TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

11 February 2021

Report of the Director of Finance and Transformation

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Council

1 LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2021/22

A report providing the link to view the Draft Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2021/22, requesting Cabinet Members to approve and recommend the updated draft Scheme to Full Council.

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Each year Members should approve a Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme at Full Council prior to the beginning of the financial year the Scheme is to be effective.
- 1.1.2 For the 2021/22 Scheme, changes have been made to bring it in line with statutory prescribed requirements, housing benefit and other national benefit rates, and increases to income bands where uplifts to the Minimum Wage, a component of the income band level calculation, have been taken into account
- 1.1.3 The draft Scheme is available to view at: <u>https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1098120/Draft-Tonbridge-and-Malling-CTR-Scheme-2021.pdf</u>

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 A Scheme must be considered and agreed by 11th March prior to the financial year of operation.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 Financial effectiveness and cost of the Scheme will be monitored, reviewed and reported to the Finance, Innovation and Property Board during 2021/22.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 The draft 2021/22 Scheme includes amendments to reduce risk of legal challenge and provide greater equality in its application.

1.5 Policy Considerations

1.5.1 The Scheme will continue to operate in line with existing associated policies.

1.6 Equality Impact Assessment

1.6.1 Changes made in line with Government uprating of national rates.

1.7 Recommendation

1.7.1 Cabinet is requested to **RECOMMEND** the draft Scheme for 2021/22 to Full Council.

Background papers:

Nil

contact: Sharon Shelton Andrew Rosevear

Sharon Shelton Director of Finance & Transformation