

## **Council – 8 July 2013**

### **Notice of motion – “Bedroom tax” – right of appeal**

I set out below a notice of motion to Council on 8th July 2013 from Councillor Smith:

This Council, cognisant of the fact that those who have been informed and those who might be informed in the future, by the Council’s Housing Benefits office of a requirement to pay Bedroom tax, do indeed have a right of appeal in relation to the benefit decision following the implementation of ‘bedroom tax’, therefore resolves to ensure that this right of appeal is made much more clearly to those affected as it has become apparent that many of those affected by the bedroom tax are not aware of their right of appeal.

#### **Background**

All recipients of housing benefit are notified of their rights of appeal when a decision is made on their benefit.

The regulations are very specific as to how the claimants’ eligible rent is calculated.

The Authority, on the receipt of an appeal, will review the case details and amend if appropriate or confirm the original decision. Where the original decision is upheld the authority will prepare the case to be sent to the Tribunal Service for their consideration.

Appeals should be made to the authority in writing, within one calendar month of notification of the benefit decision. Appeals received outside of this time scale and not changed following a review, will be sent to the Tribunal Service who may choose to consider late appeals made up to 13 months after notification of the decision.

#### **Contact Officer:**

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