

REPORT TO: TAYSIDE VALUATION JOINT BOARD – 23 JANUARY 2017

REPORT ON: RESTRICTION OF CONTRACT CAR HIRE SCHEME

REPORT BY: ASSESSOR

REPORT NO: TVJB 5-2017

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks to update members on the proposed restriction of the subsidised Contract Car Hire scheme.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Board approve changes to the Contract Car Hire scheme to increase the minimum threshold for entry to the scheme and to remove the exemption to the minimum entry requirement currently granted to valuation staff.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The budgeted annual cost of subsidising the Contract Car Hire scheme is currently £24,000 per annum. It is anticipated that once the scheme is restricted this will reduce to £17,000.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environment Assessment, Anti-Poverty and Equality Impact Assessment. There are no major issues.

5 BACKGROUND

5.1 The Board approved at its meeting of 25 August 2014 amendments to the subsidised Contract Car Hire scheme. That scheme contains a minimum threshold for entry to the scheme of 1,500 business miles per annum. However, under previously approved policies regarding the recruitment and retention of valuation staff an exemption is made to these entry requirements for those staff. Thus valuation staff are entitled to join the scheme with no minimum annual business mileage.

5.2 In the light of current economic restrictions and in order to meet the required budget reduction, it is proposed to increase the minimum entry threshold to 2,500 business miles per annum and to remove the exemption granted to valuation staff for a trial period of two years. At the end of the two year period the circumstances regarding recruitment and retention of valuation staff will be re-assessed and, should it be deemed to be required, the exemption may be re-instated. It is estimated that removing the exemption from the minimal threshold to join the scheme will reduce the annual expenditure in subsidising the scheme by approximately £7,000 per annum.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Clerk and Treasurer to the Board have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 None.

ALASTAIR KIRKWOOD
Assessor

23 January 2017