

Cabinet Report



Report of Head of Finance

Author: Ben Watson

Telephone: 01235 540488

Textphone: 18001 01235 540488

E-mail: ben.watson@southandvale.gov.uk

Wards affected: All

Cabinet member responsible: Matthew Barber

Tel: 01235 540366

E-mail: matthew.barber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

To: Cabinet on: 5 December 2014

To: Council on: 10 December 2014

Council tax base 2015/16

Recommendations

1. That the report of the head of finance for the calculation of the council's tax base and the calculation of the tax base for each parish area for 2015/16 be approved
2. That, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Vale of White Horse District Council as its council tax base for the year 2015/16 be 47,563.1
3. That, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Vale of White Horse District Council as the council tax base for the year 2015/16 for each parish be the amount shown against the name of that parish in Appendix 1 of the report of the head of finance to Cabinet on 5 December 2014

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to ask Cabinet to recommend the council tax base for 2015/16 to Council for approval.

Corporate Objectives

2. The calculation of the tax base is a legal requirement and an essential part of the tax setting process which helps to achieve the council's corporate objective of effectively managing its resources.

Background

3. Before the council tax can be set by the council, a calculation has to be made of the council tax base, which is an estimate of the taxable resources for the district as a whole and for each parish area.
4. The council tax base for the district has to be notified to Oxfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner by 31 January 2015. Each parish and town council is also notified of the figure for its area.
5. The legislation requires that the council tax base is approved by full council or a non-executive body with delegated powers. No such delegation exists, so cabinet is therefore asked to recommend to council the schedule set out in Appendix 1 as the council tax base for the district as a whole and for each parish area.

Calculation of the tax base

6. The starting point for the calculation is the total number of dwellings and their council tax band.
7. The council then allows for the following information, for each band:
 - (a) dwellings which will be entirely exempt so no tax is payable (e.g. those occupied entirely by students)
 - (b) dwellings which will attract a 25 per cent reduction (e.g. those with a single adult occupier)
 - (c) dwellings which will attract a 50 per cent reduction (e.g. those where all of the adult residents qualify for a reduction)
 - (d) dwellings which will be treated as being in a lower band because they have been adapted for a severely disabled person. The regulations provide methodology to take account of the reduction available to those in band A dwellings
 - (e) dwellings which will be on the valuation list but which attract discounts or disablement relief or are exempt, for only part of the year
 - (f) dwellings which will attract a reduction through the council tax reduction scheme
8. Each band is then converted into "band D equivalents" by applying the factor laid down by legislation. For example, a band A dwelling is multiplied by 2/3 to arrive at the band D equivalent figure, whilst a band H dwelling is multiplied by two. All these are then added together to give a total of band D equivalents.
9. A final adjustment is required to allow for non-collection. The council is required to decide what its collection rate is likely to be and apply this to its council tax base. For the 2014/15 tax the council assumed 98 per cent would eventually be collected and it is proposed to use 98 per cent again in 2015/16.

Taxbase for 2015/16

10. Based on the assumptions detailed above the council tax base for 2015/16 is 47,563.1.
11. Similar calculations are required for each parish in order to calculate the proportion of the district's tax base which relates to its area. A schedule of the tax base for each parish is set out in **Appendix 1**.
12. To calculate the council tax amounts payable per property band for the council, its council tax requirement (i.e. the amount of council tax to be raised) is divided by the Band D equivalent (taxbase). This will be finalised during January and February, culminating in the council tax being set by council on 18 February 2015 (this date is subject to the council being notified of the major precepting authorities' council tax requirements).

Financial Implications

13. These are set out in the body of the report.

Legal Implications

14. These are set out in the body of the report.

Background Papers

None

PARISH COUNCIL TAX BASES - 2015/16

PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL	NUMBER OF PROPERTIES	PARISH TAX BASE 2015-16	PARISH TAX BASE 2014-15
ABINGDON	14,528.0	11,840.2	11,703.2
APPLEFORD	141.0	153.4	152.7
APPLETON WITH EATON	392.0	432.8	430.9
ARDINGTON AND LOCKINGE	219.0	210.5	201.8
ASHBURY	236.0	243.0	236.9
BAULKING	40.0	48.7	46.7
BESSELSLEIGH	29.0	36.1	36.9
BLEWBURY	769.0	697.8	686.3
BOURTON	129.0	139.7	139.4
BUCKLAND	253.0	310.9	314.4
BUSCOT	87.0	87.5	88.7
CHARNEY BASSETT	121.0	150.5	146.1
CHILDREY	223.0	238.2	231.5
CHILTON	592.0	608.9	486.2
COLESHILL	75.0	67.0	62.7
COMPTON BEAUCHAMP	32.0	40.8	40.8
CUMNOR	2,582.0	2,736.6	2,676.1
DENCHWORTH	79.0	82.5	83.1
DRAYTON	981.0	905.4	898.8
EAST CHALLOW	323.0	257.8	258.3
EAST HANNEY	356.0	383.6	368.9
EAST HENDRED	494.0	505.6	508.5
EATON HASTINGS	32.0	33.9	34.0
FARINGDON	3,373.0	2,635.7	2,540.5
FERNHAM	95.0	107.2	105.8
FRILFORD	89.0	120.0	116.4
FYFIELD AND TUBNEY	197.0	236.2	240.0
GARFORD	70.0	82.3	83.1
GOOSEY	55.0	64.9	64.2
GREAT COXWELL	131.0	155.1	153.4
GROVE	3,009.0	2,543.8	2,507.3
HARWELL	1,030.0	971.5	964.8
HATFORD	36.0	45.1	46.6
HINTON WALDRIST	144.0	145.9	142.1
KENNINGTON	1,755.0	1,666.6	1,657.1
KINGSTON BAGPUIZE AND SOUTHMOOR	940.0	984.5	967.5
KINGSTON LISLE	105.0	108.0	101.6
LETCOMBE BASSETT	73.0	81.1	81.3
LETCOMBE REGIS	370.0	367.7	368.3
LITTLE COXWELL	68.0	76.8	75.2
LITTLEWORTH	95.0	114.6	116.6
LONGCOT	212.0	262.8	259.2
LONGWORTH	238.0	259.5	258.5
LYFORD	23.0	26.5	26.2
MARCHAM	708.0	684.9	692.8
MILTON	468.0	419.8	415.2
NORTH HINKSEY	2,020.0	1,691.5	1,658.3
PUSEY	28.0	33.9	33.1
RADLEY	1,003.0	863.7	864.8
ST HELEN WITHOUT	845.0	866.1	807.0
SHELLINGFORD	79.0	80.8	79.8
SHRIVENHAM	1,014.0	1,024.7	975.8
SOUTH HINKSEY	170.0	182.4	179.8
SPARSHOLT	136.0	151.8	150.9
STANFORD IN THE VALE	898.0	836.6	825.3
STEVENTON	658.0	608.2	604.5
SUNNINGWELL	373.0	437.7	440.8
SUTTON COURTENAY	1,055.0	978.1	962.2
UFFINGTON	326.0	323.6	323.1
UPTON	179.0	216.8	210.1
WANTAGE	5,093.0	4,243.3	4,158.1
WATCHFIELD	901.0	837.8	752.8
WEST CHALLOW	84.0	94.1	89.6
WEST HANNEY	224.0	247.2	243.1
WEST HENDRED	148.0	160.7	160.5
WOOLSTONE	61.0	76.9	78.3
WOOTTON	1,182.0	1,157.9	1,151.9
WYTHAM	69.0	76.4	74.1
TOTAL	52,543	47,563.1	46,640.5