

## **COUNCIL, 23 JANUARY 2019**

### **REPORT OF CABINET**

#### **UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2019 AND COUNCIL TAX SURCHARGE ON EMPTY HOMES**

At its meeting on 29 November, Cabinet approved the attached report giving details of the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme from 1 April 2019 as well as a proposal to increase from 50% to 100% the surcharge rate of Council Tax for properties that have been empty for more than two years, with effect from 1 April 2019.

In accordance with Schedule 1A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, Council is asked to consider and approve the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme to take effect from 1 April 2019.

A summary of the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme is given at appendix C of the report. The full proposed Council Tax Support Scheme is also shown for information, immediately following the Cabinet papers.

An eight week consultation with residents affected by the proposed 2019 Scheme took place from 1 August 2019. The outcome of the consultation is fully detailed in the Cabinet report and Appendix D for Members to review.

Members are required to have due regard to the Public Sector Equalities Duty and are therefore asked to review the Equalities Impact Assessment attached at Appendix B.

It is therefore **RECOMMENDED** that Council:

- 1. Agrees the adoption of the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme as summarised in Appendix C of the Cabinet report, with effect from 1 April 2019.**
- 2. Agrees an increase from 50% to 100% as a surcharge rate of Council Tax for the properties that have been empty for more than two years, with effect from 1 April 2019.**