

Huntingdonshire District Council - Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25 Consultation - Responses

Background to the Council Tax Support Scheme consultation

1. I have read the background information about the Council Tax Support Scheme: This question must be answered before you can continue.				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		99.53%	210
2	No		0.47%	1
			answered	211
			skipped	124

Introducing an income-banded scheme for all working age applicants which will provide up to 100% support

2. Do you agree with introducing an income-based banded discount scheme as shown above?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		75.00%	108
2	No		15.97%	23
3	Don't Know		9.03%	13
			answered	144
			skipped	191

Key themes from people that disagree

- Levels of support should not be increased
- Income bands are too broad and income levels too high

Removing Non Dependant Deductions

4 Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		64.96%	89

4 Do you agree with this proposal?			
2	No		19.71%
3	Don't Know		15.33%
			answered
			137
			skipped
			198

Key themes from people that disagree

- Whole household should contribute

Disregarding certain elements of Universal Credit

6. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		74.22%	95
2	No		18.75%	24
3	Don't Know		7.03%	9
			answered	128
			skipped	207

Key themes from people that disagree

- All income should be taken into account

Where applicants or their partner (if they have one) are working, a standard disregard of up to £50 per week will be applied.

8. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		74.80%	95
2	No		15.75%	20
3	Don't Know		9.45%	12
			answered	127
			skipped	208

Key themes from people that disagree

- £50 is too generous

Any new claim or change in circumstances will be applied on a daily basis

10. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.32%	112
2	No		4.03%	5
3	Don't Know		5.65%	7
			answered	124
			skipped	211

Key themes from people that disagree

- Misunderstanding that this means CTS will change daily

Backdating support (up to a maximum of 12 months from the date of claim) where circumstances show that the applicant would have been continuously eligible for the period in question had they applied at that time.

12. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.65%	100
2	No		13.71%	17
3	Don't Know		5.65%	7
			answered	124
			skipped	211

Key themes from people that disagree

- There should be good reason for not claiming sooner

Protecting people with a disability by disregarding PIP, ESA (Support Component) and DLA.

14. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		77.24%	95
2	No		17.07%	21
3	Don't Know		5.69%	7
			answered	123
			skipped	212

Key themes from people that disagree

- All income should be taken into account

Protecting families by disregarding Child Benefit and Child Maintenance

16. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		70.25%	85
2	No		21.49%	26
3	Don't Know		8.26%	10
			answered	121
			skipped	214

Key themes from people that disagree

- All income should be taken into account

Disregarding Carer's Allowance

18. Do you agree with this proposal?			
Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		81.82% 99
2	No		13.22% 16
3	Don't Know		4.96% 6
		answered	121
		skipped	214

Key themes from people that disagree

- All income should be taken into account

Protecting War Pensioners by continuing to disregard War Pensions or War Disablement pensions in full

20. Do you agree with this proposal?			
Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		88.14% 104
2	No		6.78% 8
3	Don't know		5.08% 6
		answered	118
		skipped	217

Key themes from people that disagree

- All income should be taken into account

Reducing the Capital Limit to £10,000 and removing the assumed income from capital (or 'tariff' income) from the calculation of Council Tax Support

22. Do you agree with this proposal?			
Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		76.27% 90
2	No		14.41% 17
3	Don't know		9.32% 11
		answered	118
		skipped	217

Key themes from people that disagree

- Might be confusing as other benefits have different limits
- Capital level too high
- Capital level too low

Removing the Extended Payment provision.

24. Do you agree with this proposal?			
Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		73.95% 88
2	No		13.45% 16
3	Don't know		12.61% 15
		answered	119
		skipped	216

Key themes from people that disagree

- This should be retained

Providing an Exceptional Hardship Scheme

26. Do you agree with this proposal?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		83.05%	98
2	No		9.32%	11
3	Don't know		7.63%	9
			answered	118
			skipped	217

Key themes from people that disagree

- Needs careful management

Any other comments and suggestions on the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme

Key themes

- General agreement with the proposals
- Concerns about cost of the proposals
- Some reluctance to increase support
- Support may be required to transition to the new scheme

Information about those responding to the consultation:

29. Are you completing this form on behalf of an organisation or group?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		2.61%	3
2	No		97.39%	112
			answered	115
			skipped	220

Key themes

- Debt Advice sector
- Parish Council

Questions for Individuals

30. Do you live in the Huntingdonshire area?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		93.75%	105
2	No		6.25%	7
			answered	112
			skipped	223

31. Do you pay Council Tax?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		96.43%	108
2	No		3.57%	4
			answered	112
			skipped	223

32. Are you currently receiving Council Tax Support?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		17.86% 20
2	No		82.14% 92
		answered	112
		skipped	223

33. How would you describe your gender?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	I prefer not to say		7.21% 8
2	Female		63.96% 71
3	Male		28.83% 32
4	I describe myself in another way		0.00% 0
		answered	111
		skipped	224

34. Which of the following age ranges do you fall into?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Prefer not to say		7.14% 8
2	16-24		0.00% 0
3	25-34		8.04% 9
4	35-44		19.64% 22
5	45-59		38.39% 43
6	60-74		17.86% 20
7	75 or over		4.46% 5
8	75-84		4.46% 5
9	85+		0.00% 0
		answered	112
		skipped	223

35. Which of the following best describes your ethnic group?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Prefer not to say		15.93%	18
2	Arab		0.00%	0
3	Asian or Asian British: Indian		1.77%	2
4	Asian or Asian British: Pakistani		0.00%	0
5	Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi		0.88%	1
6	Asian or Asian British: Chinese		0.00%	0
7	Any other Asian Background		0.00%	0
8	Black or Black British: Caribbean		0.00%	0
9	Black or Black British: African		0.88%	1
10	Any other Black Background		0.00%	0
11	Mixed Heritage: White and Black Caribbean		0.88%	1
12	Mixed Heritage: White and Black African		2.65%	3
13	Mixed Heritage: White and Asian		0.00%	0
14	Any other Mixed Background		0.88%	1
15	White British		75.22%	85
16	White Irish		0.00%	0
17	Any other White Background		4.42%	5
			answered	113
			skipped	222

36. What is your religion/belief?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Prefer not to say		17.43%	19
2	Buddhist		0.92%	1
3	Christian (includes Church of England,		46.79%	51

36. What is your religion/belief?

	Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian Denominations)			
4	Sikh		0.00%	0
5	Jewish		0.00%	0
6	Muslim		0.92%	1
7	Hindu		0.00%	0
8	Other		1.83%	2
9	No religion		33.03%	36
			answered	109
			skipped	226

37. Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total	
1	Prefer not to say		22.52% 25	
2	Bisexual		2.70% 3	
3	Gay or lesbian		0.90% 1	
4	Straight/Heterosexual		73.87% 82	
5	Other		0.90% 1	
			answered	111
			skipped	224