West Surrey Council

Council Tax Reduction consultation

Easy Read

Tell us what you think about the draft scheme

7 October to 3 December 2026



West Surrey Council

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About this booklet



This booklet explains changes that could happen to Council Tax Support.



A draft is an idea that can still change.



You can read this booklet yourself or with someone who supports you.



This booklet tells you how to give us your views.

What Council Tax Reduction means



Council Tax is money that many households pay to their council. It helps to pay for local services.



Council Tax Support helps people on a low income to pay their Council Tax.



People who get Council Tax Support pay less Council Tax. Some people pay nothing.

Why the scheme is changing



From 1 April 2027, there will be a new Council called West Surrey Council.



The new West Surrey Council will provide Council Tax Support.



This consultation is about Council Tax Support for people over the age of 18 and below the age of 66.



People who are 66 or older have different rules and are not part of this change.

The most support someone could get



Some people may have to pay no Council Tax. This is called 100% Support.



People who have less money would be helped more. People with more money could be helped less.



The Council decides how much Council Tax Support to give.



It does not matter if someone lives in a small house or a large house.

About savings and money



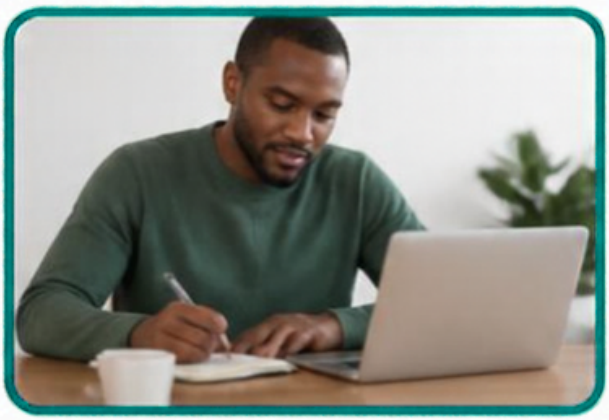
Some people have money in their bank account. This is called Savings.



If someone has savings that are more than £6,000, this means they have too much money to get Council Tax Support.



People who have savings but have less than £6,000 could still get Council Tax Support.



We want to know if you think this rule is fair or not.

Another adult living in the home



Different people live in different homes. Some homes have adults and children, some homes have just adults.



In some homes, there are adults who live in the home but are not the adults responsible for paying Council Tax.



Those adults could be asked to pay money towards the Council Tax to help with the household bills.



We want to know if you think these other adults should pay £10 per week and if this is fair.

Other Council Tax Support rules



Some people who are self-employed do not earn as much as people who have a job.



After 1 year if someone is still earning less than another person with a job, they may get less Council Tax Support.



People who have small changes to their money or other benefits would get the same Council Tax Support.

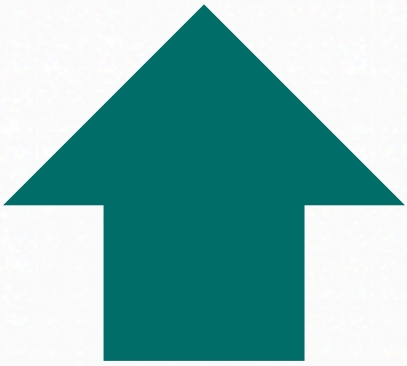
How people may be affected



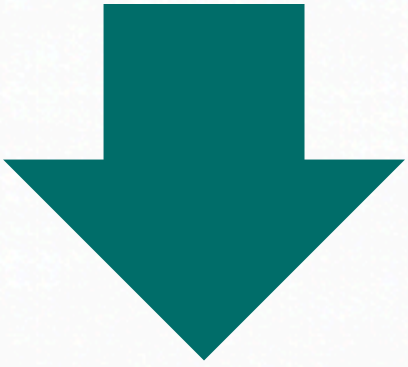
The new council will still help people to pay their Council Tax bill.



Most people who get help now will get less help from the new council.



A small number of people could get more Council Tax Support. This means they would have to pay less Council Tax.



Most people could get less Council Tax Support. This means they would have to pay more Council Tax.

Costs and choices



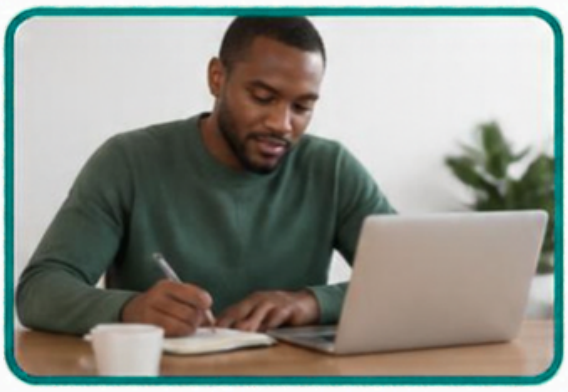
Council Tax Support will be paid by the new council. The total cost will be around £16 million each year.



The new council wants to save money. One of the ways to save money is to pay less Council Tax Support and ask people to pay more Council Tax.



Some people cannot pay their Council Tax bill and may have more debt. Debt is money you owe to someone else.



We want to know if you think these ideas are fair for people.

Tell us what you think



We want to know what you think about these ideas for a new Council Tax Support scheme.



You can complete the Council Tax Reduction Consultation online



You can ask for help or a paper copy by telephone: 01276 707100



You can send your views by email: Ctrswestsurrey@surreylgrhub.gov.uk



Textphone via Relay UK: 18001 01276 707100

You can also ask for another format or language.



You can ask for help using British Sign Language