

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



COUNCIL

Monday, 18 January 2010

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 18 JANUARY 2010 AT SIX THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING WHEN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS IS PROPOSED TO BE TRANSACTED:-

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTES.

To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Council held on 7 December 2009.

3. APOLOGIES.

4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS

6. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Attached are the questions of which notice had been given and the responses given.

7. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS

8. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS

A statement from the Leader of the Opposition regarding public finances.

9. PROPOSED OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

(copy attached)

10. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010/11

(copy attached)

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE MAYOR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.

The Guildhall
Northampton
8 January 2010

D. Kennedy Chief Executive

Public Participation

1. Comments and Petitions

- 1.1 A member of the public (or an accredited representative of a business ratepayer of the Borough) may make a comment or present a petition on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. A comment or presentation of a petition shall be for no more than three minutes. No notice of the nature of the comment to be made or of the petition is required except for the need to register to speak by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

(Public comments and petitions will not be taken and the Annual Council Meeting or other civic or ceremonial meetings.)

NOTES

- i. Comments may be on one or more subjects but each person has no longer than three minutes to have their say.*
- ii. The same person may make a comment and present a petition on different subjects. In such instances that person will have three minutes to make their comment and a separate three minutes to present a petition.*

2. Member and Public Questions

- 2.1 A member of the public (or business ratepayer of the Borough) may ask a maximum of two written questions at each meeting, each limited to a maximum of 50 words, on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. Each question shall:
- be submitted in writing and delivered, faxed or e-mailed to Democratic Services no later than 10.00am seven calendar days before the day of the meeting; and
 - include the name and address of the questioner and the name of the Cabinet member/Committee Chair to whom the question is put.
- 2.2 At the meeting, copies of all questions and the responses to them from the public and Members will be made available to the public and press. The Mayor may allow one supplementary question, without notice, that arises directly from the original question or response.

(Questions will not be taken at the Annual Council Meeting or at civic or ceremonial meetings or meetings called to deal with specific items of business.)

NOTES

In respect of paragraph 2.1 above, questions may be rejected on certain grounds that are set out on page 4-7 of the Council's Constitution and which may be viewed at www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1919 or by seeking advice using the contact details below.

3. Motions

- 3.1 A member of the public may register to speak to a motion under the 'Notices of Motion' item on the agenda. Registration to speak must be made to Democratic Services by 12 noon on the day to the meeting. Speaking to a motion is restricted to three minutes per person.

(The 'Notices of Motion' item will not be taken at the Annual Council meeting or meetings called for civic or ceremonial purposes.)

4. General

A member of the public may make a comment, present a petition, ask a question or speak to a motion at the same meeting subject to the restrictions set out above.

5. Contacts

Democratic Services: e-mail democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk

Fax 01604 838729

Tel 01604 837101, 837089, 837355, 837356

Mail Democratic Services
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton NN1 1DE

Questions for Full Council Monday 18th January 2010

Question 1

Question to Cllr Beardsworth from Norman Adams

Are you aware that recent legal decisions resulted in

- I. Liberal Democrat controlled Portsmouth having to reinstate onsite Wardens
- II. Conservative controlled Barnet having to keep to the current arrangements

If/when put to the test could you give assurance that how NBC current service was arrived at was legal?

Response

The Council is aware of the recent legal determinations regarding Portsmouth and Barnet Councils and their sheltered housing services respectively.

In reviewing our own sheltered housing service, Northampton Borough Council has kept itself abreast of developments regarding the legal challenges against other Local Authorities.

Each case is made on its own merits and there are fundamental differences between the Barnet and Portsmouth cases and Northampton Borough Council's position. Northampton Borough Council is confident that it has complied with its legal obligations.

Questions for Full Council Monday 18th January 2010

Question 2

Question to Cllr Beardsworth from Mr T McNabb

Could you please state what training is given to Wardens (coordinators) to do the roll of assessor

Could you give details of the following :

- I. At what date was this training available to Wardens in NBC
- II. Is this training a nationally recognised standard (if so name)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Response

Northampton Borough Council's Sheltered Housing Coordinators have been trained to carry out needs assessments by the Centre for Sheltered Housing Studies. This is an essential requirement of Supporting People and the Quality Assessment Framework without which the Council would not receive funding for its Sheltered Housing service. .

The training entitled 'Promoting independence, Needs and Risk assessment Training' was carried out on:

21 November 2007 – Twenty three Coordinators attended.

22 November 2007- Seventeen Coordinators attended.

Further training entitled 'Linking Needs Assessment with the Support Planning process' will take place on 10 February 2010. The training provider will be The Sheltered Housing Network.

These training sessions are provided by the Sheltered Housing Network and the Centre for Sheltered Housing Studies (now the Centre for Housing and Support) who are both leading specialist providers of training for Sheltered Housing services and provide training throughout the country.

Questions for Full Council Monday 18th January 2010

Question 3

Question to Cllr Beardsworth from Norman Adams

Total number of housing stock subjected to a type 2 Asbestos survey?

- a) How many of them required the removal of some asbestos product
- b) How many of them have been registered with asbestos in situ that will need regular monitoring

c) And finally is that monitoring in place

Response

Total number of housing stock subjected to a type 2 survey? 1721

- a) How many of them required the removal (or seal/encapsulate) of some asbestos product - 212
- b) How many of them have been registered with asbestos in situ that will need regular monitoring - 1104
- c) Is that monitoring in place - yes

Questions for Full Council Monday 18th January 2010

Question 4

Question to Cllr Hoare from Cllr C Malpas

At the last full council meeting I asked the Leader whether or not a consultant was being employed to prepare for the closure of Cliftonville by finding space for additional staff at the Guildhall, and if so at what cost to the authority. The Leader was unable to give me an answer, but kindly agreed to investigate and report back to me.

As of yet I have received no communication, and would therefore like to put the question to Leader of the council again.'

Response

My apologies for not providing an answer to Cllr Malpas since our December meeting.

I indicated when we last met that I was unaware of a consultant providing advice on the relocation of staff from Cliftonville House, one of several steps the administration is pursuing to improve the authority's efficiency and customer service practices.

I can now confirm that in order to prepare an antecedent Options Appraisal, the Council will be engaging specialist advice to make best use of private sector expertise. In so doing, the authority is seeking counsel as to flexible working practices, more efficient use of its office space and attendant improvements to its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems.

The tender process to commission this advice is not yet complete. It is not therefore appropriate to fully publicise details at this stage.

Brian Hoare

Leader of the Council

Agenda Item 7

Agenda Item: 7

Council
Monday 18th January 2010

Portfolio Holder Presentations

1. Report of the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holder for Partnerships and Improvement (Page 2)
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Portfolio Holder Report for Partnerships & Improvement

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 18th January 2010

The Year Ahead

The Council enters 2010 in a much better position having received confirmation that government monitoring is over. The Council's 2004 Comprehensive Performance Assessment report was a low watermark for the authority and having shaken off the Council's 'Poor' reputation, the authority can really go from strength to strength.

In 2009, the Council received positive reports from its inspectors, all of whom recognised the considerable improvements since 2007.

In October 2008, the Council's IDEA Peer Review reported that:

"... after a number of previous false dawns for the council the right leadership and structure is in place to continue the strong improvement that has already been delivered, evidenced by the number of higher quartile services and services that are no longer classified as poor."

In April 2009, the Audit Commission commented in its annual audit and inspection letter that:

"Significant progress has been made by the Council over the last year... There are pressures on the Authority's financial resources in light of an unfavourable settlement from central government and adverse trends in car parking income and concessionary travel expenditure... The Authority needs to build on improvements made this year..."

In June 2009, the Audit Commission stated in its Access to Services report that:

"The Council has 'excellent' prospects for improvement. There are detailed plans adopted for delivering improved access to services... Councillor and senior manager leadership is now strong and demonstrates a commitment to the delivery of a more customer focused access to services."

In December 2009, the Council's Organisational Assessment said that:

"The Council has transformed how it works. It used to be poor and it recognises there is still much to do. Local people are not yet satisfied with the Council or the town as a place to live. The Council has the leadership and capability to continue to improve."

The Local Government Chronicle too has recognised the Council's progress in shortlisting the authority for this year's 'Most Improved Council of the Year' and Regeneration awards. The latter is further evidence of Council's strides in planning and regeneration, following hot on the heels of the Council's Royal Town and Planning Institute (RTPI) award for its Bridge Street, St John's and Angel Street plans.

Whilst the Council can be pleased with its progress, it is not yet where it needs to be. Delivering frontline services in a climate of tighter government spending requires the Council to push ahead more quickly with its change agenda.

'Change' is an overused word in politics. But further change is necessary in this authority to protect frontline services. The Council must push ahead with joint ventures that improve services or reduce costs to the public purse, working with partners in the voluntary, public or private sectors.

Despite the challenges ahead, the Council is determined to achieve its corporate ambition of being 'recognised as one of the best Councils, in terms of public service by 2013'.

Budget Consultation

This Council, along with other local authorities and public services in Northamptonshire, face uncertain levels of government support after the General election. Whatever the political composition of the government, the United Kingdom will need to address its structural deficit. This will impact central government support for Northampton.

The administration believes it is important to explain the prospects for public spending to local taxpayers and engage them in an open and honest dialogue about the future impact on local services. The Council has therefore arranged to put its draft budget proposals before seven public meetings across the town. I hope that members of all parties and none will encourage their constituents to attend.

West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (WNDC)

Northamptonians are still waiting on the government's conclusions following the quinquennial (five-yearly) review of WNDC. The Council continues to press for the return of planning powers to the Guildhall so that decisions are taken by elected Councillors. The administration's view is that the WNDC should be transformed into a democratically accountable regeneration vehicle, whose primary focus is Northampton.

Preparation for the General Election

The Council's Electoral Services team is working hard to ensure that as many people as possible are able to vote at this year's General Election. Project plans, risk register work and community impact assessments are nearing completion. Detailed postal vote and count plans have been completed.

While 6th May seems to be the favoured date of the election, it can be called at only 18 working days' notice. Accordingly, the Council's plans must be ready ahead of time.

The number of postal vote applications in Northampton continues to rise. At 10th November 2009, the town's post vote register stood at 28,456, with 5000 requests for application forms pending.

The final phase of the Council's annual canvass is also under way, with some 60 canvassers out door knocking homes that have not yet responded to the first wave of communication. Electoral registration is 4% down on last year, unsurprising given the political furore of the last twelve months. Early indications, however, are that this will be caught up by the canvassers' good work.

Brian Hoare

Leader of the Council

Portfolio Holder for Partnerships & Improvements



Portfolio Holder Report for Community Engagement

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 18th January 2010

Trilogy Leisure Centres

Online direct debit sales for the Council's Trilogy leisure centres continue to grow, with figures for the first six months of the financial year equalling last year's – an increase of 100%. The Council's Christmas-New Year membership deal will now run to the end of January, sales for which are currently up 40% on last year. Northamptonians can now also pay for swimming lessons via direct debit as a result of the Trilogy Swim School initiative.

Northampton Sports and Play Development Team

The Council's team has been commissioned by Kingsthorpe Sure Start centre to write and deliver a training programme for parents of children aged 2-4. The course educates parents and guardians about the importance of play in children's development and aims to improve their observation skills to allow children in their care to play more freely.

After the Northampton Sports Awards in October, 10 of the town's 13 winners were shortlisted for the Northamptonshire Sports Awards. 5 of our winners went on to win, with 4 subsequently put forward for the BBC East Sports Awards shortlist.

Museums & Arts

Anglia TV filmed a piece at the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery highlighting its work with young people with hearing impairments, in conjunction with the charity, Talking Heads.

Equalities

The Council has now received the final report of its Equalities Peer Challenge, which confirms the Borough as having reached Level 3 of the government's outgoing standard and as being on track to reach the same level under the incoming Equalities Framework for Local Government. The Council will take on board the report's comments as it moves towards its goal of reaching an 'excellent' standard in the medium-term.

As one of the town's largest employers, it is vital that the Council takes its equalities responsibilities seriously so that both officers and Councillors demonstrably reflect the backgrounds and beliefs of the citizenry they serve.

Community Centres

The Council has developed proposals to run the town's Community Centres more efficiently, supported by an Overview and Scrutiny Task & Finish Group, which has been visiting and taking evidence on existing community facilities. This work will inform the administration's policy.

I would like at this stage to quash irresponsible rumours that the administration is setting out to close existing centres. Any changes made to the way in which centres are run will be carried out with the twin aims of extending community access and safeguarding taxpayers' money.

Partnership Fund Grants

Applications to the Council's Partnership Fund 2010-11 have closed and are being evaluated. The Council's advisory panel will make recommendations as to which voluntary groups are funded next month. These grants will be paid from 1st July 2010.

Paul Varnserry

Deputy Leader of the Council

Portfolio Holder for Community Engagement



Portfolio Holder Report for Housing

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 18th January 2010

Decent Homes

Since my last report, contractor Thomas Vale Ltd has successfully completed improvements to 26 Council homes as part of Phase 1 of the authority's Decent Homes programme.

Housing Strategy and Housing Asset Management Strategy

The Council's joint launch event took place on 16th December. The Council's 12-week consultation period is now open and closes on 24th February. The Housing Strategy can be downloaded from the Council's website right now. I hope that Councillors of all parties will encourage tenants in their wards to get involved and tell us what they think. Further events are being arranged to allow local residents to let us know what they think before the end of the consultation window.

Rent Income

The Council's housing team is now able to offer four separate direct debit dates for rent payments. Previously, payments could only be processed on the 8th and 28th of the month. After improvements to the Council's collection system, direct debits can now be collected on the 1st, 11th, 21st, and 28th of each month, allowing tenants to pay their rent when it is right for them, not the Council.

Housing Services

After a successful trial run in November, officers are completing an intensive programme of tenancy audit visits (averaging 50 a week) as part of the Council's fraud crackdown. The team are focussing on illegal subletting of Council properties – an unacceptable practice that takes homes away from people who really need them.

Last month, the Council took part in a Police initiative, 'Not in my Neighbourhood', to tackle anti-social behaviour in Spencer. The initiative will allow Council and Police resources to be better targeted and will feed into the local Joint Action Group Meeting (JAG). The Police have been very pleased with the Council's input, so well done to those involved.

Cold Weather

The Council's Sheltered Housing and Call Care teams responded well to vulnerable residents' needs over the recent cold snap. Despite the snow, the ice

and the cold, the Council's Sheltered Housing team was fully staffed and our most vulnerable residents received home visits. Some were also telephoned to double-check their needs were being met.

Duty supervisors were on-call at all times and were able to provide emergency cover, if needed. The Council's Call Care service was working 24/7 over Christmas, as usual. Due to the slippery roads, paths and pavements around the town, we advised residents to stay indoors until they were able to get out and about. Although the Council recognises that isolation is a real issue for many older people but felt, in this instance, the most important thing was safety first.

On top of this, the Council ran an emergency shopping service (bread, milk and essentials) for residents who ran out of food in the cold weather. The Council's Housing Solutions team also recently launched a severe weather shelter to house 28 rough sleepers from outside the Borough over Christmas and the New Year. It is a great shame that help for the homeless across Northamptonshire's rural districts is so scant.

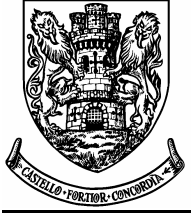
Disabled Facilities Grant pilot scheme

I am pleased to report that the Council's Housing Solutions service was chosen by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), the Audit Commission, and the Department of Health (DH) to undertake a groundbreaking Disabled Facilities Grant pilot.

The pilot involves a complete overhaul of the way the government delivers home adaptations for disabled people and this Council is the only authority in the country to be taking part. The successes of the scheme will be monitored by DH each week. It is excellent news and demonstrates how well the Council's social housing services have improved since they were subject to government inspection.

Sally Beardsworth

Portfolio Holder for Housing



Portfolio Holder Report for Planning & Regeneration

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 18th January 2010

Market square

The Council's improvement plans for the Market Square continue apace. Work to the fountain and gateway area began promptly on the first working day of the New Year. Planning applications have also been submitted for lighting to the square's listed buildings.

The Council held successful lighting consultation before Christmas with owners and occupiers around the square. Local traders showed considerable support and enthusiasm for the project. The final design of the lighting will, of course, reflect the views of local traders.

Members of all parties and none will be pleased to know that the Market Square improvement project has been shortlisted for the 2009 Local Government Chronicle Regeneration Award. The winner will be announced at the end of March. To be shortlisted is welcome recognition of the project's contribution to business, jobs and community life in our historic Market Square.

Marina

The Environment Agency is resolving planning conditions and lease arrangements with the Council. Once these issues are resolved, the tender will be let. A tree condition survey is being carried out. Work to reshape the boating lake will begin next month.

The Local Development Scheme

The West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee have agreed a revised Local Development Scheme and submitted it to the Government Office of the East Midlands. The new scheme will see a pre-submission 'draft core strategy' presented to the committee over the summer, with further public consultation before it is submitted for inspection. I am also advised that the Central Area Action Plan (CAAP) will be prepared to the same timetable, with a report to Cabinet to approve a pre-submission draft for consultation over the summer.

Business in Northampton

A number of announcements over Christmas will mean considerable inward investment for our town centre, protecting and creating jobs and business opportunities to Northampton.

Carlsberg has announced that its UK production will be concentrated in Northampton, following the closure of its Leeds brewery. The move means a greater investment and increased capacity in its brewery here in Northampton.

Travel Lodge has announced a £2 million investment programme for the Grand Hotel in Gold Street, restoring one of Northampton's finest buildings.

House of Fraser has announced a £1 million investment plan to refurbish its Beatties store in the Grosvenor Centre – a welcome show of support in the town's main shopping mall.

The moves amount to three national and global firms demonstrating confidence in Northampton as a dynamic, well-located town in which to work, shop and stay.

Richard Church

Portfolio Holder for Planning & Regeneration



Portfolio Holder Report for the Environment

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 18th January 2010

Cemeteries

The Council is making use of new software to make the running of Northampton's cemeteries more efficient. Once installed, the unoriginally named 'Burial And Cremation Administration System' will allow Northamptonians to access information about their ancestry online.

Waste Services

The Council has introduced a new office-recycling scheme in its three main buildings. The new scheme replaces waste paper bins with recycling points, comprising three bins for paper and card, plastic and cans and a third for general waste.

The more we recycle, the less we send to landfill. This helps keep what we pay to County Hall (£993.34) and the Guildhall (£204.60) down and ensure it is used for local services Northamptonians need. Recycling from the Council's buildings is taken into account in delivering its Carbon Management Programme.

The Borough's recycling rate for November 2009 was 42.17%, up 2.87% on the previous month. This keeps the Council on target to achieve its 40% target by the end of the financial year.

Cold Weather

The cold weather has affected the Council's ability to collect residents' bins, especially in the Hunsbury's and Northampton East. The Council made every effort to revisit these areas in the week before and after Christmas, with crews putting in extra shifts. A huge thanks to everyone involved for making up the lost ground.

Bus Station

New signage has been installed to help safely direct customers in and out of the bus station. An order has been raised with Serco for the installation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) equipment. The Council continues to meet with the bus companies to discuss safety issues.

Car Parks

New pay machines in The Ridings and Upper Mounts car parks are being installed this month. The administration ensured there was free parking on Sundays in all of the Council's car parks in the run-up to Christmas and after 17.00 on Thursdays in the Mayorhold, St John's and St. Michael's.

Market Square

Work on the design of new signage for the Market Square continues. I am advised that it will be in place by the end of March. Agreement has been reached with a fourth food concession to purchase a new unit to help up the square's catering offer.

Town Centre Partnership (TCP)

The Council's Christmas programme was a huge success and attracted many visitors to the town centre. A number of the Council's partners helped to make it happen, including the Deco and Royal & Derngate theatres, BBC and Heart radios, Ferrari, Harley Bikers, town centre choirs, the Grosvenor Centre, All Saints Church, the Moulton Mummers, Stage Coach, the Salvation Army, the Rotary Club and Northampton's Got Talent winners, Niamh Bennet and Demi White. My thanks to them all for bringing festive cheer to Northampton.

Trini Crake

Portfolio Holder for the Environment



Portfolio Holder Report for Performance & Support

Northampton Borough Council

18th January 2010

Customer Services

The Council's contribution to National Customer Service Week 2009 received welcome coverage in the January edition of 'Customer First', the National Institute of Customer Services' journal.

Regional Improvement and Efficiency Funding (RIEP) has been secured to redevelop the Guildhall's One Stop Shop. This moves the Council towards its goal of making more services available to customers online and in person. Discussions are taking place with Northamptonshire Police, the Fire Service and voluntary sector organisations to make their services accessible via the One Stop Shop.

After the introduction the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) kiosk to the One Stop Shop, the CAB will start twice-weekly surgeries in 2010, providing much needed, face-to-face advice for customers on legal, financial and personal matters.

At the same time, the Council is working to increase the number of services accessible online and via automated kiosks. Such changes will not only offer easier access to customers, but also provide savings to the Council at a time of tighter public expenditure. Crucially, bringing services in line with modern technology also allows frontline staff to focus their efforts on more vulnerable customers in need of one-to-one support.

Facilities

The Council's Facilities team helped and supported Northampton's civic Remembrance Sunday service. The service ran smoothly and proved a fitting tribute to our armed service men and women.

The Council's Print Unit has a new high-quality printer, which will allow documents to be reproduced more quickly and reliably and at better value-for-money, both to internal and external customers.

ICT

The Council received positive feedback for the Youth Forum's video kiosks at the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery. Internet kiosks in the One Stop Shop are also improving online access for customers needing to access Choice Based Lettings and other Council services.

I would also like to thank the Council's ICT, Customer Services and Facilities teams for the courteous and professional way in which they dealt with November's power outage at Cliftonville. In particular, I would like to thank staff for the way in which they

pulled together to ensure that emergency phone lines were promptly reinstated and ICT services put back online early the next working day.

Human Resources

The Council has worked up a strategy to develop its use of modern apprenticeships. The Council has also been successful, working with neighbouring authorities, in securing funding for the creation of several 16-18 year-old apprenticeships across Councils in Northamptonshire.

The Council is helping 16 employees achieve the Institute of Leadership Management qualification. Following a strong competition for places, the group was selected to complete the course over the next two years as part of the Council's leadership development initiative.

Funding has been secured for the creation of a web portal for public sector advertising on the Council's website, in conjunction with other authorities. The changes will help reduce Council recruitment costs and improve its ability to attract the brightest and the best in local government.

Council Priorities

The Council's Performance Management team is taking the lead in involving Northamptonians in its Corporate Plan (2010-13) and budget-setting (2010-11) exercises. Both use a mix of consultation techniques, including:

1. Seven public meetings across the town
2. Online public consultation via the Council's website
3. Paper questionnaires available at all Council premises
4. Focus groups with Council Forums and Residents' Associations

As soon as Council's corporate and budget priorities are passed by members, service plans and key performance indicators will be revised, helped by the introduction of Performance Plus software.

Brian Markham

Portfolio Holder for Performance & Support



Portfolio Holder Report for Finance

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 18th January 2010

Budget Monitoring 2009/10

The financial position of in year budget monitoring is improving, with the initial forecast outturn estimates of a year end overspend now reversing, through robust budget management, to a forecast underspend.

Concessionary Fares

A consultation on the additional income for Concessionary Fares has been responded to. The Council lose out to over £1m per year on the concessionary fares scheme and the revised additional grant arrangements did not apportion any further monies to NBC. The Council's consultation response recommends that the current funding of the scheme should move to a claim basis where actual expenditure is recovered.

2010/11 Budget

The budgets for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and the Capital Programme have been one of the main areas of focus for the Finance Team in recent months. The budgets were presented to Cabinet in December for consultation. Officers across all directorates put in a great effort to enable a balanced General Fund budget to be consulted on.

Business Continuity Plans

The recent power failure at Cliftonville put into practice the Business Continuity Plans that our Risk and Business Continuity Manager has assisted directorates in producing over the this year. A report has been presented to the Audit Committee reviewing this test of our business continuity plans.

Assets

Following the confirmation of major investment by HCA and CLG to support the innovative "Places of Change" scheme, the Council are working closely with Midland Heart Housing Association to complete a long term agreement for the delivery of this major project on council owned land in the Town Centre. This will represent a major improvement in supported homeless provision in the Town. The Council is using its property ownership to support this landmark scheme, whilst helping to reduce the impact on businesses who need to be relocated from the property.

Treasury Management

The internal auditors have issued their report on Treasury Management and given their opinion of High Assurance. This means that no control weaknesses were identified and they could conclude that the key controls had been adequately designed and were operating effectively to deliver the objectives of the system, function or process. This is another example of the progress the Council is making towards the status of “excellent” and is of great assurance during the current period of financial uncertainty.

Revenue and Benefits

Benefits - During November our benefits team have been busy re – assessing claims affected by the change in Legislation in respect of pensioner capital and child benefit disregards. Both of these changes have lead to another increase in our ever-growing benefit caseload. Since April 2009, we have seen an increase of 1,228 to a total of 20,479 benefit claimants. Our caseload in April 2008 was 17,267

Vision for Customer Services and Revenues and Benefits

Following the meetings that took place in July 2009 plans associated with how we will work with customer services have continued to take shape. This has led to the identification of some key projects to take forward that will both provide a better service to citizens alongside contributing to efficiency targets. These plans are built around the expectations of our customers and the Councils customer excellence strategy. The identified projects form part of the wider customer service programme for NBC.

Shared Services

Wellingborough have pulled out of the project to share Revenue and Benefits services. We are therefore in discussions with alternative partners on a range of services which could be shared. A revised bid to fund a project across Northamptonshire was completed in September 2009. This project is looking to engage all local neighbours in order to identify and move forward with shared / joint working initiatives. This bid has been successful and the first stage of the process will be to hold a workshop with neighbouring Councils to gauge interest in projects to take forward.

Revenues

A bid to The Northamptonshire Improvement and Efficiency Partnership to fund the review of our single person discounts was given the full support of the East Midland RIEP on the 27th November. Once commenced this review will provide an increase in the amount of tax we can collect. We expect between 3 and 6% of the current single person discount awards to be cancelled as a result of the review (based on success factors elsewhere). These cancellations are due to the identification nationally of citizens falsely claiming to be the sole occupant. The audit commission has identified such reviews as essential in ensuring we stamp our erroneous claims for discounts.

Northamptonshire Area Procurement Service (NAPS)

NAPS has been asked to contribute to a case study by the EMIEP focusing on our success in equalities and procurement resulting in the award of Level 3 of the Local Government Equality Standard to NBC.

NAPS savings delivered to the end of November of £180k for 2009/2010 outstrip the cost of the providing the service with 4 months still to run and some further savings are expected in energy costs.

David Perkins

Portfolio Holder for Finance



Council – 18th January 2010

Report Title	PROPOSED NEW OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY STRUCTURE
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Agenda Status: PUBLIC

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To submit a report to full Council detailing the option for the proposed new Overview and Scrutiny structure, as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, as suggested by the Overview and Scrutiny Structures Workshop.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That full Council notes the proposed new Overview and Scrutiny structure, as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, as detailed in paragraph 5.2.
- 2.2 That full Council notes that details of the proposed new Overview and Scrutiny structure have been referred to the Constitution Working Party for consideration, and for the Working Party to make proposals for Constitutional change.

3. Background and Issues

- 3.1 A self-evaluation of the Overview and Scrutiny function at Northampton was completed in January 2009, with support from Local Government peers. The evaluation had some very positive outcomes, acknowledging the achievements made in Overview and Scrutiny, some of which have been noted as examples of best practice. Challenges and areas for improvement were also suggested and these were the subject for debate at an Overview and Scrutiny Improvement Plan workshop. This led to the adoption of an Overview and Scrutiny Improvement Plan in July 2009.
- 3.2 The need to review the structure of Overview and Scrutiny was identified at the same time, with a view to ensuring that the Improvement Plan could be delivered within available resources. This was pursued through workshops to which all Councillors were invited. This report presents the outcome of those workshops.
- 3.3 The current Overview and Scrutiny structure comprises an overarching Management Committee with three parent Overview and Scrutiny Committees – Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 (Regeneration, Partnerships, Community Safety and Engagement), Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 (Housing and Environment) and Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 (Performance, Finance and Improvement). Meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees are scheduled on a quarterly basis. Task and Finish Groups are set up by the [Overview and Scrutiny Committees to pursue in-depth review work, which is of interest to both the Council and the public of Northampton.

4 Structure of Overview and Scrutiny Workshop

- 4.1 A workshop, open to all Councillors, was held on 3rd August 2009 to investigate the current Overview and Scrutiny structure and to ascertain whether there was the need to propose a non-complex, flexible Overview and Scrutiny structure to full Council.
- 4.2 Thirteen Councillors were in attendance. Councillors broke into three groups, which in turn each suggested a potential alternative Overview and Scrutiny structure.
- 4.3 Stage 2 of the Overview and Scrutiny Structures Workshop was held on 15th September, the purpose of which was to look at issues in respect of the three proposed Overview and Scrutiny structures that had been put forward at the Workshop on 3rd August and recommend a fit for purpose Overview and Scrutiny structure at Northampton.
- 4.4 The consensus of the workshop was that the proposed structure for Overview and Scrutiny comprise: -
- One Overview and Scrutiny Committee – (12 Members)
 - Three standing Scrutiny Panels – Housing, Regeneration & Planning and Environment. (Nine Members on each Scrutiny Panel)
- 4.5 The Workshop agreed that the new Overview and Scrutiny structure should be introduced at the start of the Municipal Year 2010/11. This would allow for any training needs to be met. It would also mean that current Task and Finish Group programme, and any scheduled Reviews due to commence would be completed by approximately March/April 2010. The new Overview and Scrutiny structure could then begin with a new work programme, the basis of which would be compiled at the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programming day. The Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder's priorities would also inform the Overview and Scrutiny work programme.
- 4.6 It was the consensus of the Workshop that performance monitoring and finance should be the sole responsibility of the Audit Committee and that it be recommended that Overview and Scrutiny would no longer undertake this role.
- 4.7 The Workshop agreed that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, (currently made up of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the existing standing Overview and Scrutiny Committees) in its current form, should be deleted.
- 4.8 It was agreed that it be suggested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the three standing Scrutiny Panels would meet approximately every six weeks, seven meetings of each body, equating to 28 meetings per year.
- 4.9 The need for administrative support to Overview and Scrutiny was noted. Investigations should take place regarding how this could be possible.

5 Option as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

- 5.1 Following discussions with the Borough Solicitor regarding the legal viability of the proposed Overview and Scrutiny structure it was suggested to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee that there were two options for consideration: -

5.2 Option A

- 5.2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee could undertake an overarching management role, its remit would therefore include: -
- Cross cutting Reviews that are not under the remit of the Scrutiny Panels
 - Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder, Councillor Call for Action, Call ins requests and Hearings
 - Northampton Borough Council's representatives on the Northamptonshire Countywide Scrutiny Forum to provide regular progress reports to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - Northampton Borough Council's representative on Northamptonshire County Council's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee to provide regular progress reports to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - Approve the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Panels
 - Approve and co ordinate Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme
 - Allocation of additional work that is not currently within the remit of the three standing Scrutiny Panels – the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could also conduct cross cutting Reviews that were not under the remit of the Scrutiny Panels
 - Training and Development needs
 - Approval of Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report
 - Approval of Overview and Scrutiny Protocols and Guidance notes
 - Approval of the Scrutiny Panel Review reports
 - Pre decision scrutiny and policy development
- 5.2.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would exercise the Local Government Act 2000 powers and would be constituted as a Committee. Proportionality rules would therefore apply. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be chaired by a member of the main Opposition Party.
- 5.2.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would convene on a six weekly cycle, with seven scheduled meetings per year.
- 5.2.4 The Scrutiny Panels would be constituted as Working Groups and would operate similarly to the current Task and Finish Groups, except that they would be 'standing' groups which could develop expertise over a number of reviews on related subjects. Scrutiny Panels would *normally* meet in public and when meeting in public proportionality rules would apply. The Scrutiny Panels would not have scheduled meetings but would set up meetings in accordance to the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme. Membership of the Scrutiny Panels would not be set by full Council but could be made up of expert Councillors in accordance to the issue being reviewed as suggested by the Overview and Scrutiny Structures Workshop.
- ## 5.3 Option B
- 5.3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would have a monitoring role. There would not be the need for it to meet frequently. It could therefore meet at the start of the Municipal year to approve the Overview and Scrutiny work programme. An informal meeting of the Chairs of the three Scrutiny Panels could take place mid-term to report on progress to date. A further formal meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could be scheduled towards the end of the Municipal year to approve the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.

- 5.3.2 Under this proposed model, the Scrutiny Panels would be constituted as formal Committees and therefore rules in accordance to the Local Government Act 2000 would apply, for example proportionality and access to information. The Scrutiny Panels would meet on a six weekly cycle, consisting of seven scheduled meetings for each Scrutiny Panel. Agendas would have to be published at least five working days prior to the meeting of the Scrutiny Panels. Membership to the Scrutiny Panels would be set by Annual Council.
- 5.3.3 The remit of the Scrutiny Panels would include: -
- In-depth Reviews
 - Policy development and pre decision scrutiny
 - Call In requests and Hearings
 - Councillor Calls for Action
 - Monitoring of accepted recommendations in previous Scrutiny Reviews
- 5.3.4 Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder would be allocated to one of the Scrutiny Panels. It must be noted that any Crime and Disorder Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) must be considered by the designated` Crime and Disorder Committee/Panel.
- 5.4 The precise remit of the three panels, whether under option A or B, would need to be determined but in either case it is suggested that the remit be drawn so that between them they ensure coverage of all key public services.

6 Advantages and Disadvantages

6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee paid due regard to the advantages and disadvantages of the two options:

6.2 Option A

6.2.1 Option A would allow for more flexibility, for example, the Scrutiny Panels could elect their own membership, inviting non Executive Councillors with a specific interest or expertise in the issue under review to be a member of the Scrutiny Panel. The Scrutiny Panels' main role would be to undertake in depth Reviews. Scrutiny Panels would be able to dedicate more time to each Review. Meetings would not be subject to access to information rules.

6.2.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would have a defined role for example included within its remit, such as Call In requests and Hearings, Councillor Call for Actions, monitoring of previous Scrutiny Review recommendations and pre decision scrutiny.

6.3 Option B

6.3.1 Option B provides a less flexible structure, with a less defined remit for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Scrutiny Panels would have a weighty workload, which in turn could lead to less in depth Reviews being undertaken. For example, the Scrutiny Panels would have within their remit Call In requests and Hearings, Councillor Call for Actions, monitoring of previous scrutiny Review recommendations and pre decision scrutiny. Access to information would apply to the Scrutiny Panels, therefore, all meetings would be held in public, which could lead to the supply of evidence being less detailed. Scrutiny Panels' reports would be presented directly to Cabinet, the approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would not be required.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 Successful Overview and Scrutiny is dependant upon a process of investigations, analysis and challenge which allows non-Executive Members to question the rationale behind Executive decisions and policies, and to assess how effectively the Council is meeting its legal obligations and policy objectives.
- 7.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed that taking this into consideration, Option A is the preferred method to implement the new proposed Overview and Scrutiny structure as it provides for a more flexible structure and captures many of the issues suggested at the Overview and Scrutiny Structures Workshops. The Committee felt that it would be more open and transparent for the Scrutiny Panels to normally meet in public, with proportionality rules applying.
- 7.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed that: -
- (1) That Option A be the preferred new Overview and Scrutiny Structure, with the proviso that the Scrutiny Panels would normally meet in public and in these cases proportionality rules would apply.
 - (2) That details of the proposed new Overview and Scrutiny structure be forwarded to the Constitution Working Group so that necessary proposed changes to the constitution can be investigated prior to the suggested structure being presented to full Council for approval.
 - (3) That it be recommended to the Constitution Working Group that the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee be invited to be included in discussions in respect of the proposed new Overview and Scrutiny structure and report back to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.
 - (4) That it be recommended to the Constitution Working Group that the new structure for Overview and Scrutiny be implemented from the start of the Municipal year 2010/2011.
 - (5) That it be recommended to the Constitution Working Group that Overview and Scrutiny no longer undertakes the roles of the performance monitoring and finance roles and that these become the sole responsibility of the Audit Committee

8. Implications (including financial implications)

8.1 Policy

- 8.1.1 The work of Overview and Scrutiny plays a major part in the development of the Council's policy framework through its work programme. The structure and remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panels is important in supporting the delivery of the Council's corporate objectives.

8.2 Resources and Risk

- 8.2.1 In order for Overview and Scrutiny to effectively undertake its functions it needs to clearly identify how it would wish to organise its structure. The remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panels needs to be clearly established so that there is not a potential risk in fulfilling the role of holding decision makers to account and supporting effective governance.

8.2.2 There are no financial implications arising. It is also anticipated that the work around Crime and Disorder and Councillor Call for Action can be incorporated within the proposed new structure for Overview and Scrutiny.

8.3 Legal

8.3.1 Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 requires the establishment of one or more Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the adoption of executive arrangements.

8.3.2 Part 3, Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 states that every Local Authority shall ensure that it has a Committee with the powers to review or scrutinise decisions or actions taken in connection with the discharge by responsible Authorities of their crime and disorder functions.

8.4 Equality

8.4.1 Effective Overview and Scrutiny is to the benefit of the citizens of Northampton. An initial screening suggests that a full Equality Impact Assessment is not necessary for this proposal.

8.5 Corporate Objectives

8.5.1 This report has the potential to link with all the Council's Corporate Objectives.

9 Consultees (Internal and External)

9.1 All Councillors were invited to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Structures workshop of 3 August 2009. Thirteen members were in attendance.

9.2 Five Councillors attended Phase 2 of the Overview and Scrutiny Structures Workshop on 15 September 2009.

9.3 The Borough Solicitor.

9.4 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

9.5 All Overview and Scrutiny Councillors have been informed of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's decision.

10 Background Papers

10.1 The key papers are:

- Overview and Scrutiny Improvement Plan
- Notes of the Overview and Scrutiny Structures Workshops held on 3rd August and 15th September 2009.
- Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee of 29 September 2009

Report Author and Title: Tracy Tiff, Overview and Scrutiny Officer, on behalf of Councillor John Yates, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

26 November 2009



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

18 January 2010

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Finance and Support

Report Title	Council Tax Base 2010/11
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1. Summary

The report sets out the calculation of Northampton Borough Council's Tax Base for the year 2010/11 under the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/3012) recommended by Cabinet on 16 December 2009.

2. Recommendations

That the Council Tax Base for 2010/11 be agreed at 66,896 Band D equivalent properties and associated parish tax bases within this.

	2010/11	(2009/10)
Billing	2,716	2,568
Collingtree	517	514
Duston	5,255	5,172
Great Houghton	288	286
Hardinstone	755	743
Upton	1,469	1,302
Wootton & East Hunsbury	6,340	6,331
Northampton (Unparished)	49,556	49,250
Total tax base	66,896	66,166

3. Report Background

Cabinet at its meeting held on 16 December 2009 considered a report (attached as Appendix A) that set out a recommendation for the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2010/11. Council is requested to approve the recommendation set out above and in the Appendix.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Resources and Risk

As set out in the Appendix.

4.2 Legal

As set out in the Appendix.

4.3 Other Implications

As set out in the Appendix.

5. Background Papers

None.

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CABINET REPORT

Report Title	COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010 -2011
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Cabinet Meeting Date:	16 th December 2009
Key Decision:	Yes
Listed on Forward Plan:	Yes
Within Policy:	Yes
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Finance & Support
Accountable Cabinet Member:	David Perkins
Ward(s)	All

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report sets out the calculation of Northampton Borough Council's Tax Base for the year 2010/11 under the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) regulations 2003 (SI 2003/3012).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Council approve the tax base for 2010/11 at 66,896 Band D equivalent properties and associated parish tax bases within this.

	2010/11	(2009/10)
Billing	2,716	2,568
Collingtree	517	514
Duston	5,255	5,172
Great Houghton	288	286
Hardingstone	755	743
Upton	1,469	1,302

Wootton & East Hunsbury	6,340	6,331
Northampton (Unparished)	49,556	49,250
Total tax base	66,896	66,166

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 A summary of the tax base and how this is calculated is attached at Appendix 1. This shows the comparison to 2009/10.
- 3.1.2 The tax base has been adjusted to include the expected outcome of the Single Person Discount Review, which would generate an estimated additional income to the council of £81k. This has been included in the budget report figures.
- 3.1.3 The non-collection rate of council tax remains at 2.5% for the 2010/11 tax base setting. This is a prudent to maintain this level taking into consideration the current financial climate and with estimated Collection Fund deficit in mind. There is currently a deficit on the Collection Fund (the ring-fenced council tax and NNDR account), of which the Council has an allocation along with the County Council and Police Authority. The collection rate is reviewed each year as part of the tax base setting process.
- 3.1.4 The apportioned deficit on the Collection Fund to Northampton Borough Council is estimated to be £171k at the 2009/10 year end. This deficit has been incorporated into the budget for 2010/11.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 The report represents the application of a prescribed process.

3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1 To not set a tax base would render the authority unable to set a council tax.
- 3.3.2 In the methodology to calculate the tax base, the previous decisions made by Council to reduce the discount on second homes, holiday homes and empty, but furnished properties to 10%, instead of the normal 50%, and also to remove the discount on long-term empty properties have been used.
- 3.3.3 Each of these previous decisions, either individually or as a whole, could be reconsidered by Full Council and the discounts reinstated. Any decision to change the current position would have a negative financial impact on the budget report and tax base. The value of the removal of discounts is shown as a band D equivalent in appendix 1.
- 3.3.4 To approve the recommendations in the report

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

None

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 No resource required. The base has to be determined by the 31st January 2010 by Full Council

4.2.2 That the above policy position in respect of discretionary discounts and exemptions be kept under review in respect of future years

4.3 Legal

These are covered within the body of the report.

4.4 Equality

No direct impact on equality context, however any resulting impact on options/ consultations for budgets will have to be considered individually.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

Internal: Finance & Support – Section 151 Officer
Legal Services – Solicitor to the Council

External: None

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

None

4.7 Other Implications

None

5. Background Papers

5.1 Background papers are held within Revenues and Benefits

Council Tax Base 10/11:

Evidence to support the calculations of figures (e. g. system totals, ctb1 return and new build figures)

Ian Tyrer, Revenues Manager
Extension 7451, ityrer@northampton.gov.uk

Council Tax Base for Northampton

09/10		10/11
66,629.40	CTB1 Oct	67,594.50
42.51	Movement in base between Oct and 30th November	44.95
91.56	Second Homes Empty Property (note 1)	89.52
524.69	Planning Assumptions (note 2)	422.72
-1,682.20	Non-Collection 2.5% (note 3)	-1,715.28
559.70	Long-term Empty Homes Discount (note 4)	459.61
66,165.66	Taxbase for Council Tax	66,896.02

NB - all figures are expressed in band "D" equivalent

Note 1	NBC charge 90% rather than 50%, as assumed in CTB1, therefore additional income generated
Note 2	There is an allowance of 72.5% applied to the estimated new build to allow for part year liability.
Note 3	The Non-collection rate has remained at to 2.5% this year to reflect the current financial climate.
Note 4	NBC charge 100% rather than 50%, as assumed in CTB1, therefore additional income generated

Council Tax Base for Northampton (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	30006.00	20876.00	21768.00	10026.00	5249.00	2269.00	1164.00	77.00
2	less exemption	0.00	1521.00	904.00	672.00	218.00	71.00	45.00	22.00	10.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	37.00	65.00	106.00	70.00	31.00	16.00	13.00	5.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	37.00	65.00	106.00	70.00	31.00	16.00	13.00	5.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	2.12	3617.92	1964.71	1601.90	550.74	204.96	78.64	28.35	0.47
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	6.50	8.00	3.50	5.50	6.50	7.00	12.00	10.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	8.50	4.50	6.40	2.60	1.30	0.90	1.10	0.10
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	504.00	235.00	245.00	111.00	25.00	13.00	11.00	2.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	16.975	124.95	159	105.475	37.275	5.175	8.625	0
10	Total	34.89	24897.06	18160.75	19607.21	9315.64	4987.52	2139.64	1101.18	51.43
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	19.38	16598.04	14125.02	17428.63	9315.64	6095.85	3090.58	1835.29	102.86

Total 68611.30**Assume 97.5% collection****Tax Base 66896**

Council Tax Base for Duston (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	887.00	1711.00	2675.00	894.00	463.00	76.00	22.00	2.00
2	less exemption	0.00	42.00	47.00	38.00	17.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	4.00	10.00	13.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	4.00	10.00	13.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.47	125.57	170.65	173.22	39.66	9.67	2.59	0.71	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.70	0.50	0.20	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	11.00	14.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	8.98	10.98	12.70	4.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Total	3.53	724.74	1504.33	2464.56	849.44	454.14	71.42	20.30	1.00
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	1.96	483.16	1170.03	2190.72	849.44	555.05	103.16	33.83	2.00

Total 5389.35 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base **5255**

Council Tax Base for Collingtree (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	5.00	38.00	58.00	27.00	105.00	43.00	127.00	26.00
2	less exemption	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.00	0.47	3.06	3.54	1.41	5.88	1.88	4.01	0.47
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	1.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Total	0.00	4.43	32.95	52.46	25.04	98.13	41.12	122.39	23.53
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	0.00	2.95	25.62	46.63	25.04	119.93	59.40	203.98	47.06

Total 530.62 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base **517**

Council Tax Base for Billing (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	1249.00	809.00	570.00	438.00	300.00	88.00	89.00	1.00
2	less exemption	0.00	37.00	67.00	55.00	32.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	4.00	1.00	3.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	4.00	1.00	3.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.00	151.79	69.23	36.75	20.07	9.87	4.25	2.59	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	15.00	3.00	5.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	65.00	50.98	33.08	5.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Total	4.00	1057.12	739.18	527.73	417.41	291.76	82.76	83.82	0.50
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	2.22	704.74	574.91	469.09	417.41	356.59	119.54	139.69	1.00

Total 2785.19 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base **2716**

Council Tax Base for Great Houghton (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	3.00	31.00	45.00	37.00	114.00	34.00	17.00	0.00
2	less exemption	0.00	0.00	1.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.00	0.00	3.53	4.23	2.59	6.11	0.71	0.47	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Total	0.00	3.00	26.48	38.77	35.42	105.89	34.30	14.53	0.00
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	0.00	2.00	20.59	34.46	35.42	129.42	49.54	24.22	0.00

Total 295.64 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base **288**

Council Tax Base for Hardingstone (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	101.00	167.00	372.00	125.00	82.00	50.00	18.00	0.00
2	less exemption	0.00	2.00	2.00	10.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	1.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	1.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.00	11.06	19.76	26.84	8.02	3.53	2.12	0.47	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Total	1.00	86.94	151.25	329.07	113.88	77.48	47.39	17.43	0.00
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	0.56	57.96	117.64	292.50	113.88	94.69	68.45	29.05	0.00

Total 774.72 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base 755

Council Tax Base for Upton (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	49.00	131.00	598.00	476.00	140.00	132.00	61.00	7.00
2	less exemption	0.00	9.00	2.00	27.00	15.00	2.00	9.00	6.00	0.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.00	3.06	14.82	69.92	43.51	7.77	3.81	0.94	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	3.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.80	0.00	0.10	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	8.00	14.00	25.00	13.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.68	35.58	26.75	3.00	5.00	0.00
10	Total	0.00	36.15	115.18	533.66	447.87	157.98	122.20	56.96	3.00
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	0.00	24.10	89.58	474.36	447.87	193.09	176.50	94.93	6.00

Total 1506.44 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base 1469

Council Tax Base for Wootton & East Hunsbury (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	273.00	1400.00	1728.00	1681.00	1098.00	623.00	207.00	3.00
2	less exemption	0.00	19.00	43.00	35.00	28.00	6.00	6.00	2.00	0.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	0.00	7.00	5.00	5.00	4.00	1.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	0.00	7.00	5.00	5.00	4.00	1.00	3.00	0.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	0.00	45.15	159.98	133.44	83.12	42.42	19.82	5.64	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	0.20	0.40	0.80	0.10	0.10	0.30	0.00	0.00
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	1.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Total	0.00	215.65	1194.62	1558.76	1568.78	1046.48	598.89	195.36	3.00
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	0.00	143.77	929.15	1385.56	1568.78	1279.03	865.06	325.60	6.00

Total 6502.95 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base **6340**

Council Tax Base for the remainder of the Northampton Borough Area (inc. long-term empty homes)

	BAND	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Number on list	0.00	27439.00	16589.00	15722.00	6348.00	2947.00	1223.00	623.00	38.00
2	less exemption	0.00	1412.00	740.00	502.00	121.00	54.00	30.00	10.00	9.00
3	plus disabled from higher band	28.00	47.00	78.00	54.00	21.00	11.00	8.00	3.00	0.00
4	less disabled going into lower band	0.00	28.00	47.00	78.00	54.00	21.00	11.00	8.00	3.00
5	less number of one adult resident household x25%	1.65	3280.83	1523.70	1153.97	352.37	119.73	43.49	13.53	0.00
6	less number of properties with no residents but not exempt x50%	0.00	6.50	7.00	3.00	4.50	6.50	6.50	7.00	5.50
7	less number of second home properties with no residents but not exempt x10%	0.00	6.60	3.50	5.20	2.00	1.10	0.60	0.70	0.10
8	long-term empties x no discount	0.00	469.00	197.00	203.00	84.00	21.00	10.00	7.00	1.00
9	plus f y e for new properties	0.00	16.98	50.98	68.38	22.68	0.00	2.18	3.63	0.00
10	Total	26.36	22769.05	14396.78	14102.21	5857.81	2755.68	1141.59	590.40	20.40
11	conversion to band d equivalent	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
12	band d equivalent	14.64	15179.36	11197.49	12535.29	5857.81	3368.05	1648.96	983.99	40.80

Total 50826.39 **Assume 97.5% collection**

Tax Base **49556**