

20. As well as the requirement to use reserves to balance the budget for 2022/23, the Finance Strategy covers the period through to 2025/26 and is showing a projected shortfall of £1.1m in the final 3 years of the strategy that could use a further proportion of the remainder of the surplus leaving a balance of £962,700.

21. There remains the unknown of the finance position after the outcome of the Fair Funding Review so any further use of reserves must be carefully considered.

COUNCIL TAX AND NATIONAL NON-DOMETIC RATE BASE

22. The council tax base for 2022/23 is 44,002.6 Band D equivalent properties.

23. The forecast of net rates payable from National Non-Domestic Rates for 2022/23 (after Transitional arrangements and reliefs) is **£41,196,636**.

COUNCIL TAX FOR 2022/23

24. With a net budget for 2022/23 of £10,788,000 and government funding of £3,117,262 along with a contribution to the collection fund of £39,398 this will leave an amount due from council tax payers of £7,710,136. This is shown in the following table:

	Base Budget 2021/22	Base Budget 2022/23	Variation
	£	£	£
Total Budget	10,271,900	10,788,000	516,100
Less:			
Government Funding	-2,731,105	-3,117,262	-386,157
Collection Fund deficit	-84,393	39,398	123,791
Total due from Council Tax Payers	7,456,402	7,710,136	+253,734
Council Tax base	43,804.5	44,002.6	
Council Tax (Band D)	£170.22	£175.22	
Cash Increase (per year)	+ £5.00	+ £5.00	

25. The proposed council tax increase is within government referendum limits.

26. The proposed council tax of £175.22 is for Band D properties only and the Fareham element of the council tax for all bands is shown in the table below: