

**SUBJECT: COUNCIL TAX BASE 2016/17**

**DIRECTORATE: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

**LEAD OFFICER: MARTIN WALMSLEY, HEAD OF SHARED REVENUES AND BENEFITS**

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' recommendation of the Council Tax Base for the financial year 2016/17.

## **2. Executive Summary**

- 2.1 This report is submitted to the Executive each year and sets out the calculation of the Council Tax Base for the following financial year.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended) require the Council to formally set its Tax Base as the first stage of the Council Tax setting process.

## **4. Special Items**

- 4.1 Before setting the Council Tax Base, the issue of any special items relating to a part of the Council's area must be considered. If there are any items of expenditure that relate to one part of the local authority area, then that expenditure can be levied on those residents in that area and not on others.
- 4.2 There are no items of special expenditure.

## **5. Council Tax Base**

- 5.1 Certain assumptions have to be made in order to determine the number of dwellings within the Authority's area, and these are set out in Appendix A.
- 5.2 The calculation of the Council Tax base, detailed in Appendix B, shows the number of Band D equivalent chargeable dwellings as being 23,244. This is based on the Regulations in paragraph 3.1 above and assumes that 98.25% of the Council Tax due for 2016/17 will be collected.
- 5.3 The Council Tax base number of Band D equivalent chargeable dwellings for 2016/17 has been calculated as 27,961– less 4,717 deduction calculated for the localised Council Tax Support scheme – resulting in a proposed Council Tax base for 2016/17 of 23,244

## 6. Organisational Impacts

- 6.1 Finance: The Council must confirm its Council Tax Base as a pre-requisite to setting the Council Tax charge for 2015/16.
- 6.2 Legal Implications: The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and Statutory Instrument No 1992/612 – Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended) set out the requirement for the Council to confirm and formally approve its Council Tax Base and notify it to its precepting bodies. The Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 provide for Councils to make technical changes to certain discounts from April 2013.
- 6.3 Equality and Diversity: There are no specific equality and diversity impacts as a direct result of this report.

## 7. Recommendations

- 7.1 The Executive is asked to recommend to Council that it:
- a) Notes that there are no special items as defined in Section 35 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) applicable to any part or parts of the City of Lincoln local authority area;
  - b) Approves the Director of Resources' calculation of the Council Tax Base for the financial year commencing 1 April 2016 and ending 31 March 2017, as set out in Appendix B of this report;
  - c) Approves, in accordance with the Director of Resources' calculation, and pursuant to the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended), that the Council Tax Base for the 2016/17 financial year is 23,244.

**Key Decision** No

**Do the Exempt Information Categories Apply** No

**Call In and Urgency:** Is the decision one to which Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply? No

**Does the report contain Appendices?** Yes

**If Yes, how many Appendices?** Two

**List of Background Papers:** None

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