

MOTION ON NOTICE

City Council

**£150 Government Council Tax Rebate**

Council recognises that the current cost of living crisis is going to worsen over the coming months and will have an adverse impact on Plymouth's residents.

Council believes that national and local government should do everything in their power to mitigate the impact of the cost of living crisis on Plymouth's residents.

Council acknowledges that the Government has awarded every Council Tax payer in bands A-D a £150 rebate to provide relief against some of the impact of the lifting of the energy price cap in April.

Council notes that the rebate will not lead to a reduction in Council Tax bills but requires a new system to be put in place to pay Council Tax payers a one off payment of £150. Council further notes that the system put in place will require different approaches necessary for the 75,000 eligible people who pay by direct debit; the 35,000 eligible people who pay by other means; and the people who will receive a discretionary award once the scheme is designed.

Council considers that it is important that our scheme should be effective, efficient and fair.

Council acknowledges that we are not alone in having to develop the systems necessary to implement this government policy.

Council therefore agrees that the Leader writes to the Chancellor and the Minister for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities requesting that the Government:

- provide information about the level of funding that will be made available to administer this work
- provide further guidance on the discretionary element in order for there to be some consistency in approach and not a postcode lottery
- request that energy companies provide information to councils about customers using key meters, PayPoint or who are regularly in arrears as these are likely to be more vulnerable residents who should be prioritised

Proposed by: Councillor Chris Penberthy

Signature: Approved by email

Seconded by: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE

Signature: Approved by email