

# ***London Borough of Bexley***

## **News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**12 June 2017 / PR 9504**

### **Council consults on changes to Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

Bexley has today (12 June) launched a consultation on its Council Tax Reduction Scheme. The scheme provides support with Council Tax payments for residents of working age who are on low incomes.

It is keen to the views of residents, local voluntary and welfare organisations, landlords and other interested parties, regardless of whether they pay benefits.

The proposals will directly affect all those of working age who currently claim help from the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, and anyone of working age who pays Council Tax now and might wish to claim support in the future should their circumstances change.

The Council is keen to hear views on potential changes to the current scheme. If you disagree with a proposed change, there is an opportunity for you to suggest how it should be altered, or to offer other comments.

The deadline for responses is 7 August 2017.

All local authorities are required to establish their own Council Tax support scheme for residents of working age who are on low incomes. National regulations mean the Council has to protect the Council Tax Reduction levels for those of state retirement age, so they receive no less financial support than they would have under the former Council Tax Benefit rules.

Details of the current scheme can be found on the Bexley website - <https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/council-tax-and-business-rates/council-tax-reduction-scheme>

If you don't have internet access at home to view the current scheme, you can use the public computers at the Civic Offices and in libraries.

Paper copies of the consultation are available at all Bexley libraries. You can give your views online at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZNWRCQP>, scan and email your completed form to [consultation@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@bexley.gov.uk) or post your completed paper form to Erith Town Hall, Walnut Tree Road, Erith, Kent, DA8 1TL

The final decision on the scheme will be made by the Council no later than 31 January 2018, and details will be made available on the Council's website.

