



Council

Monday, 26 January 2026

Subject: Collection Fund - Council Tax Surplus 2025-26 & Council Tax Base 2026-27.

Report by:	Director of Finance and Assets (Section 151 Officer)
Contact Officer:	Sue Leversedge Financial Services Manager (Deputy S151) Sue.Liversedge@west-lindsey.gov.uk
Purpose / Summary:	<p>The report sets out the declaration of the estimated surplus on the Council's Collection Fund relating to Council Tax at the end of March 2026 and how it is shared amongst the constituent precepting bodies.</p> <p>It also sets out the Council tax base calculation for 2026/27. The tax base is a key component in calculating both the budget requirement and the council tax charge.</p>

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1) That Members accept that the estimated surplus of £1,444,840 be declared as accruing in the Council's Collection Fund at 31 March 2026 relating to an estimated Council Tax surplus.
- 2) That the Council uses its element of the Collection Fund surplus/deficit in calculating the level of Council Tax in 2026/27.
- 3) Approves, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulation 1992, as amended, the amount calculated by the Council as its Council Tax Base for the whole of the District area for 2026/27 shall be 33,543.15 as detailed in this report and appendices.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: It is a requirement under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 that the Council calculates the tax base for council tax purposes. It is also a requirement that the resolution determining the calculation be notified to the County Council between 1 December 2025 and 31 January 2026.

It is a requirement under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 that any estimated surplus on the previous year's Collection Fund shall be shared amongst the major precepting bodies.

Financial : FIN/150/26/SL

The estimated surplus in Council tax totals £1,444,840 to be shared as follows:-

Lincolnshire County Council £1,030,407

Police and Crime Commissioner, Lincolnshire £201,633

West Lindsey District Council £212,800

West Lindsey District Council will include its surplus share within its budget 2026/27 and it will be taken into account for Council Tax setting. The surplus share of £212,800 represents a decrease of £62,800 against the 2025/26 budgeted surplus of £275,600.

Staffing : None directly arising as a result of this report

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights : None directly arising as a result of this report

Data Protection Implications : None directly arising as a result of this report

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None directly arising as a result of this report

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations: None directly arising as a result of this report

Health Implications: None directly arising as a result of this report

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :

Risk Assessment :

The Council is bound by legislation undertake the necessary work to determine the Council Tax Base and to distribute the estimated surplus on the Collection Fund. Failure to do so would mean that the Council would be acting illegally and would be prone to appropriate sanctions

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

1. Collection Fund Surplus for 2025/26

- 1.1 The Council is required to declare an estimate of the surplus or deficit that will occur on the Collection Fund at the end of each year. The Collection Fund records the amount of income collected from Council Tax, together with precept payments to principal authorities. These elements will generate a surplus or a deficit which should be taken into account when determining the Council Tax for the following year.
- 1.2 Any surplus or deficit generated through the Collection fund in relation to Council Tax is shared between the County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Lincolnshire and this Council in the same proportion as the amount of their precepts for 2025/26.
- 1.3 A surplus or deficit may occur in the Collection Fund if the Council tax base is larger or smaller than originally anticipated or collection rates are higher or lower than expected.

2 Estimated Council Tax Surplus for 2025/26

- 2.1 The amount calculated as available from the Collection Fund arising up to 31st March 2026 and for distribution during 2026/27 has been calculated as £1,444,840.
- 2.2 This amount will be shared amongst the precepting authorities as follows:

	£
Lincolnshire County Council	1,030,407
Police and Crime Commissioner	201,633
West Lindsey District Council	212,800

	£ 1,444,840

- 2.3 This Council must take its share of the surplus, being £212,800, into account when it sets its element of the Council Tax for 2026/27.

3 The Council's Tax base for 2026/27

- 3.1 The tax base is an important factor in determining the level of Council Tax for the next year. It is expressed as the equivalent of the number of dwellings in Band D.
- 3.2 The calculation takes into account the following factors:-
 - 3.2.1 The number of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band in each Parish on 30 November 2025.
 - 3.2.2 The number of discounts available to single and other eligible persons and for vacant dwellings.
 - 3.2.3 The number of premiums effective at the relevant date.

- 3.2.4 The number of valuation band reductions for dwellings adapted for the disabled.
- 3.2.5 The number of dwellings exempt from liability.
- 3.2.6 The total amount estimated to be applied for the Council Tax Support Scheme.
- 3.2.7 The estimated amount of Council Tax collection in the financial year.
- 3.2.8 The proportion which dwellings in each band bear to Band D, on a full year basis.
- 3.2.9 The estimated amount of growth expected in 2026/27.

3.3 The Council Tax Support scheme was introduced in April 2013 enabling actual information to be used as a basis for the estimation in calculating the impact of the reductions on the tax base. These are detailed within the calculation of the tax base at Appendix 1.

3.4 The number of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band has been taken from the valuation list supplied by the Valuation Office on 31 October 2025 and updated by the Council Tax department on 30 November 2025. A summary of the calculation and adjustments taken into account is shown at Appendix 1. The overall tax base for 2026/27 is estimated to be 33,543.15 (32,756.75 2025/26) Band D equivalent properties (increase of 2.40%)

3.5 The number of properties exempt from Council Tax, including Ministry of Defence buildings, has been deducted from the initial tax base. Direct payments in lieu are received from the Ministry of Defence and these are included later in the tax base calculation.

3.6 A loss on collection results in a collection rate from Council Tax of 98.3% (2025/26 98.3%) which has been taken into account reflecting current levels of collection.

3.7 The Council levies additional amounts for the precepts of Local Councils, and separate tax bases are required for those areas. These are shown at Appendix 2.

Appendix 1

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2026-27

Band	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	TOTAL
Number of dwellings	0.00	17,430.00	8,805.00	8,275.00	6,332.00	4,002.00	1,704.00	544.00	65.00	47,157.00
Exempt properties	0.00	(385.00)	(157.00)	(112.00)	(55.00)	(38.00)	(17.00)	(7.00)	(2.00)	(773.00)
No of Chargeable dwellings	0.00	17,045.00	8,648.00	8,163.00	6,277.00	3,964.00	1,687.00	537.00	63.00	46,384.00
Disablement relief	51.00	(8.00)	22.00	(6.00)	(21.00)	(25.00)	(6.00)	0.00	(7.00)	0.00
Adjusted Chargeable dwellings	51.00	17,037.00	8,670.00	8,157.00	6,256.00	3,939.00	1,681.00	537.00	56.00	46,384.00
Discounts on relevant day	(3.75)	(2,179.80)	(781.00)	(608.50)	(340.75)	(175.00)	(69.75)	(28.50)	(5.75)	(4,192.80)
Premiums	0.00	220.00	47.00	42.00	21.00	7.00	7.00	11.00	11.00	366.00
Estimated future adjustment	0.00	621.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	621.00
Total Discounts	(3.75)	(1,338.80)	(734.00)	(566.50)	(319.75)	(168.00)	(62.75)	(17.50)	5.25	(3,205.80)
Adjusted Total Dwellings	47.25	15,698.20	7,936.00	7,590.50	5,936.25	3,771.00	1,618.25	519.50	61.25	43,178.20
Reduction in tax base due to CTS	13.38	3,466.41	606.67	259.13	110.96	40.32	12.57	3.59	0.00	4,513.03
Equivalent after reduction due to CTS	33.87	12,231.79	7,329.33	7,331.37	5,825.29	3,730.68	1,605.68	515.91	61.25	38,665.17
Ratio to band D	5/9 5.00	6/9 6.00	7/9 7.00	8/9 8.00	9/9 9.00	11/9 11.00	13/9 13.00	15/9 15.00	18/9 18.00	
Total No of Band D equivalents	18.82	8,154.53	5,700.59	6,516.77	5,825.29	4,559.72	2,319.32	859.85	122.50	34,077.39
Band D contributions in lieu (MOD)	0.00	9.34	22.57	10.68	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	45.09
	18.82	8,163.87	5,723.16	6,527.45	5,825.79	4,559.72	2,319.32	859.85	124.50	34,122.48
Adjusted for Collection rate 98.3%**	18.50	8,025.24	5,626.25	6,416.66	5,726.76	4,482.20	2,279.89	845.23	122.42	33,543.15

*The Total Number of Band D equivalents has been calculated at a Parish Level

**Total No. of Band D equivalent x Collection Rate + Band D Contributions in Lieu

Appendix 2

Parish Tax Base

Parish	2026/27 Tax Base	Parish	2026/27 Tax Base	Parish	2026/27 Tax Base
Aisthorpe	40.38	Hemswell Cliff	202.19	Snarford	14.79
Bardney - Apley - Stainfield	757.29	Holton Beckering	45.84	Snelland	29.90
Bigby	176.24	Holton le Moor	58.87	Snitterby	93.85
Bishop Norton	141.77	Ingham	363.45	Somerby	26.90
Blyborough	34.81	Keelby	731.32	South Carlton	36.52
Blyton	410.10	Kettlethorpe	168.84	South Kelsey	228.47
Brampton	32.24	Kesby	116.50	Spridlington	94.59
Brattleby	52.54	Kirmond le Mire	15.56	Springthorpe	61.13
Broadholme	39.19	Knaith	128.41	Stainton le Vale	37.32
Brocklesby	32.75	Langworth - Barlings - Newball	251.36	Stow	135.99
Brookenby	181.85	Laughton	150.43	Sturton-By-Stow	531.33
Broxholme	30.03	Lea	426.89	Sudbrooke	802.91
Bullington	11.63	Legsby	78.84	Swallow	94.07
Burton	444.39	Linwood	39.10	Swinhope	54.85
Buslingthorpe	21.81	Lissington	52.62	Tealby	284.16
Cabourne	29.96	Market Rasen	1,375.90	Thonock	8.87
Caenby	32.43	Marton - Gate Burton	260.00	Thoresway	40.80
Caistor	1,058.00	Middle Rasen	811.22	Thorganby	14.81
Cammeringham	52.65	Morton	446.03	Thorpe le Fallows	6.72
Cherry Willingham	1,423.75	Nettleham	1,764.96	Toft Newton	133.77
Claxby	69.93	Nettleton	254.88	Torksey	289.49
Corringham	196.49	Newton-On-Trent	143.02	Upton	176.64
Dunholme	902.51	Normanby le Wold	20.21	Waddingham	215.36
East Ferry	4144	Normanby-By-Spital	142.63	Walesby	115.38
East Stockwith	70.58	North Carlton	96.43	Walkerith	25.46
Faldingworth	188.63	North Kelsey	362.71	Welton	1,752.45
Fenton	171.32	North Willingham	55.53	West Firsby	10.84
Fillingham	93.98	Northorpe	49.18	West Rasen	29.64
Fiskerton	385.72	Osgodby	227.04	Wickenby	83.81
Friesthorpe	11.71	Owersby	110.67	Wildsworth	29.48
Fulnetby	4.32	Owmby-By-Spital	117.69	Willingham	202.19
Gainsborough	5,375.41	Pilham	26.13	Willoughton	116.85
Glentham	179.04	Rand	19.95	Total	33,543.15
Glenworth	127.56	Reepham	345.17		
Goltho	34.24	Riby	52.62		
Grange de Lings	14.78	Riseholme	128.57		
Grasby	190.38	Rothwell	73.97		
Grayingham	61.89	Saxby	17.87		
Great Limber	80.87	Saxilby - Ingleby	1,679.52		
Greetwell	551.84	Scampton	387.02		
Hackthorn - Cold Hanworth	86.65	Scothern	388.18		
Hardwick	20.84	Scotter	1,183.55		
Harpswell	23.48	Scotton	232.49		
Heapham	43.97	Searby cum Owmby	81.25		
Hemswell	132.01	Sixhills	15.80		