

## BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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<b>Report Originator</b>	Julie Trahern Head of Customer Services	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> C15/007	
<b>Wards Affected</b>	All	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	
<b>Title</b>	<b>LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT – UPDATE REPORT</b>		

**Portfolio Holder: Cllr Lesley Thurland**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide members with an update following consideration of this item by the Executive Committee at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

### **2. INFORMATION**

- 2.1 A detailed report on this issue has already been circulated to members with the agenda for this meeting. At the time of issuing the agenda, the Executive Committee had not considered the item and therefore had not made any formal recommendations to Council.
- 2.2 The Executive Committee considered the item at its meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016, and resolved / recommended the following;

**RESOLVED** that the comments that were submitted as part of the formal consultation process are noted.

**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL** that;

1. That with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, the following changes are made to ensure that the scheme remains current and where appropriate in line with the Housing Benefit Scheme.
  - a. Limit applicable amounts to 2 dependent children
  - b. Reduce absence from home outside of Great Britain to 4 weeks
  - c. Remove work related activity component
  - d. Remove severe disability premium where another person is paid Universal Credit (Carer's Element)

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2. Having considered the responses from the public consultation and the information contained within this report, Option 4 (continue with a 45% taper) is the preferred option.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Council approve the following;

- 3.1 That with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, the following changes are made to ensure that the scheme remains current and where appropriate in line with the Housing Benefit Scheme;
  - a. To limit the number of dependent children within the calculation for Council Tax Support to a maximum of two.  
(Technical change that aligns our scheme with Housing benefit Regulations if / when comes into effect)
  - b. Reducing the period for which a person can be absent from Great Britain and still receive Council Tax Support to 4 weeks  
(Technical change that aligns our scheme with Housing benefit Regulations)
  - c. To remove the element of a Work Related Activity Component in the calculation of the current scheme for new Employment and Support Allowance applicants  
(Technical change that aligns our scheme with Housing benefit Regulations)
  - d. To remove entitlement to the Severe Disability Premium where another person is paid Universal Credit (Carers Element).  
(Technical change that aligns our scheme with Housing benefit Regulations)
- 3.2 Having considered the responses from the public consultation and the information contained within this report, Option 4 (continue with a 45% taper for a 12 month pilot) is agreed and implemented with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.