

Chief Executive's Budget Proposal**OPTION: Council Tax Over 70s Discount**

2015/16	2016/17	TOTAL
£000s	£000s	£000s
600	-	600

SUMMARY OF OPTION

Wirral Council is the only Council in the UK which offers households a discount on their Council Tax based purely on their age and the Council Tax band of their home. The discount is not means tested, people receive it regardless of their personal financial circumstances, and our residents with the lowest income already receive Council Tax Support and therefore either pay no, or only a proportion of, Council Tax. We therefore propose this option, which would remove that discount for all current recipients to achieve a saving of £600,000.

Wirral has over 15,500 over 70's households with low incomes that receive Full Council Tax Support as a protected vulnerable group. These households will be unaffected by this proposal.

IMPACT ON RESIDENTS

There is the potential that amongst the 11,700 current recipients of partial Council Tax Support that some households losing the discount could fall into financial hardship.

IMPACT ON PARTNERS

No direct impact on partners.

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY, VOLUNTARY AND FAITH SECTOR

No direct implications on community, voluntary and faith sector organisations.