
SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX 2013/14

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks authorisation from Council to set the Council Tax for the year 2013/14.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 At the Council meeting held on 29 January 2013, the Council agreed the revenue budget for 2013/14 within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). It was agreed to set a local tax with a 1.969% increase. Appendix A sets out the committee budget summary and balances.
- 2.2 In order to set the Council Tax, information is required from Essex County Council, Essex Police Authority, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Authority and the Parish and Town Councils. This information is provided in appendices A to E which will be sent out separately.
- 2.3 Authorities are now required to determine whether the Council Tax to be set is considered excessive. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has stated that the increase considered excessive for Local Authorities for 2013/14 is 2%, anything above this would trigger a referendum giving residents the opportunity to veto the increase.
- 2.4 In the report to Council on 29 January 2013, the Head of Finance advised Members that she was able to give the necessary assurances with regard to the robustness of the budget.
- 2.5 The estimate process has been employed successfully over a number of years. It has been the subject of review by both internal and external audit. The system used is regarded as producing robust information for Members' consideration of the MTFS.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Council **RESOLVES**
- (1) That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish and Town precepts) be £5,869,664.
 - (2) That the total for gross expenditure of the District, together with the Parish and Town precepts, be £33,886,550
 - (3) That the total of income for the District Council be £26,896,641
 - (4) That the Council Tax requirement of the District Council, together with the Parish and Town Councils, be £6,989,909.

- (5) That the basic amount of Council Tax (including Parish and Town Precepts) be £244.26 for the year. This being the Council Tax requirement £6,989,909 divided by the Council Tax base 28,617.06.
- (6) That the total of the sums payable into the general fund in respect of re-distributed business rates and Government grant, together with Council Tax Support Funding and adjustments from the collection fund, be £4,211,329.
- (7) That the total of Parish and Town precepts included within the above is £1,120,245.
- (8) That the basic rate of Council Tax relating to the District Council without Parish and Town precepts is £205.11, which is a 1.969% increase.
- (9) That the total tax for both District and Parishes be as set out in the Schedule, which is included as **appendix B**. These sums are calculated as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.
- (10) That the sums given above for Band D but now shown in the particular valuations bands A-H be as set out in the schedule shown as **appendix C**.
- (11) That the precepts issued to the Council in respect of Essex County Council, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Authority and Essex Police Authority for each valuation band A-H, be as set out in the schedule as shown, as **appendix D**.
- (12) That the total Council Tax for the area for each valuation band A-H be as set out in **appendix E**. These are the amounts set as Council Tax for the year 2013/14.

Yvonne Woodward

Head of Finance

Background Papers:-

None.

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