

## TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 7 MARCH 2013

COUNCIL TAX - FORMAL RESOLUTIONS FOR 2013/14

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, AUDIT AND INFORMATION GOVERNANCE)

### 1. PART A – SUMMARY REPORT

Council Tax levels must be approved by Full Council. This report sets out the formal resolutions to determine the levels of Council Tax for Telford & Wrekin Council for 2013/14. The levels of tax take account of the requirements of Telford & Wrekin Council, the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner, Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority, and the various Parish and Town Councils.

The Council's General and Special Fund budgets for 2013/14 were approved earlier at this meeting and the Council Tax Base was approved at the meeting of Full Council on 24 January 2013.

Council Tax levels are based on spending requirements and the council tax base (number of chargeable Band D equivalent dwellings). Once this report is agreed the Band D Council Tax will be:

Authority		Band D Council Tax £	Increase %
Telford & Wrekin	General Fund	1,132.96	1.9
	Special Fund	14.53	2.0
<b>Telford &amp; Wrekin Council</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,147.49</b>	<b>1.9</b>
West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner		178.72	0.0
Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority		88.66	2.0
Parish & Town Councils		62.36	4.9
<b>Total Council Tax</b>		<b>1,477.23</b>	<b>1.8</b>

The % increase all relate to change from current year levels

The increases in overall council tax will vary dependent on parish area.

The average increase in overall bills represents a range from 0.75% to 3.84% depending on variations in parish council spending and precepts.

While the total average Band D bill will be £1,477.23, the majority of properties in the area fall in Bands A and B - an average bill for the area is thus around Band B, an overall average bill of £1,148.96.

The necessary formal resolutions are set out in section 6 of the report.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to approve the formal resolutions to determine the levels of Council Tax for 2013/14 as detailed in the report.

## **3.0 SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific priorities?	
	Yes	The level of Council Tax is a product of the Service & Financial Planning Strategy which is integral to ensuring that available resources are used as effectively as possible to deliver corporate priorities.
	No	
<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	The Council Tax must be set by 11 March each year prior to the start of the financial year to which it relates.	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes	The financial impacts are detailed in the Service & Financial Planning Report.
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	No	There is a duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for the Council, as billing authority, to set the levels of Council Tax for each financial year. Regulations are in place which need to be followed when making these calculations. Details of those Regulations and how they have been observed are set out in this report.
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	No	These are considered as part of the Service & Financial Planning report.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	No	Borough Wide

## **4.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None.

## **PART B – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **5.0. INFORMATION**

The Localism Act 2011 has made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992, and now requires the authority to set a Council Tax requirement for the year, not it's budget requirement as previously.

The introduction of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Local Council Tax Support Scheme) has resulted in a change to the way the Council Tax requirement and Council Tax Base are calculated. The Council Tax Requirement is the net funding requirement to be funded by the tax payer after the application of government grant funding towards the Council Tax Support Scheme. Council Tax Support is given as a council tax discount and the Council Tax Base is the band D equivalent after council tax support discounts have been taken into account. The tax base is therefore lower than in previous years.

The Council Tax Base was approved at Full Council on 24 January 2013. The Council's budget for 2013/14 was agreed earlier at this meeting.

The budget is made up of a General Fund element and a much smaller Special Fund element. The Special Fund is required to ring fence costs that apply to areas that were previously unparished and where the Council still provides some additional services normally provided by Town and Parish Councils mainly relating to footway lighting and cemeteries, whereas some parishes provide and pay for these services.

Some parishes in the special fund area have, however, assumed responsibility for footway lighting so that two special fund charges are applied in different areas dependent upon whether footway lighting is provided by this Council or the Parish Council. The charge for special fund areas has increased by 2%, but across the Borough as a whole the proposals set out in this report represent a 1.9% increase on average in the Council Tax levied by Telford & Wrekin Council.

## 6. FORMAL RESOLUTIONS

6.1. That it be noted that at its meeting on 24 January 2013 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012 made under Section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (The Act):-

(a) **43,216.7** being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2012 (The Regulations), as its Council Tax base for the year (The Council Tax Base).

(b) Part of the Council's Area  
Tax Base

The Parish of:-

CHETWYND	228.9
CHETWYND ASTON & WOODCOTE	165.3
CHURCH ASTON	467.3
DAWLEY HAMLETS	1,953.2
EDGMOND	505.5
ERCALL MAGNA	530.5
THE GORGE	1,203.1
GREAT DAWLEY	2,210.7
HADLEY & LEEGOMERY	3,499.5
HOLLINSWOOD & RANDLAY	1,246.2
KETLEY	989.0
KYNNERSLEY	70.2
LAWLEY & OVERDALE	1,908.7
LILLESHALL & DONNINGTON	3,906.9
LITTLE WENLOCK	223.8
MADELEY	3,517.2
NEWPORT	3,295.7
OAKENGATES	2,034.3
PRESTON	96.4
RODINGTON	323.8
ST. GEORGES & PRIORSLEE	3,479.9
STIRCHLEY & BROOKSIDE	2,059.8
TIBBERTON & CHERRINGTON	261.3
WATERS UPTON	370.8
WELLINGTON	5,937.9
WROCKWARDINE	1,358.4
WROCKWARDINE WOOD & TRENCH	1,336.0
	<b>43,180.3</b>

being the amounts calculated by the Council in accordance with Regulation 6 of The Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax Base

for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

6.2. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of The Act:-

- (a) £440,919,271 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act, taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- (b) £388,633,654 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £52,285,617 being the amount by which the aggregate at 6.2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 6.2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
- (d) £1,209.85 being the amount at 6.2(c) above divided by the Council Tax base, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including parish precepts and special items).
- (e) £3,322,581 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- (f) £1,132.96 being the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates (calculated by deducting from the amount at 6.2(d) above, the quotient of the amount at 6.2(e) above divided by the Council Tax Base). The only area that this relates to is the Parish of Eyton.

(g)	<b><u>Part of the Council's Area</u></b>	£
	The Parish of:	
	Chetwynd	1,147.42
	Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote	1,151.10
	Church Aston	1,169.84
	Dawley Hamlets (SF2*)	1,183.75
	Edgmond	1,159.28
	Ercall Magna	1,188.18
	The Gorge (SF2*)	1,213.98
	Great Dawley (SF2*)	1,271.08
	Hadley & Leegomery	1,199.05
	Hollinswood & Randlay	1,271.84
	Ketley	1,226.50
	Kynnersley	1,151.51
	Lawley & Overdale (SF1*)	1,193.90

Lilleshall, Donnington & Muxton	1,178.90
Little Wenlock	1,188.54
Madeley (SF2*)	1,231.71
Newport	1,239.23
Oakengates (SF2*)	1,241.88
Preston	1,139.18
Rodington	1,159.80
St. Georges & Priorslee (SF1*)	1,173.39
Stirchley & Brookside(SF2*)	1,263.11
Tibberton & Cherrington	1,147.54
Waters Upton	1,166.94
Wellington (SF2*)	1,208.93
Wrockwardine	1,171.92
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench (SF1*)	1,200.19

*\*SF1 indicates a parish in the special fund area which has taken over responsibility for footway lighting. An additional charge is made for cemeteries.*

*\*SF2 indicates a parish in the special fund area which has not taken over responsibility for footway lighting. An additional charge is made for both cemeteries and footway lighting.*

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 6.2(f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 6.1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- (h) The amounts in Appendix 1 being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 6.2(f) and 6.2(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

7. The West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner precept for 2013/14 was set at its meeting on 15 February 2013. The following amounts were stated in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Band</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>£</u>
A	119.15
B	139.00
C	158.86
D	178.72
E	218.44
F	258.15
G	297.87
H	357.44

8. The Shropshire & Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority's precept for 2013/14 was set at its meeting on 13 February 2013. The following amounts were stated in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Band</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>£</u>
A	59.11
B	68.96
C	78.81
D	88.66
E	108.36
F	128.06
G	147.77
H	177.32

9. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 6.2(h) and 4 and 5 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, hereby sets the amounts in Appendix 2 as the amounts of council tax for the year 2013/14 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

10. Background Papers  
Service & Financial Planning Report 2013/14 – 2014/15  
Parish Precept Requests  
Police & Crime Commissioner Precept Request  
Fire Authority Precept Request  
2013/14 Revenue Support Grant Settlement  
Acts, Directions and Regulations as quoted above.