

EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: JANETTE WILLIAMSON

KEY DECISION NO

PORTFOLIO AREA: FINANCE & INCOME GENERATION

PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: FINANCE, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

SUBJECT: COUNCIL TAX DISCRETIONARY DISCOUNT FOR CARE LEAVERS

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 From 1 April 2018 Wirral care leavers who are aged 18 and up to 25 (to their 25th birthday) are awarded a discount up to 100% on their Council Tax payable.
- 2 The discount is awarded in accordance with Section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Act 1992.
- 3 The discount for Wirral care leavers be incorporated within the updated Council's Discretionary Discount Guidance (attached) and approved.

2. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 2.1 A report from the Children's Society (The Wolf at the Door) suggests that care leavers are a particularly vulnerable group where debt is concerned. The Council has the ability to support care leavers and award a local discount alleviating Council Tax debt. This fits with the Wirral Plan and aims and objectives and particularly Pledge 3 Young people are ready for work and adulthood and Pledge 5 Reduce child and family poverty

3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Signed: 	Signed: 
Executive Member: Janette Williamson (Finance and Income Generation)	Chief Officer: Tom Sault (Assistant Director : Finance / S151 Officer))
Date: 12 October 2017	Date: 12 October 2017
Date of Senior Policy Team Meeting(s):	

A list of background papers on this issue is held with:

Contact Officer: Neil Powell, Revenues Senior Manager 666 3505

Date: 12 October 2017

Date of Publication:

Date of Expiry of Call-In Period: