Appendix 2 Survey comments

Please use the space below for any comments about the proposed scheme for 2015/16 Why should we disregard child benefit and child maintenance for this scheme as clearly I think people should pay more than 25% as a senior citizen in full time work I get 25% SPD I pay full rent and because I work full time my age is not taken into account but if I had not I cannot understand why people on child benefit and child maintenance benefits are not counted as an income. I know people who have numerous children and end up with more money than I earn working hard, simply through these benefits! They use just as much, if not more, of the services Council Tax pay for therefore why should they be exempt?! What I consider it desperately unfair that unemployed people i.e. those getting £72 a week in Jobseekers Allowance are forced to pay council tax (albeit a proportion. You should start by I agree that Thurrock Council should introduce a residency rule for Local Council Tax support. As a council tax payer I have no issue whatsoever in supporting vulnerable and needy people but I feel we should encourage individuals into work and not give them too many incentives to stay unemployed. I also think money paid into Thurrock Council by hardworking people over the years should be used to support local people in the first instance. I am in favour of discouraging benefit immigration, where people move into the I strongly support that claimants should have been residents in the borough for at least 5 years, maybe this will stop people coming to Thurrock who think they will get an easy ride If the applicant is in a larger property than they can afford they always have the option of Having the council tax allowing people to claim when they have been placed from another borough is unfair as this lessens up the housing for local residents, I feel that 5 years living in the area before being allowed council tax relief is important as the brough will result in We need to ensure that all residents in Thurrock Borough do not abuse the housing benefits and c/tax system. We are seeing too many people re-locating here because The answering system in this survey is biased as it does not provide enough option for users to select what they truely think is right, nor as an opinion box like this one been provided below each question. Therefore the outcome of this survey will not reflet in any Good idea. Should also be restricted up to band C

Should be up to a band D

If you introduce a residency rule into the council tax support scheme and I have just moved into the borough and I receive Jobseekers Allowance and you say that I have to pay full council tax then I am very unlikely to pay it as it would be better to force the council to take of the statutory deduction from benefit which is currently set A£3.65 for the 2014-2015 I'm pretty sure that that those receiving Child Benefit/Maintenance use that as an declared You should not be penalising people who have moved to the area due to work and then suddenly find themselves unemployed. Had this been in place last year, I would not have think should be help most people on low imcome and people in wheelchair more then family Currently I am struggling to get any form of support or understanding in regards to my council tax bills which was only issued in June as I do no get paid till end of September for the term as I am a full time social work degree student and as well a single to 3children.All efforts to come to a viable arrangement with the Thurrock council tax team has proved abortive and is pushing me far into debt as well as threatening my health I am happy and willing to agree to clear a huge amount off at the end September and finally clear the little if any left in January has been all abortive. I find their attitude very draconian no one seems to listening I don't have a job so no regular income, I get monthly child benefit of £136 and The residency restriction for Council Tax support and is almost certainly illegal - see Sandwell MBC & Winder, Dowen & Hampton & Equality Commission. 30 July 2014 -England & Wales High court [Administrative Court] Case CO/633/2014. The residency

People on low incomes should have 100% of their Council Tax paid. This shouldn't be affected by the length of time a person lives in an area but on income. It could deter some people from moving to this area for employment purposes if they are unable to obtain assistance with Council Tax. If the same system is in place in other boroughs, people in Thurrock on low wages will be deterred from moving. It lowers the standard of living and quality of life of people who are unable to find work/only able to find low paid work.

I agree that people should not be able to claim council tax relief if they have not lived within Thurrock for less than 5 years. However, £6000 savings cap is too low. You should bring it in line with figures they use for income support. I've lived in Thurrock for over 10 years, It needs to be fair and equitable. If people are entitled to it there should be a simple process covering all applicants. If they meet the criteria you shouldn't penalise people in a larger