

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

24 September 2014

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 31 August 2014, the collection rate for council tax stood at 45.27%. For the same period in the year 2013/14, the collection rate was 45.64%.

1.1.2 To gauge the impact of the revised council tax reduction scheme on the collection rate, I am reviewing the amount of recovery notices being issued compared to the previous financial year (see **ANNEX 1**).

1.1.3 Members will see that there has been an increased amount of final notices issued so far this year. I have therefore asked my officers to review the wording on the reminder notices in order to encourage taxpayers to contact the council tax team before their right to pay by instalments is removed.

1.1.4 As at 31 August 2014, the collection rate for business rates stood at 49.87%. For the same period in the year 2013/14, the collection rate was 53.64%.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 Nil.

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 Nil.

Background papers:

Nil

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