

Motion to Midlothian Council 20th December 2016

Council notes the intention of the Scottish Government to raise the Council Tax charges for bands E to H from April 2017; that the additional income expected from Midlothian properties will be around £1.7 million and that of this around £1.2 million will be redistributed by the Scottish Government outside of Midlothian and in accordance with national priorities.

Midlothian Council regrets the fact that this is the first time in the history of local taxation since the introduction of the poor law in 1579 that local taxation has been appropriated for national spending priorities and believes that Council Tax raised in Midlothian should be spent in Midlothian, according to the priorities set by this council.

Midlothian Council applauds the stance taken by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA) in opposing the Scottish Government's proposals and instructs the Council Leader to write to CoSLA on our behalf, offering it Midlothian Council's full support in its endeavours.

Proposed

Councillor Peter de Vink

Seconded

Councillor Ian Baxter