



Derby City Council

RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE BOARD
14 November 2012

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources

ITEM 7

Local Council Tax Support Scheme

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Resources and Governance Scrutiny Board will receive a presentation from the Local Council Tax Support Scheme Development Manager regarding the work undertaken to prepare for the introduction of a local Council Tax Support scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That members receive the presentation on localising Council Tax Support and consider it for in-depth scrutiny.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Resources and Governance Board is responsible for scrutiny of the item that falls within its portfolio.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 This presentation will enable members to gain better understanding of localising Council Tax Support and consider the content for detailed scrutiny.

4.2 Background

Current arrangements for Council Tax Benefit will cease and financial support for Council Tax will be devolved to Local Authorities from April 2013. The localised support scheme will be integrated with the Council Tax system, with support offered as reductions on Council Tax bills.

The scheme must be in place by 31/1/2013 ready to implement from April 2013 – a default scheme will be imposed if not.

The scheme must protect pensioners whilst managing a 10% reduction in overall expenditure. In real terms, based on Government funding proposals, the reduction for Derby is more likely to be 14.25% which equates to a funding gap of £2.6m.

The Council has worked very closely with Nottingham and Leicester City Councils agree a support scheme that addresses the funding gap for each of the three city councils.

Public consultation on the proposed scheme closed on 30 October 2012 and a report on the responses received will be published.

The presentation will cover:

- 1 - Background
- 2 - Joint working
- 3 - Budget Position
- 4 - Proposed scheme
- 5 - Consultation - approach
- 6 - Consultation - response
- 7 - Next steps

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	N/A
Financial officer	N/A
Human Resources officer	N/A
Service Director(s)	Kath Gruber, Roger Kershaw
Other(s)	Phil O'Brien

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 None arising from this report

Legal

- 2.1 Rule OS 24 of the constitution requires the Council Cabinet to respond within two months of receiving scrutiny reports. This requirement is also covered in Schedule 2, Section 9FE of the Localism Act 2011.

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising from this report

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 None arising from this report

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None arising from this report

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 None arising from this report

Asset Management

- 7.1 None arising from this report

Risk Management

- 8.1 None arising from this report

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 This report affects the corporate priorities and objectives of the Council Plan

2011 -2014 relating to good quality services that meet local needs.