

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 9(d)
7 MARCH 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

(d) COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2018/19

Cabinet, at its meetings of [26 February 2018](#), received a report following consultation on proposals for the Council Tax Support Scheme 2018/19 including discussion at the cross party Budget Working Group. The purpose of this report was to make a recommendation to Council on the Council Tax Support Scheme in Peterborough for the financial year 2018/19. Following a statutory instrument being laid before Parliament on the 21 December 2017, there was a statutory requirement for the Council to set a localised Council Tax Support Scheme by 11 March 2018 and this formed part of the formal budget process under the Budget and Policy framework.

In addition to the recommendation to Council, Cabinet considered the report and resolved to note the note the responses to the consultation on the Council Tax Support Scheme and to note the continuation of the discretionary Council Tax Hardship Policy.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council agrees a local Council Tax Support Scheme for Peterborough that contains the following local components:

- a) No change to the existing scheme reduction of 30% for all eligible working age claimants
- b) To keep the scheme mirroring the Housing Benefit scheme as much as possible, the following amendments are also proposed:
 - to limit the award of Council Tax Support based on a maximum of 2 children;
 - to provide protection to existing claims that already include more than 2 children;
 - to make provision for more than 2 children in the applicable amount where the child tax credit calculation includes additional children; and
 - to disregard earnings from part-time fire fighters and payments from the infected blood payment scheme.
- c) To amend appropriate rates in line with annual upratings.

The original Cabinet report and appendices follow.

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