

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Cabinet  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review 2016/17**

The Overview and Scrutiny considered a report which provided the results of the consultation exercise that the Council is required to undertake if there are any proposed changes to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The Committee endorse that the following points are incorporated into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme from 1st April 2016:

- a) Retention of the hardship fund, to ensure that people who face genuine difficulty in meeting their commitments can be assisted. This support is not available to people who have savings, for example;
- b) Implement the technical changes outlined in paragraph 2.5 of the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- c) Reduce the capital limit to £12,000 (in other words, anyone with savings in excess of that sum would not be eligible for support)
- d) Increase the minimum council tax contribution to be made by working age people to 20%, on the basis that the Council's policy position is that it wants stability and is therefore not minded to make a series of incremental changes nor to review the minimum contribution rate in the medium term.

**Recommend to Cabinet:**

- e) **The submission to the consultation from the Children's Society be taken into consideration when making final recommendations to Council.**

**Background papers:**

Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015

<http://www.wyreforest.gov.uk/council/meetings/com193.htm#mt7627>