

Risk Register

Setting of the Council Tax Base 2026/27

As at: 28 January 2026
Risk Score (Impact Score): 1 = Insignificant; 2 = Minor; 3 = Moderate; 4 = Major; 5 = Catastrophic
Probability Score: 1 = Rare; 2 = Unlikely; 3 = Possible; 4 = Likely; 5 = Almost Certain

Risk						Date Raised	Owner	Gross		Current		Target		Comments	Controls				
Ref	Title	Risk description	Opp/ threat	Cause	Consequence			I	P	I	P	I	P		Control description	Due date	Status	Progress	Action Owner
Council Tax Base																			
1	Incorrect property numbers	A different level of Council Tax debit to the estimate could be raised.	O / T	An increase in the number of new properties or a reduction in the number of current properties than estimated in the remainder of 2025/26 and in 2026/27.	Unexpected surpluses or deficits in the Collection Fund. If there is a surplus, there will be an increased level of cash flow for the Council, resulting in increased investment opportunities. If there is a deficit, the City Council may have to take out borrowing to cover cash flow fluctuations.	12/01/2026	Ryan Taylor	4	3	3	2	3	2		Assumptions used in the number of new builds are conservative. The estimate is reduced by 50% to allow for possible delays in these new properties being built and occupied in 2026/27.	Ongoing	Ongoing	100%	Ryan Taylor
2	Changes to exemptions, discounts and Council Tax Reduction Scheme	A different level of collectable Council Tax to the estimate.	O / T	An increase or reduction in the number of exemptions, discounts and tax payers eligible for Council Tax Reduction Scheme applied than estimated in 2026/27.	Unexpected surpluses or deficits in the Collection Fund. If there is a surplus, there will be an increased level of cash flow for the Council, resulting in increased investment opportunities. If there is a deficit, the City Council may have to take out borrowing to cover cash flow fluctuations.	12/01/2026	Ryan Taylor	4	3	3	2	3	2		Council Tax Officers in Financial Services continually review existing exemption, discounts and Council Tax Reduction Scheme claimant cases to ensure these should still be granted. Assumptions are based on prior years/historical trends and take account of external impacts.	Ongoing	Ongoing	100%	Ryan Taylor
3	Incorrect Council Tax Collection Rate	An incorrect collection rate could result in a shortfall or surplus of cash received by the City Council and future Collection Fund surpluses or deficits.	O / T	Council Tax collection rate being higher or lower than anticipated.	Unexpected surpluses or deficits in the Collection Fund. If there is a surplus, there will be an increased level of cash flow for the Council, resulting in increased investment opportunities. If there is a deficit, the City Council may have to take out borrowing to cover cash flow fluctuations.	12/01/2026	Ryan Taylor	4	3	3	2	3	2		We eventually collect over 98% of the collectable debit for each period. Council Tax officers in Financial Services carry out regular reminder runs in cases of non-payment followed by Magistrates Court proceedings (if necessary).	Ongoing	Ongoing	100%	Ryan Taylor
4	A change in the number homes marked as long term empty or second homes	If the number of homes marked as long term empty or second home is incorrect, the overall tax base would be affected.	O / T	If the number long term empty homes or second homes is reduced, the overall tax base would also reduce.	Unexpected surpluses or deficits in the Collection Fund. If there is a surplus, there will be an increased level of cash flow for the Council, resulting in increased investment opportunities. If there is a deficit, the City Council may have to take out borrowing to cover cash flow fluctuations.	12/01/2026	Ryan Taylor	4	3	3	2	3	2		A review of long term empty properties and second homes is constantly in review to ensure the correct number of properties is being reported.	Ongoing	Ongoing	100%	Ryan Taylor

Current Risk Score
This is the risk score at the time that the risk is reviewed. When the risk is first identified it will be the same as the gross risk score. The current risk score is tracked to ensure that progress is being made to manage the risk

Residual Risk Score
This is the risk score after mitigating actions have taken place. The residual risk score shows how effective your action plans are at managing the risk.

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