

## **CALCULATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX BASE 2012/13**

**Submitted by:** Head of Revenues and Benefits

**Portfolio:** Customer Services and Transformation

**Ward(s) affected:** All

### **Purpose of the Report**

To approve the Council Tax Base to be used to calculate the 2012/13 levies for the Borough Council, the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and each Town and Parish Council.

### **Recommendations**

**That, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amounts calculated as the Council Tax Base for 2012/13 shall be as follows:-**

#### **Band D Equivalent Properties**

<b>Newcastle Borough Council</b>	<b>39,136</b>
<b>Kidsgrove Town Council</b>	<b>7,219</b>
<b>Audley</b>	<b>2,669</b>
<b>Loggerheads</b>	<b>1,957</b>
<b>Balterley, Betley and Wrinehill</b>	<b>574</b>
<b>Chapel and Hill Chorlton</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Keele</b>	<b>332</b>
<b>Madeley</b>	<b>1,558</b>
<b>Maer</b>	<b>254</b>
<b>Silverdale</b>	<b>1,446</b>
<b>Whitmore</b>	<b>805</b>

### **Reasons**

To enable the Borough Council, the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and each Town and Parish Council to calculate the Council Tax applicable to their approved budgetary requirements.

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council to calculate the "Council Tax Base" for the Authority and for each of the areas covered by Parish Councils.
- 1.2 The legislation requires that the figure, when determined, be notified to precepting authorities before 31 January.

#### **2. Issues**

- 2.1 The "Council Tax Base" represents the number of properties in the area concerned, expressed as if all properties were valued at Band "D" and after adjusting for the various discounts, exemptions, additions and deletions from the valuation list during the ensuing year and after making allowance for non-recovery.

- 2.2 Section 11A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 enables local authorities to reduce the amount of Council Tax discount given for second homes and to reduce or end the amount of Council Tax discount given for long term empty homes. For 2012/13, the “Council Tax Base” is calculated with a reduced discount rate of 10% in respect of Class A and Class B dwellings (second homes and furnished unoccupied dwellings) and no discount in respect of Class C dwellings (long term empty dwellings), as defined by Statutory Instrument 3011/2003
- 2.3 For 2012/13 the “Council Tax Base” should be calculated by multiplying the total of the “relevant amounts” for each tax band by the estimated collection rate.
- 2.4 Calculations have been made for the Borough Council and for each Town and Parish Council and attached at Appendix A to this report is a schedule which shows the effect of applying the Estimated Collection Rate of 99%.

The Council’s approved budget requirement will be divided by the Council Tax Base to produce a Council Tax Rate for the Borough to which the various proportions (i.e.  $\frac{6}{9}$ ths to  $\frac{18}{9}$ ths) will be applied to produce the tax applicable for each band. A similar exercise will be carried out in relation to the County Council, Police Authority, the Fire Authority and Town and Parish Council’s precept requirements.

3. **Options Considered**

Not applicable

4. **Proposal**

- 4.1 That the Council Tax Base calculations set out in the attached appendices be approved.

5. **Reasons for Preferred Solution**

- 5.1 Legislation directs the method of calculation of the Council Tax Base.

6. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- 6.1 The Council’s approved budget covers all corporate priorities. Calculating the Council Tax Base enables the level of Council Tax to be determined to meet this budgetary requirement.

7. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 7.1 Section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council to calculate the “Council Tax Base” for the Authority and for each of the areas covered by Parish Councils.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment**

Not applicable

9. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 9.1 Calculating the Council Tax Base enables the level of Council Tax to be determined to meet the Council’s budgetary requirement.

10. **Major Risks**

- 10.1 Failure to set the Council Tax Base will leave the Council in breach of its statutory duty and unable to determine the appropriate level of Council Tax.

11. **Key Decision Information**

Not applicable

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

Not applicable

13. **List of Appendices**

Appendix - Council Tax Base calculation

15. **Background Papers**

Not applicable

16. **Management Sign-Off**

Each of the designated boxes need to be signed off and dated before going to Executive Director/Corporate Service Manager for sign off.