

# **Enfield Council**

## **Council tax support consultation 2018/19.**

### **Appendix C to Cabinet Report – 24th January 2018**

## **Council Tax Support Consultation**

This report was generated on 09/11/17. Overall 45 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Yes (32) – 71%  
No (10) – 22 %  
Don't know (3) – 7%

### **Please tell us why:**

Upper Limit is too high. Reduce it by a few percent and use the additional Council Tax to pay for improvements to Council Services.

Too much for those on low income to afford

Because I have to work hard to pay mine so why are others not having to do the same  
Looking at the example, the payment of £392.53 is not enough. I assume other groups are paying "more" to compensate.

I think they should pay more

I have no idea how this number was calculated and don't have any information about why it is the optimal level.

I can barley afford it

Can people even afford to pay 26.5%?

White British people are struggling to manage, allow them some reprieve by paying their council tax until they're in work.

Should be reduced

Too many people benefit. More people should pay at least 50%.

### **People who receive High Rate Disability Living Allowance or Enhanced rate of Personal Independent Payments (received by Claimant, Partner or dependent Children)**

Yes (34) - 76%  
No (10) - 22%  
Dont' know (1) - 2%

### **People who receive Carers Allowance**

Yes (31) - 69%  
No (12) - 27%  
Dont' know (2) - 4%

## People who receive the Support Component of Employment Support Allowance

Yes (23) - 51%  
No (13) - 29%  
Dont' know (9) - 20%

## Single Care Leavers under 25 as a new proposed protected group

Yes (25) - 57%  
No (13) - 30%  
Dont' know (6) - 14%

## People who are a Foster Carer

Yes (22) - 49%  
No (17) - 38%  
Dont' know (6) - 13%

## War Widows or War Pensioners

Yes (33) - 77%  
No (8) - 19%  
Dont' know (2) - 5%

## Please comment if you have any comments about the Protected Groups:

People who receive High Rate Disability Living Allowance or Enhanced rate of Personal Independent

Payments protected group should not include dependent children. Having a disabled child should not

preclude the parents from working, or give them the right to this council tax support automatically.

Those receiving carers it should be about the whole family income

Care leavers getting assistance is a good idea

No one should get 100% council tax support. If you give people something for free you will not

appreciate it. In this case how can someone be part of a community if they don't contribute to the

upkeep of the community ? Council Tax should be lowered - The D band should be around 1000,

and the 100% Tax support should be lowered. Have a tiered

Single care leavers may get a full time job after leaving care - they may be able to pay Council Tax in

full. Giving them "protected status" needs looking into. Fosters carers do receive an allowance from

the council. They may also care for children who are at school most of the day, therefore they may be

in employment when children/young pers

Should also take into account worker's on low hours that have disability but are still working and don't

receive any disability benefit also people that have received pensions early due to medical grounds

and are still on low pay

its hard trying to keep up to date

Single Care Leaver under the age of 21 seems reasonable. 25 is too much.

Means test them all. There are thousands of people taking the piss out of benefits allowances.

This entirely depends on individual financial circumstances e.g if they are home owners and means testing.

**Do you think it's a good idea to have a simpler claims and administration process for those receiving Universal Credit?**

Yes (28)

No (10)

Dont' know (7)

22%

16%

62%

**To what extent do you agree or disagree that people receiving Universal Credit will not be eligible for Council Tax Support if their net earned income is more than £1265 per month?**

**(This is the maximum amount you can earn and still qualify for support)**

Strongly Agree (15)

Agree (9)

Neither agree nor disagree (6)

Disagree (6)

Strongly disagree (5)

Don't know (4)

33%

20%

11%

9%

13%

13%

**Please comment if you feel the Council's proposed Council Tax Support Scheme will affect particular groups of people more than others, and if so, how we may address the impact:**

Disabled people who work

Lower the council tax and get rid of 100% tax support.

Using the same processes for UC when dealing with CTB is sensible (saving tax payers money)

I feel that they should be offered support also, and they should be means tested as you don't know

there circumstances.

Rent is increasing every month, it will be best to consider those earning over £1500 and where their

rent could be costing that same amount.

All groups should contribute some amount to pay for their Council Tax.

How will the process be simpler? Will you apply any behavioural science to the design?

i think some people deserve full on help

Regarding Universal Credit, as many benefits as possible should be amalgamated into this to reduce

the overall administration of govts and to reduce the paperwork for claimants. Surely all councils can come together and agree on the necessary information to assess a council tax support claimant. This information should then be included on all Universal Credit applications (if it isn't already), and each council should then be able to make a relatively quick decision for each claimant as the information will be readily available.

You must look at the size of the family, the gap between the LHA and actual rent. Setting an arbitrary limit, without the context of the family circumstances will mean some people will suffer £1265 a month is nothing. We'd like to see some of the over paid executives at Enfield council survive on that!!!!

Simpler claims system is acceptable for some however too many people are claiming.

**Please provide any additional comments, including any alternative options you would**

**like us to consider:**

Senior citizens over 80 years old should get a reduction of their council Tax

If you hadn't ruined local businesses by putting pointless cycle lanes in you would have a- saved

money to support the vulnerable through this scheme instead and b - not ruined local business

meaning you could collect more business rates. When are you going to introduce 2 hours free parking

in the town so the shops there can compete with the A10? Or is Church Street just going to become a

cycle lane used by 1 cyclist an hour? Well done for proposing to support care leavers but as someone

who works in the family court system I can tell you that you are failing these young people every day

as your social care & child protection is appalling. You must know about Barnet's recent Ofsted & they

are at least double as good as you so I look forward to yours. You can't even calculate my council tax

correctly each year & then you want me to give you direct debit authority- you are just an appalling

failure of a council all round

As a resident of Enfield for over 30 years. I feel that Enfield Council are not supportive or even

compassionate to residents of Enfield. Therefore I appreciate that they are consulting with residents

on how they feel of the current Council tax system, currently there is NO current support system if you

can not make the payment the council take you straight to court, irrespective of any financial circumstance.

How about introducing a local tax for tourist and visitors a small charge but would help with the

Council's finances. Persons owning long term empty residential properties in the Enfield Borough

should pay double the appropriate council tax.

Stop punishing those who are disabled. You are supposed to be a Labour council. Seems you don't

care about anybody. You only want your pay and pensions supported. You don't care about the people of Enfield at all.

Council\_Tax\_Support\_2017  
Council Tax Reduction Scheme  
Page:5  
Snap snapsurveys.com

**Please provide any additional comments, including any alternative options you would**

**like us to consider:**

Well i think some people deserve full on help im a single mother im 25 years old an am now in debt with council tax as had to use the money on my child.. some of us try so hard to stay up to date but its so easy to fall behind. talkin from experiance not all of us choose to be single an gain no help Those that are working but unfortunately not earning enough should be supported. Those that are higher earners or living in the highest council tax bands should have a higher levy to subsidise the low paid. I fit into both the higher earner and higher council tax band groups, and I would be happy to contribute more provided that it subsidised those who are working hard but struggling. I know that there has been a recent increase in council tax, but why can't there be another increase for those living in the top 2 or 3 council tax bands? And/or remove the single occupancy discount for those in the highest council tax bands. This will not affect renters as they are extremely unlikely to rent a multiple bedroomed house for 1 person (and if they can afford to do so then they should not receive a discount anyway). It will affect homeowners, which is fair because even if a homeowner's income is low, their assets are by definition high in these council tax groups. Please find a way of incentivising and protecting those people who are working, on a low income, where there is a gap between the local housing allowance and actual rent. Stop pushing people into arrears as a result of the gap in LHA and only insisting to help (DHP) when they are in arrears and at risk of eviction. This approach while it helps to manage a limited resource - causes major problems for other services where they have to pick up the pieces - mental health, emergency accommodation, social services and the list goes on Stop employing over paid consultants and external organisations to carry out ridiculous surveys on how happy or not staff are. Hundreds of people are being made redundant and you're still wasting money. What the hell is going on?!

**Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?**

Yes (-)

No (45) 100%

**Do you pay Council Tax to Enfield Council?**

Yes (37)

No (8)

82%

18%

**Are you currently receiving Council Tax Support in Enfield?**

Yes (10)

No (35) 78%

22%

**In which postal district do you live?**

EN1 (8)

EN2 (11)

EN3 (4)

EN4 (-)

N9 (7)

N11 (2)

N13 (1)

N14 (2)

N18 (1)

N21 (3)

Prefer not to say (3)

Other (3)

9%

7%

24%

18%

2%

2%

4%

4%

16%

7%

7%

**Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has**

**lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?**

Yes, limited a lot (2)

Yes, limited a little (5)

No (32)

Prefer not to say (4)

5%

12%

74%

9%

**How would you describe your ethnic origin?**

British (24)

Prefer not to say (8)

Other (4)

Irish (3)

Greek Cypriot (1)

Italian (1)

Polish (1)

White and Black African (1)

Caribbean (1)

Sri Lankan (1)

Greek (-)

Turkish (-)

53%

18%

9%

7%

2%

2%

2%

2%

2%

2%

**If 'other', please specify:**

Mixed other

Mauritian

WHITE BRITISH

**Which of these activities best describes what you are doing at present?**

4%

16%

4%

7%

7%

2%

7%

42%

2%

9%

**Do you have parenting responsibilities?**

Yes (17)

No (25)

Prefer not to say (3)

38%

56%

7%

**How would you describe your relationship status?**

Living alone (16)

Married (16)

Living as a couple (4)

Civil Partnership (-)

Prefer not to say (5)

Other (4) 9%

**If 'other', please specify:**

living in a house share

WIDOWER

Separate

Single Mother with an unemployed adult Son just out of Uni.

**Which of the following organisations do you represent?**

Voluntary organisation (-)



Housing association (-)  
Landlord (-)  
Other (-)