

73. **CABINET MEMBERS' ITEMS - JOINT REPORT OF THE HOUSING PORTFOLIO HOLDER AND THE CORPORATE FINANCE & GOVERNANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER - A.8 - THE LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME, DISCRETIONARY COUNCIL TAX EXEMPTIONS / DISCOUNTS FOR 2020/21 AND ANNUAL MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT 2020/21**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a joint report of the Housing Portfolio Holder and Corporate Finance & Governance Portfolio Holder (A.8) which sought Cabinet's agreement to recommend to full Council the following:

- Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2020/21 (including the associated exceptional hardship policy);
- Discretionary Council Tax Exemptions and Discounts 2020/21; and
- Annual MRP Policy Statement for 2020/21.

Accordingly and in order to allow these matters to progress to Council it was moved by Councillor P B Honeywood, seconded by Councillor G V Guglielmi and:

RESOLVED that (1) Cabinet agrees that –

- (a) the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/21 should remain the same as the current year's scheme;
- (b) the Council Tax Exceptional Hardship Policy be as set out in Appendix B to item A.8 of the Joint Report of the Housing Portfolio Holder and the Corporate Finance & Governance Portfolio Holder; and
- (c) the discretionary Council Tax Exemptions and Discounts should remain unchanged in 2020/21.

(2) it is therefore:-

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that –

- (a) that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS), as set out as Appendix A to item A.8 of the Joint Report of the Housing Portfolio Holder and the Corporate Finance & Governance Portfolio Holder be approved with the maximum LCTS award being 80% for working age claimants;
- (b) the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Housing Portfolio Holder, be authorised to undertake the necessary steps to implement the LCTS scheme from 1 April 2020;
- (c) the locally determined council tax discounts, as set out as Appendix C to the above-mentioned report, be approved;
- (d) the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Housing Portfolio Holder, be authorised to undertake the necessary steps to implement the council tax exemptions and discounts from 1 April 2020;
- (e) it is agreed, in principle, to levy the maximum allowable council tax premiums from 1 April 2021 and that Officers be requested to write to the relevant homeowners to advise them of the Council's intentions;

- (f) Officers explore the option of potentially providing discounts for young people leaving care and present the outcome of that exploration and potential options to Members as soon as practicable in 2020/21; and**
- (g) the Annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement for 2020/21, as set out in Appendix D to the aforesaid report, be approved.**