

FULL COUNCIL – 25 JANUARY 2024 - MINUTE 56 – DEPUTY LEADER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE WRITTEN RESPONSE TO QUESTION REGARDING COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT

1. Council tax support - reduced number of band D equivalents in receipt of this from 23/24 to 24/25 - why is this?

The number grew in the pandemic and is now starting to fall again. The figures come from a data grab in October each year

Band D equivalents for council tax support scheme in tax base

Budget year	Data at	Number
2020/21	Oct 19	1833
2021/22	Oct 20	1907
2022/23	Oct 21	1936
2023/24	Oct 22	1869
2024/25	Oct 23	1713

We don't know exactly why but suspect more people are now falling out of eligibility due to employment, earnings and/or savings growth.

2. Regarding the new care leavers discount introduced in the budget setting council last February. What has been the take up so far?

At the time of the approval, we got our estimated take up from HCC who said it was likely to be very small. It is publicised on our website and HCC signpost it when people leave care. No one has applied since it was introduced at the start of the current financial year.