

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Monday 14 December 2015

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT/REDUCTION 2016/17

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 At its meeting on 2nd December 2015 the Executive considered a report advising them of the results of the public consultation exercise on Council Tax Support and requesting that the scheme be recommended to Council for adoption. The report, an appendix summarising the consultation results and a supplementary paper on the effects of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement are attached, together with the Impact Assessment presented to the Executive for its meeting on 15th July 2015.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

Council is recommended to adopt, for the financial year 2016/17, a scheme whereby entitlement for working age claimants is calculated on 75% of the household's Council Tax liability (thereby, the maximum assistance provided to a claimant of working age is 75% of his/her Council Tax liability.) Other elements of the proposed scheme remain unchanged to that in place for 2015/16*, except where revision is required as a result of revised legislation/guidance and/or annual uprating.

*A copy of the 2015/16 scheme can be found at:
http://www.bromley.gov.uk/downloads/file/2479/adopted_council_tax_support_scheme_2015

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: New Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated annual cost of scheme with minimum 25% liability - £11.045m (estimated LBB scheme expenditure and increased collection costs)
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: 40002/400003
 4. Total current budget for this head: £7.365m
 5. Source of funding: Government funding – not identified as a separate item in grant notification
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 8 + Liberata staff
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Once scheme is adopted, extra work will fall on Liberata – this is taken into account in costings provided.
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): 17,300 (current number of households in receipt of Council Tax Support.)
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A
- 3.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy/Finance/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report