

Full Council

23 February 2022

NOTICE OF MOTION 1 – Additional Discretionary Council Tax Discount

Mover Councillor Lamb and Seconder Councillor Peter Smith

As part of the Government's ongoing support to local residents throughout the pandemic, the Government provided the Councils with Council Tax Hardship Funding in 2020/21 which was intended to give each working age household claiming CTR up to an additional £150.00 discount on their Council Tax bill. Where a taxpayer's liability for 2020-21 was, following the application of the current local council tax support scheme, less than £150, then their liability would be reduced to nil. Where a taxpayer's liability for 2020-21 was nil, no reduction to the council tax bill will be available. Any surplus Council Tax Hardship Funds could be used to fund other initiatives aimed at vulnerable residents.

Working with colleagues in the County Council, an opportunity has arisen to replicate the additional discretionary payment for a second year of £150.00 given in 2020/21 which will be funded by the Council Tax Support Grant from West Sussex County Council and the remaining balance of the surplus Hardship fund remaining with Crawley Borough Council.

West Sussex County Council will fund 89.06p in every £1 of discount – this is WSCC and Sussex Police and crime commissioner's proportion of the Council tax bill.

Section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 provides that a billing authority may reduce the amount of council tax that a person is liable to pay to such an extent as the billing authority thinks fit.

This Council resolves to:

Agree an additional discretionary council tax discount of up to £150.00 per household for working age Council tax reduction claimants. This will reduce Council tax bills by up to £150.00 for vulnerable working age residents.