



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**

**to
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES
15 SEPTEMBER 2022**

DISCRETIONARY COUNCIL TAX REBATE SCHEME

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

For Members to approve the Discretionary Council Tax Rebate Scheme at **APPENDIX 1**. The scheme is fully funded by Central Government.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the proposed Discretionary Council Tax Rebate Scheme at **APPENDIX 1** be approved.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 In addition to a mandatory rebate scheme to help provide support for rising energy bills, the government has also allocated funds for a discretionary scheme. The use of these funds is to be determined by individual Councils in line with national guidance.
- 3.2 Funding allocations have been calculated based on the index of multiple deprivation and an estimated number of local council tax support claimants in bands E to H. This has resulted in Maldon being allocated £132k.
- 3.3 The mandatory scheme covered homes in bands A-D, providing a payment of £150. The discretionary scheme proposes allocations of £150 to those homes in bands A-H who are in receipt of Council Tax reduction.
- 3.4 In addition we are proposing that the balance of the funding is dispersed by way of a one off, equal value 'top up' payment to all recipients of the £150 payment (mandatory and discretionary schemes)

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The proposed Discretionary Council Tax Rebate Scheme at **APPENDIX 1** will enable additional financial support for eligible residents.

5. IMPACT ON STRATEGIC THEMES

- 5.1 The Discretionary Council Tax Rebate Scheme will enable the granting of additional money to residents which will support the Council's goal of "prosperity".

6. IMPLICATIONS

Impact on Customers – Eligible residents will receive a rebate.

Impact on Equalities – None.

Impact on Risk – The schemes should provide financial support to local residents.

Impact on Resources (financial) – None. The additional scheme is fully funded by Central Government.

Impact on Resources (human) – None. The additional schemes will be delivered within existing resources.

Impact on the Environment – None.

Impact on Strengthening Communities – None.

Background Papers: None

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