



Friday, 24 December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

A meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee will be held on Thursday, 6 January 2022 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Foster Avenue, Beeston NG9 1AB, commencing at 7.00 pm.

Should you require advice on declaring an interest in any item on the agenda, please contact the Monitoring Officer at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully

Chief Executive

To Councillors:	G Marshall (Chair)	P J Owen
	S J Carr (Vice-Chair)	S Paterson
	B C Carr	M Radulovic MBE
	E Cubley	P D Simpson
	S Easom	P Roberts-Thomson
	E Kerry	E Williamson
	P Lally	

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies and notification of substitutes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interest in any item on the agenda.

3. MINUTES

(Pages 3 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2021.

4. GRANT AID REQUESTS FROM KIMBERLEY TOWN COUNCIL (Pages 7 - 12)

To consider requests for grant assistance in accordance with the protocol for the consideration of grant aid to parish and town councils.

5. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2022/23 (Pages 13 - 16)

To approve the Council Tax Base for the year 2022/23.

6. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2022/23 (Pages 17 - 18)

To seek approval for arrangements to operate in 2022/23 in respect of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme.

7. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 19 - 20)

To consider items for inclusion in the Work Programme for future meetings.

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2021

Present: Councillor G Marshall, Chair

Councillors: S J Carr (Vice-Chair)
B C Carr
E Cubley
S Easom
P J Owen
S Paterson
M Radulovic MBE
P D Simpson
P Roberts-Thomson
E Williamson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Kerry and P Lally.

42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S J Carr, G Marshall and M Radulovic MBE declared a non-pecuniary interest on agenda item 13 and 14 as they were members of Beeston Town Centre Board. Minute numbers 53 and 54 refers.

Councillor S Easom declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 as being a Director on the Liberty Leisure board. Minute number 48 refers.

Councillor T Hallam and S Paterson declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 as being a member Stapleford Town Council. Minute number 47 refers.

43 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2021 were confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the amendment of the Councillor S J Carr and G Marshall declaring an interest due to their involvement in Beeston Town Centre Board.

44 REFERENCES

44.1 COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the Cycle Theft Prevention Action Plan.

RESOLVED that supplementary funding of £2,500 to deliver the plan be approved.

44.2 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

The Committed considered the 2022/23 garden waste subscription fees.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. The price for the first bin for 2022/23 be increased by £1.00**
- 2. The price for additional bins for 2022/23 be increased by £1.00**

45 RENT AND CHARGES 2022/2023

Members considered the proposed rent increase for 2022/2023. Rent and other charges would be increased annually by CPI + 1%. The CPI as at September prior to the April of implementation would be used.

RESOLVED that the 2022/2023 rent and charges increase be approved.

46 GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, CHARITABLE BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SPORTS, THE ARTS AND DISABILITY MATTERS 2021/22

Members considered the requests for grant aid in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Grant Aid Policy from the Toton Coronation Hall Community Association and 5th Stapleford Scout Group.

RESOLVED that grants be awarded as follows:

<u>Applicant</u>					<u>Grant 2020/21</u> £
Toton Coronation Hall Community Association				1	7,000
5 th Stapleford Scout Group				2	4,500

47 GRANT AID REQUESTS FROM PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

Members were asked to consider requests for grant assistance in accordance with the protocol for the consideration of grant aid to parish and town councils.

RESOLVED that grants be awarded as follows:

<u>Applicant</u>					<u>Grant 2020/21</u> £
Awsworth Parish Council				1	7,000
Stapleford Town Council				2	1,994

48 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 UPDATE

The Committee considered the capital expenditure incurred in 2021/22 up to 30 September 2021 with the planned financing of the 2021/22 capital programme and a capital budget variation in the current financial year.

Capital expenditure totalling £6,778,712 (31% of the planned capital programme) had been incurred by 30 September 2021.

RESOLVED that the capital budget variation set out in appendix 3 be approved.

49 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2021/22 - MID YEAR REPORT TO 31 OCTOBER 2021

The Committee considered the treasury management activity and the actual prudential indicators for 2021/22 for the period up to 31 October 2021.

Regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 require the Council to fulfil the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities when undertaking its treasury management activities.

50 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT - REVIEW OF BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS - SUPPORT SERVICE AREAS

The Committee noted the performance and progress made in achieving the actions in the Business Plans 2021-24 for the support service areas.

51 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the work programme.

RESOLVED that the Work Programme be approved.

52 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 5 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

53 PROVISION OF NEW PUBLIC TOILETS IN BEESTON

A recorded vote to approve option 1 was proposed by Councillor M Radulovic MBE and seconded by Councillor G Marshall.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
B C Carr	E Cubley	S Easom
S J Carr	P J Owen	P M Roberts-Thomson
G Marshall	P D Simpson	T Hallam
S Paterson	H Khaled MBE	
M Radulovic MBE		
E Williamson		

RESOLVED that option 1 be approved.

54 BEESTON SQUARE PHASE 1 RENTAL AND OTHER DEBTS

RESOLVED the delegate to the Deputy Chief Executive the authority to negotiate and finalise any revised lease and payment / write-off arrangements, in consultation with the Chair of this Committee and subject to reporting back the outcomes to this Committee.

55 TRAM COMPENSATION - VERBAL UPDATE

The Committee noted the verbal updated.

56 IRRECOVERABLE ARREARS

RESOLVED that the arrears in excess of £1,200 on national non-domestic rates, council tax, rents, housing/council tax benefit overpayment and sundry debtors as set out in the report be written off and to note the exercise of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority under financial regulation 5.9.

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

GRANT AID REQUESTS FROM KIMBERLEY TOWN COUNCIL1. Purpose of report

To consider requests for grant assistance in accordance with the protocol for the consideration of grant aid to parish and town councils.

2. Grant aid applications

Four grant aid requests have been received from Kimberley Town Council for consideration.

- A revenue grant of £1,200 towards the full cost of its recent Remembrance Sunday event.
- A revenue grant of up to £6,700 towards the full cost of its recent Christmas lights switch-on event.
- A revenue grant of up to £1,005 towards the cost of the electricity supply for the defibrillator to be situated on Cliffe Boulevard in Kimberley.
- A capital grant of up to £6,700 towards the cost of disabled access works at the Stag Recreation Ground on Nottingham Road, Kimberley.

The requests for funding towards the remembrance event and festive activities are being considered retrospectively having been received too late for consideration at the December meeting of this Committee.

Details of the applications are included in appendix 1. The agreed protocol for assessing grant aid to parish and town councils is provided in appendix 2 with the grants previously awarded under this scheme listed in appendix 3.

3. Financial position

A permanent annual 'cash' budget of £20,000 for grant aid to parish and town councils was approved by this Committee on 10 October 2019 to support parish and town councils in meeting the cost of activities and events. Currently, £6,511 remains uncommitted in this budget for 2021/22.

No budgetary provision exists for capital grants to parish councils and the overall capital contingencies budget has been fully committed in 2021/22. If Members wished to support the capital request from Kimberley, an award could be made from the above remaining provision for grants to parish councils.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to CONSIDER the requests and RESOLVE accordingly.

Background papers – Nil

APPENDIX 1

1. Kimberley Town Council – Remembrance Sunday Event

Kimberley Town Council has requested a retrospective grant of £1,200 towards the full cost of its recent Remembrance Sunday event.

The Kimberley Remembrance Parade took place on 14 November 2021. It started at the Holy Trinity Church, with a road closure from the church up to the War Memorial on the corner of Greens Lane. A short service and wreath laying took place at the memorial.

This event is important to the residents of Kimberley and is always well supported, especially from the town's remaining veterans. The total costs incurred were £1,200, which included £1,075 for traffic management. Other costs included the hire of a public address system and the services of a bugler.

2. Kimberley Town Council – Christmas Lights Switch-On Event

Kimberley Town Council has requested a retrospective grant of up to £6,700 towards the full cost of its recent Christmas lights switch-on event.

The event took place on 26 November 2021 on Toll Bar Square and Newdigate Street in Kimberley with stalls, fun ride and Santa's grotto in the hall. The estimated number of people attending the event was 1,300.

The total cost of the event was around £6,700 and included traffic management (£1,025), security (£763), equipment hire including the stage (£875), Liberty Leisure assistance (£1,100), fireworks (£2,450), entertainers (£280) and first aid support (£216). Kimberley Town Council indicated that no other financial aid was anticipated for this event.

3. Kimberley Town Council – Electrical connection for Defibrillator

Kimberley Town Council has requested a revenue grant of up to £1,005 towards the cost of connecting the electricity supply for the new defibrillator situated on Cliffe Boulevard in Kimberley.

A defibrillator has been obtained, which was part-grant funded by Broxtowe Borough Council for the installation in a refurbished telephone box situated on Cliffe Boulevard. It has since been identified that a new electrical supply is required and a quotation of £1,006 has been received from Western Power for these works.

Members will recall similarly supporting Kimberley Town Council, as recently as January and March 2021, with two grant awards of £1,200 each towards the purchase of defibrillators to be located on Cliffe Boulevard (to which this application refers) and in the Swingate area of Kimberley.

Members should note that Kimberley Town Council stated in its earlier applications that it would be responsible for the repairs and maintenance and inspection of the facility and meet the cost of any power supply required.

4. Kimberley Town Council – Improved Disabled Access Stag Recreation Ground

Kimberley Town Council has requested a capital grant towards the cost of disabled access works at the Stag Recreation Ground on Nottingham Road in Kimberley costing £6,700.

The Town Council indicate that several road bumps have been installed on the access road to the Stag Recreation Ground for health and safety reasons. It has since been identified that these road bumps create a problem for disabled users of the site. In order to alleviate these difficulties for the disabled users, Kimberley has commissioned a scheme to tarmac the current grassed area at the side of the access road.

The works costing £6,700, which have already been completed the contractors, were for tarmac and included excavation, removal of any waste, installation of edging curbs, installation of weed suppressant membrane; installation of hardcore and tarmac.

Financial Information

The closing balance of Kimberley Town Council funds as at 31 March 2021 was £305,996 (£289,796 in 2020). Although the Town Council has considerable funds, a significant proportion of these funds are earmarked for either the extensive modernisation or complete replacement of the Town Hall, which is now 60-years-old. This is similarly the case in respect of other recreational buildings in the Town, as confirmed in a full building structural report received last year. The current Kimberley Town Council annual precept is £123,877 in 2021/22.

The draft budget projection for 2022/23 predicts a surplus of around £12,500 to be presented to the Town Council on 20 January 2022. The intention of Kimberley Town Council, at this stage, is for no increase in Council Tax payments per household.

Kimberley Town Council is considering the replacement of the current list of Earmarked Reserves to one consisting of Capital Receipts Reserves, Earmarked Reserves and General Reserves, with a predicted sum of £320,000 by 31 March 2022.

APPENDIX 2

Protocol for consideration of grant aid to parish and town councils

The protocol for the consideration of grant aid requests from parish and town councils was agreed by Cabinet on 8 June 2010. The key provisions are:

1. Grant aid will only be given in support of specific projects or services and not as a general grant towards the services provided by a parish/town council.
2. Revenue grant aid will only be considered towards services which act as a replacement for services which otherwise Broxtowe Borough Council would have to provide or which supplement services which the borough council provides so as to reduce the costs that Broxtowe would otherwise incur.
3. In applying for grant assistance the parish/town council will need to demonstrate how the service or project in question contributes to Broxtowe's aims and objectives as laid out in the Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy.
4. In applying for grant aid assistance the parish/town council will need to provide evidence as to why they do not have the financial resources to provide the services or project in question and what the consequences would be for local residents and businesses if the service was withdrawn or the project not completed. This will include a requirement for the parish/town council to detail what other funding sources they have secured (or otherwise) and to provide a statement as to any reserves held and their planned use.
5. Preference will be given to support for the provision of mandatory services as compared with discretionary services.
6. Where grant aid is to cover the cost of a specified service, the parish/town council will be responsible at its own cost for providing an audited statement within six months of the end of the financial year concerned to confirm the amount of expenditure incurred and income received against which grant aid may be payable. Any grant payable would then be adjusted retrospectively if necessary following receipt of such an audited statement.
7. Grant aid will only be in respect of additional costs directly incurred by the parish/town council and will not cover the cost of any general overheads which the parish/town council would otherwise incur anyway as a result of their operations.
8. Grant aid will be cash limited in each year and the responsibility for costs increasing beyond the cash limit will normally rest with the parish/town council. Where such cost increases are considered to be unavoidable and beyond the parish/town council's control, then Broxtowe may be approached to seek a further grant award.

9. Where the parish/town council wishes to vary the service provided for which grant aid has been awarded, this should only take place after full consultation and with the agreement of Broxtowe.
10. Preference will be given towards one off capital projects rather than as a regular annual contribution towards the ongoing costs of providing services.
11. The parish/town council shall be required to provide such information as Broxtowe may reasonably request as to the actual outputs and outcomes arising from any service or project where Broxtowe makes a contribution.
12. Any grant contribution that may be awarded by Broxtowe need not be at the rate of 100% of net expenditure incurred but may be at a lesser rate to reflect such as its own corporate priorities, budgetary constraints or the availability of similar services or projects elsewhere.
13. Revenue grants will normally only be awarded for one year although an indicative amount for the following year may be given at Broxtowe's discretion. Capital grant aid will be towards the cost of a specific one-off project.
14. Requests for grant aid in respect of a particular financial year should normally be submitted by the end of October of the preceding year at the latest to assist with forward budget planning for both Broxtowe and the parish/town council. Broxtowe will endeavour to make a decision on such requests by the end of December in the year preceding that for which grant aid is requested.

APPENDIX 3

Grant Aid Awards to Parish/Town Councils

The table below lists the grants awarded under this scheme since 2014/15.

Date	Council	Amount	Purpose
01/04/14	Nuthall Parish Council	£2,000	War memorial construction (Capital)
16/10/14	Nuthall Parish Council	£2,500	Cemetery maintenance
02/06/15	Cossall Parish Council	£350	Memorial plaque
19/04/16	Eastwood Town Council	£5,000	Building refurbishment works (Capital)
04/07/16	Greasley Parish Council	£4,000	Upgraded heating system (Capital)
19/09/16	Awsorth Parish Council	£5,000	Heating system replacement (Capital)
09/01/17	Brinsley Parish Council	£4,000	Play facility repairs/replace (Capital)
03/10/17	Nuthall Parish Council	£1,820	Remembrance parade
12/10/17	Greasley Parish Council	£1,000	Christmas lights event
12/10/17	Nuthall Parish Council	£3,395	Cemetery maintenance
26/04/18	Nuthall Parish Council	£12,000	Cemetery roadway surface (Capital)
26/04/18	Nuthall Parish Council	£2,000	Summer Youth Club
11/10/18	Greasley Parish Council	£647	WW1 commemoration sculpture
15/08/19	Brinsley Parish Council	£2,070	Summer play day
10/10/19	Awsorth Parish Council	£1,250	Kitchen Refurbishment – Pavilion
10/10/19	Brinsley Parish Council	£2,300	Tree planting – commemoration
10/10/19	Nuthall Parish Council	£1,855	Remembrance parade
10/10/19	Stapleford Town Council	£2,010	Remembrance event
10/10/19	Trowell Parish Council	£3,500	Car park refurbishment
13/02/20	Brinsley Parish Council	£1,000	Festive lighting display
13/02/20	Brinsley Parish Council	£1,225	VE Day celebrations 2020
07/01/21	Kimberley Town Council	£1,200	New defibrillator
30/03/21	Kimberley Town Council	£1,200	New defibrillator
07/10/21	Nuthall Parish Council	£1,905	Remembrance parade
07/10/21	Nuthall Parish Council	-	£2,950 award pending for new defibrillators
09/12/21	Awsorth Parish Council	£7,000	Play area improvements (Capital)
09/12/21	Stapleford Town Council	£1,994	Remembrance Sunday Event

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2022/23

1. Purpose of report

To approve the Council Tax Base for the year 2022/23.

2. Detail

The 2022/23 Council Tax Base has now been calculated in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012. Details are given in the appendices.

<u>Recommendation</u>

Committee is asked to RESOLVE that based on the number of band D equivalent properties and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, Broxtowe Borough Council calculates its Council Tax Base for the year 2022/23 as follows:

1. For the whole of its area 34,530.00.
2. In respect of Parish Precepts and Special Expenses for those parts of its area mentioned in the table below, the amounts specified therein –

<u>Part of Council's Area</u>	<u>Area Council Tax Base</u>
Awsworth	606.78
Brinsley	695.96
Cossall	216.56
Eastwood	3,017.84
Greasley	3,727.31
Kimberley	1,855.54
Nuthall	2,266.30
Stapleford	4,178.70
Strelley	179.15
Trowell	832.42
 <u>Special Expenses Area</u>	
Beeston Area	16,953.44

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX 1

The Council Tax Base is calculated on the estimated full year equivalent number of chargeable dwellings expressed as the equivalent number of band D dwellings in the Council's area after allowing for dwelling demolitions and completions during the year, Council Tax exemptions, discounts, disabled reliefs and premiums, and the estimated collection rate.

Under the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS), the Council Tax Base is affected by whether persons living in a dwelling within an authority area are in receipt of a Council Tax reduction awarded under the Scheme, as the billing authority foregoes Council Tax income from those dwellings. These local Council Tax reductions are reflected in the calculation of the Council Tax Base, in order to calculate the correct amount of band D Council Tax for the billing and precepting authorities in the area.

The calculated Council Tax Base for the Borough for the full year commencing 1 April 2022, assuming a 98.5% collection rate, is **34,530.00**. Separate calculations are required to be made for the parishes and special expenses areas. The table below gives a comparison of the Council Tax Base for 2021/22 with the proposed figures for 2022/23 so that Members can see the growth between years.

Part of Council's area	Council Tax Base 2021/22	<u>Proposed</u> Council Tax Base 2022/23	Change
Awsorth	611.38	606.78	-0.75%
Brinsley	690.26	695.96	0.83%
Cossall	212.88	216.56	1.73%
Eastwood	2,932.81	3,017.84	2.90%
Greasley	3,693.75	3,727.31	0.91%
Kimberley	1,845.06	1,855.54	0.57%
Nuthall	2,267.65	2,266.30	-0.06%
Stapleford	4,133.03	4,178.70	1.11%
Strelley	173.92	179.15	3.01%
Trowell	824.48	832.42	0.96%
Beeston Special Expenses Area	16,832.24	16,953.44	0.72%
TOTAL	34,217.46	34,530.00	0.91%

The Council Tax Base figures will be notified to the parish and town councils in order that they may calculate their precepts. The overall summary for the Borough Council area broken down by band of property is shown in appendix 2.

APPENDIX 2

Band	No of Dwellings	% of Total	Chargeable Dwellings	Equivalent Discounts at 25%	Empty Homes Premium 100%	Empty Homes Premium 200%	Equivalent No of Dwellings	Ratio to Band D	Chargeable Band D Equivalent Properties	CTS Reduction on average Band D	LCTSS Adjustment Band D Equivalent	No of Dwellings Relevant to Band D
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(6a)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
A DPR	0	0	30	11	0	0	27.25	0.556	15.14	7.50	4.17	10.97
A	16698	32.72%	16130.4	8595.6	39	54	14074.50	0.667	9383.00	3135.24	2090.16	7292.84
B	13199	25.86%	12893	4517	31	12	11806.75	0.778	9183.03	963.23	749.18	8433.85
C	11041	21.63%	10895	3236	15	12	10113.00	0.889	8989.33	427.45	379.96	8609.38
D	6043	11.84%	5987	1399	8	6	5651.25	1.000	5651.25	111.28	111.28	5539.97
E	2733	5.35%	2723	462	0	0	2607.50	1.222	3186.94	47.91	58.56	3128.39
F	805	1.58%	779	142	4	2	749.50	1.444	1082.61	11.99	17.32	1065.29
G	493	0.97%	485	101	3	2	464.75	1.667	774.58	2.00	3.33	771.25
H	28	0.05%	23	17	0	0	18.75	2.000	37.50	0.00	0.00	37.50
Totals	51040	100%	49945.4	18480.6	100	88	45513.25		38303.39	4706.60	3413.95	34889.44

CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE 2022/23

Council Tax including estimated collection rate of 98.5%	34,366.10
Add: Band D equivalents for class O dwellings	163.90
Council Tax Base for Broxtowe Borough Council	<u>34,530.00</u>

NOTES (figures may not add up exactly due to rounding)

1. Column 4 equals column 2 less estimated exempt properties.
2. Column 7 equals column 4 less 25% of column 5 plus column 6 and 6a.
3. Column 9 equals column 7 multiplied by column 8.
4. Column 12 equals column 9 less column 11.

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Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2022/231. Purpose of report

To seek approval for arrangements to operate in 2022/23 in respect of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS).

2. Background

Members will recall that council tax benefit ceased at the end of 2012/13 and was replaced by a Local Council Tax Support Scheme defined by each Authority. Cabinet considered the LCTSS on 27 November 2012 and the new scheme was approved by Council on 19 December 2012. The new scheme was effectively the government's default scheme with due allowance being made to allow the continuation of the discretionary policy relating to the treatment of war pensions.

The current scheme allows for up to 100% of the council tax liability to be paid in council tax support. The majority of councils have not adopted this approach. Most have passed some of the reduction in funding on to LCTSS recipients. The council had benefitted from the overall bill for LCTSS falling from 2013/14 to 2016/17 as the numbers of claimants requiring support had reduced. Since 2017/18, the level of LCTSS has risen slightly each year, with a significant increase in 2020/21 as a result of the pandemic. The other increases can be attributed to the overall Council Tax charge, including those placed by other precepting authorities.

3. Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the proposals in respect of LCTSS. The 2022/23 budget will be set on the basis of existing estimates of take-up and collection.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RECOMMEND to Council that the current LCTSS remains in place for 2022/23.

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX

1. Council Tax Support to Date

The Council has maintained a consistent approach to the administration of LCTSS, which has been influential in the continued high level of Council Tax collection. Many councils adopted schemes which required all those Council Tax payers receiving support to pay a minimum of 8.5% up to 100% of their liability.

In doing this, they have seen a significant increase in the number of small levels of Council Tax required to collect, with the associated costs that come with this approach. At Broxtowe, the methodology of continuing with a scheme, almost identical to Council Tax Benefit, has ensured a greater understanding for the people of the borough, whilst also seeing an improvement in relation to collection.

The estimated charge for the LCTSS in 2021/22 is £7,044,917. This is a reduction from 2020/21, which was high as a result of additional funding received to support households during the pandemic.

Year	LCTSS charge (£)
2020/21	7,889,034
2019/20	6,858,435
2018/19	6,786,378
2017/18	6,676,016
2016/17	6,661,822
2015/16	6,799,286

2. Proposals for 2022/23 Onwards

The current scheme has worked successfully with no administration issues. Although the overall LCTSS spend has increased, it is still felt that this outweighs the increase in expenditure that would be incurred in recovering or writing off small amounts of Council Tax charge.

From 2014/15 the LCTSS grant to local authorities has not been separately identified but has been subsumed within the overall funding assessment. The government has on several occasions indicated that it has made no moves to further reduce funding towards the LCTSS but this cannot be quantified due to the lack of a financial breakdown.

The issue to be resolved, therefore, is whether or not the Council wishes to change from the current arrangements to claw back some of the reduction in funding that the government is imposing. Any scheme changes would have to go through a formal consultation process and so a decision is required at the earliest stage, not only to complete the consultation, but to allow for the planning of any scheme changes within the system itself.

Report of the Executive Director

WORK PROGRAMME

1. Purpose of report

To consider items for inclusion in the Work Programme for future meetings.

2. Background

Items which have already been suggested for inclusion in the Work Programme of future meetings are given below. Members are asked to consider any additional items that they may wish to see in the Programme.

10 February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Proposals and Associated Strategies • Business Plans and Financial Estimates 2022/23-2024/25 • Performance Management – Review of Business Plan Progress – Support Service Areas • Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations • Irrecoverable Arrears. • Budget Consultation Responses • Telephone System
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<u>Recommendation</u>

The Committee is asked to CONSIDER the Work Programme and RESOLVE accordingly.

Background papers

Nil

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