
**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE
HELD ON 31 MAY 2013**

EX.51/13 **PROVISIONAL OUTTURN FOR COUNCIL TAX AND NATIONAL NON DOMESTIC RATES 2012/13**
(Key Decision – KD.09/13)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Resources

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder presented report RD.14/13 setting out the 2012/13 provisional outturn and performance position for Council Tax and National Non Domestic Rates.

He informed Members that the estimated outturn of 97.8% suggested that overall liability raised and Council Tax collected would again exceed the budgeted projections of 98.5% (if the collection pattern for recovering 2012/13 arrears followed that of previous years). The impact of increased collection performance was an overall surplus on collection fund of £492,315, the City Council's share of the surplus being £64,929.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder pointed out that the Council had maintained collection performance so that for the third year running Carlisle was in the 3rd quartile when compared to districts nationally. Whilst that was the Council's best ever performance, the Council would never be in a position to move into the higher collection quartiles for the reasons set out at Section 3.1 of the report.

He added that year-end arrears of £934,895 equating to 1.42% of the 'in year' debit collectable was an improved performance when compared to 2011/12 of £1,410,689.95 (2.2%).

In accordance with the Director of Resources' delegated authority for the write-off of outstanding debts (without limit), the Executive was asked to note that debts totalling £174,115.19 had been written off for the period 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2013. The total amount written off in 2012/13 of £527,001 compared to total write-offs in 2011/12 of £422,616.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder said that Officers were tracking the position extremely well, and he thanked the members of staff involved. Accordingly he moved the recommendations, which were duly seconded by the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the provisional outturn position at 31 March 2013 for Council Tax (which evidenced the best ever collection performance since Council Tax was introduced) and National Non Domestic Rates; together with the position with regard to write offs and bad debt trends be noted.

Reasons for Decision

To advise the Executive of Council Tax and Business Rates Collection Performance