

Southampton Local Council Tax Support Draft Proposed Scheme for Consultation

Southampton City Council's Council Tax Support Scheme is based on the Draft Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) Regulations issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government in July 2012 (referred to below as the Default Scheme) and which is available at

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/counciltax/counciltaxsupport/>

The council intends to adopt the Default Scheme in respect of persons who are not pensioners (i.e. Classes D, E and F) with the following exceptions:

1. The following incomes will be disregarded in full:
 - a. war disablement pensions;
 - b. war widow's pensions;
 - c. war widower's pensions;
 - d. pensions payable to a person as a widow, widower or surviving civil partner under any power of Her Majesty otherwise than under an enactment to make provision about pensions for or in respect of persons who have been disabled or have died in consequence of service as members of the armed forces of the Crown;
 - e. guaranteed income payments;
 - f. payments made to compensate for the non-payment of such a pension or payment as is mentioned in any of the preceding sub-paragraphs;
 - g. pensions paid by the government of a country outside Great Britain which is analogous to any of the pensions or payments mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (d) above;
 - h. pensions paid to victims of National Socialist persecution under any special provision made by the law of the Federal Republic of Germany, or any part of it, or of the Republic of Austria.

Paragraph 20 of Schedule 8 of the Default Scheme shall therefore be amended to replace "£10" with "the full amount".

2. With the exception of the households in receipt of the incomes set out in paragraph 1. above, the reduction calculated in accordance with regulation 31 of the Default Scheme for Classes D, E and F will be decreased by 25%.
3. A discretionary fund will be available to ensure that the most vulnerable can access additional support in exceptional circumstances by application for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.