

**COUNCIL, 25 JANUARY 2017**

**REPORT OF CABINET**

**OUTLINE PROPOSALS FOR THE COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2017**

At its meeting on 18 January 2017, Cabinet will consider proposals for the Council's Financial Strategy, one of which includes the Council Tax Support Scheme 2017.

It is not proposed to make any amendment to the current Council Tax Support Scheme 2016 and Council is therefore asked to approve adopting the Scheme for 2017.

A challenge to the Council Tax Support Scheme was successfully defended in the High Court by way of Judicial Review. A decision is currently awaited from the Court of Appeal to advise whether permission has been granted to appeal on the grounds of age and disability discrimination.

A summary of the Scheme and an Equalities Analysis for the 2017 scheme are appended to this report which Members are asked to read along with the Equalities Analysis for the 2015 scheme – the last year in which the scheme was altered. Full versions of the 2015 Equalities Analysis and of the 2017/18 Council Tax Support Scheme can be found at [www.havering.gov.uk/CTS-Equality-Analysis-2015](http://www.havering.gov.uk/CTS-Equality-Analysis-2015) and [www.havering.gov.uk/CTSupportdoc2017/18](http://www.havering.gov.uk/CTSupportdoc2017/18)

**Subject to Cabinet's approval, Council is asked to note the Equalities Impact Assessments in respect of the CTS Scheme and agree that the CTS Scheme 2017 is approved.**