



## COUNCIL – 12TH MARCH 2013

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT**

**REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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- 1.1 The following Notice of Motion, received from Councillors Mrs A. Collins, J.E. Fussell, C.P. Mann, M.J. Prew and J. Taylor was considered by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 30th January 2013:-

Caerphilly CBC strongly opposes the UK Government's cut to Council Tax Benefit and expresses concern at the consequences of this cut on the Authority's finances and additional financial burden that will be forced upon thousands of council tax benefit recipients in this borough.

Caerphilly CBC also expresses concern at the Welsh Government's decision to pass on this funding cut on to individual council tax benefit recipients and calls on the Welsh Government to make up any shortfall in funding for the next financial year and allow time for Local Authorities and the Welsh Government to work together to devise a fair and sustainable approach to council tax benefit in Wales.

- 1.2 Members acknowledged the need for the Notice of Motion to be amended to reflect the Welsh Government's recent announcement and the decision of Council on 29th January 2013. An amendment was proposed that the second paragraph of the Notice of Motion be revised.
- 1.3 Following discussion on the proposed amendment, the Scrutiny Committee considered and agreed the content of the Notice of Motion as follows:-

Caerphilly CBC strongly opposes the UK Government's cut to Council Tax Benefit and expresses concern at the consequences of this cut on the Authority's finances and additional financial burden that will be forced upon thousands of council tax benefit recipients in this borough.

Caerphilly CBC welcomes the Welsh Government's recent announcement that it will fund the 10% funding shortfall caused by the UK Government's cut to Council Tax benefit for 2013/14, and notes that Welsh Government's action will help to alleviate likely financial hardship for low income households in Caerphilly County Borough.

- 1.4 Members are asked to consider the revised Notice of Motion.

Author: Rebecca Thomas, Committee Services Officer  
thomar7@caerphilly.gov.uk

Background Papers:  
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Agenda dated 30th January 2013, Item Number 6