

COUNCIL

8 FEBRUARY 2018

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

AGENDA ITEM No.

7A

ADDENDUM TO: ITEM REFERRED FROM CABINET: 23 JANUARY 2018 – DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COUNCILLOR JULIAN CUNNINGHAM
COUNCIL PRIORITY: RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 To inform Council of the precepts demanded by all the local precepting authorities in the District and the resulting total District Council Tax Requirement.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Council notes the Parish and Town Council precepts of £1,095,531.

2.2 That Council notes that the total District Council Tax Requirement is £12,071,060 and approves this figure for inclusion in the Council Tax Resolution.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To ensure that all relevant factors are taken into consideration when arriving at the proposed Council Tax precept for 2018/19.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None.

5 CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

5.1 Parish and Town Councils were asked to provide notice of their precept requirements by the 19 January 2018 in order that there could be consideration of the total District Council Tax Requirement at this meeting.

6 FORWARD PLAN

6.1 This report contains a recommendation on a key decision that was first notified to the public in the Forward Plan on the 28 July 2017.

7 BACKGROUND

7.1 The referral from Cabinet details the recommendation to increase Council Tax by 2.99% and the workings behind the North Hertfordshire District Council (NHDC) precept, for its own purposes, of £10,975,529.

8 RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 The Parish and Town Councils have provided notification of the precepts they wish to levy for 2018/19. It was agreed at the January meeting of this Council to distribute a total of £38,885 to the local precepting authorities as the amount of Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant for 2018/19. This will be paid to each authority in addition to their precept demand, as detailed in table 1 below. The total precept demand of £1,095,531 will be levied on the relevant Council Tax base of the District.

Table 1 - Parish and Town Council Precepts for 2018/19

North Hertfordshire Parish & Town Councils	2018/19				2017/2018		
	Total Precept and Grant	CTRS Grant	Precept Demand		Band D Tax	Band D Tax	Change on Band D
	£	£	£		£	£	£
Ashwell	65,000.00	1,399.25	63,600.75	857.10	74.20	77.63	-3.43
Baldock	-	-	-	3,737.50	-	-	-
Barkway	36,720.00	532.97	36,187.03	377.80	95.78	95.67	0.11
Barley	22,000.00	569.22	21,430.78	324.20	66.10	66.39	-0.29
Bygrave	6,539.10	39.10	6,500.00	125.40	51.83	47.28	4.55
Caldecote and Newnham	1,500.00	114.63	1,385.37	49.50	27.99	28.57	-0.58
Clothall	2,000.00	138.59	1,861.41	81.40	22.87	23.35	-0.48
Codicote	107,530.00	3,238.92	104,291.08	1,629.10	64.02	64.09	-0.07
Graveley	6,642.40	642.40	6,000.00	172.20	34.84	32.31	2.53
Great Ashby	43,300.00	2,556.33	40,743.67	2,051.00	19.87	19.98	-0.11
Hexton	0.00	0.00	0.00	61.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hinxworth	10,370.00	109.47	10,260.53	160.20	64.05	64.37	-0.32
Hitchin	-	-	-	12,241.70	-	-	-
Holwell	8,352.00	444.76	7,907.24	148.40	53.28	54.68	-1.40
Ickleford	48,650.00	2,302.70	46,347.30	742.00	62.46	60.99	1.47
Kelshall	3,000.00	120.86	2,879.14	78.50	36.68	37.23	-0.55
Kimpton	73,754.91	1,754.91	72,000.00	1,057.90	68.06	69.55	-1.49
Kings Walden	29,236.56	888.90	28,347.66	417.00	67.98	67.98	0.00
Knebworth	148,000.00	3,236.75	144,763.25	1,971.30	73.44	73.28	0.16
Langley	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Letchworth	-	-	-	11,526.90	-	-	-
Lilley	10,835.00	338.01	10,496.99	169.60	61.89	55.03	6.86
Nuthampstead	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
Offley	33,368.46	2,118.46	31,250.00	610.80	51.16	48.41	2.75
Pirton	36,000.00	672.15	35,327.85	550.70	64.15	59.77	4.38
Preston	6,400.00	197.65	6,202.35	215.70	28.75	25.40	3.35
Radwell	1,080.00	169.26	910.74	55.50	16.41	16.41	0.00

Reed	4,180.00	164.86	4,015.14	157.50	25.49	27.61	-2.12
Royston	283,609.25	11,339.25	272,270.00	6,402.00	42.53	42.53	0.00
Rushden and Wallington	4,300.00	130.39	4,169.61	201.60	20.68	20.06	0.62
St Ippolyts	25,000.00	1,464.88	23,535.12	897.30	26.23	25.82	0.41
St Pauls Walden	50,718.11	1,408.11	49,310.00	546.00	90.31	74.59	15.72
Sandon	8,200.00	517.41	7,682.59	235.80	32.58	30.55	2.03
Therfield	5,790.00	354.04	5,435.96	253.20	21.47	21.73	-0.26
Weston	20,000.00	793.06	19,206.94	441.00	43.55	44.13	-0.58
Wymondley	32,340.00	1,127.70	31,212.30	418.50	74.58	71.75	2.83
TOTAL	1,134,415.79	38,884.99	1,095,530.80	49,118.50	-	-	-

9 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The provision for the Authority to levy and collect a Council tax is provided in section 30 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Aggregating Billing Authority and Preceptors Council Tax Charges).
- 9.2 The principles for referendums relating to Council Tax increases were announced in the provisional Local Government finance settlement on 19th December 2017 and do not apply to the local precepting authorities.
- 9.3 Council is asked to note the precepts and approve the total District Council Tax Requirement for inclusion in the Council Tax resolution. It is the responsibility of the Council Tax Setting Committee to set the Council Tax Base and set the Council Tax in accordance with the relevant legislation (see paragraph 10.2 of the Council's Constitution).

10 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 We are required to calculate and include in the formal council tax resolution the District Council Tax requirement, which comprises the District Council's budget requirement and that of any parishes in the area. This figure is then combined with the precept requirements from the major precepting bodies, Hertfordshire County Council and Hertfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner, to arrive at the total Council Tax amount due.
- 10.2 The approval of the formal Council Tax resolution by the Council Tax Setting Committee is scheduled to take place on the 28 February 2018 and will authorise the Council Tax billing of the residents of North Hertfordshire for financial year 2018/19.

11 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The risk of non-collection of Council Tax is monitored in the Collection Fund. The tax base calculations have assumed a non-collection rate of 1%.

12 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 12.2 The review and setting of Council Tax is a statutory responsibility of this Council. A balance must be considered and demonstrated by the Council when setting the level of Council Tax and any rise or fall in tax. This said balance is between the ability of the individual residents' to pay the required Council Tax and the Council's need to have sufficient base budget to deliver key services across the District. The recommendation to provide a grant of approximately £39,000 to the District's Town and Parish Councils will mitigate the impact of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This action reflects some of the considerations made in reaching this balance.

13 SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this report.

14 HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 There are no direct human resource implications arising.

15 APPENDICES

- 15.1 None.

16 CONTACT OFFICERS

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