

Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee 7 February 2023

JSC/41/22-23 Council Tax Support Fund in respect of 2023/24

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 6.

Following the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/24, on 23 December 2023 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities wrote to local authorities and issued guidance in respect of the Council Tax Support Fund.

Each council would be provided with funding to award a maximum of £25.00 additional Council Tax Support to both working age and pensioner households in respect of 2023/24. Councils could utilise their remaining funding allocation as they saw fit to support vulnerable households with Council Tax bills. The Committee was told that further funding opportunities would allow the maximum of £25 to be raised to £80

This report recommended the criteria to be adopted by Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council in respect of the Council Tax Support Fund.

The Committee agreed the recommendations in the report

Decision

The Joint Strategic Committee

- i) notes the content of this report and recommends to the respective Full Councils that the criteria to be adopted in respect of Council Tax Support Fund for 2023/24 5 Agenda Item 6 should be those detailed in paragraph 4.8 and in accordance with the government guidelines, subject to an increased payment of £80
- ii) Approve a budget virement in 2023/24 of £94,900 for Adur District Council and £146,400 for Worthing Borough Council to create the budgets required to implement this new scheme.

- iii) In the event that the Government amends the scheme, that the Committee delegates to the Head of Revenues and Benefits the ability to make minor and non-consequential adjustments to the scheme in consultation with the Leaders.