

Scrutiny Panel 24th April 2023 Item 6 – Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review Scrutiny Panel Task and Finish Group Draft Report	Item No 6
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OUTLINE

From 2013/14 local authorities have been required to publish a council tax support scheme setting out the council tax support in their area. But the recent pandemic has brought poverty to the fore. In addition, the Directly Elected Mayor and Cabinet made a commitment to review the rate of contribution for working age adults eligible for council tax support to their council tax bill.

Scrutiny Panel set up the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) Task and Finish group to review the CTRS model in Hackney, the options and costs to the Council to reduce the liability of council tax contributions for relevant working age adults and the cost implications to implement a zero based CTRS model in Hackney.

The Task Group membership was open to all Councillors that were members of an Overview and Scrutiny Commission in the municipal year 2021/2022. This Task Group held 3 evidence sessions between September 2021 - February 2022.

The Task Group reviewed the impact of localised council tax support schemes in England and Hackney and considered proposals by Hackney to reduce the local contribution rate paid by working age households eligible for council tax support from 15% to zero.

The draft report has been finalised with the recommendations and findings from the review.

Purpose

The Scrutiny Panel is asked to sign-off the draft report.

Reports attached for this item

- Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review - Scrutiny Panel Task and Finish Group.

ACTION

Scrutiny Panel is requested to agree and sign-off the report as the final draft and send the report to the Mayor and Cabinet for an Executive response.

 **Hackney**