

The following two questions were raised at the meeting of the Salisbury Area Committee on 3 December 2009 (see Minute 9, on page 9 of this agenda). Responses are set out below:

1. *Why were the figures given as part of the presentation different from those on the handout?*

The DVD gave overall budget figures for Council departments, while the handout broke these down into easily identifiable services, in order to correspond with the services listed on the voting card.

Area Board Members agree that this may have been confusing for those taking part, and officers have been asked to note this for future consultations.

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2. *How much does Wiltshire Council give to the government from business rates, and how much does it get back?*

Central government collects business rates (also referred to as National Non-Domestic Rates) from all local authorities, pools them and then re-distributes them back to local authorities as part of the Formula Grant process.

Wiltshire Council collects around £124 million of business rates, of which £600,000 is retained as administrative costs.

For 2010-11 Wiltshire Council will receive back around £89 million as redistributed business rates.