



**COUNCIL MEETING**

**15 December 2016**

**LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME FOR 2017/18**

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**Mike Barker, Acting Chief Executive**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend to Council a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for the year 2017/18 following consultation.
2. The Council is provided with funding to deliver its own Local Council Tax Support scheme although this grant is no longer separately identifiable having been subsumed within the council's overall settlement figure that continues to reduce year on year.
3. The proposed Local Council Tax Support scheme for Gateshead has been established with due regard to the Council's statutory obligations and in order to attempt to distribute the reduced funding available amongst those claimants most in need of financial assistance, whilst still achieving a contribution to meet the funding reduction.
4. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

5. It is recommended that Council:
  - i) Approves the proposed scheme as set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the attached report
  - ii) Delegates powers to the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources, to provide regulations to give effect to the scheme.