

POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL REPORT

REPORT TO:	Corporate Performance Panel		
DATE:	27 November 2018		
TITLE:	Council Tax Support Scheme 2019/2020 – Final Scheme		
TYPE OF REPORT:	For Information Only		
PORTFOLIO(S):	Housing and Community		
REPORT AUTHOR:	Jo Stanton, Revenues and Benefits Manager		
OPEN/EXEMPT	Open	WILL BE SUBJECT TO A FUTURE CABINET REPORT:	Yes

REPORT SUMMARY/COVER PAGE

PURPOSE OF REPORT/SUMMARY:
To update the panel on progress with the Council Tax Support scheme for 2019/2020.
KEY ISSUES:
The report is for information only.
OPTIONS CONSIDERED:
NA
RECOMMENDATIONS:
The report is noted.
REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:
To ensure the Panel are aware of progress with the Council Tax Support scheme for 2019/2020.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Introduction

This report is to inform the Panel of progress on the Council Tax Support scheme for 2019/2020.

2. Proposal

The council has to review, consult on and agree its Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme for working age people for each financial year. The CTS scheme for 2019/2020 is currently under consideration. There are only two minor changes to the 2018/2019 CTS scheme for 2019/2020, both of which are beneficial to customers.

The draft CTS scheme is agreed under delegated powers, and has been open for consultation; however the closing date is 9 November 2018, well after the closing date for a report to this Panel. As there are only minor changes to the CTS scheme, this report is for the Panel to note.

3. Issues for the Panel to Consider

The report is for information only. A full report on the proposed final CTS scheme for 2019/2020 will be taken to Cabinet on 8 July 2019 and Council on 24 January 2019.

4. Corporate Priorities

The CTS scheme supports Corporate Priority 1 – Provide important local services within our available resources.

5. Financial Implications

The taxbase impact of the CTS scheme for 2019/2020 is within the projections in the Financial Plan 2017/2022.

6. Any other Implications/Risks

The CTS scheme for 2019/2020 is designed to meet the taxbase projections as detailed in the Financial Plan 2017/2022. However any increases in demand, changes in the composition of the caseload, for example an increase in the number of pension age claimants, could represent a financial risk by increasing the cost of the CTS scheme and reducing the taxbase further. The impact of the CTS scheme is, and will continue to be, reviewed monthly.

7. Equal Opportunity Considerations

A full Equality Impact Assessment was completed as part of the Cabinet Report of 7 September 2016. As the changes to the scheme for 2019/2020 are minor no further assessment has been completed.

8. Consultation

The draft CTS scheme for 2019/2020 was opened to a six week public consultation from 25 September 2018 to 9 November 2018.

9. Conclusion

The Panel note the report regarding the CTS scheme for 2019/2020.