

Council Tax Support Consultation

Sample make up

There were a total of 404 responses to the survey of which 279 (71% of those who answered the question) indicated that they were currently receiving Council Tax support.

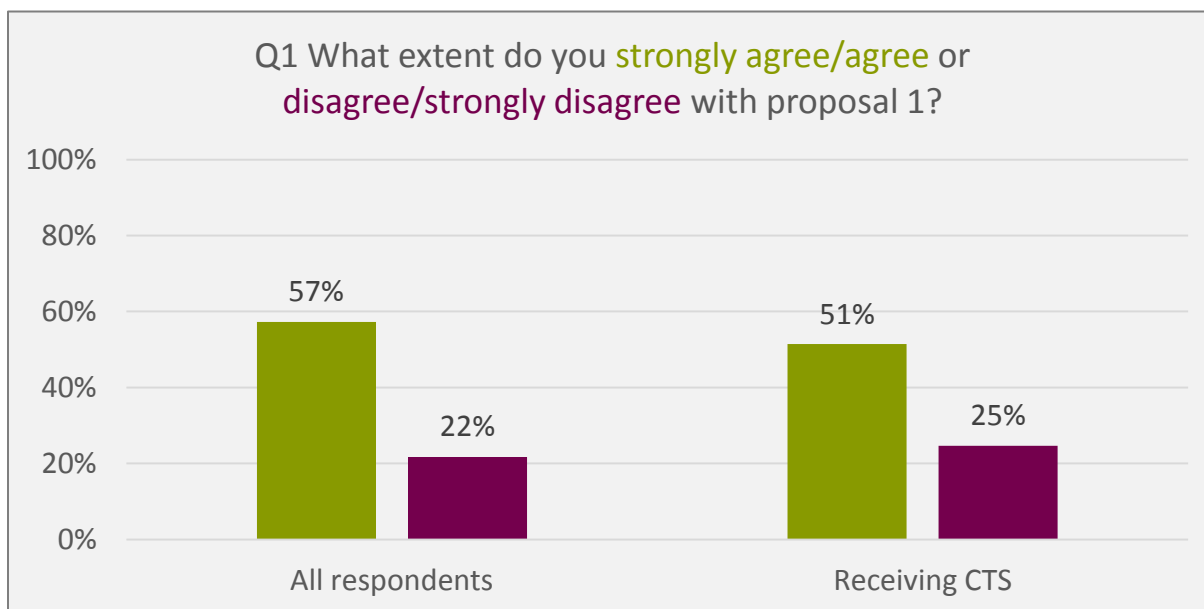
The majority of respondents (58%) were female, compared with 37% male and 5% who preferred not to say.

85% of respondents were aged between 26 and 64, with 11% aged 65 and above and 4% aged 25 and below.

Survey Summary

Q1 Please tell us to what extent you agree or disagree with proposal 1?

The majority of all respondents (57%) agreed or strongly agreed with the proposal to only take a maximum of two dependent children into account on new claims. Amongst those receiving Council Tax Support the proportion in agreement was smaller; however more than half (51%) still agreed or strongly agreed.

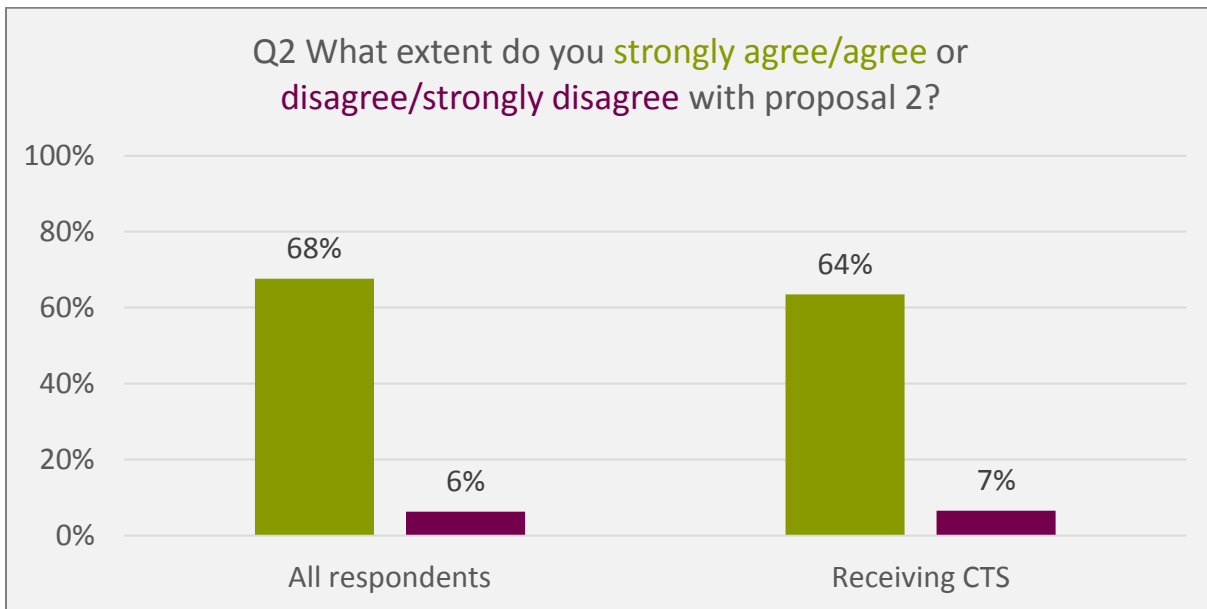


Response	All respondents		Receiving Council Tax Support	
	N	%	N	%
Strongly agree	112	28.0%	58	21.0%
Agree	117	29.3%	84	30.4%
Neither agree nor disagree	71	17.8%	54	19.6%
Disagree	32	8.0%	26	9.4%
Strongly disagree	55	13.8%	42	15.2%
Don't know	13	3.3%	12	4.3%
Total	400	100.0%	276	100.0%

Amongst the 76 respondents who supplied details on why they did not agree with the proposal, the main reason given was that it was unfair on larger families (41%) or because of the financial impact that it would have on themselves (37%). 7% thought that the proposal should apply to all claims and 5% expressed concern about the impact that it would have specifically on children.

Q2 Please tell us to what extent you agree or disagree with proposal 2?

68% of all respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the proposal to introduce reduced temporary absence rules compared with 64% of those currently receiving Council Tax Support.



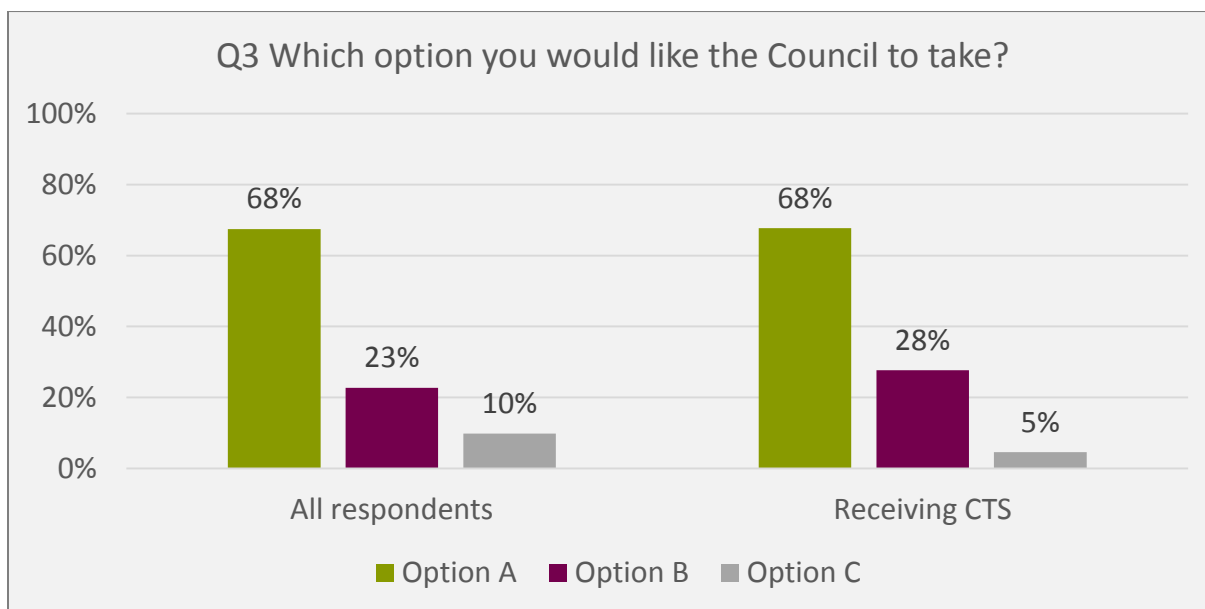
Response	All respondents		Receiving Council Tax Support	
	N	%	N	%
Strongly agree	139	34.9%	71	25.9%
Agree	130	32.7%	103	37.6%
Neither agree nor disagree	76	19.1%	59	21.5%
Disagree	12	3.0%	9	3.3%
Strongly disagree	13	3.3%	9	3.3%
Don't know	28	7.0%	23	8.4%
Total	398	100.0%	274	100.0%

Where respondents disagreed with the proposal, the main themes emerging were that they felt that the period should be unchanged or reduced by a smaller amount e.g. 8 weeks.

Q3 Please tell us which option you would like the Council to take?

Telford & Wrekin Council recommended Option A as the fairest way to reduce the costs of the scheme whilst protecting the majority of households. The proportion of all respondents and those currently receiving Council Tax Support supporting Option A was identical, with over two thirds (68%) indicating that this was the option they would like the Council to take.

Respondents receiving Council Tax Support were half as likely to favour increased contributions under Option C (5%) than all survey respondents (10%).

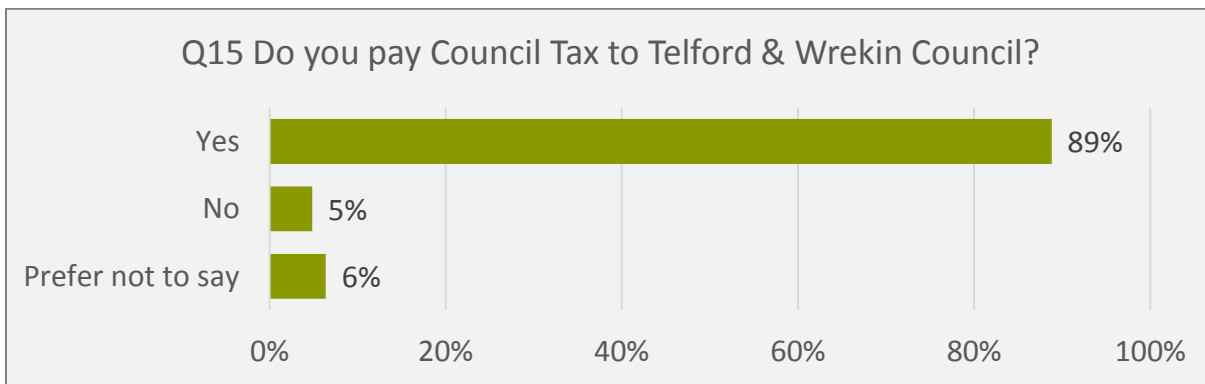


Response	All respondents		Receiving Council Tax Support	
	N	%	N	%
Option A	256	67.5%	176	67.7%
Option B	86	22.7%	72	27.7%
Option C	37	9.8%	12	4.6%
Total	379	100.0%	260	100.0%

Amongst the 61 respondents who gave a reason as to why they disagreed with Option A, the main reason given was the financial impact on themselves (34%). 16% thought that the proportion should be higher as per Option C, whilst 16% did not agree with the principal of reducing Council Tax Support. 13% thought that savings should be found elsewhere whilst 10% thought that Council Tax should be increased for others.

Q15 Do you pay Council Tax to Telford & Wrekin Council?

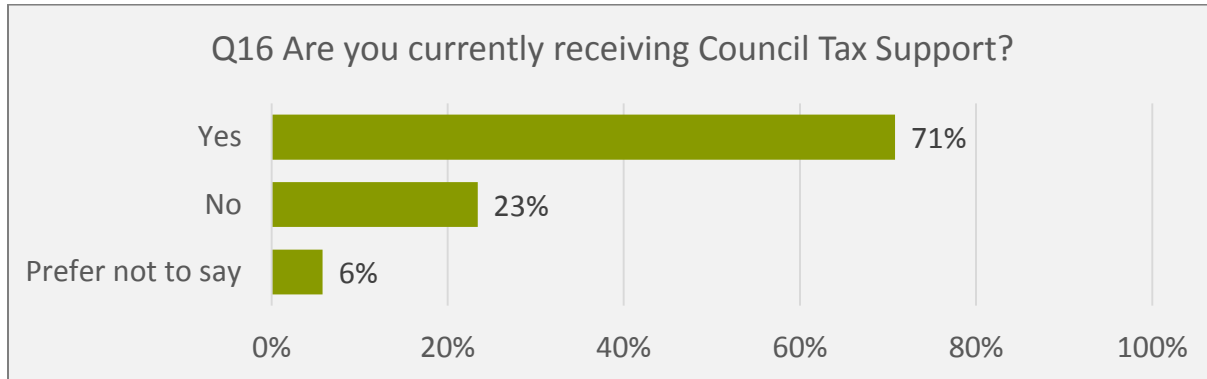
89% of respondents indicated that they pay Council Tax to Telford & Wrekin Council.



Response	N	%
Yes	349	88.8%
No	25	6.4%
Prefer not to say	19	4.8%
Total	393	100.0%

Q16 Are you currently receiving Council Tax Support in Telford & Wrekin?

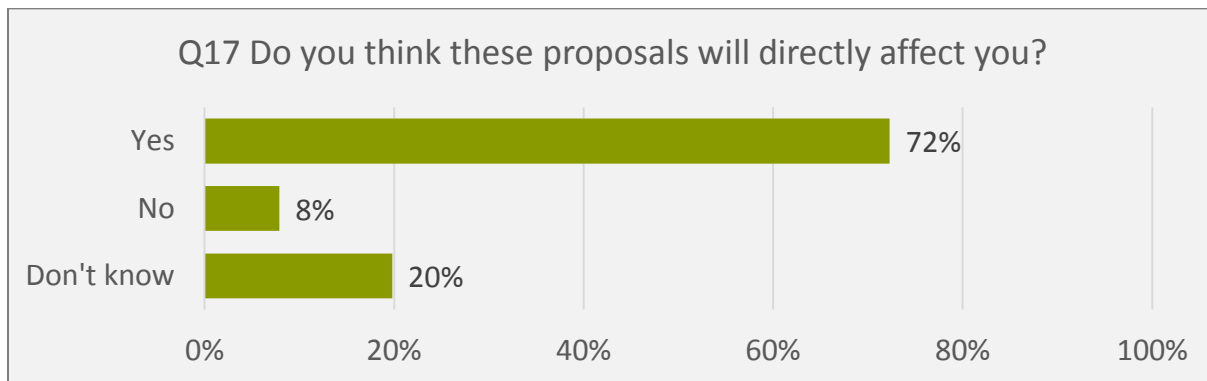
71% of respondents indicated that they were currently receiving Council Tax Support in Telford & Wrekin.



Response	N	%
Yes	279	70.8%
No	92	23.4%
Prefer not to say	23	5.8%
Total	394	100.0%

Q17 If yes, do you think these proposals will directly affect you?

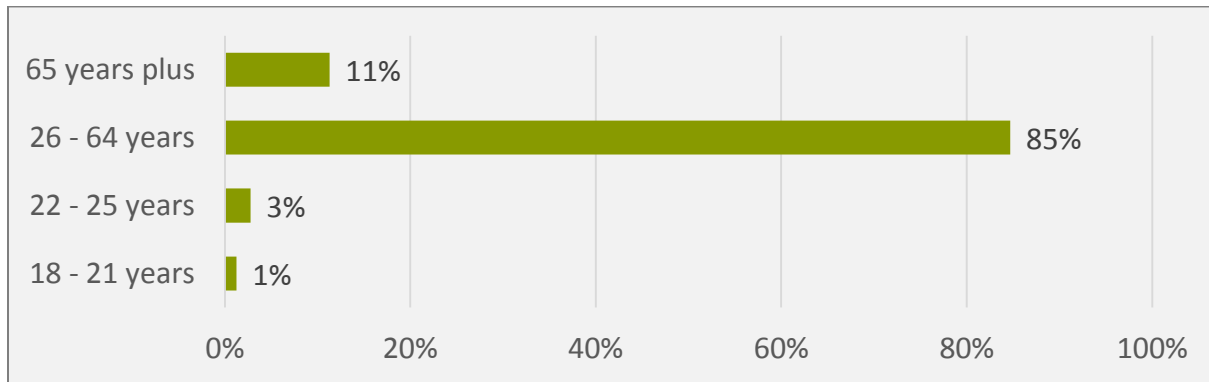
Almost three quarters (72%) of people currently receiving Council Tax Support thought that the proposals would directly affect them. One fifth (20%) indicated that they did not know. Fewer than one in ten (8%) thought that the proposal would not have an impact on them.



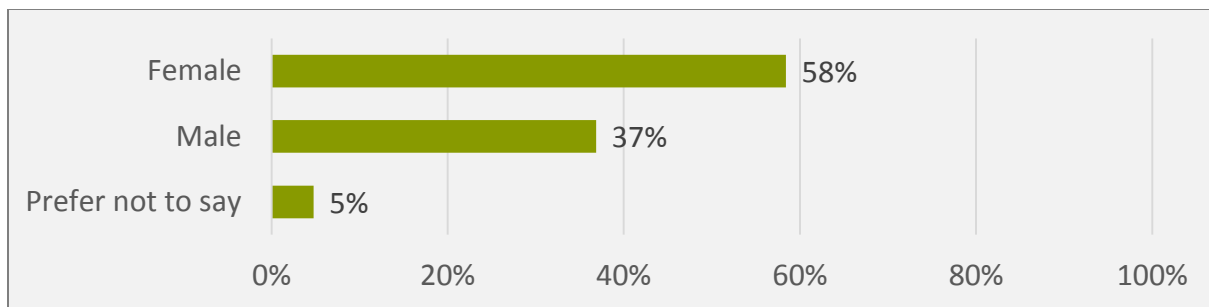
Response	N	%
Yes	201	72.3%
No	22	7.9%
Don't know	55	19.8%
Total	394	100.0%

Demographics

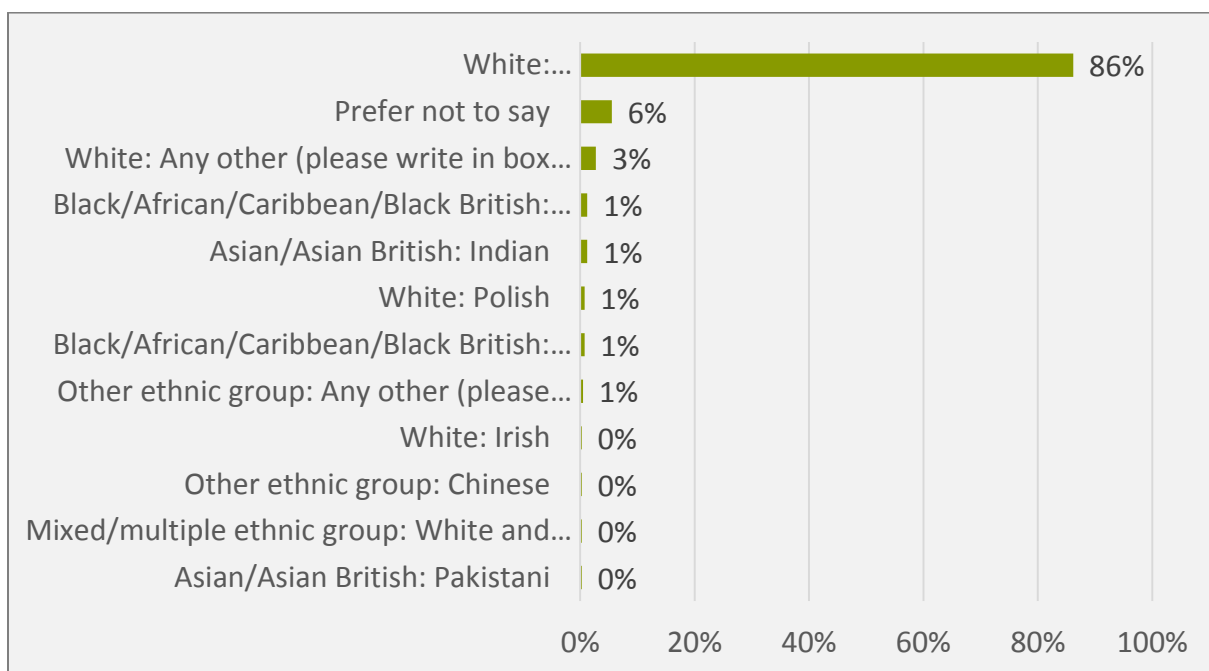
Age



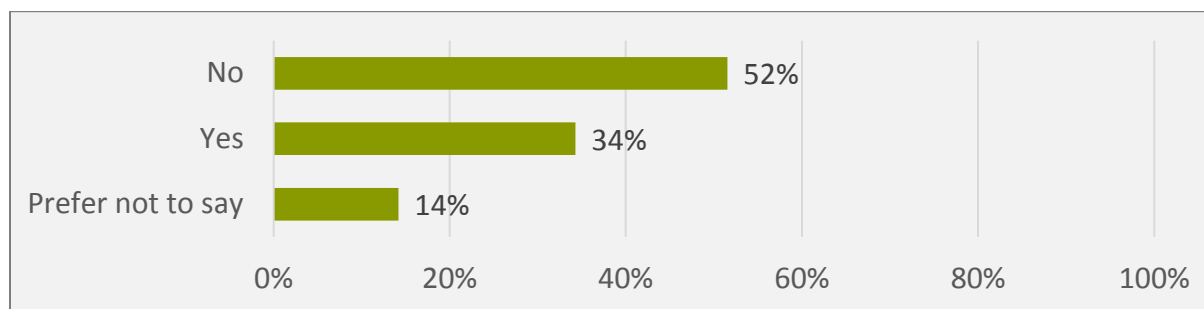
Gender



Ethnicity



Long term illness or disability



Ward	n	%
Admaston & Bratton	2	0.7%
Apley Castle	6	2.2%
Arleston	5	1.9%
Brookside	7	2.6%
Church Aston & Lilleshall	1	0.4%
College	6	2.2%
Dawley & Aqueduct	18	6.7%
Donnington	21	7.9%
Dothill	6	2.2%
Edgmond & Ercall Magna	4	1.5%
Ercall	4	1.5%
Hadley & Leegomery	15	5.6%
Haygate	10	3.7%
Horsehay & Lightmoor	9	3.4%
Ironbridge Gorge	2	0.7%
Ketley & Overdale	13	4.9%
Madeley & Sutton Hill	20	7.5%
Malinslee & Dawley Bank	12	4.5%
Muxton	9	3.4%
Newport North & West	4	1.5%
Newport South & East	4	1.5%
Oakengates & Ketley Bank	16	6.0%
Park	2	0.7%
Priorslee	3	1.1%
Shawbirch	4	1.5%
St Georges	16	6.0%
The Nedge	19	7.1%
Woodside	15	5.6%
Wrockwardine	3	1.1%
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench	11	4.1%