

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Executive to be held in The John Meikle Room, The Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton on 13 January 2010 at 18:15.

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## **Agenda**

- 1 Apologies.
- 2 Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 30 November 2009 and 2 December 2009 (attached).
- 3 Public Question Time.
- 4 Declaration of Interests  
To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. The usual declarations made at meetings of the Executive are set out in the attachment.
- 5 Taunton Deane Borough Council - Pest Control Service. Report of the Community Services Manager (attached). Please also see the confidential appendices at agenda item No 9.  

Reporting Officer: James Barrah
- 6 Proposed Compulsory Purchase of Land at Victoria Gate, Taunton. Report of the Legal Services Manager (attached).  

Reporting Officer: Judith Jackson
- 7 Council Tax Base 2010/2011. Report of the Financial Services Manager (attached).  

Reporting Officer: Emily Collacott
- 8 Executive Forward Plan - details of forthcoming items to be considered by the Executive and the opportunity for Members to suggest further items (attached)

The following items are likely to be considered after the exclusion of the press and public because of the likelihood that exempt information would otherwise be disclosed relating to the Clause set out below of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 9 Taunton Deane Borough Council - Pest Control Service. Confidential Appendices 1 to 7 (attached). Please also see agenda item No. 5. Paragraph 3 - Information relating to financial or business affairs.

Reporting Officer: James Barrah

10 Purchase of Capital Asset, Taunton. Report of the Asset Holdings Manager (attached).

Paragraph 3 - Information relating to financial or business affairs.

Reporting Officer: Adrian Priest

Tonya Meers  
Legal and Democratic Services Manager

05 January 2010

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussions.

There is time set aside at the beginning of most meetings to allow the public to ask questions.

Speaking under “Public Question Time” is limited to 4 minutes per person in an overall period of 15 minutes. The Committee Administrator will keep a close watch on the time and the Chairman will be responsible for ensuring the time permitted does not overrun. The speaker will be allowed to address the Committee once only and will not be allowed to participate further in any debate.

If a member of the public wishes to address the Committee on any matter appearing on the agenda, the Chairman will normally permit this to occur when that item is reached and before the Councillors begin to debate the item.

This is more usual at meetings of the Council’s Planning Committee and details of the “rules” which apply at these meetings can be found in the leaflet “Having Your Say on Planning Applications”. A copy can be obtained free of charge from the Planning Reception Desk at The Deane House or by contacting the telephone number or e-mail address below.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

These arrangements do not apply to exempt (confidential) items on the agenda where any members of the press or public present will be asked to leave the Committee Room.

Full Council, Executive, Committees and Task and Finish Review agendas, reports and minutes are available on our website: [www.tauntondeane.gov.uk](http://www.tauntondeane.gov.uk)



Lift access to the John Meikle Room and the other Committee Rooms on the first floor of The Deane House, is available from the main ground floor entrance. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are also available off the landing directly outside the Committee Rooms.



An induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter.

**For further information about the meeting, please contact Democratic Services on 01823 356382 or email [d.durham@tauntondeane.gov.uk](mailto:d.durham@tauntondeane.gov.uk)**

**Executive Members:-**

Councillor R Henley - Leader of the Council

Councillor R Lees

Councillor A Paul

Councillor T Slattery

Councillor H Prior-Sankey

Councillor F Smith

Councillor A Wedderkopp

Councillor N Wilson

Councillor S Coles

## **Executive – 30 November 2009**

**Present:** Councillor Henley (Chairman)  
Councillors Coles, R Lees, Paul, Prior-Sankey, Slattery, Mrs Smith,  
and A Wedderkopp

**Officers:** Joy Wishlade (Strategic Director), Tonya Meers (Legal and  
Democratic Services Manager), Ralph Willoughby-Foster (Planning  
Policy Advisor), Maggie Hammond (Strategic Finance Officer) and  
Richard Bryant (Democratic Services Manager)

**Also present:** Councillors Bishop, Brooks, Cavill, Mrs Court-Stenning, Edwards,  
Hall, Horsley, Mrs Lewin-Harris, Meikle, Morrell, Mrs Stock-Williams,  
Mrs Waymouth and Williams.

(The meeting commenced at 6.15 pm.)

### **100. Apology**

Councillor Mrs Wilson.

### **101. Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Henley, Paul and Prior-Sankey declared personal interests as Members of Somerset County Council. Councillor Coles declared a personal interest as a Director of Southwest One. Councillor Mrs Smith declared a personal interest as an employee of Somerset County Council. Councillor Slattery declared personal interests both as a Member of the Somerset Waste Board and as an employee of Sedgemoor District Council. Councillor Williams declared a personal interest as the owner of a property in Monkton Heathfield. Councillor Farbahi declared an interest as the owner of land in the area. He stated that he would leave the meeting if sites near to his land were discussed. Councillor Cavill declared a personal interest as someone with an interest in agricultural matters.

### **102. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**Resolved** that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item because of the likelihood that exempt information would otherwise be disclosed relating to Clauses 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) to the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

### **103. Local Development Framework – Core Strategy and Small Site Consultation**

Submitted for consideration and comment a draft copy of the Core Strategy and Small Site Consultation document which set out suggested directions for the spatial planning policies of Taunton Deane up to 2026.

The document was not a draft plan. It requested the public to respond to planning issues and options and preferred policy directions. This would be the main opportunity for everyone to comment and the response to consultation would help to shape the Core Strategy which would be the subject of pre-submission consultation in September and October 2010.

The Local Development Framework Steering Group had met frequently to consider component parts of this document and its next meeting would consider the Sustainability Appraisal, which would also be subject to consultation.

The Core Strategy document was still being edited and the delegated authority of the Executive Councillor would be sought to approve any further amendments prior to it being formally launched for public consultation.

Reported that there was a significant amount to be done before the launch, including:-

- Final editing;
- document publishing and printing;
- preparation of leaflets, posters and exhibition material;
- printing and distribution of leaflets and consultation material;
- placing documents on the consultation website;
- preparation of statutory notices; and
- preparing for the consultation events, meetings and exhibitions.

With regard to the latter bullet point, Members expressed concern that the consultation period, between 11 January and 19 February 2010, appeared far too short to enable Parish Councils and other Community Groups to become fully engaged in the process. Mr Willoughby-Foster undertook to ensure Parish Councils were contacted about proposed consultation events/evenings at the earliest opportunity.

Mr Willoughby-Foster went on to say that whilst the Core Strategy document could not technically be considered to be confidential post approval, if the contents were to be proactively publicised now the Council would not be in a position to properly respond to public demands for information. Potentially this could jeopardise the public consultation in January 2010. A holding response to any enquiries that might be forthcoming between now and the second week in January was therefore being prepared.

During the discussion of the document, a number of points were made in terms of amendments which were required and inaccuracies that needed to be addressed. Further comments would also be provided to Mr Willoughby-Foster outside of the meeting.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) The Core Strategy and Small Sites document be agreed for public consultation;
- (2) Executive Councillor Simon Coles be authorised to agree any further amendments to the Core Strategy and the Sustainability Appraisal for consultation; and
- (3) A holding response be prepared for any enquiries that were received prior to the second week in January 2010.

104. **Executive Forward Plan**

Submitted for information the Forward Plan of the Executive over the next few months.

**Resolved** that the Forward Plan be noted.

(The meeting ended at 8.14 p.m.)

## **Executive – 2 December 2009**

**Present:** Councillor Henley (Chairman)  
Councillors Coles, R Lees, Prior-Sankey, Slattery, Mrs Smith,  
A Wedderkopp and Mrs Wilson

**Officers:** Penny James (Chief Executive), Tonya Meers (Legal and Democratic Services Manager), Maggie Hammond (Strategic Finance Officer), Karen Hughes (Leisure Development Manager), Ann Rhodes (Strategy Officer), Adrian Gladstone-Smith (Performance and Client Lead), Nigel Kerr (Operations Manager – Environmental Health and Licensing), Paul Carter (Financial Service Manager), Emily Collacott (Principal Accountant), Gill Stratford (Corporate Finance Assistant), Richard Sealy (Client and Performance Manager) and Richard Bryant (Democratic Services Manager)

**Also present:** Councillors Meikle, Morrell, Mrs Stock-Williams, Stuart-Thorn and Williams.  
Mr B James, Southwest One and Mr A Ploszajski of Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Limited

(The meeting commenced at 6.15 pm.)

### **105. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 11 November 2009, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and were signed.

### **106. Public Question Time**

Councillor Morrell referred to the Planning Committee's meeting held on 25 November 2009 which had agreed to grant planning permission for the residential development of land west of Bishops Hull Road, Bishops Hull.

In his opinion, the Committee had a problem caused by the "stranglehold" on the Chairmanship by three or four Members over the past 30 years. He felt the time had arrived to look at best practice from other Local Authorities in an attempt to improve things to avoid the "fiasco" of last week. He referred to Teignbridge District Council where a rotating Chairmanship operated as an example of a potential change that could perhaps be introduced.

In response, the Chairman asked if Councillor Morrell could put his concerns in writing so they could be fully considered. Mrs Meers added that the Constitutional Sub-Committee could look at Councillor Morrell's concerns/ comments at a future meeting.

### **107. Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Henley, Paul and Prior-Sankey declared personal interests as Members of Somerset County Council. Councillor Coles declared a personal



interest as a Director of Southwest One. Councillor Mrs Smith declared a personal interest as an employee of Somerset County Council. Councillor Slattery declared personal interests both as a Member of the Somerset Waste Board and as an employee of Sedgemoor District Council.

108. **Gambling Act 2005 – Revised Statement of Principles**

Considered report previously circulated, to agree a draft Statement of Principles for consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.

The Gambling Act 2005 placed a duty on the Licensing Authority to produce a Statement of Principles (also known as the Gambling Policy).

The Licensing Authority was required to review the policy document at least every three years and take into account the views of those representing the holders of existing licences and certificates, local residents, businesses and the Police. The Policy had to be written and adopted by the Licensing Authority by 1 January 2010.

Submitted for the attention of Members the revised draft Statement of Principles for consultation.

The Gambling Act gave Licensing Authorities a number of functions in relation to gambling which included:-

- licensing premises for gambling activities;
- considering notices given for the temporary use of premises for gambling;
- granting permits for gaming and gaming machines in clubs and miners' welfare institutes;
- the regulation of gambling and gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises;
- the grant of permits to family entertainment centres for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines;
- the grant of permits for prize gaming;
- the consideration of occasional use notices for betting at tracks; and
- the registration of small societies' lotteries.

The revised draft Statement of Principles had been developed around the Statutory Guidance to Licensing Authorities issued by the Gambling Commission.

The Gambling Act did not allow gaming machine applications from premises which gave free access to children. Premises from which such applications would not be accepted were listed in the draft statement.

There were approximately 100 premises that required premises licences. These included public houses, betting shops, bingo halls, tracks and amusement arcades.

The revised draft Statement of Principles would be subject to extensive consultations prior to re-adoption by the Council.

The Statutory Guidance to Licensing Authorities advised that the process should follow best practice as set out by the Cabinet Office.

**Resolved** that Full Council be recommended to adopt the revised draft Statement of Principles.

109. **The future provision of Sports Facilities in Taunton Deane**

Considered report previously circulated, concerning the research undertaken to ensure adequate sport facilities provision for Taunton Deane residents and visitors in the future.

The Sports Facilities Strategy (SFS) was commissioned by the Strategy Unit in July 2009 and the consultants Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Limited were commissioned to undertake the work.

The SFS had three key elements:-

- It assessed the quality, quantity and accessibility of all sports facilities provision in the district;
- It identified and provided policies to address any current and future gaps in provision for each type of sports facility; and
- It provided a coordinated and consistent approach to the managing and planning of future built sports facilities which would enable resources to be directed to areas of priority and to plan for appropriate levels of leisure facilities in connection with new developments.

The SFS had been subject to consultation with key stakeholders, the County Sports Partnership, sports clubs and national governing bodies. However, to become part of the Local Development Framework the consultation would need to be widened.

Planning Policy Guidance Note No 17 "Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation" made it clear that Local Authorities should undertake audits of existing open space, sports and recreation facilities, robust assessments of existing and future needs and set local provision standards.

Section 13 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 required the Council to keep under review the matters which could affect the development of its area or the planning of its development.

Planning Policy Statement 12 required that Local Development documents Had to be based on a robust and credible evidence base.

Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 made provision for developer contributions in association with new developments. It was necessary to establish standards of provision for leisure, based on robust evidence.

Local policy aspired to achieve well-being outcomes for the community, which the Council was charged with delivering. The SFS could deliver on these benefits if managed and developed in association with the Sustainable Community Strategy, the Corporate Strategy, the Comprehensive Area Assessment and Local Area Agreement, the Primary Care Trust's Strategic Framework for Improving Health and the Local Development Framework.

Approval of the SFS to go out for wider consultation was a key decision that would inform the preparation of policy.

It was clear from national legislation that Local Authorities were required to provide a robust and credible evidence base of need and set local provision standards to address future sports facilities provision. This would enable the Council to plan and make provision for future sports facilities through developer contributions, partnership working and national funding streams.

Approval of the SFS for further consultation was work towards production of the Local Development Framework which was a Council priority.

The Strategy's core policies were for best practice management of its leisure facilities estate, including accessibility, safety, enhancement, facility provision, engagement and education, all of which contributed to the Sustainable Community Strategy objectives.

The intention was to develop the SFS into a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as part of Taunton Deane's Local Development Framework. This involved using the current evidence base and relevant policy elements in addition to supplementary information to meet the planning requirements of an SPD.

The policies developed within the Strategy would be supported by an Action Plan and would require investment in improving leisure facilities and a re-allocation of existing resources to deliver the priorities identified.

The SFS contained policies around maintaining local facilities and reducing anti-social behaviour, focusing on providing positive alternative activity for young people, skills development and engagement in sport.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) The vision, aims, objectives and action plan of the draft Sports Facilities Strategy be supported;

- (2) The draft Taunton Deane Built Sport Facilities Strategy be approved to go out to wider consultation which would enable it to be considered for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document;
- (3) The Strategy be accepted as a technical document to be weighed in the decision making process for the determination of development proposals; and
- (4) Approval of minor amendments to the draft Strategy which resulted from the wider consultation and the outcomes of the Action Plan as they were developed be delegated to the Executive Councillor for Sports, Parks and Leisure.

110. **Review and update of the Green Spaces Strategy and Policies**

Considered report previously circulated, concerning the draft Greenspaces Strategy and associated policies.

In 2004, the Council adopted its first Greenspaces Strategy. However, as this predated the publication of Planning Policy Guidance Note No 17 it contained no particular standards or policy statements.

One of the recommendations in the associated Action Plan was to review Local Plan policies concerning open spaces where standards and policies for open spaces were set out. However, with the emergence of the requirement for a Local Development Framework to replace the Local Plan, it was decided to postpone the review until it could be integrated into the new Framework.

The draft Strategy included a review of the current situation for greenspaces, their value and ability to deliver national and local policies, a detailed audit and assessment of potential for improvement and future provision levels.

The aim of the Strategy was to ensure that in twenty years time everyone in Taunton Deane had access to:-

- A high quality park, staffed in daylight hours, with features such as mature trees, ornamental planting, seating, clean toilets and a café;
- Good quality playing fields with decent changing rooms, providing for a variety of sports, games and exercises, with one high quality sporting centre within reach;
- Open, welcoming and well-managed natural green space, woodland or riverside, with protected wildlife habitats; and
- Children and young people should have easy access to well-kept, well-maintained, imaginative and challenging play facilities, from traditional equipped playgrounds to natural play spaces, wheels parks or games areas.

The objectives of the Strategy were outline in detail in the report and included:-

- The provision of a range of good quality parks and greenspaces, which played a significant role in meeting the needs of balanced and sustainable communities;
- The protection of green space from development where it was most needed;
- The identification of 'provision standards' for quality, quantity and access to green space, in order to:-
  - (1) Guide the Planners in assessing planning applications for development;
  - (2) Form the basis of developer contributions to open space in relation to new developments; and
  - (3) Clearly show to the public, the provision of green space that they should expect the Council to provide.
- The provision of evidence and a clear argument for more investment in green space;
- The identification of those areas where investment in green space was most needed; and
- Ensuring that there was equal access for people across the District to a range of different types of green space and visitor facilities.

A table was submitted that listed the standards of open space for each of the typologies that had been established, based on the audit and past consultation and national comparisons.

The total open space that the Council aimed to provide was 6.85 hectares per thousand people, which compared to 2.4 hectares in the current Local Plan.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) The vision, aims, objectives, standards and policies of the draft Greenspaces Strategy be supported;
- (2) The Strategy be accepted as a technical document to be weighed in the decision making process for the determination of development proposals;
- (3) The draft Greenspaces Strategy be approved to go out to wider consultation which would enable it to be considered for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document; and

(4) Approval of any alterations to the draft Strategy which resulted from the consultation and the outcomes of the Action Plan as they were developed be delegated to the Executive Councillor for Sports, Parks and Leisure.

**111. Review and update of the Playing Pitches Strategy and Policies**

Considered report previously submitted, concerning the draft Playing Pitches Strategy and associated policies.

A Playing Pitch Strategy was needed to inform the development of the Local Development Framework and respond to the anticipated population growth in Taunton Deane.

The Council adopted its first Playing Pitches Strategy in 2003, which included an audit of local provision and assessed local needs. However, like the Greenspaces Strategy, no Standards were developed at that time and no policy statements were included in the Strategy.

The scope of the draft Playing Pitches Strategy included football, cricket, rugby and hockey. It included a review of the current situation, the Council's ability to deliver national and local policies, a detailed audit of quantity, quality and accessibility along with an assessment of potential for improvement and future provision levels.

The aims of the Strategy were to:-

- Improve the overall quality of playing fields and their ancillary facilities throughout Taunton Deane;
- Improve both participation and satisfaction levels;
- Achieve an accessible distribution of pitches; and
- Provide an adequate supply of pitches for all current and future projected increases in demand.

The objectives of the Strategy were to:-

- Protect playing pitches against development pressures and specifically residential proposals on land in, and around, urban areas;
- Identify pitch supply and demand issues in relation to predicted population changes;
- Address 'demand' pressures created as a result of specific sports development pressures;

- Ensure that the future supply and quality of pitches and ancillary facilities were sufficient to encourage an increase in participation rates; and
- Identify priority sites for development or improvement in relation to external funding opportunities.

The Standard developed from the audit of supply of pitches was reported, as were details of the draft policies which had been formulated based on the finding of the Strategy.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) The vision, aims, objectives, standards and policies of the draft Playing Pitches Strategy be supported;
- (2) The Strategy be accepted as a technical document to be weighed in the decision making process for the determination of development proposals;
- (3) The draft Playing Pitches Strategy be approved to go out to wider consultation which would enable it to be considered for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document; and
- (4) Approval of any alterations to the draft Strategy which resulted from the consultation and the outcomes of the Action Plan as they were developed be delegated to the Executive Councillor for Sports, Parks and Leisure.

## 112. **Development of an Allotments Strategy and Policy**

Considered report previously submitted, concerning the draft Allotments Strategy and Policy.

A Members Steering Group had been set up to complete the work on the Strategy. The Group had met five times and had worked to develop the Strategy, as well as proposing a policy, standards and an action plan.

Allotments were a statutory duty for the Council in the unparished area and of Parish Councils elsewhere. The planned building of 20,000 new dwellings meant that the Council had to consider the needs of its growing population and plan for the future.

Demand for allotment plots was growing across the country and the Council had both waiting lists and latent or 'hidden' demand.

The emerging Local Development Framework was an opportunity to actively allocate new land for allotments in the new urban extensions and through the community infrastructure levy to ensure improvements in existing allotment sites.

There was national and local policy that supported the role of allotments

aspiring to improve the local diet especially in deprived wards, increase the amount of food locally produced, reduce obesity and to increase physical activity levels.

Wide consultation had provided useful information which had helped with the development of the Strategy.

The proposed Vision for Allotments was that:-

“Everyone in Taunton Deane who wished to grow vegetables and fruit on an allotment should have the opportunity to do so at the earliest opportunity and within a reasonable distance of their home”.

This Vision had enabled a detailed Policy to be drafted which was submitted for consideration. The proposed standards for allotment provision were also reported together with the action plan.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) The vision, aims, objectives, standards, policies and action plan of the draft Allotments Strategy be adopted;
- (2) The Strategy be accepted as a technical document to be weighed in the decision making process for the determination of development proposals;
- (3) The draft Allotments Strategy be approved to go out to wider consultation which would enable it to be considered for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document; and
- (4) Approval of any alterations to the draft Strategy which resulted from the consultation and the outcomes of the Action Plan as they were developed be delegated to the Executive Councillor for Sports, Parks and Leisure.

#### 113. **Approval for Capital Spend on Play and Youth Facilities**

Submitted report previously circulated which sought approval of a capital spend of £562,240 on play and youth facilities projects in 2009/2010 and £142,495 in 2010/2011.

A number of parks projects had been in development over the last year or more which will continue the programme of play and youth facilities improvements identified in the Play and Greenspaces Strategies.

These projects were all funded by external grants and contributions and by money allocated in the Council's capital budgets for play and youth facilities.

Specifically the funding for the projects came from the following sources:-

1. The Council had a capital budget for play areas which currently provided £20,000 a year;



2. The policies in the Local Plan provided the opportunity to require house builders to give money to the Council through Section 106 Agreements for play and outdoor sports facilities in lieu of making provision themselves; and
3. Applications were made to external funders and supported community groups to do likewise in order to provide additional funds for play and youth facility provision and improvement.

Details of the projects now ready for tender in 2009/2010 and those likely to happen in 2010/2011 were set out in the report.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) the list of proposed schemes outlined in the report be agreed;
- (2) an increase in the Capital Programme to reflect the agreed spending be approved; and
- (3) Full Council be recommended to approve this change to the Capital Programme.

#### 114. **Financial and Performance Monitoring – Quarter 2 2009/2010**

Considered report previously circulated, which provided an overview of service and financial performance for Taunton Deane Borough Council between 1 April and 30 September 2009.

Since the Quarter One details had been submitted, much progress had been made in resolving the problems within the SAP system. However, there continued to be problems with the DLO budget monitoring.

In respect of budget monitoring for the period April to September, the General Fund was showing a potential overspend of £220,000, a decrease of £79,000 from Quarter 1. The variations from the planned budget were reported and related to a reduction in income from Land Charges (£40,000), off street car parking (£60,000), Planning (£250,000), Investments (£13,000), recycling/refuse (£125,000), Housing Benefit Subsidy (£14,000), Taunton Market (£20,000) and Homelessness (£10,000). Possible underspends were reported on Concessionary Travel (£100,000), the 2009/2010 Pay Award (£120,000), Housing Benefit Administration Subsidy (£42,000), Electoral Registration (£5,000) and the Crematorium (£25,000).

The General Fund reserve was forecast to stand at around £1,580,000 at the end of 2009/2010. This took into account the supplementary estimate of £148,000 for the Core Council Review approved by Full Council in April 2009.

Budget monitoring of the Housing Revenue Account for April to September 2009 showed a potential underspend of £860,000. This was due to further

slippage in asbestos works due to compatibility with the Academy computer program and the replacement of fascias and soffits which had been delayed until 2010/2011.

The Housing Revenue Account Working Balance was forecast to stand at around £1,800,000 at the end of 2009/2010. This took into account the supplementary estimate of £13,400 for the Core Council Review and £20,000 approved for Tenant Empowerment.

Reported that no budget monitoring variance for either the General Fund or Housing Revenue Account Capital had been reported.

Further reported that the Corporate Strategy monitoring had identified that 65% of objectives were on course, 25% had actions pending to meet the Objectives and 10% were off course. The 'Corporate Health' performance indicators had identified that net collectable Council Tax debit, National Non Domestic Rate debit and Housing Rent were all off target as at the end of September 2009.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

**115. Treasury Management Update 2009/2010 and Minimum Reserve Position for 2010/2011**

Submitted report previously circulated, on the Treasury activity of the Council in the first six months of the current financial year which focussed primarily on debt and investments.

The Council's Debt, as at 30 September 2009, stood at £15,000,000. £6,000,000 would be repaid to the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) on maturity (£6m temporary borrowing). As the cost of borrowing at variable rates from the PWLB had fallen to below 1% the current plan was to replace the £6,000,000 maturing loan with a one year PWLB variable rate loan.

It was noted that the Bank of England base rate was currently at an all time low of 0.5% in response to the "credit crunch". The Bank's stance on interest rates had been driven by concerns over the very poor state of UK growth and it was anticipated that the rate would remain at 0.5% for at least the remainder of the financial year with forecasts showing that it might not start to increase until December 2010.

Reported that current outstanding investments amounted to £17,340,000, details of which were submitted. The average rate of interest achieved had been in the range of 6.28% - 0.25% which equated to approximately £102,000 in interest income.

Further reported that before the start of each financial year, the Council was required to determine the basis on which it would make provision from revenue for the repayment of borrowing undertaken for the purpose of financing capital expenditure. This annual provision, known as Minimum

Revenue Provision (MRP), was designed to ensure that authorities made prudent provision to cover the ongoing costs of their borrowing.

In 2008, the Government became less prescriptive offering Councils a number of options for calculating MRP.

For the financial year 2009/2010, the Council determined to calculate MRP as follows:-

- for supported borrowing, 4% on outstanding debt; and
- for unsupported borrowing, the debt associated with asset divided by the estimated useful life of the asset.

It was proposed that this should be retained for 2010/2011.

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) The Treasury Management position for the first six months of 2009/2010 be noted; and
- (2) Full Council be recommended to agree to the basis of calculating the Minimum Revenue Provision in 2008/2009 being retained for 2009/2010.

#### 116. **Fees and Charges 2010/2011**

Considered report previously circulated, which set out the proposed fees and charges for 2010/2011 for the following services:-

- Cemeteries and Crematorium – It was proposed to increase the main cremation fee by £14 to £550. It was estimated that this would generate additional income of £30,800. Other fees had been largely increased by 2.6% which would generate a further £5,000;
- Waste Services - For the emptying of garden waste bins, the fee was proposed to increase from £35 to £42.50 which would raise £60,000 of income;
- Land Charges - it was proposed to keep Land Charges fees the same as the current year. This was in line with Government expectations that the service should break even;
- Housing – It was proposed to increase all charges by 2.5%. It was estimated that this would generate additional income of £31,000. Council housing rents would be set early in 2010 when the Housing Subsidy had been determined by the Department for Communities and Local Government;
- Licensing – Many licensing fees were set nationally and much of the income derived resulted from these fees. However, where there was local flexibility to set an appropriate amount, the proposed increases

sought to ensure that Taunton Deane's costs in administering and enforcing such licenses were adequately met from the income received. Noted though that great care had to be taken to set an appropriate rate as many of the licensing fees and charges were delicately balanced. If rates went up too much, this could easily suppress the market and lead to an overall reduction in income. It could also encourage more illegal and therefore unregulated trading resulting in greater risks to public safety.

Noted that the fee for the renewal of Sex Shop Licenses had been substantially reduced for the reasons outlined in the report.

As a result, the maximum realistic revenue increase from Licensing, allowing for the reduction in Sex Shop fees, was estimated to be in the region of £2,215;

- The fees and charges relating to the Car Park Service would be subject to consideration by the Traffic Regulation Orders Panel in due course.

During the discussion of this item and despite the High Court previously deciding that Councils could only charge a fee for street trading which met the cost of issuing and administering the licences, Members again requested that a review of the Street Trading Licences Fees should be carried out with a view to increasing the fee.

**Resolved** that Full Council be recommended to approve the proposed fees and charges, for 2010/2011.

#### 117. **Savings Delivery Plans 2010/2011**

Considered report previously circulated, which provided up to date information relating to the anticipated budget gap and details of the proposed Savings Delivery Plans.

##### **(1) Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update**

The estimated budget gap reported to Corporate Scrutiny on 29 October 2009 was £1,377,930. Since then, the additional provision for street cleaning and litter clearing for Castle Green has been reviewed downwards, reducing the budget gap to £1,363,930.

##### **(2) Savings Targets and Delivery Plans**

Savings targets had been issued to Managers. Each saving has been considered for its "acceptability" in terms of both operational and public perception aspects.

Details of the draft General Fund Savings Delivery Plans were submitted. The Executive was minded to take all of the public Category 1 and 2 items identified in the Appendices and might consider some Category 3 items if

appropriate. The following table showed the impact on the current budget gap of these items.

	<b>Potential Savings £</b>	<b>Budget Gap £</b>
Budget Gap at 29 October (adjusted re: Castle Green cleansing and litter clearing)		<b>1,363,930</b>
Public Category 1 Items	(94,040)	
Public Category 2 Items	(48,550)	
Public Category 3 Items	(148,250)	
Total Savings Identified		(290,840)
Revised Budget Gap (assuming all savings are taken)		<b>1,073,090</b>

Noted that the potential savings from the transfer to Town and Parish Councils, or closure, of public conveniences, were not reflected in the figures above.

### **(3) Housing Revenue Account**

Although no formal target has been issued to the HRA, proposed savings of £20,000 had been identified.

During the discussion of this item, it was agreed that the views of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee needed to be taken into account before the Savings Plans could be approved.

**Resolved** that:-

- (a) the updated budget gap for 2010/2011 be noted; and
- (b) the proposed detailed Savings Delivery Plans be also noted.

### **118. Executive Forward Plan**

Submitted for information the Forward Plan of the Executive over the next few months.

**Resolved** that the Forward Plan be noted.

(The meeting ended at 7.18 p.m.)

## **Usual Declarations of Interest by Councillors**

### **Executive**

- **Members of Somerset County Council – Councillors Henley, Paul and Prior-Sankey**
- **Employee of Somerset County Council – Councillor Mrs Smith**
- **Director of Southwest One – Councillor Coles**
- **Member of Somerset Waste Board and employee of Sedgemoor District Council – Councillor Slattery**

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

Executive - 13 January 2010

## Taunton Deane Borough Council - Pest Control Service

### Report of the Community Services Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of the Executive Councillor Tim Slattery)

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to examine the current in-house Pest Control Service provided by Taunton Deane Borough Council and to consider the feasibility of contracting the service to an external provider. As part of the Council's "Core Council Review" the Pest Control Service has come under scrutiny to determine if a similar service could be offered to customers at a more economical cost to the Council. This report furthers a proposal from the Core Council Review report which was agreed at Full Council on 23 November 2009. This proposal was to investigate contracting out this service with a view to a new provider operating the service from around April 2010.

#### 2.0 Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report considers the current Pest Control Service and concludes with a range of recommendations that will culminate in a decision to initiate a procurement process for a contractor to operate the service from April 2010. Factors included in determining the viability of contracting out the service are the Council's statutory duties; public health impacts; cost savings; the Council's existing contracts; impact on Housing tenants and the Housing Revenue Account; existing Council subsidies; fees and charges to the customer and how the new contract with an external operator would work.

#### 3.0 Background

- 3.1 Taunton Deane Borough Council currently operates the Pest Control Service at the cost of £109,620 for 2008/2009. This cost includes two full time in-house Pest Control Officers (PCO); two vans; one store at the DLO depot; an office at the DLO depot; pest control equipment and chemicals. Total budgeted income for the service during 2008/2009 was £35,950 giving a net service cost to the Council for the year of £73,670.
- 3.2 Additionally the service is supported by 0.6 FTE Environmental Health Support Assistant (EHSA) capacity, which carries out the main proportion of pest control booking and administration at a cost of around £13K.
- 3.3 The potential savings arising from contracting out the service make a contribution to and are therefore included in the £450K savings identified in the Core Council Review for Themes 2 and 4. The estimated potential savings arising from contracting out the service are £46K.

- 3.4 Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 the statutory duty on the Local Authority shall be to take steps to secure that the Borough is kept free from rats and mice, and in particular: -
- From time to time to carry out inspections;
  - To destroy rats and mice on land where the LA are the occupier and otherwise keep such land free from rats and mice where practicable;
  - To enforce the duties of owners and occupiers of land under the provisions of the Act.
- 3.5 The service has been extremely popular with customers for a number of years and levels of customer satisfaction have been very high as reflected by the on-going customer satisfaction survey.

#### **4.0 Current Service Provision**

- Domestic household treatment for rats and mice - £15 for three visits.
- Domestic treatment for fleas, bedbugs etc. - £48.30 + £9.50 materials (subsidised charge is £24.15).
- Domestic treatment for wasps £42.70 (subs. charge £21.35).
- Commercial treatment for rats and mice - £51.40 + materials +VAT.
- Commercial treatment for fleas etc. £51.40 +materials +VAT.
- Commercial treatment for wasps £42.60 +VAT.
- There are currently 26 domestic contracts for rats and mice all at £50 each for three scheduled visits. The total income for these contracts last year was £1150 (Appendix 2).
- There are currently 15 Commercial contracts – Priced on an individual basis. The total income for these contracts last year was £12,804 (Appendix 1). This includes income of £7000 from the sewer baiting contract with Wessex Water.

#### **5.0 Rodent Fee Increase**

- 5.1 The Council currently charges a total of £15 for the treatment of rodents in domestic residential property. This includes three visits by a Pest Control Officer, a survey of the problem, placing baits and expert advice.
- 5.2 This represents excellent value for money to the customer and since the introduction of this charge in 2005, the Council has received very few complaints about the fee and indeed the Service continues to receive high praise from customers in terms of service and value for money.
- 5.3 It is proposed to increase the charge for treating rodents to £25. This would be broadly in line with neighbouring Authority charges and remains significantly cheaper than the private sector. It would also appreciably reduce the cost of any potential contract. Since the introduction of the £15 charge in 2005 there has been no evidence to suggest that rodent infestations have increased resulting in enforcement action by the Council.
- 5.4 The National Pest Technicians Association produces an annual National Rodent Survey and has reported that the introduction of charging across UK Local



Authorities has caused more residents to carry out DIY treatment or not seek appropriate assistance at the correct time. This, they suggest is one of the causes attributed to the current increase in rodent population nationally; however this does not appear to be reflected in Taunton Deane. The trend for numbers of rodent treatments in Taunton Deane over the last five years is down.

- 5.5 Furthermore there has been no increase in reports of rodent infestations in Taunton since the introduction of 'Sort It'. This is probably due to the fact that all food waste is now stored in sealed containers rather than plastic bags therefore preventing access to rodents.
- 5.6 Other neighbouring authorities do not appear to have suffered from an increase in enforcement activity at the £25 contribution rate, however a national pest control contractor suggests that based on experience the service may be affected at the rate of £35.
- 5.7 It is therefore proposed to increase the charge for rodent treatments in domestic properties from £15 to £25. On the basis of recent workloads this increase equates to an additional £3.5K income.

## **6.0 Existing Subsidies**

- 6.1 The Council currently operates a subsidy system in that all residents on specified benefits (income based job seekers allowance; income support; guaranteed pensions credit) pay half the cost of all treatments other than rodents. The potential appointed contractor may or may not continue to offer subsidised treatments, which would depend upon whether the Council were to stipulate, contractually, that subsidies are to remain. This decision would ultimately have an impact on the cost of the contract. Following enquires into neighbouring Authority pest control services it is evident that all continue to offer subsidies to customers on specified benefits. It is therefore recommended that the Council continues to offer subsidies to all customers on specified benefits via the potential new pest control contract.

## **7.0 Impact on Housing Tenants and HRA.**

- 7.1 As a social landlord the Council has acknowledged its responsibility to its tenants and so pays the £15 cost for all rodent treatments required in Council accommodation. The reason for the Council paying the fee is to help to prevent the occurrence of infestations building up in council property, and therefore avoiding the need to address any public health or structural damage to property that may arise from such infestations. The consequence of the proposal to increase the rodent fee, means that a decision will need to be made as to whether the HRA will continue to pay this fee.
- 7.2 Consultation has been undertaken with Housing Management and Portfolio Holder concerning the increase in cost of treating rodents to £25. This consultation indicates a wish to support the ongoing payment by the HRA of the increased fee for rodent treatment.
- 7.3 The following provides an indication of the impact on the HRA in the event of an increase to £25, the apparent increasing trend identified in these figures may be

attributable to greater awareness of tenants to the fact the landlord service pays this fee on behalf of tenants since it's introduction in 2005:-

- In 2006/2007 there were 55 treatments in Council premises costing the HRA £825. The increase to £25 would increase this to £1375.
- In 2007/2008 there were 82 treatments in Council premises costing the HRA £1230. The increase to £25 would increase this to £2050.
- In 2008/2009 to date there were 115 treatments in Council premises costing the HRA £1725. The increase to £25 would increase this to £2875.

7.4 It is therefore proposed for the council to continue to pay for all rodent treatments in Council residential property via the HRA.

## **8.0 Existing Contracts**

8.1 The Pest Control Service currently operates a number of commercial and domestic contracts. Details of these contracts can be seen at Appendix 1 and 2. These may be terminated by either the Council or the purchaser after the second subsequent regular scheduled inspection and any work resulting from it. Alternatively these commercial or domestic contracts may be written into any service contract that the Pest Control contractor should continue to honour until the contract date expires. It may then be agreed between the customer and the contractor to continue with a new contract to be delivered solely by the contractor at the time of the renewal of each of these contracts.

8.2 Some of the current contracts relate to preventative pest control work on Council owned land such as Vivary Park and Goodlands Gardens. It is proposed that all current such work will be included in the contract specification to be undertaken by any potential contractor in the overall contract price.

8.3 It is therefore proposed that any future contractor will continue to honour all current TDBC pest control contracts until expiry. At the point of contract expiry the customer will then have the option of negotiating and arranging any new contract with the appointed contractor directly.

## **9.0 Contracting the Service**

9.1 Internal market intelligence has revealed some approximate costs of contracting the service to an external provider. Providing the cost of treatment for rodents was raised to £25 gross and the provider retained all income, the cost to Taunton Deane Borough Council would be in the range of £7000 - £15,000, plus additional costs in relation to TUPE responsibilities.

9.2 Operating a reduced in-house service with only one Pest Control Officer, is unlikely to produce the appropriate savings required for the following reasons:-

- The specialist costs of operating the service will be present largely irrespective of how many operatives are employed. For example issues such as providing office and store at depot, maintaining all

risk assessments, and administrative support will still all have to be provided.

- The Council would continue to lease one vehicle and not operate the service if this was out of use or hire a suitably adapted vehicle.
- The Council would continue to purchase, store, maintain and dispose of all, rodenticide, insecticide and other equipment.
- The Council would not be able to operate the service when the Pest Control Officer was on annual leave or off sick.
- The Council would continue to pay for one on-costed Pest Control Officer, but equally the income would potentially halve.

9.3 The potential contract would include:-

- Provision of a front line customer contact centre 24/7.
- Booking appointments.
- Payments to be made over the phone.
- Guaranteed emergency next day appointment.
- Contract price to include all existing subsidies.
- Free service for all surveys on council premises following customer complaint of rodents on Council owned land and premises, thereby discharging our statutory duty.

9.4 An outline specification for such a contract has been considered and the details are contained in the draft contract at Appendix 3 – 5. The details of any such contract will be discussed and agreed with any potential contractor during the procurement process prior to finalising the arrangement. Details of other Somerset Authority arrangements including length of contract, procurement process and costs are at Appendix 6.

9.5 If this course of action is pursued, The Transfer of Undertakings Protection Employment Regulations 2006 (TUPE) will apply. This will mean that existing staff that provide this service will transfer across to the new service provider. The Local Government Act 2003 also applies which guarantees those staff that transfer a pension of equal value to their existing local government pension (The Best Value Authorities Staff Transfers (Pensions) Direction 2007).

## **10.0 Public Health Impact**

10.1 The provision of a contracted pest control service, offering a similar service, should not have an increased detrimental impact on public health. Any contract will specify that the service to the customer will operate in a similar way to that currently in place in terms of response times, number of visits, expertise of the operatives and customer care as detailed in Appendix 3-5.

10.2 The increased cost to the customer for rodent control from £15 to £25 may initially receive some criticism from the public. However, this cost will remain

significantly lower than the same service offered in the private sector (see paragraph 5.0). Comments received from customers on the customer satisfaction survey carried out after every visit by a Pest Control Officer are almost without exception excellent. The service is both very good value for money and highly regarded in terms of customer care.

- 10.3 Should fewer people employ the services of the Councils nominated contractor then it is entirely possible that Environmental Health will receive an increased number of complaints about rats and mice. This may result in an increased level of enforcement action by Officers within the Environmental Protection Team, which will be time consuming. However, enquires into contracted services at other neighbouring Authorities suggest this has not been the case.

## **11.0 Linking with Dog Warden Service Contract**

- 11.1 The Councils Dog Warden Service is currently operated by SDK, it may be possible to bolt on any future Pest Control Contract to the existing Dog Warden Contract, should the Council decide to contract the service to the same operator. This may have advantages, as a number of SDK operatives are competent as both Dog Wardens and Pest Control Officers and therefore a smaller number of Officers may be able to cover the Taunton Deane Borough Council area for both functions. Such an arrangement may also help to reduce costs.

## **12.0 Operating a Joint Pest Control Service with other Somerset District Council's**

- 12.1 It is possible that the Somerset districts will be able to offer a pest control service operated by a single contract. Other Somerset LA's have expressed an interest in providing such a service with Taunton Deane Borough Council, providing a common specification can be agreed including charging and pests treated. This could take place either when existing contracts or extensions to contracts come to an end as currently existing contracts have different termination dates. Alternatively it could be agreed with the preferred contractor to arrange a joint contract before the natural expiry of existing contracts.

## **13.0 Procurement Process**

- 13.1 Discussions are underway with SW1 procurement team regarding a potential procurement process. It is anticipated that an initial three year contract will not exceed the EU procurement threshold and can therefore be undertaken utilising TDBC Standing Orders. The process will take 2-3 months to complete.

## **14.0 Consultation**

- 14.1 Consultation has been underway in relation to this proposal throughout the progression of the Core Council Review process via the Unison Change Forum. In addition more recently the staff affected by this proposal have been consulted directly about the potential implications for the service and for them directly.
- 14.2 Appendix section 7 contains some specific comments from the Pest Control Officers to support a reduced Pest Control Service of two officers down to one and other cost saving measures.

14.3 This matter was considered by the Community Scrutiny Committee on 15 December 2009. During the discussion of this item, Members made the following comments:

- Contractors would not be able to maintain the low fees for existing commercial contracts;
- Linking the dog warden service with the pest control service could derive cost benefits but it would be essential to manage the performance of the dog warden service to ensure that it did not deteriorate;
- More details were required from other District Councils who had outsourced their pest control service, relating to staff, public and Member satisfaction;
- If the savings were not as projected, the procurement process should be stopped before a contract was awarded.

Whilst the Community Scrutiny Committee supported the tendering process they requested that detailed figures were brought back to the Committee before a contract was awarded.

## **15.0 Recommendations**

15.1 It is recommended that the Council instigates a procurement process and tenders for an externalised Pest Control service which will incorporate the principles of the Draft Specification documents contained in Appendices 3,4 and 5 and in particular will include following specific features:-

- To increase the charge for rodent treatment in domestic properties from £15 to £25
- The Council (via the HRA) to pay the cost of £25 for all rodent treatments on behalf of Taunton Deane Borough Council residential tenants in Council property.
- The Council continues to offer subsidies to all customers on specified benefits.
- Any future contractor will continue to honour all current TDBC pest control contracts until expiry. At the point of contract expiry the customer will then have the option of negotiating and arranging any new contract with the appointed contractor directly.

### **Contact Officers:-**

James Barraah –Community Services Manager Tel 358699 Ext 2751

Martin Stoyles- Acting Environmental Health Operations Manager Ext 2493

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

**Executive - 13 January 2010**

## **Proposed Compulsory Purchase of Land at Victoria Gate, Taunton**

### **Report of the Legal Services Manager**

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Hazel Prior-Sankey)

#### **Summary**

To seek formal approval to make a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in respect of land at Victoria Gate, Taunton in order to facilitate redevelopment of the area and the provision of affordable housing.

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To seek a formal resolution of the Executive to satisfy the statutory requirements on making a CPO.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 16 September 2009, the Executive considered the proposed redevelopment and regeneration of Victoria Gate, Taunton and associated area by way of a mix of housing development.
- 2.2 It was reported that there was an area of land at Victoria Gate to the rear of 56 to 59 East Reach which had lain unused and neglected for many years, although at one time it had been used as informal allotments. Attempts to establish the owner of the land had proved unsuccessful but the land was required to achieve the overall redevelopment of the area. Knightstone Housing had expressed an interest in acquiring the land for affordable housing and would fund the ultimate acquisition costs.
- 2.3 The Executive agreed to support the scheme and resolved that the CPO be progressed. However, a formal resolution is required to meet the statutory requirements.
- 2.4 Extensive inquiries have been made since 2003 both by officers of this Authority and by Knightstone, but it has not that been possible to establish ownership. There is provision for a CPO to be made in those circumstances subject to a valuation being carried out by the Lands Tribunal and the amount of the valuation being paid into Court, prior to the transfer of title. It had originally been envisaged that the compensation would be paid direct by Knightstone with a "back to

back” transfer of the land. However, since the monies need to be paid into Court before the title can be transferred it is likely that the Council would have to fund the compensation for the period between the paying of the monies into Court and the “back to back” transfer to the Knightstone.

- 2.4 A valuation carried out by Knightstone has put the value at £150,000 and the Housing Enabling Officer confirms that that amount could be made available from the Enabling Budget to cover that period of time.

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Executive authorise the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the area of land at Victoria Gate, Taunton shown hatched on the attached plan for the purpose of facilitating the development of the land for the provision affordable housing by Knightstone Housing or other appropriate body.

Contact Officer : Judith Jackson 01823 356409 or e-mail  
[j.jackson@tauntondeane.gov.uk](mailto:j.jackson@tauntondeane.gov.uk)

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

## Executive - 13 January 2010

### Council Tax Base 2010/2011

#### Report of the Financial Services Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ross Henley)

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

To approve the Local Council Tax Base for 2010/2011, which is calculated at 40,384.49, a decrease of 15.36 (0.04%) on the 2009/2010 Tax Base.

#### **1 Purpose**

1.1 To request approval by the Executive of the Council Tax Base for the Borough and for each parish for 2010/2011.

#### **2 Introduction**

2.1 The Council Tax Base, which is calculated annually, has to be set between 1 December and 31 January each year.

2.2 The Council tax base is the "Band D" equivalent of the properties included in the Valuation Officer's banding list as at 15 October 2009, as adjusted for voids, appeals, new properties etc., and the provision for non-collection.

2.3 The Band D equivalent is arrived at by taking the laid down proportion of each Band as compared to Band D, and aggregating the total. This is shown in Appendix A.

2.4 The approved base has to be notified to the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority, and to each of the parishes.

#### **3 Other adjustments and rate of collection**

3.1 Adjustments have also been included for new dwellings and for initial void exemptions for empty properties.

3.2 The Council Tax Base also has to reflect the provision for losses on collection. The rate for 2010/2011 is 0.8%, as in the previous year, giving an anticipated collection rate of 99.2%.

3.3 The Council Tax Base for 2009/2010 is 40,399.85 and the recommended base for 2010/2011 of 40,384.49 represents a decrease of 15.36 or



0.04%. This marginal reduction reflects the economic conditions of the past year.

- 3.4 Appendix A sets out in summary form the totals for each band. The adjustments for appeals and property movements is then shown and the total for each Band expressed as "Band D equivalents".
- 3.5 Appendix B sets out the same information but analysed over each parish and the unparished area and the further reduction for the non-collection provision is shown.
- 3.6 Appendix C sets out the Band D equivalent for each parish with the parish reduction for non-collection provision and the resultant Local Tax Base.

#### 4 **Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Executive is recommended to approve the following:-
  - a) That the report of the Financial Services Manager for the calculation of the Council Tax base for the whole and parts of the area for 2010/2011 be approved.
  - b) That, pursuant to the Financial Services Manager's report, and in accordance with the Local Authority (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount calculated by Taunton Deane Borough Council as its Tax Base for the whole area for the year 2010/2011 shall be 40,384.49 and for the parts of the area listed below shall, for 2010/2011 be: -

Ash Priors	76.05
Ashbrittle	97.07
Bathealton	84.57
Bishops Hull	1,072.38
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	1,937.47
Bradford on Tone	283.61
Burrowbridge	204.78
Cheddon Fitzpaine	648.71
Chipstable	124.72
Churchstanton	331.27
Combe Florey	122.01
Comeytrowe	2,086.27
Corfe	134.15
Creech St Michael	950.07
Durston	59.02

Fitzhead	121.87
Halse	144.75
Hatch Beauchamp	261.29
Kingston St Mary	446.32
Langford Budville	238.40
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	200.64
Milverton	600.46
Neroche	255.85
North Curry	742.96
Norton Fitzwarren	826.06
Nynehead	156.55
Oake	333.46
Otterford	168.39
Pitminster	459.04
Ruishton/Thornfalcon	615.34
Sampford Arundel	131.90
Staplegrove	714.77
Stawley	131.00
Stoke St Gregory	387.38
Stoke St Mary	206.72
Taunton	16,087.45
Trull	1,025.28
Wellington	4,631.59
Wellington (Without)	304.46
West Bagborough	163.62
West Buckland	446.17
West Hatch	143.28
West Monkton	1,115.05
Wiveliscombe	1,112.28
	<hr/>
	<u>40,384.49</u>

**Contact Officer:** Paul Fitzgerald  
Financial Services Manager  
Tel: 01823 328864  
Email: [p.fitzgerald@tauntondeane.gov.uk](mailto:p.fitzgerald@tauntondeane.gov.uk)

## TOTALS - ALL PARISHES

Description of information	Band A (disabled)	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Totals
Total no of banded dwellings	0	7,060	15,145	9,277	6,930	5,333	3,204	1,473	93	48,515
Additions	0.00	57.12	63.62	69.93	48.97	43.15	18.82	5.49	0.40	307
Exempt dwellings	0	417	491	244	151	118	53	30	8	1,512
Demolished dwellings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disabled relief aggregate	8	44	10	-12	-5	-17	-10	6	-24	0
<b>Total no of banded dwellings</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>6,744.12</b>	<b>14,727.62</b>	<b>9,090.93</b>	<b>6,822.97</b>	<b>5,241.15</b>	<b>3,159.82</b>	<b>1,454.49</b>	<b>61.40</b>	<b>47,310</b>
25% discounts	2	4,097	5,755	2,949	1,889	1,087	513	178	6	16,476
50% discounts	0	69	65	66	43	50	41	45	7	386
10% discounts	0	131	111	60	70	32	24	11	2	441
<b>Discounts deduction</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>1,071.85</b>	<b>1,482.35</b>	<b>776.25</b>	<b>500.75</b>	<b>299.95</b>	<b>151.15</b>	<b>68.10</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>4,356</b>
MOD properties (exemption class O)	0	0	52	13	11	16	7	3	2	104
Net dwellings	7.50	5,672.27	13,297.22	8,327.73	6,333.22	4,957.23	3,015.66	1,389.39	58.20	43,058
Band D equivalents	4.17	3,781.41	10,342.28	7,402.43	6,333.22	6,058.74	4,355.96	2,315.57	116.40	<b>40,710.17</b>

2010/11

Appendix B

Band	A (disabled)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Totals
Taunton Deane Borough	4.17	3,781.51	10,342.38	7,402.45	6,332.92	6,058.74	4,355.96	2,315.65	116.40	40,710.17
Ash Priors	0.00	3.17	2.14	3.11	6.25	16.50	29.25	16.25	0.00	76.67
Ashbrittle	0.00	4.00	7.00	12.44	14.75	17.72	27.52	12.92	1.50	97.85
Bathealton	0.00	4.33	1.36	6.89	5.50	25.36	28.89	10.92	2.00	85.25
Bishops Hull	0.56	73.40	279.46	205.42	225.00	166.22	67.89	59.58	3.50	1,081.03
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	0.00	77.29	308.19	509.96	345.30	321.72	243.97	142.60	4.07	1,953.09
Bradford on Tone	0.00	8.60	8.17	26.58	52.00	62.94	73.52	52.08	2.00	285.89
Burrowbridge	0.00	7.00	17.31	23.78	45.55	53.17	46.80	10.83	2.00	206.43
Cheddon Fitzpaine	0.00	15.50	92.94	189.11	104.00	133.53	87.03	29.83	2.00	653.94
Chipstable	0.00	6.00	10.62	16.13	16.25	34.22	31.42	9.58	1.50	125.72
Churchstanton	0.00	13.93	28.51	35.56	74.55	80.24	60.74	38.42	2.00	333.94
Combe Florey	0.00	0.83	5.64	12.67	14.25	27.19	39.36	21.25	1.80	122.99
Comeytrowe	0.00	45.43	364.54	676.09	397.00	419.22	149.14	51.67	0.00	2,103.09
Corfe	0.00	3.17	6.65	16.22	12.00	13.14	37.56	45.00	1.50	135.23
Creech St Michael	0.42	10.20	86.45	251.56	223.55	253.31	93.17	37.08	2.00	957.73
Durston	0.00	0.50	5.64	15.33	4.00	12.83	11.19	10.00	0.00	59.50
Fitzhead	0.00	0.50	8.09	16.89	26.00	27.99	21.31	22.08	0.00	122.86
Halse	0.00	2.33	3.11	9.33	20.25	47.06	31.42	30.42	2.00	145.92
Hatch Beauchamp	0.00	3.33	30.92	39.33	36.05	61.29	63.56	26.92	2.00	263.40
Kingston St Mary	0.00	14.20	50.17	35.24	34.75	75.47	87.75	143.33	9.00	449.92
Langford Budville	0.00	2.38	21.10	31.72	43.78	34.41	62.94	37.64	6.36	240.33
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	0.00	3.67	25.67	16.22	23.40	46.14	63.41	23.75	0.00	202.26
Milverton	0.00	29.10	93.45	77.11	86.90	100.22	151.52	65.00	2.00	605.31
Neroche	0.00	4.43	16.92	35.78	34.40	42.17	84.72	32.50	7.00	257.91
North Curry	0.00	47.77	62.42	56.84	120.05	212.24	150.22	95.42	4.00	748.96
Norton Fitzwarren	0.00	164.07	193.56	206.71	132.15	76.75	31.81	22.47	5.21	832.73
Nynehead	0.00	7.50	8.56	22.00	22.90	39.11	31.42	23.33	3.00	157.82
Oake	0.00	29.43	19.06	37.91	64.25	64.78	88.47	26.25	6.00	336.15
Otterford	0.00	9.83	5.83	10.36	24.00	58.97	48.75	10.00	2.00	169.74
Pitminster	0.00	8.17	18.24	28.44	43.90	108.96	123.86	124.17	7.00	462.74
Ruishton/Thornfalcon	0.00	72.43	52.81	111.91	156.95	151.25	51.28	21.67	2.00	620.30
Sampford Arundel	0.00	3.77	7.58	14.89	23.90	42.66	21.67	16.50	2.00	132.96
Staplegrove	0.00	40.77	150.31	115.11	97.65	167.32	99.88	47.50	2.00	720.54
Stawley	0.00	1.33	8.56	13.33	10.75	31.17	36.83	23.58	6.50	132.06
Stoke St Gregory	0.00	11.17	75.37	37.56	82.90	88.18	57.42	37.92	0.00	390.51
Stoke St Mary	0.00	18.83	17.69	16.00	14.25	25.67	69.69	46.25	0.00	208.39
Taunton	2.64	2,251.10	6,098.68	2,975.56	2,318.75	1,301.40	925.92	337.20	5.95	16,217.19
Trull	0.00	19.77	50.67	103.04	159.75	243.71	231.11	220.00	5.50	1,033.55
Wellington	0.56	567.14	1,633.18	901.47	725.53	603.35	189.80	47.92	0.00	4,668.94
Wellington (Without)	0.00	7.33	9.14	25.91	43.65	90.02	105.44	25.42	0.00	306.91
West Bagborough	0.00	1.83	28.97	17.33	22.25	27.50	34.31	28.75	4.00	164.94
West Buckland	0.00	10.00	96.25	67.56	49.50	97.17	74.97	53.33	1.00	449.77
West Hatch	0.00	6.33	3.89	8.44	25.00	35.93	44.42	20.42	0.00	144.43
West Monkton	0.00	90.50	99.56	124.84	160.55	337.21	220.71	86.67	4.00	1,124.04
Wiveliscombe	0.00	79.13	228.04	244.76	188.80	183.33	123.93	71.25	2.00	1,121.25
	4.17	3,781.51	10,342.38	7,402.45	6,332.92	6,058.74	4,355.96	2,315.65	116.40	40,710.17
Non Collection Provision (0.8%)	0.03	30.25	82.74	59.22	50.66	48.47	34.85	18.53	0.93	325.68
<b>COUNCIL TAX BASE</b>	<b>4.13</b>	<b>3,751.26</b>	<b>10,259.64</b>	<b>7,343.23</b>	<b>6,282.25</b>	<b>6,010.27</b>	<b>4,321.11</b>	<b>2,297.13</b>	<b>115.47</b>	<b>40,384.49</b>

**TAX BASE**  
**LOCAL TAX BASE (WHOLE/PART AREAS)**

	Band D Equivalents	Provision for Non Collection ( at 0.8%)	Local Tax Base
Taunton Deane Borough Council - whole area	40,710.17	325.68	40,384.49
Ash Priors	76.67	0.61	76.05
Ashbrittle	97.85	0.78	97.07
Bathealton	85.25	0.68	84.57
Bishops Hull	1,081.03	8.65	1,072.38
Bishops Lydeard/Cothelstone	1,953.09	15.62	1,937.47
Bradford on Tone	285.89	2.29	283.61
Burrowbridge	206.43	1.65	204.78
Cheddon Fitzpaine	653.94	5.23	648.71
Chipstable	125.72	1.01	124.72
Churchstanton	333.94	2.67	331.27
Combe Florey	122.99	0.98	122.01
Comeytrowe	2,103.09	16.82	2,086.27
Corfe	135.23	1.08	134.15
Creech St Michael	957.73	7.66	950.07
Durston	59.50	0.48	59.02
Fitzhead	122.86	0.98	121.87
Halse	145.92	1.17	144.75
Hatch Beauchamp	263.40	2.11	261.29
Kingston St Mary	449.92	3.60	446.32
Langford Budville	240.33	1.92	238.40
Lydeard St Lawrence/Tolland	202.26	1.62	200.64
Milverton	605.31	4.84	600.46
Neroche	257.91	2.06	255.85
North Curry	748.96	5.99	742.96
Norton Fitzwarren	832.73	6.66	826.06
Nynehead	157.82	1.26	156.55
Oake	336.15	2.69	333.46
Otterford	169.74	1.36	168.39
Pitminster	462.74	3.70	459.04
Ruishton/Thornfalcon	620.30	4.96	615.34
Sampford Arundel	132.96	1.06	131.90
Staplegrove	720.54	5.76	714.77
Stawley	132.06	1.06	131.00
Stoke St Gregory	390.51	3.12	387.38
Stoke St Mary	208.39	1.67	206.72
Taunton	16,217.19	129.74	16,087.45
Trull	1,033.55	8.27	1,025.28
Wellington	4,668.94	37.35	4,631.59
Wellington (Without)	306.91	2.46	304.46
West Bagborough	164.94	1.32	163.62
West Buckland	449.77	3.60	446.17
West Hatch	144.43	1.16	143.28
West Monkton	1,124.04	8.99	1,115.05
Wiveliscombe	1,121.25	8.97	1,112.28
	<b>40,710.17</b>	<b>325.68</b>	<b>40,384.49</b>

<b>Report</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Details Of Consultation</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>Decision To Be Made By</b>	<b>Date</b>
Corporate Strategy 2010 - 2013			Mark Leeman		02/02/2010
General Fund Revenue Estimates 2010/2011			Emily Collacott		02/02/2010
Council Tax Setting 2010/2011			Emily Collacott		02/02/2010
Housing Revenue Account, Revenue Estimates and Rent Levels, Deane Helpline and Deane Building DLO Account for the 2010/2011 Financial Year			Emily Collacott		02/02/2010
Capital Programme 2010/2011			Emily Collacott		02/02/2010
Somerset Tourism Partnership Business Plan			David McCubbin		09/02/2010
Review of Essential Users and Car Allowances			Martin Griffin		09/02/2010
Locality Based Service Delivery			Richard Sealy		09/02/2010
Economic Development Strategy			Phil Sharratt		09/02/2010
Tourist Information Centre Review			Tim Burton		09/02/2010
Somerset Waste Partnership Business Plan			Joy Wishlade		09/02/2010
Establishment of a Taunton Growth Board			Joy Wishlade		09/02/2010
Carbon Reduction Plan			Kevin Toller		03/03/2010
Proposed extension of Wellington Cemetery			Paul Rayson		03/03/2010
Corporate Equality Scheme and Action Plan 2010 - 2013			Lisa Redston		03/03/2010
Quarterly Corporate Performance/Finance Update			Dan Webb		03/03/2010
Private Sector Housing Partnership			Martin Daly		03/03/2010
Firepool Compulsory Purchase Order			Joy Wishlade		03/03/2010
Asset Management Plan			Joy		31/03/2010

			Wishlade		
Quarterly Corporate Performance/Finance Update (Outturn)			Dan Webb		16/06/2010