SCHEDULE OF ITEMS RECOMMENDED FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES

Committee: Council

Member Body

Date: 5 January 2017

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[R162]

1. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – 1 DECEMBER 2016

Localised Council Tax Reduction Scheme

The Committee considered a report requesting the continuation of the current Localised Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) for 2017/18, with a full review of the scheme being undertaken in 2017/18.

R141 (attached at Appendix A)

Report No.

The Director Resources commented that the Scheme had proved successful since the Council had been realistic, but that a review should be undertaken, including of Council Tax discounts and premiums in respect of empty homes and discretionary relief on Business Rates. In particular, an issue had been raised regarding support for 'not for profit' leisure and nursery provision. In that connection, Councillor Smith queried if some tax relief for these areas already had been proposed by the Government in the Autumn Statement. The Director Resources confirmed that this was the case, but a review was required as to whether this would be sufficient support, particularly in rural areas. Councillor Ross commented on the need to define what 'not for profit' actually meant.

It was resolved to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL:

1. That Council note the continuation of the current Localised Council Tax Reduction Scheme during 2017/18; with the intention that a full review of the scheme is undertaken in 2017/18.

2. That Corporate Governance and Finance Committee reviews the Council's policy with regard to Council Tax discounts and premiums; and discretionary business rate relief, in parallel to the above review.