

(For Democratic Services use)

Decision Number: 17 - 2022/23

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

Subject: Council Tax Support Fund
Details of Decision taken: To approve the scheme and allocation of any remaining funds
Reason for Decision <p>In late December 2022 the government set out a scheme to help those receiving Council Tax Reduction with the potential increase in council tax for the year 2023/24</p> <p>This support allows for a reduction of up to £25 be deducted from council tax accounts of those customers in receipt of Council Tax Reduction (which is means tested). There is no requirement for customers to make an application and the payments will be automatically deducted from the council tax</p> <p>If a customer's liability for council tax is less than £25 then an amount will be granted to ensure the liability is reduced to nil. Customers on full Council Tax Reduction, where council tax liability is already nil, will not qualify for this scheme</p> <p>The Council has been allocated £159,420</p> <p>Any remaining funds once the payments of up to £25 have been made will be moved to the Exception Hardship Payment scheme</p>
All Documents considered: The government guidance for the Council Tax Support Fund Sevenoaks District Council Council Tax Support Fund policy Exceptional Hardship Policy

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Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision:

Financial implications

The Council's Council Tax Support Fund allocation is £159,420. Any remaining funding, once the deductions of up to £25 for those in receipt of Council Tax Support Fund have been allocated, will be moved to the Exception Hardship Payments fund

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment

The Council is implementing this scheme in line with the government guidance and requirements.

The Council needs to be alert to the threat of fraud and will therefore take appropriate steps to minimise the risk

Equality Impacts (Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty)

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users


Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and Chief Officer/Head of Service Consulted

Chief Officer - Customer & Resources
Council Tax & Recovery Manager

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Details of any conflicts of interest a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker	
b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict	
Decision taken by:	Councillor Mathew Dickens Finance & Portfolio Holder
Signed by Portfolio Holder	
Date of Decision	1.3.23
Record made by:	Phil Magee
Date of record:	9/3/23

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