

From CABINET MEETING held on 10 November 2016

Council Agenda Item 9 (Cabinet minute 56)

Council Tax Support Scheme (known nationally as Council Tax Reduction Scheme)

**RECOMMENDED to Council:**

- i. The results of the public consultation on the Council Tax Scheme are noted.**
  
- ii. To implement a revised Council Tax Support Scheme for Portsmouth from 1st April 2017, with the following key features:**
  - a) To introduce a maximum level of support for all working age applicants to 80%**
  - b) To reduce the capital limit from the existing £16,000 to £6,000**
  - c) To restrict the maximum level of Council Tax Reduction payable to the equivalent of a Band C**
  - d) To set a minimum level of support at £2 per week**
  
  - e) \*To bring the working age Council Tax Scheme in line with Housing Benefit changes proposed by Central Government**

**\*note this feature will be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 or whenever the relevant Government Statutory Instrument/Regulation is enacted**
  
- iii. A Hardship Fund of £250k to be provided for 2017/18, subject to annual review, to give support to households in financial difficulty due to a reduction in the Council Tax Support they receive.**