

Extract from the draft minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 22 November 2017

220. Local Council Tax Support 2018/19

The Assistant Director Customers submitted a report a copy of which had been circulated to each Member together with minute 137 of the Scrutiny Panel meeting of 7 November 2017.

Councillor Cory, Portfolio Holder for Resources, introduced the report. He highlighted that the Council had a high council tax collection rate and that was in part due to an effective support scheme being in place. Over 9,000 residents were supported by the scheme. The main changes that were being introduced were to limit entitlement to Band D properties, to change the minimum level of entitlement to £2 per week and to disregard bereavement support payments or charitable payments as income or capital for the purposes of the scheme.

RESOLVED that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme from 1 April 2018 be agreed.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme be adopted.

REASONS

Legislation requires that following public consultation, amendments to the scheme for 2018/19 need to be agreed by Full Council before 31 January 2018.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Consultation proposals included an option to introduce a minimum earned income figure for those who are self-employed which is in line with the United Kingdom minimum wage for 16 hours worked. It is not recommended to take forward this option as it could lead to a disproportionate burden being placed on this resident base.