

## East Lindsey District Council

Not Confidential

Decision Notice From: **Leader of the Council**

Date: **3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

Title: Council Tax Support Fund 2023/24 and Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Approval for the Council Tax Support Fund scheme 2023/24, to be delivered under the council's discretionary powers contained in Section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

Wards Affected: **All Wards**

Key Decision: **No** Implementation Date: **3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

Urgent Decision: **Yes**

The decision is urgent as any delay caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. In accordance with the Council's Constitution the Chairman of the Council has agreed that the decision proposed is a reasonable in the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.

### **DECISION:**

1. That the Council Tax Support Fund scheme for 2023/24, as set out in section 2 of this report presented be approved to be delivered under the discretionary powers in Section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
  - Award up to £25 discount to existing Council Tax Support recipients that have an outstanding council tax liability for 2023/24, and
  - Provide a hardship discretionary scheme, to the extent of available funding, that supports economically vulnerable households with council tax bills and
2. That the 2023/24 Council Tax Discretionary Reduction policy, including the Council Tax Support Fund scheme be approved.

### **Reason for the Decision:**

Approval of this scheme will ensure eligible Council Tax payers receive the intended reduction from their 2023/24 Council Tax bill, in line with government guidance to local authorities, as part of annual billing processes in March 2023.

The approval of the approach for any remaining funds will allow the council to identify and support economically vulnerable households with council tax bills, through engagement with customers, or by application.

**Other Options:**

Do nothing – this option is discounted because eligible households would not benefit from the intended additional government support.

Different options were considered in terms of the distribution of the remaining funds under a discretionary element of this scheme, however it is felt the final recommendation will ensure access to the extent of available funding to those most in need.

**Alternative options considered:**

Do nothing – this option is discounted because eligible households would not benefit from the intended additional government support.

Different options were considered in terms of the distribution of the remaining funds under a discretionary element of this scheme, however it is felt the final recommendation will ensure access to the extent of available funding to those most in need.

**Conflict of interest declared:**

None.

**Dispensations granted in respect of a conflict of interest:**

N/A