

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Wednesday, 21 January 2015	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/21.01.15/3	Executive (Councillors Anstee, Cornes, Hyman, Lamb, Myers, Williams and M. Young)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME FOR 2015/16

That it be recommended that Full Council adopts the Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme currently in operation with the inclusion of the amendments detailed below for 2015/16:

- 1) That the applicable amounts are increased by 1% to keep them in line with inflationary increases to Housing Benefit and other welfare benefits (Appendix 1 to the report)
- 2) That the non-dependant deductions are frozen at their current rate (Appendix 2 to the report).
- 3) That the remaining funding allocated to the CTS discretionary fund when it was first introduced in April 2013 is rolled over into 2015/16. This is estimated to be approximately £20k by the end of the year.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council must adopt a Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme no later than 31 January before the start of the financial year to which the scheme applies in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 2012.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Council could decide not to set a scheme and the default scheme would apply in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 2012. However, this would have significant financial impact on the Council. The Council could also decide to set an alternative scheme, however, to do so without rationale and evidence from the operation of the current scheme in the timescales required would carry significant risks.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

Not applicable. This was a recommendation referred to the immediately following Council Meeting on 21/1/15 for substantive decision.

PUBLICATION DATE

27/02/15

RECORDED BY:

Director of Legal & Democratic Services