

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010/11

Reporting Officer: Director of Finance and Resources

SUMMARY

This report sets out the Council Tax Base for the year 2010/2011, in accordance with the legislation, for approval by the Council.

It shows a net increase in the Council Tax Base of 1,417 (1.47%). The following are the main factors that have helped to increase the Council Tax Base:

- An increase of 810 in the number of new properties in Valuation List.
- A reduction of 76 in the number of Single Occupancy Discounts, due to a full review of all persons claiming the discount which was carried out in 2009-10
- A reduction of 200 in the number of exemptions, following a review carried out in 2009-10
- A reduction of 241 in the estimated number of exemptions for 2010-11.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That

- 1) **the report of the Director of Finance, for the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2010/2011, be approved.**
- 2) **pursuant to the report of the Director of Finance, and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003, the amount calculated by the London Borough of Hillingdon as its Council Tax Base for the year 2010/2011 shall be 97,952.**

INFORMATION

The Council is required to calculate its Tax Base as at 30 November 2009, by 31 January 2010.

The calculation for determining the relevant amount for each band is prescribed under the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003. The calculation is based on the following formula:

$$(H - Q + J) \times (F \text{ divided by } G)$$

Where:

H = The number of chargeable dwellings for the band on the relevant day, less the estimated number of exempt dwellings on that day.

Q = Is a factor to take account of the discounts to which the amount of council tax payable was subject on the relevant day.

J = An estimation of any adjustments in respect of changes in the number of chargeable dwellings, discounts or exemptions calculated by the authority.

F = The number appropriate to that band which is used in determining the Band D equivalent (i.e. Band A = 6, Band B = 7, Band C = 8, Band D = 9, Band E = 11, Band F = 13, Band G = 15, Band H = 18).

G = The number applicable to Band D (i.e. 9).

The relevant date for 2010/2011 is 30th November 2009.

Calculation of Council Tax Base 2010/2011

Set out below is a summary of the Council Tax Base, showing the estimated collection rate and allowance made for contributions in lieu of Council Tax in respect of Forces Barracks and Married Quarters. The detailed calculation of the Council Tax Base by Band is shown at Appendix A to this report.

TOTAL OF BAND D EQUIVALENT PROPERTIES	
Band	Number
A	399
B	3,318
C	16,129
D	39,465
E	19,395
F	12,180
G	6,798
H	695
Total	98,379
Equivalent Number Adjusted for Estimated Collection Rate (98.7%)	97,100
Allow for contribution in lieu of Council Tax in respect of Forces Barracks and Married Quarters	852
COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2010/2011	97,952

Estimated Collection Rate

It is a requirement of the Council Tax legislation (SI 1992 No 612) for the Authority to make an estimate of its collection rate in determining the Council Tax Base. The estimated collection rate is reviewed each year taking account of actual collection trends both in year and over a period of time. For information the estimated collection rate used for 2009/2010 was also 98.7%.

Changes in the Council Tax Base since 2009/2010

In calculating the Council Tax Base for 2010/2011 the authority has to estimate the various changes that will occur during the financial year. Due consideration also has to be given to the actual level of activity experienced in the current financial year 2009/2010. The changes are detailed by Band in Appendix A and summarised in Appendix B.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

It is noted that this report falls within the provisions of Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. Any Member, who is two or more months in arrears with his/her Council Tax, must declare the fact and not vote on the recommendations.

FINANCIAL COMMENTS

This report details the calculations of the Council Tax Base for 2010/2011. The figure for the total Band D equivalents, 97,952, is 1.47% higher than the current year's figure of 96,535. This is due to a number of factors set out above and shown in Appendix B to this report.

The factors with the most significant individual impact on the Council Tax base are the increase in the number of properties on the Valuation List and the decreased number of exemptions throughout the year. This has resulted in an overall increase in the Council Tax Base between 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 of 1.47%

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Borough Solicitor reports that the legal implications are contained in the body of the report.