

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20210130**
Date FOI Received: **2/03/2021**
Department: **Finance**
Title: **Council Tax increase 2021-22 usage**
Description: **Council tax increases 2021-2022**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

- a) By what percentage do you plan to increase council tax by in 2021-22?
b) Providing that you are increasing council tax, much do you estimate the rise will raise in 2021-22?
I assume in setting the Budget your council will know how much additional funding it will raise
c) if the funding generated via council tax increases has been earmarked for specific services, please list what services they include

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

- a) By what percentage do you plan to increase council tax by in 2021-22?

Hertsmere Borough Council increased our share of the 2021/22 council tax by £5 for a Band D property, which is the equivalent of 2.74% from the 2020/21 council tax charge . You can find details of the 2021/22 Council tax charge in the link below:

www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Council-tax/Bands-and-charges/council-tax-charges.aspx

- b) Providing that you are increasing council tax, much do you estimate the rise will raise in 2021-22?

The 2021/22 budget approved in the Council meeting on 24/02/2021 presented a budgeted council tax income of £7.847m. This is an increase of £0.209m from the 2020/21 budgeted council tax income (£7.638m).

- c) if the funding generated via council tax increases has been earmarked for specific services, please list what services they include

You can find details of how the 2021/22 revenue budget was set in the report linked below:

<https://hertsmere.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s53440/20210224FC06%20C2106%20-%20Revenue%20Budget%202021-22.pdf>

If I can direct you to two tables which will explain how the increase in funding, which includes council tax income, was applied to changes in the net budget requirement:

Table 5 – Total Forecast Financing 2021/22 (page 20) details the 2021/22 budget set for the government grants, council tax income and business rates income, which was used to finance the council's net budget requirement of £11.846m. This represented an increase of £0.121m from the 2020/21 net budget requirement set.

Table 9 - Key Factors and variances that impact on the 2021/22 Budget (page 25) explains how the increase in net budget requirement of £0.121m resulted from budget changes in service expenditure/income, savings & efficiencies and changes to reserve funding.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards
Information Services