

CABINET – 14 JANUARY 2020

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020/2021

Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To detail the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2020/2021 and to seek approval to recommend to Council the Council Tax Base for 2020/2021 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012.

2. Description of Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to recommend to Council:
 - The report for the calculation of the Tax Bases for the City Council and Hetton Town Council for 2020/2021 be approved; and
 - That pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Sunderland City Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2020/2021, shall be 71,336 and for the area of Hetton Town Council shall be 3,868.

3. Background to the Calculation of the Council Tax Base

- 3.1 The Council Tax Base is the estimated number of properties in each valuation band adjusted to take account of the estimated number of discounts, disregards and exemptions. The Council levies a Council Tax on the basis of properties in band D and thus the numbers for each valuation band are adjusted to the proportion which their number is to band D. The Council must then estimate its level of collection for the year and apply this figure to arrive at the Council Tax Base figure.
- 3.2 The Council Tax Base must be calculated for both the Billing Authority and Hetton Town Council (a local parish precept). The Billing Authority's Tax Base will be used to calculate the Council Tax for the City Council (including any social care precept) and as the basis for the major precepting authorities (Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority) to determine their precept requirements.
- 3.3 The introduction of the Local Council Tax Benefit Scheme from 1st April 2013 means that the Council must approve annually its proposed Local Council Tax Support Scheme. The impact of the Scheme is recognised within the calculations as a Council Tax discount which is referred to as Item Z. The proposed 2020/2021 Scheme is set out elsewhere on today's agenda. The Tax Base of the Council for 2020/2021 includes the full impact of the Scheme as required by the regulations.
- 3.4 The Council Tax Base has increased from last year by 947. The increase is primarily due to the number of new homes built across the city over the last year and the anticipated number of new homes expected to be built over the next year.

4. Calculations of the Billing Authority's Council Tax Base

4.1 This calculation is in two parts – 'A' - the calculation of the estimated adjusted band D properties and 'B' - the estimated level of collection.

4.2 The calculation of 'A' - the relevant amounts for each band is complex and includes a number of calculations which are shown at Appendix 1.

4.3 Calculation of Item 'B' - Estimate of Collection Rate

This element of the formula is to reflect the level of collection anticipated. Following consideration of historic and current collection levels of both in year debit and arrears collection, and the overall favourable collection fund position, it is proposed to continue applying 98.5% in 2020/2021.

4.4 Calculation of Council Tax Base

The Council's Tax Base is: 'A' 72,422.34 x 'B' 98.5% = 71,336
(for comparison the previous year's Tax Base was 70,389)

5. Calculation of Council Tax Base for Hetton Town Council - Local Precept

5.1 The rules for calculating the Council Tax Base for the area covered by Hetton Town Council are similar to those used in calculating the Billing Authority's Tax Base except that chargeable dwellings and discounts are to be taken for only those dwellings and discounts relating to the area for which the Council Tax Base is to be calculated. These detailed calculations are shown in Appendix 1.

5.2 The same collection rate is required to be used for Parish precepts as for the Billing Authority.

5.3 Calculation of Council Tax Base

The Tax Base for Hetton Town Council is: 'A' 3,926.90 x 'B' 98.5% = 3,868
(for comparison the previous year's Tax base was 3,786.01).

6. Reasons for Decision

6.1 To comply with statutory requirements.

7. Alternative Options

7.1 To comply with statutory requirements.

8. Impact Analysis

8.1 There are no implications.

9. Other Relevant Considerations / Consultations

9.1 None

10. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Calculation of the Council Tax Base

11. Background Papers

None

											Appendix 1
Council Tax Base - Sunderland City Council											
		Disabled Band (A)	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Total
Chargeable Dwellings	Item H	200.00	77,884.00	18,423.00	16,828.00	8,900.00	3,245.00	1,079.00	630.00	20.00	127,209.00
Total Discount	Item Q	(12.25)	(9,634.00)	(1,618.50)	(1,146.25)	(444.50)	(150.00)	(56.75)	(50.50)	(4.00)	(13,116.75)
Premium Factor	Item E	0.00	462.00	64.00	29.00	18.00	6.00	5.00	4.00	5.00	593.00
Adjustment in number of dwellings or discounts	Item J	0.00	20.00	146.00	199.00	123.00	68.00	27.00	14.00	3.00	600.00
Council Tax Support Estimate	Item Z	(38.80)	(20,304.65)	(1,836.36)	(732.77)	(193.37)	(50.12)	(8.64)	(6.26)	0.00	(23,170.97)
Adjusted number of dwellings		148.95	48,427.35	15,178.14	15,176.98	8,403.13	3,118.88	1,045.61	591.24	24.00	92,114.28
Prescribed Proportions for each Band	Item F	5	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18	
Prescribed Proportion for Band D	Item G	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	
Adjusted number of dwellings*(F/G)	Item A	82.75	32,284.90	11,805.22	13,490.65	8,403.13	3,811.96	1,510.33	985.40	48.00	72,422.34
Estimated Collection Rate	Item B	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%
Tax Base A*B		81.51	31,800.63	11,628.14	13,288.29	8,277.08	3,754.78	1,487.67	970.62	47.28	71,336.00
Council Tax Base - Hetton Town Council											
		Disabled Band (A)	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Total
Chargeable Dwellings	Item H	13.00	4,711.00	1,193.00	655.00	323.00	121.00	52.00	23.00	1.00	7,092.00
Total Discount	Item Q	(1.00)	(569.25)	(87.50)	(36.25)	(16.25)	(6.00)	(4.00)	(1.75)	0.00	(722.00)
Premium Factor	Item E	0.00	38.00	3.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	46.00
Adjustment in number of dwellings or discounts	Item J	0.00	0.00	23.00	49.00	28.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	103.00
Council Tax Support Estimate	Item Z	(2.48)	(1,273.67)	(68.06)	(16.80)	(9.16)	(2.01)	0.00	(0.77)	0.00	(1,372.95)
Adjusted number of dwellings		9.52	2,906.08	1,063.44	650.95	329.59	114.99	50.00	20.48	1.00	5,146.05
Prescribed Proportions for each Band	Item F	5	6	7	8	9	11	13	15	18	
Prescribed Proportion for Band D	Item G	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	
Adjusted number of dwellings*(F/G)	Item A	5.29	1,937.39	827.12	578.62	329.59	140.54	72.22	34.13	2.00	3,926.90
Estimated Collection Rate	Item B	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%
Tax Base A*B		5.21	1,908.33	814.71	569.94	324.65	138.43	71.14	33.62	1.97	3,868.00

