

**Proposed Timeline for Council Tax Support Review**

Apr 2015	OSCOM Review of schemes for 2016/17 & 2017/18
Jul to Aug 2015	Interim reports to OSCOM for options to be considered for 2017/18 scheme
Sep 2015	Universal Credit Starts for Single Jobseekers (Average 5 claims per week 13% of all new claims)
Oct 2015	OSCOM - discuss impact of the scope of options for 2017/18 scheme
Oct 2015 to Mar 2016	Interim reports to OSCOM to review options for 2017/18 scheme
Dec 2015	Cabinet - recommend final scheme for 2016/17
Jan 2016	Council - approve final scheme for 2016/17
Feb 2016	Publicity of 2016/17 scheme
Apr 2016	OSCOM - recommend final options to consult on for 2017/18 Scheme
May 2016	Cabinet - agree options to consult on for 2017/18 Scheme
May to Jun 2016	Consultation with major preceptors
Jun to Aug 2016	Public consultation on possible options (12 weeks)
Sep 2016	*Universal Credit Starts for all Jobseekers - provisional (Average 8 claims per week 21% of all new claims)
Sep 2016	Review of public consultation responses
Sep 2016	Complete Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)
Oct 2016	OSCOM - present findings from consultation & agree recommendations to Cabinet on 2017/18 scheme
Nov 2016	Cabinet - recommend 2017/18 scheme to Council
Jan 2017	Council - approve final 2017/18 scheme
Feb 2017	Publicity of 2017/18 scheme
Dec 2017	*New claims for working age Housing Benefit cease (Average 30 new claims per week 79% of all new claims)
Dec 2019	*All working age Housing Benefit claims transferred to Universal Credit (3,600 claims - 63% HB caseload)

**Notes**

It is proposed that Cabinet recommend the final 2017/18 scheme in November 2016 in order that the taxbase setting can be as accurate as possible. This is similar to the timing used when Council Tax Support was first introduced.

\*Universal Credit dates based on Lord Freud's speech published by DWP on 21 January 2015