

## Record of individual Cabinet member decision

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

<b>Decision made by</b>	Andrew Crawford
<b>Key decision?</b>	No
<b>Date of decision</b> (same as date form signed)	11 September 2019
<b>Name and job title of officer requesting the decision</b>	Paul Howden Revenues and Benefits Client Manager
<b>Officer contact details</b>	Tel: 01235 422484 Email: Paul.howden@southandvale.gov.uk
<b>Decision</b>	To approve a draft consultation document for the purposes of consulting on proposed modifications to the council's Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) to be effective from 1 April 2020.
<b>Reasons for decision</b>	<p>The council's current CTRS came into effect on 1 April 2014. The council wishes to make modifications from 1 April 2020 but in order to do so it is required by law to undertake a public consultation.</p> <p>The modifications proposed for the CTRS from April 2020 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that single parents with children aged under 5 years old will no longer have their CTR calculated up to a maximum of 91.5%, but to 100% and will not have their CTR calculated to a maximum of band E if they live in a higher banded property.</li> <li>• The definition of who is considered disabled in order to be exempt from the calculation of their CTR to a maximum of 91.5% and/or band E will be widened to take into account that present exemptions no longer exist in Universal Credit, which is replacing benefits where these premiums did exist. The scheme will be amended to specifically exempt applicants and their dependants who receive certain state benefits. These benefits will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Disability Living Allowance.</li> <li>○ Personal Independence Payments.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>There are certain elements within Universal Credit which</p>

	<p>perform the same function as the disability premiums. These are limited capability for work element (not available to new applicants from April 2017) and the limited capability for work related activity, which will also exempt applicants.</p> <p>The Government has recently announced a scheme to compensate people who have moved from legacy benefits to Universal Credit and lost their entitlement to a severe disability premium. Applicants who are entitled to this payment will also be exempt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bereavement Support Allowance is to be disregarded as income when calculating an applicant's CTR (as it is in other welfare benefits)</li> </ul>			
<b>Alternative options rejected</b>	If the council wishes to modify its CTRS it must consult the public. There is no alternative option.			
<b>Legal implications</b>	As explained above, there is a legal obligation to consult on any proposed modifications to a CTRS. Every council is also legally required to have a CTRS.			
<b>Financial implications</b>	<p>The consultation process will be managed by in-house staff as part of their job role.</p> <p>The financial implications to the council of implementing the three modifications is estimated to be around £3,000</p>			
<b>Other implications</b>	None			
<b>Background papers considered</b>	None			
<b>Declarations/conflict of interest? Declaration of other councillor/officer consulted by the Cabinet member?</b>	None			
<b>List consultees</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Date</b>
	Ward councillors	N/A		
	Legal	Ian Price		11/9/19
	Finance	William Jacobs	None	11/9/19
	Human resources	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Sustainability	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Diversity and equality	Yvonne C-G	N/A	11/9/19
	Communications	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Senior Management Team	ANDREW DOWN	Agreed	11/9/19
<b>Confidential decision?</b> If so, under which exempt category?	No			
<b>Call-in waived by Scrutiny Committee chairman?</b>				
<b>Has this been discussed by Cabinet members?</b>	Yes			
<b>Cabinet portfolio holder's signature</b> To confirm the decision as set out in this notice.	Signature <u>A. Powell</u> Date <u>11.9.19</u>			

**ONCE SIGNED, THIS FORM MUST BE HANDED TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES IMMEDIATELY.**

For Democratic Services office use only		
Form received	Date: 12 September 2019	Time: 17.00
Date published to all councillors	Date: 13 September 2019	
Call-in deadline	Date: N/A	Time:

