

From: @surreycc.gov.uk
Sent: 29 October 2021 16:57
To: @guildford.gov.uk;
Subject: RE: Local Council Tax Support - consultation for 2022/23

Thanks for this, really helpful,

From: @guildford.gov.uk
Sent: 29 October 2021 14:40
To: @surreycc.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Local Council Tax Support - consultation for 2022/23 [UNC]

Hi

Hoping that the following answers your enquiry. I can also confirm that the proposal is to remove the cap for just one more year ie 2022/23.

We removed the cap on help for claimants living in a Band E property for 2021/22. The cap normally restricts the maximum help to a Band D charge. The rationale for this was the anticipation that the pandemic would lead to more requests for support from residents who had previously enjoyed permanent and well-paid employment – enabling them to live in a larger property. We estimated that the cost for existing claimants would be around £50,000. The cost for an increase in applications was unknown.

Reviewing Band E recipients, the overall number claiming working age LCTS has increased by 7 since August 2020. Around two-thirds of the caseload has remained static. Of the 142 cases in August 2021:

- 138 are currently for the whole year
- 2 start part way through the year and currently continue to 31 March 2022
- 2 are for a period that has ended
- 101 are the same claimants as last year
- 27 live in the same properties as last year and are now claiming LCTS
- 14 have moved to a band E Property (these are mainly tenants, half have moved into the borough)

Only 64 of the 142 claims receive 100% help. The overall cost of the removal of the cap is just under £50,000.

Given the continued uncertainty about the coming months, that costs have not escalated, and that we need to continue to support those affected by the pandemic to maintain their own homes, removing the Band E restriction for a further year is a balanced way of providing residents with support.

Regards

Revenues & Benefits Manager (Revenues & Benefits Lead)

From: @surreycc.gov.uk
Sent: 29 October 2021 13:07

To: @guildford.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Local Council Tax Support - consultation for 2022/23

Hi

Our response to the proposals is that Surrey County Council welcome GBC's intention to continue to provide financial support for the most vulnerable households and support the proposals, but we would hope to see Band E restriction not extended for a further year.

Can you give me any context and data on the Band E restriction from last year and how many claimants/ £ were affected?

Thanks