

11. COUNCIL TAX SCENARIOS 2022/23

The panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing members with an appraisal of potential scenarios regarding future council tax increases to inform discussions on the approach to achieving a balanced budget for 2022/23, which is the last year of the revenue strategy for the period 2018/19 to 2022/23.

It was recommended that panel:-

1. Notes the benchmarking information provided in section D.2.2 on the rates of council tax across Scotland and England, compared to the council tax level in West Lothian;
2. Notes the potential rates of council tax for the period 2022/23 set out in section D.3 and the potential council tax scenarios to significantly reduce the extent of further service reductions to 2022/23;
3. Notes the considerations and factors to mitigate the impact of raising council tax on people on lowest incomes in West Lothian communities provided in section D.4; and
4. Notes the 2022/23 Scottish Budget announcement in section D.5 in relation to councils having full flexibility to set the Council Tax rate for 2022/23 that is appropriate for their local authority area

Decision

To note the content of the report