

Report To: County Council

Date of Meeting: 20 February 2018

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Richard Weigh, Head of Finance

Report Author: Richard Weigh, Head of Finance

Title: **Council Tax 2018/19 and Associated Matters**

1. What is the report about?

In adopting the resolutions of the Council budget meeting of the 30 January 2018 it is necessary for the Council to pass further resolutions in a particular form to ensure that the Council Tax and its associated matters are legally valid.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required to set the levels of Council Tax for 2018/19.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 It is necessary for the County Council, as the Billing Authority, to consider the precepts received from the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales and the Town/Community Councils and declare the Council Tax levels for the 2018/19 financial year.

3.2 It is recommended that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2018/19 financial year, in accordance with Sections 32 to 34 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) and Alteration of Requisite Calculations (Wales) Regulations 2008 be as Appendix A section 3.

3.3 It is recommended that the amounts calculated by the Council for the 2018/19 financial year, in accordance with Sections 34 (2) to 36 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) be as Appendix A section 4.

3.4 That the amounts of Council Tax for the 2018/19 financial year for each of the categories of dwellings be as shown in Appendix C.

3.5 That the level of discount for Class A, B, and C as prescribed under the Council Tax (Prescribed Class of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations 2004 be set at zero for the financial year 2018/19 with the caveat that this is dependent on no changes to legislation or local conditions.

4. Report details

Due to the requirement to approve the resolution and recommendations in the prescribed manner Appendix A contains the report details.

- 5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**
If the recommendations are not approved the Authority will be unable to raise Council Tax demands, therefore income required to fund Corporate Priorities will not be available.
- 6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**
The cost of raising and distributing Council Tax demands is met from within existing resources.
- 7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**
Wellbeing assessments for the savings proposals and the Council Tax rise were undertaken as part of the budget process and formed part of the budget papers presented to Full Council on 30 January 2018. An assessment for the MRP policy change was included in the report to Council in September 2017.
- 8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**
The level of Council Tax forms part of the budget set by the Council. Members were briefed on the financial position in September and following the provisional settlement announcement in October. Two specific budget briefings were held in November. SLT have been part of the budget process. Briefings with political groups have been offered by the Lead Member. The proposals in this report have been considered by the Cabinet and Full Council approved the budget on 30 January 2018.
- 9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**
The Council has a legal obligation to set a Council Tax. The regulations are prescriptive as to how this is to be done and this report meets those requirements.
- 10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**
The financial risk of being unable to collect Council Tax income. Collection rates are high and are monitored closely throughout the year.
- 11. Power to make the Decision**
The Local Government Finance Act 1992 and Alteration of Requisite Calculations (Wales) Regulations 2008.