

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 30 MAY 2006

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 update Members on the position of the Council with regard to the billing and collection of local taxes as at 31 March 2006 (Period 13).

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Executive Head of Finance is responsible for the billing and collection of the current year Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates and for the collection of arrears of these, and arrears of Community Charge (Poll Tax) which were outstanding at 31 March 1996, in respect of properties within East Ayrshire.

3 GENERAL

- 3.1 Annual Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates bills for 2005/2006 were issued in March and April 2005.

4 COUNCIL TAX

- 4.1 The final 2005/06 in year collection figure for council tax was 92.0%. Previous years' performance is shown below:

Year	Collection Rate
2003/04	90.1%
2004/05	91.3%
2005/06	92.0%

- 4.2 A total of £3.093m of previous years' outstanding debt was collected during 2005/06, which is in line with prior year collection rates. The total balance outstanding at 1 April 2006 for prior years was £22.459m. Recovery action is continuing to reduce this debt.

5 NON-DOMESTIC RATES

- 5.1 The final 2005/06 in year collection figure for Non-Domestic Rates was 93.5%. Previous years' performance is shown below:

Year	Collection Rate
2003/04	94.7%
2004/05	93.4%
2005/06	93.5%

6 COMMUNITY CHARGE ARREARS

- 6.1** Community Charge arrears collected during 2005/06 up to 31 March 2006 total £0.114m. This compares to a total of £0.117m collected during 2004/05. These debts are now between 13 and 17 years old and although becoming more difficult to collect they continue to be actively pursued.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Alex McPhee
Executive Head of Finance

AM/DMW
 12 May 2006

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS NIL

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