

## Appendix 1B - Town and Parish Council Consultation responses

Town & Parish Council	Comments
Bembridge	Please note that Bembridge Parish Council will not be submitting a response as the consultation is very detailed and a consensus from 12 Councillors is unachievable, therefore Councillors have been urged to complete the consultation individually. Many thanks
Freshwater	Freshwater PC considered this at their meeting last night. The Council resolved that they would support the position taken by IWALC. We do not have anything further to add to the representations made by IWALC.
Nettlestone & Seaview	This consultation was discussed at a recent Parish Council Meeting. It was decided that the Parish Council would make no comments but that Councillors were at liberty to make any comments individually.
Newport	Newport Parish Council wish to formally comment that they do not wish to see any change to the present arrangements of the CTR scheme. In addition Members have been encouraged to complete the survey individually
Totland	The consultation was discussed at the Parish Meeting and Councillors would like to make the following comments; 1. The consultation document itself was not easy to read and Councillors were concerned how the information was put together. 2. The nine options being considered are not acceptable. Reason: No option would be beneficial to the residents Councillors represent in Totland.
Shanklin	At last week's Council meeting, Members' discussed the above document noted its contents and had no comments to make.
Ventnor	<p><b>1) PREAMBLE</b></p> <p>a) VTC considered its response to the consultation that had been launched on 7 September at its meeting of 14 September 2015 and resolved to establish a Work Group of five Town Councillors and the Clerks to consider the background information supplied and the case studies incorporated in it in detail and asked it to report back to the next Town Council meeting.</p> <p>b) The Work Group met on 5 October with all Members having familiarised themselves with the information in the meantime and arrived at a unanimous recommendation to the Town Council meeting of 12 October that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) none of the options set out in the consultation be supported; and</li> <li>ii) the Isle of Wight Council be informed that notwithstanding the seriousness of the its predicted Budget deficit for 2016/17, savings that affect only residents on low incomes are unacceptable.</li> </ul> <p><b>2) ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p>a) The Work Group's recommendation, and the context of it, were assessed at the Town Council Meeting of 12 October 2015 and the draft Minutes of that discussion are recorded here to convey the essence of the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Mayor introduced the item in his role as Chair of the Work Group appointed by the September meeting of the Town Council to consider a response to the Isle of Wight Council's current consultation on options for making savings in its Local Council Tax Scheme and whose recommendations were recorded in Report 86/15.</li> <li>o Councillor Ed Gouge shared the Group's concerns about the impact on low income families of all the proposed options in the consultation.</li> <li>o Councillor Ken Knapman added that as a member of the Group he could not be part of supporting any of the options given the inevitable impact on many people already struggling to maintain a reasonable standard of living.</li> <li>o Councillor Tony Marvin said that he agreed with what had been said but asked if any possible positive proposals could be made to assist the Isle of Wight Council to close its Budget gap by other means.</li> <li>o Councillor Harry Rees asked that the Town Council's view be shared with both the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils and the Island's MP.</li> <li>o Councillor Steve Stubbings said he wanted to thank the Town Council for giving such serious consideration to the consultation and that he was anticipating with concern the government's Annual Statement of 25 November.</li> </ul> <p>b) With the exception of Councillor Steve Stubbings, who had declared an interest, the Work Group's recommendation was unanimously endorsed by the full Council.</p> <p><b>3) RESPONSE</b></p> <p>Consequently, we ask that this be accepted as Ventnor Town Council's formal response to the consultation on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2016/17, namely that none of the Options are supported as savings that only target residents with low incomes are unacceptable.</p>