Swindon Borough Council
Finance Department
Civic Offices
Euclid Street
Swindon
SN1 2JH
Website: www.swindon.gov.uk

Clerk

Wroughton Parish Council

Please reply to: Kim Chequer
Telephone no: 07769 281664
E-mail: kchequer@swindon.gov.uk
Our ref: Parish Precepts 2023-24
Date: 25 November 2022

Dear Clerk

Precept and Related Matters 2023-24

This letter provides the estimated Council Tax Base for 2023-24 for your town or parish. The taxbase for Swindon Borough Council is due to be considered by Full Council on 19th January 2022 and therefore could be subject to change. In the event of any changes you will be notified on 20th January 2022.

Council Tax Base

The Council Tax Base for your Council for 2023-24 has been calculated as **3419.3** equivalent band D dwellings. The corresponding figure for 2022-23 was **3220.2.** This represents a change of **6.2%** which reflects the impact of changes in growth assumptions, the number of households receiving single persons discount and/or other discounts and exemptions.

Annual Precept

The precept requirements of the parished areas are governed by Sections 39(2), 41 and 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the 1992 Act).

Section 41 of the 1992 Act provides that a parished area may precept upon the billing authority for a financial year. If a precept is issued, it must be issued before 1 March and state the amount payable. In order to meet this timescale and to ensure the council tax bills reflect your agreed precept, I should be grateful if you would arrange to complete the attached precept form and return it to me by **Monday, 30th January 2023.** If you think you may have any difficulties meeting this deadline please let me know as soon as possible so that we can discuss options.

Precepts in Excess of £100,000

Those parishes who issue precepts in excess of £100,000 will be required to supply details of their budget plans to be published at the same time as the tax demand in the area affected. An additional form has been enclosed for those parishes that fell into this category for 2023-24 and this should be returned with or shortly after the precept form. An electronic version of the form is also available, please contact my colleague by e-mail at lhudson2@swindon.gov.uk and an electronic form will be returned.

Legislation changes in 2013 means that this information is no longer required to be printed and enclosed with the Council Tax bills and this is the route that Swindon proposes to take should your precept exceed the £100,000 threshold.

Payments of Precept

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Funds) (England) Regulations 1992 - Schedule 1, Part 2, paragraphs 8 and 9, you are informed that your Council's precept will be paid in two instalments; 50% before 30 April 2023 and 50% before 30 September 2023. These amounts will be paid directly into the following Bank Account unless you notify me to the contrary before 1 April 2023:

Sort-code: 08-90-12
Account: 61591448

Council Tax Support Grant (CTSG)

From 2014-15, the Government combined this grant with the main revenue support grant received by councils and therefore it is no longer a separately identified form of grant funding.

There was a consultation with Parish Councils during the summer of 2017 on the distribution method for CTSG to see if there was support to change the existing approach and switch to a single basis across all the parishes (either council tax support or council tax base).

The responses received indicated that there was no overall support to change the method used, with more responses in favour of “no change” than either of the alternatives. On that basis, there was a recommendation to the meeting of Cabinet on 6th December 2017 that the sums available for distribution, which will continue to reduce each year, will be distributed in the same proportions as 2017-18 for the period up to March 2020.

The Council’s draft budget for 2023-24 does not propose any changes to CTSG therefore it is proposed that CTSG will be at the same level as the current year.

Subject to the formal approval of this in the budget by Council on 16th February 2023, the CTSG due to your Council for 2023-24 will be **£9,760**.

This sum will be paid to you in addition to your precept in two six monthly instalments alongside your precept funding and the sum has been pre-populated on your precept form attached. Therefore, in setting your budget for 2023-24, the total funding available to support your net budget is the combination of CTSG and your annual precept.

If you have any queries please contact me on 07769 281664.

Yours Sincerely

Kim Chequer

Head of Corporate Finance