

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 27 MARCH 2007

### STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON REVENUE COLLECTION

#### Report by the Executive Head of Finance

## 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

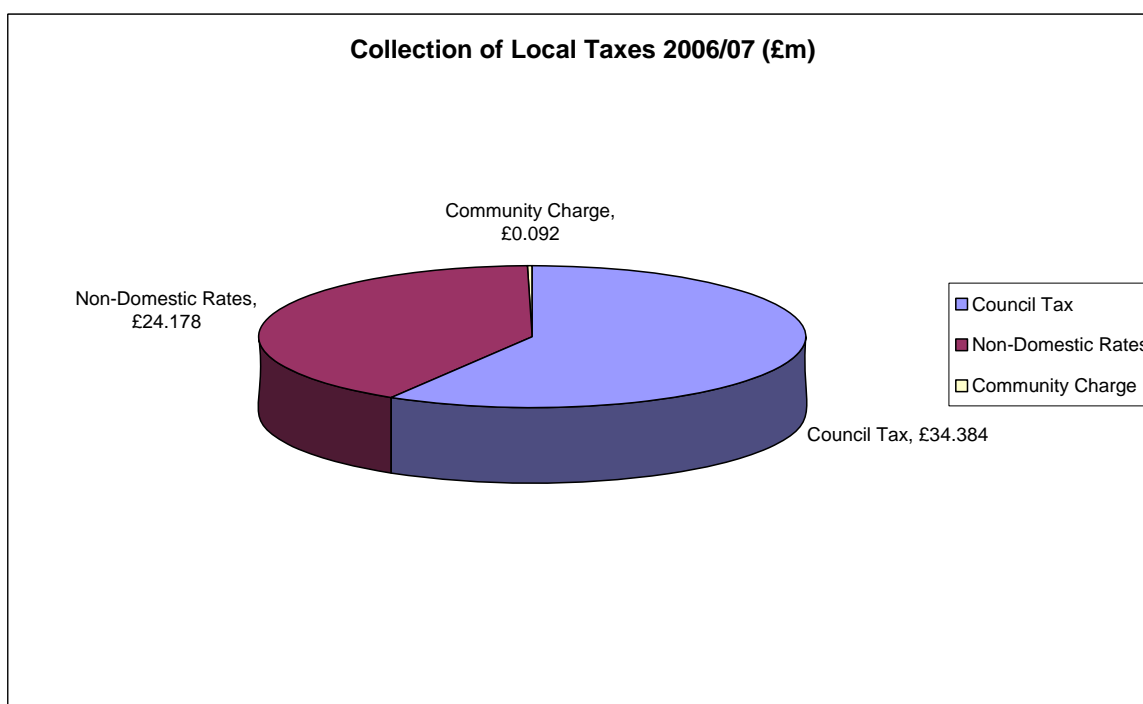
- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the billing and collection performance of local taxes as at 4 March 2007 (Period 12).

## 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Executive Head of Finance is responsible for the billing and collection of current year Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates, and for the collection of any arrears. Responsibility for the collection of arrears of Community Charge (Poll Tax) outstanding at 31 March 1996 also rests with the Executive Head of Finance.

## 3 GENERAL

- 3.1 Annual Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates bills were issued in March and April 2006.
- 3.2 The total income collected from local taxes at 4 March 2007 is £58.654m (£56.994m 2005/06). This is illustrated in the graph below:



## 4 COUNCIL TAX

- 4.1 91.70% of the Council Tax billed for 2006/07 was collected at 4 March 2007 (91.37% 2005/06).
- 4.2 In cash terms, the income collected at Period 12 was higher than in the same period in 2005/06. Details are shown in the following table:

Council Tax	2006/07 (Period 7) (£m)	2005/06 (Period 7) (£m)
Income Collected	34.384	31.950

- 4.3 The number of properties on the Council Tax database as at 1 April 2006 was 54,004 and this figure has increased in-year to 54,573. The majority of the additional properties are Band D or above.
- 4.4 Previous years' outstanding balances have been reduced by £2.360m since 1 April 2006 as a result of recovery action taken during this period. The total balance outstanding at 1 April 2006 for previous years was £22.459m. Recovery action is continuing to reduce this debt.

## 5 NON-DOMESTIC RATES

- 5.1 As at 4 March, 93.50% has been collected compared to 94.02% for the same period last year. This is a payments timing issue and the collection rate is expected to outturn similar to 2006/07.
- 5.2 The number of properties on the Non-Domestic Rates database has decreased from 3,880 at 1 April 2006 to 3,872 at 4 March 2007.

## 6 COMMUNITY CHARGE ARREARS

- 6.1 The total Community Charge arrears collected during 2006/07 to 4 March 2007 was £0.092m (£0.106m 2005/06). Although these debts are becoming increasingly more difficult to collect they continue to be pursued.

## 7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 It is recommended that members note the contents of this report.

Alex McPhee  
**Executive Head of Finance**

RD  
 13 March 2007

### LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS NIL

Members wishing further information should contact Ruth Donaghy, Financial Services Manager – Systems and Support, Tel: (01563) 576442.