

**Decision Maker:**       **COUNCIL**

**Date:**                   **Monday 6 December 2021**

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

**Title:**                   **COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT/REDUCTION SCHEME 2022/23**

**Contact Officer:**     Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
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**Chief Officer:**       Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:**                   All

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1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Following pre-decision scrutiny at the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the Executive considered the attached report on the Council Tax Support/Reduction Scheme 2022/23, including the results of public consultation, and recommended that Council approves the scheme. The 2022/23 scheme retains the calculation of entitlement for working age claimants 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. The Scheme needs to be adopted by full Council before 31<sup>st</sup> January prior to the financial year that it relates to.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Council Tax Support/Reduction Scheme 2022/23 be approved, including the maintenance of the Discretionary Hardship Fund at £200k.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: 4,043 households with children and 1,299 working age disabled claimants.
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: New Policy
  2. MBEB Priority: Managing our Resources Well
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £14.6m with 25% liability.
  2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Benefits and Admin
  4. Total current budget for this head: £5.865m
  5. Source of funding: Government funding (not separately identified in the grant notification)
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 6 plus Liberata staff
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Once the Scheme is adopted it will be administered by Liberata which has taken the costings into account.
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Legal

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

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): 15,039 (the current number of all households in receipt of Council Tax Support/Reduction at 16 October 2021.)
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Financial/Personnel/Legal/Procurement
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	None