

Customer Services
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September 2012

Dear [personalised],

Proposed changes to your Council Tax Benefit

From next April the amount of Council Tax Benefit we give you may change.

What's changing?

- You could get less Council Tax Benefit next year,
- We estimate your benefit could be [figure] less each week,
- You may have to pay more Council Tax, or start paying it for the first time.

Why is it changing?

- The Government is cutting the money we spend on Council Tax Benefit,
- We will have less money to give out in benefit,
- The change will affect everyone except Pensioners, who the Government says must be protected from these changes,
- Councils have to give out less benefit or cut budgets. We propose to give less benefit.

What's happening now?

- We are asking what people think. The leaflet with this letter tells you more, and how to give your opinion,
- You have until 20 October 2012 to let us know your opinion,
- You can also come and talk to us; see the factsheet with this letter for where and when,
- We will decide in December how much Council Tax Benefit will change by (the total amount we spend on it for everyone),
- We will write to you in January with further information,
- You will get a new Council Tax Bill next March. It could mean you paying some or more Council Tax from next April.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Kent
Head of Customer Services