



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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| Held at: | Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Folkestone |
| Date | Tuesday, 24 May 2016 |
| Present | Councillors Mrs Ann Berry, Peter Gane, Clive Goddard, Mrs Claire Jeffrey, Michael Lyons, Frank McKenna, Ian Meyers, Peter Simmons and Mrs Rodica Wheeler |
| Apologies for Absence | Councillor David Owen |
| Officers Present: | Jordan Hall (Compliance and Information Governance Manager), Andrew Hatcher (Revenues and Benefits Manager) and Tim Madden (Corporate Director - Organisational Change) |
| Others Present: | |

1. **Election of Chairman**

Proposed by Councillor Clive Goddard
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Ann Berry and

Resolved: To appoint Councillor Peter Gane as Chairman of this Committee for 2016/17.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

2. **Election of Vice-Chairman**

Proposed by Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded by Councillor Clive Goddard and

Resolved: To appoint Councillor Mrs Claire Jeffrey as Vice-Chairman of this Committee for 2016/17.

(Voting: For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

3. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations for interest.

4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of Community Overview Committee held on 4 April 2016 were submitted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. **Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017/18: consultation proposals**

The existing scheme for Council Tax Reduction runs until 31 March 2017. The Council is required by law to approve a scheme for the year ahead by 31 January 2017 at the latest, which has been subject to consultation.

Draft Cabinet Report C/16/04 (due to be considered by Cabinet on 25 May 2016) sets out draft scheme options for the next 3 years that can form the basis for consultation. The report seeks Cabinet agreement to a number of recommendations which are set out in the report.

Andrew Hatcher, Revenues and Benefits Manager will give a short presentation to members on these proposals.

Proposed Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded Councillor Mrs Ann Berry

RESOLVED:

To recommend that Cabinet consider making the following amendments to the proposals:

1. **To receive and note Report C/16/04.**
2. **To amend Option 3 to read “reduce backdated applications to a maximum of 3 months (as opposed to 1 month as proposed)”.**
3. **To remove option 9 in its entirety.**
4. **To amend Option 13 to read “To limit the number of dependent children within the calculation for Council Tax Reduction to a maximum of 4 (as opposed to 2 as proposed)”.**

(For 9; Against 0; Abstentions 0)