

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Resources

Date of Meeting: 30th December 2009
Report of: Borough Treasurer and Head of Assets
Subject/Title: Council Tax Base 2010/11
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Frank Keegan

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report notifies the Cabinet Member for Resources of the Council Tax Base for Cheshire East and asks him to make a recommendation to Council.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Resources recommend to Council that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount to be calculated by Cheshire East Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2010/11 is:
- for the whole area – 145,171.05
 - for each Parish area as set out in Appendix A to the report

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 Cheshire East Council is required to agree its tax base before 31 January 2010. The Cabinet Member for Resources is therefore requested to recommend the Tax Base to Council.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 N/A

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 N/A

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health

- 6.1 N/A

7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

7.1 None

8.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

8.1 None

9.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

9.1 The legal requirements for setting Council Tax are complex. The setting of the Tax Base is an essential part of the process and is laid down in the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992.

The decision must be taken by Council. This report allows the Cabinet Member for Resources to make a recommendation about the Tax Base.

10.0 Risk Management

10.1 Confirmation of the Council Tax base for 2010/11 ensures that the statutory requirement to set the Tax Base is met.

11.0 Background and Options

11.1 Cheshire East Council is required to approve its Tax Base before 31 January 2010 so that the information can be provided to Cheshire Police Authority and Cheshire Fire Authority for their budget processes.

11.2 The Tax Base for the area is the estimated number of chargeable dwellings expressed as a number of Band D equivalents adjusted for an estimated number of discounts, exemptions, disabled relief and appeals plus an allowance for non-collection.

11.3 The Tax Base has been calculated on the assumption that properties remaining empty for longer than six months are allowed a discount of 25% and that properties regarded as second homes are allowed a discount of 25%. The number of Band D equivalent properties for 2010/11 is 146,238.98.

11.4 It is necessary to further adjust the Tax Base for:

Changes in the Valuation List

These could arise for a variety of reasons such as appeals, disabled relief, new properties, deleted properties and changes in discount or exemption entitlements. Taking into account these factors, the Tax Base is expected to increase by 398.44 properties.

Non-collection

It is suggested that a reduction of 1% be made in the Tax Base calculation to accommodate non-collection. This reduces the Tax Base by 1,466.37 to 145,171.05.

12.0 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

12.1 N/a

13.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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