

Title of Report	COUNCIL TAX BASE 2025/26	
Presented by	Councillor Nick Rushton Corporate Portfolio Holder PH Briefed <input type="checkbox"/> Y	
Background Papers	Council Tax Base 2024/25 – Cabinet – 9 January 2024	Public Report: Yes
		Key Decision: Yes
Financial Implications	The increase in council tax base of 453 Band D equivalents will generate an additional £81k in Council Tax for 2025/26 for the Council.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	There are no direct implications arising from this report.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	There are no staffing and corporate implications arising from this report.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To determine the 2025/26 Council Tax Base and advise Members of the process for calculating the business rates amounts due to the Council for the 2025/26 financial year.	
Reason for Decision	Statutory requirement to facilitate the setting of Council Tax for the forthcoming year.	
Recommendations	<p>THAT CABINET:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APPROVES THE CALCULATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR EACH PARISH AND SPECIAL EXPENSE AREA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/2026, AND RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL FOR ADOPTION AT ITS MEETING ON 20 FEBRUARY 2025. 2. NOTES THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012, THE AMOUNT CALCULATED BY NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/26 SHALL BE 37,532. 	

	<p>3. DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE S151 OFFICER TO SUBMIT THE CALCULATIONS ON NON-DOMESTIC RATING INCOME AND OTHER AMOUNTS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT BY THE 31 JANUARY 2025 FOR THE FORTHCOMING FINANCIAL YEAR.</p>
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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires that the calculation of the Council Tax Base and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) for the financial year 2025/26 be determined by no later than 31 January 2025. This is a necessary component of the setting of the 2025/26 Council Tax and Business Rates.
- 1.2 The work to estimate the Council Tax Base has been undertaken and is presented within this report for approval.

2.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The Council Tax Base is a measure of the relative taxable capacity of the district, as shown in Appendix 1, and of each part of the district as shown in Appendix 2. It is expressed as the equivalent number of Band D properties in each area. The Council Tax Base multiplied by the Band D Council Tax gives the Council Tax receivable for the forthcoming financial year.
- 2.2 As set out above, the tax base is expressed as band D equivalents. The actual levy in properties in other bands is calculated on a pro-rota basis using the following ratios:

Table 1: Council Tax Bands

Band	Fraction of Band D
A	6/9
B	7/9
C	8/9
D	9/9
E	11/9
F	13/9
G	15/9
H	18/9

- 2.3 Where the precept relates to only part of the district, (i.e. Parish Precepts and Special Expenses), the appropriate Council Tax Base of the part (as shown Appendix 2) is used. Accordingly, all Precepting Authorities have been informed of their appropriate provisional Council Tax Base for 2025/26.

3.0 CALCULATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX BASE

- 3.1 The Council Tax Base calculations for the financial year 2025/26 have been carried out in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012. Appendix 1 shows the actual number of Band D equivalent properties of the Council Tax Base as of 30 November 2024 by Council Tax band.

- 3.2 The Council Tax Base for 2025/26 is calculated as 37,532, compared to 37,079 for 2024/25, an increase of 453 band D equivalents, a breakdown of the increase is shown in the table below:

Table 2: Analysis of change in Council Tax Base

2024/25 Council Tax Base	37,079
Growth – Actual and Forecasted	570
Changes in discounts, exemptions etc.	67
Changes in Local Council Tax Support	25
Change in Non-Collection	-208
2025/26 Council Tax Base	37,532

Growth Estimates

- 3.3 Growth estimates in respect of the number of new properties liable for council tax have also been included in the council tax base calculation. These properties have been identified and monitored by the Revenues and Benefits Partnership and the Planning Policy Team and included in the calculation at parish level at assumed bandings. The estimated growth is 669 band D properties.

Bad Debt Provision

- 3.4 A bad debt provision of 2.5% of the base, including growth, has been applied to allow for non-collection and banding appeals. The provision has increased from the 2024/25 figure of 2.0%. This is due to the forecast collection rate for 2024/25 of 97.2%, as the Council sees a reduction in collection rates.
- 3.5 The adjusted figures for each Parish and Special Expense area are set out in Appendix 2. The respective Council Tax Base for each Parish and Special Expense area is used as a basis for charging Special Expense and Parish Precepts to the Council Tax payers of the appropriate parts of the district.

Local Council Tax Support (LCTS)

- 3.6 LCTS reduces the amount of council tax for working age and pensioners on a low income. An estimate for the number of households likely to be claiming LCTS is included in the Council Tax Base calculation each year. The LCTS has reduced the Council Tax Base by 3,155 Band D equivalents for 2025/26, compared to 3,188 in 2024/25. The decrease in LCTS has the effect of increasing the tax base by 25 Band D equivalents.

Table 3: Reduction in council tax base due to council tax support (Band D Equivalent):

	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Pensioners	1,096.71	1,079.27	-17.45
Working Age People	1,301.00	1,293.67	-7.32
Total	2,379.71	2,372.94	-24.77

4.0 NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES (BUSINESS RATES)

- 4.1 Local Authorities are required to provide details of expected Business Rates income for the following year to the Government by 31 January and this is completed on a form called NNDR1, which requires formal approval. The expectation is that the approval process is to be line with the approval of the Council Tax Base.

- 4.2 The calculations that feed into the NNDR1 form are carried out by the Revenues and Benefits Partnership shortly before the 31 January deadline to ensure figures are as up to date as possible. In view of timing, Cabinet is requested to give delegated authority to the Section 151 Officer to approve and submit the form and any other information required by Government for 2025/26 by the 31 January 2025 deadline.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	The Council Tax Base assists the Council to achieve all its priorities.
Policy Considerations:	Not applicable
Safeguarding:	Not applicable
Equalities/Diversity:	Not applicable
Customer Impact:	Not applicable
Economic and Social Impact:	Not applicable
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon:	Not applicable
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Not applicable
Risks:	Controls are in place to ensure the correct calculation of the Council Tax Base and the NNDR1.
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APPENDIX 1

COUNCIL TAX BASE

BAND	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	TOTAL
RATIO TO BAND D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
NUMBER OF BAND D EQUIVALENTS AS AT 30/11/24	4,875	9,176	6,357	6,620	6,169	2,806	1,549	93	37,645
ESTIMATED GROWTH FOR 2025/26	33	67	81	134	266	88	- 2	2	669
ESTIMATED ADDITIONS FOR CHANGES IN DISCOUNTS AND EXEMPTIONS	51	38	30	19	11	9	5	-	163
NON COLLECTION RATE 2.5%	- 124	- 232	- 162	- 171	- 161	- 73	- 39	- 2	- 964
ROUNDING ADJUSTMENT	1	3	4	3	-	-	6	2	19
	4,836	9,052	6,310	6,605	6,285	2,830	1,519	95	37,532

APPENDIX 2

COUNCIL TAX BASE BY PARISH/SPECIAL EXPENSE AREA		
Parish/Special Expenses Area	Council Tax Base	
	2024/25	2025/26
APPLEBY MAGNA	547	550
ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH	6,363	6,444
ASHBY WOULD'S	1,417	1,413
BARDON	10	12
BELTON	311	312
BREEDON-ON-THE-HILL	510	513
CASTLE DONINGTON	2,949	3,024
CHARLEY	78	77
CHILCOTE	58	59
COALVILLE	6,847	7,082
COLEORTON	590	588
ELLISTOWN & BATTLEFLAT	837	803
HEATHER	368	366
HUGGLESCOTE & DONINGTON LE HEATH	2,626	2,642
IBSTOCK	2,349	2,359
ISLEY WALTON -CUM-LANGLEY	31	31
KEGWORTH	1,345	1,352
LOCKINGTON CUM HEMINGTON	246	248
LONG WHATTON & DISEWORTH	822	820
MEASHAM	1,715	1,734
NORMANTON-LE-HEATH	70	70
OAKTHORPE, DONISTHORPE & ACRESFORD	929	957
OSGATHORPE	218	216
PACKINGTON	410	414
RAVENSTONE WITH SNIBSTON	1,066	1,068
SNARESTONE	147	150
STAUNTON HAROLD	62	62
STRETTON-EN-LE-FIELD	19	19
SWANNINGTON	472	479
SWEPSTONE	277	275
WHITWICK	2,758	2,755
WORTHINGTON	632	638
	37,079	37,532