



**AGENDA ITEM:**

**COUNCIL: 24 February 2016**

**Revised report (circulated at the meeting)**

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**Report of:** Interim Transformation Manager

**Contact for further information:** Mr P Blakey (Ext. 87292)  
(email: [peter.blakey@btlancashire.co.uk](mailto:peter.blakey@btlancashire.co.uk))

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**SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF COUNCIL TAX 2016/17**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To set the Council Tax rate for each property band for the whole of the Borough Council's area, including the Council Tax rate as set by the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, and the local Parish Council in parished areas.
- 1.2 To confirm the statutory resolutions that are required in order to set the Council Tax for 2016/2017.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That it be noted that on the 8 January, 2016, the Borough Treasurer declared the Council Tax Base amounts set out in Appendix A for the financial year 2016/2017 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012.
- 2.2 That the Budget for the Council's own purposes for 2016/2017 (excluding parish precepts) be set at £12,883,318 in accordance with the earlier Budget Requirement report.

2.3 That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2016/2017 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act):

- a) £87,208,061 being the aggregate of the amounts, which the Council estimates for the items, set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- b) £80,304,791 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act
- c) £ 6,903,270 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2.3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
- d) £ 202.91 being the amount at 2.3(c) above divided by 34,020.96 (the Tax Base) calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(B) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2016/2017.
- e) £ 549,516 being the aggregate amount of all special items (i.e. Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- f) £186.76 being the amount at 2.3(d) above, less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.2(e) above by 34,020.96 (the Tax Base), calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2016/2017 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

g) Part of the Council's area:

	£. p
Aughton	203.05
Bickerstaffe	217.02
Bispham	195.33
Burscough	222.15
Dalton	206.96
Downholland	216.90
Great Altcar	201.33
Halsall	211.34
Hesketh with Beconsall	227.44
Hilldale	234.30
Lathom	202.30
Lathom South	216.34
Newburgh	210.39
North Meols	213.94
Parbold	220.89
Rufford	225.02
Scarisbrick	200.55
Simonswood	208.46
Tarleton	219.19
Up Holland	203.56
Wrightington	199.28

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.3(f) above the amounts of the special item relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the relevant Tax Base for those areas, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of the Council Tax for 2016/2017 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a special item (i.e. Parish Precepts) relate.

- h) Part of the Council's area for each valuation band, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.3(f) and 2.3(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands (**See Schedule 1**).

- 2.4 That it be noted that for the year 2016/2017 Lancashire County Council has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

#### VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
783.24	913.78	1,044.3 2	1,174.8 6	1,435.94	1,697.02	1,958.10	2,349.72

- 2.5 That it be noted that for the year 2016/2017 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

#### VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
108.15	126.17	144.20	162.22	198.27	234.32	270.37	324.44

- 2.6 That it be noted that for the year 2016/2017 the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

#### VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
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£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p	£. p
43.67	50.94	58.22	65.50	80.06	94.61	109.17	131.00

- 2.7 That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.3(h), 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the amounts shown in **Schedule 2** as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2016/2017 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

### 3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The earlier report entitled Budget Requirement resulted in the Council setting a Budget Requirement of £12,883,318 for 2016/2017 (excluding parish precepts). Other precepting authorities have also determined their budget requirements and notified the Council of the amounts they wish to collect through the Council Tax. This report consolidates this information and calculates the Council Tax level for each property band throughout the Borough.

### 4.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 In accordance with statute, the Borough Treasurer, declared, on the 14 January 2016, the estimated balance on the Collection Fund, in respect of Council Tax, as at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.
- 4.2 The result of the exercise showed an estimated surplus of £287,688 as detailed in Appendix B. This surplus is shared by the Borough Council, the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire and the County Council, in proportion to their respective calls on the Collection Fund as follows:

	£
Borough Council	6,653,523
Combined Fire Authority	2,178,491
Police Authority	5,342,442
County Council	37,946,587
	52,121,043

- 4.3 This surplus has to be taken into account when setting the Council Tax and Budget for 2016/2017.

### 5.0 SUSTAINABILITY / COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. The report has no significant links with the sustainable community strategy.

## 6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The following calculation shows the amount of the basic tax rate for band D properties after using the Council's approved Tax Base of 34,020.96 band D equivalent properties.

	£	£
Budget Requirement (Borough proportion)	12,883,318	
Budget Requirement (Parish proportion)	549,516	
Total Budget Requirement		<u>13,432,834</u>
General government grants and retained business rate income		6,492,839
Estimated surplus on Council Tax Collection Fund		36,725
Balance to be financed by Council Taxpayer (inc. Parishes)		<u>6,903,270</u>
Balance to be financed by Council Taxpayer (excl. Parishes)		<u>6,353,754</u>

- 6.2 The average Council Tax rate (including Parishes) for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property is £186.76, therefore, calculated as follows:

West Lancashire Borough Council (Including Parish Precepts)

		£	p
Balance to be financed by Taxpayer	<u>6,903,270</u>		
Band 'D' Equivalent Properties	34,020.96	202.91	

- 6.3 The actual Council Tax rate (excluding Parishes) for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property is, therefore, calculated as follows:

West Lancashire Borough Council (excluding Parish Precepts)

		£	p
Balance to be financed by Taxpayer	<u>6,353,754</u>		
Band 'D' Equivalent Properties	34,020.96	186.76	

Add Basic Tax Rates for:

Lancashire County Council	1,174.86
Lancashire Police Authority	162.22
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	65.50

Basic Tax Rate for a Band 'D' Equivalent Property 1,589.34

- 6.4 It is necessary to calculate the Council Tax rate for each property band in respect of the Borough Council and Parish Council elements only. **Schedule 1**

shows the Council Tax rate for each property band in each of the Parish Council areas.

- 6.5 It is then necessary to calculate the aggregate Council Tax rate by incorporating the Lancashire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, and the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority Council Tax rates into the figures shown in **Schedule 1**. The aggregated Council Tax rates are shown in **Schedule 2**.

## **7.0. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to set a Council Tax each year. Failure to set the Council Tax until a later date would have implications for billing and the required statutory fourteen days notice for the first instalment date of 2 April 2016. This would have an adverse effect on cash flow and the collection rate.

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### **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

This decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix A Declaration of Council Tax Base 2016/2017  
Appendix B Estimated Collection Fund Balance as at 31 March 2016  
Schedule 1 Council Tax rates payable for each band in respect of the Borough Council and Parish Council elements only  
Schedule 2 Council Tax rates payable for each band within the Borough Council's area