FOR PUBLICATION

COLLECTION FUND REVISED ESTIMATES 2014/15

MEETING: (1) CABINET

(2) DEPUTY LEADER

DATE: (1) 27 JANUARY 2015

(2) 13 JANUARY 2015

REPORT BY: HEAD OF FINANCE

WARD: ALL

KEY DECISION REF: 487

FOR PUBLICATION

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Budget working papers, Accountancy Section.

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To agree the revised estimate of the surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund for 2014/15 so that it can be shared amongst the major precepting authorities in 2015/16.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the estimated surplus on the Collection Fund of £664,798 be agreed and allocated to the major precepting authorities as detailed in **Appendix A**.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires Billing Authorities to calculate the estimated surplus or deficit on the Council Tax elements of the Collection Fund each year.

3.2 The Act prescribes that the estimated surplus or deficit should be allocated to the major precepting authorities in proportion to their precepts and that the major preceptors should then take it into account when calculating their Council Taxes for the following financial year.

4.0 CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Council Tax Transactions

- 4.1.1 The estimate of Council Tax income for the year is £41.9m.
- 4.1.2 The bad debt provision has been estimated at £2,332,290.
- 4.1.3 In setting the Council Tax for 2014/15 it was originally estimated that there would be a surplus from the previous year of £234,633 to allocate. However, at the end of 2013/14 the surplus was £421,279. The increase in surplus of £186,646 will be allocated in 2015/16.
- 4.1.4 The precepts on the fund in 2014/15 total £41.3m.
- 4.1.5 The net result of all of the above items is to produce an estimated surplus of £664,798 on the Fund at 31st March 2015. **Appendix A** shows how the surplus is to be shared between the major precepting authorities in 2015/16. The majority (73.5%) goes to the County Council. The Borough Council receives 10.52% of the surplus i.e. £69,958.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 That the estimated surplus on the Council Tax of £664,798 be agreed and allocated to the major precepting authorities as detailed in **Appendix A**.

6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

6.1 None.

7.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.1 To fulfill a statutory requirement and to feed into the budget setting process for 2015/16.

B DAWSON HEAD OF FINANCE

Officer recommendation supported.

J. F. July

Signed

Executive Member

Date: 13.01.15

Further information on this report can be obtained from Barry Dawson, Head of Finance (ext. 5451)