

REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

DATE: 22 FEBRUARY 2018

TITLE: COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION 2018/19

LEAD OFFICERS: SENIOR MANAGEMENT BOARD

SIMON FREEMAN, HEAD OF FINANCE (01279)
446228

RECOMMENDED that:

A The Council Tax Resolution for 2018/19 as set out in Appendix A is approved.

BACKGROUND

1. Under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 a billing authority must calculate and set a Council Tax Requirement for the forthcoming year.
2. Since Full Council agreed the Council Tax Requirement as part of the Council Budget at its meeting held on 1 February 2018 the demands for the remaining Essex precepting bodies have now been received. These are set out below:

Essex County Council

3. The County Council met on 13 February 2018 and set their precept at £31,264,583. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £1,221.75.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex

4. The Police and Crime Panel met on 22 January 2018 and set their precept at £4,325,222. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £169.02.

Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

5. The Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority met on 22 January 2018 and set the EPFCC Fire and Rescue Authority's precept at £1,801,024. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £70.38.
6. The Council Tax for Harlow is based upon all of the above Council Tax Requirements.
7. Under the Localism Act 2011 a Council Tax referendum is required if an authority's Council Tax increase in 2018/19 exceeds the Council Tax excessiveness principles. The Secretary of State has set a threshold of three percent or £5 for the purposes of determining if an increase is excessive for all

English billing authorities. The Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax (as set out in section 52ZX of the 1992 Act) was £272.28 in 2017/18 and is proposed to remain at £272.28 in 2018/19 which represents a zero percent Council Tax increase. As such the Council is not required to hold a referendum under the principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

8. The Council Tax Resolution is set out at Appendix A and, if approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	Increase £	Increase %
Harlow Council	272.28	272.28	0.00	0
Essex County Council	1,163.70	1,221.75	58.05	4.99
PCC for Essex	157.05	169.02	11.97	7.62
EPFCC Fire & Rescue Authority	69.03	70.38	1.35	1.96
Total	1,662.06	1,733.43	71.37	4.29

IMPLICATIONS

Place (Includes Sustainability)

None specific.

Author: Graeme Bloomer, Head of Place

Finance (Includes ICT)

The resolution enables the 2018/19 Council Tax to be set as required under the legislation.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance

Housing

None specific.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

None beyond those contained in the report.

Author: Amanda Julian, Legal Services Manager

Appendices

Appendix A – Council Tax Resolution 2018/19

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.