



Council Tax Setting 2025/26

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Lead Member/Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Sarah Cox - Portfolio Holder for Corporate Finance, Property and Resources

Corporate Priority:	Ensuring the right conditions to support delivery
Relevant Ward Member(s):	All
Date of consultation with Ward Member(s):	N/A
Exempt Information:	No

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Council to calculate and set the Council Tax for 2025/26 as required under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the 1992 Act).

2. Recommendations

That Council:

- 2.1 **Note the calculations and set the Council Tax for the year 2025/26 made in accordance with requirement set out in the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**

3. Reason for Recommendations

- 3.1 Under the 1992 Act the Council is formally required to set its Council Tax levels for the forthcoming financial year which covers all precepting bodies.

4. Background

- 4.1 The report will provide members with the precept levels for precepting bodies and outline the council tax base for 2025/26 in order to establish the Council Tax requirement for Melton. It will also outline the Band D charges for 2025/26 across all precepting bodies.

5. Main Considerations

5.1 The following precept levels from the relevant precepting bodies have been received which are detailed below:

5.1.1 Parish Councils

The Parish Council Precepts for 2025/26 are detailed in Appendix A and total £911,270. The increase in the average Band D Council Tax for Parish Councils is 8.96% and results in an average Band D Council Tax figure of £84.65 for 2025/26. Parish Councils are not currently subject to the requirements of the referendum rules.

5.1.2 Leicestershire County Council

Leicestershire County Council met on 19 February 2025 and set their precept at £34,401,882. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £1,681.50. The actual payment will be adjusted by a contribution towards a Collection Fund deficit of £96,994 for 2024/25.

5.1.3 Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire

At the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police & Crime Panel meeting on 5 February 2025, the Panel resolved to support the Police & Crime Commissioner's proposal to set their precept at £6,142,425. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £300.23. The actual payment will be adjusted by a contribution towards a Collection Fund deficit of £17,334 for 2024/25.

5.1.4 Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority

Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority met on 5 February 2025 and set their precept at £1,772,834. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £86.65. The actual payment will be adjusted by a contribution towards a Collection Fund deficit of £4,945 for 2024/25.

5.2 Council Tax Base

The following amounts for the year 2025/26 are calculated in accordance with the regulations made under Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011:

5.2.1 20,459.05 being the Council Tax Base for the whole Council area (Item T in the formula in Section 31B).

5.2.2 The Council Tax Base for dwellings in those parts of the Council's area to which a Parish precept relates. These being the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of the Council's area to which one or more special items relate (i.e. tax base for parish's including Melton Mowbray itself).

Parish	2025/26 Band D equivalents
Ab Kettleby	256.44
Asfordby	1,226.75
Belvoir	130.58
Bottesford	1,558.48
Broughton and Old Dalby	676.35
Buckminster	146.41
Burton and Dalby	462.11
Clawson, Hose and Harby	1,157.52
Croxtan Kerrial	237.57
Eaton	335.03
Freeby	122.93
Frisby	345.90
Gaddesby	163.59
Gaddesby (29)	218.14
Garthorpe	33.37
Grimston	134.40
Hoby with Rotherby	329.99
Kirby Bellars	160.31
Knossington & Cold Overton	157.19
Redmile, Barkstone & Plungar	397.74
Scalford	270.41
Somerby	412.82
Sproxton (Sproxton & Saltby)	179.59
Sproxton (Stonesby & Bescaby)	81.11
Stathern	340.42
Twyford and Thorpe Satchville	307.29
Waltham	580.29
Wymondham & Edmondthorpe	342.33
Area of Former Urban District of Melton Mowbray	9,693.99
TOTAL	20,459.05

5.3 The Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2025/26 (excluding Parish precepts) has been calculated at £237.76.

5.4 The following amounts are calculated by the Council for the year 2025/26 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the 1992 Act:-.

- (a) £22,943,234 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to the Council by Parish Councils (**i.e. gross expenditure including parish precepts**).

- (b) £17,167,609 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. **(i.e. gross income including government grants).**
- (c) £5,775,625 being the amount by which the aggregate at 5.8(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 5.8(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the 1992 Act). **(i.e. Council Tax requirement for general, special expenses & parish precepts).**
- (d) £282.30 being the amount at 5.8(c) above (Item R) divided by Item T (the amount at 5.6.1 above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. **(i.e. Band D average Council Tax including general expenses, special expenses and parish precepts).**
- (e) £1,517,939 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act. **(i.e. total Council Tax from all special expenses areas plus parish precepts).**
- (f) £208.11 being the amount at 5.8 (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 5.8(e) above by Item T (5.6.1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate. **(i.e. Band D Council Tax for general expenses only.**
- (g) Part of the Council's Area
being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 5.8 (f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 5.6.2 above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate. **(i.e. Band D Council Tax including all special expenses and parish precepts).**

Parish of:	£
Ab Kettleby	249.06
Asfordby	329.21
Belvoir	353.61
Bottesford	299.05
Broughton and Old Dalby	265.77
Buckminster	254.21
Burton and Dalby	281.72
Clawson, Hose and Harby	311.78
Croxton Kerrial	281.04
Eaton	297.65
Freeby	233.03
Frisby	320.10
Gaddesby	263.12
Gaddesby (29)	293.66
Garthorpe	283.03
Grimston	292.19
Hoby with Rotherby	300.54
Kirby Bellars	273.97
Knossington & Cold Overton	333.84
Redmile, Barkstone & Plungar	321.25
Scalford	300.56
Somerby	302.58
Sproxton (Sproxton & Saltby)	238.80
Sproxton (Stonesby & Bescaby)	325.46
Stathern	309.46
Twyford and Thorpe Satchville	243.91
Waltham	289.02
Wymondham & Edmondthorpe	275.30
Area of:	
Former Urban District of Melton Mowbray	266.65

(h)

Part of the Council's Area

The amounts of attached schedule in Appendix B being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 5.8(f) and 5.8(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands. **(i.e. Council Tax across all bands for general and special expenses and parish precepts).**

5.5 That it be noted that for the year 2025/26 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the 1992 Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<u>Precepting Authority</u>	<u>Valuation Band</u>							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Leicestershire County Council	1,121.00	1,307.83	1,494.67	1,681.50	2,055.17	2,428.83	2,802.50	3,363.00
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire	200.15	233.51	266.87	300.23	366.95	433.67	500.38	600.46
Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority	57.77	67.39	77.02	86.65	105.91	125.16	144.42	173.30

5.6 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3.4(h) and 3.5 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the 1992 Act, hereby sets the amounts of the attached schedule in Appendix C as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2025/26 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below: (i.e. fully inclusive Council Tax across all bands).

6 Options Considered

6.1 It is a requirement for the Council to calculate and set the Council Tax for 2025/26 as required under the 1992 Act.

7 Consultation

7.1 Consultation has not been undertaken.

8 Next Steps – Implementation and Communication

8.1 Once approved the Council will be working on preparing the relevant Council Tax bills to be sent out to residents.

9 Financial Implications

9.1 The above figures reflect the financial position as set out in the Council's budget for 2025/26 with the actual impact on the Band D Council Tax summarised in the table below.

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	Increase %
Melton Borough Council (average for whole area excluding Parish Councils)	230.85	237.76	2.99
Leicestershire County Council (including 2% social care levy)	1,601.58	1,681.50	4.99
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire	286.23	300.23	4.89
Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority	81.65	86.65	6.12
Parish Councils (average for whole area)	77.69	84.65	8.96
Average for whole area (including precepts)	2,241.29	2,350.68	4.88

Financial Implications reviewed by: Director for Corporate Services

10 Legal and Governance Implications

- 10.1 Section 31 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the 1992 Act) stipulates that the council must set a lawful and balanced budget and Council Tax level for 2025/26 before the statutory deadline of 11 March 2025. In developing any proposals for budget changes, the necessary Equality Impact Assessments and any consultation processes will need to be followed.
- 10.2 The report sets out the calculations required under the 1992 Act as amended by the Localism Act 2011.
- 10.3 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a new Chapter into the 1992 Act, which requires a referendum to be held if an authority proposes to increase its Council tax by an amount which exceeds principles determined by the Secretary of State. The Government passes regulations allowing Councils to raise Council Tax by a maximum amount. Any higher increase must be approved by a local referendum. The Council Tax levels proposed in this report do not exceed the amount, and if approved by Council, may be implemented without the need for a referendum.
- 10.4 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the S151 officer to report to Council when it is setting the budget and precept (council tax). Members are required to act prudently when setting the budget and council tax so that they act in a way that considers local taxpayers. The council must decide every year how much they are going to raise from council tax. The decision is based on a budget that sets out estimates of what is planned to be spent on services. Because the level of council tax is set before the year begins and cannot be increased during the year, risks and uncertainties that might force higher spending on services than planned must be considered. Allowance is made for these risks by making prudent allowances in the estimates for services; and ensuring that there are adequate reserves to draw on if the service estimates turn out to be insufficient.
- 10.5 Section 106 of the 1992 Act prohibits a councillor from voting on a calculation which might affect the calculation of the Council's budget if he or she has an outstanding council tax debt of over two months. If a member is present at any meeting at which relevant matters are discussed, they must disclose that section 106 applies and may not vote. Failure to comply with this provision is a criminal offence.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Monitoring Officer.

11 Equality and Safeguarding Implications

11.1 There are no direct equality or safeguarding issues arising from this report.

12 Data Protection Implications (Mandatory)

12.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed because there are no risks to the rights and freedoms of natural persons arising directly from this report.

13 Community Safety Implications

13.1 There are no Community Safety implications as a result of this report.

14 Environmental and Climate Change Implications

14.1 There are no environmental or climate change implications.

15 Risk & Mitigation

15.1 There are no specific risks associated with this report.

16 Background Papers.

16.1 There are no background papers.

17 Appendices

17.1 Appendix A - Parish Council Precepts 2025/26.

17.2 Appendix B - Council Tax Band Charges for General Fund, SEA's and Parishes 2025/26.

17.3 Appendix C - Council Tax Band Charges for all 2025/26.