

COUNCIL TAX BASE – 2011/2012

Reporting Officer: Director of Finance and Business Services

SUMMARY

This report sets out the Council Tax Base for the year 2011/2012, in accordance with the legislation, for approval by the Council.

It shows a net increase in the Council Tax Base of 1,166 (1.20%).

The following are the main factors that have helped to increase the Council Tax Base:

- An increase of 1,254 in the number of new properties in Valuation List.
- A reduction of 179 in the number of Single Occupancy Discounts, due to a full review of all persons claiming the discount which was carried out in 2010-11

RECOMMENDATIONS: That the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2011/2012 be approved 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 99,118.

INFORMATION

The Council is required to calculate its Tax Base as at 30 November 2010, by 31 January 2011.

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 2011/2012 is 30 November 2010.

Calculation of Council Tax Base 2011/2012

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	427
B	3,336
C	16,645
D	39,933
E	19,526
F	12,312
G	6,735
H	697
Total	99,610
Equivalent Number Adjusted for Estimated Collection Rate (98.7%)	98,316
Allow for contribution in lieu of Council Tax in respect of Forces Barracks and Married Quarters	802
COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2010/2011	99,118

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 2010/2011 was also 98.7%.

Changes in the Council Tax Base since 2010/2011

In calculating the Council Tax Base for 2011/2012 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 2010/2011. The changes are summarised in Appendix A and detailed by Band 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 2011/2012. The figure for the total Band D equivalents, 99,118, is 1.20% higher than the current year's figure of 97,952. 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 single person discounts throughout the year. This has resulted in an overall increase in the Council Tax Base between 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 of 1.20%

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

Table showing the changes to the 2010/2011 Council Tax Base to arrive at the 2011/2012 Council Tax Base

APPENDIX A

	Count of Band D equivalent properties	Ministry of Defence Properties	Collection Rate Allowance 1.3%	Tax Base
2010/11 Council Tax Base as reported to Council on 14th January 2010	98,379	852	-1,279	97,952
Increase in tax base due to increase in properties in the Valuation List as at 30/11/10 (effective date)	1,254			
Decrease in tax base due to reduction in numbers of properties completed but not yet shown on Valuation List	-83			
Increase in tax base due to reduction in the number of properties on valuation list to be taken off as demolished	20			
Increase in tax base due to an increase in estimate of additional properties to be completed over the year	97			
Decrease in tax base due to increase in exemptions	-188			
Increase in tax base due to reduction in number of properties with Disabled Persons relief	6			
Decrease in tax base due to estimated increase in exemptions over year.	-39			
Increase in tax base due to reduction in single occupancy discount cases	179			
Decrease in tax base due to increase in number of properties where all residents disregarded	-3			
Decrease in tax base due to increase in 2 nd homes	-11			
TOTAL Changes in tax base	1,232	-50	-16	1,166
Council Tax Base 2011/12	99,611	802	-1,295	99,118