

08 November 2018 at 7.00 pm

Conference Room, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks  
Despatched: 31.10.18

# Cabinet

## Membership:

Chairman, Cllr. Fleming; Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Lowe  
Cllrs. Dickins, Firth, Hogarth, Piper and Scholey

## Agenda

There are no fire drills planned. If the fire alarm is activated, which is a continuous siren with a flashing red light, please leave the building immediately, following the fire exit signs.

	Pages	Contact
Apologies for Absence		
1. <b>Minutes</b> To agree the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11 October 2018, as a correct record.	(Pages 1 - 6)	
2. <b>Declarations of interest</b> Any interests not already registered.		
3. <b>Questions from Members (maximum 15 minutes)</b>		
4. <b>Matters referred from Council, Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee, CIL Spending Board or Cabinet Advisory Committees</b>		
5. <b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/20</b>	(Pages 7 - 52)	Heather Gaynor Tel: 01732227435

## REPORTS ALSO CONSIDERED BY THE CABINET ADVISORY COMMITTEES

6. <b>Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy</b>	(Pages 53 - 80)	Paldeep Bhatti Tel: 01732227128
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## EXEMPT INFORMATION

### Consideration of Exempt Information

Recommendation: That, under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting when considering Agenda item 7 below, on the grounds that likely disclosure of exempt information is involved as defined by Schedule 12A, paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).


7. **Asset Management Update**

(Pages 81 - 86)

Andrew Stirling  
Tel: 01732227099



 Indicates a Key Decision

 indicates a matter to be referred to Council

If you wish to obtain further factual information on any of the agenda items listed above, please contact the named officer prior to the day of the meeting.

Should you need this agenda or any of the reports in a different format, or have any other queries concerning this agenda or the meeting please contact Democratic Services on 01732 227000 or [democratic.services@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@sevenoaks.gov.uk).

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2018 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr. Fleming (Chairman)

Cllr. Lowe (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs. Dickins, Firth, Piper and Scholey

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. Hogarth

Cllrs. Dr Canet, Eyre and Pett were also present.

27. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 13 September 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

28. Declarations of interest

There were no additional declarations of interest.

29. Questions from Members

There were none.

30. Matters referred from Council, Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee, CIL Spending Board or Cabinet Advisory Committees

There were none.

31. Draft Corporate Plan

Members considered the report which sought comments on and approval of the current text for the Draft Corporate Plan. The Plan has been developed in consultation with Members, and under each theme the Draft Plan set out actions that the Council would take to ensure communities had suitable homes to live in, within a safe, healthy and protected environment, supported by a strong local economy that provided the jobs and services needed.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the Draft Corporate Plan be approved; and
- b) authority be delegated to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to finalise the Draft Corporate Plan and prepare a report for Council.

32. Extension of Mandatory Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)

The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health presented the report which advised that regulations extending the mandatory licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) to cover all properties with 5 or more occupiers living in 2 or more households and sharing amenities, regardless of the number of storeys, had now been published and would come into force on 1 October 2018. The Housing Standards Team Leader set out that the report sought agreement to the proposals for the implementation of the extension of HMO licensing, noting the degree of uncertainty on the numbers requiring licensing and impact upon resources and the level of fees associated with the processing of applications.

The Housing and Health Advisory Committee had considered the same report and had agreed to recommend it to Cabinet.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the approach outlined within the report to deliver the extension of mandatory licensing, be approved; and
- b) the setting of the associated application fees as detailed below, be approved
  - i) an HMO with no more than 5 units of accommodation be set at £654.00 with any additional habitable rooms including bedrooms being charged at £23.00;
  - ii) renewal applications be charged at £412.00;
  - iii) costs associated with a change of HMO licence holder, if within 12 months of previous licence being proposed be £306, (after a year the usual licence fee is applicable); and
  - iv) for landlords who have become members of the various accrediting schemes run county and nationwide, a 10% discount be applied.

33. Community Plan 2017/18 Annual Report

Members considered the report which set out the annual monitoring for the second year (2017/18) of the Sevenoaks District Community Plan 2016-19.

The Community Planning and Projects Officer set out further details and advised that the Economic Community and Development Advisory Committee had received and noted the report.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

34. Bradbourne Lakes - Sevenoaks

The Portfolio Holder Direct & Trading presented a report which advised on the results of the Public Consultation carried out in August 2018 on 'The vision for Bradbourne Lakes' and sought approval to commission consultants to develop a full vision costed plan in order to be able to seek external funding.

The Direct & Trading Advisory Committee had considered the report and had agreed to recommend it to Cabinet.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the results of the Public Consultation be noted and the Land Use Consultants (LUC) be commissioned to develop a full vision costed plan and external funding opportunities explored, and for grant applications to fund the proposed improvement and restoration works be submitted; and
- b) the consultancy works (at an estimated cost of £60,000) be considered as a growth item for the 2019/20 budget.

35. The Animal Welfare (Licensing Of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018

The Portfolio Holder Direct & Trading Services presented a report which advised Members on the introduction of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, which came into force on 1 October 2018 and sought agreement to a fee structure and enforcement approach.

The Assistant Environmental Health Manager - Environmental Protection set out that the Direct & Trading Advisory Committee had considered the report and had agreed to recommend it to Cabinet.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the changes by the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 be noted;
- b) the associated fee structure as set out below, produced in accordance with DEFRA guidance, be agreed;

Licensing Activity	New Application	Renewal Application	Current fee (no variation in new or renewal fee)
Animal Boarding	£418	£374	£250
Selling of Animals	£418	£374	£250
Hiring out horses (formerly riding establishments)	£483	£440	£278
Breeding of Dogs	£402	£358	£250
Home Boarders	£386	£342	£224
Dog Day Care	£386	£374	N/A
Performing Animals	£386	£342	£95 (previously only registration)
Dangerous Wild Animal	£418	£374	£343

Cabinet - 11 October 2018

Zoo (5 year licence)	£2694	£2650	£3025
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Impact of Star Rating						
Star Risk Rating	1-2*	3-4*	5*	1-2*	3-4*	5*
Licence Period	1	2	3	1	2	3
Activity	New Application			Renewal		
Animal Boarding	£418	£209	£139	£374	£187	£125
Selling of Animals	£418	£209	£139	£374	£187	£125
Hiring out horses (formerly riding establishments)	£483	£241	£161	£440	£220	£147

- c) the enforcement approach be agreed in that initially (until April 2019) Officers be empowered to take a ‘light touch’ approach to enforcement, not seeking to enforce against a business operating without a licence (having not required one in the previous regime) subject to officers being satisfied that an imminent application would be received by the District Council; and
- d) working with the Portfolio Holder Direct and Trading Services and Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services, any update to the DEFRA guidance be brought into the scheme.

36. Parking Management 2019/20

The Portfolio Holder Direct & Trading presented a report which sought approval of the proposed parking management proposals for public consultation. It was proposed to consult on freezing all charges on and off street across the district with the exception of a moderate increase to Bradbourne car park to keep abreast of inflationary pressures.

The Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services set out that the Direct & Trading Advisory Committee had considered the report and had agreed to recommend it to Cabinet subject the additional recommendation that a flexible multi-year approach be adopted, to allow the Council, as a local parking provider,

to be more responsive to economic cycles as well as the needs of its customers and communities.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That

- a) the parking management proposals for 2019/20 be agreed for consultation; and
- b) a flexible multi-year approach be adopted, to allow the Council, as a local parking provider, to be more responsive to economic cycles as well as the needs of its customers and communities.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 7.50 PM

CHAIRMAN

IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

This notice was published on 12 October 2018. The decisions contained in Minutes 31, 33 and 34 take effect immediately. The decisions contained in Minutes 32, 35 and 36 take effect on 22 October 2018.



## COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2019/20

**Cabinet - 8 November 2018**

Report of: Chief Finance Officer

Status: For Decision

Also considered by: Finance Advisory Committee - 15 November 2018

Council - 20 November 2018

Key Decision: No

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**Executive Summary:** This report seeks Member's approval to recommend the adoption of a replacement Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme for 2019/2020, which is to be implemented with effect from 1 April 2019.

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**Portfolio Holder** Cllr John Scholey

**Contact Officers** Adrian Rowbotham, Ext. 7153  
Heather Gaynor, Ext. 7435

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### **Recommendation to Cabinet**

- (a) That the comments of the Finance Advisory Committee to be held on 15 November 2018 be forwarded to Council for consideration.
- (b) To recommend to the Council to adopt the new Council Tax Reduction scheme from the 2019/20 financial year.

### **Recommendation to Finance Advisory Committee**

- (a) Noting the decision of Cabinet on 8 November 2018, that the Committee consider the proposed Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2019/20 and forward any comments to Council.

### **Recommendation to Council**

- (a) That Council resolves to adopt the new Council Tax Reduction scheme from the 2019/20 financial year as required by S13A and Schedule 1A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended.

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### **Reason for recommendation**

The decision on any amendments to the Council's CTR scheme must be taken by Council. In order to comply with prescribed requirements, the decision of Council must be made by 11 March 2019 in order for the recommended amendments to

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take effect from 1 April 2019.

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### **Introduction and Background**

- 1 The Council Tax Reduction scheme replaced Council Tax Benefit with effect from 1 April 2013.
- 2 Under the Council Tax Reduction provisions, the scheme for pensioners is determined by Central Government and the scheme for working age applicants is determined by the Council. Pensioners broadly receive the same level of support that was previously available under the Council Tax Benefit scheme.
- 3 The current scheme (2018/19) for working age applicants is based on the previous Council Tax Benefit means tested, but has been amended since 2013. The following changes currently apply to working age applicants only:
  - a. All working age applicants are required to pay a minimum of 20% towards their Council Tax liability;
  - b. If a person is self-employed, a minimum income floor may be imposed where a person's income is less than expected after two years of trading, this could be based on 35 hours x National Living Wage. There are some exemptions to this.
- 4 The scheme has been amended each year for general changes in applicable amounts (primarily in relation to disability premiums) and for non-dependant deductions.

### **Council Tax Reduction and the Full Service Roll Out of Universal Credit**

- 5 The introduction of Universal Credit within Sevenoaks District will, as experienced in all other areas bring a number of challenges to both the administration of Council Tax Reduction and also the collection of Council Tax generally. Sites within full service areas have experienced the following:
  - a. The reluctance of Universal Credit claimants to make a prompt claim for Council Tax Reduction leading to loss of entitlement;
  - b. A high number of changes to Universal Credit cases are received from the Department for Work and Pensions requiring a change to Council Tax Reduction entitlement. On average 40% of Universal Credit claimants have between eight and twelve changes in entitlement per annum. These changes result in amendments to Council Tax liability, the re-calculation of instalments, delays and the demonstrable loss in collection; and
  - c. The increased costs of administration through multiple changes with significant additional staff and staff time being needed.
- 6 It is clear that the existing means tested Council Tax Reduction scheme, which is too reactive to change, will not be viable once Universal Credit has

been rolled out fully within the area and the move to a new more efficient scheme from 2019 is now imperative.

**The 2019/20 Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

- 7 Cabinet on 12 July 2018 resolved that the work undertaken to date and the recommendation that a redesign to the current Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme is required to address the issues Universal Credit Full Service, upon which we should consult be noted. Also that a consultation be launched on the potential introduction of a fundamental redesign to the current CTR scheme for working age claimants.
- 8 The Finance Advisory Committee on 5 June 2018 resolved that the progress at that stage on proposed changes to the CTR scheme for 2019/20 be noted.
- 9 In view of the problems being experienced with Universal Credit, the Council Tax Reduction schemes for Sevenoaks has been fundamentally redesigned to address;
  - a. The problems with the introduction of full service Universal Credit; and
  - b. The inevitable increase in administration costs due to the high level of changes received in respect of Universal Credit.
- 10 Work has been undertaken since January 2018 on a new scheme which is now completed. If accepted by Council, the new scheme will be implemented from 2019/20. The new scheme has a number of features as follows:
  - a. The overall expenditure (cost) of the scheme will remain broadly as at present;
  - b. The changes can **only be made to the working age schemes** as the current scheme for pensioners is prescribed by Central Government;
  - c. The current means - tested scheme will be replaced by a simple income grid model as shown below:

Following the modelling the original income levels were found to be too low. The ranges have therefore been widened to be as inclusive as possible and to minimise any impact on applicants.

		Weekly Income levels			
Band	Discount %	Single person	Couple with no children	Couple or Lone Parent with one child	Couple or Lone Parent with two or more children
1	80	Passported Benefit			

## Agenda Item 5

1	80	£0 - £79.99	£0 - £119.99	£0 - £179.99	£0 - £239.99
2	60	£80 - £129.99	£120- £169.99	£180 - £229.99	£240 - £299.99
3	40	£130 - £179.99	£170 - £219.99	£230 - £279.99	£300 - £349.99
4	20	£180 - £259.99	£220 - £299.99	£280 - £379.99	£350 - £449.99
5	0	£260+	£300+	£380+	£450+

For the sake of clarity all incomes shown within the table above are weekly in accordance with the scheme requirements and definitions.

- d. It is recommended that the highest level of discount will be set at current maximum level of liability (80%) and all current applicants that are in receipt of a 'Passported Benefit' such as Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based) and Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related) receive maximum discount;
- e. All other discount levels are based on the applicant's (and partner's, where they have one) net income;
- f. The scheme allows for variation in household size with the levels of income per band increasing where an applicant has a partner, and / or dependants;
- g. Limiting the number of children used in the calculation of support to two for all working age applicants. This will bring the scheme in line with Universal Credit;
- h. Where an applicant had non-dependants living with them, no deduction shall be made from any entitlement. This is a significant change and means that the administration of the scheme will be more straightforward whilst also protecting low income families where adult sons and daughters for example remain at home;
- i. To remove Second Adult Rebate;
- j. To encourage work, a standard £25 per week disregard will be provided against all earnings for all applicant types. This will take the place of the current standard disregards and additional earnings disregards. Where a family also receives a child care disregard (for child care costs not paid for by Central Government schemes), this has been allowed for within the income levels in the 'grid scheme';
- k. Disability benefits such as Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Allowance will continue to be disregarded and, in addition, the Support Component of Employment and Support Allowance and

Carer's Allowance will also be disregarded, again providing additional protection with the scheme

- l. Where an applicant is disabled, they have a disabled child or receive the Support Component of the Employment and Support Allowance, the amount they receive as a premium under the existing scheme will be replaced by an equivalent income disregard (in addition to the disregard of disability benefits as outlined in k. above)
- m. The total disregard on war pensions and war disablement pensions will continue;
- n. The capital limit under the new scheme will be £6,000. This is a reduction from the current level of £16,000. Any capital below this level will not have any effect on the applicant's entitlement to Council Tax Reduction;
- o. Removes the conditions that prevent certain students from claiming Council Tax Reduction;
- p. Removing extended payment provision;
- q. Changing the CTR claiming process for all applicants who receive Universal Credit;
- r. Making , all changes in circumstances which change any entitlement to Council Tax Reduction on a daily basis rather than the current (benefit based) weekly basis;
- s. Where a request is made to backdate entitlement, the current scheme requires the applicant to prove 'good cause'. The new scheme will replace 'good cause' with a general discretion to backdate, and
- t. The scheme will have a minimum award of £1.00 per week.

#### **How the new scheme will address the problems of full service Universal Credit**

- 11 Due to the simplicity of the proposed new scheme and by taking a more 'Council Tax discount approach', it will address the problems associated with Universal Credit as follows;
  - a. **The scheme will require a simplified claiming process.** In the case of Universal Credit applicants *any* Universal Credit data received from the Department for Work and Pensions will be treated as a claim for Council Tax Reduction. Where information is received from DWP, the entitlement to Council Tax Reduction will be processed automatically without the need to request further information from the taxpayer. This will have the following distinct advantages namely:
    - i. **Speed of processing** - claims will be able to be calculated automatically and promptly without the need to request further information which inevitably leads to delays;

## Agenda Item 5

- ii. **Maximising entitlement to every applicant** - as there will no requirement for Universal Credit applicants to apply, entitlement to Council Tax Reduction will be maximised with a reduced risk of loss of discount or the need for backdating;
  - iii. **Maintenance of collection rates** - the new scheme will avoid constant changes in discount, the need for multiple changes in instalments and therefore assist in maintaining the high collection rates currently achieved.
- b. **The income bands are sufficiently wide to avoid constant changes in discount.** The current Council Tax Reduction scheme is very reactive and will alter even if the overall change to the person's liability is small. This is leading to constant changes in Council Tax liability, the need to recalculate monthly instalments and the requirement to issue a large number of Council Tax demands. The effect of this is that Council Tax collection is reduced. The new scheme, with its simplified income banding approach will have the following advantages:
- i. Only significant changes in income will affect the level of discount awarded;
  - ii. Council Taxpayers who receive Council Tax Reduction will not receive multiple Council Tax demands and adjustments to their instalments.
- c. The new scheme is designed to reflect a more modern approach, where any discount changes it will be effective from the day of the change rather than the Monday of the following week.

### Transition to the new scheme and the Council's Exceptional Hardship Policy

- 12 The Council is mindful that any change in scheme or a transition to a new scheme may result in a change to the entitlement of certain applicants.
- 13 Whilst the new scheme has been designed to protect vulnerable groups and to, where possible, minimise any reductions in entitlement, it is proposed that the new scheme will contain additional provisions to protect individuals who experience exceptional hardship. Where any applicant is likely to experience exceptional hardship, they will be encouraged to apply for an exceptional hardship payment. The Council will consider all applications for exceptional hardship on an individual basis, taking into account available income and essential outgoings.
- 14 The current policy only allows the applicant to apply for exceptional hardship whilst they are in receipt of CTR. An amendment to the policy is recommended to allow an applicant to apply for exceptional hardship where they have been in receipt of CTR within the last 6 weeks. This will allow applicants who no longer qualify to apply for exceptional hardship.

- 15 The Council is of the opinion that this approach will enable individual applicants to be dealt with in a fair and equitable manner.

### **Public Consultation**

- 16 To effect changes to the CTR scheme, the Council has a legal duty to carry out public consultation and assess the impacts of the proposed changes with regard to equalities. The Council has undertaken a full public consultation over an eight week period, which ended on 17 September 2018.
- 17 An on-line questionnaire was available on the Council's website over the eight week period. A letter was sent to all working-age claimants advising them of the web link and also giving them an option to request a hard copy of the questionnaire. Registered Social Landlords and third sector organisations were also advised of the consultation and encouraged to respond.
- 18 The Council should be mindful of these responses shown at Appendix A. It should be noted that overall, the responses were favourable to the changes proposed.
- 19 Within the report to Cabinet on 12 July, Members endorsed that in response to a complaint to the Council, the consultation was used to establish if a wider issue existed with access to the CTR scheme for those that regard themselves to work in the 'gig economy' (an environment where temporary positions are common and organisations contract with independent workers for short-term engagements). The Council follows standard practice and identifies applicants in this situation as self-employed. Two comments were received in relation to this question, but data indicates it is not a wide or significant issue for claimants.

### **Consultation with Major Preceptors**

- 20 In addition to a full public consultation, the Council also has consulted with the major preceptors namely Kent County Council, Kent Fire and Rescue Service and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent
- 21 The preceptors have agreed with the changes proposed and are happy with the approach taken by the Council. Response from Kent County Council stated:
- Based on the stated aims (no detrimental impact on tax base or material change in benefit discounts) we are happy to support this and encourage schemes to be kept up to date with welfare reforms.

### **The new scheme**

- 22 The proposed new scheme document is attached at Appendix C

### Key Implications

#### Financial

The annual cost of the current CTR scheme is £5.6 million of which £2.7 million relates to working age claimants. It is anticipated that there will be no significant increase in expenditure under the new scheme. Final costs will be calculated once the Council Tax levels for 2019/20 have been set by full Council.

There will be no significant financial impact to the Council and the Major Precepting Authorities (Kent County Council, Fire Authority and Police).

Where an individual may suffer exceptional hardship, the scheme will include an exceptional hardship provision which will be met by the collection fund in the same way as Council Tax Reduction.

#### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

Schedule 1A (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended requires local authorities to consider the following:

*For each financial year, each billing authority must consider whether to revise its scheme or to replace it with another scheme.*

*The authority must make any revision to its scheme, or any replacement scheme, no later than 11<sup>th</sup> March in the financial year preceding that for which the revision or replacement scheme is to have effect.*

In addition, where there are changes to the scheme the authority is obliged under Schedule 1A (5) (4) *if any revision to a scheme, or any replacement scheme, has the effect of reducing or removing a reduction to which any class of persons is entitled, the revision or replacement must include such transitional provision relating to that reduction or removal as the authority thinks fit.*

The full implications of the legislation are addressed with paragraph 10-13 above. The exceptional hardship provision will provide a mechanism enabling the Council to award additional support where it is felt that any applicant may suffer exceptional hardship under the new provisions.

#### Equality Impact Assessment

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups.



A full equality impact assessment covering the implications of amending the current scheme and introducing a revised scheme from 1 April 2019 is detailed in Appendix B.

The impact assessment concludes that it would be considered reasonable to continue with the implementation of the new scheme. The income grid scheme proposed ensures that overall spending on council tax discount to support residents will remain in line with the amount spent under the current scheme.

Alongside this, measures to ensure that all passported benefits claimants maintain the highest level of discount and simplifying the claiming process ensure that the objectives of the new scheme are being met.

It is recognised that within this proposal there will be applicants that will receive more discount as a result of the new scheme and there will be applicants that will either receive less discount or no discount at all. The principles on which the scheme are designed ensure that those with the least income and the least amount of savings (capital) are entitled to greater levels of discount.

Reasonable adjustments have been proposed to the scheme to support those that would be worst affected. Firstly, the income grid bands have been revised post-consultation to ensure the scheme delivers on its aim to maintain current spending and to support those on lowest incomes more greatly. Secondly, it is proposed to amend the Exceptional Hardship Policy ensuring it remains accessible to claimants who were in receipt of a discount within the last six weeks. The current Policy is only open to applicant's currently in receipt of a discount and it is recognised this would be insufficient when introducing new scheme rules.

**Appendices**

Appendix A - Summary of consultation responses

Appendix B - Equality Impact Assessment

**Background Papers**

Proposed Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/20

[Council Tax Reduction Scheme - 2019/20 - report to Finance Advisory Committee 05/06/18](#)

[Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/20 - report to Cabinet 12/07/18](#)

**Adrian Rowbotham**

**Chief Finance Officer**

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# **Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20**

## **Consultation Results**

### **Background**

Each year the Council has to decide whether to change its Council Tax Reduction scheme for working age applicants in its area. This year the Council is recommending significant change to the Council Tax Reduction scheme due to the introduction of Universal Credit Full Service within the Kent area and to simplify the scheme for all claimants.

The Council is not proposing to make any reductions on its overall spending on council tax reduction claims from the changes it is suggesting. Before any changes can be implemented, they must be subject to public consultation.

### **Consultation dates**

The consultation ran for 8 weeks. It started on 23 July 2018 and finished on 16 September 2018.

### **Consultation Results**

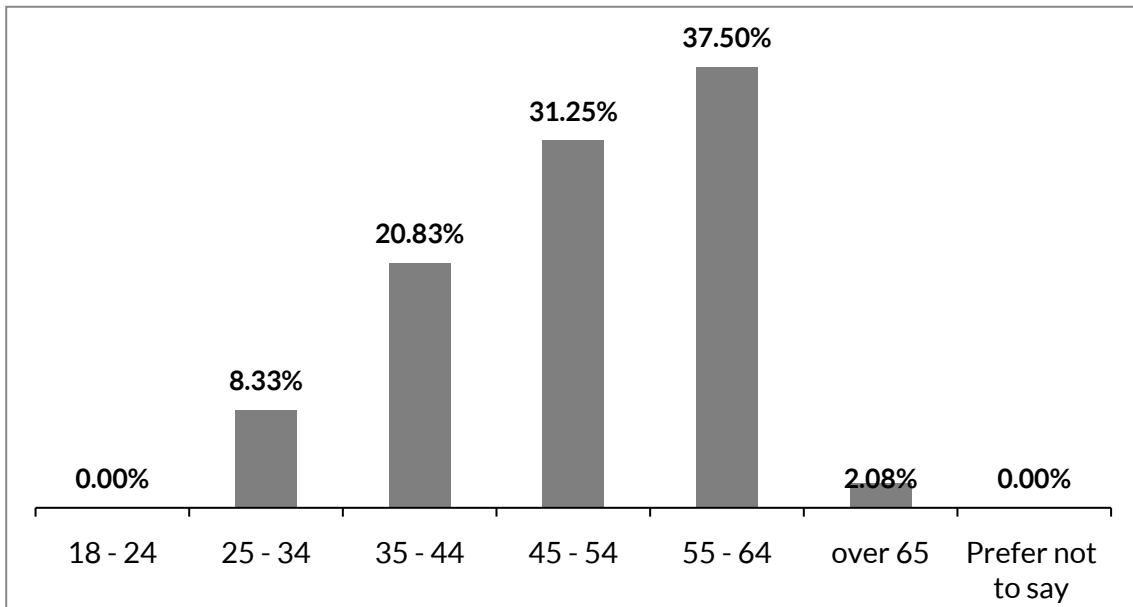
In total 111 people responded to the Council's consultation on the council tax reduction scheme for 2019/20.

107 of the respondents confirmed that they had read the background information that accompanied the consultation and informed them of the proposals before they completed the questionnaire.

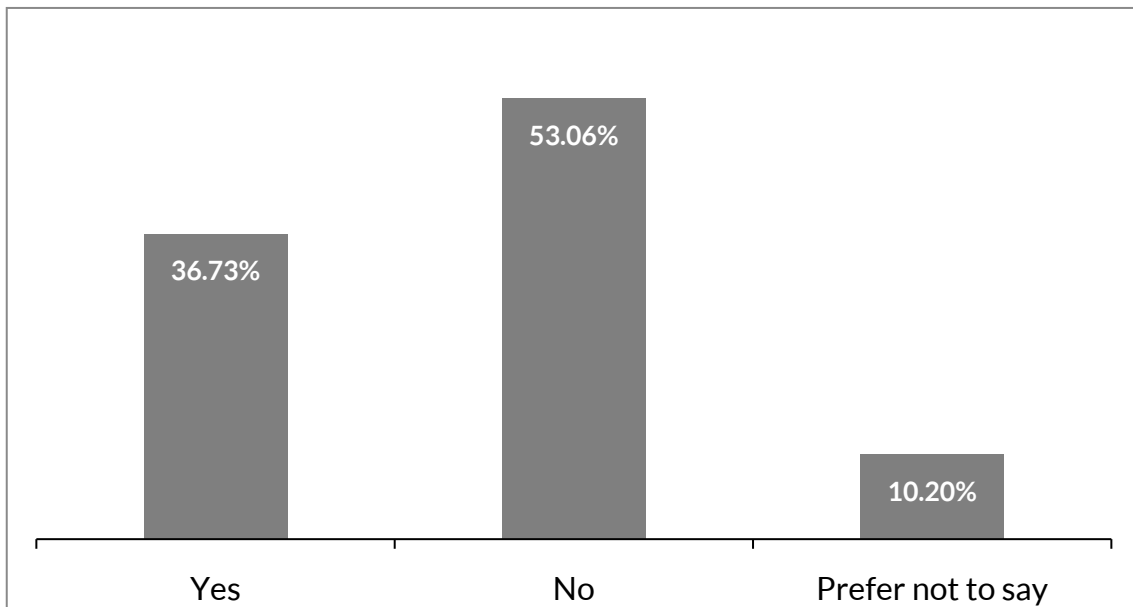
### Demographics

49 people provided responses to the equalities monitoring questions and told us about their employment status.

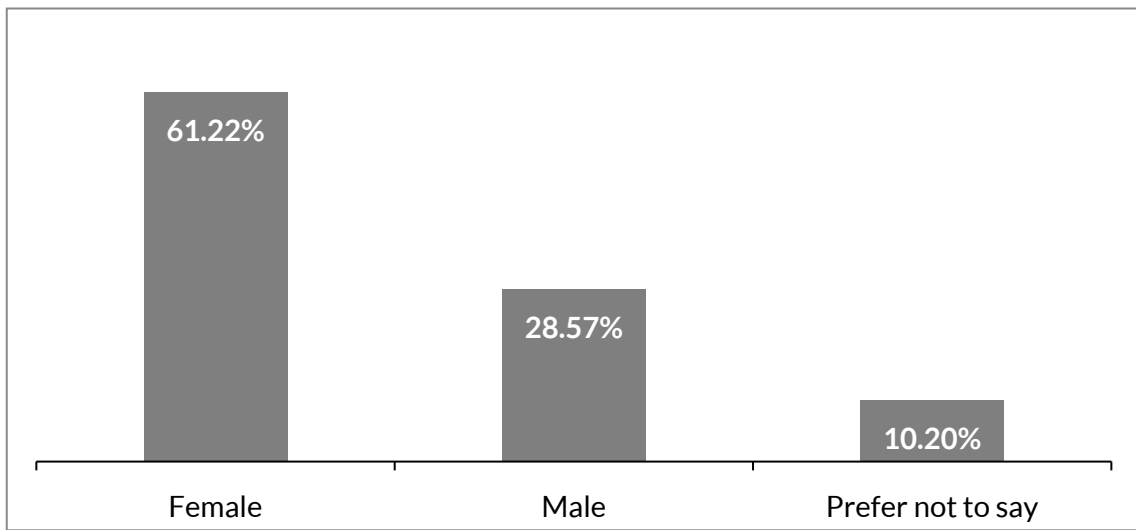
#### Age



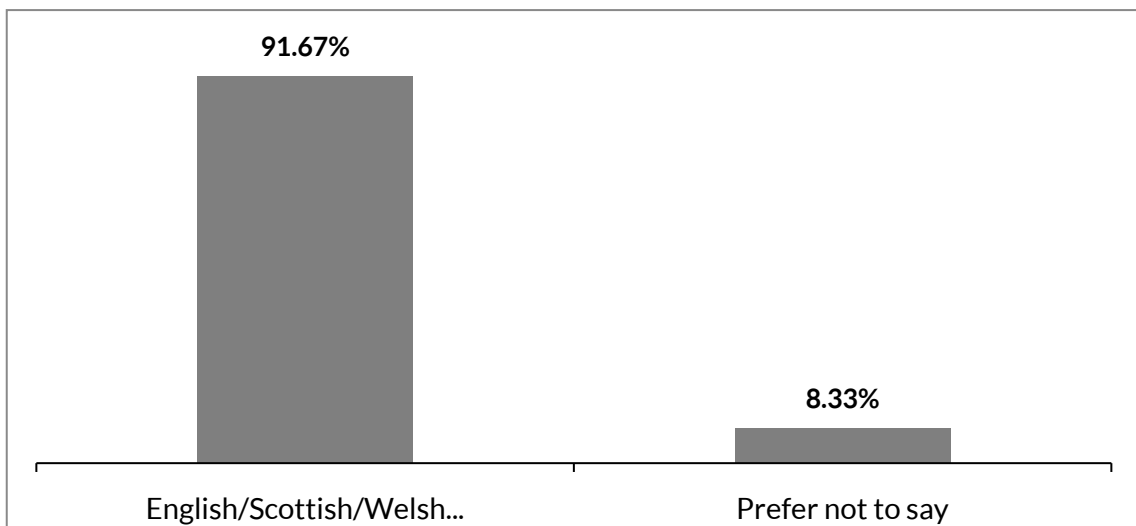
#### Disability



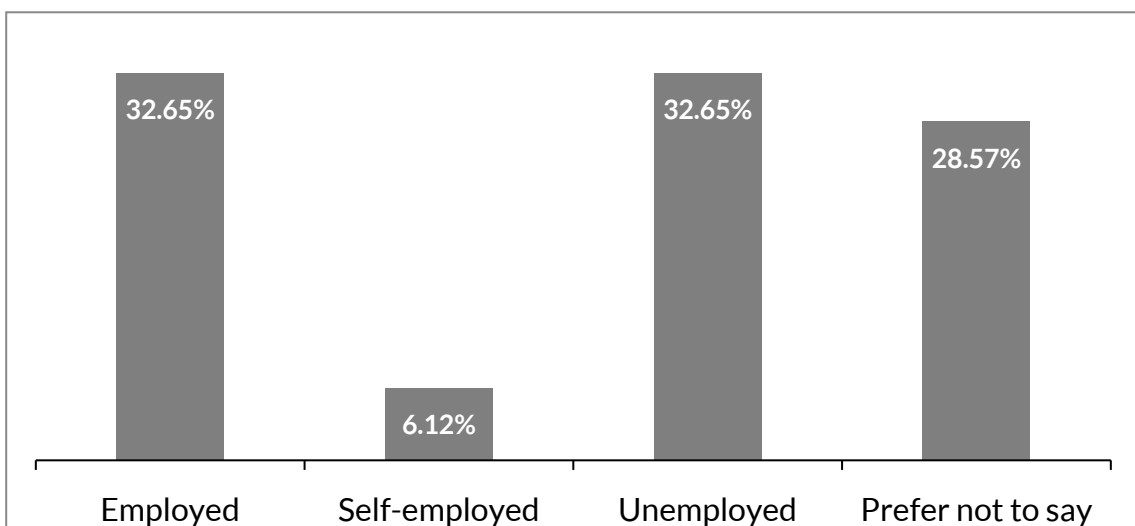
**Gender**



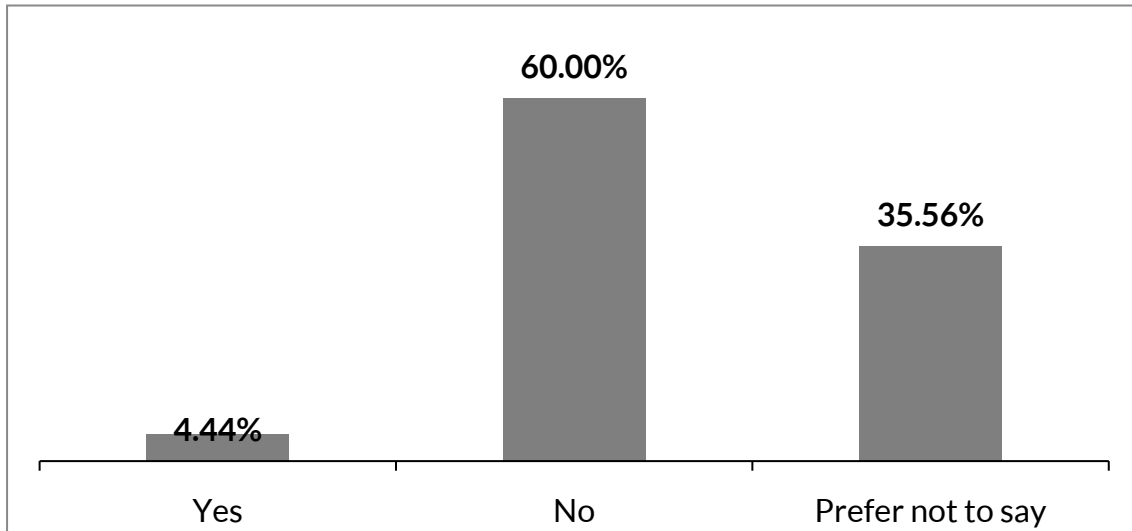
**Race**



**Employment status**



**Would you consider your main employment to be in the gig economy?**



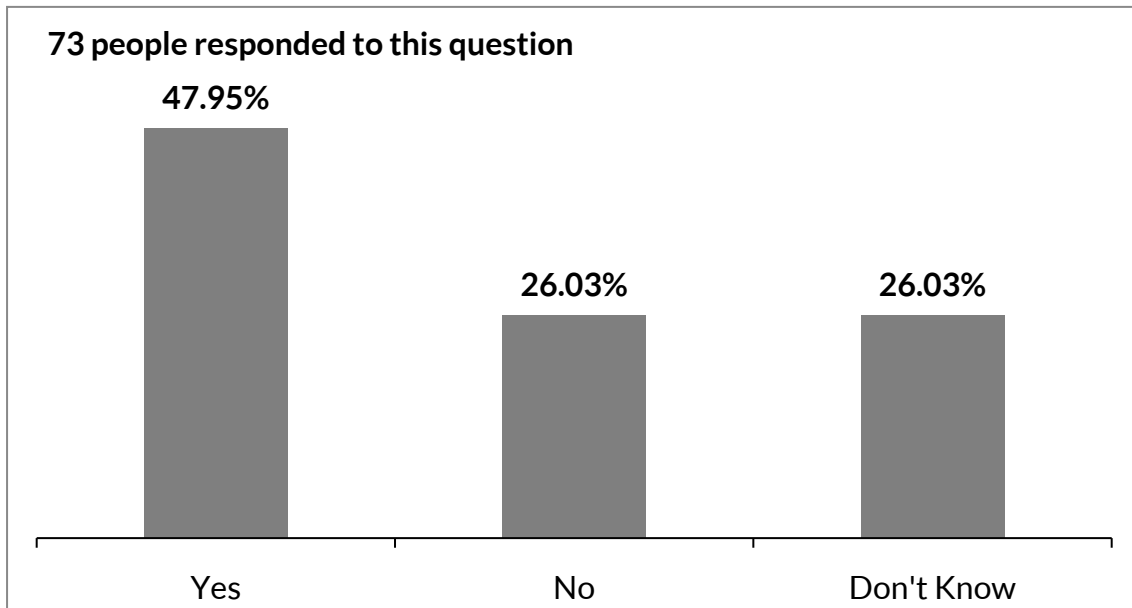
**Please tell us if you believe your employment in the gig economy has an impact on you when making a claim under the Council Tax Reduction scheme**

I do not know what the Gig economy is as I have not come across the term before.
I am self-employed, but mainly in sales, not gigs. I am also disabled. I currently receive no support because your scheme falsely assumes that I have income that does not actually exist. My income fluctuates - sometimes I am not well enough to work, and sometimes even when I can work I don't sell anything because my customers don't always want to buy - I can't force them to purchase products that they don't need or can't afford! My circumstances are not taken into account in your current scheme, and there is no proposal in your listed options to improve this blatant (and unlawful) discrimination.
I dont understand what the gig is sorry
I'm sorry I do not know what the gig economy is! I shall have to look it up.
It's difficult as my income varies month to month. One month I may earn more or less than the next. You can't judge it as it's seasonal too. I have to save to make my council tax payments. My rebate may be a lot less than what I'm entitled to as my finances are worked out on the previous financial year if it was a good year followed by a bad I am always in financial difficulty.
what is the gig economy?
I have no idea what a 'gig' economy is.
I don't know what a gig economy is
N/A to me

**Option 1**

**To introduce an Income Based Grid scheme to replace the current scheme for all applicants of working age**

**Do you think Option 1 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



**Comments provided in response to Option 1**

The bands are too wide. With bands at 20%, for a typical Council Tax weekly bill of £25, someone on low wages who receives a £10 per week gross income rise which tips them into the next CTR income band would see £5 of that lost in reduced CTR, that is too great a clawback. Bands should be at maximum 10% increments to reduce the marginal gains/losses when an income change occurs.

Income bands are ridiculously low

Income must be ACTUAL income and not the assumed minimum wage level currently used for self-employed people. Many people are self-employed not through choice but because they have a chronic illness or disability which makes them unable to find employment, so if they are capable of work but unattractive to employers, they choose self-employment rather than doing no work at all. These people are currently discriminated against by the assumption that they earn minimum wage, when, in many cases, that assumed income does not actually exist. This shameful discrimination must stop.

Maybe but there should be an allowance of some sort of the person receives a few pounds over each upper limit. As it is unfair to pay another 20% if you are only getting a few pounds over the upper limit.

Providing it is completely fair when deciding how it is to be accomplished and all variables are taken into consideration.

It seems absurd to me that with income tax a person has to be earning over £11,850 a year to pay any tax at all, yet this proposed change would lead to people bring in only half that amount paying around 10% of their much needed income in council tax.

What about people how are on contribution income.

This will be difficult to manage as a person's income may vary week by week

All should pay

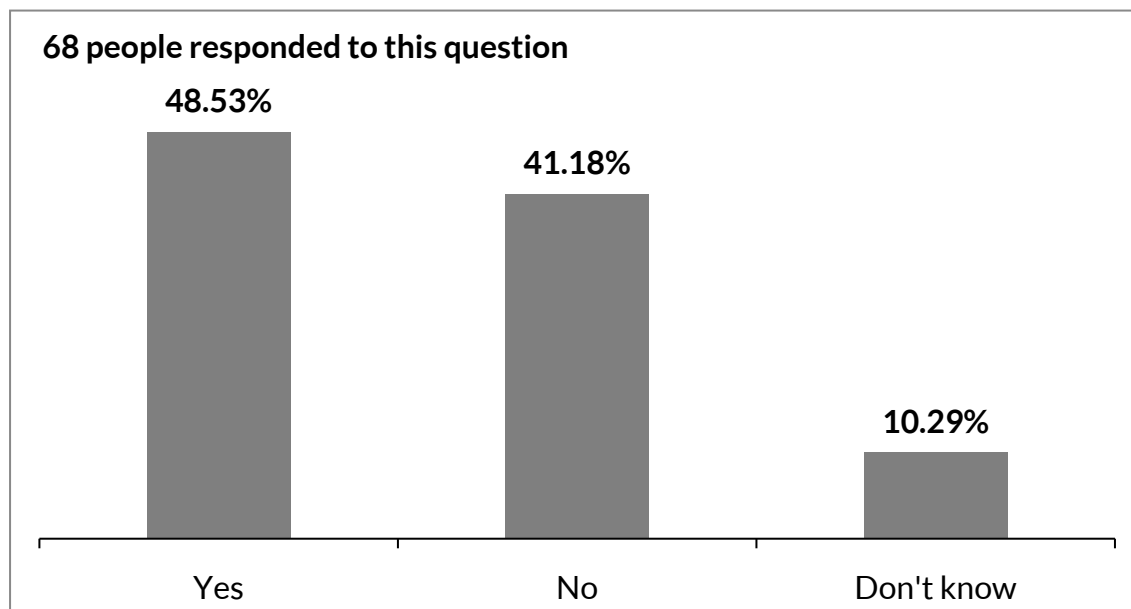
This seems the fairest system of them all. Some large families are not by design they are because of new relationships bringing in more children. This will allow income related discounts to be applied with limiting child discounts



**Option 2**

**To limit the number of dependant children within the calculation for Council Tax Reduction to a maximum of two for all applicants**

**Do you think Option 2 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



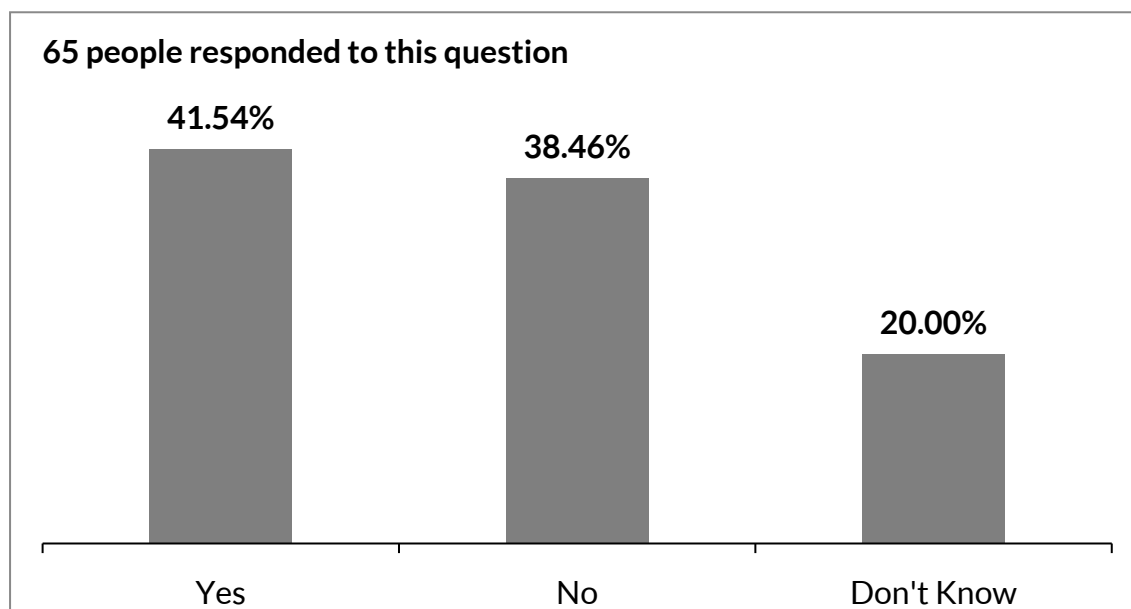
**Comments provided in response to Option 2**

While this would mean Council Tax reduction is income based, the amount of children you have limits the amount of expendable income this would not be fair.
I think this is applying a limit on children "retrospectively" for existing claimants, and is therefore unfair. They cannot change the size of their household retrospectively. Existing HB claimants with larger families are not "punished" in this way
Adults are liable to pay council tax, children are not, so the reduction scheme should not take children into account at all - they are irrelevant.
I would have said yes to this proposal BUT you haven't been thorough enough in your outlining of 'dependant' children. Is that 2 birth children? What about fostered children? Or step children that might come at weekends etc?
What children will be exempt if at all?
If applicants want more than two kids then they should provide for them themselves. if they cannot afford them then don't have them
I understand that this is line with UC, However, failure to pay Council Tax is potentially so damaging to the client (who will be already disadvantaged by the 2-child rule) that it would seem fair to allow this extra support.
Agree

**Option 3**

**To remove Non-Dependant Deductions from the scheme**

**Do you think Option 3 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



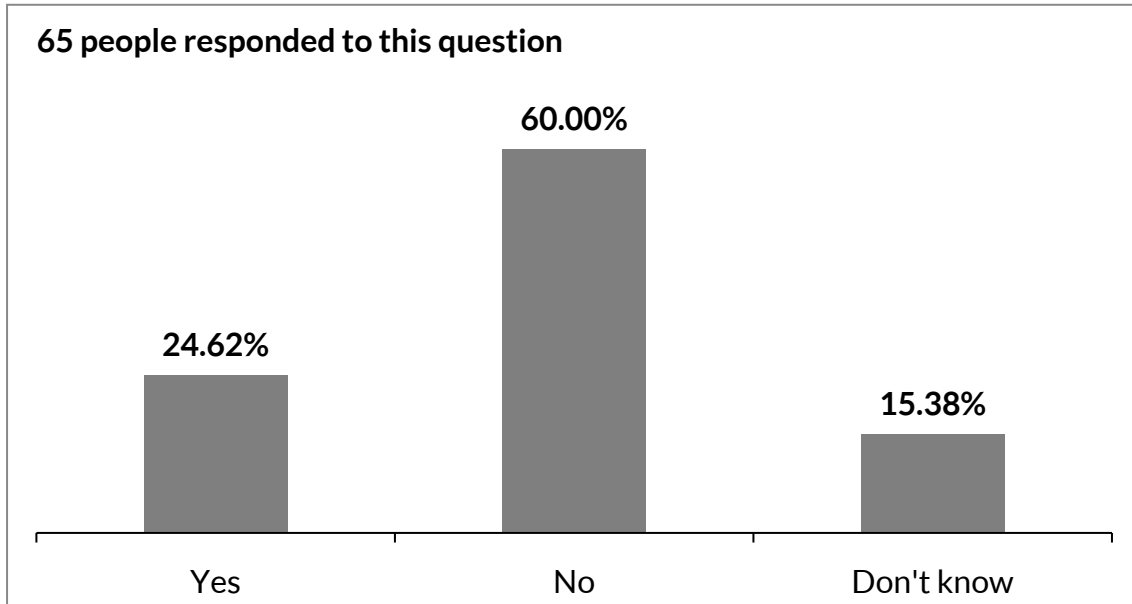
**Comments provided in response to Option 3**

Ridiculous to expect answers to questions that need the question in front of them, not on another download !!!
Households with more working-age adults should pay more council tax (and therefore receive a smaller reduction). All working-age adults will be receiving some form of income (wages, benefits or a combination of both) and should pay their fair share of the cost of local services.
It will force people like pensioners and single parent s to evict their children when they leave school
I am being charged £75 from my HB C Tax award, this comes from my son's PIP. this is not fair.
If there are adults living in a property they should all be made jointly liable. If the person who is the main tenant or owner of the property is receiving benefits and the other adult's living in the property are not and have a significantly higher income, you should look at making to non-benefit claimer liable.
Yes

**Option 4**

**To remove the Second Adult Rebate provisions**

**Do you think Option 4 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



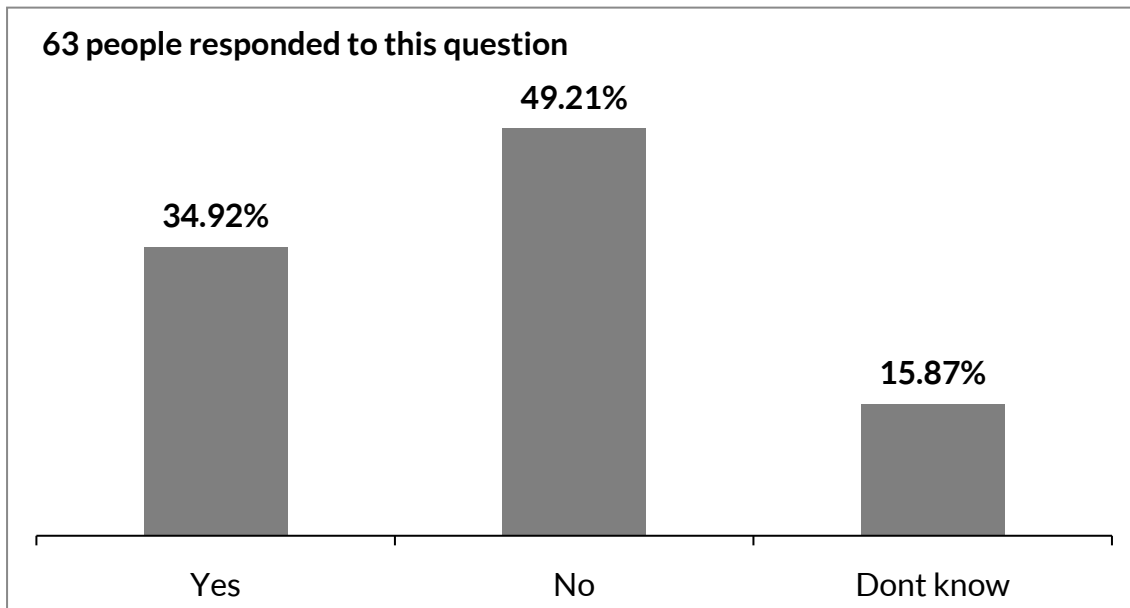
**Comments provided in response to Option 4**

Respect to anyone who truly understands the Second Adult Rebate. As it appears not to be based on the income of the Council Tax payer, it should be removed
Refer to previous comment -too complicated to answer without the full question included
I don't really understand what this is
Yes

**Option 5**

**To remove the current earnings disregards and replace them with a standard £25 per week disregard irrespective of a person’s circumstances**

**Do you think Option 5 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



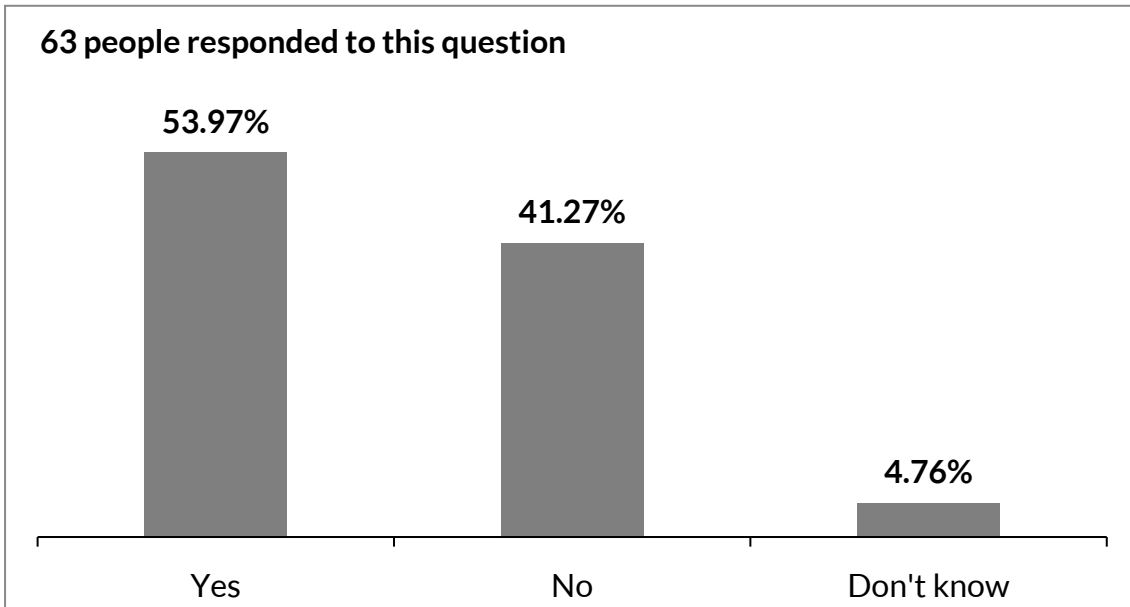
**Comments provided in response to Option 5**

It is almost impossible to assess whether this change will lead to significant gains and losses
not sure what this means
Again, this should be calculated against the ACTUAL income received by self-employed people, and not against the fake income created by the discriminatory assumption that all self-employed people are earning the equivalent of the minimum wage.
Yes

**Option 6**

**To disregard Carer’s Allowance which is currently taken into account as income**

**Do you think Option 6 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



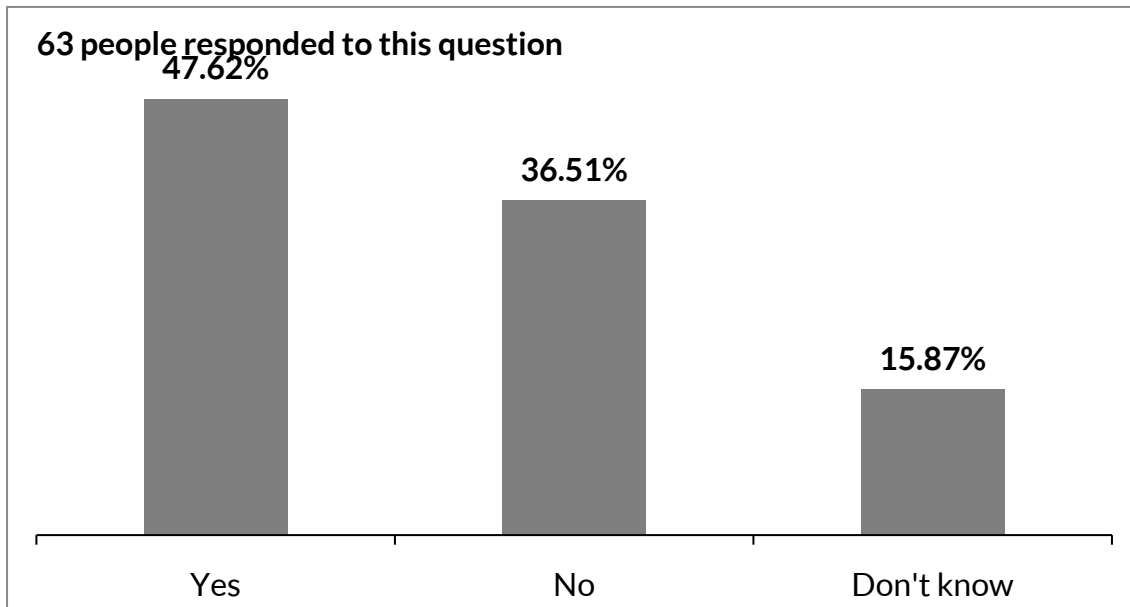
**Comments provided in response to Option 6**

This provides a net benefit to households where there is a payment of Carer's Allowance
Carers get very little for their hard work and save the government a lot of money by taking on the care of relatives. To then have what they do get into a added extra in income is frankly ridiculous. Most carers income is what they are paid via carers allowance.
its hard enough financially for carers allowance being counted as income. So every little extra helps
Someone who is receiving Carer's Allowance is saving the council money so this money should never be classed as earnings.
As someone who claims carers allowance this would work better for me and my partner
Yes

**Option 7**

To replace the current disabled premiums under the existing scheme with an equivalent income disregard.

Do you think Option 7 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?



### Comments provided in response to Option 7

I don't know enough how it works in relation to CT reduction

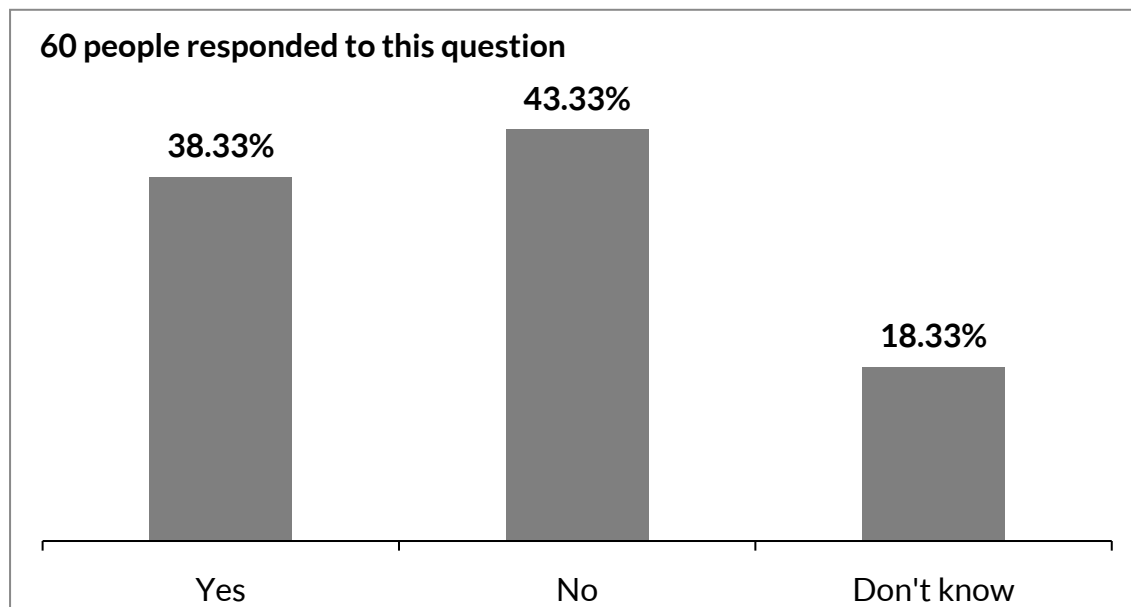
This is incompatible with Option 5 (introduction of a single £25 disregard) and would penalise (and discriminate against) people with disabilities. If you want to use Option 7 and remove the premium, you must amend Option 5 to allow a higher disregard for people with disabilities.

As long as it does not disadvantage disabled people and make them worse off

**Option 8**

**To simplify the capital/savings rules and reduce the capital limit to £6,000**

**Do you think Option 8 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



**Comments provided in response to Option 8**

This change would penalise CT payers on low incomes with modest savings. Since the system will receive data feeds from UC applications (Option 11), I do not know why the UC method of accounting for savings in the £6,000-£16,000 cannot be adopted. Also, a small increase in savings (eg receipt of a £2000 legacy, that takes a payer over the £6,000 limit, could lead to a total loss of CTR, worth perhaps £1000 in a year. That is far too big a cliff edge.

£6000 is far too low - barely enough to pay for a funeral in the Sevenoaks area. I have nothing against simplification, but this proposal is ridiculous!

With a small amount of savings, plus housing benefit and DLA coming into my bank account, it is easy to come close to that limit. £10,000 would be a better amount. Otherwise people will end up living with no reserves for their future costs.

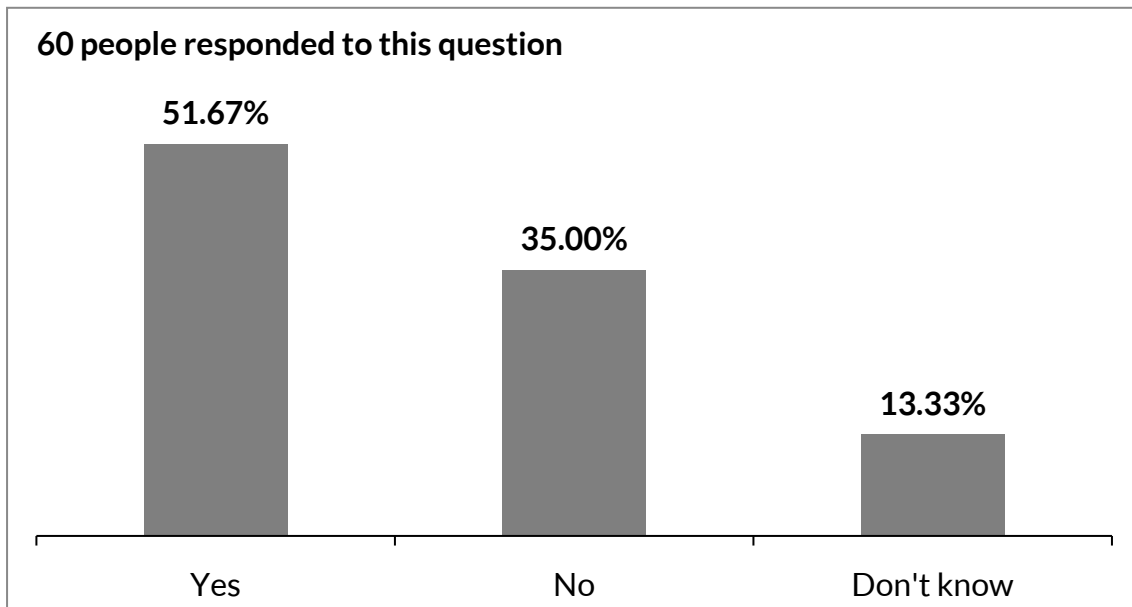
I have worked and paid into my £12500 pension pot and being currently penalised by a lot being deducted from my benefit award

Those with savings should expect Local Government to cover their costs. As long as regular incomes are deducted from the amounts used.

**Option 9**

**To remove the restriction on claiming Council Tax Reduction for certain students**

**Do you think Option 9 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



**Comments provided in response to Option 9**

The restriction should only be removed for students that come from well off families on a high income

From the information given, impossible to judge what % of students would be affected, and whether or not it is fair

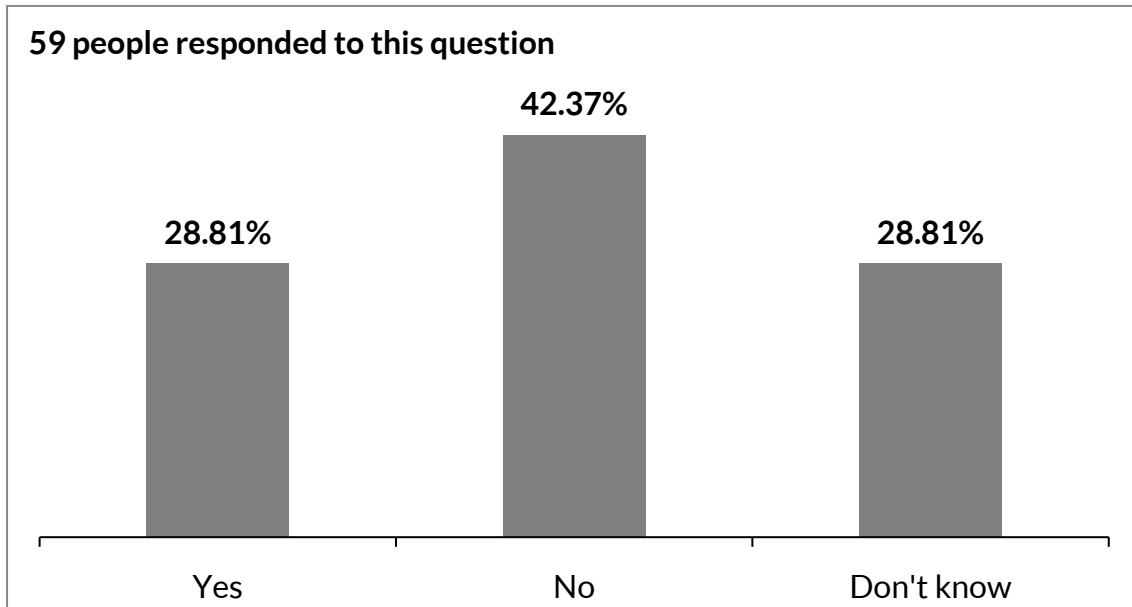
It doesn't make it clear what constitutes 'certain students' - very vague



**Option 10**

**To remove the Extended Payment provisions**

**Do you think Option 10 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



**Comments provided in response to Option 10**

As I understand it, at the beginning of an award of CTR, it is payable from the start of the payment week following the date of claim. If this timetable is retained (setting it at odds with the UC payment timetable, which is paid 5 weeks in arrears from the date of claim), i see no reason to retain extended payments. But this Option is presented without information about the proposed payment timetable for new claims

What are extended payment provisions?

If people are moving back in to work, they should be given support while they wait for their first pay, which could be a month coming into their bank account.

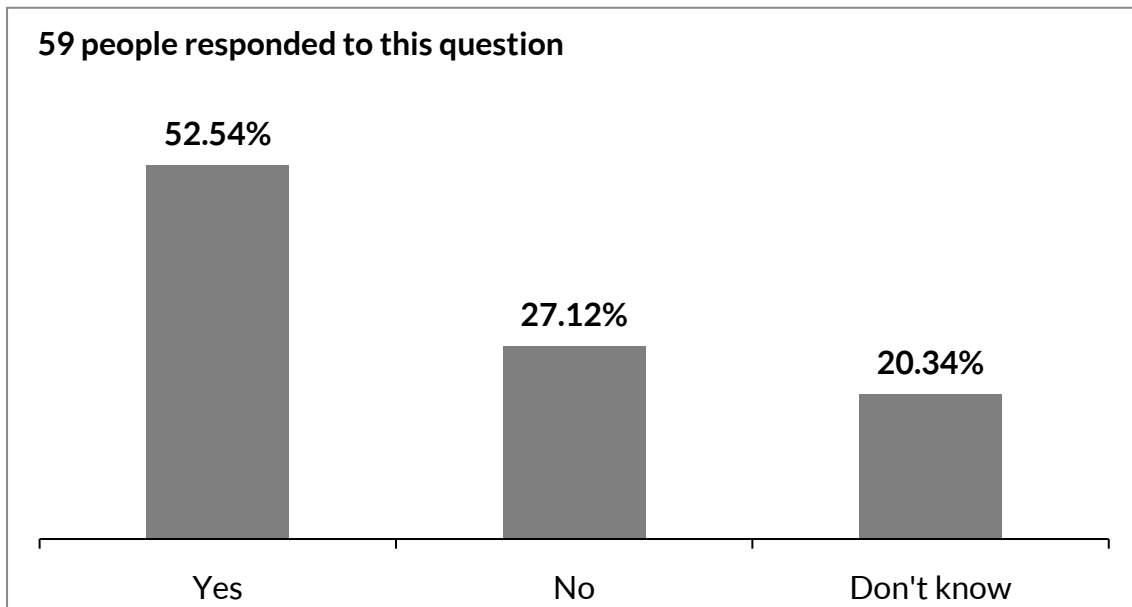
I don't know what these are

If this is the same for Universal Credits, I do not see how keeping it for legacy benefit would be fair to all people.

**Option 11**

**To change the claiming process for all applicants who receive Universal Credit**

**Do you think Option 11 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



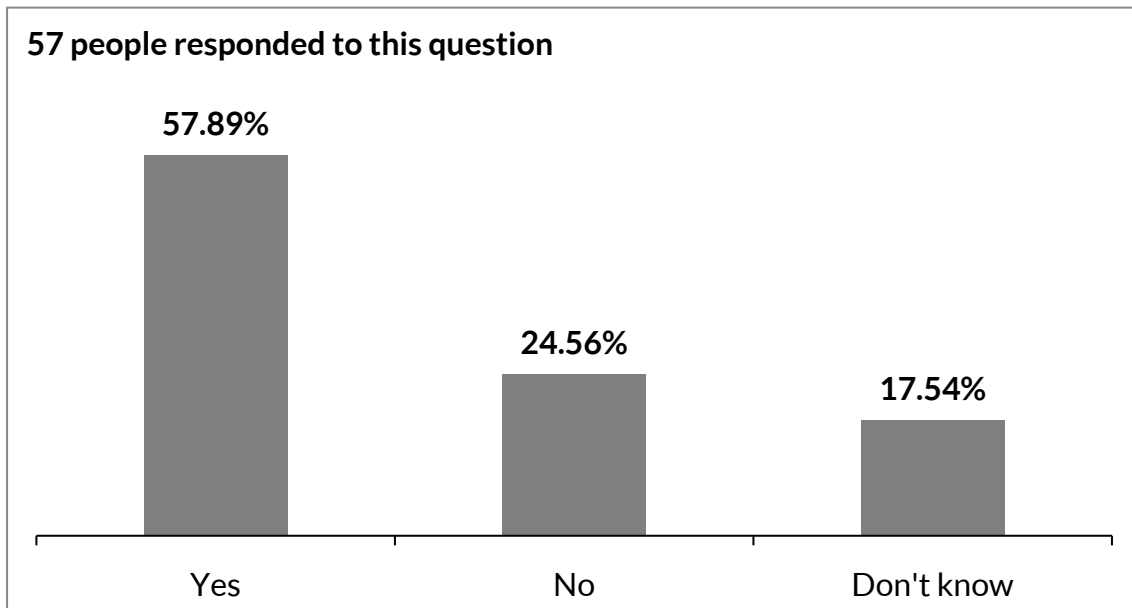
**Comments provided in response to Option 11**

You haven't given enough details of how it would work
Change in what way?
as long we can understand it properly. And staff at Sevenoaks know what they are doing
Save the world one tree at a time! And save on admin delays and costs, what could possibly be wrong with that.
All should pay

**Option 12**

To recalculate Council Tax Reduction entitlement from the actual date on which the change occurs, rather than on a weekly basis, usually being the Monday following

**Do you think Option 12 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?**



**Comments provided in response to Option 12**

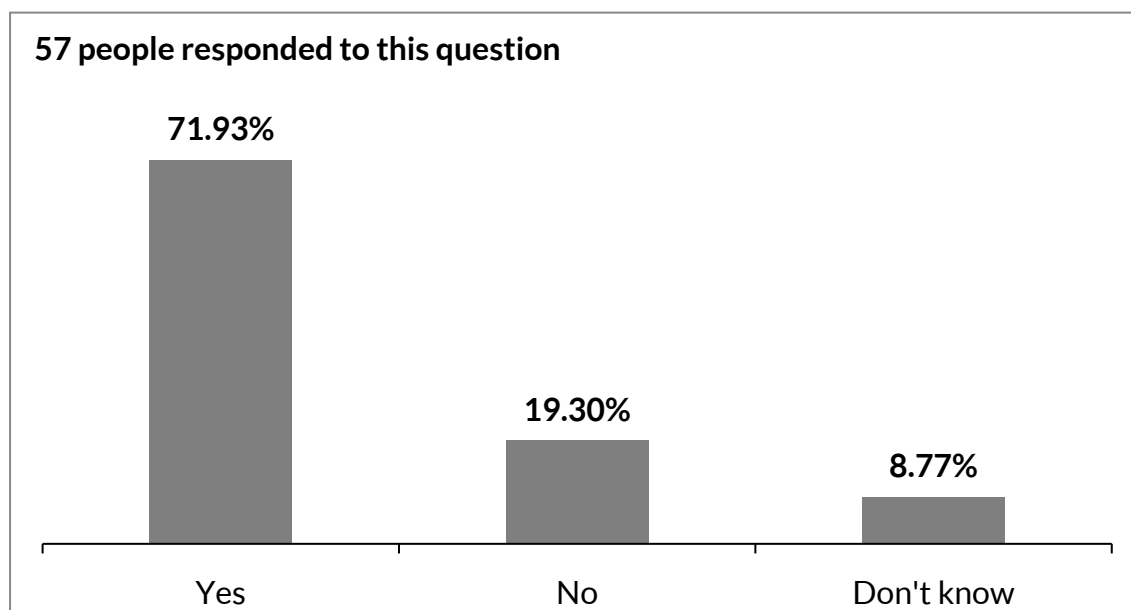
As long as its not left too long and a lot of backdated money owed it then asked for by you

How would this look for data entry. Would this mean using different dates for HB/CTS as relevant benefit changes do? If a person had 3 changes of income in the same week, would you need to recalculate their entitlement 3 times? Same with capital/savings changes, does this mean that if an applicant went over, then below, then over..... and so on, that changes would need to be made on a daily basis?

### Option 13

To remove the need for the applicant to prove 'good cause' and replace with a general discretion of the Council to allow claims to be backdated

Do you think Option 13 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?



### Comments provided in response to Option 13

It all depends on how the Council choose to exercise their discretion. The Good Cause provisions at least provide some legal basis for a claimant to argue for backdating. The Consultation says that this requirement is currently too restrictive, but the impact of this change cannot be judged in advance when it depends on the "exercise of discretion"

There is no need for either "good cause" or "general discretion" - all claims should be automatically backdated to the date on which the claimant's circumstances changed and they became eligible for (more) support, in the same way that it is always backdated when a claimant becomes eligible for less or no support.

As long as it's fair to the claimant

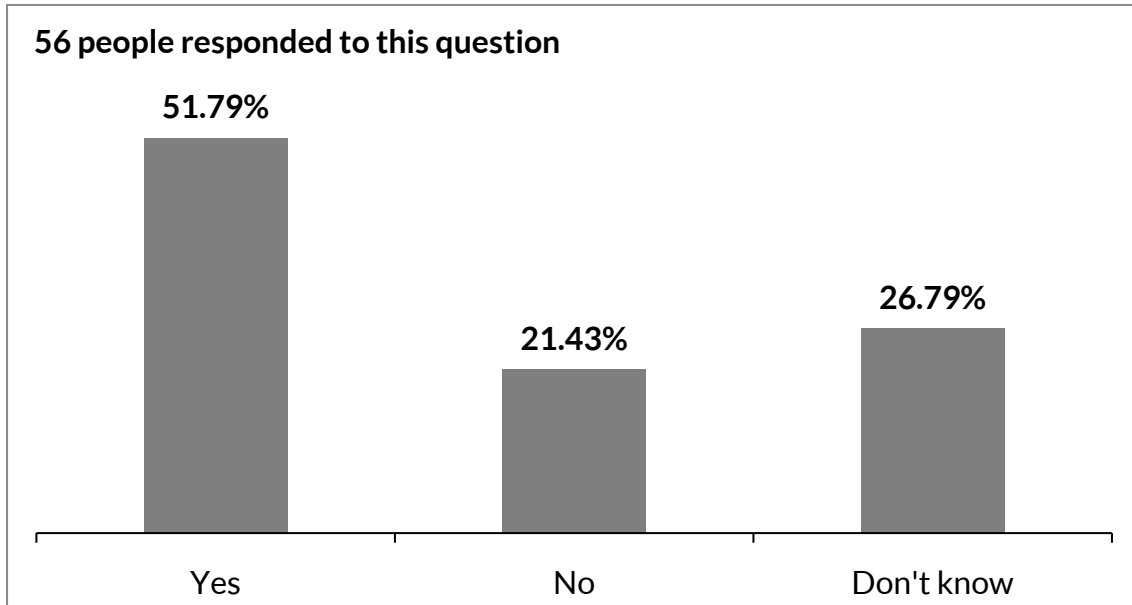
difficult to provide proof needed and it helps people to not be financially worse off

If CTS is in payment already changes are automatically assessed for their eligibility no matter how far the changes go back. However, this is not the case for new applications. I think we should consider changes in the same financial year (April to April) to be reported on time and allow any reduction within that financial year.

### Option 14

To change the minimum award of Council Tax Reduction to £1 per week.

Do you think Option 14 should be introduced into the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20?

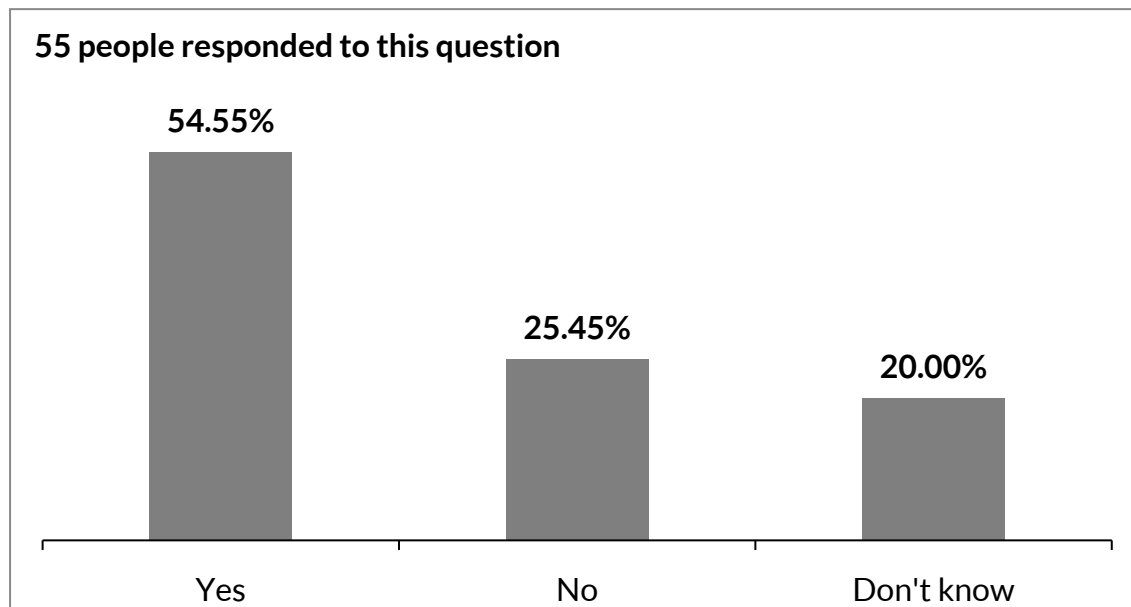


**Comments provided in response to Option 14**

Not enough details to give an opinion
Long overdue
An entitlement is an entitlement, however small. If it is owed, it should be paid.

**Opinion on changing the scheme**

**Should the Council change the existing Council Tax Reduction Scheme from 1 April 2019 based on the proposed options detailed above?**



**Comments provided in response to the proposals for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019-20**

<p>Most of these changes sound fair and necessary. But it does need to remain a fair income based system</p>
<p>I don't want any change because the CT that I pay now is quite a bit percentage wise out of my small income</p>
<p>This Consultation only provides two options</p> <p>1) carry on as now, with potential consequences (described as additional options, but not really) OR</p> <p>2) move to the proposed grid scheme (Option 1), with many associated detailed changes (described as Options 2-14, but most of these are dependent on Option 1)</p>
<p>Only change if a majority vote returned</p>
<p>The scheme should be changed, incorporating some but not all of the above proposals. One aspect that should definitely be addressed is the discriminatory feature in the current scheme, where disabled self-employed people are assumed to have an income that does not actually exist.</p>

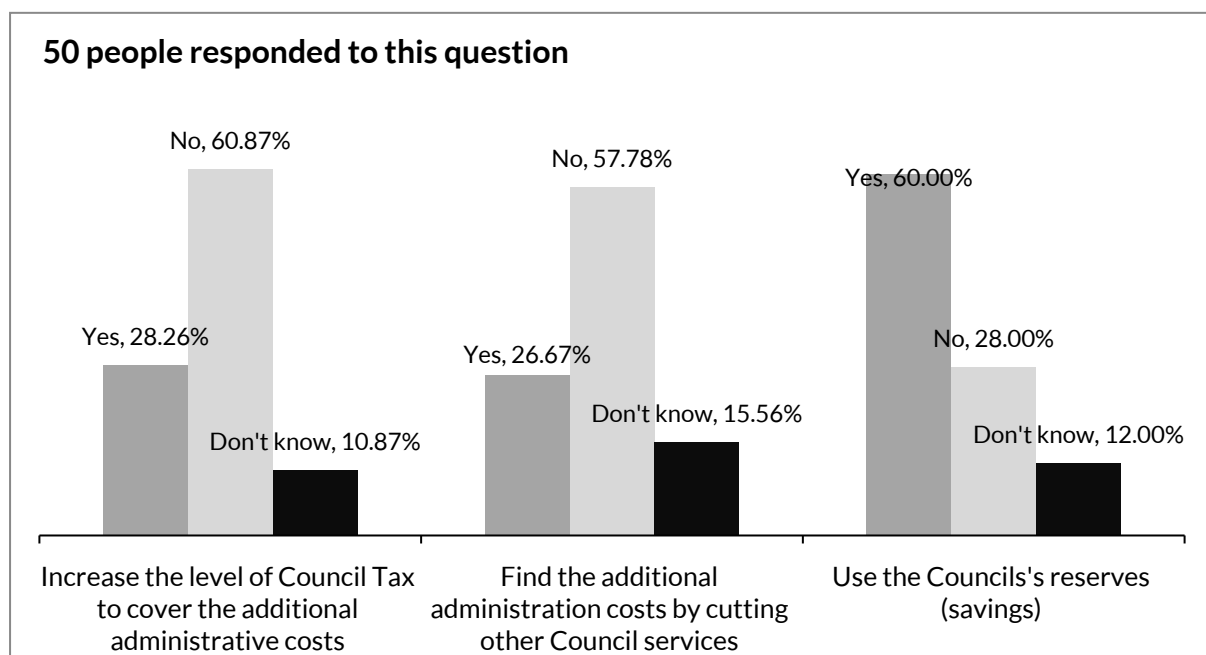
Appendix A

<p>but 2nd adult rebate should still be allowed or more young adults on low incomes will be homeless</p>
<p>Not sure all that is proposed is correct, but council certainly do need to find a more efficient way of calculating tax payments due and not keep sending out a new bill when people knew the first bill,was incorrect complete waste of time and money. So I quite understand the new to review system not just because of universal credit though, as they may not even continue the way the government are going about implementation of this.</p>
<p>Changes should still remain fair to people on a low income...this survey is very vague with the information supplied</p>
<p>Make it easier for self employed claimants who have dependants as we can only work when we have childcare. Capping them has produced hardship</p>
<p>It is claimed the council is not looking to reduce the overall level of support to claimants, however it appears from the proposed changes that my and my wife's council tax would double under your income related grid...even at discount level 2.</p>
<p>These are all ok in theory, as long as people who are already struggling are not left in a worse off situation</p>
<p>Because i will help the disable people on benefits.</p>
<p>Needs to be changed as people struggle to pay large amounts of council tax</p>
<p>Overall the changes are both beneficial to the Council Tax payer and the administrative.</p>
<p>if you claim universal credit your details should automatically be passed to the council and the council tax discount should automatically be calculated</p>
<p>Whoever put these proposals together have done a good job. They are clearly set out, easy to understand and they show a thoughtful and intelligent approach to the difficulties some residents face.</p>
<p>its good to update things but not if the public that's needs the help suffer with extra backdated bills as we have ended up with and complicated forms and not being advised when you owe money. Also train your staff so they give the correct benefit info. We were told pip for non dependants was not counted until they were 25, you've asked for it for a 23 year old.</p>
<p>People on low income should be rewarded full amount of council tax</p>
<p>Anyone claiming relief from Council Tax should be drug and alcohol tested.</p>

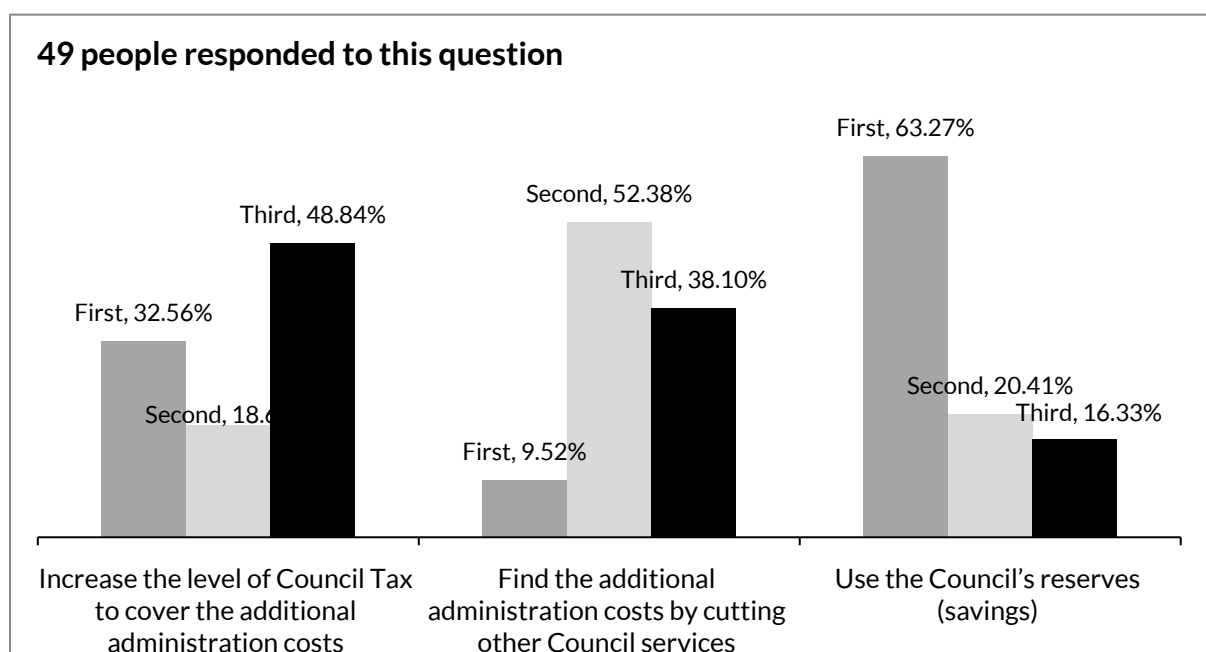
## Alternatives to changing the Council Tax Reduction Scheme

If we do not make any changes to our Council Tax Reduction Scheme, it will be administratively more complex and it will cost taxpayers more. If this happens we will need to find savings from other services to help meet the increase in costs. The proposals set out in this consultation will deliver administration savings. The alternatives include continuing with the current scheme, reducing funding to other Council services to pay for additional administration costs and using the Council's reserves (savings) to keep the Council Tax Reduction scheme.

### How do you think we should meet the increased costs?



### Based on your answers above, please rank your order of preference





**Comments about other options the Council should consider as alternatives to changing the scheme**

<p>The Council's savings should only be used in a limited amount depending how much the council has in its savings</p>
<p>As already stated, the consultation only presents two options - stay as now (clearly not in line with the switch to UC), or change to the grid option, with associated changes.</p> <p>It would have been more meaningful to separate out the estimated changes to overall CT revenue from the proposed CTR changes, and the estimated changes to admin costs</p>
<p>Use the savings from the reduction in the cost of running the Housing Benefit department following the move to Universal Credit for many claimants.</p>
<p>Daft question you have. Already explained none of these feasible. And obvious that you need to change the way you administer certainly not cut other services.</p>
<p>Cut administration costs but not services provided</p>
<p>Yes....I have a proposal that those with savings over £6,000 be allowed to use that extra money to pay the following year's council tax in advance, perhaps with some sort of discount included.</p>
<p>Increase the cost of residents' parking permits and visitor parking permits, which are quite a low price.</p> <p>Stop providing black refuse sacks. As long as you provide the same identifiable clear sacks for recycling, it should be straightforward on refuse collection day. Increase the price of garden bags.</p>
<p>Stop getting brand new vehicles for council use. Seen a New BMW electric 18 reg car, new road vehicles etc. Use them for longer, get more use out of them</p>
<p>Can not cut services any more already don't have grass and roadside bins emptied or litter picked enough as it is! So much for tidy Swanley in bloom!!</p>
<p>A scheme based on total household income (including other adults in the property) should be considered.</p>
<p>Make the unemployed pay the same and reduce their benefits. Also there are loads of people committing benefit fraud come down hard on them and take away their benefits</p>

**Further comments made regarding the Council Tax Reduction Scheme that respondents hadn't had the opportunity to raise elsewhere**

Refer to previous page

When making any changes to the CT reduction please take into accounts a person's individual circumstances such as health. I have had a number of chronic health problems for over 30 years. I have had angina for many years and since 2010 have had two heart attacks. In terms of a small increase in my small pension every year for a good number of years I have had less Council tax benefit. This has meant that some years I have been worse off over the year. The Council Tax I pay now is a fair chunk out of my income

Stop discriminating against self-employed disabled people by assuming that they have income that does not actually exist.

any scheme needs to be easy to follow and easy to understand by both staff and recipient. And set out in black and white so we can check we are given the correct level of support

Equality Impact Assessment

<p><b>Summary of decision to be made:</b></p>	<p>Since 1 April 2013, the Council has maintained a local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. The Council has the ability to determine the level of reduction given to working age applicants only. The scheme for pension age applicants is determined by Central Government.</p> <p>We have decided to complete a full review of the scheme and proposed the introduction of an income grid model. The objectives of the review are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Address the problems posed by full service Universal Credit</li> <li>– Simplify the claiming process for all applicants.</li> <li>– Improve the speed of processing</li> <li>– Maximise entitlement to every applicant.</li> <li>– Maintain council tax collection rates</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Lead Officer (job title):</b></p>	<p>Benefits Manager</p>		
<p><b>Date the final decision is due to be made:</b></p>	<p>20/11/2018</p>	<p><b>Date this assessment commenced:</b></p>	<p>01/10/2018</p>
<p><b>Is the decision relevant to the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty to:</b></p>			
<p>Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation</p>	<p>Yes</p>		
<p>Advance equality of opportunity</p>	<p>Yes</p>		
<p>Foster good relations</p>	<p>Yes</p>		
<p><b>Background</b></p>			
<p>The Council Tax Reduction scheme replaced Council Tax Benefit with effect from 1 April 2013. Under the Council Tax Reduction provisions, the scheme for pensioners is determined by Central Government and the scheme for working age applicants is determined by the Council. Pensioners broadly receive the same level of support that was previously available under the Council Tax Benefit scheme.</p> <p>The current scheme (2018/19) for working age applicants is based on the previous Council Tax Benefit means test, but has been amended since 2013. The following rules currently apply to working age applicants only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All working age applicants are required to pay a minimum of 20% towards their Council Tax liability;</li> <li>b. If a person is self-employed, a minimum income floor may be imposed where a person’s income is less than expected after two years of trading, this could be based on 35 hours x National Living Wage. There are some exemptions to this.</li> </ol> <p>The scheme has been amended each year for general changes in applicable amounts (primarily in relation to disability premiums) and for non-dependant deductions.</p> <p>In view of the problems being experienced with Universal Credit, the Council Tax Reduction schemes for Sevenoaks has been fundamentally redesigned to address;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The problems with the introduction of full service Universal Credit; and</li> </ol>			

## Equality Impact Assessment

b. The inevitable increase in administration costs due to the high level of changes received in respect of Universal Credit.

Work has been undertaken since January 2018 on a new scheme which is now completed and been subject to consultation. If accepted by Council, the new scheme will be implemented from 2019/20. The new scheme has a number of features as follows:

- a. The overall expenditure (cost) of the scheme will remain broadly as at present;
- b. The changes can **only be made to the working age schemes** as the current scheme for pensioners is prescribed by Central Government;
- c. The current means - tested scheme will be replaced by a simple income grid model
- d. It is recommended that the highest level of discount will be set at current maximum level of liability (80%) and all current applicants that are in receipt of a 'Passported Benefit' such as Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance (Income Based) and Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related) receive maximum discount;
- e. All other discount levels are based on the applicant's (and partner's, where they have one) net income;
- f. The scheme allows for variation in household size with the levels of income per band increasing where an applicant has a partner, and / or dependants;
- g. Limiting the number of children used in the calculation of support to two for all working age applicants. This will bring the scheme in line with Universal Credit;
- h. Where an applicant had non-dependants living with them, no deduction shall be made from any entitlement. This is a significant change and means that the administration of the scheme will be more straightforward whilst also protecting low income families where adult sons and daughters for example remain at home;
- i. To remove Second Adult Rebate;
- j. To encourage work, a standard £25 per week disregard will be provided against all earnings for all applicant types. This will take the place of the current standard disregards and additional earnings disregards. Where a family also receives a child care disregard (for child care costs not paid for by Central Government schemes), this has been allowed for within the income levels in the 'grid scheme';
- k. Disability benefits such as Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Allowance will continue to be disregarded and, in addition, the Support Component of Employment and Support Allowance and Carer's Allowance will also be disregarded, again providing additional protection with the scheme
- l. Where an applicant is disabled, they have a disabled child or receive the Support Component of the Employment and Support Allowance, the amount they receive as a premium under the existing scheme will be replaced by an equivalent income disregard (in addition to the disregard of disability benefits as outlined in k. above)

## Equality Impact Assessment

- m. The total disregard on war pensions and war disablement pensions will continue;
- n. The capital limit under the new scheme will be £6,000. This is a reduction from the current level of £16,000. Any capital below this level will not have any effect on the applicant's entitlement to Council Tax Reduction;
- o. Removes the conditions that prevent certain students from claiming Council Tax Reduction;
- p. Removing extended payment provision;
- q. Changing the CTRS claiming process for all applicants who receive Universal Credit;
- r. Making , all changes in circumstances which change any entitlement to Council Tax Reduction on a daily basis rather than the current (benefit based) weekly basis;
- s. Where a request is made to backdate entitlement, the current scheme requires the applicant to prove 'good cause'. The new scheme will replace 'good cause' with a general discretion to backdate, and
- t. The scheme will have a minimum award of £1.00 per week

The impact assessment considers the cumulative effect of these changes, as the new scheme, on all working age applicants for a reduction in their council tax. The impact assessment is modelled on data from existing customers in receipt of a council tax reduction.

#### Relevance to the Public Sector Equality Duty

The need to ensure that the scheme is not unlawfully discriminatory is relevant to the first aim of the duty to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

The need to consider how we can take steps to meet the needs of people with protected characteristics and whether people with disabilities may need to be treated more favourably, in how the scheme is designed, is relevant to the second aim of the duty to advance equality of opportunity.

The proposed service changes could also be relevant to fostering good relations with regard to maintaining the confidence and trust in the local authority by people with protected characteristics who may use our services.

Equality Impact Assessment

For each of the following characteristics:	Summarise available data, statistics or consultation findings.	State how the proposal will impact on people.	What action will be taken to reduce or mitigate any potential negative impacts
Disability	<p>It should be noted that 62% of current applicants are on ‘passported benefits’ and under the proposed new scheme will see their entitlement to discount protected at Band 1. This will include a proportion of disabled applicants.</p> <p>The data that follows evaluates the impact on the remaining 38% of current applicants that apply directly to the council for a discount in their council tax.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable to those with a disability is £875.90 per year. Under the new scheme this would reduce to £839.00 per year. This is a reduction of £36.90 per year, the equivalent of £0.71 per week.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable to those without a disability is £730.15 per year, which would increase by £15.41 per year (£0.30 per week) to £745.56 per year under the new scheme.</p> <p>It is estimated that 10 applicants that are currently entitled to a reduction in their council tax would not qualify for a discount under the new scheme. These claimants currently receive on average £824.05 in council tax discount. This is as a direct result of the proposal to reduce the capital limit to £6,000.</p>	<p>Under the current scheme, data shows that on average an applicant with a disability receives £145.75 more in discount on their council tax bill per year than an applicant without a disability.</p> <p>Under the new scheme an applicant with a disability would receive £93.43 more in discount on their council tax bill per year than an applicant without a disability.</p> <p>On average a disabled applicant will receive 71 pence per week less in council tax discount than under the proposals for the new scheme.</p> <p>This is explained by the level of household income being applied to the grid model reducing the level of entitlement to discount.</p>	<p>The income grid model has been re-evaluated and the income levels applied to each band amended between the pre-consultation and post-consultation phase.</p> <p>This is to ensure that the overall impact on all claimants is minimised.</p> <p>The Council also makes available an Exceptional Hardship Policy which applicants can apply to should the new scheme impact them significantly. To ensure the scheme remains accessible to claimants who may no longer qualify as a result of capital or income rules the Policy is proposed to be amended to those that were in receipt of a reduction within the last six weeks.</p>

## Equality Impact Assessment

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For each of the following characteristics:	Summarise available data, statistics or consultation findings.	State how the proposal will impact on people.	What action will be taken to reduce or mitigate any potential negative impacts
Carers	<p>It should be noted that 62% of current applicants are on ‘passport benefits’ and under the proposed new scheme will see their entitlement to discount protected at Band 1. This will include a proportion of carers.</p> <p>The data that follows evaluates the impact on the remaining 38% of current applicants that apply directly to the council for a discount in their council tax.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable to those that are carers is £879.36 per year. Under the new scheme this would increase to £915.62 per year. This is an increase of £36.26 per year, the equivalent of £0.70 per week.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable to those that are not carers is £738.50 per year, which would increase by £7.35 per year (£0.14 per week) to £745.85 per year under the new scheme.</p> <p>It is estimated that 2 applicants that are currently entitled to a reduction in their council tax would not qualify for a discount under the new scheme. These claimants currently receive on average £493.78 in council tax discount. This is as a direct result of their income exceeding</p>	<p>Under the current scheme, data shows that on average an applicant that is a carer receives £140.86 more in discount on their council tax bill per year than an applicant that isn’t a carer.</p> <p>Under the new scheme an applicant that is a carer would receive £169.77 more in discount on their council tax bill per year than an applicant that isn’t a carer.</p> <p>On average a carer will receive 70 pence per week more in council tax discount under the proposals for the new scheme.</p> <p>This is explained by the level of household income being applied to the grid model increasing the level of entitlement to discount.</p>	<p>The income grid model has been re-evaluated and the income levels applied to each band amended between the pre-consultation and post-consultation phase.</p> <p>This is to ensure that the overall impact on all claimants is minimised.</p> <p>The Council also makes available an Exceptional Hardship Policy which applicants can apply to should the new scheme impact them significantly. To ensure the scheme remains accessible to claimants who may no longer qualify as a result of capital or income rules the Policy is proposed to be amended to those that were in receipt of a reduction within the last six weeks.</p>

Equality Impact Assessment

	the levels set out for Band 5 of the income grid model.		
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For each of the following characteristics:	Summarise available data, statistics or consultation findings.	State how the proposal will impact on people.	What action will be taken to reduce or mitigate any potential negative impacts
Sex	<p>It should be noted that 62% of current applicants are on ‘passport benefits’ and under the proposed new scheme will see their entitlement to discount protected at Band 1.</p> <p>The data that follows evaluates the impact on the remaining 38% of current applicants that apply directly to the council for a discount in their council tax.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable to female applicants is £720.75 per year. Under the new scheme this would increase to £739.79 per year. This is an increase of £18.98 per year, the equivalent of £0.37 per week.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable males is £826.84 per year. Under the new scheme this would decrease to £809.61 per year. This is a decrease of £17.23 per year, the equivalent of £0.33 per week.</p> <p>It is estimated that 54 female applicants that are currently entitled to a reduction in their council tax would not qualify for a discount under the new scheme. These claimants currently receive on average £646.49 in council tax discount. This is as a direct result of their capital exceeding the proposed limit of £6,000, the removal of the second adult rebate or their income exceeding the levels set out for Band 5 of the income grid model.</p>	<p>Under the current scheme, data shows that on average a male applicant receives £106.09 a year more in discount on their council tax bill per year than a female applicant.</p> <p>Under the new scheme a male applicant would receive £69.88 more, on average, in discount on their council tax bill per year than a female applicant.</p> <p>The sex of the claimant is not a material consideration in the calculation of council tax discount. The variation in the amounts payable is linked directly to individual circumstances rather than a particular feature or aspect of the scheme. For example a single male with the same costs, income and capital as a single female applicant would receive exactly the same level of discount. This would equally be the case if the applicants had children of the same age.</p> <p>However the proposals under the scheme would reduce the average variance between male and female claimants. This is explained by the level of household income being applied to the grid model increasing the level of entitlement to discount.</p>	<p>The income grid model has been re-evaluated and the income levels applied to each band amended between the pre-consultation and post-consultation phase.</p> <p>This is to ensure that the overall impact on all claimants is minimised.</p> <p>The Council also makes available an Exceptional Hardship Policy which applicants can apply to should the new scheme impact them significantly. To ensure the scheme remains accessible to claimants who may no longer qualify as a result of capital, second adult rebate or income rules the Policy is proposed to be amended to those that were in receipt of a reduction within the last six weeks.</p>

Equality Impact Assessment

	<p>It is estimated that 26 male applicants that are currently entitled to a reduction in their council tax would not qualify for a discount under the new scheme. These claimants currently receive on average £830.00 in council tax discount. This is as a direct result of their capital exceeding the proposed limit of £6,000, the removal of the second adult rebate or their income exceeding the levels set out for Band 5 of the income grid model.</p>		
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Equality Impact Assessment

For each of the following characteristics:	Summarise available data, statistics or consultation findings.	State how the proposal will impact on people.	What action will be taken to reduce or mitigate any potential negative impacts
<p>Age (also consider dementia)</p>	<p>It should be noted that 62% of current applicants are on ‘passport benefits’ and under the proposed new scheme will see their entitlement to discount protected at Band 1.</p> <p>The data that follows evaluates the impact on the remaining 38% of current applicants that apply directly to the council for a discount in their council tax.</p> <p>Under the current scheme the average council tax reduction payable by age band is shown below:                      18-24: £584.94                      25-34: £699.47                      35-44: £772.96                      45-54: £758.40                      55-65: £765.56</p> <p>Under the new scheme the average council tax reduction payable by age band, and the average change from the existing scheme is estimated to be:                      18-24: £702.53 (+ £117.59/year or £2.26/week)                      25-34: £684.30 (+ £15.17/year or £0.29/week)                      35-44: £726.00 (-£46.96/year or £0.90/week)                      45-54: £818.40 (+£60.00/year or £1.15/week)                      55-65: £816.33 (+£50.77/year or £0.98/week)</p> <p>The number of applicants that are currently entitled to a reduction in their council tax would not qualify for a discount under the new scheme are shown by age band below, with the current average amount they receive in council tax discount.</p>	<p>Under the current scheme, data shows that on average that older age groups receive more in discount than those in younger age groups. The gap between the lowest average discount of £584.94 (18-24 year olds) to the highest average discount £772.96 (35-44 year olds) is £188 per year, the equivalent of £3.62 per week.</p> <p>Under the new scheme this broadly continues to apply. However the gap between the lowest average discount of £684.30 (25-34 year olds) and the highest average discount (45-54 year olds) is reduced to £134.11 a year, the equivalent of £2.58 per week.</p> <p>The age of the claimant is not a material consideration in the calculation of council tax discount. The variation in the amounts payable is linked directly to individual circumstances rather than a particular feature or aspect of the scheme. For example a single female aged 25 with the same costs, income and capital as a single female applicant aged 57 would receive exactly the same level of discount. This would equally be the case if the applicants had children of the same age.</p> <p>However the proposals under the scheme would reduce the average variance between age groups. This is</p>	<p>The income grid model has been re-evaluated and the income levels applied to each band amended between the pre-consultation and post-consultation phase.</p> <p>This is to ensure that the overall impact on all claimants is minimised.</p> <p>The Council also makes available an Exceptional Hardship Policy which applicants can apply to should the new scheme impact them significantly. To ensure the scheme remains accessible to claimants who may no longer qualify as a result of capital, second adult rebate or income rules the Policy is proposed to be amended to those that were in receipt of a reduction within the last six weeks.</p>

Equality Impact Assessment

	<p>18-24: 3 applicants, average discount £466.12                  25-34: 17 applicants, average discount £657.07                  35-44: 22 applicants, average discount £673.75                  45-54: 17 applicants, average discount £750.35                  55-65: 21 applicants, average discount £778.23</p> <p>The majority of those in age groups from 18 to 44 would not qualify for a discount as a direct result of their income exceeding the levels set out for Band 5 of the income grid model.</p> <p>The majority of those in age groups from 45 to 65 would not qualify for a discount as a directly result of their capital exceeding the proposed limit of £6,000.</p>	<p>explained by the level of household income being applied to the grid model increasing the level of entitlement to discount.</p>	
<p>Race                  Religion / Belief                  Sexual Orientation                  Pregnancy / Maternity                  Marital or Civil Partnership Status                  Gender reassignment                  Armed Forces                  Community</p>	<p>No data is held on these protected characteristics of applicants for a discount on their council tax.</p>	<p>The Council does not collect information about these protected characteristics from claimants as it is not relevant to the calculation of council tax reductions.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>

Equality Impact Assessment

Please tick the outcome of this assessment:	No impact	Adjust the policy	Continue the policy ✓	Stop and remove the policy
Please explain why you have come to the outcome of your assessment:	<p>The objectives of the comprehensive review of the local council tax support scheme are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Address the problems posed by full service Universal Credit;</li> <li>- Simplify the claiming process for all applicants;</li> <li>- Improve the speed of processing;</li> <li>- Maximise entitlement to every applicant; and</li> <li>- Maintain council tax collection rates.</li> </ul> <p>The income grid scheme proposed ensures that overall spending on council tax discount to support residents will remain in line with the amount spent under the current scheme.</p> <p>Alongside this measures to ensure that all passported benefits claimants maintain the highest level of discount and simplifying the claiming process ensure that the objectives are being met.</p> <p>It is recognised that within this proposal there will be applicants that will receive more discount as a result of the new scheme and there will be applicants that will either receive less discount or no discount at all. The principles on which the scheme are designed ensure that those with the least income and the least amount of savings (capital) are entitled to greater levels of discount.</p> <p>Reasonable adjustments have been proposed to the scheme to support those that would be worst affected. Firstly, the income grid bands have been revised post-consultation to ensure the scheme delivers on its aim to maintain current spending and to support those on lowest incomes more greatly. Secondly, it is proposed to amend the Exceptional Hardship Policy ensuring it remains accessible to claimants who were in receipt of a discount within the last six weeks. The current Policy is only open to applicant’s currently in receipt of a discount and it is recognised this would be insufficient when introducing new scheme rules.</p>			
When will you review this assessment:	31/10/2019			

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**Item 6 - Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy**

The attached report was considered by the Direct & Trading Advisory Committee on 9 October 2018. The relevant Minute extract was not available prior to the printing of this agenda and will follow when available.

Direct & Trading Advisory Committee (Minute 18, 9 October 2018)

The Kent Resource Partnership Manager presented a report which updated Members on the recent refresh of the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS) and sought formal adoption of the strategy up to 2020/21.

Members sought reassurance that adoption of the strategy would not inhibit the Council's current practice of weekly collections. It was advised that partner authorities were allowed to adopt their own collection methods. The Chairman suggested amending the wording of the recommendation by adding the following wording 'subject to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Kent Resource Partnership being advised that Sevenoaks District Council would continue to be led by the residents it serves, and supported by other evidence, in providing its unique in Kent 'all out' weekly refuse and recycling collections without separate food collections.'

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

The Chairman moved and it was

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet that the refresh of the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS) up to 2020/21 be adopted subject to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Kent Resource Partnership being advised that Sevenoaks District Council would continue to be led by the residents it serves, and supported by other evidence, in providing its unique in Kent 'all out' weekly refuse and recycling collections without separate food collections.

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## KENT JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Cabinet - 8 November 2018

Report of	Chief Officer, Environmental and Operational Services
Status	For recommendation
Also considered by	Direct and Trading Advisory Committee - 9 October 2018
Key Decision	Yes

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**Executive Summary:** To provide an update on the recent refresh of the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS), and to recommend formally adopting the strategy up to 2020/21.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of a clean and sustainable environment.**

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Matthew Dickins

**Contact Officers** Richard Wilson, Ext. 7262  
Paldeep Bhatti, Ext. 7128  
(Kent Resource Partnership Manager)

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### **Recommendation to Direct & Trading Advisory Committee:**

That it be recommended to Cabinet that the refresh of the KJMWMS up to 2020/21 be adopted.

### **Recommendation to Cabinet:**

That the refresh of the KJMWMS up to 2020/21 be adopted.

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**Reason for recommendation:** To adopt the refresh of the KJMWMS up to 2020/21 to allow development of a longer term strategy of the management of the waste resource in Kent following this period.

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### **Introduction and Background**

- 1 The 13 Kent Councils (the 12 Kent Districts and the County Council) who form the Kent Resource Partnership (KRP), first adopted the original KJMWMS in 2007. The strategy sets out how Kent would manage its resource materials and household waste up to 2020. This was refreshed in 2012/13 with a view to refresh again in 2016/17, if required.

## Agenda Item 6

- 2 In February 2016, the KRP Members Board agreed to delay the refresh for the following reasons:
  - KCC were developing the Waste Disposal Strategy for 2017-2035.
  - The European Commission had published details in December 2017 that would change the European Waste Framework Directive 2008.
  - The current KJMWMS targets, policies and objectives remained valid up to 2020/21.
- 3 In February 2018 the KRP Member Board approved the Consultation process to obtain views of KRP Stakeholders on the refresh of the KJMWMS. A copy of the consultation document is provided at Appendix A and was considered by the Advisory Committee at its meeting on 13 March 2018.
- 4 On 6 July the KRP Members Board approved the refreshed strategy with a view to formally adopting the strategy by each of the 13 Councils that form the KRP.

### The Refreshed KJMWMS

- 5 During the KJMWMS consultation period, 29 responses were received. They ranged from local Parish Councils, Kent councils, and key organisations across the supply chain the KRP have worked with over the years. All responses supported the KRP's decision to refresh its KJMWMS with the following key themes:
- 6 **Residual household waste per household tonnage**  
Stakeholders welcomed the KRP's ambition to decrease the residual household waste per household tonnage across Kent. It was highlighted one of the optimum ways to achieve this appeared to be through reduced residual waste frequency or capacity. This was supported alongside the consistency in collections as outlined below.
- 7 **Landfill performance**  
Stakeholders noted the significant improvement to Kent's landfill performance where in 2012/13 performance was recorded at 21.0% and in 2016/17; it was recorded at 2.8%. Stakeholders challenged the KRP to consider being more ambitious with its target given its high performance in recent years though no stakeholder went as far as saying the KRP should look to achieve zero waste to landfill. One stakeholder suggested a 2% target might be more challenging for the partnership.
- 8 **'On the go' recycling**  
Stakeholders highlighted 'on the go' recycling as a key area for development and agreed this approach needed to be collaborative with the supply chain. It was also highlighted policy 1.5 could be strengthened and reflect the role 'on the go' recycling has a role to reducing litter too. As a starting point, it was suggested it might be best to focus on areas of high footfall or busiest areas e.g. towns, beaches etc.

- 9 **Food recycling**  
Stakeholders reflected how policy 2.3 would reinforce the KRP's recycling ambitions up to 2020 and beyond. This has proven to be the case already in Kent with the majority of Kent council's already (or expected to) offer a separate food recycling service to its residents.
- 10 **Consistency in collections & quality recyclates**  
Stakeholders highlighted how providing consistent recycling and waste services can result in high quality recyclates, as proven in Kent. Stakeholders wish for this approach to be continued as the consistency in collections would likely attract future investment and infrastructure in Kent and the South East.
- 11 **Transition to other metrics (as opposed to traditional weight-based targets)**  
Stakeholders welcomed the KRP's proactive approach to research alternative metrics on waste and resource efficiency in Kent. There was a particular sub-theme focused on using carbon and further work was needed on this nationally too. It was therefore highlighted the KRP may wish to reference in its refreshed KJMWMS though wait upon further guidance as part of the Resource & Waste Strategy which is likely to be published later this year by Defra.
- 12 **EU Circular Economy Package & National Legislation**  
Stakeholders highlighted the value for the KRP to align with key policies such as the EU Circular Economy Package, 25 Year Environment Plan and imminent Resource & Waste Strategy. In addition, to maintain a flexible approach to other potential changes that may come from Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) reform, Deposit Return Schemes (DRS), single-use plastic charges etc.
- 13 Taking on board these key themes, at Appendix B is the refreshed KJMWMS.
- 14 The KRP Manager, Paldeep Bhatti, will be attending the Advisory Committee to present the report and findings following the consultation.

## **Key Implications**

### Financial

The existing Council contribution to the KRP will continue to support core costs and project costs. Adoption of the refreshed strategy has no financial implications on the Council.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal implications and no operational risks identified by adopting the refreshed KJMWMS.

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### Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

### **Conclusions**

The Council be recommended to formally adopt the refreshed Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy up to 2020/21.

### **Appendices**

Appendix A - KJMWMS Refresh Consultation Document - March 2018

Appendix B - KJMWMS Refreshed Strategy 2018/19-2020/21

### **Background Papers**

None

**Richard Wilson**

**Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services**

**Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS)**

2018/19 to 2020/21

<b>Overarching Vision</b>	
The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) will lead the transformation to a circular economy, where the value of material resources flowing into and through Kent are retained, generating employment, skills and training opportunities, and realising wider economic, environmental, health and wellbeing benefits for the local and regional community and beyond.	
<b>Strategy Mission Statement</b>	
We are committed to delivering efficiency and quality in our resource management and waste services, with focus on: -	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximising the ‘value’ of resources that we manage from households, in terms of realising the social, environmental and economic opportunities;</li> <li>• Providing the best possible value for money service to the Kent taxpayer, taking into account whole service costs;</li> <li>• Realising opportunities to improve services now and in the future through engagement, collaboration and working in partnership with the supply chain; and</li> <li>• Supporting future thinking through ongoing research and evidence that will facilitate the transition into a circular economy for Kent.</li> </ul>	
<b>Policies &amp; Policy Objectives</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Maximising the Value of Resources</b>
1.1	Up until 2020/21, the KRP will achieve a year on year reduction to its Kent-wide residual household waste per household (kg/h’hold) tonnage. [Note: measured using the ex NI191 as published by Defra’s waste statistics annually].
1.2	By 2020/21, the KRP will recycle and compost at least 50% of household waste tonnage. [Note: measured using the ex NI192 as published by Defra’s waste statistics annually].
1.3	By 2020/21, the KRP will ensure no more than 2% of Kent’s municipal waste ends at landfill. [Note: measured using the ex NI193 as published by Defra’s waste statistics annually].
1.4	By 2020/21, the KRP will develop a joint approach to facilitate the procurement of third sector/reuse providers/charities in managing and delivering a reuse service for bulky waste.
1.5	The KRP will explore the possibility of implementing recycling on-the-go initiatives, and other similar activities aimed at recovering resources and help reduce litter. The KRP will also look to engage and work with the supply chain to deliver recycling on-the-go in key areas of high footfall e.g. towns, beaches etc.
1.6	The KRP will publish its Materials End Destinations Publication on an annual basis and continue its transparent approach to reflect where all material resources end up.

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<b>2.</b>	<b>Value for Money for Kent Taxpayers</b>
2.1	The KRP will deliver value for money to Kent residents by maximising joint service delivery opportunities between its councils; cross-boundary working and ensuring all opportunities to realise economy of scale savings through procurement exercises are delivered.
2.2	The KRP will continue to build on its reputation as a leading resource partnership and work with the supply chain to deliver research projects, services and campaigns. As with previous successes, the KRP will continue to seek external funding opportunities, where possible.
2.3	The KRP will retain its focus on food waste as a priority waste stream and support, through the sharing of good practice and identification of joint opportunities, separate collection for discarded food waste on a weekly basis for all residents by 2020/21 where possible.
2.4	The KRP will develop a joint approach to tackling littering, fly-tipping and other related environmental crimes which would be underpinned by creating a culture of sharing high quality intelligence within the KRP and with others where appropriate e.g. Highways England, Environment Agency, Kent Police, neighbouring local authorities and others.
2.5	The KRP will facilitate the sharing of resources both in terms of communication campaigns linked to priority actions and focus areas, and in terms of ensuring local intelligence and information can be shared across the County.
2.6	The KRP will support its councils in ensuring first class health and safety standards are maintained across the County. This includes employees (& potential employees) have the skills, training and competencies to meet the increasingly technical requirements of the resource management and waste sector.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Engagement, Collaboration and Partnership Working</b>
3.1	The KRP will identify opportunities for joint working and realise greater efficiency savings. This to be achieved by maximising on economies of scale and implementing good practice across all aspects of its resource management and waste services, in partnership with both its own councils and through developing new relationships across the supply chain.
3.2	The KRP will continue to maximise engagement with national and local government and those operating across the supply chain, and wider industry bodies through representation on forums, networks, working groups, and through its own Annual Conference.
3.3	The KRP will produce an Annual Report that reflects the focus and priorities of the previous financial year in delivering the KJMWMS, and any other activities within its remit.
3.4	The KRP will maintain a publically available Operating Framework that defines its scope, remit and procedures; review its continued operation at least in 2019 and 2024, or any other times as agreed by the KRP.
3.5	The KJMWMS will be fully reviewed in 2021/22; or at any other times as agreed by the KRP; or in accordance with any changes in legislation relating to such strategies.

4.	<b>Future Thinking</b>
4.1	<p>The KRP will research activities that will provide an evidence base to enable a more detailed review of the KJMWMS from 2021/22 onwards. This would include focus on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligning with key policies such as the EU Circular Economy Package, 25 Year Environment Plan and the imminent Resource &amp; Waste Strategy. In addition, to maintain a flexible approach to other potential changes that may come from Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) reform, Deposit Return Schemes (DRS), single-use plastic charges etc.</li> <li>• Exploring the possibility of extending the partnership and reviewing potential opportunities for greater cross-boundary working;</li> <li>• Considering requirements to secure infrastructure to enhance and develop the network of local resource management and waste facilities. This may include the development of consistent collection specifications across all councils as a means to attract future investment and infrastructure.</li> <li>• Developing other metrics and means to focus on quality and value of resources as opposed to traditional weight based targets; and</li> <li>• Target material streams and/or specific sectors in order to identify and implement management options within a more circular context.</li> </ul>

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# Kent Resource Partnership

Consultation on refreshing the 'Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy' (KJMWMS)

Views welcome by 5pm, Friday 27 April 2018.



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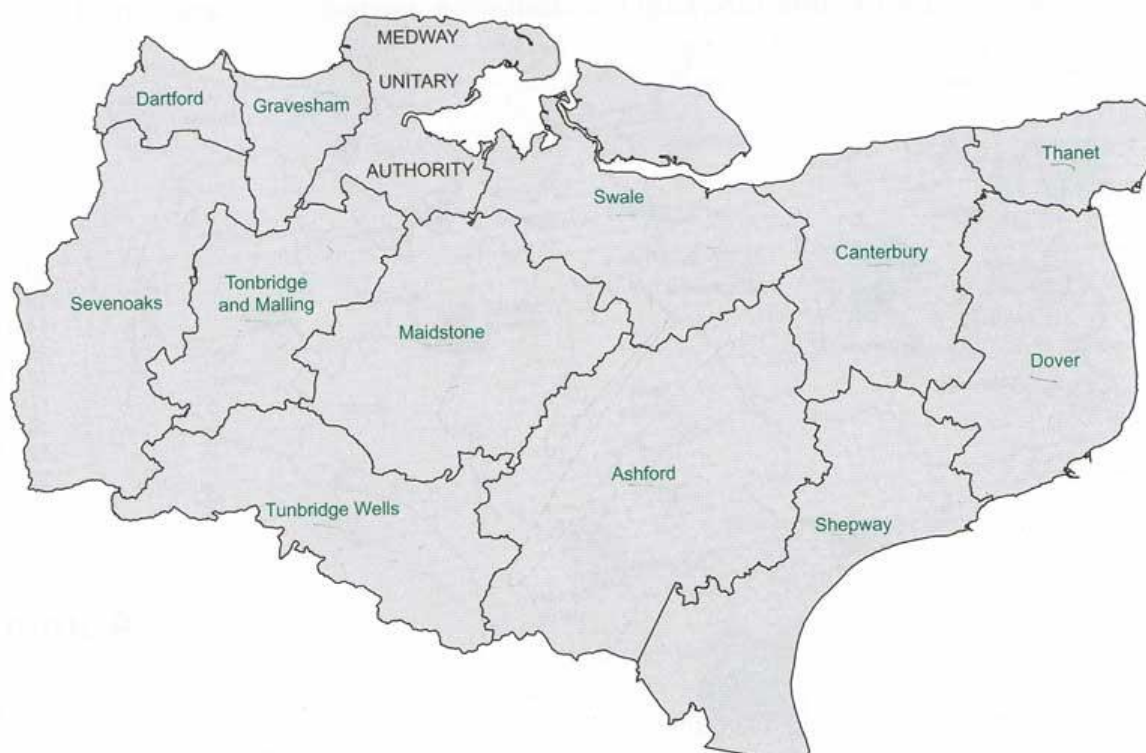
## Background

The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) consists of the 13 Kent councils.

These are (in alphabetical order): - Ashford Borough Council, Canterbury City Council, Dartford Borough Council, Dover District Council, Gravesham Borough Council, Kent County Council, Maidstone Borough Council, Sevenoaks District Council, Shepway District Council, Swale Borough Council, Thanet District Council, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

The purpose of the KRP is to deliver the following three strategic objectives: -

- Deliver the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS). This KJMWMS was adopted in 2007 to manage Kent’s municipal waste. It was then refreshed in 2012/13 to cover the period up to 2020;
- Deliver financial and performance benefits to Kent taxpayers; and manage risks to finance and performance as appropriate; and
- Contribute to, and set a national lead, in delivering projects that manage supply chain issues in the leanest and most effective ways; securing value from discarded materials; and proactively identifying innovation and excellent practices.



### **Why do we need to refresh the KJMWMS?**

The KJMWMS was last refreshed in 2012/13. Since then, the landscape of resource and waste management has evolved further with there being a greater appreciation on the value and quality of materials we collect and dispose of. Whilst the current KJMWMS priority areas remain relevant and important, the KRP have made progress in a number of areas ahead of schedule with some aspects of the KJMWMS now out of date. The KRP therefore feels it is timely to refresh its KJMWMS up to 2020/21 with a full strategy review to take place in 2021/22.

### **Why refresh the KJMWMS now?**

As mentioned above, the KJMWMS was last refreshed a number of years ago with the KRP making progress in a number of areas. KRP Members strategically held off refreshing the KJMWMS until this year as the previous year saw progress made on the ‘Kent Waste Disposal Strategy 2017 – 2035’, led by Kent CC. The overarching aim was to dovetail strategies from the County, along with the partnership.

The timing also supports a proactive approach since the agreement on the Waste Framework Directive (which forms a major part of the Circular Economy Package); the publication of the Government’s 25 Environment Plan and the Resource & Waste Strategy, due later this year.

### **Who is expected to respond to this consultation?**

Any individual or organisation may wish to respond to this consultation – we welcome all views. Over a number of years, the KRP has had a positive track record with working with a wider range of stakeholders across the resources sector and supply chain. The type of consultees who may choose to respond are, but not limited to the following: - packaging designers & producers; retailers; waste management companies; reprocessors; Local Government; Government; environmental groups & charities etc.

### **As a consultee, what would you like views on?**

Earlier in the year, KRP Members & Senior Officers took part in a workshop that provided an early opportunity to scope the refresh of the KJMWMS and consider the longer-term strategic direction. To support consultees, the draft KJMWMS is broken down section by section from pages 6 to 10. This includes a narrative as to how the KRP have fared since the last refresh in 2012/13, along with suggested wording for each section. As a stakeholder to the KRP, we welcome your views on the overarching vision, strategy mission statement and policies & policy objectives.

### **Where can I find the draft KJMWMS?**

To support consultees with their response, the draft KJMWMS is also available in its entirety within this document at pages 11 to 13.

## Where can I find the current KJMWMS?

To support consultees with their response, the current KJMWMS is also available within this document at pages 14 and 15.

## Where can I find further information on the KRP?

The KRP has plenty of supporting information available on its web pages within Kent CC's website. The helpful web link is - [www.kent.gov.uk/krp](http://www.kent.gov.uk/krp). Partnership performance from 2012/13 to 2016/17 is also available within this document at pages 16 and 17. If there were something specific, you would wish to know about the KRP, please email Paldeep Bhatti, KRP Manager on [Paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk](mailto:Paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk).

## Who do I send my response to, and in what format?

It is encouraged for consultees to submit their responses to Paldeep Bhatti, KRP Manager by email to [Paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk](mailto:Paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk). To be considered, consultee responses should have name of sender, contact details, and organisation represented as appropriate. So long as the layout of your email (and any attachment) is clear on how responses relate to the issues raised in the consultation, the format is of your personal choice.

Should you wish to receive this consultation document in any alternative formats, please contact Paldeep Bhatti, KRP Manager.

## What are the timescales?

The immediate timescale is for views from consultees to be received by no later than **5pm, Friday 27 April 2018**. The main timescales leading to adoption of the refreshed KJMWMS by the 13 Kent councils are -

- 19 March to 27 April: Consultation with stakeholders. (6 weeks)
- 30 April to 31 May: KRP staff to draft an updated KJMWMS, based upon consultation responses received from consultees.
- June & July: The updated KJMWMS to be provided to KRP Members & Officers for approval at the KRP meetings scheduled in the summer.
- July onwards: Each of the 13 Kent councils to adopt the updated KJMWMS via respective decision-making bodies as appropriate.



## Overarching Vision and Strategic Mission Statement

Since the KJMWMS was last refreshed in 2012/13, the partnership has continued to build on its successes and reputation as a leading resource partnership. This has included a name change from the 'Kent Waste Partnership' to the 'Kent Resource Partnership'. At the time, the name change was much welcomed by the industry, and included positive support from Defra, WRAP, and Resource Association, CIWM colleagues amongst others. The name change also signalled that the 13 Kent councils – and its residents - saw its 'waste' as valuable resources.

The KRP wishes to continually evolve and achieve further positive action – a key part of this could see the KRP support future thinking through ongoing research and evidence that facilitates the transition into a circular economy for Kent.

As built upon in previous years, the KRP will continue to focus on both the quantity and quality of its resources. Taking on board whole service costs across the two tier arrangement in Kent, we will also continue to provide the best possible value for money service to the Kent taxpayer.



With this in mind, we welcome your thoughts on the draft overarching vision for the KRP, along with the draft strategic mission statement below:-

The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) will support the transformation of Kent into a circular economy, where the value of material resources flowing into and through the region are retained, generating employment, skills and training opportunities, and realising wider economic, environmental, health and wellbeing benefits for the local and regional community and beyond.

We are committed to delivering efficiency and quality in our resource management and waste services, with focus on: -

- Maximising the 'value' of resources that we manage from households, in terms of realising the social, environmental and economic opportunities;
- Providing the best possible value for money service to the Kent taxpayer, taking into account whole service costs;
- Realising opportunities to improve services now and in the future through engagement, collaboration and working in partnership with the supply chain; and
- Supporting future thinking through ongoing research and evidence that will facilitate the transition into a circular economy for Kent.



## Policies & Policy Objectives

### 2. Value for Money for Kent Taxpayers

Over the years, the KRP have been successful in achieving value for money when delivering its recycling, waste and street cleansing services to its taxpayers. Leading this success has been Mid and East Kent's joint waste contracts – both receiving national recognition at the iESE awards in 2014 and 2015 respectively. Both projects were also



highlighted as a case study for the waste collection consistency framework, led by WRAP in 2016. (web link [here](#))



The KRP have also worked jointly to tackle litter, fly-tipping and other enviro-crimes across the County. This has included participating in national anti-litter campaigns as well as begin to build strategic relationships with Highways England, Environment Agency, Kent Police and others.

With this in mind, we welcome your thoughts on the following draft policies and policy objectives:-

- 2.1 The KRP will deliver value for money to Kent residents by maximising joint service delivery opportunities between its councils; cross-boundary working and ensuring all opportunities to realise economy of scale savings through procurement exercises are delivered.
- 2.2 The KRP will continue to build on its reputation as a leading resource partnership and work with the supply chain to deliver research projects, services and campaigns. As with previous successes, the KRP will continue to seek external funding opportunities, where possible.
- 2.3 The KRP will retain its focus on food waste as a priority waste stream and support, through the sharing of good practice and identification of joint opportunities, separate collection for discarded food waste on a weekly basis for all residents by 2020/21 where possible.
- 2.4 The KRP will develop a joint approach to tackling littering, fly-tipping and other related enviro-crimes which would be underpinned by creating a culture of sharing high quality intelligence within the KRP and with others where appropriate e.g. Highways England, Environment Agency, Kent Police, neighbouring local authorities and others.
- 2.5 The KRP will facilitate the sharing of resources both in terms of communication campaigns linked to priority actions and focus areas, and in terms of ensuring local intelligence and information can be shared across the County.
- 2.6 The KRP will support its councils in ensuring first class health and safety standards are maintained across the County. This includes employees (& potential employees) have the skills, training and competencies to meet the increasingly technical requirements of the resource management and waste sector.



## Policies & Policy Objectives

### 3. Engagement, Collaboration and Partnership Working

The KRP continues to listen, engage and work with key organisations across the supply chain. Over the years, the KRP have established and built upon strategic relationships with the likes of Defra, WRAP, LARAC, NAWDO, Resource Association, Recoup, Marks & Spencer Plc, Alupro, INCPEN and others. A positive consequence of this has seen the KRP secure external funding to the value of just over £900,000 to support local campaigns and other activities.



In 2015/16, the KRP was successful in gaining just over £110,000 to support 'Recycle Now' communications - £70,000 was funded by WRAP, £30,000 by Alupro and £10,000 from Marks & Spencer plc – this was supplemented by £60,000 from the KRP's own projects budget. The campaign included three separate Kent-wide leaflet deliveries which encouraged plastics and metals recycling, new vehicle livery along with communications to residents via their websites and social media platforms.

Last year saw the KRP publish its Annual Report for 2016/17. The report highlighted the KRP's progress on its activities as well as reflect over 731,000 tonnes of household discarded material was handled in Kent – 46% sent for recycling, just under 51% to energy and the remainder to landfill. The total cost of waste resource management across the KRP was just under £98 million – that averaged £155 per household per year or just £2.99 a week per household. Another £16 million was invested in keeping Kent clean.

With this in mind, we welcome your thoughts on the following draft policies and policy objectives:-

- 3.1 The KRP will identify opportunities for joint working and realise greater efficiency savings. This to be achieved by maximising on economies of scale and implementing good practice across all aspects of its resource management and waste services, in partnership with both its own councils and through developing new relationships across the supply chain.
- 3.2 The KRP will continue to maximise engagement with national and local government and those operating across the supply chain, and wider industry bodies through representation on forums, networks, working groups, and through its own Annual Conference.
- 3.3 The KRP will produce an Annual Report that reflects the focus and priorities of the previous financial year in delivering the KJMWMS, and any other activities within its remit.
- 3.4 The KRP will maintain a publically available Operating Framework that defines its scope, remit and procedures; review its continued operation at least in 2019 and 2024, or any other times as agreed by the KRP.
- 3.5 The KJMWMS will be fully reviewed in 2021/22; or at any other times as agreed by the KRP; or in accordance with any changes in legislation relating to such strategies.

## Policies & Policy Objectives

### 4. Future Thinking

The KRP recognises this consultation process is a refresh on its KJMWMS taking the partnership up to 2020/21 – it is then planned for a full review to take place from 2021/22 that considers the KRP’s medium to long term strategic direction.

To support a smooth transition to this full review in 2021/22, the KRP wishes to take a proactive approach to identify what may be on the horizon for us as a resource partnership, as well as consider what else

could be taken forward now, and over the coming years.

One of the ‘hot topics’ could include the recent debates on the current metrics used across the resource and waste industry i.e. moving away from the tradition weight based targets. The KRP welcomes and supports any research that provides the resource and waste industry with a fairer measuring tool and one that focuses on the quality and value of resources.



With this in mind, we welcome your thoughts on the following policies and policy objectives:-

- 4.1 The KRP will research activities that will provide an evidence base to enable a more detailed review of the KJMWMS from 2021/22 onwards. This may include focus on:-
- Exploring the possibility of extending the partnership and reviewing potential opportunities for greater cross-boundary working;
  - Considering requirements to secure infrastructure to enhance and develop the network of local resource management and waste facilities. This may include the development of consistent collection specifications across all councils as a means to attract future investment and infrastructure.
  - Developing other metrics and means to focus on quality and value of resources as opposed to traditional weight based targets; and
  - Target material streams and/or specific sectors in order to identify and implement management options within a more circular context.

## Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS)

### Draft Strategy

2018/19 to 2020/21

<b>Overarching Vision</b>	
<p>The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) will support the transformation of Kent into a circular economy, where the value of material resources flowing into and through the region are retained, generating employment, skills and training opportunities, and realising wider economic, environmental, health and wellbeing benefits for the local and regional community and beyond.</p>	
<b>Strategy Mission Statement</b>	
<p>We are committed to delivering efficiency and quality in our resource management and waste services, with focus on: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximising the ‘value’ of resources that we manage from households, in terms of realising the social, environmental and economic opportunities;</li> <li>• Providing the best possible value for money service to the Kent taxpayer, taking into account whole service costs;</li> <li>• Realising opportunities to improve services now and in the future through engagement, collaboration and working in partnership with the supply chain; and</li> <li>• Supporting future thinking through ongoing research and evidence that will facilitate the transition into a circular economy for Kent.</li> </ul>	
<b>Policies &amp; Policy Objectives</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Maximising the Value of Resources</b>
1.1	Up until 2020/21, the KRP will achieve a year on year reduction to its Kent-wide residual household waste per household (kg/h’hold) tonnage. [Note: measured using the ex NI191 as published by Defra’s waste statistics annually].
1.2	By 2020/21, the KRP will recycle and compost at least 50% of household waste tonnage. [Note: measured using the ex NI192 as published by Defra’s waste statistics annually].
1.3	By 2020/21, the KRP will ensure no more than 5% of Kent’s municipal waste ends at landfill. [Note: measured using the ex NI193 as published by Defra’s waste statistics annually].
1.4	By 2020/21, the KRP will develop a joint approach to facilitate the procurement of third sector/reuse providers/charities in managing and delivering a reuse service for bulky waste.
1.5	The KRP will explore the possibility of implementing recycling on-the-go initiatives, and other similar activities aimed at recovering resources. Additionally the KRP will look to engage and work with the supply chain to deliver recycling on-the-go in keys areas.
1.6	The KRP will publish its Materials End Destinations Publication on an annual basis and continue its transparent approach to reflect where all material resources end up.

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<b>2.</b>	<b>Value for Money for Kent Taxpayers</b>
2.1	The KRP will deliver value for money to Kent residents by maximising joint service delivery opportunities between its councils; cross-boundary working and ensuring all opportunities to realise economy of scale savings through procurement exercises are delivered.
2.2	The KRP will continue to build on its reputation as a leading resource partnership and work with the supply chain to deliver research projects, services and campaigns. As with previous successes, the KRP will continue to seek external funding opportunities, where possible.
2.3	The KRP will retain its focus on food waste as a priority waste stream and support, through the sharing of good practice and identification of joint opportunities, separate collection for discarded food waste on a weekly basis for all residents by 2020/21 where possible.
2.4	The KRP will develop a joint approach to tackling littering, fly-tipping and other related enviro-crimes which would be underpinned by creating a culture of sharing high quality intelligence within the KRP and with others where appropriate e.g. Highways England, Environment Agency, Kent Police, neighbouring local authorities and others.
2.5	The KRP will facilitate the sharing of resources both in terms of communication campaigns linked to priority actions and focus areas, and in terms of ensuring local intelligence and information can be shared across the County.
2.6	The KRP will support its councils in ensuring first class health and safety standards are maintained across the County. This includes employees (& potential employees) have the skills, training and competencies to meet the increasingly technical requirements of the resource management and waste sector.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Engagement, Collaboration and Partnership Working</b>
3.1	The KRP will identify opportunities for joint working and realise greater efficiency savings. This to be achieved by maximising on economies of scale and implementing good practice across all aspects of its resource management and waste services, in partnership with both its own councils and through developing new relationships across the supply chain.
3.2	The KRP will continue to maximise engagement with national and local government and those operating across the supply chain, and wider industry bodies through representation on forums, networks, working groups, and through its own Annual Conference.
3.3	The KRP will produce an Annual Report that reflects the focus and priorities of the previous financial year in delivering the KJMWMS, and any other activities within its remit.
3.4	The KRP will maintain a publically available Operating Framework that defines its scope, remit and procedures; review its continued operation at least in 2019 and 2024, or any other times as agreed by the KRP.
3.5	The KJMWMS will be fully reviewed in 2021/22; or at any other times as agreed by the KRP; or in accordance with any changes in legislation relating to such strategies.

4.	<b>Future Thinking</b>
4.1	<p>The KRP will research activities that will provide an evidence base to enable a more detailed review of the KJMWMS from 2021/22 onwards. This may include focus on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring the possibility of extending the partnership and reviewing potential opportunities for greater cross-boundary working;</li> <li>• Considering requirements to secure infrastructure to enhance and develop the network of local resource management and waste facilities. This may include the development of consistent collection specifications across all councils as a means to attract future investment and infrastructure.</li> <li>• Developing other metrics and means to focus on quality and value of resources as opposed to traditional weight based targets; and</li> <li>• Target material streams and/or specific sectors in order to identify and implement management options within a more circular context.</li> </ul>



## Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS)

### Current Strategy

2012/13 to 2020/21

<b>Objectives</b>	
1	Deliver the best possible outcomes on materials handled by the KRP from household and other appropriate sources.
2	Deliver the best possible value for money to Kent taxpayers taking account of whole service costs paid through Council Tax.
3	Secure the best possible outcomes through effective partnership working among the 13 Kent councils, through the SE7 Project, with government, and across the supply chain.

<b>Policies</b>	
<b>1. Materials Security and Resource Efficiency</b>	
1a	By 2015/16 the KRP will reduce household waste arisings by at least 5% (based on 2010/11 levels); recycle/compost at least 45% and send no more than 10% to landfill.
1b	By 2020/21 the KRP will reduce household waste arising by at least 10% (based on 2010/11 levels); recycle/compost at least 50% and send no more than 5% to landfill. Our ambition is to get as close to zero untreated waste to landfill as possible.
1c	The KRP will work with the government, the SE7 Project, and others to develop and deliver a waste reduction plan including practical measures to help achieve policies 1a and 1b.
1d	The KRP will take account of the need for the right quality of recyclates for the right end uses as included with the revised Waste Framework Directive and transposition into UK legislation.
1e	The KRP will continue its high performance in minimising the use of landfill. The KRP will assist householders to maximise the amounts they recycle and re-use, and avoid putting the following items into residual waste bins: paper, cardboard, glass, metals, wood, plastics, textiles, waste electricals, batteries and food.
<b>2. Value for Money for Kent Taxpayers</b>	
2a	The KRP will continue its existing efforts to deliver value for money to Kent residents by means of: optimising services financially and environmentally; joint service delivery opportunities between councils; cross-boundary working; economy of scale through procurement exercises; and, securing funding from external bodies.
2b	The KRP aspires to put in place separate collections of discarded food for composting on a weekly basis in all districts by 2020; and in at least 8 of the 12 districts by 2015/16 (separate weekly collections) and 10 of the 12 districts (including existing fortnightly collections).
2c	Communications and operational activities will be coordinated so that Kent taxpayers gain the best possible value from the investment of their Council Tax payments into local services.
2d	All eligible Kent councils will sign up to the new generation of household and business 'Recycling and Waste Collection Commitments' and seek to uphold these continually.

<b>3. Supporting Kent's Interests</b>	
3a	The KRP will seek innovations to ensure future services provide the Kent taxpayer with the best value for money. These include exploring the feasibility of collections from commercial premises (particularly SMEs); cross country working on HWRCs, materials and infrastructure (such as SE7 Project); and cross sector working with retailers, brands, reprocessors and others.
3b	The KRP will continue its record of influencing the government's policies and laws to protect Kent taxpayers' interest whether by means of responses to consultations, development of Responsibility Deals and appropriate legislation; and securing support from wider audiences on issues of importance to us.
3c	The KRP will promote good practice in relation to health and safety; streetscene effectiveness (including enforcement and behaviour change); and value for money (including unit costs and asset effectiveness).
3d	The KRP will maintain a publicly available Operating Framework that defines its scope, remit and procedures; and review its continued operation at least in 2015 and 2019.
3e	The KRP will continue to produce an Annual Report that outlines the work of the previous financial year in delivering the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and any other activities within its remit.
3f	The Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy will be refreshed in 2016/17 and 2021/22; or at any other times as agreed by the KRP; or in accordance with any changes in legislation relating to such strategies.

## Partnership Performance (2012/13 to 2016/17)

To support stakeholders with their consultation responses, on the next few pages include the partnership's performance from 2012/13 to 2016/17. If you have any questions – Paldeep Bhatti, KRP Manager may be able to help. Contact details on page 13.

### Kent Resource Partnership - Waste Statistics

#### Kent's Household Waste Statistics



Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
<b>Kent's Waste Growth</b>	-4.0%	1.3%	2.5%	0.2%	2.2%
<b>HWRC Recycling Rates (incl. rubble)</b>	71.9%	72.1%	72.4%	69.4%	70.0%
<b>HWRC Recycling Rates (excl. rubble)</b>	64.1%	64.8%	64.5%	61.8%	63.0%
<b>District Recycling Rates</b>	35.2%	39.0%	41.8%	39.8%	41.8%
<b>County Recycling Performance</b>	41.0%	43.6%	45.6%	44.1%	46.3%

HWRC - Household Waste Recycling Centres



**Kent County Council**

**Waste Management - National Indicators Monitoring Statement**

(data from WasteDataFlow and KCC Database - italics indicate data is provisional)

**National Performance Indicator : 191 - Residual Household Waste per Household (kg/h/hold)**

	2012/13 Actuals (kg/hh)	2013/14 Actuals (kg/hh)	2014/15 Actuals (kg/hh)	2015/16 Actuals (kg/hh)	2016/17 Actuals (kg/hh)
Ashford Borough Council	695.2	438.7	350.6	370.40	354.31
Canterbury City Council	473.4	433.6	425.0	465.24	460.07
Dartford Borough Council	620.9	626.0	598.6	618.46	634.32
Dover District Council	339.1	364.6	373.7	394.36	374.82
Gravesham Borough Council	554.7	567.4	497.7	483.92	512.20
Maidstone Borough Council	424.5	443.4	424.2	441.52	420.70
Sevenoaks District Council	582.6	589.5	596.3	596.13	567.35
Shepway District Council	435.6	442.7	416.4	413.97	422.13
Swale Borough Council	560.4	519.5	491.3	520.00	498.63
Thanet District Council	502.1	473.1	468.9	483.85	475.75
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	539.3	553.8	556.7	568.99	563.06
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	512.1	526.9	515.8	523.23	479.20
<b>County Wide Total</b>	<b>598.6</b>	<b>580.0</b>	<b>567.3</b>	<b>584.50</b>	<b>567.00</b>

**National Performance Indicator : 192 - Percentage of Household Waste Recycled and Composted**

	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Actuals	2014/15 Actuals	2015/16 Actuals	2016/17 Actuals
Ashford Borough Council	11.9%	41.9%	55.3%	53.1%	55.0%
Canterbury City Council	42.9%	48.5%	48.4%	43.2%	44.4%
Dartford Borough Council	27.0%	26.6%	27.6%	25.6%	25.2%
Dover District Council	45.4%	44.2%	42.4%	41.7%	44.7%
Gravesham Borough Council	24.5%	24.5%	34.2%	35.0%	34.5%
Maidstone Borough Council	45.4%	46.6%	49.1%	47.8%	49.9%
Sevenoaks District Council	32.3%	32.8%	33.4%	31.9%	38.3%
Shepway District Council	45.8%	44.6%	47.6%	44.0%	42.5%
Swale Borough Council	32.2%	34.2%	40.3%	36.9%	41.6%
Thanet District Council	26.8%	30.3%	33.9%	31.6%	33.8%
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	43.3%	43.1%	42.4%	41.5%	42.5%
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	46.0%	46.3%	46.7%	45.6%	49.1%
<b>County Wide Total</b>	<b>41.0%</b>	<b>43.6%</b>	<b>45.6%</b>	<b>44.1%</b>	<b>46.3%</b>

**National Performance Indicator : 193 - Percentage of Municipal Waste sent to Landfill**

	2012/13 Actuals	2013/14 Actuals	2014/15 Actuals	2015/16 Actuals	2016/17 Actuals
<b>County Wide Total</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>

## Agenda Item 6

### Further Information & Contact Details

KRP Members Board and senior managers (as at time of distribution): -

Ashford BC	Cllr Clair Bell	Tracey Butler
Canterbury CC	Cllr Neil Baker	David Ford
Dartford BC	Cllr Steve Brown	Sheri Green
Dover DC	Cllr Nick Kenton	Roger Walton
Gravesham BC	Cllr Alan Ridgers	Nick Brown
Kent CC	Cllr Mike Whiting Cllr Michael Payne	David Beaver
Maidstone BC	Cllr John Barned	Jennifer Shepherd
Sevenoaks DC	Cllr Matthew Dickins	Richard Wilson
Shepway DC	Cllr Rory Love Cllr Stuart Peall	Roger Walton
Swale BC	Cllr David Simmons Cllr Sue Gent	Martyn Cassell
Thanet DC	Cllr Rosanna Taylor-Smith	Gavin Waite
Tonbridge & Malling BC	Cllr David Lettington Cllr Jill Anderson	Robert Styles
Tunbridge Wells BC	Cllr Ronen Basu	Gary Stevenson

**Website:** [www.kent.gov.uk/krp](http://www.kent.gov.uk/krp)

For general enquiries or if in doubt as to whom to contact for any of the 13 councils:

Paldeep Bhatti, Kent Resource Partnership Manager,

c/o Sevenoaks District Council,

Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG,

Tel: 01732 227128

Email: [paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk](mailto:paldeep.bhatti@kentrp.org.uk)

*Published by the Kent Resource Partnership on behalf of the KRP's constituent councils: -*

*Ashford BC, Canterbury CC, Dartford BC, Dover DC, Gravesham BC, Kent CC, Maidstone BC, Sevenoaks DC, Shepway DC, Swale BC, Thanet DC, Tonbridge & Malling BC and Tunbridge Wells BC.*

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