

Cabinet Report



Listening Learning Leading

Report of Head of Finance

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To: CABINET on 3 December 2020

To: Council on 10 December 2020

Council tax base 2021/22

Recommendations

That Cabinet recommends Council to:

1. Approve the report of the head of finance for the calculation of the council's tax base and the calculation of the tax base for each parish area for 2021/2022.
2. Agree that, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by South Oxfordshire District Council as its council tax base for the year 2021/22 be 59,171.2
3. Agree that, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by South Oxfordshire District Council as the council tax base for the year 2021/22 for each parish be the amount shown against the name of that parish in Appendix 1 of the report of the head of finance to Cabinet on 3 December 2020

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to ask Cabinet to recommend the council tax base for 2021/22 to Council for approval.

Corporate Objectives

2. The calculation of the tax base is a legal requirement and an essential part of the tax setting process which helps to achieve the council's corporate objectives.

Background

3. Before the council tax can be set by the council, a calculation has to be made of the council tax base, which is an estimate of the taxable resources for the district as a whole and for each parish area.
4. The council tax base for the district has to be notified to Oxfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner by 31 January 2021. Each parish and town council is also notified of the figure for its area.
5. The legislation requires that the council tax base is approved by full council or a non-executive body with delegated powers. No such delegation exists, so cabinet is therefore asked to recommend to council the schedule set out in **Appendix 1** as the council tax base for the district as a whole and for each parish area.

Calculation of the tax base

6. The starting point for the calculation is the total number of dwellings and their council tax band.
7. The council then allows for the following information, for each band:
 - (a) dwellings which will be entirely exempt so no tax is payable (e.g. those occupied entirely by students)
 - (b) dwellings which will attract a 25 per cent reduction (e.g. those with a single adult occupier)
 - (c) dwellings which will attract a 50 per cent reduction (e.g. those where all of the adult residents qualify for a reduction)
 - (d) dwellings which will be treated as being in a lower band because they have been adapted for a severely disabled person. The regulations provide methodology to take account of the reduction available to those in band A dwellings
 - (e) dwellings which will be on the valuation list but which attract discounts or disablement relief or are exempt, for only part of the year
8. Each band is then converted into "band D equivalents" by applying the factor laid down by legislation. For example, a band A dwelling is equal to $\frac{2}{3}$ of a band D dwelling and is therefore multiplied by $\frac{2}{3}$ to arrive at the band D equivalent figure, whilst a band H dwelling is equal to twice a Band D dwelling and is therefore multiplied by two to arrive at the Band D equivalent figure. All these are then added together to give a total of band D equivalents.

9. A final adjustment is required to allow for non-collection. The council is required to decide what its collection rate is likely to be and apply this to its council tax base. For the 2020/21 tax the council assumed 98 per cent would eventually be collected and it is proposed to use 98 per cent again in 2021/22.

Taxbase for 2021/22

10. Based on the assumptions detailed above the council tax base for 2021/22 is 59,171.2.
11. Similar calculations are required for each parish in order to calculate the proportion of the district's tax base which relates to its area. A schedule of the tax base for each parish is set out in **Appendix 1**.
12. To calculate the council tax amounts payable per property band for the council, its council tax requirement (i.e. the amount of council tax to be raised) is divided by the Band D equivalent (taxbase). This will be finalised during January and February, culminating in the council tax being set by council on 11 February 2021 (this date is subject to the council being notified of the major precepting authorities' council tax requirements).

Financial Implications

13. These are set out in the body of the report.

Legal Implications

14. These are set out in the body of the report.

Risks

15. The council's methodology for calculating the taxbase involves basing the calculation on actual dwellings at a certain point in time, rather than forecasting on potential new dwellings that may be built in the future. Because of this the risk exposure is considered to be low.

Background Papers

None

Appendix 1

PARISH COUNCIL TAX BASES - 2021-22

| PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL | NUMBER OF DWELLINGS 2021-22 | PARISH TAX BASE 2021-22 | PARISH TAX BASE 2020-21 | PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL | NUMBER OF DWELLINGS 2021-22 | PARISH TAX BASE 2021-22 | PARISH TAX BASE 2020-21 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Adwell | 14 | 13.2 | 13.2 | Sandford on Thames | 582 | 488.8 | 492.7 |
| Aston Rowant | 351 | 434.4 | 436.7 | Shiplake | 717 | 984.2 | 975.5 |
| Aston Tirrold & Upthorpe | 227 | 267.3 | 267.6 | Shirburn | 55 | 59.8 | 59.8 |
| Beckley & Stowood | 254 | 281.5 | 280.2 | Sonning Common | 1,705 | 1,696.1 | 1,652.5 |
| Benson | 1,919 | 1,875.2 | 1,781.8 | South Moreton | 132 | 129.4 | 129.9 |
| Berinsfield | 1,107 | 670.5 | 659.0 | South Stoke | 222 | 225.7 | 226.9 |
| Berrick Salome | 129 | 170.0 | 166.5 | Stadhampton | 364 | 359.8 | 331.0 |
| Binfield Heath | 288 | 329.9 | 326.3 | Stanton St John | 189 | 223.1 | 223.6 |
| Bix & Assendon | 262 | 336.3 | 331.3 | Stoke Row | 277 | 332.9 | 333.8 |
| Brightwell Baldwin | 83 | 106.4 | 106.2 | Stoke Talmage | 27 | 33.3 | 31.3 |
| Brightwell cum Sotwell | 632 | 664.3 | 658.2 | Swyncombe | 117 | 141.2 | 140.1 |
| Britwell Salome | 87 | 102.9 | 102.8 | Sydenham | 141 | 156.9 | 163.6 |
| Chalgrove | 1,133 | 1,061.6 | 1,069.8 | Tetsworth | 318 | 327.0 | 310.4 |
| Checkendon | 217 | 247.7 | 244.5 | Thame | 5,697 | 4,924.8 | 4,828.6 |
| Chinnor | 3,088 | 2,848.5 | 2,641.5 | Tiddington with Albury | 280 | 267.2 | 262.8 |
| Cholsey | 1,826 | 1,604.7 | 1,540.3 | Toot Baldon | 59 | 71.3 | 69.5 |
| Clifton Hampden | 254 | 286.2 | 285.0 | Towersey | 183 | 189.5 | 186.0 |
| Crowell | 47 | 58.2 | 56.4 | Wallingford | 3,786 | 3,094.1 | 3,067.2 |
| Crowmarsh | 730 | 706.6 | 681.6 | Warborough | 441 | 502.7 | 493.6 |
| Cuddesdon & Denton | 204 | 175.0 | 170.0 | Waterperry with Thomley | 83 | 94.8 | 92.0 |
| Culham | 175 | 185.8 | 182.5 | Waterstock | 40 | 46.9 | 45.9 |
| Cuxham with Easington | 60 | 61.6 | 61.9 | Watlington | 1,238 | 1,177.7 | 1,172.8 |
| Didcot | 12,959 | 10,115.8 | 9,710.6 | West Hagbourne | 115 | 122.9 | 121.7 |
| Dorchester | 480 | 554.1 | 546.3 | Wheatfield | 11 | 14.3 | 14.6 |
| Drayton St Leonard | 118 | 134.6 | 131.2 | Wheatley | 1,933 | 1,784.9 | 1,765.4 |
| East Hagbourne | 498 | 511.2 | 508.9 | Whitchurch on Thames | 338 | 407.2 | 411.7 |
| Elsfield | 48 | 56.0 | 56.1 | Woodcote | 1,055 | 1,049.8 | 1,039.0 |
| Ewelme | 427 | 374.8 | 367.3 | Woodeaton | 29 | 38.0 | 38.0 |
| Eye & Dunsden | 149 | 188.2 | 181.2 | | | | |
| Forest Hill with Shotover | 417 | 374.7 | 373.0 | TOTAL | 62,857 | 59,171.2 | 57,848.5 |
| Garsington | 778 | 697.9 | 686.9 | | | | |
| Goring | 1,556 | 1,736.8 | 1,712.3 | | | | |
| Goring Heath | 503 | 602.4 | 594.6 | | | | |
| Great Haseley | 249 | 262.7 | 254.1 | | | | |
| Great Milton | 341 | 308.8 | 312.2 | | | | |
| Harpsden | 159 | 224.0 | 220.5 | | | | |
| Henley on Thames | 6,019 | 5,909.6 | 5,828.2 | | | | |
| Highmoor | 139 | 171.4 | 164.2 | | | | |
| Holton | 163 | 192.0 | 189.5 | | | | |
| Horspath | 621 | 624.8 | 616.6 | | | | |
| Ipsden | 157 | 169.4 | 170.2 | | | | |
| Kidmore End | 535 | 691.6 | 682.7 | | | | |
| Lewknor | 294 | 310.5 | 303.5 | | | | |
| Little Milton | 206 | 214.0 | 215.6 | | | | |
| Little Wittenham | 28 | 33.9 | 32.4 | | | | |
| Long Wittenham | 362 | 344.8 | 346.6 | | | | |
| Mapledurham | 130 | 132.3 | 126.9 | | | | |
| Marsh Baldon | 118 | 128.3 | 122.4 | | | | |
| Moulsford | 218 | 258.6 | 250.1 | | | | |
| Nettlebed | 342 | 357.3 | 360.1 | | | | |
| Newington | 44 | 56.3 | 60.7 | | | | |
| North Moreton | 160 | 194.4 | 190.9 | | | | |
| Nuffield | 221 | 239.4 | 240.4 | | | | |
| Nuneham Courtenay | 103 | 106.8 | 101.2 | | | | |
| Pishill with Stonor | 145 | 193.8 | 189.3 | | | | |
| Pyrton | 92 | 115.7 | 115.2 | | | | |
| Rotherfield Greys | 158 | 206.9 | 204.0 | | | | |
| Rotherfield Peppard | 699 | 945.3 | 939.4 | | | | |