

REPORT OF CABINET

(Meetings held on 13 December 2004)

1. AGENDA ITEM 3 – (REPORT A) THE COUNCIL TAX BASE 2005/06 – SETTING THE TAX BASE (MINUTE NO. 93)

The Cabinet has agreed in so far as it is empowered to do so by law the calculation of the Council tax base for 2005/06. The tax base is in effect, the estimated number of dwellings in the district, modified to take account of the different proportions payable, discounts and other reductions.

Separate tax bases have to be made for each band in each parish and town. The tax calculation has to be made between 1 December and 31 January and notified to the county council by 31 January.

The Cabinet are now recommending that the Council should also agree the calculation of the Council tax base is so far as it is empowered to do so by law.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) *That the Council be recommended, in so far as it is empowered to do so by law, to approve the calculation of the Council Tax Base for the year 2005/06 as set out in (b) below; and*
- (b) *pursuant to this report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) Regulations 2003, the amount calculated by this Council as its council tax base for the year 2005/06 be as follows and as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report B to the Council on 13 December 2004:*

PARISH/TOWN	TAX BASE 05/06
<i>Ashurst & Colbury</i>	<i>920.5</i>
<i>Beaulieu</i>	<i>516.0</i>
<i>Boldre</i>	<i>1060.3</i>
<i>Bramshaw</i>	<i>341.6</i>
<i>Bransgore</i>	<i>1852.8</i>
<i>Breamore</i>	<i>179.0</i>
<i>Brockenhurst</i>	<i>1766.6</i>
<i>Burley</i>	<i>777.1</i>
<i>Copythorne</i>	<i>1215.0</i>
<i>Damerham</i>	<i>235.1</i>
<i>Denny Lodge</i>	<i>155.4</i>
<i>East Boldre</i>	<i>397.8</i>
<i>Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley</i>	<i>591.0</i>
<i>Exbury & Lepe</i>	<i>113.3</i>

PARISH/TOWN	TAX BASE 05/06
<i>Fawley</i>	4820.8
<i>Fordingbridge</i>	2296.7
<i>Godshill</i>	213.3
<i>Hale</i>	268.0
<i>Hordle</i>	2389.8
<i>Hyde</i>	501.9
<i>Hythe & Dibden</i>	7649.0
<i>Lymington & Pennington</i>	6791.8
<i>Lyndhurst</i>	1378.0
<i>Marchwood</i>	1979.6
<i>Martin</i>	189.3
<i>Milford on Sea</i>	2662.5
<i>Minstead</i>	368.6
<i>Netley Marsh</i>	821.5
<i>New Milton</i>	10712.6
<i>Ringwood</i>	5326.3
<i>Rockbourne</i>	166.6
<i>Sandleheath</i>	267.3
<i>Sopley</i>	305.2
<i>Sway</i>	1627.3
<i>Totton & Eling</i>	9725.5
<i>Whitsbury</i>	100.5
<i>Woodgreen</i>	249.3
<i>Whole District</i>	70932.9

**2. AGENDA ITEM 4 – (REPORT B) GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SCHEME
(MINUTE NO. 94)**

The Council has been set a statutory recycling target of 40% in 2005/06. This will be very difficult and expensive to achieve. The Council's Waste Strategy proposes a garden waste collection scheme as a means of boosting the recycling rate and of providing a more sustainable option for dealing with garden waste. Currently green garden waste taken to recycling centres does not contribute towards the district's recycling performance.

The Cabinet has therefore agreed, subject to the Council's approval of the supplementary estimate set out below, to the implementation of Garden Waste Collection Scheme, as set out in Report B to the Cabinet, with effect from 14 March 2005.

Hampshire County Council has been awarded a grant of £5m for 2004/05 and 2005/06 for improvements to Waste Management in the county. Approximately £120,000 of this grant is available to purchase a vehicle for a garden waste collection scheme in New Forest. In addition the Council has made an application to DEFRA for additional funds of £22,700 to cover the start up costs of such a scheme in 2004/05.

It is proposed that re-useable 110 litre polypropylene sacks are issued to householders at an annual collection charge of £25 for the first bag and £15 for each subsequent bag. The sacks could be used for all compostable garden waste and would be collected on a fortnightly basis in a refuse collection vehicle dedicated to that purpose. The sale of the current grey garden waste sacks will be phased out over a period of time.

If the DEFRA grant is used to purchase a garden waste collection vehicle then making the annual charges will cover all of the running costs of the scheme. HCC will meet the cost of processing the garden waste into compost.

Members noted that an agreement had now been reached with Hampshire County Council in relation to the transfer station sites for the garden waste. The sites would be situated at Somerley and Blue Hayes, Ringwood. In view of this the Cabinet agreed that it would be sensible to change the area for the pilot scheme to cover the areas of Ashurst, Barton, Bransgore, Fordingbridge, Lyndhurst, Milford-on-Sea and Ringwood for ease of collection and transfer.

The Environment Review Panel has considered and recommended the proposal.

RECOMMENDED:

That a supplementary estimate of £22,700 in 2004/05 be approved to enable the introduction of a Garden Waste Collection Scheme and the expenditure plans for 2005/06 onwards be amended accordingly.

**Cllr M J Kendal
CHAIRMAN**