

West Berkshire District Council Individual Executive Member Decision Record Sheet



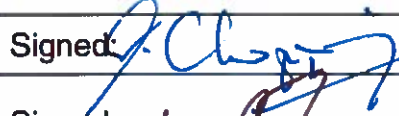


Forward Plan Reference	Service Grouping
ID3350	Resources

Title:	2017/18 Revised Exceptional Hardship Policy								
Recommendation by Officer:	<p>To agree that the Exceptional Hardship Fund can be administered as described in the attached document.</p> <p>The main addition to the policy is that there is no longer the need for the claimant to be currently entitled to Council Tax reduction in order that a hardship payment can be considered.</p> <p>The reason for this is the extent of the changes made (see points 6 & 7)</p>								
Purpose of Recommendation:	<p>The purpose of this report is to highlight changes made to the Exceptional Hardship Fund Policy.</p> <p>West Berkshire Council's Revenues and Benefits Service together with the Housing Service will operate the revised scheme.</p>								
Decision Taken:	As 'Recommendation by Officer' above.								
Reason for Decision Taken:	As 'Purpose of Recommendation' above.								
Options Considered:	Not having an exceptional hardship scheme would go against the principles set down by government. A different amount was considered but bearing in mind what was awarded during 2015/16 and the reducing entitlement for 2017/18 this would have been inequitable.								
Those Consulted and a Summary of Comments Received:	<p>Members:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Leader of Council:</td><td>Graham Jones emailed 5th July – no response as yet.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Overview & Scrutiny Management</td><td>Emma Webster emailed 5th July – no response as yet</td></tr> <tr> <td>Commission Chairman:</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Opposition Spokesperson:</td><td>Lee Dillon emailed 5th July – no response as yet</td></tr> </table>	Leader of Council:	Graham Jones emailed 5 th July – no response as yet.	Overview & Scrutiny Management	Emma Webster emailed 5 th July – no response as yet	Commission Chairman:		Opposition Spokesperson:	Lee Dillon emailed 5 th July – no response as yet
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Background Papers:	None								
Exempt Information:	None								

Declarations of Interest:	None
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I confirm that I have fully advised and have taken account of all the relevant facts in making this decision.

Is the Decision subject to Call In		Date Decision Made	Date Decision will be Implemented (5 clear days)
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>	27 July 2017	04 August 2017

Portfolio Member:	Signed: 	Print Name: Keith Chopping
Director or representative:	Signed: 	Print Name: Iain Bell
Witnessed by:	 on behalf of Head of Strategic Support	Print Name: GABRIELLE MANCINI
Date:	27 July 2017	