



Policy and Resources Committee 18 January 2021

Council Tax Base 2021/22

Purpose of report

This report sets out the council's estimated tax base for the financial year 2021/22.

Attachments

Appendix 1 – Estimated Billing Authority tax base.

Appendix 2 – Estimated Parish tax bases.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Billing Authorities are required to carry out the calculation of their council tax base and their budget requirement, inclusive of any local precepts, to set an amount of council tax for each financial year.
- 1.2 The council tax base is the measure of the relative taxable capacity of different areas and is calculated in accordance with prescribed rules. The tax base figure represents the estimated full year equivalent number of chargeable dwellings in the area, expressed as the equivalent number of band D dwellings. It also takes into account the Billing Authority's estimated collection rate.

2.0 Council Tax Base for 2021/22

- 2.1 The Structural Changes Order for Northamptonshire makes it clear that each sovereign council is responsible for setting its tax base, which will be consolidated by North Northamptonshire Council as part of the precept they will set for 2021/22.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 shows the calculation for the district, and Appendix 2 lists the individual parish tax bases.
- 2.3 The estimated Billing Authority tax base for 2021/22 is 32,547 compared to 32,320 for 2020/21. The increase in the tax base is mainly attributable to property growth, as illustrated in the table below.
- 2.4 The proposed tax base for 2021/22 also takes into account other discounts and exemptions, anticipated additional new properties and a small provision for non-collection.

2020/21 Tax base estimate	32,320	
20/21 adjustment	(65)	Decrease in new property estimate compared to the 296 included in the original 20/21 estimated tax base.
New Properties	265	Anticipated number of new properties in 2021/22 (adjusted for anticipated relief and discount levels).
Council Tax Support (CTS)	(12)	Increase in CTS expenditure due to additional CTS claims.
Exemptions	(5)	Slight increase in exemptions.

Discounts	(44)	Increase in discounts.
Long Term Empty Premium	88	Increase due to additional premiums.
2021/22 Tax base estimate	32,547	

3.0 Important issues to consider

3.1 If the council tax base calculation proves to be over-estimated, there is a risk that we could collect less council tax than we need. If the calculation proves to be an under-estimate, there is a risk that we could collect more council tax than we need.

4.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

4.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

5.0 Privacy Impact Implications

5.1 There are no privacy implications.

6.0 Health Impact Assessments

6.1 There are no known health implications arising from this report.

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 It is a statutory requirement for the council to set a council tax base each year.

8.0 Risk Management

8.1 There is an element of risk due to the uncertainty of new property completions. However, officers have endeavoured to mitigate much of this risk by making realistic assumptions and exercising prudence in terms of the council tax collection rate.

9.0 Resource and Financial Implications

9.1 The council tax base is a forecast of the council's tax-raising potential over the next financial year and is incorporated into the Medium-Term Financial Strategy each year. Therefore, it needs to reflect as accurately as possible what the actual position will be. There are no additional cost implications.

10.0 Constitutional Implications

10.1 There are no constitutional implications arising from this report.

11.0 Implications for our Customers

11.1 The implications for our customers cannot be confirmed at present as the budget requirement and amount of council tax required for 2021/22 has not been decided yet.

12.0 Corporate Outcomes


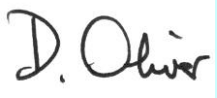
12.1 This report links to the following corporate outcomes:

- Good value for money (Financial stability) – Accurate estimation of the council tax base is an essential part of the budget setting process.
- Effective Management (Legal compliance) – It is a statutory requirement for the Council to make a formal estimation of its council tax base each year.

13.0 Recommendation

13.1 It is recommended that, after considering the calculation of the estimated tax base, the Committee resolves to recommend to Council that it adopts a tax base of 32,547 for the year 2021/22.

(Reason – To fulfil the Council’s statutory requirements.)

Legal	Power: Local Government Finance Act 1992, Local Government Act 2003, Local Government Finance Act 2012 and associated regulations.				
	Other considerations: S.I.1992/612				
Background Papers: Council Tax base working papers					
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Date: 4 January 2021					
CFO 4.1.21		MO		CX 4.1.21	

Appendix 1 – Estimated Billing Authority Tax Base

Billing Authority Tax Base for 2021-22

BAND	Band A Disabled	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	TOTAL
Dwellings		9,388	11,337	6,961	5,252	4,131	2,525	1,489	143	41,226
Exemptions		189	124	84	71	75	78	46	1	668
Disabled Relief - Actual Band		13	33	37	23	33	22	21	8	190
Disabled Relief - Charge band	13	33	37	23	33	22	21	8		190
Chargeable Dwellings	13	9,219	11,217	6,863	5,191	4,045	2,446	1,430	134	40,558
Discounts 25%		4,282	4,093	1,986	1,099	647	327	173	14	12,621
Discounts 50%		11	4	7	2	9	8	10	7	58
Dwellings - no discount	13	4,926	7,120	4,870	4,090	3,389	2,111	1,247	113	27,879
New Dwellings					265					265
100% premium 2-5 years		31	13	9	4	9	1	2	2	71
200% premium 5-10 years		3	10	7	5	2	2			29
300% premium 10 years		11	3	4	1	2				21
LCTS @ 25%		1304.85	1053.85	273.77	93.86	46.09	22.88	3.03	0.00	2798.33
Total equivalent dwellings	13	6,953	9,206	6,144	5,113	3,865	2,345	1,383	131	35,153
	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	1	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
BAND D EQUIVALENTS	7.22	4635.43	7160.14	5461.54	5113.39	4723.47	3387.76	2304.53	262.00	33055.49

Total Band D	33055.5
Collection Rate	0.98461
Tax Base	32547

Appendix 2 – Estimated Parish tax bases

Parish	Tax base
Aldwincle	161
Apethorpe	94
Ashton	127
Barnwell	177
Benefield	185
Blatherwycke	22
Brigstock	532
Bulwick	83
Chelveston	215
Clopton	63
Collyweston	227
Cotterstock	89
Deene	32
Deenethorpe	73
Denford	134
Duddington	77
Easton	463
Fineshade	17
Fotheringhay	72
Glaphorn	156
GT Addington	131
Hargrave	113
Harringworth	137
Hemington	44
Higham Ferrers	2886
Irthlingborough	2742
Islip	297
Kings Cliffe	610
Laxton	66
Lilford	60
Little Addington	143
Lowick	133
Luddington	31
Lutton	69
Nassington	357
Newton Bromswold	33
Oundle	2261
Pilton	27
Polebrook	196
Raunds	3303
Stanwick	698
Ringstead	497
Rushden	9934
Southwick	80
Stoke Doyle	44
Sudborough	97

Tansor	103
Thorpe Achurch	76
Thrapston	2489
Thurning	51
Titchmarsh	248
Twywell	82
Wadenhoe	61
Wakerley	44
Warmington	443
Woodford	505
Woodnewton	232
Yarwell	228
Total	32547