**Suggested City Executive Board response to the recommendation of the Finance Panel (Panel of the Scrutiny Committee) on proposals for a revised Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2018/19**

**Provided by the Board Member for Customer and Corporate Services**

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| ***Recommendation*** | ***Agreed?***  | ***Comment*** |
| 1. That the Council consults on option 1 and perhaps makes it clear that this is a ‘preferred option’, giving reasons. | Yes | Option 1 will allow the Council to make efficiency savings as Universal Credit is more widely rolled out. It also provides greater flexibility to amend the support provided in the future. |
| 2. That the Council consults on options 2-7 & 9 as options that could form part of a package of measures to simplify the administration of the scheme and/or reduce costs. | Partly | The paper shows the full range of options that were available to the council to consult upon. However, I would propose that when it comes to the consultation, we consult on options 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9 and do not includeoptions 2, 4, 8 and 10-12. For instance, option 2 could discriminate against people with larger families, who may already be affected by other benefit changes such as the Benefit Cap. |
| 3. That the Council does not consult on Option 8.  | Agreed | As with option 2, option 8 discriminates against larger families. |
| 4. That the Council consults on Option 10, 11 and 12 making it clear that these are not the Council’s preferred options, giving reasons. | Not agreed | My preference would be to not include these in the consultation as these are not options that I would support.  |