

2 December 2021

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Customer Services**Council Tax Base 2022/23****Exempt Information**

None

Purpose

To report the Council Tax Base for the Borough Council for 2022/23.

Recommendations

That Tamworth Borough Council resolves its calculation of the Council Tax Base for the year 2022/23 to be 22,968 (2021/22 – 22,366).

Executive Summary

The Borough Council is required to calculate its Council Tax Base for each financial year and notify Staffordshire County Council, The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Staffordshire and Staffordshire Fire Authority by 31 January preceding that financial year.

The Authority is required to approve the Council Tax Base.

The Council Tax Base is the total of the number of domestic properties in the Borough, after making deductions for exempt dwellings and for the granting of reliefs and discounts for disabled occupiers, single occupiers and as appropriate empty properties.

The Tax Base calculation has included an element for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (the replacement for Council Tax Benefit). The estimated amount of Council Tax Support payable for 2022/23 is converted into the equivalent number of whole properties which are deducted from the total. Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme claims have reduced slightly since the start of financial year from £4.8m to £4.7m. The potential longer-term consequences of the pandemic and unemployment and demand for the scheme have still yet to be fully experienced. It will be many months before we have a clearer idea on how the economy has responded to the recovery process including any lasting effects for individual businesses and their employees.

Options Considered

Not applicable

Resource Implications

The figure for 2022/23 Council Tax Base is calculated at 22,968 which represents an increase of 602 or 2.7%.

Legal/Risk Implications Background

If the base is not set in the legally required timeframe it can be calculated by precepting

authorities and imposed upon us.

Equalities Implications

Not applicable.

Sustainability Implications

None

Background Information

Under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended the Borough Council is required to calculate its Council Tax Base for each financial year and is required to notify Staffordshire County Council, The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Staffordshire and Staffordshire Fire Authority by 31 January preceding that financial year.

In accordance with the Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 as amended, the Tax Base for the year 2022/23 is calculated by applying a formula $A \times B$.

A is the number of properties in each band (expressed as a number of band D equivalents).

B is the Authority's estimate of its collection rate for that year. It is recommended that this should be 97.9%. (The current year collection rate dropped to 97.4% last year due to the effects of the pandemic. However current levels indicate that collection should be back to anticipated pre-pandemic levels)

Applying the collection rate to A gives a Council Tax Base of 22,968 ($23,460.7 \times 97.9\%$).

Report Author

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List of Background Papers

Local Government Finance Act 1992
Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992
Local Government Finance Act 2012
Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012

Appendices

Appendix A – Council Tax Base Calculation 2022/23