

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL
COUNCIL – 3 OCTOBER 2016

Recommendation from the Cabinet on 6 September 2016:-

Localised Council Tax Support Scheme 2017/18 (Minute 52.1)

The Cabinet had agreed in February 2016 to consult on minor changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme (Minute 122 refers) and now considered the results of that consultation.

A total of 61 completed responses were received and whilst this was a relatively small return, it was noted that the majority of the respondents were in support of the proposed changes rather than the alternative options.

The changes were being proposed in order to be consistent with the changes made to the housing benefit regulations and would only apply to new claimants.

Hertfordshire County Council had responded to say it was in support of the changes.

Having reviewed the consultation results and the equalities impact assessment, the Cabinet agreed to the changes in the council tax support scheme for 2017/18 in relation to abolishing the family premium for new claimants; reducing the backdating of council tax support for working age claimants from six months to one month and abolishing the payment of second adult rebate.

The Cabinet **RECOMMENDS** to the Council that the localised council tax support scheme for 2017/18 abolishes the family premium for new claimants, reduces the backdating of council tax support for working age claimants from six months to one month and abolishes the payment of second adult rebate with all the other elements of the scheme remaining the same and continuing to help vulnerable claimants and those on low/no income to receive a reduction on their council tax.