



CABINET

Report of: Councillor Adam Stokes
Cabinet Member for Finance

Report to:	Cabinet
Date:	20th December 2018
Subject:	Council Tax Base 2019/20 (CFM477)

Decision Proposal:	Key Decision
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Adam Stokes, Cabinet Member for Finance
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SUMMARY

To approve the Council Tax base for the forthcoming financial year in accordance with the relevant legislation. This will form the basis upon which the Council will estimate Council Tax income for the 2019/20 budget.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To recommend to the Council the approval of the tax base for the year 2019/20 as detailed at Appendix A equating to 47,125.70.
2. To approve that the collection rate for council tax is set at 98.80%.

1. BACKGROUND TO REPORT

- 1.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 amended by s84 of the Local Government Act 2003 set out the requirements to allow each local authority to make its arrangements for adopting the Council Tax base. The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012:2914) provides amended statutory guidance to incorporate the changes as a result of the introduction of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS).
- 1.2 The Council Tax varies between the different bands according to proportions laid down in legislation. These proportions are based around Band D, and are fixed so that the bill for a dwelling in Band A will be a third of the bill for a dwelling in Band H. Applying the relevant proportion to each band's net property base produces the number of 'band D equivalent properties for the area.
- 1.3 In determining the Council Tax Base for 2019/20, a number of factors have been taken into consideration;
- The calculation of the tax base for parish purposes is based on the number of properties as at 10th September 2018 and the discounts and exemptions applicable on 1st October 2018, as prescribed by legislation.
 - Then adjusting for the reductions in the tax base as a result of the LCTSS.
- 1.4 The table below summarises the position; the proposed tax base for South Kesteven 2019/20 is 47,125.7 Band D equivalents. This is an increase of 1.3% compared to 2018/19. Appendix A analyses these figures at a Parish level.

Table 1: Tax Base – Band D Equivalents

	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
Total Band D Equivalents	51,061.9	50,575.5	50,306.5	49,779.57	49,243.00
Impact of LCTSS Discounts and Work Incentive	(3,936.2)	(4,056.2)	(4,187.1)	(4,344.87)	(4,489.8)
Total Band D Equivalent properties – with LCTS Scheme	47,125.7	46,519.3	46,119.4	45,434.7	44,753.2

- 1.5 The setting of a realistic and prudent collection rate for Council Tax in 2019/20 is an essential component of the overall budget strategy. It is anticipated that a

collection rate of 98.80%, which is in the top quartile nationally for the collection of council tax, will be achieved in 2018/19 and this will form the basis of the collection rate for 2019/20. The council does not project future growth over the year so consequently does not adjust the tax base for any non-collection. The following table shows the historic growth and collection rates the council has achieved over the past four years.

Table 2: Collection Rates

	2018/19 (forecast)	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
Council Tax Collection Rate	98.80%	98.81%	98.80%	98.74%
Growth	0.87%	1.49%	1.54%	2.83%

- 1.6 As set out in Table 1, the LCTSS reduces the tax base and therefore the Council Tax income collected by individual precepting bodies. Alongside this it also impacts on the local precepting authorities' (Parish and Town Councils) ability to raise their own precepts which, based on a standstill position, would be lower. In the past the Government, through the revenue grant allocation, had allocated a proportionate amount to be passed onto to parishes to compensate them for the tax base reduction. However the revenue grant has now been removed and so no funding will be passed onto parishes from 2019/20.
- 1.7 For the past three years parishes have been notified of the cessation of the grant from 2019/20 and have been asked to ensure that they adjust their precept accordingly.

2. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 None.

3. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4. RISK AND MITIGATION

- 4.1 Risk has been considered as part of this report and any specific high risks are included in the table below:

Category Risk	Action / Controls
N/A	

5. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS (EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING etc.)

- 5.1 None.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

7.1 These are contained within the report.

8. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

8.1 The approval of the council tax base detailed in this report is required in accordance with the legislation referred to. S67 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 sets out the requirements for council tax setting which can be discharged by full Council. The proposals in this report will be considered by Council at its budget setting meeting.

9. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES

9.1 None.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix A – 2019/20 Council Tax base by Parish

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None.

Appendix A

2019/20 Council Tax base by Parish

	Total Band D Equivalents 2019/20	Impact of LCTS	Adjusted Band D Equivalents 2019/20
Grantham	12,367.2	(1,396.5)	10,970.7
Stamford	7,713.9	(587.3)	7,126.6
Bourne	5,964.7	(394.8)	5,569.9
Allington	372.2	(23.9)	348.3
Ancaster	607.6	(43.8)	563.8
Aslackby	116.4	(9.1)	107.3
Barholm & Stowe	35.5	(2.1)	33.4
Barkston and Syston	268.3	(23.9)	244.4
Barrowby	759.8	(45.9)	713.9
Baston	602.8	(21.4)	581.4
Belton & Manthorpe	203.0	(5.4)	197.6
Billingborough	516.8	(50.9)	465.9
Bitchfield	60.2	(6.8)	53.4
Boothby Pagnell	62.8	(2.4)	60.4
Braceborough & Wilsthorpe	140.3	(0.9)	139.4
Braceby, Humby, Ropsely, Sapperton	345.4	(30.3)	315.1
Burton Coggles	40.0	(1.3)	38.7
Careby	73.6	(0.4)	73.2
Carlby	213.7	(10.4)	203.3
Carlton Scroop and Normanton	131.3	(6.2)	125.1
Castle Bytham	312.1	(18.5)	293.6
Caythorpe & Frieston	546.3	(34.0)	512.3
Claypole	535.5	(26.1)	509.4
Colsterworth, Gunby & Stainby, North Witham	800.1	(58.7)	741.4
Corby Glen & Birkholme	429.0	(25.9)	403.1
Counthorpe & Creeton	32.4	(6.8)	25.6
Deeping St James	2,591.2	(144.4)	2,446.8
Denton	128.3	(8.0)	120.3
Dowsby	60.7	(7.8)	52.9
Dunsby	52.7	(3.2)	49.5
Easton and Stoke Rochford	91.8	(10.1)	81.7
Edenham	118.9	(8.2)	110.7
Fenton	60.3	(1.0)	59.3
Folkingham	301.0	(28.1)	272.9
Foston	226.3	(8.2)	218.1
Fulbeck	231.8	(18.1)	213.7
Greatford	127.8	(2.4)	125.4
Great Gonerby	834.3	(95.4)	738.9
Great Ponton	140.0	(19.1)	120.9
Haconby & Stainfield	197.9	(12.7)	185.2
Harlaxton	350.3	(8.9)	341.4
Heydour	158.1	(4.2)	153.9
Honington	69.9	(5.6)	64.3

	Total Band D Equivalents 2019/20	Impact of LCTS	Adjusted Band D Equivalents 2019/20
Horbling	176.7	(17.3)	159.4
Hougham	82.6	(4.9)	77.7
Hough-on-the-Hill	171.4	(6.5)	164.9
Ingoldsby	121.6	(3.8)	117.8
Irnham	108.8	(1.0)	107.8
Kirkby Underwood	84.2	(5.3)	78.9
Langtoft	781.9	(22.2)	759.7
Lenton	66.5	(2.5)	64.0
Little Bytham	119.6	(8.7)	110.9
Little Ponton & Stroxton	71.8	(5.4)	66.4
Londonthorpe & Harrowby	1,759.5	(88.6)	1,670.9
Long Bennington	968.5	(42.1)	926.4
Market Deeping	2,383.1	(191.3)	2,191.8
Marston	158.9	(5.8)	153.1
Morton & Hanthorpe	879.9	(61.4)	818.5
Old Somerby	95.4	(4.2)	91.2
Pickworth	78.3	(2.6)	75.7
Pointon	208.0	(15.1)	192.9
Rippingale	364.4	(21.6)	342.8
Sedgebrook	148.2	(2.7)	145.5
Skillington	139.7	(8.7)	131.0
South Witham	515.2	(57.1)	458.1
Stubton	80.6	(3.4)	77.2
Swayfield	146.0	(4.6)	141.4
Swinstead	97.7	(19.5)	78.2
Tallington	324.7	(18.6)	306.1
Thurlby	837.2	(40.3)	796.9
Toft Lound & Manthorpe	138.8	(2.2)	136.6
Uffington	318.8	(9.6)	309.2
Welby	82.1	(2.9)	79.2
Westborough & Dry Doddington	153.2	(9.1)	144.1
West Deeping	124.9	(6.7)	118.2
Witham-on-the-Hill	100.0	(4.4)	95.6
Woolsthorpe	162.0	(17.0)	145.0
Wyville cum Hungerton	19.5	0.0	19.5
Total by Billing Area	51,061.9	(3,936.2)	47,125.7