

**Test Valley Borough Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Panel and Lead Member Reviews - Scoping Template**

1	<p>Corporate Priority/Service Area (may be more than one)</p> <p>Developing skills that are needed to develop the local economy.</p> <p>Maintaining and developing the safety net for those who have the greatest housing need and are most vulnerable.</p>
2	<p>Lead Member(s)/Chairman of Panel</p> <p>Councillor Dorothy Baverstock</p>
3	<p>Portfolio Holder(s)</p> <p>Councillor Peter Giddings</p>
4	<p>Topic for Review</p> <p>Council Tax Support Scheme from 2017/2018</p>
5	<p>Key Areas of Focus</p> <p>To consult on a range of options for working age claimants regarding the level of Council Tax Support they receive.</p>
6	<p>What will be developed or reviewed?</p> <p>Affect of welfare reform and where there are gaps in provision and help in budgeting support.</p>
7	<p>Rationale – Why now/why at all?</p> <p>Government programme to introduce universal credit and financial effect for Council and residents.</p>
8	<p>Anticipated Benefits</p> <p>Keeping scheme up to date and taking into account all statutory changes.</p>
9	<p>Resource Implications</p> <p>Officer time, consultation implications, members involvement.</p>
10	<p>Are there any Partner Organisations involved in the Project?</p> <p>Disability groups, CAB, Housing Associations, Major Precepting Authorities (HCC, fire & police) and Parish Councils.</p>

11	Does the Project require Public Involvement? Yes – The Council is required to undertake a 12 week public consultation exercise outlining any proposed changes to the scheme.
12	Expected Outcomes: In 3 months (Progress or Full Report) Interim report with a proposed set of options.
13	How will the Project assist the achievement of a Corporate Priority or Priorities? Keep the Council Tax Support Scheme up to date and reflect Government priorities and changes to other welfare benefits. To listen to residents and protecting vulnerable people and improve quality of life.
14	What do you want OSCOM to do now? To agree the scope of the review.