



in partnership with



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Brighton and Hove Council Tax Benefit Community Sector Pre-Consultation Engagement Report

June 2012

With special thanks to Paul Sweeting, Advice Strategy Project for support and information during this work.

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Introduction

The context of Welfare Benefit Reforms

In the consultation document '[21st Century Welfare](#)', July 2010, the Secretary of State for work and Pensions outlined the Coalition Government vision for Welfare Reform as follows '*...we want to begin real change to the benefits system by making it simpler and more efficient, with a view to fewer benefits, fewer layers of bureaucracy and with financial support firmly focused on making work pay...*'

The Government has also been clear that reducing the overall welfare bill is key to their programme of change. [In the comprehensive spending review of October 2010](#) the Chancellor of the Exchequer estimated savings to the public purse in the region of £18 billion.

In practical terms this means that the financial help that people on low incomes get, and the systems for applying for that help is changing radically and will continue to do so for the next few years.

Council Tax Benefit Changes

One of the things the Government is changing is the help people on low incomes can get with their Council Tax Bill. Most households are liable to pay council tax (and people can be ultimately sent to prison if they don't pay).

At present, people on low incomes can apply for Council Tax Benefit to help with their bill. When people apply, there is a system set down by the Government that determines how much people in different circumstances 'need' to live on, how much they have got coming in and how much help they should therefore get with paying their bill.

From 2013, there will be far greater flexibility for local authorities to decide **who** gets how much help. However, at the same time, the Government will be cutting 10% from the Council Tax Benefit budget. This means that it is likely that, whatever system is introduced in Brighton and Hove, there will be people on low incomes who will end up paying more council tax than they do now.

In addition, the reforms mean that people who have never had to think about paying their Council Tax will now need to budget for this bill from their benefits and may need to organise a direct debit to pay this bill. This means that there is a task in raising awareness of this change for those affected.

The local consultation & who is affected

Brighton & Hove City Council has commissioned CVSF to support voluntary and city partnership engagement in making their decision on how to manage this 10% cut in Council Tax Benefit (an estimated cut of around £2.5 million per year). The only parameter set by government is that this must not impact pensioners. This means that whilst pensioners are protected, the other categories, people on other benefits will then have a cut to their council tax benefit of more than 10%. At the moment in Brighton & Hove 10,472 claimants are pensioners; 12,956 claimants are working age but not in work, and; 4,279 are working age and in work. Excluding pensioners we think this equates to an average reduction per head of other claimants of £145.05 per year or £2.79 per week. However the amount that it affects real individuals and households depends on their specific circumstances.

The Council's Revenues & Benefits team have developed three *models for consideration*. These options and the variants within them are not exclusive and could be used in combination. Click <http://tinyurl.com/cd5hv6q> to see BHCC's John Francis explaining the three options on a video from the event and click here to view John's slides - <http://tinyurl.com/d8y64sq>

Together with Brighton & Hove City Council Officers and the Advice Strategy project CVSF has engaged the sector in the pre-consultation stage of this policy work. It is a **complex subject** and very difficult to engage those who are not already conversant with the language of welfare benefits in this work. However, we held a sector conference on the 13 June, presented to the Children & Young People's Network on 20 June and have circulated a briefing and survey to the sector via our e-lists and to the Advice Services Network. To try to encourage more engagement we tweeted events and information using the #bhctb via twitter and filmed the most technical presentations to enable others to participate. This is phase one of this project with Brighton and Hove City Council and our next steps are outlined later in this report.

Total participants whose views are incorporated into this report: 53

13 June event – 24 community & voluntary sector organisations

20 June event - 20 community & voluntary sector organisations

Online survey – 9 community & voluntary sector organisations

Panel Session from 13 June Event

Setting the scene, the context of welfare benefits reforms – some highlights from presentations (full presentations at appendices)

Word from the Chair: Peter Sutcliffe, Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project (CVSF Rep for Enterprise & Learning)

Protecting pensioners from the cut effectively means a 19% reduction in funding for working aged people. If further exclusions are applied, this could result in some people paying a £4-5 increase per week.

There are issues around communicating the change, especially amongst people that have never paid council tax and do not know or understand what it is.

Advice organisations will need to help people manage the change, e.g. setting up a bank account or direct debit, budgeting etc.

Appeals process: what will it be and how will it work? Can the consultation process come up with ideas about how to manage that?

Paul Sweeting, Advice Strategy Project/Advice Services Network

What is 'Financial Exclusion'? a simple definition states that the less money you have, the more things cost, e.g. credit and loans, fuel (when paying using key meters and/or living in poorly insulated homes), lack of access to internet at home to get the best deals etc.

The welfare reform means that people will have *new responsibilities*, their benefits will be processed and paid differently and the people on the lowest incomes will have less to live on.

Changes being brought about via Universal Credit will mean the advice sector will be called upon to assist people in avoiding debt. At the same time, legal aid reforms will result in less funding for the largest advice services in the city; BHT and Citizens Advice Bureau.

The Advice Strategy Project recommends a Community Banking Partnership model which promotes financial wellbeing by integrating the 'ABCDE's of Financial Inclusion: Advice, Banking, Credit, Deposits (savings), Education.

Alongside this model, there is an 'Advice Hub Project Board' made up of advice services who meet to discuss ways forward. Currently they are looking at offering support to agencies to train more volunteers and colocation as ways of continuing to provide some advice with much less funding available for these services.

John Holmstrom, Brighton Housing Trust

Brighton and Hove City Council have been handed a hugely difficult task to cut £2.6m per year from the council tax benefit budget. It is vital that the community and voluntary sector work in partnership with them to make sure the needs of the most vulnerable are heard and understood.

People are faced with difficult choices about which bills to pay first and make judgements based on *their perception* of which are most important rather than those bills with the most serious consequences ie: Not

paying rent/mortgage results in eviction, not paying utility bills means being cut off and not paying council tax could lead to prison.

Private rented sector in Brighton and Hove is 24% of the total housing stock and 15% is social housing. Landlords are increasingly worried about needing the maximum rents available to make their (usually small) businesses work.

Challenges for private tenants include:

- The days of affordable rents are numbered
- Local Housing Allowance (LHA) is set at the lowest 30% of the rental market
- Restriction of single room levels of LHA extended to over 35s
- From 2013, the maximum LHA increase is limited to CPI (Consumer price index) rather than RPI (Retail price index) which means it will track a figure lower than the increase in market rents

Tools for helping claimants manage on less money include:

- Use of increased discretionary schemes and crisis loans
- Digital inclusion schemes
- Community banking
- Credit unions
- Education (e.g. non priority creditors will find it hard to get paid. This will be a challenge for Council Tax)

The future is unclear and could include further austerity measures. The government could be looking for £10bn savings in the welfare budget. Housing Benefit is £22bn and the second biggest spend after pensions. The government is considering removal of HB for under 25s in future years.

Valerie Pearce Head of City Services BHCC

We need to work together to work out what to do to support the most vulnerable people.

Wider welfare reforms will include the migration of Universal Credit, which will be paid to one person in a household monthly in arrears like a salary, with the aim of making a transition into work easier.

Government decided to exclude council tax benefit (CTB) from Universal Credit. CTB will stay with local authorities. Government say councils can decide how to pay council tax benefit and that they hold discretionary housing payments (DHP) for people in exceptional hardship, but remember in practice, the CT budget has been cut by around £2.5million and the DHP is small (£300, 000 for B&H) so it can't plug the gap alone.

In addition, the social fund currently administered as crisis loans by JobCentrePlus will migrate to local authorities which has some positive benefits to local authorities for more joined up action, however there are risks of the pot becoming depleted as the mechanism for collecting payments direct from benefits before paying them to the claimant does not belong to the local authority.

Council Tax Benefit and the challenge the city faces

Catherine Vaughan Director of Finance BHCC

26,000 people in Brighton and Hove receive CTB of which 10472 are pensioners (who are protected from the cut).

Many individuals will find themselves paying council tax for the first time which will make a big difference for many households that will need to plan for how to pay it.

The government suggest that councils could choose to top up the council tax benefit pot, but in reality this would mean taking money from other services, which are also being cut.

In addition, if B&H Council fails to implement a chosen scheme for making cuts, the government will impose a 'default' scheme which mirrors the existing one, meaning cuts will **have** to be made to other services to pay the difference.

BHCC has £400m funding that it has choices over (in addition to other protected funding, e.g. schools, housing benefit, council housing) and £16m to save next financial year. BHCC does have choices, but anything they don't cut in one service means bigger cuts elsewhere.

Other challenges include not having all the information about how universal credit will work in practice and what the rules will be, making it difficult to plan changes to the council tax discount to match up with universal credit, including how the new software system will work.

BHCC plan to finalise the scheme in October to give time for software changes to be put in place to start in March 2013.

The models open for pre-consultation 13 June & 20 June & online video

John Francis Welfare Reform Programme Manager BHCC

(See Appendix E for full presentation) or click here to see presentation <http://tinyurl.com/cd5hv6q>

To make a decision about the most effective option involves thinking about who the changes will have the most impact on and how well/easily the scheme can be explained and understood.

John explained how council tax benefit currently works, who receives it in full and what a taper is (a mechanism that can be used to incentivise work transition) ie how increases in earned income affect levels of benefit received.

The 3 Models for Pre-consultation Engagement

Model 1- Minimum Payment

Where every household is liable for a minimum charge of Council Tax before any discount can be applied to the remaining amount.

Examples of ways in which this could be applied:

- a. All working age pay a minimum of £x CT per week
- b. All working age pay a minimum percentage of their full CT liability.

Who should the council apply this ruling to?

- a. Apply to all non-pensioners
- b. Apply to all non-working households
- c. Apply to all non-working households without children
- d. Apply to all non-working households, except those on disability benefits

Model 2- Changes in rules for Means Testing

The way in which the Council Tax Benefit award is calculated can be altered, resulting in a higher eligible threshold for those who are not on a 'passporting benefit' (automatically entitled to Council Tax Benefit without means testing, e.g. JSA because they have in effect already been means tested).

Examples of how this could be applied:

- a. **Decrease capital disregard.** i.e. Claimants will be allowed to have less equity before it is included in the calculation
- b. **Increase non-dependent deductions.** i.e. non-dependent adults living with the claimant who are earning will be expected to contribute a larger amount to the household's Council Tax liability.
- c. **Adjust the taper.** i.e. each pound that is earned or saved will have a greater impact on the amount of Council Tax a claimant is liable for.
- d. **Changes to the way in which certain incomes are disregarded.** i.e.
 - Start including Child Benefit as income
 - Start including child maintenance as a form of household income
 - DLA/AA, although they would still provide beneficial premiums to the calculation
 - War Widows payments
 - Charitable payments

How much is paid depends on income levels that the household receives (there are some complexities and a lot of detail as to how this works)

Model 3 – Maximum Discount

This means a maximum amount of Council Tax Benefit would be payable. This could be fixed to apply against how many people make up the household, or to apply a maximum amount of Council Tax Support payable in correlation to Council Tax Banding.

Examples of how this could be applied:

- a. **Apply fixed amounts of Council Tax Benefit eligibility** (by % or figure) according to the household size i.e. this will mean a system similar to the current Local Housing Allowance (LHA) under Housing Benefits. It will mean that your eligibility is based on your household size and not your liable tax amount.
- b. **Limit the maximum Council Tax Benefit payable to a single amount** and apply to all cases, irrelevant of property size. i.e. those in larger properties will be responsible for a greater liability for Council Tax which won't be supported through this benefit.
- c. **Limit Council Tax Benefit** to a maximum percentage of the household's Council Tax liability i.e. You can only claim for up to 90% of the cost of the Council Tax bill you receive.

Discussion, comments and questions

Minimum payment discussion and comments:

- Single young people are now the most vulnerable due to impacts of this and other Welfare Reforms, e.g. single room rate as maximum claim
- There is an over-supply of low skilled workers meaning no incentives can genuinely work when the relevant jobs are not there
- This feels like an ideological push to get money from everyone. Measures should be based purely on income levels.
- Could this model be combined with means testing to incentivise work? ANSWER, yes that could be done.
- Concerned at the complexities of communicating any change to such large numbers of people so perhaps fairness has to be sacrificed for the ability to easily comprehend the scheme.
- This model is equivalent to the Poll Tax
- Our clients (under 35s on c£60pw) can't afford an additional £2.50 - £3 to pay Council Tax, and prison seems a very harsh punishment for this amount. They won't open their post and they won't realise that this applies to them. Even, if they do open and understand this change, the threat of criminalisation will cause serious stress to them, regardless of whether the Council intends to carry out the threat or not.
- The cost of the administration should be taken into account which means option A would be better from that point of view.

Means testing discussion and comments:

Increasing non-dependent deductions

- Where it is expected that a non-dependent (e.g. adult off-spring) in the household should be contributing, in reality it can be very difficult for the person who pays the bill to receive money from them. A lot of householders end up paying the deduction themselves.
- This can especially be a problem in households where there is domestic abuse and could indeed lead to domestic abuse.
- Many adult non-dependants will not comprehend why they should start paying a significant contribution to council tax bill when the householder is in receipt of benefits.
- Raising the bar on non-dependents could impact on homelessness as parents may feel obliged to throw their kids out at a certain age to retain their income.

Adjusting the taper

- A steeper taper would allow focus on payments for people on lower incomes

Changes to the way in which certain incomes/capital are disregarded

- It was commented that child maintenance should be considered as income in the way that it used to be. Whilst this would be much fairer in theory, a counter argument suggested that in reality a person who has been able to negotiate and organise maintenance payments from an ex-partner will be clever enough to hide the (usually cash) payments from authorities.
- Don't change the savings threshold, this will really impact low income working families who have done the right thing and been sensible, saving to meet emergencies and contingencies.
- The capital rule is currently very generous and could be dropped from £16,000 to £8,000.
- The means testing option seems the best, where all income including child benefit and maintenance are taken into account.

Linking with Universal Credit

- It was felt that if possible, means testing calculations should be linked or compatible with calculations that will happen under Universal Credit

Maximum discount discussion and comments:

- People who have partial awards are unlikely to see any difference to their current discount
- It was suggested that caps could be set differently for each property band. However, there are overwhelming numbers of claimants in property Band A, so this is unlikely to spread the cut widely enough
- It was felt that the maximum payment would incentivise work more than the minimum payment option with caveats around suitable skills/ job matches and the fact that many claimants do work

Discussion on implementation of the scheme

Communication and logistics

- There was concern about the lack of awareness about this change happening in a few months from now.
- There will be an even bigger need for advice, yet advice services are being cut. How will this need be met?
- There is a concern that people may fall through the gaps until they reach crisis. Need for structured support to targeted groups.
- How could the criminal justice system cope with the potential level of non-payment actions that could result from this policy change?
- Concerns about communication, especially with families where nobody can read and write.
- 16% of people affected by Welfare Reforms cannot read or write and the Welfare Benefit Reforms being communicated to them is a huge challenge.
- There are issues around literacy and making people aware of the changes.
- There is a concern about the change in housing benefit rule for under 35s (who can now only claim for the single room limit, meaning that most are forced to move from a single person studio/flat to shared accommodation) Currently the claim process makes it difficult for someone to make it clear they live in shared accommodation with a separate income from others in their household. It was suggested that any new system makes it clearer where financial ties exist within a household and where people are simply 'housemates'.
- Collection is likely to be problematic.
- A question were raised about software capabilities and setting up a system that can work alongside new Universal Credits system. BHCC are looking to software companies for a flexible system that can incorporate new rules/systems as they are applied.
- This policy will create costs for other parts of the Council. What other departments are involved in this process? [All depts. are involved]

Discretionary payments

- The language of discretionary payments needs to be changed and the information needs to be headlined by staff at every opportunity to ensure that it isn't only those whose crisis has got so bad that they have an adviser working with them that access this help.
- Have the ability to link CT discount with discretionary housing benefit payments for a short period of crisis time
- A further question was raised about who will be awarded discretionary hardship payments. There is no hard definition of who is entitled to these. Currently, people made representations to the council to ask for a top up.
- The process of accessing discretionary payments should be simple and easy.

- The scheme should not be too structured as it will be impossible to predict and model every situation. It should stay flexible around advice support and have plenty of referral avenues.
- There is a danger in taking a too rigid/strict structured approach to who received what discounts as this does not allow for changing circumstances or some vulnerable people falling through the net.

Vulnerabilities & Equalities Impacts

- People experiencing domestic abuse are likely to be further victimised through increased opportunities for financial abuse when benefits migrate to a single person in the household. This is almost certainly going to be accessed by the abuse. Debts and credit rating issues are already a significant issue for people fleeing abuse. Please consider these victims under the discretionary elements of any scheme.
- Central in the welfare reform agenda is the issue of digital inclusion. There is a target to get 80% of benefit applications applying online which will not be achievable without support to vulnerable people.
- A question about exemption (to the cuts) on the grounds of severe mental impairment revealed that there are no plans to change the current discounts received.
- There is already a crisis for under-35s. With only 4% of single rooms in the city available at Local Housing Allowance rates, we have experienced a sudden and dramatic rise in homeless young people and this just adds to their difficulties.
- Families are already getting into crisis through increased poverty and this will tip more over the edge which will just cost more to other budgets.
- The policy should be compliant with the Child Poverty Strategy.
- Claimants of income based JSA/Income Support/I-R ESA (+ people in abusive relationships) especially under 35s who are in shared accommodation and have joint and several liability.
- That households claiming DLA for an adult or child are exempted from cuts to CTB and therefore protected in the same way as pensioners. Research tells us that households claiming DLA are likely to be amongst the most vulnerable. They are very often living just on benefit income, juggling higher costs of living and with far fewer realistic opportunities to find paid work. Despite Government's aspirations to protect disabled people, there are already significant concerns within the voluntary sector that further consequences of the Welfare Reform Act and the introduction of Universal Credit will impact more harshly on disabled people and families with disabled children than other groups. Let's not add to the financial pressures on these households!
- Single people with no children
- Families with disabled children and children with special needs

Work Incentivisation

- There is an oversupply of unskilled labour and not enough jobs for them
- A higher disregard would incentivise people to return to work. The current £5 per week has not changed for 21 years and this needs to be addressed. (It was pointed out that £5 is less than an hour's work at minimum wage)
- To make shorter periods of work more secure for people to take on you could make the 'run on' period longer, for example someone could stop receiving benefits after 3 months of employment.
- Reporting changes to your circumstances is a really big burden and should be more flexible.
- The requirement to report for self-employed people needs clarification and could be simplified
- This should not affect low income working families. People on higher incomes should pay more council tax to compensate for this cut. [This point of view can be raised via Budget consultation as it is not in the parameters of this exercise]
- It should be remembered that 60% of children living in poverty have 2 parents in work
- The presentation did not take into account the current 65% claw back rate for Housing benefit. Therefore a total of 85% claw back for anyone in work. Incentive to work must be retained and improved - not made worse as increasing the % to CTB will do.

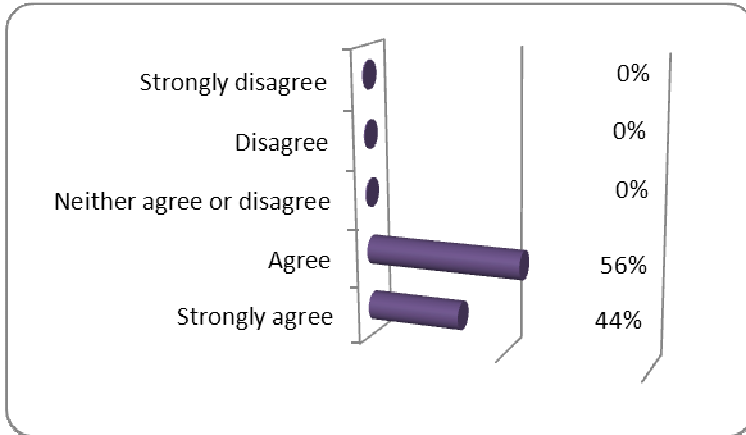
Views expressed which are outside of the scope of this pre-consultation engagement

- Could we collect council tax from better off students, a significant population in Brighton and Hove? [This is outside the scope of the primary legislation, BHCC would have no powers to do this, this comment would need to be fed into DWP]
- Can we raise money from the people who profit from these families? Landlords? And apply a business rate to cover it? A counter argument was that this would not achieve anything as the cost would just be passed on through the rent.
- Rates for landlords
- Can we put an optional box on the council tax form for those that are willing to pay more to contribute to the deficit?
- We should do a campaign to all stop paying Council Tax to prevent this happening. It's a scandal, just add 50p per week to everyone else's bill
- With legal aid going too, this means that nobody amount of money - for whom even £1-£2 is a lot. Too much time and money will be spent on the recovery process
- People just won't pay this extra money because they can't
- This is effectively a punitive measure for the poorest of people
- Raise a mansion tax on properties worth over £1m rather than try to get what to some people is a small amount of money from those who have the very least
- Discussions of other options
- A question was raised around whether there is any scope for increasing the general council tax rate. It was stated that this is a political decision and currently officers have been asked to implement a system taking into account the 10% reduction in grant from the Government

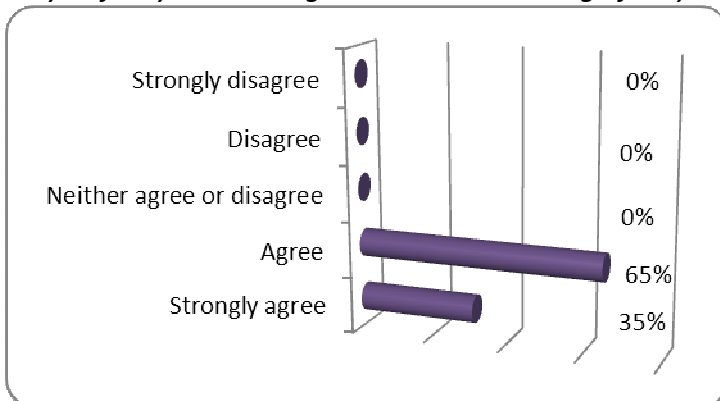
Electronic vote findings

At the end of the conference event, a series of questions were asked to assess consensus in which 17 delegates participated. In addition, 9 CVSF members took part in an online survey. The results have been combined and are presented below:

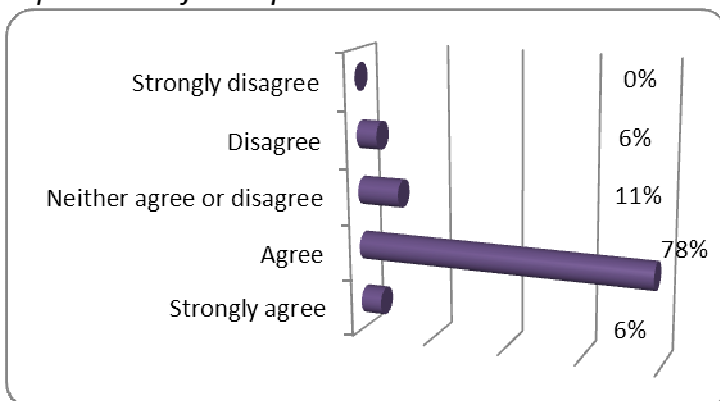
1. *Do you feel you have a greater understanding of the planned changes to council tax support in the city?*



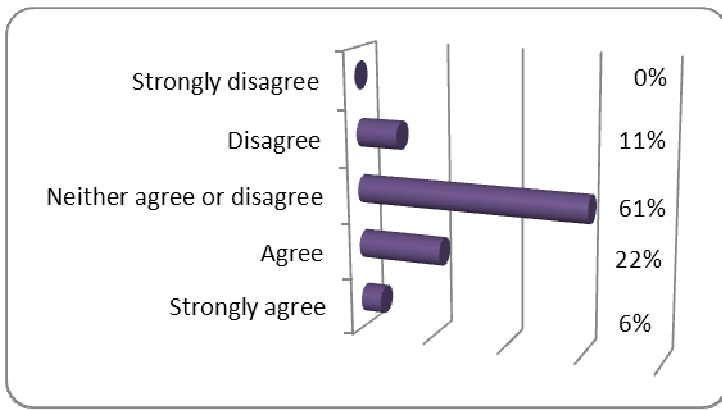
2. *Do you feel you have a greater understanding of why these changes are happening?*



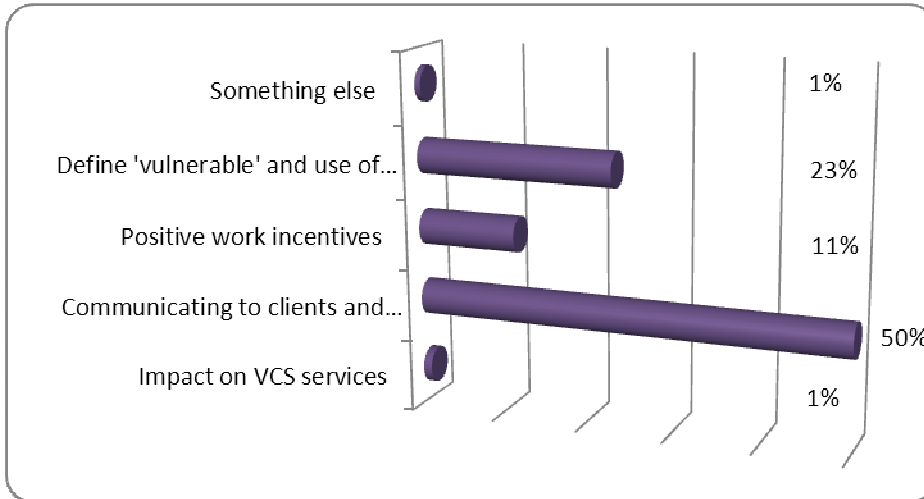
3. *Do you feel you have had the opportunity to influence the model of council tax support that will be implemented from April 2013?*



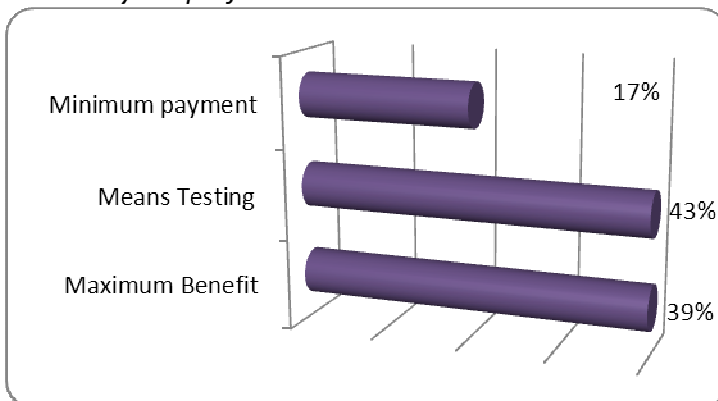
4. *Do you feel that impacts on different communities were fully considered and understood?*



5. What do you think is the most important aspect for further discussion and engagement?

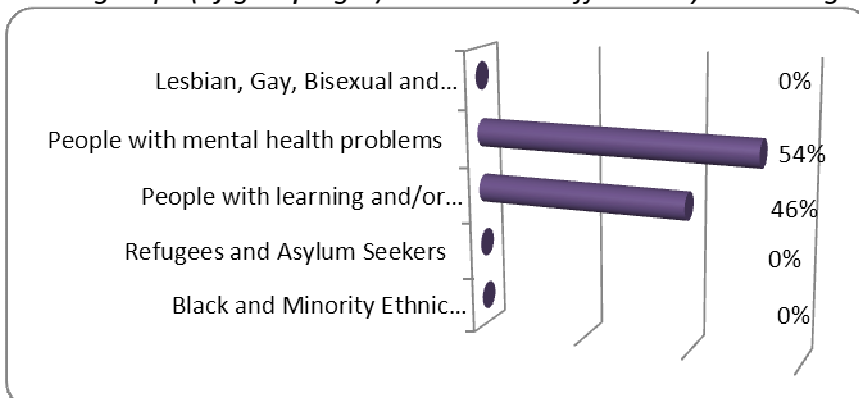


6. Which is your preferred model?

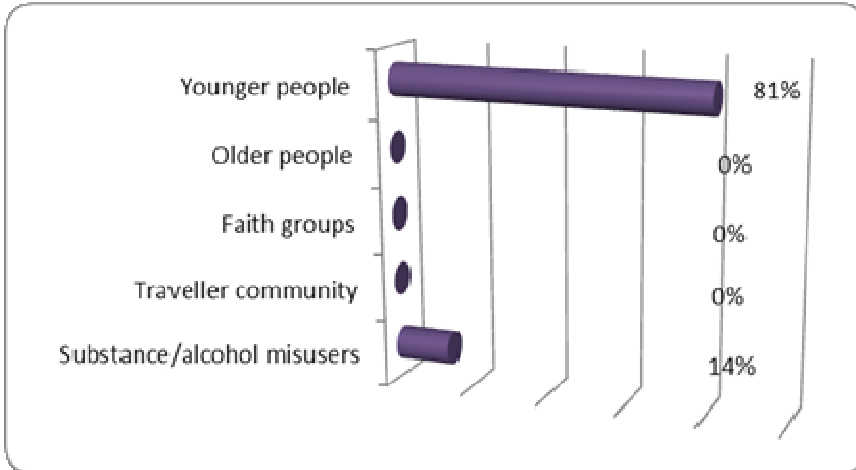


Please note that online people could choose more than one option hence % do not =100

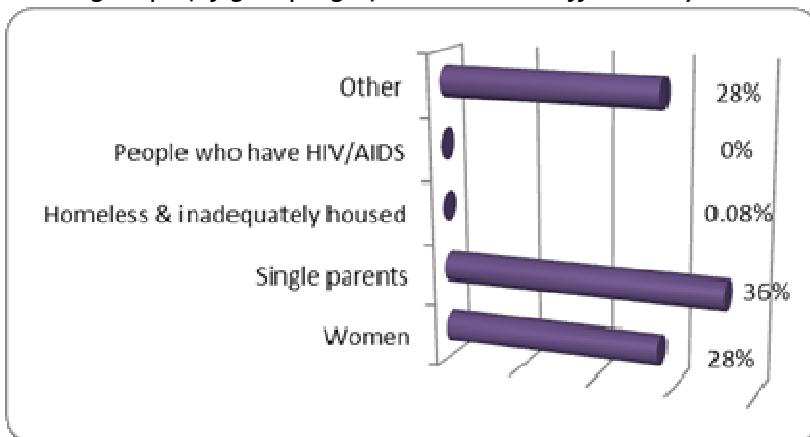
7. Which groups (of grouping A) will be more affected by the changes?



8. Which groups (of grouping B) will be more affected by the changes?



9. Which groups (of grouping C) will be more affected by the changes?



Consultation timetable and next steps

Consultation timetable

- In addition to this conference held on the 13 June and a visit to the CYP Network, CVSF will be carrying out online consultation work with our members. Our report will be published on 29 June in time to influence the Policy & Resources Committee recommendations in mid-July.
- An initial Equalities Impact Assessment will be done by Brighton & Hove City Council and this draft will be circulated to members for comment. In addition, our Equalities reps and network will have a facilitated session in July to develop this document further.
- The recommendations will go out to formal consultation in July and will be online via BHCC's consultation portal
- Subject to legislation being passed during the proposed timetable the changes will take effect from April 2013.

CVSF's Next Steps

A video to view <http://tinyurl.com/cd5hv6g> is still available.

CVSF will promote the formal consultation (to take place during July and August) and will be conducting outreach to community groups and organisations during the formal consultation period. This will include gathering feedback and ideas around the preferred model, to minimise negative unintended consequences and get the detail right as far as possible. This will also involve designing ways of encouraging the sector to feed in community priorities.

CVSF will also be creating an interactive tool to capture 'live' impacts of the Welfare Benefit Reforms on individuals and communities within the city, which will enable decision makers and activists to respond quickly to emerging needs. This part of the project will start in August 2012.

In addition, the CVSF Equalities Network will assist BHCC to develop its Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) in July 2012.

Subject to legislation being passed during the proposed timetable the changes will take effect from April 2013.

Tweeters can join the debate using #bhctb

Appendices

(Click pictures to open files)

Appendix A: Paul Sweeting, Advice Strategy Project/Advice Services Network presentation

Financial Inclusion, Advice Partnership & Welfare Reform



Paul Sweeting, Brighton and Hove Advice Strategy Project. 13/08/12



Appendix B: John Holmstrom, Brighton Housing Trust presentation

Council Tax Benefit Changes – A Housing Perspective

John Holmström
Assistant Chief Executive BHT
Chair Brighton and Hove Advice Partnership
CVSF Housing Network Representative



Appendix C: Valerie Pearce Head of City Services BHCC presentation



Appendix D: Catherine Vaughan Director of Finance BHCC presentation

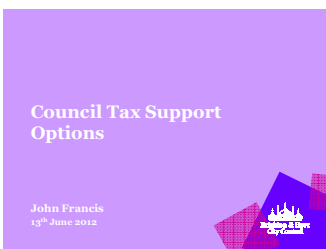


Council Tax Support Consultation
13th June 2012

Catherine Vaughan
Director of Finance, Brighton & Hove City
Council



Appendix E: John Francis Welfare Reform Programme Manager BHCC presentation



Appendix F: Attendees and participants

Online survey 19/06 – 28/06

- Hangleton Community Centre
- The Fed
- Amaze
- Plus 6 other organisations

Event 13/6

Angela Stripp	Guinness Partnership
Angie Emerson	Brighton & Hove City Council
Ann Tizzard	Knoll Community Association
Christine Easterbrook	RISE (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)
Clara Donnelly	Brighton & Hove City Council
Danny Murphy	BHT - Advice Centre
Dawn Devaney	BHT - Advice Centre
Emma Parker	Welfare Rights Project (Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project)
Fay Blockey	B&H CAB
Heather Moston	BHT - Advice Centre
James O'Connor	Welfare Rights Project (Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project)
John Heys	Brighton & Hove City Council
John Holmstrom	Brighton Housing Trust (BHT)
Julie O'Hara	Welfare Rights Project (Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project)
Kim Tugwell	Sussex Deaf Association
Lisa Mytton	Community & Voluntary Sector Forum
Margaret Carey	Money Advice and Community Support Service
Michael Petek	Welfare Rights Project (Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project)
Paul Sweeting	Advice Strategy Project
Peter Sutcliffe	Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project
Rosie Iles-Jonas	RISE (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)
Sarah Colombo	Brighton & Hove City Council
Sarah Ford	Brighton & Hove City Council
Shanti Haft	Welfare Rights Project (Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project)
Steve Chapman	Hanover Community Association
Sue Shaw	Brighton Women's Centre
Thelo Clarke	The Fed Centre for Independent Living
Zoë Peppiatt	Southern Housing Group

Event - 20/6

Adam Muirhead	Trust for Developing Communities
Ben Glazebrook	Young People's Centre (Impact Initiatives)
Bethan Prosser	MOSAIC
Caroline Smith	Brighton Unemployed centre's Families Project

Dave Higgins	The Young Carers Project (The Carers Centre)
Donna Davidson	BHIP
Jess Wood	Allsorts
Jo Wren	MIND B&H
Joanna Martindale	Hangleton & Knoll Project
Jo Parker	Brighton Oasis Project
Joanna Tolley	Prince's Trust
Lis Gohrisch	Daybreak
Louise Stone	Adventure Unlimited
Lynne Charmer	Safety Net
Polly Hunt	Dialogue Therapeutic and Family Services
Samantha King	Fun in Action for Children
Signe Gosmann	Trust for Developing Communities
Sophie Franzen	The Bridge
Sue Heskin	Tarnerland Youth Project
Terri Fletcher	Safety Net
Yael Breuer	Sussex Clubs for Young People