

APPENDIX 1

From: Martin Mitchell [mailto:Martin.Mitchell@london.gov.uk]
Sent: 29 May 2012 13:31
To: Rosenberg Paul
Cc: West Jane; Collins John; Martin Clarke
Subject: RE: GLA consultation regarding local taxation

Paul

Thanks for your email.

The GLA notes the intention of Hammersmith and Fulham to consult on proposals which will not pass on the reductions in council tax support to working age claimants for at least the first two years of the new system. We assume in practice that this means the Council will broadly operate the Government's default scheme in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

The GLA of course reserves the right to respond in detail as part of your wider consultation process and engagement with local residents and stakeholders in the borough over the summer. We will be circulating a letter through SLT over the next couple of days which will set out how we would encourage boroughs to engage and consult with the GLA and the relevant London Assembly constituency members (in your case Kit Malthouse) in relation to their draft schemes.

I also assume that the Council will be utilising the additional powers which will be granted in the Local Government Finance Bill to reduce or remove the discounts and exemptions offered in respect of empty and second homes and potentially levy a premium on long term empty properties. Once your Council/Cabinet has taken a view on these issues we would be grateful if you could advise the GLA of your intentions so that we can factor the potential impact on your council tax base into our forward budget planning.

Regards

Martin

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