

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
FINANCE, INNOVATION and PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD

20 July 2016

Report of the Director of Finance and Transformation

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 COUNCIL TAX AND BUSINESS RATES UPDATE REPORT

This report details recent developments in respect of council tax and business rates.

1.1 Collection of council tax and business rates

1.1.1 As at 30 June 2016, the collection rate for council tax stood at 26.74%. For the same period in the year 2015/16, the collection rate was 26.94%.

1.1.2 As at 30 June 2016, the collection rate for business rates stood at 30.22%. For the same period in the year 2015/16, the collection rate was 30.87%.

1.1.3 In respect of the customers receiving a council tax reduction (CTR), approximately 88% of the council tax due for 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 has been paid. For the current financial year, 23.35% has been paid compared to 23.91% for the comparative period in the previous financial year (approx. £8,000 difference).

1.1.4 I am pleased to advise that the number of recovery notices issued this financial year continues to reduce, with approximately 15% fewer notices being sent compared to 2015/16 (see **Annex 1**).

1.1.5 In respect of businesses that have chosen to pay over 12 monthly instalments, there are currently 312 accounts with an annual charge of £15.7m. This equates to roughly 9% of the total number of accounts and 28% of the annual charge.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 None.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 The percentage of council tax and business rates collected during the year impacts on the Council's finances and, consequently, on the level of council tax for future years.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 None.

Background papers:

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1. In respect of the collection of council tax and business rates, data held within Financial Services.

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Director of Finance and Transformation