

## APPENDIX A

### Service Data

#### 1. Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)

Funding from Welsh Government was allocated to fill the 10% shortfall in Council Tax Reduction for 2014/15. This support has continued for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme expenditure and budget are as follows:

- 2013/14 CTRS Budget £9,437,000 Expenditure £9,117,454
- 2014/15 CTRS Budget £9,742,000 Expenditure £9,025,074
- 2015/16 CTRS Budget £9,770,000 Expenditure £9,117,658
- 2016/17 CTRS Budget £9,850,000 Expenditure £9,337,597
- 2017/18 CTRS Budget £9,940,000 Expenditure £9,530,689 (May 2017)

Council Tax collection in-year has been maintained

- 2013/14 97.5%
- 2014/15 97.9%
- 2015/16 97.9%
- 2016/17 97.8%

Since 2013/14 the Council has resolved each year to adopt the Council Tax Reduction Schemes in accordance with the prevailing statutory instruments. [Council Tax Reduction Schemes and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations (the Prescribed Requirements Regulations) and the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements and Default Scheme) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations]

The annual resolution reconfirmed that the national scheme be adopted with the following discretions:

- That the Council continues to allow Extended Payments up to a maximum of 4 weeks.
- That the Council continues to disregard War Widow and War Disablement pensions in assessing income for Council Tax Reduction.
- That the Council continues to allow Backdated Reductions for a period up to 26 weeks.

#### 2. Social Size Criteria (Bedroom Tax)

The social size criteria affects working age claimants where they are under-occupying their home and only affects Housing Association and Council tenants. There will be a reduction in Housing Benefit of 14% for under-occupation of one spare bedroom and 25% for under-occupation of two or more spare bedrooms.

#### **Number of people who have had Housing Benefit reduced:**

April 2013	June 2014	Dec 2014	Sept 2015	June 2016	Mar 2017	May 2017
1,102	944	907	847	809	785	<b>770</b>

Since its introduction in April 2013 there has been a reduction of **332** in the number of people affected.

#### **Housing Benefit Reduction**

	June 2014	Dec 2014	Sept 2015	June 2016	Mar 2017	May 2017
14% reduction	795	770	716	675	641	<b>629</b>
25% reduction	149	137	131	134	144	<b>141</b>
<b>Total affected</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>770</b>

#### **Bedroom Tax broken down into landlord types**

LANDLORD	14% Reduction	25% Reduction	TOTAL
Council	348	99	447
Newydd	162	27	189
Hafod	58	12	70
United Welsh	24	2	26
Wales & West	32	1	33
Cando	2	0	2
Gwalia	3	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>770</b>

### Bedroom Tax broken down into landlord types as % of stock

LANDLORD	14% Reduction	25% Reduction	TOTAL
Council	9%	3%	12%
Newydd	12%	2%	14%
Hafod	10%	2%	12%
United Welsh	6%	0.50%	6.5%
Wales & West	7%	0.20%	7.2%
Cando	Not available	Not available	Not available
Gwalia	18%	0%	18%
TOTAL	10%	2%	12%

### 3. Benefit Cap

If a household's benefit entitlement is larger than the Benefit Cap the level of Housing Benefit payments will be reduced by the amount that is larger than the capped level. This will only affect working age claimants where the amount of benefit will be capped at £500 per week (£26,000 p.a.) for a couple or lone parent with children. From 2016/17 the amount of benefit has been capped at £384.62 per week (£20,000 p.a.).

July 2013	June 2014	Dec 2014	Sept 2015	June 2016	Mar 2017	May 2017
54	41	44	41	34	108	114

### 4. Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)

The DHP allocation from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for 2016/17 was £233,606 and the Authority itself has allocated a further £222,000, this gives an overall limit of £455,600.

The DHP allocation from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for 2017/18 is £330,286 and the Authority itself has allocated a further £223,000, this gives an overall limit of £553,286.

Applications	Received	Granted	Refused	Waiting Further Information	Waiting To Be Processed
2016/17	1014	653	361	N/A	N/A
May 2017	388	293	63	15	17

DHP Fund	DWP Allocation £	Paid £	Committed £	Remaining £	Council DHP Contribution £
2016/17	233,606	273,332	N/A	N/A	222,000
May 2017	330,286	61,694	121,492	147,100	223,000

The DHP awards were granted for the following reasons:

Reason	Number of awards	Amount Paid £	Number of awards	Amount Paid £
	2016/17	2016/17	May 2017	May 2017
Social Size Criteria (Bedroom Tax)	247	68,727.29	82	8,772.20
Benefit Cap	60	54,556.64	46	16,955.51
Local Housing Allowance restriction	187	92,464.38	83	13,990.80
Combination of reforms	10	2,935.62	11	3,389.10

Other	149	54,648.25	71	18,586.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>273,332.18</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>61,694.03</b>

<b>Purpose of DHP</b> Reasons why payments have been made:	<b>Number of awards 2016/17</b>	<b>Number of awards May 2017</b>
To help secure and move to alternative accommodation i.e. rent deposit	184	91
To help with short-term rent costs to secure moves	66	33
To help with short-term rent costs while the claimants seeks employment	101	62
To help with ongoing rental costs for Foster Carers	4	1
To help with on-going rental costs for disabled people	26	15
To help with on-going rent costs	272	91
<b>Total</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>293</b>

### **5. Local Housing Allowance (LHA)**

<b>Local Housing Allowance (LHA)</b> is a flat rate allowance based on the size of household and the area in which a person lives for tenants in privately rented accommodation which came into effect from April 2008.			
<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
Shared Accommodation £51.78 One bedroom £97.81 Two bedroom £118.52 Three bedroom £127.00 Four bedroom £161.10	Shared Accommodation £52.30 One bedroom £97.81 Two bedroom £115.07 Three bedroom £128.27 Four bedroom £160.00	Shared Accommodation £52.30 One bedroom £92.05 Two bedroom £115.07 Three bedroom £128.27 Four bedroom £159.95	Shared Accommodation £53.87 One bedroom £97.81 Two bedroom £115.07 Three bedroom £128.27 Four bedroom £160.00

### **6. Universal Credit Uptake (UC) from February 2016 UC launch**

<b>Universal Credit (UC) Uptake</b>	<b>Feb 2016</b>	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>Aug 2016</b>	<b>Nov 2016</b>	<b>Jan 2017</b>	<b>Apr 2017</b>
Claimants	15	136	325	466	628	<b>672</b>

To date due to Universal Credit a total of 65 Housing Benefit claims in the Vale of Glamorgan have been stopped and the housing costs are now covered by Universal Credit.

### **7. Universal Support - Delivered Locally (USDL)**

<b>USDL</b>	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>August 2016</b>	<b>Nov 2016</b>	<b>Feb 2017</b>	<b>May 2017</b>
Referrals Received	2	12	25	29	<b>33</b>
PBS given	1	5	11	12	<b>15</b>