

OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE

1 December 2020 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillors Northeast (Chairman, English (Vice-Chairman), Bennett, Bicknell, Blanchard-Cooper, Ms Catterson, Mrs Cooper, Dendle, Dixon, Elkins, Gunner, Huntley, Miss Needs, Miss Seex and Tilbrook

Councillors Cooper, Coster, Lury, Mrs Staniforth, Stanley, Dr Walsh and Mrs Yeates were also in attendance for all or part of the meeting.

254. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2021/2022

[Cllr Miss Seex – redeclared her interest and was moved to the waiting room, Cllr Bennett declared a personal interest due to family Member being in receipt of Council Tax Benefit.]

The Chairman presented the minutes of the Council Tax Support Task & Finish Working Party meeting held on 17 November 2020, and asked members to endorse the recommendation made by the Working Party by recommending to Cabinet that option 2 be approved.

During the discussion Members asked for clarity on the number of residents that would be impacted. It was advised by the Revenues and Benefits Manager that a few households may be adversely affected and that there was a discretionary hardship fund that these households may apply for, should they qualify for additional assistance. It was also confirmed that until changes were made an exact number was unknown at this time.

The Overview Select Committee agreed to;

RECOMMEND to CABINET that

Option 2. To retain the current scheme for 2021/2022 but allow for an increase in the income banding.