

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Wednesday, 17 February 2010

Decision No: (CAB 09/10 2563)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning
SUBJECT:	Proposed Council Tax Discounts for Special Constables and persons over the age of 65
AUTHOR:	Alex Moore

THE DECISION

- (i) That Cabinet considers the considerations and issues set out in this report and determines whether or not they wish to implement a Council Tax reduction scheme under S13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- (ii) If Cabinet chooses to implement such a Council Tax reduction scheme, the qualifying criteria in respect of the "Special Constable" element of the Scheme for 2010/11 and onward be that the reduction should be available to persons who are:-
 - (a) Special Constables on or after 1st April 2010; and
 - (b) Reside in a property within Southampton where there is a liability for Council Tax and serve as a Special Constable within Southampton.
- (iii) If Cabinet chooses to implement such a Council Tax reduction scheme, the level of reduction in respect of the "Special Constable" element should be 100%.
- (iv) If Cabinet chooses to implement such a Council Tax reduction scheme, to approve the qualification criteria for the discount as set out in Appendix 1.
- (v) To authorise the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods to take any further action necessary to implement the proposed scheme.
- (vi) To authorise the Executive Director of Resources to take any further action necessary to administer the scheme once approved by the Hampshire Police Authority (HPA) and Home Office.
- (vii) To continue the 10% council tax discount for persons over the age of 65, subject to the agreed criteria as shown in Appendix 2 for 2010/11 and onwards.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To assist in meeting the Council's objective of improving community safety and reducing crime and disorder.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Alternative funding options to reduce crime and disorder may not provide a direct incentive for potential recruits to the post of Special Constables, whereas the proposed council tax discount reduction scheme does.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Letter from the Chief Executive of the Hampshire Police Authority dated 17th February 2010.
The Cabinet was also addressed by Mr Bob Purkiss, Lead Member on the Police Authority for Special Constables.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 17th February 2010

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Sandra Coltman

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on 25 Feb 2010

Date of Call-in <i>(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)</i>
Call-in Procedure completed <i>(if applicable)</i>
Call-in heard by <i>(if applicable)</i>
Results of Call-in <i>(if applicable)</i>