

Q4 Do you have any other comments regarding the proposed changes to the scheme?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 307

#	Responses	Date
1	I think its amoral to force those on benefits to pay towards the council tax at all, especially since they have had no increase in their benefits for 8 years and have had there money frozen for the foreseeable future. No other council charges the percentages you charge.	12/1/2016 11:48 AM
2	I am concerned about an decrease in LCTS as I'm already paying too much. Single people in my position already pay enough and I am worried I could not afford to pay more. I am concerned for others in a similar position not just myself.	12/1/2016 10:43 AM
3	I would propose the council not make a position redundant so the recipient gets a bundle TWO YEARS before they retire. I suggest the council consider why they charge more than any other council in the country & intend to rise it to unsustainable levels when Kettering is really nothing special; even the countryside is disappearing. I would suggest employing an objective economist to explain the importance of the very poor being able to spend money if you wish to sustain a local economy	12/1/2016 10:40 AM
4	Ammendments 1,3 & 4 : These groups have huge varieties e.g. how can exceptions be made when households merge - yet couples who stay together & raise their children will be penalised. Some people find themselves forced into WRAG of ESA - especially those with mental helath issues this would make life harder. Ammendment 4 is simply ridiculous. Ammendment 2 would have to be carefully scrutinised & adjustments of a humane nature made when appropriate.	11/30/2016 2:17 PM
5	I feel that it is a struggle being disabled with two children and working, and I feel that disabled people standard or higher elements should receive a bit more support.	11/30/2016 2:10 PM
6	It is not clear what removal of work related component means in Q3. However the work related component should be protected as it is now. Council tax payable should be calculated on income separate to the WRC. If the council take the component in addition to the increased c tax percentage it will leave me in poverty and unable to pay all my bills nor have money to look for limited work. You should carefully consider the human cost of your decision.	11/30/2016 2:08 PM
7	I'm not saying "its relevant" but there are enough people in the area in well paid jobs to pay good rates of council tax. This is them should therefore help those struggling with low pay to keep their council tax down. The council generally needs to get its priorities right. If we are struggling financially as a borough stop wasting money on expensive, unnecessary ideas like the unhealthy dangerous water fountains in the market place. Looking to pay idiots like Lindsay Lohan to switch on our Christmas lights. Very bad road planning. I seriously doubt the capabilities of this council.	11/30/2016 2:04 PM
8	If any change is made, that would increase her contribution to council tax would reduce her quality of life. As it would have to be taken from other benefits that she is entitled to.	11/30/2016 1:57 PM
9	When I already struggle to pay utility bills etc, these extra costs could tip my mental health into illness (and cost the state more to look after me)	11/30/2016 1:52 PM
10	We could save costs i.e. suicides and the crisis after all	11/30/2016 1:50 PM
11	cannot afford to pay more council tax. I am single parent with 1 son (11 years) and I work 16 hours per week - I am struggling as it is so please I cannot afford to pay anymore	11/30/2016 12:56 PM
12	Why should I pay council tax only get £109 week to live when you can have a lot in one house	11/30/2016 12:55 PM
13	Remove fund for police as they no longer reside in Kettering!!!	11/30/2016 12:52 PM
14	N/A	11/30/2016 12:52 PM
15	Immoral and target those in society who do not need any more demonisation	11/30/2016 12:51 PM
16	Extra costs cause suicides against poor people	11/30/2016 12:50 PM
17	Extra costs would affect people with mental health issues	11/30/2016 12:49 PM
18	I struggle to pay my bills and a rise in the council tax will impact on my mental health. It worries me to think of it and it is already effecting me mental health wise. Please do not increase the council tax.	11/30/2016 12:48 PM

19	Reduction of income would worsen my already stressful situation	11/30/2016 12:46 PM
20	I already have a court summons and have bailiffs I owe £34 and feel stress	11/30/2016 12:42 PM
21	To pay more council tax each week I would have less to spend on food	11/30/2016 12:41 PM
22	If I had to pay more council tax I would have less money for food each week	11/30/2016 12:41 PM
23	I think the changes would change my quality of life - i.e - lower it. I struggled to pay this year. Any higher and I would have to go without heating or food. I only just manage now!	11/30/2016 12:40 PM
24	Myself and my friends have talked about how difficult, worrying finance is! While on benefits earning extra income is not possible. I/we cannot take a second job or do overtime for extra income. every penny is a benefit	11/30/2016 12:38 PM
25	If council tax was increased or stayed the same I would have less/not enough money to eat/heat. I would have to lose my car which would mean less independence and higher depression	11/30/2016 12:36 PM
26	It's unfair and just another cut in my income, I struggle everyday choosing between food or putting the heating on.	11/30/2016 12:34 PM
27	Poverty increases depression and anxiety in myself and others	11/30/2016 12:33 PM
28	KBC need to reduce, too high	11/30/2016 12:31 PM
29	I struggle already to live, cant cope with living as it is	11/30/2016 12:31 PM
30	Struggle to pay bills already, no% 0% please	11/30/2016 12:30 PM
31	None	11/30/2016 12:29 PM
32	The form is too difficult to understand on my own. Had to have it explained	11/30/2016 12:29 PM
33	Keep it the same!!	11/30/2016 12:27 PM
34	Families cannot afford the increase	11/30/2016 12:12 PM
35	I cannot afford to pay anymore	11/30/2016 12:11 PM
36	I cannot pay anymore money to KBC	11/30/2016 12:10 PM
37	I manage my monthly bills and cannot afford an increase	11/30/2016 12:10 PM
38	I have worked all my life so make them responsible for paying the council tax bill	11/30/2016 12:09 PM
39	Do not increase it as families are struggling to pay council tax bills, plus all other outgoings	11/30/2016 12:09 PM
40	No increase as the service KBC already provide is rubbish!!! why should we line the council pockets	11/30/2016 12:08 PM
41	No body will want an increase	11/30/2016 12:07 PM
42	Council tax is too much	11/30/2016 12:07 PM
43	People on a low income should not have to pay council tax at all. Scrap the system give them 100%	11/30/2016 12:06 PM
44	My family work and do not claim any benefits, so I have to pay full rent, council tax, school dinners, trips, dentist etc, whereas a family on benefits do not so have more excess cash per week!!	11/30/2016 12:06 PM
45	I cannot afford to pay anymore each month, I have had the bailiffs at my door already, I am really worried about any future increases.	11/30/2016 12:04 PM
46	I don't think it would be fair to push it up, when someone is already on low income	11/30/2016 12:03 PM
47	People on low incomes have been squeezed financially to such an extent, that it's tipping people over the edge	11/30/2016 12:02 PM
48	Costs are too high already!!!	11/30/2016 12:01 PM
49	Harder to find the extra if you are on a low income	11/30/2016 12:00 PM
50	Customers cannot afford to pay anymore per month	11/30/2016 12:00 PM
51	Keep it the same or reduce it	11/30/2016 11:59 AM
52	Will you get the money back	11/30/2016 11:59 AM
53	Do it	11/30/2016 11:55 AM
54	Keep it the same	11/30/2016 11:52 AM
55	I am curious why people who are unable to comfortably pay are still being forced to pay	11/30/2016 11:51 AM

56	50/50 split is fair	11/30/2016 11:17 AM
57	Increase council tax charge so don't have to keep adjusting CTS	11/30/2016 11:17 AM
58	No further increases	11/30/2016 11:16 AM
59	Desborough Council Tax increase was appalling, reducing CTS will make things even harder	11/30/2016 11:16 AM
60	My daughter cannot afford to pay anymore	11/30/2016 11:15 AM
61	I have to pay the full amount so can working age on benefits and low incomes, they have to learn to budget	11/30/2016 11:12 AM
62	Keep it the same	11/30/2016 11:11 AM
63	People already struggling to pay	11/30/2016 11:11 AM
64	We should be helping people on low incomes = 100% taper	11/30/2016 11:02 AM
65	Keep it down the middle, but do not increase in the future	11/30/2016 11:00 AM
66	With all the other changes in this country, we are getting worse, they are hitting the worse off in society	11/30/2016 10:58 AM
67	Should be 100%, we are on a low income and cannot afford the 45% let alone an increase	11/30/2016 10:50 AM
68	50/50 is a fair amount each month	11/30/2016 10:49 AM
69	Increase council tax as well and then no further adjustments in future	11/30/2016 10:46 AM
70	Lower council tax altogether. It's too expensive considering nothing it's meant to pay for gets done!	11/30/2016 10:42 AM
71	Make it better for the majority rather than minority	11/30/2016 10:42 AM
72	I chose option 4 but it says there will be a minimum 45% payment with the obvious implication that it may be more but this is not explained. The questions are misleading and will void this biased survey. Further it is shameful that those least able to pay, i.e. those in receipt of benefits, are expected to pay any amount. For me on basic JSA this amounts to over 10% of my annual JSA payments being deducted.	11/30/2016 9:06 AM
73	I understand that KBC has limited options with regard to changing Council Tax Benefit due to government funding changes. I am however very concerned that the expectation of very many years that out of work income related benefits were not enough to cover any element of rent or council tax (or, in the past, rates) is effectively being abandoned. This must surely increase levels of poverty and stress due to difficulty meeting commitments. I wish there was more publicity about this.	11/28/2016 9:08 PM
74	This year my council tax increased from £13 to £40 pounds per month. I'm on PIP and ESA which is frozen and will be next year also. I've no objection to paying a fair amount but when all bills and cost of living increase each year and benefit is frozen where do we find this extra? The stress this will incur where the increase cannot be met will cause great anxiety and hardship. Was under the impression that the Government pledged to help those that are really in need.	11/28/2016 6:18 PM
75	Nikki and Tracey are doing a great job	11/28/2016 3:57 PM
76	Cant afford to pay 45%	11/28/2016 3:56 PM
77	Pay the full 100%	11/28/2016 3:56 PM
78	Sack the council	11/28/2016 3:52 PM
79	No	11/28/2016 3:49 PM
80	People can only pay what they can afford to pay. 45% is still a high amount when on a low income	11/28/2016 3:48 PM
81	I pay mine, so people on benefits should pay more	11/28/2016 3:40 PM
82	Reduce it. 45% is unaffordable	11/28/2016 3:36 PM
83	Keep it the same increase it and that means it will come out of peoples food money	11/28/2016 3:36 PM
84	Limit to 4 children	11/28/2016 3:34 PM
85	Pay the whole amount, working age should be working	11/28/2016 3:34 PM
86	I cannot afford to pay anymore, please do not increase it	11/28/2016 3:33 PM
87	Do not increase it	11/28/2016 3:31 PM
88	Keep it at the same level, people cannot afford to pay any level of increase	11/28/2016 3:31 PM
89	This really scares me, I cannot afford to pay anymore	11/28/2016 3:30 PM

90	Leave the poor alone	11/28/2016 3:01 PM
91	Option 1 same as cap Lower than 45%	11/28/2016 3:01 PM
92	Lower than 45%	11/28/2016 3:00 PM
93	If not lower	11/28/2016 3:00 PM
94	Everybody should pay the ctax bill - working age employed or unemployed	11/28/2016 2:59 PM
95	Keep it the same	11/28/2016 2:58 PM
96	Straight down the middle	11/28/2016 2:57 PM
97	Keep it 50/50	11/28/2016 2:56 PM
98	Working age people - if this was increased it could tip them over the edge	11/28/2016 2:56 PM
99	If it means no cuts to council services at the lower amount then you should increase to make sure you still provide a good service	11/28/2016 2:52 PM
100	Keep it at 45% this is what people are used to paying	11/28/2016 2:51 PM
101	If have not payed insurance her and are not from her	11/28/2016 2:50 PM
102	It is hard to keep up with the payments now my PIP has stopped	11/28/2016 2:49 PM
103	We all have to pay	11/28/2016 2:48 PM
104	Keep it the same	11/28/2016 2:48 PM
105	Reduce the amount for the poor and the vulnerable in society Increase 1-2% for everyone else	11/28/2016 2:47 PM
106	Reduce to 20% to keep in line with majority of country	11/28/2016 2:46 PM
107	Everyone need sto pay	11/28/2016 2:46 PM
108	Increase it to meet the shortfall	11/28/2016 2:45 PM
109	Add child maintenance payments to the total household income. People cannot afford 45% let alone increasing to 68%	11/28/2016 2:45 PM
110	More clarity to income brackets vs related benefit i.e specific amounts before reductions	11/28/2016 2:44 PM
111	I cannot afford to pay anymore, a reduction below the 45% would be nice	11/28/2016 2:42 PM
112	Keep it the same!	11/28/2016 2:41 PM
113	I cannot afford to pay the increase	11/28/2016 2:23 PM
114	I do not get the same amount in state pension per week as people get in benefits each week	11/28/2016 2:23 PM
115	Keep the taper the same	11/28/2016 2:22 PM
116	Keep the taper the same	11/28/2016 2:14 PM
117	Scrap the scheme	11/28/2016 2:14 PM
118	It's too much to expect people to pay more	11/28/2016 2:13 PM
119	It's too much	11/28/2016 2:05 PM
120	Keep it the same I have 3 children	11/28/2016 2:05 PM
121	I do not understand the form which was sent in the post, I cannot afford an increase	11/28/2016 2:03 PM
122	People who earn are penalised	11/28/2016 2:03 PM
123	I have to pay so increase it	11/28/2016 2:02 PM
124	Stop changing things	11/28/2016 2:01 PM
125	I am struggling to pay the current years charge, so cannot afford an increase	11/28/2016 2:01 PM
126	I have to work fulltime and pay my council tax so should people on benefits	11/28/2016 2:00 PM
127	Anything to get people back to work	11/28/2016 1:59 PM
128	Do Not make things harder	11/28/2016 1:58 PM

129	50/50 split is far	11/28/2016 1:57 PM
130	People on low income need more help	11/28/2016 1:57 PM
131	Help people - don't make things harder	11/28/2016 1:56 PM
132	I simply cannot to pay anymore	11/28/2016 1:55 PM
133	People cant afford it now. This just increases homelessness	11/28/2016 1:54 PM
134	Keep the taper at the same level	11/28/2016 1:53 PM
135	Need to get people paying their own bills	11/28/2016 1:52 PM
136	I really do not understand the form which was sent in the post	11/28/2016 1:52 PM
137	45% is too much	11/28/2016 1:51 PM
138	Nothing that wuld increase financial troubles	11/28/2016 1:51 PM
139	This form is too complicated	11/28/2016 1:50 PM
140	If it will prevent further increases in the future, I have chosen the higher amount so families and single people can get used to budgeting for the higher amount each month	11/28/2016 1:48 PM
141	No, not at this time	11/28/2016 1:42 PM
142	How does this effect HB claims for disabled	11/28/2016 1:42 PM
143	We are in debts as it is, due to increase in council tax this year and loss benefits - please don't put it up again - thank you	11/28/2016 1:40 PM
144	No - Not fair if it goes up again	11/28/2016 1:39 PM
145	We are struggling too much already, please don't increase council tax, we are struggling with bills	11/28/2016 1:39 PM
146	Crazy idea, we cant pay more, already in debt	11/28/2016 1:38 PM
147	Don't understand no 4	11/28/2016 1:37 PM
148	If you increase council tax , we cant afford electricity needed for winter heating	11/28/2016 1:36 PM
149	Proposal is not fair on us we are struggling with money and bills already	11/28/2016 1:35 PM
150	Its a disgrace to consider more council tax for people on benefits - am not coping - on anti depressants	11/28/2016 1:34 PM
151	Please don't do this increase	11/28/2016 1:34 PM
152	Lots of people struggle to pay the 45% amount so to raise it anymore would make things a lot worse for people	11/28/2016 1:33 PM
153	Keep it the same!	11/28/2016 1:31 PM
154	If it makes it harder for them it will give them the incentive to return to work	11/28/2016 1:30 PM
155	A small increase may prompt people to look for work	11/28/2016 1:29 PM
156	Keep it the same, customers are struggling	11/28/2016 1:29 PM
157	I can't afford to pay now	11/28/2016 1:28 PM
158	Council doing a good job People on low income will struggle to pay extra	11/28/2016 1:28 PM
159	Freeze, hard times alreay	11/28/2016 1:27 PM
160	I think its pretty bad	11/28/2016 1:27 PM
161	Keep it the same	11/28/2016 1:26 PM
162	Apalling this should not be happening	11/28/2016 1:25 PM
163	The percentage should depend on circumstances. people who genuinely cant work should get lower % than those who can. Give some incentive to start work.	11/28/2016 1:25 PM
164	They should reduce it	11/28/2016 1:24 PM
165	A small increase is better for the customer	11/28/2016 1:22 PM
166	A small increase is better for the customer	11/28/2016 12:32 PM
167	If you have to increase it to balance the books, increase it	11/28/2016 11:58 AM

168	I cannot afford to pay anymore	11/28/2016 11:57 AM
169	I think its outrageous	11/28/2016 11:57 AM
170	Keep it down the middle with no further increases	11/28/2016 11:55 AM
171	Working people on low income usually have families and those of us who can afford to pay more should support them	11/28/2016 11:54 AM
172	Customers are on a low income already so will be properly in debt so increasing the taper will be more debt	11/28/2016 11:53 AM
173	Keep it the same	11/28/2016 11:51 AM
174	I cannot afford to pay anymore	11/28/2016 11:51 AM
175	Keep it the same but make working people/households pay a higher amount to meet the shortfall	11/28/2016 11:50 AM
176	I cannot pay amount	11/28/2016 11:49 AM
177	I have to pay my council tax bill	11/28/2016 11:44 AM
178	N/A	11/28/2016 11:43 AM
179	A 50/50 split is a fair way to address the shortfall, but do not increase in the future	11/28/2016 11:43 AM
180	I feel that 45% is far to much for someone on benefits to have to find & pay. This will only increase the amount of non payers, & the amount of court costs etc that will be charged	11/25/2016 3:51 PM
181	I cannot afford to pay amount	11/25/2016 3:46 PM
182	Meet in the middle with no further increases	11/25/2016 3:27 PM
183	Keep it the same!	11/25/2016 3:26 PM
184	Keep it the same	11/25/2016 3:24 PM
185	Straight down the middle	11/25/2016 3:24 PM
186	I think people are struggling to pay this amount	11/25/2016 3:23 PM
187	Keep it at the same level	11/25/2016 3:22 PM
188	Why are we the dearest in the country	11/25/2016 3:03 PM
189	Rate of inflation increasing so understandable that bills have to increase. 50/50 split fair regardless on race, accommodation etc. Council Tax should be means tested	11/25/2016 2:58 PM
190	If it wasn't for budget support services I would be in a mess	11/25/2016 2:57 PM
191	On benefits on a low income, why punish them further	11/25/2016 2:56 PM
192	Benefits is variable to the individual it is far to complex to comment but as 45%, keep it at the same level	11/25/2016 2:56 PM
193	Keep it at 45% as customers know what they have to pay	11/25/2016 2:54 PM
194	Keep the taper at 45%	11/25/2016 2:53 PM
195	I am not really sure, I understand you have to increase due to cuts in funding	11/25/2016 2:53 PM
196	It is hard to make ends meet!	11/25/2016 2:52 PM
197	Keep it the same or lower it!	11/25/2016 2:50 PM
198	Keep it the same!	11/25/2016 2:48 PM
199	I cannot afford to pay anymore, will other council services be cut if you do not increase	11/25/2016 2:47 PM
200	Questions are to general	11/25/2016 2:46 PM
201	People are struggling to make ends meet, keep it at 45%, but really you should be looking at lowering the taper	11/25/2016 2:46 PM
202	Keep the taper at 45%	11/25/2016 2:45 PM
203	In respect of Amendment 2 clarify 4 consecutive weeks or 4 in total	11/25/2016 2:44 PM
204	50/50 split	11/25/2016 2:42 PM
205	Put it back to the % befor the 45% rise was put in place. Give full help and info for disabled help/support	11/25/2016 2:41 PM
206	I suggest you leave the disabled alone and put the mayor on a diet, that should save some money	11/25/2016 1:16 PM

207	Being on ESA due to a serious illness in which still in recovery, find the 45% minimum very hard to finance out of meagre benefits. Heard on TV news that KBC was one of the highest charges, some towns do not charge at all to benefit claimants whereas some only charge 20%	11/25/2016 1:15 PM
208	Another point i would like to make is that poeple who have british passports can live in another country come back as a student and not pay any taxes to our country and get and recieve benefits and council tax support when they haven't lived here or they have only lived in the uk for only 5 weeks or more but they pay no tax or contirbute to the uk it seems very unfair i feel that the system should be more than 4 weeks outside of the uk it should be more maybe months and not weeks that system seems to be very out of date and needs some adjustments i feel	11/24/2016 5:47 PM
209	45% is a fair figure and the customers are used to paying this amount per month	11/24/2016 4:23 PM
210	People are struggling to pay	11/24/2016 4:21 PM
211	I simply cannot afford to pay anymore	11/24/2016 4:21 PM
212	Kettering Borough Council are already very draconian in the way they operate council tax support. This must NOT be allowed to worsen for vulnerable low paid residents	11/24/2016 3:53 PM
213	There should be an option to reduce this ludicrous amount. People on benefits are suffering extreme hardship because of KBC's high council tax amounts they have to contribute. Why not bring back workhouses then you can shut the poor away and forget them altogether.	11/24/2016 3:47 PM
214	If the price of council tax goes to 68% a lot of people including myself will have real problems of paying it and will end up in serious debt	11/24/2016 3:44 PM
215	Its a lot of money for anyone to find. I am disabled and cant afford what i'm paying now. I would be homeless within 4 months if I was lucky to last that long	11/24/2016 3:42 PM
216	People are struggling to manage at 45% to increase would cause more poverty	11/24/2016 3:40 PM
217	My council tax increases every year at a higher rate that I cannot afford, my ESA does not go up at a rate that I can pay extra council tax charge	11/24/2016 3:38 PM
218	I agre, I do not want other services across the council to be cut	11/24/2016 3:37 PM
219	I understand that there is a shortfall, but I think it will be fairer to have a slight increase, customer 50%, council 50%	11/24/2016 3:36 PM
220	If you can afford to go abroad for 4 weeks or more you can afford to pay council tax	11/24/2016 3:35 PM
221	I know of some couples who are working feel they are worse off than those on benefits after they pay there mortgages & bills	11/24/2016 3:34 PM
222	No Comment	11/24/2016 3:31 PM
223	If it means to help with the shortfall then increase the amount customers have to pay, I do not want services across the council to be cut	11/24/2016 3:31 PM
224	People cant afford to pay anymore	11/24/2016 3:30 PM
225	Reduce he taper	11/24/2016 3:28 PM
226	N/A	11/22/2016 6:37 PM
227	My benefits have been cut right down and I am struggling with the money I get each week also I am losing my house as prime choice want it back.	11/22/2016 6:36 PM
228	I am struggling with the bills and money it will iff it go up I will be losing my flat. I think we should go down or stay same	11/22/2016 6:34 PM
229	People on low income and vunerable cant afford it	11/22/2016 6:30 PM
230	£10 is 8% of my total weekly income	11/22/2016 6:29 PM
231	Do not agree with any options, why do some other local authorities have 0% council tax for people on benefit, why is this different	11/22/2016 6:28 PM
232	Increases in payments will make the current increase in homelessness in Kettering far higher	11/22/2016 6:25 PM
233	Please freeze the amount to 45%, I am on benefits and struggled with that amount already this year. I cant afford more - Thank you	11/22/2016 6:19 PM
234	Already struggling to pay this amount of council tax. Cant go on holidays if you increase it will have to cut back on leisure activities such as swimming or yoga and eating out in cafes	11/22/2016 6:18 PM
235	N/A	11/22/2016 6:15 PM

236	It Should be lowered not raised. I only get £109 a week. By the time I have paid my bills I don't have much left for myself let alone paying more council tax	11/22/2016 6:13 PM
237	Think more help is required for single people as they are sometimes alienated and not helped when they have no independents and no useful advice is given at times....I had to work 3 jobs once to keep my head above water and I was took of the council waiting lust, as I had sufficient housing .I did appeal and had no response back from the council at all .	11/14/2016 8:31 AM
238	In my opinion working customers in bands c and above should pick up the shortfall as they have the capacity to pay. Most people on benefit are struggling to buy essentials such as food. Hence the food banks and soup kitchens. Asking us to pay more without benefit rises to pay for it means that there will be more people living on the streets.	11/10/2016 1:15 AM
239	I get the disability premium, if the Carer's Element was removed it would cause more financial hardship, and resentment from my Wife/Carers, who it would be an insult to. If our Carers stopped being carers, it would land a fairly expensive bill for caring for us at the door of Kettering Borough Council. Carers are the invisible and forgotten unsung Heroes of this country, they are available 24 hours a day, undertaking all the work and worry that caring for a disabled person entails. Not alone are they our nurses, they are also our finance manager, secretary, chief cook and bottle washer, in other words our general dogs body, and they may well say they have enough, and walk away from the thankless job of caring. Come and spend time with them on the front-line and see how the struggle and how they cope on a day to day basis. Please do not add to their already overloaded burden.	11/7/2016 12:04 PM
240	Kettering has the highest contribution for council tax for people on benefits in the county. This is causing increased homelessness and is a blight on the town.	11/4/2016 10:30 AM
241	I fall under the jsa category. Due to a spinal injury in my 3 rd year of nursing and a private company assesment at the dwp i am assumed fit to work. I have been looking for one year. At present i receive £280 p month of which kbc take £144 so more than 50% of my income is paid to the council already. I understand cuts need to be made but genuine people like myself have to live and need support at times of need. I find it deeply distressing that i may have even less to live on as i sit in a freezing house due to not being able to purchase gas. I understand that some people do take advantage of the systems laid down to help genuine ones and hence we are now in this state.	11/3/2016 5:37 PM
242	I do not feel that anyone who has a disability should pay anything like 45% of their Council Tax bill nor the elderly who may be asset rich but cash poor. Added to some of the ridiculous precepts levied, this is truly a horrendous situation. For KB to say there will be a £92,000 shortfall as justification when the Senior Management Team are paid that much or more is bordering on cruelty. Look to reduce the number of chiefs and the problem would be solved in an instant.	11/3/2016 2:32 PM
243	Reducing to bring us in line with the rest of England would be good	11/3/2016 2:02 PM
244	Kettering already has one of the highest payment levels for people receiving Council Tax support; increasing it further makes a farce of the whole thing.	11/2/2016 12:21 PM
245	Yes. How can a home owner made redundant or claiming sick benefit and only receiving circa £73 a week possibly be expected to budget for council tax at all, let alone at the massive amounts being already charged to them?	11/2/2016 3:33 AM
246	I am not familiar with general benefits but if you get more money if you have more children and then pay less council tax, I may be mistaken, does that not mean you are "benefitting " twice? When your neighbour, who perhaps can't have children or has made a conscious, financial decision that they can't afford to have another child, is penalised. If you can afford to leave the country for 4 weeks I think you can afford council tax (excluding family death etc). I don't understand 3. Regarding 4, I think in essence it is similar to the two children issue isn't it? I don't know much about it but I don't think it affects the amount you pay anyway does it? I get severe disability premium and it hasn't changed the amount I am liable to pay. I really do understand the predicament that councils are in but I think the rules, whatever they are, should be applied nationally in the pursuit of fairness and pressure should be put on the government not the people who, through no fault of their own, find themselves requiring assistance. I was a lawyer with a life I loved, most people don't choose to be on benefits. I hope this helps.	11/1/2016 12:33 PM
247	45% is already a large percentage of a very reduced income for a single person on ESA especially over a protracted amount of time and there is no hope of amelioration in the future. If anything, it should be reduced.	11/1/2016 12:12 PM
248	i am a carer for my wife who has progressive multiple sclerosis, any increase on what we have to pay will see us in court explaining why we cant pay any more	10/31/2016 5:57 PM
249	it doesn't matter what the public think of these proposals, as it has probably already been decided and approved at 68%.	10/31/2016 4:33 PM
250	All allegible customers should pay into sheme,	10/31/2016 4:26 PM

251	I feel that as the allowance is the least helpful in the area that the benefit should actually be increased, especially as my disability means that at times in the winter I already have to choose between food and warmth, I also think that this consultation is pointless as the wording "Customers will have to pay at least" leaves you open to do whatever you want. Also as a disabled person I rarely see any use of the "services" I am supposed to be paying for. Whatever your dispute with government funding it is a government of your own party and you should be consulting with them rather than punishing those that can least afford it as the Tory party seem to enjoy doing so so often, to punish people who are on or below the poverty line, or just barely keeping their heads above water is morally wrong you will be pushing people into debts that they have no chance of recovering from pushing them into a downward spiral that ultimately will create a further drain of funds. I think this policy is extremely badly thought out and again morally wrong	10/31/2016 3:56 PM
252	1) stop spending so much on illegal immigrants you'd have more budget 2) Make all those of pension age claiming benefit prove via you checking with their bank they have no savings if they have they don't receive benefit	10/31/2016 3:39 PM
253	It's important to remember that many working age claimants are working within an extremely limited budget, in the same way as elderly people many have care needs etc. To promote equality, it is only right to levy any further cuts to CTS for working age claimants by imposing funding cuts to claimants above retirement age. I cannot emphasise strongly enough the negative impact any further cuts will have on households such as my own. I have already written to my local councillor following the last round of cuts, and I cannot be squeezed any more without sinking into significant debt. Please do not ignore this issue, you will have more claimants being referred to KBC debt collectors for CT debt, at a cost to KBC in the long run. People can't give what they haven't got.	10/31/2016 2:25 PM
254	Benefits such as the CTSS have the general effect of discouraging recipients from improving their resources by getting a job or improving their income from a job that they already have (e.g. by taking on more hours). Therefore I am opposed to council tax revenues being expended on them. The council needs to take a more holistic view towards improving economic activity in the borough. Transport is a particular problem, because the bus service is so poor. People on low income frequently work outside normal working hours. A local bus service that operated earlier in the day, in the evenings and on Sundays would assist low income-earners in getting to and from work and would therefore be valuable in getting people into work or extending the hours in which they can work. This is the sort of measure that council tax revenues should be spent on - not, effectively, paying people to stay at home. The poor bus service also undermines the council's efforts to regenerate and revitalise Kettering town centre, especially as a restaurant and cultural venue in the evenings. The more-or-less absence of an evening bus service is keeping customers away from a perfectly good evening offering in the town (as a walk through the town at those times will easily confirm), thus reducing revenues for the existing businesses, discouraging expansion and new business and reducing job creation. THIS, local transport, a potential benefit for all, is where the council should be spending tax payers' resources. I would say, in general, that the council takes money from a wide population in the borough, but expends most of it on a very small proportion of the population. The only visible benefit that I, and many others, receive from the borough precept is the dust bin service - which costs less than £1 per week per household. Any move that exacerbates this effect - giving yet more council tax payers' money to a small proportion of the total local population - further undermines the confidence that council tax payers have that the revenues that are taken from them are being spent prudently.	10/31/2016 12:32 PM
255	The level of council tax should be reduced at source to bring Kettering in line with the rest of the country. We pay one of the highest taxes for no better services. Why is this? The level of support should be increased back to the level it was a few years ago. It is wrong to increase tax on the low-paid, single, parents, unemployed and elderly, which is what these proposals are mainly aimed at. Wrong on all levels. Tax rich people, not poor people!	10/28/2016 4:16 PM
256	Kettering expects the most disadvantaged residents to pay a higher percentage of their Council Tax than any other Borough. My proposal would be to lower the minimum percentage each household expects to pay in line with the current next highest council	10/27/2016 3:52 PM
257	HOW DO THE GOVERNMENT AND COUNCIL EXPECT PEOPLE WHO WORK PART TIME DUE TO HEALTH PROBLEMS AND DONT GET ANY BENEFITS ETC, IT IS JUST FORCING THEM TO BREAK THE LAW & BECOME CRIMINALS JUST TO BE ABLE TO PAY THEM, IT IS NOT RIGHT, FORCING PEOPLE INTO CRIME TO PAY THERE BILLS, AND AFFORD TO LIVE,	10/26/2016 9:07 PM
258	I support some elements to create parity but those I oppose are due to the serious penury seeking work can entail and considers the considerable shortfall between LHA and actual rents tenants have to meet out of working age benefits	10/25/2016 1:24 PM
259	To be even talking about raising the amount vulnerable and poor people should pay, is a disgrace. Particularly as KBC levels of support are already the worst in the country	10/21/2016 11:36 AM
260	My council tax payments have already doubled but due to new PIP my disability payments have reduced and I am really struggling now	10/21/2016 10:05 AM
261	I feel that taking into account this and that is overly complicated and could easily lead to some deserving cases paying more than others. Why not take a more pragmatic and caring approach and just have a simple percentage - lower than this year and allow people who have disabilities to relax about paying their council tax bill. Surely taking non-payers to court is more expensive and time-consuming than setting a reasonable and caring level.	10/17/2016 1:50 PM

262	People are struggling enough already. We are an affluent country. It is not right to reduce the incomes of our poorest people making them even poorer. Who comes up with these proposals? Clearly you have lived a life where you have never gone without food or had condensation freeze on the inside of the windows. Get some humanity.	10/13/2016 8:51 PM
263	I agree with the proposed changes with regards to dependant children as the amount of children you have is a lifestyle choice, as long as the changes do not cause a dramatic impact of poverty to the families. But I do not agree with the changes for the sick or disabled as they have no choice to live on low income if they are unable to work through ill health so it would make them suffer even more.	10/9/2016 7:52 PM
264	The current percentage is already mean-minded and embarrassing for Kettering to demand from struggling people the highest level across the Country	10/9/2016 4:16 PM
265	STOP VILIFYING THE SICK, DISABLED AND POOR. THERE SHOULD BE AN OPTION TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT THESE VULNERABLE GROUPS HAVE TO PAY. YOU SERIOUSLY NEED TO LISTEN TO YOUR RESIDENTS WHO ARE BEING PUNISHED FOR BEING SICK AND DISABLED	10/9/2016 8:37 AM
266	Would you prefer to kill them off quicker	10/8/2016 10:00 PM
267	Why make those who are already suffering the most suffer more and pay more!! Please try and live on 8k a year as total income into your house and feed a family then tell them that they need to pay more out to KBC!!	10/8/2016 9:51 PM
268	This council should be ashamed of themselves, other councils do not charge your exorbitant charges, maybe they pay themselves less	10/8/2016 9:24 PM
269	I simply do not know how people who are disabled are in the same group as people who are able to work. I care for my husband who had brain cancer and has had a stroke, I was a teacher before this happened and he had just retrained as a plumber. We did not choose to live like this and rely on benefits yet we are treated the same way as people who do choose this way of life	10/8/2016 8:02 PM
270	This is an unfair attack on disabled people. Please do not cut their benefits even more, they are already charged more for council tax in Kettering Borough than any other LA in the country!! They can not afford to pay more council tax.	10/8/2016 7:31 PM
271	Back to at least 8.5%	10/8/2016 5:57 PM
272	on Ammdement 1, Giving in effect no reduction for people with more than two children provides excess charges on people whos income is already limited by national government changes. the inevitable result of this policy will be families split with single parent hoseholds and split families with children, contracting the social housing supply even further. that a council could persue such a counterproductive policy bopggles the mind. on Ammdement 2 several people I know have been in a position that they have to spend periods of time outside the UK for medical reasons during the winter, increasing their charges would be devastating for their health., on ammdement 3 this would need a much stronger justification. the reduction in ESA payments has already been criticised extensively, does the council truly wish to be considered as a group extending the DWP's attack on the sick and disabled beyond the normal? Ammdement 4 yet another ammdement that can be seen as little else than the council robbing the disabled. In the long run all claimants will be transfered across to universal credit, is it really worth the bad publicity inevitable from this change for the small ammount that the council will gain from making this change?	10/8/2016 2:53 PM
273	Our percentage is the highest in the country. Its terrible. I see the hardship. You are wrong to even cnsuder rising it further. You will be making more people homeless	10/8/2016 2:37 PM
274	If you change it from 45% to 68% I won't have any money to live on I'm. Already struggling to pay my bills.	10/8/2016 2:25 PM
275	Diabolical, absolutely disgraceful. I would prefer the 25% council tax discount for single employed or pensioner householders to be removed or reduced instead of this attack on more vulnerable poverty stricken households.	10/8/2016 2:16 PM
276	The poor has payed enough ,its not fair we have to budget every week to survive ,my life as a disabled person is hard enough ,without struggling to pay rising council tax bills ,worrying if we can afford to have the heating on or food in our bellies ,	10/8/2016 1:17 PM
277	The proposer of this scheme would appear to be labouring under the delusion that £73.10 a week (or even less) is infinitely flexible and is not also being chipped away in various other ways - no inflationary benefit increase, housing benefit shortfall, rising fuel bills... The proposal is obscene and you do not live in the real world.	10/8/2016 11:12 AM
278	you are the highest already at 45% , and increasing is going to lead to severe hardship for those on ESA or other benefits , this will if raised become a national news story , bringing the council into a expensive and messy dispute , if there was a surplus of work out there i could understand it ,there isn't ,yes agency ,zero hour and part time , but on universal job match if you look the jobs are duplicated one vacancy 10 agencies advertising it , also you put people in extreme hardship to the extreme of struggling to feed themselves and their families the food banks will be under pressure and crime such as shoplifting will increase resulting in shops having higher costs and smaller shops closing , people having to eat poorly will impact on health and therefore the strain on doctors and hospitals will increase , the sick and unemployed are not there to be demonised , what is needed is better prospects of work as in full time permanent work and better health care for the sick and disabled , a reduction is what should be happening	10/8/2016 10:11 AM

279	Obviously the rate shouldn't be increased! If anything it should be reduced to something more like the National Average.	10/8/2016 9:18 AM
280	It is disgusting that the level of council tax that the poor and vulnerable in society are being asked to pay is proposed to be increased especially after a massive increase in 2016/2017. Surely this just leads to more people defaulting on their payments and actually doesn't raise any more funds. Within amendments 3 and 4 why are the only options to keep the status quo, or reduce everyone to the lowest common denominator? Shouldn't we be helping the poor and vulnerable not hitting them multiple times. Couldn't the council tax increase by 1 or 2 % for the rest of us to support the poor and vulnerable in society.	10/8/2016 9:01 AM
281	The poor and vulnerable of Kettering already pay the most in the country. Raising this will cause unnecessary harm and should not be an option. It is also disgusting there isn't an option if lowering the amount the poorest and most vulnerable pay. We should raise council tax across the board by 1% and return the amount disabled and poor people pay to 20% so we are the same as the majority of the country	10/8/2016 8:59 AM
282	I have said No to all of these proposals as they appear to do nothing other than increase a borough resident's liability. It is not fair to consider these amendments without considering the advice of the professional agencies that support people in these circumstances. None of these proposals should be passed until professional evaluation is conducted in each aspect.	10/8/2016 3:39 AM
283	people on low benefits simply do not have spare money to pay more council tax..Most cant afford heating now and you think they can pay more? get a grip of the reality of life, you can't extract money if there is no money	10/7/2016 5:36 PM
284	We should be looking after the least fortunate in our community not trying to squeeze every last drop out of them! The council should be ashamed of themselves.	10/7/2016 5:19 PM
285	KBC should be utterly ashamed that it is even considering proposals that will take even more money from those on the lowest incomes. Disgraceful to ask for more from people with disabilities, in particular.	10/7/2016 3:24 PM
286	why do KBC not claim like any other council the full grants available?	10/7/2016 3:22 PM