

Council Tax Support Scheme 2020/21 – Consultation Results

Below are full results for Council Tax Support Scheme consultation for 2020/19. The survey ran from 19th September until 11th October 2019.

Methodology

The survey was published on the Council's website and social media sites. An article was also placed in the Boston Bulletin. A copy of the survey and press release was circulated to all Parish Councils and made available at customer services in the Municipal Buildings.

Headline Results

- 71% strongly agree or agree with the proposal to continue the Council Tax Support scheme as it is.
- 62% strongly agree or agree with the proposal to continue with the current scheme is fair and provides supports to those most vulnerable.

Results

Q1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to continue with the Council Tax Support Scheme as it is?

	%
Strongly agree	41%
Agree	30%
Neither agree or disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	8%
Disagree	11%

Q2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that our current scheme is fair and provides support to those most vulnerable?

	%
Strongly agree	24%
Agree	38%
Neither agree or disagree	16%
Strongly disagree	11%
Disagree	11%

Q3. Are there any other people we should protect when considering changes to our Council Tax Support Scheme from April 2020

1.	All pensioners
2.	People on long or short term sick should get a full entitlement, people of working age with children should be means tested even those on JSA etc
3.	Those temporarily incapacitated through accidents that are off work long term
4.	Disabled living alone on low income
5.	Special case appeals: just as temporary relief can be given for newly bereaved families needing to dispose of a house, families who experience major trauma,

	breadwinners severe illness, loss of employment etc could be given a short period of relief, once or twice.
6.	Families with children
7.	Threatened homeless, rent arrears (after checking budget and financial position)
8.	Disabled people on benefits
9.	Those who are diagnosed with dementia
10	Those of working age who are in receipt of ESA support group and PIP. These people are unable to work but are penalised financially. The council are discrimination by treating disabled people differently, this is not acceptable and could face prosecution under the discrimination act
11.	Pensioners who have paid into the NI scheme
12.	People who are off sick from work should not pay anything! Its hard enough being off work without expensive council tax adding to the list!
13.	Disable, those on UC and those in pension poverty, help should be there for anyone who needs it
14.	Should be more help for people on very low incomes and that be more help of for people on very low incomes for the council tax

1.	No x 5
2.	Don't think so

Q4. Do you have any further comments or feedback you would like us to consider?

	Put the street lights back on
	People on esa only get £76 a week, the additional pressure of having to pay CT especially those with mental health issues I enough to tip them over the edge. Give them a break instead, they need it. Working people with mental health issues who have trouble paying there ct should be offered some kind of support, after all people don't ask to be mentally ill. You are accommodating to those who visible disabilities, try help those who have hidden ones but are able to hold down a part time job.
	Keep help the good work
	As a war pensioner of over 20 years I have never heard of financial help with council tax and never expected it as ex forces charities and service pensions are generous enough.
	Council Tax should not be means tested for those on benefits
	You say.... Those of pension age and those of working-age in receipt of a war pension is means tested but allows for vulnerability 'I hope "vulnerable" does not mean those non working people who able to work but do not. I specifically exclude disabled for my comments. In Boston we appear to have many people not working, for whatever reason (?choice) who claim state benefit. Such people should and must pay the full rate of council tax because if they claim state benefit. Such people should and must pay the full rate of council tax because if they do not then it means that they are being subsidized to live via 2 channels each of which is funded by tax stream. Just not right in my view.
	Please reduce vastly the amount of our Council Tax that goes directly to Lincoln County Council. All it appears to do is increase their reserves. We need it in Boston!
	The council needs to stop charging council tax to those of working age who are classed in law as disabled who cannot work because of their condition. It is a clear lack of care and consideration for its citizens and needs to end now.
	Happy to continue the way things are

	That there should be more help for being people that mental health issues and that be more protection on very low incomes.
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1.	No x 5
1	Not at this time