 Proposal(s)

1.1 The council tax resolution is set out at Appendix A.

1.2 The calculations set out in the resolution are prescribed in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended. The Localism Act 2011 made minor amendments to the required calculation. The Council has no discretion in undertaking these calculations beyond determining any special expenses within

the Council's own budget applicable to part of its area. The Council has not determined any special expenses.

1.3 The Required Calculations

1.4 Section 1: this confirms that this Council's previously agreed Tax base is used in the calculation.

1.5 Section 2: this sets out the Council's council tax requirement for its own purposes (excluding parish precepts) for 2020/21.

1.6 Section 3:

- (a) The Council's gross expenditure + transfers to reserves + the total of parish precepts.
- (b) The Council's gross income including grants + transfers from reserves.
- (c) Is (a) – (b)
- (d) Is (c) divided by the tax base. This is this Council's band D council tax rate + the average rate for all parishes.
- (e) Is the total of parish precepts.
- (f) Is this Council's band D council tax rate.
- (g) Is a table of Band D Council plus Parish rate.
- (h) This is the same as (g) but showing the council tax by each valuation band.

1.7 Section 4: this is the equivalent amounts to those at 3(h) for the County and Police Authority precepts

1.8 Section 5: this is the total council tax for each valuation band for each parish

2.0 Background

2.1 This Council is the council tax billing and collection authority within its area.

- 2.2 The council tax calculation sets the tax in respect of this council and the aggregate council tax inclusive of the County Council and Police Authority precepts and of each town and parish's precept.
- 2.3 The County Council's Finance Director and Chief Finance Officer for the Police and Crime Commissioner have advised that the County Council and Police Authority precepts for 2020/21 as they affect East Hertfordshire District Council taxpayers will total £98,782,718.40. This is made up of £86,650,862.40 for the County Council and £12,131,856.00 for the Police Authority. This gives Band D equivalents of £1,414.20 and £198.00 respectively.
- 2.4 The total parish precept is £4,781,811.81.
- 2.5 The County Council, Police Authority and Parish precepts contribute to the setting of the Council Tax

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility to set the council tax for each part of its area no later than 11 March prior to the start of the year in respect of which the tax is set.

4.0 Options

- 4.1 Statutory responsibility, no alternative options

5.0 Risks

- 5.1 Risks were considered in setting the Council's budget

6.0 Implications/Consultations

Community Safety

No

Data Protection

No

Equalities

No

Environmental Sustainability

No

Financial

Yes as set out in the report

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

No

Human Rights

No

Legal

Yes - The setting of the council tax must be in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended

Specific Wards

No

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 None

Contact Member

Councillor Geoff Williamson, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Financial Sustainability. geoffrey.williamson@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer

Bob Palmer, Head of Strategic Finance and Property, Tel: 01279 502074. bob.palmer@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author

Ashok Mistry, Finance Business Partner, Tel: 1992 531653.
ashok.mistry@eastherts.gov.uk