

APPENDIX 1A

Should the council keep the current council tax reduction scheme? (Should it continue to reduce council tax for eligible claimants in the way and to the extent that it does at the moment?)

If yes, how would we meet the funding shortfall this would create as a result?

Have garbage collections less frequently. Sell off or use unused council buildings (not homes)
Cut the salaries of the top council earners.
Spend less money on pointless court cases and on legal teams that like to 'drag things out'.
Collect Council Tax from people who live fulltime in Caravans located in Caravan Holiday Parks, and from wealthy second home owners.
The shortfall quoted here is on paper only and does not take account of the effects on other services. If i have to spell it out any hardship caused will cost other services more to rectify eliminating projected savings.
The council need to pull their finger out and ask the houses of commons it's disgusting I have 4 children 2 are disabled now I've gone from being exempt to paying nearly £200 a year from benefit which has been worked out for us to live on not worked out to pay council tax the services the council provide are pretty pathetic anyway lack in so many areas you get a payment for holding festivals and moped events here charge them more we as residents suffer throughout these times yet being forced to suffer more for what so the council doesn't have to put their hand in their pocket not on pushing the poorest poorer
Being stricter on Single person discounts as too many persons claiming this who are not single.
Charging more on higher Ctax bands F and H instead of hitting poor persons all the time.
Demand additional funds from central government. Increase council tax marginally on the rich and those residing in expensive properties. Declare a windfall tax on 2nd homes located on the island. renationalise the ferries and buses on and to the island as there is a lack of proper competition anyway. Increase the fees of the Isle of Wight music festival for the use of seaclose park. Increase taxes on high street franchises. Do something at a national level to reduce/prevent tax avoidance by corporations and affluent citizens. Tax the influx of affleunt foreign nationals inflating the price of property in london.
How many unemployed on the island?how many people in various charitable institutions?many are elligible,to work.our parks,and streets could be kept clean,by these people.it is a scientific fact,that outdoor work is a medicine,for many ailments.there is a huge amount of work,could be done,so that people earn their benefits.Many disabled and pensioned people do charity work..why not able bodied,out of work people?all of the flowers and plants,no one notices them,truly....ask any resident,or visitor..do you visit the island for the floral displays?..how much money is spent on them?and the staff,the wagons,petrol,vehicle upkeep etc,and of course,wages!
More fair rents officers..their wage will add to the deficit,initially..but would soon hugely reduce the Housing Benefit and Council Tax bill.so many landlords are " reaping in rent" from very overpriced properties,and they are often in bad repair too,which can cause illness..ergo sick days from work,or...benefits paid,way beyond their worth!!
A returning query of mine,for many years is this....why do landlords not contribute to council tax?Council tax ,is based on the ownership of the property,and tenants simply rent it,as a home..so yes,they should pay the rent,but surely,the onus ,or part thereof,should remain,with the actual owner of the property...if they paid a third,then the tenants may afford the remainder,if the tenants are on benefits..just how much money,would the council save on benefits.landlords,not tenants have grown fat,on the benefit bounty ,on this island.
If a building,privately owned,is in disrepair..due to neglect,or none use,and its roof,or walls become dangerous,or dislodged in a storm,do you bill them,to make the pavements safe again..do you warn them,their building has brought down house prices locally..i have seen roof tiles from such a building,and then came along a council van,and workers,to clear the road ,because of health and safety.make a bill for " dangerous and disrepaired buuildings" ...and those owners,will come out of the woodwork...and repair,or sell to someone who will repair.
Job centre lights..have you noticed how often,council buildings are lit up all night?
By looking at how you can raise money from the larger properties and not the poorest in our society

<p>the main way to reduce the short fall would be to negotiate a better deal with amey, who are basically fleecing the island, who ever in the council signed this deal off has cost the island millions and it is the islanders that have to foot the bill. Reduce the inflated wages paid to the high management at the council as they seem rather incompetent in their roles. Refuse to accept any immigrants as finances at the council are already stretched due to miss management and the wasteful use of funds that the council have.</p>
<p>there needs to be cut backs on other council expenditure. As a person your increase would effect you have increased the amount I have to pay each year so far 3 years running my money has not increased at all so i have a problem where does the money come from?</p>
<p>Try the government. It iis their responsibility.</p>
<p>Really?? How can a lay person possibly answer this? I am not privy to all of the Councils incomes and outgoings. One possibility is to not spend £10.000 in taking someone back to court just because the leader didn't like the outcome of the previous court hearing. Another would be to not pay stupid amounts of money to consultants. I'm pretty sure that there's money spent that doesn't need to be spent.</p>
<p>?</p>
<p>stop paying all the councillors and MP's along with all town councillors their heavy wages and unnecessary expenditures and use these savings to boost the IWC's current schemes and services. Its a disgrace that MP's and councillors are paid these heavy wages and claims for unnecessary expenses when the residents are left with having to sort out funding for all bills, care and housing. These expenses could generate a lot more money back into the residents. Whilst we appreciate there has to be government cut backs starting here would benefit a lot of staff</p>
<p>Charge more for higher band properties</p>
<p>reduce expenditure in all council offices across the isle of wight.</p>
<p>I do not know, but we should try and look out for the poorest on our Island.</p>
<p>I don't know. I understand that the council have a massive problem due to funding being continually cut, but the CTR is a lifeline for many people, myself included, and I will not be able to pay the excess if the cuts go ahead. Thus I will end up in court as will many other people - you cannot get blood out of a stone, we simply do not have the money.</p>
<p>try and target the people who can well afford any reduction in their benefits not the ones who live from fortnight to fortnight barely existing.</p>
<p>There are plenty of households like ours that can pay more</p>
<p>IF THE COUNCIL LOOKED AT HOW THE CURRANT CORONERS SERVICE IS FUNDED THEN IT IS POSSIBLE TO SAVE QUITE A LARGE AMOUNT. MONEY IS HEMORRHAGING IN THIS DEPT AND DUE TO THE COUNCILS INABILITY EITHER TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM OR LACK OF WILL TO TACKLE IT MONEY THAT COULD BE SAVED (BIG MONEY) IS BEING THROWN AWAY.</p> <p>PERHAPS IF THEY ARE UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THIS PROBLEM CAN BE ADDRESSED OR MONEY SAVED, THEN THEY SHOULD ASK FOR OUTSIDE HELP IN ADDRESSING THIS PROBLEM (COME ON I COULD TELL THEM WHERE AND HOWTO GET TO GRIPS WITH THIS AND WHO TO CONSULT), BUT THE WILL IS NOT THERE.</p> <p>IN THE MEANTIME THEY TARGET THE EASY OPTIONS OF BLEEDING LOCAL PEOPLE .,</p> <p>WHERE ELSE I WONDER IS SUCH INEFFICIENCY GOING UNCHECKED.</p>
<p>I</p>
<p>there are many second homes on the Island, who regularly advertise their premises as holiday rentals. firstly, these people should be paying some form of business tax and secondly they should be paying for business collections for their clients waste. we live near a large house that sleeps 12 people and all summer long we have to put with total strangers partying late at night and then they leave big bins of rubbish to be collected. why should we council tax payers underwrite holiday home owners? we know that in Ventnor there is an ongoing problem with exactly this at [REDACTED]. it is highly unpleasant for their neighbours, and then we have to pay for IR to remove the mountains of black bags..</p> <p>if these second home owners paid the correct business tax, it would far outweigh the small amounts being asked of very poor residents.</p>
<p>NB. Redacted information provided details of an address</p>
<p>Put up the council tax for me and other people who can afford it.</p>
<p>By employing some more experienced financiers to assess all options.</p>
<p>I do not have enough information to answer this question but feel targeting the poorest in our society is not the answer- maybe not have a figurehead or vanity appointment of Crime Commissioner or Mayir?</p>
<p>Maybe put up the council tax for the wealthiest instead of the poorest?</p>

Generate more income for the Island from yachting and boating activities.

Also consider the alternative of generating all our own electricity from natural resources such as wave and wind power. We are surrounded by waves and there is always a wind on the island. It should not be beyond the wit of bright minds and 21st Century technology to find a way of harnessing these natural resources. If the yachting community don't like offshore wind turbines and reactionary stick-in-the-muds prefer unspoilt landscapes to practical advancement, we only need to look at lighthouses.

Did islanders object that new lighthouses would spoil the visual amenities of the island when they were first put up? Do countries like Holland and Denmark worry about spoiling visual amenity more than gaining renewable energy? It's time we stopped allowing naysayers to hold back progress, then say we cannot afford what should still be paid out.

these shortfalls are a great concern to us all BUT as you all ceded in your previous decision making sessions....savings that affect only residents on low incomes are unacceptable..... I cannot see what has changed and you need to continue with a humanitarian approach to the problems that the austerities of the current situation imposed by central government are creating.

Save on refurbishment, travel, hospitality, far too high salaries

Staff reductions. Increase business rates. Eliminate waste.

I am not sure but the people that need the support are finding it very hard to pay the amount as it is, I can see this leading to more evictions through non payment so where will the people go? Will the council have to re home them again? More expense. To me it is like trying to get blood from a stone!

Raise council tax in higher band property

Payroll, building maintenanc, reduce heating, review street lighting, put out more services to locally tender.

Reduce frequency and duration of beach raking, stop producing unnecessary signage, reduce the period of time people can be abroad and claim benefit, require people to sign to say their circumstances are unchanged on a 3 monthly basis, ensure effective management of council run services , introduce cost effective park management e.g. reduce grass cutting and wasteful seasonal replanting of flower beds

By the Government giving to our Countrys' needy rather than giving millions of our money to other countries!!

make holiday home owners on the island pay full council tax as they can surly aford it were as the islands low wage,sick and unemployed dont have a chance of finding even more to wards there council tax out of the crimanly low benifits that they now get.

all so stop paying contractors even when there not meeting the contrcted work rather then subsidicing them out of the public purse rather then standing up for the islanders.

Increase council tax on houses of 4 bedrooms or more. thus those who are more able to pay foot the bill.

Lobby for more money from central government. The island has a disproportionate number of pensioners, jobseekers and people with disabilities.

Increase the tax on the most wealthy, do not make the poorest even poorer.

a) Im a full time Uni student and exempt from Council Tax.

b) Im profoundly Deaf and should get a disabled reduction.

c) I, at times during the last year was a single occupant of my home.

d) in addition to surviving on a student loan I work 1 day a week (£172 income a month)

My Council Tax bill for the year is £1,433.31, the Council have refused to give me discounts or honour the exemption. The Council took me to court without notifying me. I HAVE PAID £891.31 and am being chased for a further £1,387 - no idea why as I cannot find any one to t talk to ... Im Deaf so cant phone and Do-It-Online doesnt help. Im currently waiting a response to an official complaint regarding the Council Tax and DDA 1995 (amended 2010) then I will seek legal action.

SUGGESTION - if you employed enough staff to provide an adequate service you would not be wasting money on debt collectors, legal costs and legal action against you.

Not sure at the moment.will have to look at other options.

Cut out high wage managers, cut back on council training courses, sell off any council assets such as such as any pieces of art that they may own or land!

It should not always been the hardest working member of society who suffer every time there is a budget crunch. We already contribute the most and live on virtually nothing, this plan is outrageous and should in no circumstances be brought into effect. Perhaps reducing the amount of late night public transport available is a better option as this is usually used on any given night by one or two people, far less than the thousands this plan will effect.

A mixture of cost saving and a small increase in council tax.

implement option 2 and 4

Make pensioners pay for any aid they have when their income is over the pension credit amount.

Stop providing ridiculously cheap/free rental properties to full benefit claimants. Who also receive the highest reduction in their council tax. Help the people who actually own their own home (paying mortgages)not claiming housing benefits and struggling on a low income. Where benefits totalled each month amount to a larger disposable income for staying at home not working. Paying from that a ridiculously low rent amount, small contribution towards council tax and no maintenance costs/worries! It does make the hard working low wage earners doing their best to keep the roofs over their heads with tatty 20yr old bathrooms and kitchens making do with blown wooden glazed windows watching in amazement the third set of windows being installed by spectrum at the housing association houses in 11yrs. With no end to the comings and comings of flooring,carpeting,kitchens and bathrooms. Knowing they even got to choose the finishes! Maybe it would be a good idea to sign the house over to a third party and start claiming housing benefits to cover the rent. Putting a side the worry and sleepless nights wondering how you're ever going to clear the 30 grand credit card debts you've amassed by bridging the incoming/outgoing gap. Declaring bankruptcy and joining 'im entitled' gravy chain. Expecting everything for nothing and in turn relinquishing up all self respect,self worth and pride. In a privately owned home,if you cant afford another mouth to feed,you dont create another mouth! Why/how can in such bleak economic times where cuts upon cuts upon cuts are made can we justify bringing in more mouths to feed!

As for the claimants not even in this country....don't think you need too much help on deciding what to do there!!

[NB. Redacted information - There were concerns raised about the IWC funding Syrian refugees.](#)

increase council tax payment for the richer people and stop giving free bus passes to ALL old people who dont need them-they should be means tested, I know lots of pensioners who are very well off but get free travel!

Simple. Make all those who pay nothing pay their fair share.

By increasing Council Tax on those not claiming CTRS.

By increasing Council Tax for those not in receipt of CTRS

Cut bankers bonuses. Then that money could be transferred to the council. I am on disabled benefits, i am autistic but i volunteer for it. I dont understand why the government keeps trying to cut the minimum a disabled can survive upon. I am only just managing with what i get at the moment and i know other disabled volunteering for their benefit at least two days a week.

simple take the small amount involved from somebody else. perhaps raise charges for licenses and permissions. ask people to perhaps pay a voluntry amout to cover this small amount. ASK the more well off to do with less. the amount in question is a small amount for the whole island , but a large amount for the recipients. i

surely as we will be exiting europe the money that doesnt go there can be shared between each council authority..

or is it that the tax payer again has to prop up our councils even more with the money we dont have,

i can just about afford to pay our council tax at the moment...we have the 80% reduction but still have to find almost £25 per month to cover our bill....well our food shopping has suffered ...ohh and i dont get ESA even though i am unable to work through disability and numerous operations in the last 3 years. so for me the reduction needs to stay as it is

Do not bring immigrants to a place that is struggling to pay for the indigenous population already would be one idea!

The council's proposals are regressive taxation, taking more money from those that can least afford it. The council needs to find a progressive aternative to balancing the budget. Find a way to increase taxation on the wealthiest - there are many ways to do this. Where is the progressive alternative in this consultation, it is a sham if the only choices are regressive tax increases or cuts to services.

stop wasteing money on unnecessary consultations

About time the civil servant's and the Chief Executive's took their pay cuts as well don't you think . Claimants are paid the minimum amount the law states we need to live on so this will be challenged in the High Court

Look into areas where the benefit is from people with enough money to pay rather than trying to

squeeze more money out of those with none.
a better scheme would be to charge all the same, as with it currently not being means tested it is up for abuse, people constantly claim single occupancy, holiday parks still do not pay where as it should be a set amount per person and then its up to the person to appeal
Get Andrew Turner [REDACTED] and recover the 25% reduction he accepted from the government. Force ferry companies to reduce fares thereby increasing tourism and revenue. [REDACTED]
NB. Redacted information - personal comments have been redacted and there was a representation made regarding inefficiencies relating to the PFI contract
Sack all the useless wombles on the council earning £100,000 +. Stop taxing to fund pensions. That is your fault as previous councils keep taxing for this. Stop using money for war. Invest assets properly. People are suffering in poverty because of council top earners all on the gravy train and huge pensions.
it's time to reduce the provision of bus passes and the times they can be used. Also blue badge holders need to start paying for parking. whilst i know this sounds mean but council staff also need to have staff reduced parking permits phased out. some are on the same wage as other non council households who have to pay for parking. These households have to manage.
stop council tax reduction and force people to get a job

Do you agree, or disagree with the principle of reducing the maximum level of CTR support from 80% to either 75% or 70%?

If you disagree with option 1, what alternative would you propose?

Single people on JSA, I/S or ESA are already stretched to breaking point to increase their C/T would be unfair, maybe they should target pensioners on pension credit.
Send out less letters. there are often duplicates. Consider running a deficit
Do not set budget and force government to step in causing publicity about the effects of austerity on local councils.
Cut the salaries of the top council earners.
Keeping the CTR Support at the same 80% because any reduction in this time of austerity will only place a higher burden on the poor, elderly and disabled who are unable to work.
Keep existing scheme for disabled and the vulnerable, extend it for hard working families and showcase the island as a place that looks after the needy not cripple them.
I don't know what the alternative is but the people who receive help are struggling enough with what they pay now and I don't think it should be increased
Debate with Houses of Parliament we who are on benefits through disabilities are not paid that money with the council tax in mind were paid the minimum that's required to live on LIVE on
Most people on Hb ,and Ctbenefit,are genuine.i was recently asked to pay,and while on paper,it seems i can afford it,my DLA is funding the bill.Now..DLA..huge subject,...without DLA,i would be relying on council run projects,for my cleaning,shopping,getting to hospital appointments,carers,and much increased prescriptions..the cost being much higher,than giving petrol money to my son,or neighbours for my big shops...a neighbour helping with cleaning..taxis to and from hospital....and because i am out and about(doing some voluntary work) ...my mood,and physical / mental abilities benefit,ergo...less medication .there has to be some common sense thinking,and future thinking,behind any changes..not an expensive team of people..but claimants and the council themselves...Sit and work out financially..the cost of depleting people on benefits,and what they will claim,as a product of paying more CT..and their life.
The alternative,as said earlier..is having people claiming benefits ,doing work,the council currently pays for.
Freedom passes and blue badges...expiry dates are a joke...i have met people due hospital treatments..given a blue badge....that was active..way after they were back at work..now..would it cost more,in wages and staff..to investigate this,and lost revenue in parking fees...or just let the probable few...get away with it...
Council tenants....low rent....but years later...the residents are working,have holidays a nice car...what is the status with that?do you increase their rent..or ask them to leave(similar to bedroom tax) .you see,their are many plans put in place,in haste,with no thought for the future..ie,monitoring residents,or the rent they pay,and the cost of doing so....

<p>this is not what has happened, i am self employed on a low income and i have had my support taken away completely and i was told it was done as " an incentive to try and get more work". The self employed can only get more work when it is available, so i would be interested to hear from a council representative how i go about forcing people to employ me.</p>
<p>Leaving it the same...People are struggling as it is and it's going to get worse when Brexit takes effect.</p>
<p>It's your job to come up with ideas, so much money is paid to local authority via council tax and all the bonuses it gets from continually building new properties, think along the new homes bonuses</p>
<p>If income is very low...i.e. Less than £200 a week in total household income...80% relief should be given...if income including benefits is higher then a reduction is fair</p>
<p>If the maximum level of CTR support must be reduced it should be to the lowest reduction possible.</p>
<p>50%</p>
<p>Another option.</p>
<p>Charging more to more affluent households like ours</p>
<p>ADDRESS THE PROBLEM I HAVE OUTLINED PREVIOUSLY</p>
<p>THIS WOULD GO A LONG WAY IN THE FUTURE TO SAVE A LOT MONEY</p>
<p>i have already suggested a fair option for raising revenue by taxing those who are unfairly using our services for their personal gain.</p>
<p>Put up the council tax rate of those like me who can afford to pay more. We are not all selfish Tories, a lot of people believe in a fair society and are happy to pay a fair share towards the cost instead of penalising the poor and vulnerable, as the Tories want.</p>
<p>Option 2</p>
<p>Target those who do not pay robustly</p>
<p>Running the Council more efficiently. You need some experienced financial people in there to make some really professional decisions. Running the Council so badly is the main problem. For example I am trying to inform the council tax of impending changes of circumstances to renting out my property. Phones and e-mails are not answered. The office is closed.</p>
<p>We need a change of staff at the top.</p>
<p>keep council tax benefit at 80% we can't afford any more!</p>
<p>Already suggested in previous answer.</p>
<p>we are a very rich country and as such we need to work hard to reduce the inequalities in our society. We need to look at the advantages of socialism and challenge central government on the issues of such an unequal society.</p>
<p>An increase in the rate of council tax for the highest bands would be one way of addressing this issue.</p>
<p>Save on refurbishment, travel, hospitality, far too high salaries</p>
<p>Raise Council Tax.</p>
<p>Council to be more business like and earn more to cover shortfalls.</p>
<p>Borrow cheap and invest to make money to support services</p>
<p>Cut out things like planting flowers and the people who are supposed to look after them. People need the money to eat although they are lovely to look at we can't eat them.</p>
<p>Raise rates on higher band property</p>
<p>Leave at 20%.</p>
<p>Option 2</p>
<p>Put up the rates for everyone so that we all are hit. It's unfair to hit only those of us who can least afford it. I'm struggling as it is. If you hit the people who can least afford it, the NHS will be hit harder through having to care for the people who just cannot cope. We're feeling enough strain anyway. You can only hit people so hard before they break.</p>
<p>local council tax support payable only up to band C</p>
<p>as stated in prevuse responce box.</p>
<p>once again IOW council, like all Tory councils are looking to make the poorest most vulnerable people in society pay for the richest in society's excesses.</p>
<p>Lobby central government for more money for the island.</p>
<p>Your admin staff have a tough job in discerning genuine claims for help from the spongers - my experience is that the advisors are so worn down they come across as rude, unhelpful and do not really care about people in genuine need. There is too much re-vamping of public (and private) council office / service areas and cutting services and staff when you should be looking at the whole situation from a completely new angle. Use the buildings, furniture, transport and resources you already have. there is still too much wastage and in cutting services and staff you are opening up yourselves to costly mistakes and litigation.</p>
<p>Increase the tax on the most wealthy.</p>

It's going to cause more hardship to the most vulnerable people.its always the low income people that suffer.
Leave it as it is, already made suggestions on previous questions.
Leave it how it is and make cuts from somewhere else.
implement option 2 and 4
Ask the government for more money.
Make non working claimants pay a slightly higher contribution. STOP all reductions to claimants in other countries, if they cant afford to keep their empty houses while living abroad they need to either sell or rent them out free to refugees (2 birds with 1 stone)
raise the council tax for rich people who can afford it!
leave as is or increase the the maximum level
dont waste money/benefit on those who just stand around with cans in their hand shouting and swearing instead of trying to better their situations
Stop the disregard to 2nd home owners who live elsewhere - if they can afford a holiday home then they can afford the council tax too.
See answer to question 3.
keep at the current level
Get rid of the two Chief Executive that you've got and just get one that will save you £250,000 a year there is my proposal .
Again take the money that is used for people that can afford to pay and stop trying to squeeze the poor
Reduce the council tax to 75% for people in work and earning above a minimum level. Do not reduce for claimants on benefits or the disabled.
Try cutting the fat and reduce high ranking council staff.
Starving myself to pay this infait tax already. How are we supposed to find more. I eat one cheap meal a day. What do you think we have a magic money tree. We are at bteaking point all ready.
i think you have to start to put all your resources in trying to find a building that isnt a money pit. You have to many departments in to many old and dated buildings. sell your surplus and stop with the mindless money throwing down the drain. Start to raise all of the housing bands on the properties. Why should a retired single person on a private pension get a council tax reduction? why should empty holiday homes not be charged? all houses should pay.

Do you agree, or disagree with reducing the period for which a person can be absent from Great Britain and still receive CTR from 13 weeks to 4 weeks?

If someone can afford to go away for 4 weeks ,they can certainly afford to pay council tax.
All cases to be judged on merit.
Yet again..cost of staff,buildings,workable hours,paper,calls etc..can someone realistically say,this would save money?...maybe,there should be a better protocol..re Who...this is allowed for..but if the rules were changed,would it save money..or not....seriously,there are the triers..who will be on holiday etc....during this time,not in the armed forces etc..but to repeat..work hours ,staff etc..would it be cost effective,realistically?
10 weeks
Make it six weeks.
I would go further and limit it to two weeks or none at all. If you can't afford Council Tax, how can you afford to go abroad?
Leave.too intrusive.Can this b enforced without a challenge? A challenge would cost money.
Lobby central government for more money for the island.
I agree with cutting the reduction to 4 weeks away from Britain, if a person can afford to holiday / live abroad they can pay their Council Tax .. however there is never a straight forward 'black and white' and the 'grey areas' should be under consideration such as those people and families of those serving in armed forces.
I was absent once for two weeks when I sought work in France , when I returned all of my benefits were stopped! I had to sell a camera which was a birthday present to survive until my benefits were restored. Hardly fair treatment for seeking work!
If they are not in the UK why should they benefit from our benefits service?
If someone is able to be out of the country for more than 4 weeks, they shouldn't be entitled to any benefits, let alone council tax support. If you can afford a 4 week holiday/visit abroad, why do you need council tax support?!
I just feel people would become more dishonest. I do not feel this option generates enough financially either.
If people can afford to go on 4 week holidays then why should they get council tax benefit, so yes I agree with this

make the period six weeks
if they can afford to be out of the country for 3 months then they shouldnt be able to claim support
8 weeks is fairer
See answer to question 3.
if people can afford to be out the country for that amount of time then can afford the rate of council tax like the rest of us

Do you agree, or disagree with removing the element of a Work Related Activity Component in the calculation of the current scheme for new Employment Support Allowance claimants?

If you disagree with option 3, what alternative would you propose?

End of protection for claimants of pensionable age.
Firstly ,i wish the people writing this,could put it in plain language!!!...this is not easy to understand...i have no knowledge of Wrag..and what it does?
It unfair for older people who now are not able to retire until they are 67 and have problems with their health
it is almost impossible to find work.
This proposal is absolutely disgusting. people on WRAG will be living on an income of £73 per week how can you possible expect people living on such a pittance to pay extra. I notice you are not proposing to reduce the help for JSA claimants so why do so for people with health problems. I know that the Independent Councillors are very aware of the difficulties suffered by people who claim ESA so why make it worse. Apart for anything else...Why is our Independent Council doing the Conservative governments dirty work
I can't figure out what you're suggesting.
How can u say there is no drawback.disingenuous as could lead to eviction for rent arrears.we r talking about people with limited income that is already under pressure
because some people must be lossing some of there benifits other wise the council wont be saving money
which makes this pruposal totaly piontless.
press for all pensioners to make a contribution to council tax,maybe a flat rate for all regardless of income. i do realise this would need government intervention, but pensions have increased considerably in recent years.
Once again the Tory council are taking even more from the sick and disabled. Thus, once again, making the poorest pay for the council's ina bility to budget. Why do we not have island funding... BEcause it was not claimed for....
CUT Andews Turners expenses.
Cut expenses of ALL council Top Bosses
Lobby central government for more money for the island.
I am a mature student (51 years old) and have just finished a Uni degree surviving on a student loan of £500 a month (ended August 2016) and I work one day a month (£172) and I get NO HELP from anyone and still have to pay my full Council Tax of £1,433.31 a year (my property reference [REDACTED])
I receive no help and no reductions and have never heard of ESA, WRAG and neither the DWP or the Council can offer any advice, support or help - Im profoundly deaf and cannot access these services as I cannot use a phone and you have no offices that I can visit. In cutting costs you are not making any 'seasonable adjustments' for people to access your services (DDA 1995, amended in 2010).
NB. The property reference number has been redacted.
This government needs to stop punishing the people who contribute the most to our economy it is deeply deeply unfair and does absalouty nothing to reward people for the hard work they put in or make it remotely worth while. If people are not working then no they should not benefit from the same way to a person who does this encourages people to stay on benefits instead of seeking work.
implement option 2 and 4
Wait until the ESA assessment scheme is vetted, as a lot of people are wrongly classed as eligible to work.
Its picking on people who are on benefits through no fault of their own
See answer to question 3.

Just starve them why dont you. Where will they find the money. They wont.

Do you agree, or disagree with the principle to limit the number of dependent children within the calculation of CTR to a maximum of two for any new children born on or after 1 April 2017?

If you disagree with option 4, what alternative would you propose?

I agree with this but it should be the same for all i.e. apply to those pre 1 April 2017 also.
No child should be put at the risk of poverty.
Although why from April 2017?. it should apply to anyone under the age of 16.
It may seem judgemental,however..if people are out of work,and on benefits..i do beleive..having more children,is irresponsible.there are however ..er..special cases....in that pregnancies often happen ,without planning...and how would that be deduced..?...or is it a case of some will suffer(if innocent) ..to reduce the benefit system ,for the many..who see more children,almost ,as a wage maker?
ultimately, it would be the child or children who would not have enough money to live on.
This seems like a politically motivated punishment for daring to have children if you are not middle class. As we are now also being told that there will not be free movement of people from Europe into the UK, we can expect over time that there will be even less people able to work to support the old and infirm. It is a mistake to penalise people for having children, as they will be the future of this country. When there are not enough people working and able to pay Tax and Council Tax, we will all be in a mess. This is short term-ism and not sensible. Put up council tax for those like me who can afford to pay more.
It would effectively be a tax on children if a couple has more than two. A couple may be in a good financial position when they have their children, then suffer setbacks later that make them need to claim CTR. Is it fair to the children in families like this to penalise them for their parents' financial or employment misfortunes? Fining the children, and possibly making them go hungry, is not an appropriate reaction to the financial vicissitudes of their parents.
I have already outlined the alternative. Make the island self-sustaining in renewable energy and maybe sell some of it to other areas. Or impose a small levy on each boat that lands on the island (except ferries).
I disagree with this because it could make some children worse off and it is not their fault what circumstances they are born into.
Should not penalise young family.leads to Dr population
as previously
because it will just increase the splitting up of familys and comited partners with kids with each one of them taking some of the kids so as to beable to clam for all the kids.
Cut expenses from Andrew Turner.
Cut expenses from Council "Big Bosses"
Cut Bonus payment to Top senior Council executives.
Lobby central government for more money for the island.
There is also the 'grey area' not considered - As a full-time Mature university student (Im 52) and am exempt from Council Tax, during the last 3 years my children have been unemployed and also exempt from Council Tax payments because they live at home with me they have not been allowed to claim JSA ... however, because there are more than 2 people living at the address I have been forced to pay the Council Tax in full. This is not fair, how were we supposed to live on £672 a month (my student loan and I work one day a week) and pay the Council Tax in full?! You can check this as my property reference is [REDACTED]
<p style="text-align: center;">NB. The property reference number has been redacted.</p>
It's not the children's fault, and they are the ones who are going to suffer.
There is a problem in our society where people are deliberately having more and more children to claim more benefits off the state. This should not be allowed to happen and people need to realise that if they are going to have children they need to be responsible for them rather than leaving it up to the tax payer to fit the bill.
People should not be penalised for wanting to have a big family. If we start doing things like this, it won't be long before we have a one child policy like China which, in my opinion, is an abomination.

The amount of families that deliberately have more children to be entitled to more benefits is actually extremely low in comparison to other groups considered in this topic (those on ESA or JSA). There are other much more effective ways to work this out as considered in this proposal.
I think more than 2 children pre 2017 would also need to fall in line with this.
leave as is
there are families/single mums out there that just want to produce more children to enable them to be able to stay reliant on receiving benefit payments ..so yes they do need to be limited
See answer to question 3.
treat all households the same by taking into account all children living in household whether born before or after april 2017

Do you agree, or disagree with the principle to remove entitlement to the Severe Disability Premium where another person is paid Universal Credit (Carers Element)?
If you disagree with option 5, what alternative would you propose?

I am not certain what this means
I do agree..however..i get DLa,so i can pay for my own care,and yet..it is decreased,by paying toward council tax.paying for carers,esppecially agency,is far more expensive,than a person paying ,for their own day to day needs.saying that..again...a carers allowance ,is a pittance....compared to the services required,to look after elderly ,or disabled carers.
those disabled should not be affected ,,,,,,,, there are other options listed in this consultation
The disabled seem to be suffering enough, no ideas as to what else could be done.
I am not sure about this, but to say that there are no drawbacks because it is as people will be treated the same way as housing benefit assumes that the changes made to housing benefit are fair, which I very much doubt as the changes have come from the same Tory Government that just wants to take from the poor and disadvantaged in order that their fat rich Tory Friends can continue to evade a fair rate of tax, and paying a fair share into society.
Alternatives already stated and re-stated.
Reduce payroll
why on earth are you paying some one twice if there not intitold to it and if you are then changing this they will be lossing money they may depend on to help with there condition.
Stop Andrew Turners Expenses and bonus payments
Stop All Top Council/ Senior executives expenses and bonus payments
scrap the corporate chauffeured cars (sell them).
Ensure all emtpy shops on the island are let thus bringing in revenue
increase council tax on houses with more than 4 bedrooms
Lobby central government for more money for the island.
I know a lot of people with disabilities and I do not know of ANY disabled people who live 'comfortably' with the benefits or income. It is morally wrong to penalise these people further.
Many people who are carers live in households where they own or rent their homes and DO NOT claim housing benefit; elderly/retired people or those with working family members. To remove the SDA element will cause financial hardship.
Most elderly people who are Carers do not know about the SDA reduction.
Why should you pay for the same care twice?.
implement option 2 and 4
Carer's allowance seems to work fine as it is, why change it, just because of universal credits?
Implement all the other savings and leave the Severely Disabled out of this - they suffer enough and UNPAID carers and family are saving everyone a fortune as it is without taxing them even more. I have agreed to all the other savings - so this is not required.
Leave it as it is.
The severely disabled and their carers need all the help they can get.
It is again picking on disabled people
disabled people have a hard enough time without further penalties
See answer to question 3.

Severely disabled people if they are severely disabled people get more money than anybody so they should be paying at least 90% of the council tax so I totally disagree with this option
This is terrible as carers give up more then you could ever calculate to look after the disabled. Look at where you put money into areas where people would pay more to use the service.
None. Other than reducing the max to 70% instead of 75%. Hopefully that would off-set this for these, the most vulnerable people.

Do you agree, or disagree with the principle to limit CTR to a maximum Council Tax Band C charge?

If you disagree with option 6, what alternative would you propose?

Make sure that no more agencies/consultants are used as it is cheaper to use the staff already employed.
No other option but unfair to those who find themselves out of work for a while & live in a higher band property. Maybe limit the time they can get benefit at the higher rate.
Do those living in a C band need to be? For example, there is a housing problem on the island. Is it possible to 'swap' these around? People living in housing that are too big that they cannot afford with other families squashed into smaller properties being unable to move to a larger, available property.
Whilst this may not go down particularly well for those that do not own their homes, cannot afford them and potentially do not need the large scale housing. Ruthless? Yes Unpopular? Almost certainly. Practical? Definitely
Should be band d a lot of fairly moderate properties fall in band d and this will hit below pension age retirees . Unfair as they may be on moderate pensions etc should start at band D
Restrict to Band D
Doubling the council tax on second homes. This may result in more rental properties being available, therefore, cutting down the rents as demand for housing will be met. If people have second homes they should pay for the privilege. Although many to rent in the winter they are not rented out in Summer so the housing is transitory. If they do rent they will be earning an income part of which could be used to cover cost of increased council tax. A second home cottage in Seaview is on the same band as a terrace with no front garden in Newport. This is clearly not equitable.
continue with the existing scheme as the saving from this is limited and would impact disproportionately those looking to claim for perhaps a limited period due to unemployment or sickness
maybe limit it to band e?
Are there enough properties if those people who want to downsize?
Housing Benefits bedroom tax is a prime example of how this can be unfair. One bedroom properties are hard to come by and some claimants are boxed in with no alternative but to pay the tax.
Band D is always used as the sample so should be used as the cut off point.
If rented accommodation then yes a restriction, but if a older couple for example have lived in that house whole life and own it, no restrictions.
Restricting the figures on a higher band
As previously stated, tax could be sought from those people who live fulltime in Holiday Park Caravans, and those people who are wealthy enough to own second homes located here on the Island.
After all its not every family who can find an appropriately sized property to live in based on its Council Tax Band and therefore, could lead to the Council having to pay out large sums of money in constantly chasing non payments.
Again,as previous..people in a property above band C,especially if it is rented property,which,to be honest..most are..then part of the cost lays with the owner...as they are the ones ,renting superior properties..to people ,on benefits.
Limit to max CT Band D
As I am aware of at least two tenants of council properties living within a Band D dwelling, who would be significantly impacted should they lose their CTR, most likely resulting in homelessness, I would suggest a sliding scale of CTR rate across all council tax bands, as opposed to a blanket withdrawal for higher rate properties. This would allow those living in higher band properties a greater opportunity to remain in their homes.
make the reduction happen to Band E

limit claims for people who have just moved to the island
Limit should be Band C But only D should get band C level and E,F,G &H get zero
Alternative banding not based on perceived house 'valuation' - Not indicative of ability to pay or use of services
SOME POOR PEOPLE LIVE IN HIGHER BANDED AREAS . BUT THIS IS POVERTY UNNOTICED SOME OF THE PEOPLE LIVING IN POORER BANDING AREAS HAVE MORE DISPOSABLE INCOME THAN THERE COUNTERPARTS IN HIGHER BANDED AREAS
elderly persons living on small fixed incomes living in family homes for many years would be in a disadvantaged position.
Some elderly people are unable to downsize their property eg in landslip areas.
Find some good council staff to run this terrible Council efficiently.
keep it as it is...it is not fair to penalise people who live in nicer areas where there may be a good reason for them doing so.
It would be a form of ghetto-isation of council tax benefit claimants. Why should they be forced into the meanest accommodation?
Alternatives already offered.
Raise Council Tax.
If it is an expensive property then you should pay more (you don't buy an expensive car if you can't afford to run it!) it seems always the worst paid people looking after the well heeled.
as previously stated.
holiday homes pay full council tax
income must be element when calculating tax payable
Houses with more than 4 bedrooms or over a value of £200,000 should pay more
Lobby central government for more money for the island.
A Council Tax Band is not just about the size of the peroperty but where the property is. Many elderly people who bought their homes for £2,000 many decades ago, in villages such as Gurnard, Shalfleet, Chale, Lake, etc should not be penalised for where they live and for chosing to stay in their own home.
Council Advisors often say "If you cant afford your bill then sell your house and move", if you cannot afford the moving fees how can we do this?! You are not thinking this through properly. NO Idea who you are using as your representative demographic!
This is a good idea, no objections to this.
Increase council tax on second / holiday homes.
people on a higher band of council tax already pay more, it would be unfair to penalise somone when they are already paying their fair share. Someone paying £100 council tax on CTR would pay £20 (20%) which is what someone in those circumstances can afford, someone paying £200 council tax would pay £40 (20%) which is what they can afford. Everyone is paying the same proportion in relation to their house price and their circumstances, that's what makes it fair.
Again picking on those in the ribble valley that have a disability and are just trying to survive
leave as is
yes if people can claim council tax support when they are living in higher band properties then depending on their family size they should be able to downgrade to a smaller property
See answer to question 3.
it should stay as it is
Sounds like discrimination what and if your black Muslim or from Europe
Not sure,but I've privately rented here for twenty years and never found anywhere that was band C!!
Therefore I think this is a dreadful idea.
all because you live in a band above a c house doe not mean you are better off, some people have been left this property or might be scraping to pay a mortgage, bug house does not mean your rich, does this mean a large family that is on benefits that might have been allocated a larger house or even two knocked together will have to pay a larger amount....its just discriminating against the workers, who want nice things.
Limited to 4 per household living there especially people who specail needs or disband lime me
do an individual assessment for persons living in band d or above- as type of property does not dictate personal income/circumstances, for example because they live in say band d does not mean they are more able to afford than those living in band c.

Do you agree, or disagree with the principle to set a minimum level of CTR support at £2 per week?

If you disagree with option 7, what alternative would you propose?

not fair
make it under £1
keep the status quo
No alternative, the cash saved would be trivial in the overall scheme of saving-needed-to-be-made.
Aha....a sensible solution...
consider it should be £0.50p in line with Housing Benefit minimum payments
Min should be £10/week
some times just a pound can make the diferance between eating or going without and over the year it can lead to getting in to rent arrers.
Pay in a lump sum. Reduces admin charges
Lobby central government for more money for the island.
Same as already suggested on previous questions
I agree, there really isn't any point to receiving the help if it is under the £2 mark.
just find a cheaper way of informing people - email!!
This may surprise you council people but even a benefit of less than £2 a week is a lot of money to poor people!!!
sensible
See answer to question 3.
email people rather than write
You should save costs by only printing and using paper if needed if a claimant has access to email and internet they should use the online portal.
Sell assets.

Do you agree, or disagree that there should be an increase level of council tax?

Why do you agree we should increase the level of council tax?

To protect services
current level of service will not be able to continue without and increase of cash
fairer if everybody the same.
Because it will be spread over everyone not just the vulnerable, the working poor , the disabled etc.
because teh council needs the money
To pay more towards schools, hospital, roads, police, Dr's, social services etc.. as more persons moving to IOW all the time and no new schools, social services etc...
its better than cutting more services
I think a new CT should be introduced..to people owning multiple properties..as in definition,they are using more,of the councils resources.if a person owns a block of flats,the tenants pay their CT..but....maybe collectively...the tenants have more cars on the road....so,the council should charge a landlord money..for the road parking,specifically for tenants...a tax for the amount of properties owned...could be put in place..many landlords have multiple properties...and pay nothing to CT..nothing at all..how can this be?
Significant reductions in government grant funding leave little choice for the council but to increase its revenue appropriately if people want to maintain essential services
I think everyone should contribute according to their income
Need to pay for services rather than cut them more.
because there are plenty of rich ,well off people who can easily afford any increase in their Council Tax
If it is not a huge increase we should be able to afford this
Services are being cut too much
we need the money, and as long as we are not receiving the proper monies that should be paid to an Island Authority, we can't carry on. give us back our Island status , and the correct Settlements for support.
Because the council tax is not a large burden for people who are lucky enough to be working or who have enough money to be able to afford to pay more, like me. Most people in my experience would be happy to pay a bit more and keep better services, and a better quality of life for all on the Isle of Wight. I for one, want to live in a fair society that does not penalise the poor and the infirm.

this could then be used to protect the current scheme
We need to pay more in - to be able to support/keep valuable services
Every effort should be made to maintain the level of general services. This does not include personal allowances like CTR which should be in line with other government allowances.
Because you need more money and it's cruel to take it specifically from poor people.
Council can't cover its services costs due to government cutbacks so it needs more money for services and those who can afford it should pay more as it is a cheap service at present to most people
I want the council to continue to run existing services and improve upon those already offered to benefit the whole community.
To share the overall load and not penalise the people on a proportionately lower income
prevent further reduction of services
Because costs need to be covered. I just think the increase should be spread to everyone, and not just taking it from those who can least afford it and no one else.
A mild increase is acceptable, but the Council should lobby central government for more money for the island.
It should be progressive and not universal. Those who are richest pay most. That is the fairest solution.
This would mean only a very small increase across all residents.
fair
I would be happy to pay a little more council tax, but only if I knew it was going to be used for a worthwhile cause and that I could actually see evidence of improved services in the area.
To allow island residents to still be able to access necessary services despite funding cuts.
better to live in a properly funded island than a cut back poor version , just spend wisely ?
stop waste , and "refugee" £75,000 will not cover the long term services /policing etc required
leave refugee crisis to central gov however the situation emotionally tugs the heart, [REDACTED]
NB. Religious comments redacted
increase it for the well off so that people on very low income can still get a fair benefit
Why should the poorest carry the heaviest burden?
the wealthy should support the poorer in society
See answer to question 3.
All the services have gone so if you take more council tax of people you would have a legal legal obligation of care or social care or child social care adults social care won't you and if you go after taking the money off people I think your find you all have a little bit of a problem with people on the Isle of Wight
To raise extra funds.
Because money is short.
because the council has no option, however it needs to be the same for all
Part of the government thinking is clearly to pass more decision making to the local level. The reduction in funding puts more of that responsibility on local authorities. That includes raising extra funds through an increase, more focus on how the council spend money and generate revenue.

Do you agree, or disagree that there should be an increase level of council tax?

Why do you disagree we should increase the level of council tax?

Council tax will already increase to a certain level of affordability that is deemed appropriate
Hard pressed working people are already paying more in indirect taxation than ever before there has to be a cut off at some point, even if this means you do not provide some of the services currently provided.
Because everyone is struggling enough financially as it is & to increase it to a level that residents cannot afford would be detrimental as it would be impossible to recover & would end up costing the LA more that it would gain
WHO DO YOU THINK PAYS FOR EVERYTHING? NO PAY RISES, LES & LESS DISPOSABLE INCOME, WORKERS ARE STRUGGLING AS IT IS!! WHY SHOULD WE KEEP ON SUBSIDISING ALL & SUNDRY?
my current band is D and I think this is sufficient to pay, as I received no other benefits for band d to some one paying band a, b or c

Instead of increasing council tax reduce benefits.
not fair on tax payers
Council tax is a revenue scheme, get managers in that appreciate this and can put this into practice. To increase the Council Tax of everyone to solve the problem of the few does not solve the problem but merely masks it. Better revenue collection and better benefit application management would help. My household does not have an income of almost a grand a week with 90% being disregarded! I pay full CT.
Because the costs are high for people in work on lower incomes
Because as a full time worker I do not feel that I should have to subsidise residents with lower incomes
Because hard working people pay enough already whilst there are people who have been on Income Support/JSA/ESA for years on end either because they can't stop having kids they cannot afford in the first place or they cannot be bothered to get of their fat arses and get a job because they are either to lazy or to 'ill' to work.
I feel that as a single mother, working nearly full time hours, the level of my council tax is very high and to increase it further, when my employer does not increase my wages at all, would be very unfair and cause financial difficulties.
Because as a full time worker I do not wish to subsidise people with lower incomes.
High enough already
I feel that it is appropriate for all to make a contribution to council tax
As everyone has to pay
Council tax is already high and will start to become unaffordable.
Because of reasons given in drawback argument
people in employment and without benefits are already struggling to pay
The level of Council Tax is already high for the level of reduced services that are received
because of people like myself struggling with a family would mean that by making an increase could result in more financial difficulties.
as the cost of living is going up but some wages don't
people are struggling enough as it is
I pay more than enough already and believe there are many who do not pay enough and receive more in benefits than I earn.
Do not set budget and force government to step in causing publicity about the effects of austerity on local councils.
People may struggle to pay this
People are already struggling to pay it as it is.
A referendum is expensive and its obvious people wouldn't vote for it
I'm getting a bit confused by the questions at this point! To clarify;if it's an option of either reducing the amount of council tax reduction/benefit,or alternatively having to increase the level of council tax, I am opting for reducing the amount of council tax benefit(even though I am a recipient of that benefit!)
Those of us paying the FULL council tax whilst managing on modest fixed and reducing income (due to lower interest rates) should not be continually penalised for the benefit of those contributing little or nothing.
People generally are already struggling enough.
Because increasing the level of council tax, will exaggerate the current climate of austerity for the less well-off and cause arrears which in turn means the council will incur costs in sending out demand letters, and possible legal action.
This would put further pressure on hard working families who are already struggling and not entitled to any benefit from the government. We are a two parent family and we both work and pay for our children's nursery costs.
Because we already pay enough as it is.
it is too high already stifling growth.
We pay too much anyway!
As usual you are milking the poll tax payer who receive nothing in return. Apparently everyone is equal. Stop penalising the payer and apologising to those who choose not to contribute.
Because it is expensive enough as it is. Everything is going up & people are increasingly finding the cost of living a struggle
It will just make everyone poorer
I believe as a full council tax payer (of over £200 per month) that I already pay enough (too much infact!). Why should I pay more for other people and receive the same level of service? It is unfair on the hard working families to subsidise others.
Why should we pay more for service we certainly do not receive, enough is enough.
Increasing tax shouldn't be the first option - consider abolishing the PCC and his support staff first - unnecessary bureaucracy and expense

My husband and I work full time with children and struggle to pay it now, we claim no benefits, I feel it unfair for hard working families to suffer more to subsidise people on benefits
Likely no net gain - as you say
Low income homeowners who do not qualify for council tax support have to pay a crippling amount of council tax anyway. This should not be increased to allow for Council Tax support to be retained as at present
As you will put more people in this bracket, and then claiming?
there are a large number of "holiday home owners" who rent out their homes during the summer months, there are also a lot of people who live in large homes who could easily afford an increase in council tax, but it is the people on low incomes, who as per normal will be made to suffer.
Because having seen an already significant increase to my own council tax bill, and a reduction in the funding of numerous Island conveniences and public sector support over the past 4 years, any further increase would likely be met with hostility from the public, who already feel that they are being conned out of their wages for a sub-standard service. People will not readily agree to paying more for something that they already feel is over-priced.
Add into this the increased cost of living, versus the current drop in the value of the pound, people just simply will not be able to afford to pay their council tax bills.
I agree to reducing support for those who are able to work, but choose not to, or who are out of the country for more than 4 weeks of the year, as they are not contributing to the economy of our local community, or the wider country, but increasing council tax yet again will without doubt have a significant impact upon vulnerable individuals who are already struggling to make ends meet.
The cost of setting up a referendum and the timescale involved would outweigh any net gain
if you are reducing the maximum level of support they can receive to 70% then people are already having to find more of it themselves
right now people are struggling and the ctr rate of income coming in has dropped, meaning more money owed. This would increase again
The same people always pay for everything, we pay such a lot already and services from local authority and the Police are still cut, why should hard working people continually pay out?
Island residents already contribute a large amount to support people on Local Council Tax Support through their council tax payments.
The amount of help offered under the CTR scheme should be reduced. The amount of Council Tax we have to pay should not increase as this would make more people worse off.
Because those savings can be made elsewhere. Raising council tax across the board will affect those that are not eligible for claiming benefit, but are struggling to pay.
this could affect those who cannot afford the increase...
It is too high already
Because it involves more costs
It would need an expensive referendum to do it County wide. Some essential services are being maintained by Town Councils who are able to increase their rate without need for a referendum.
It is too high, the IWC inefficient and staff T&C out of line with local companies. Staff take too many days off without sanction. Instead of wage reductions as seen in Ireland and other places all that has been done is work less hours for same money. ie an increase.
Why should one person living in a property pay as much as six or more people living in the same property when their usage of services such as rubbish disposal, sewage disposal, street lighting etc. are so reduced? I still believe council tax should be based on individual residents and not properties.
For the reasons you stated on the previous page.
Because it is high anyway, and more people would struggle financially if it went up
Already paying more for less with increasingly reduced income - same as you .
ISLAND PAYS HIGH RATES ALREADY IN RELATION TO LOCAL INCOME AND LEVEL OF SERVICES PROVIDED
Increased pressure on bureaucracies should produce further savings
Council tax is a major expense already.
Too high already.
This has gone up well over the rate of inflation over the last four years. Done under the veil of the 'local' tax. Lat year it was 4%. The level of a Band C house is now nearly £1500.00 per year and extremely difficult to pay out of pensions.
It will hit the poorest
I am on a fixed income but receive no benefits
For the reasons stated.
For the reasons you have stated. Would be more expensive for council overall.

Unfair on low Incomes as a percentage.
Because many of us not claiming benefit struggle to meet the current charges
because of difficulties in introducing
because you would be hammering the low paid,the sick and unemployed hardist in stead of just the wealthiest
who can more easaly pay it with out eney sacrifics.
wastage should be cut first.
Not everyone is a 2-income household and we are already a designated hardship zone (I forget the correct phrase), increasing the charge will cause more hardship, homelessness, poverty groups such as food banks, etc. The Council need to look at the whole income and expenditure issue from a different angle, for example Island Road's contract ... MANY brand new vans, outfits, signage that was not necessary ... AMEY with all the brand new bins, vans, etc ... what a waste of COUNCIL money. Money is being spent / lost when there is no need.
People are finding it extremely hard to afford council tax as it is meaning more people being issued summons for non payment.costing the council more.
It's already high enough as it is
No apparent benifit
There will already be a rise
We pay quite enough as it is. What about the thousands who pay nothing. Take 20% from them. I expect most would agree.
Because many of us are struggling to get by as it is. I am not exaggerating when I say a change like this could bankrupt people. And they really wouldn't deserve it.
Because your incompetence has helped to get the Island into this state as it is. I couldn't care less if the Isle of Wight Council went bankrupt as you (The Independents) have proved you are not fit for purpose.
Council tax is already high. often above £100 for working families and one of my highest outgoings after rent and generally i do not get a service for this. it is a bill i already resent having to pay - and would choose not too if i could. Further increases will hurt the hard working families the most at a time when we are working just to live.
Wages poor, seasonal working handicap,
Save money by making better investment choices etc at the ships helm.
pay enough
If you implement all savings except the Severely Disabled ones, you should not need to increase the council tax. People are stretched enough. Unless you spend the money specifically on opening toilets and keeping the streets clean.
Council tax payers are getting less ans less for their money
We already pay enough as it is and do not wish to continually subsidise the lifestyles of others.
we pay far to much for the service provided just keep cutting
Why should I pay for someone to have a reduction, especially if they choose to rent a house that they cannot afford themselves? If you increase the council tax you are also opening up the possibility of others not being able to afford the new rate, and therefore needing a reduction.
Why should the hard workers pay more to subsidise the lazy
as you have already answered your own question "This could lead to more people not being able to afford their council tax and therefore increase the amount of support we need to provide, meaning the scheme would cost even more" ..so it doesnt make sense to increase council tax, lower council tax support, just to find those already struggling get further in debt then of course the council will end up taking more people to court costing the council even more more money
Already paying far too much and the added precept we have to pay to the town & parish councils is increasing far too much. Cut the Police and Fire budgets.
Because there are other ways outlined before this question to increase money without penalising full time working people by increasing council tax to all
The tax is already onerous for thise on modest or low pension incomes
we are already paying a huge amount. Councils need to look at their OWN costs - the cost for Councillors expenses for example!!
It is hard enough to pay the current level as it is. By increasing it, it will put an additional financial burden on hard working people.
It is hard enough for people to meet the bill as it is
Lots of people struggle to pay it already....
Because some people are already struggling to meet their obligations. Wages on the Isle of Wight are typically low without yearly payrises and utilities such as gas and electricity are constantly rising. To add another financial strain on to people already burdened is preposterous

It unfair to workers. Earnings don't increase to the same levels.
Reduce the rate of Single Person discount to 15 or 20%.
Because this island is a tourist hot spot and a lot of people are out of work in the winter months. Maybe if you worked on the tourist industry and brought more people to the island then the whole island would benefit from this more jobs more income more money in the council coffers.
Already struggle to pay current level
you are trying to rake in funds by bleeding the people.
We pay to much out and not getting the sane back in wages stop giving ctr
It is miles too high already total rip off.
Unfair for the hard working person to top up what the lazy person doesn't have to pay
Because people like me on low income watch their money don't to pay something like that
I agree with the expected 1.99% rise. However, I think the cost of a referendum and the likely outcome would outweigh the benefits of any potential higher rise. People are more likely to be able to absorb smaller regular increases rather than larger ones.
Not that we can do anything about it now but this is why I believe it was a mistake for the council to have frozen CT for so many years previously. If we'd had small increases, we would have been in a better position now.
Because of the cost
I would have to pay more
I already pay full council tax and resent having to subsidise others who only pay a fraction themselves, I have to live within my means and so should they. I'd like to pay only 20% of mine and spend the rest on fripperies but I can't.
as you have already identified- This could lead to more people not being able to afford their council tax and therefore increase the amount of support we need to provide, meaning the scheme would cost even more

Do you agree, or disagree we should find savings from cutting other council services?

Why do you agree we should find savings from cutting other council services?

We have always provided more than we should & there are some services that could be cut or taken over via Parish Councils.
childrens services waste money
still a lot of wastage internally with admin duties, not so much as staffing
social services waste money
Because I feel that to an extent cuts are being made from all 'avenues' so further cuts should be looked for elsewhere where possible.
some services are extreme e.g. the times oap s can use public transport free, the amount of time blue badge holders can
It will come to that eventually
more efficient use of staff and services
To control endless increases in council tax.
We dont reall
We all need to streamline what we do.
Because some council services that are paid for by the council are only applicable to some people's interests. Therefore it is unfair for people paying council tax that don't enjoy these things or need to use them
The statutory costs put on the taxpayer is totally unfair. There are genuine people in need of more help. However at 11.00 on any street you can see those who choose not to work AS they are better off not working. Stop paying these sops and additional benefit is the need for less council employees. You are not an employment agency. Cut staff, you are a council not a government. Get some employees who can negotiate on a commercial basis, so you don't pay £500000.00 to a bankrupt company or refund ASDA 2.5 MILLION POUNDS. Find a solution to give a lower bill to poll tax payers. No more precepts. You are making life untenable for pensioners. You decisions are always blinkered by keeping up your empires. Server the whole community. Not just the abusers. If you can't see, give me a call. So I can point out the obvious failing. Look forward to a lower council bill and a response to my email.
We have always stood on our own two feet, so should others.
Some how or other, and even if only to limited extent, all of society must pay for George Osborne's decisions
there needs to be some cutting of services or charge for things if not

A lot of the services the council claim to provide do not work in a cost effective manner, refuse collection and street cleaning are two prime examples, you could add to that parking services and job centers.
I think the savings should be over more areas therefor not one section of the population is hit more than others
there is to much waste of money, especially in running council offices.....
Top heavy management levels.
BECAUSE THERE COULD BE ADEQUATE PROVISION WITHIN OTHER AREAS TO SUPPORT THIS SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY
Because they are necessary
I don't agree with cuts for social service, but I do believe cuts can be made elsewhere
Must always keep looking to make savings. Yes it's painful but necessary
See previous answer.
Because of salary bill. Need to cap wages and better reflect private sector and deal with demands for pay rise with a no. Even cost of living rises should be denied until council is on a better financial standing.
As I wrote earlier you can't eat the flowers you plant although pretty. We needed toilets but that went out the window as did a lot of libraries. So I am sure you will find something else to cut or close.
Excessive heating and staffing can still b seen
because you are cutting most of them any way so pick ones that hurt the least island people.
cut waste from the offices. Stop sending out pages and pages of un-understandable letters. Stop wasting money (ie the farce of providing new rubbish bins to all Island homes. total waste of money).
It is unjustifiable to make the poorest poorer. That will only increase homelessness , create more stress related illnesses and for some increase drug use. All of which will prove more costly in the end for councils and the government. Where is the foresight and wisdom in taking such action?
Because it is not specifically just effecting those people who contribute to society but may unfortunately be a necessary step. Would take this over the reduction in support any day.
A number service should be paid for on a usage based charge such as certain waste services.
thats what you allways shuld do to find savings
We should cut salaries of top level council employees
Can some less essential services by outsourced?
A lot has already been cut but there is ways the possibility to find more saving
cut waste , cut expenses , cut in house NOT services , cut bus subsidies why should one transport company get subsidised ? taxis ? other bus and coach ?
too many managers
SO THAT FOLK ON VERY LOW INCOME CAN GET A FAIR COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT DUH!!
We do not need bloated administrations and waste. Reduce the size of the council and reduce the ability of all and sundry to claim state benefits.
Too much goes on the Police.
you lot waste so much money
Cut a little from the many rather then a lot from one
helping the poor and disadvantaged is a duty that the council should be proud to do.
it seems mean to punish for being poor , even the feckless individuals of our society
Still far too many top and middle managers who are managing...nothing! Keep the lower paid workers who actually make a difference and look VERY closely at those earning 35k+ to see if they are actually worth their wages!
Get rid of homeless hostels
Priority should be in helping the most vulnerable and disadvantaged
Sack one of the chief executive is you don't need to know whether authority has to therefore you make a saving of £250,000 to no-brainer really in it
Because savings need to be made regardless of the council tax issue..
How else will it be done? Some services will need to go. However I feel the council have so far chosen the simple ones that effect the most people such as Public toilets and school crossings and not made any attempts to drive down costs on statutory services.
I think that cost cutting should be made from possibly departments that do one job and should be doing mixed duties
You should be looking at areas where people are able to foot the bill from the savings rather than hitting those with no money. How about no more jolly's for councillors, should food and entertainment be laid on at events. If others pay so should councillors or high ranking council staff.
Because there is a shortfall of money.

because the council is keeping certain services that could be contracted out, using that money to support where the money is needed like, childrens services, adult social care, schools and enviroment
Not necessarily cutting but reorganizing. Island roads are renowned for not doing work properly. Your refuse contract with Amey is a joke.
Thats what you are experts at
A little squeeze from everywhere is better then a big squeeze from 1 area
Need to look at what is need and who are using such services. Can certain people pay more?
This is not so much about cutting services as getting value for money and driving down costs on current services. Case in point the extremely high price the IOW council pay for adult services.
not cutting other council services but looking at those employed within the council as it would appear there are many pen pushers employed and also within the make up of the iw council-is it necessary to have so many councillors

Do you agree, or disagree we should find savings from cutting other council services?

Why do you disagree we should find savings from cutting other council services?

There are already substantial cuts being made
The level of services available are dwindling enough as it is
What council services are going to be hit? Obviously not the statutory services? It will get to the point that there is no Isle of Wight so Council Tax will not be an issue. This is not necessarily going to solve the problem but postpone it
they are pared back already
Council Services have already been cut and it would be difficult to find further savings without withdrawing more services
due to cuts already made
Whilst I believe there are other efficiency savings still available in key areas of the authority I do not believe other core services should be cut to bridge the gap with the council tax reduction scheme.
Services are already suffering
those services are needed and have been cut enough
We are cut to the bone now and further cuts would mean more people out of jobs and services stopped or futher reduced leading to more unemployment, homeless and in some cases poverty.
so many people rely on these services to help with their day to day life
If we cut any more there will be nothing left!!
Do not set budget and force government to step in causing publicity about the effects of austerity on local councils.
Because the council services have been cut enough already.
Already reduced , cannot go much further
I disagree with making cuts to vital services
Council services have been cut too much already. once the services are gone, they stay gone
Because I think many more people would suffer from cutting other council services than would suffer from your reasonable suggestions about council tax benefit reduction.
What more can the council cut? We have lost vital services already.
Because it has been relayed to the public through the media that the Island was going to join forces with Southampton and Portsmouth and have a share of the substantial amount of funds to be given out by the Government. However, a spanner was thrown in the works over the suggestion of a Mayor! So now we will remain poor, and scratch around to make savings out of the Islands elderly, disabled and mentally disadvantaged!!
Services cannot be cut further. Council services have already been cut severely and staff are doing the best job they can.
Beuase too many services have had reductions in their funding already.
Because you have cut enough. How about reducing the wages of your highest earners etc
Core services are already cut to the bone, so CT support should be reduced and claimants should pay more towards their CT.
I work for the council , our services are stretched enough, our wages haven't increased with inflation for over 6 years, this again would be unfair to hard working people
The level of statutory services provided at present is unsatisfactory. The tourist Island already outsourced and closed public lavatories which is a disgraceful matter of public health. There are very few frontline staff at County Hall. Any cutting should be done to consultants' fees
Because it will make more people live in hardship

<p>Social care funding across the Island has already suffered a significant loss over the past few years. If they were to suffer any more cuts to services, they may as well close up altogether, as the system is already failing hundreds of residents every year due to a lack of funding for vital support.</p> <p>With regards to refuse collection, one only has to take a walk around each town the night before collection and see the state of the public bins, which are overflowing due to the restrictions already imposed upon each household.</p> <p>Emergency services are already at breaking point, with resources stretched farther than they should be, which causes huge safety concerns.</p> <p>The lack of public toilets and a reduction in recreation ground maintenance and clean-ups, combined with the public bin issue will ultimately result in an environmental health issue, and also poses as a health and safety concern in terms of used needles, waste products, and fly-tipping around children's play areas.</p>
<p>I have experienced personally, cuts in social care services, it could be devastating, espec. re cuts in mental health budgets, for children and adults! We must find another way, not this!</p>
<p>The council is already having to find substantial savings across its finances that means services have been and will continue to be cut. By not reviewing LCTS it will potentially mean further savings might have to be found from other essential services. Most of the options for LCTS to be reviewed appear to be fair and still provide appropriate support to those on low incomes with genuine need so the split as to where services should be reduced is fairer</p>
<p>Services have already been cut and further cuts will be required anyway to make the required savings. There is a limit to what can be cut as statutory services have to be provided</p>
<p>we are losing too much all ready, Cutting services yet again will just ruin this island. people are not getting enough support now. how will this help? Instead how about a wage cut to the top people who look upon us minions!</p>
<p>Not sure what there is left to cut. Dispose of further council buildings possibly.</p>
<p>Enough services have already been cut. It will not be fair for more vital council services to be cut.</p>
<p>Children and adult services have already had major cuts in recent years and the impact of cutting any more will only lead to those that have preventative services going into crisis which will only cost the council more in the long run. For example the cuts to the supporting people budget in both 2010 and 2016 has led to some of the people previously supported requiring a lot more support from housing services, police, Nhs and ultimately resulting in people losing their homes</p>
<p>Vulnerable residents need to be protected</p>
<p>Usual LA rubbish, you do not have to cut services, the IWC inefficient and staff T&C out of line with local companies. Staff take too many days off without sanction. Instead of wage reductions as seen in Ireland and other places all that has been done is work less hours for same money. ie an increase.</p>
<p>Some years ago, Councillors were not paid for their services; it was considered an honour and a privilege to serve the community in the way they were best able. Reverting to this, or a token salary, would not only gain respect from constituents, but also save all monies needed.</p>
<p>Because we are already at the stage where we can't afford the statutory services.</p>
<p>You would already seem to have cut to the bone.</p>
<p>Because you have cut everything to the bone already !</p>
<p>Without info to contrary there appears to be very little left to cut</p>
<p>see previous answer. make every attempt to get our Island status returned</p>
<p>Council services have been severely cut already. I cannot answer this accurately without knowing a list of those services likely to be cut.</p>
<p>Because all council services are important for our quality of life. Apart from supporting the less advantaged and old and infirm, the council also clears our rubbish, cuts the hedges on the road, cleans the streets, maintains the parks, provides community services, libraries (I think there might still be some) and countless other services that we would all miss very soon (like the now, lack of public toilets in Ventnor) Many more cuts will also make the Isle of Wight a less desirable place for people to come on holiday which will further reduce the earning ability of many islanders who rely on the tourist trade. We also need good emergency services, police, fire and ambulance. The Council should also be fighting for the NHS on the island and to Keep services at St Marys Hospital and not force people to travel to the mainland if they need to go to hospital. (Sorry that is another fight I guess!)</p>
<p>The whole councils spending requires serious review. Lots of money is wasted. Purchasing should be reviewed. Staffing should be reviewed and more professional people employed. Running a business in the way the Council has been run would not work.</p>
<p>Because if you find a way to generate cheap renewable energy on the island, it would be possible to spend less on energy and maybe sell some of it to other parts. If you generate more income, you can afford to maintain current spending levels. Don't spend less, earn more.</p>
<p>again the most vulnerable would be affected so central government MUST be held to account for the squeeze it is putting on our services</p>

Why should we all suffer to maintain benefits for a minority.
Services are there because they are needed so don't cut them just get more income to cover them.
People rely on them and they are a vital part of the fabric of our community.
Most services are already cut to the bone
A reduction in essential services is untenable - the term essential should make that obvious
services are at breaking point, service users at risk,young,elderly,vulnerable persons.
council workers, social workers,at risk of work related stress, leading to sickness and further strain on services both practically and financially
This could mean vunerable people suffer
already on last legs and inadaquate
as before
Lobby central government for more money for the island!!!!
You are being too general here.
Vulnerable people are always the ones who have services cut.its about time we have more support to these services.
Because they are the most vulnerable people in society and need those services
Services have already been cut, it's about time people started to do more for the own support and note rely on council handouts except for the very needy in our society
There have already been cuts
we're already stretched to the max and vulnerable people are suffering because of this. AISO, IF YOU'RE GOING TO CUT SERVICES IT NEEDS TO BE LEFT OPEN TO CONSULTATION AND PEOPLE NEED TO BE MADE AWARE THAT THEY HAVE A SAY.
It is very clear the council is already at breaking point. Valuable services have been cut back or withdrawn and it is the future generations who will suffer the most.
Its not council 'services' but council 'backings/investments and unnecessary spendings that cause the problem. Call in some independent auditors and see what they advise you to do!
The council should save money by NOT spending on civic functions that only entertain the same 'bigwigs' - cut the catering budget and the free parking for employees - everyone else has to pay on top of their wages so why shouldn't council workers. And stop paying additional pensions to all and sundry when they leave with a golden handshake.
We can't keep cutting services, or expecting the parishes to 'pick them up'.This ccould potentially start putting lives at risk, such as the school crossing fiasco.
get more from central government from the money saved sending to europe and the cost of our so called MEPs
What is there left to cut without causing major hardship usually to the most vulnerable in society?
Because they have already been heavily cut and any further cuts will negatively affect vital core service provision.
See answer to question 3.
The services have been cut already not sure how they can be cut any more
There have been enough unnecessary cuts as it is
Too many services have been cut over the years there is not much more to cut.
Reduce benefits and discounts.
I would like to see more money into specail needs arena help me out
Other services are being cut anyway. I think all services should have their own cuts rather than expecting it all to come from somewhere else.
I don't believe it's fair to fund LCTS from elsewhere just so it can stay the same. It should take some of its own cuts too.
The council has already been cut to the bone and there is almost nothing left. The service being offered is already rubbish so how much worse would it be.

If the council chose one of the alternative options to make savings, which would be your preferred choice? If you have chosen to reduce funding, which council services would you like to see reduced?

over to you to make a decision.
childrens services, they expect everything and do nothing for society except take tak e take

Reduce councillors.
social services, they think its a bottom less pitt of money
Refuge collections less frequent
I am unsure where savings from other services could be made, as every service seems to be struggling with the cut backs they already have to deal with.
Maybe looking at increasing business rates, for larger companies would help to increase revenue and limit the amount of services and individuals who suffer.
As per previous comment - I believe there are other efficiency savings still available in key areas of the authority but I do not believe other core services should be cut to bridge the gap with the council tax reduction scheme.
times free transport ia available for oaps, reduce hours of parking in car parks with blue badge this will leave fee payers more spaces, increase the price of zone visitor permits - £5 for 10 days is very cheap
Children Services/Social Services
Means test the free bus pass for pensioners or do away with it altogether.
Too many chiefs and not enough indians
Free bus travel for pensioners
neither as increasing the level can put more people in hardship
reducing funding from other services can those people more vulnerable
there is no easy solution !
Free parking for blue badge holders.
Leisure services.
Any financial cost to the council for benefit of festivals etc.
I would like to see the list of all council services first.
The thousands being wasted on numerous consultations, paying out millions to outside waste contractors instead of doing it in-house, and signing up to an exorbitantly expensive PFI.
Review the way in which some services waste funds. Better process in place to check what is being spent where,
I dont agree with either, the council should have a dedicated person working for them that concentrates on accessing grants and funding and looks at ways to generate income.
Remove councillors wages making serving the public an honour not an earner. sell off county hall and meet in other buildings and online.
We don't need as many library's anymore, everything is digital now. Also I think public toilets are not really needed, it will encourage people to use local businesses instead increasing income for locals.
It also feels like I am the only person on a bus that pays for it. Everyone else seems to get discounts or free due to council support!
Council staff levels. Stop putting loaded questions on these fake polls. You will only put up our bill and the abusers will continue to sleep in clover.
I do not agree with either of the above. Council Tax support should be reduced and the claimants should pay more.
See comments re PCC
Paying the council to go to court and waste our money. After all you have already disposed of the Ice Rink and the Botanical Gardens. Slim down your over bloated legal department.
Chief executive pay to be cut, members to loose 'expenses', fraud section to be reinstated of Housing Benefit as no longer investigated,
Small reductions in funding everything
Both actually....as said prior..raise council tax..for landlords..and undergo a viablility test,for services,for people with special needs...as a sympathetic retired nurse....i could cry..but...many buildings used for such services..the staff almost outweigh the useage....and the heating ,lighting bills alone are ridiculous....the grounds are unkempt...but many users,or perhaps ..family of the users,could keep the grounds in trim...so that there facility,was less expensive....and maybe ,more productive..in growing produce that can be used,to help towards meals....it is not rocket science....
Activities for LGBT... and other marginal groups which are just social and they could organise and fund themselves. Reduce fees payable for consultants.
street cleaning as i have lived in my house for 9 years and in that time i have seen a road sweeper once.

Again this is an impossible question to answer without being privy to all councils expenditure. I'm assuming that council tax will rise by 1.99% as it does every year
There are numerous services outside of the proposed areas for cuts in funding, which when looked at closely can be proven to be less-than cost effective. For example, Advertising - within the one island magazine and the county press is unnecessary. With the age of modern technology, almost everyone has access to the internet, and would know where to find information regarding council services, consultations etc. Also, the One Island Magazine itself is not strictly necessary. It would be far more cost effective to send out an electronic email to those who wish to subscribe to the service, than to continue printing and distributing hard copies 4 times a year.
Concessionary bus passes could be restricted to those who really need them (i.e those with disabilities and their carers) as opposed to issuing them to everyone primarily based on their age.
Libraries - rather than cutting services, charge a one-off 'administration fee' of £1 for every new person signing up to use the service, and advertise the council website/ access to the proposed online One Island newsletter on the cards to increase awareness.
Hand control of park/ recreation ground and public convenience maintenance to local town councils. Using the Island's community spirit, form voluntary groups with the sole purpose of upholding high standards of maintenance. Hold a competition each year for the 'best kept town' to increase public pride in their town, and increase likelihood of individuals volunteering.
Massive amounts are paid to children's services, they do not appear to manage their budgets very well.
Adult services.
reduce size and expenditure of council offices
wages and expenses of staff
Without a complete list showing amounts spent, this is difficult to answer, but having heard that the Council has installed "hidden" cameras on Ventnor beach with a view to catching and fining dog walkers during the summer months, perhaps this would be a good place to start.
Westminster gravy train
CORONERS SERVICE, SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE, NUMBER CONSULTANTS FEES PAID, EXPENDITURE ON COUNTY COUNCILLORS EXPENSES FEES ETC, AND EXPENDITURE ON OTHER UNREQUIRED CEREMONIAL PUBLIC POSTS THESE ARE JUST A FEW
Without spending much time reviewing services I am not qualified to comment
I cannot answer this without knowing a list of services.
Neither now - enough has been done to put people off living on the Island.
I would need to study costs of services more to make a reply
Free / reduced leisure centre membership for those on Jobseekers - if there is no reduction for over 60 why should I subsidise people who should be our looking for work ?
It isn't services I would reduce, it would be administration, sale of unused buildings, reduction in expenses, reduction in council employees, reduction in counsellors.
Impossible to answer
Free transport for retired people.
Payroll, it,
the ones which benefit the least number of people at the expense of the larger residents disproportionately.
once again, stop wasting money
Andrew Turners expenses
executives expenses and bonus's
You are being too general / specific here ... rather than looking at ways to cut and save, where can you MAKE more money?! What services can you set up that MAKE the Council money? Brighton makes millions from car parking, what do other councils provide that bring in income without penalising, charging or cutting costs? What businesses can be encouraged / started, how can you make the 'average Joe' happily spend? We are a tourist Island how can we make use of this and bloom and grow? Think outside the box, look at things from a different perspective.
Tourism?
Can't answer this question as don't know all the services that the council offer
Cut funding to single occupancy plus reduce the benefit said already listed
Possibly at the offices they do a great job but if some services were switched to being online they would still be able to work.
Housing benefit help centers. In a day of modern technology we should be able to directly send info via email - or post.

No longer provide latest gadgetry ie phones,ipads to employees.Stop throwing tens of thousands to joe blogs for empty prison (and other empty buildings) security!if its been boarded properly,nobody should be able to get in! Cap expenses claims or incorporate into salaried package(cheaper in long term) probably find a few grand unaccounted for within island roads books too!!
anything not essential clearly ..
consultation fees ? in house waste ? staff expenses ? etc
management salaries
FREE BUS PASSES FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN AFFORD TO PAY!!!!!!!!!!!!
Stop wasting money on parties, overindulging days out schemes (the big party for 'kids in care' might seem 'nice' but is not cost effective and wastes a fortune!) Make staff pay for parking permits. Stop wasting money on 'rebranding' and refurbishing your offices and rent out some of your unused buildings.
Councillors allowances
administration/expenses by councillors and any other service which is not essential to the fabric of local society.
Police precept
Neither option!!
please see previous answer
Reduce anything which is not a statutory requirement. Reduce management.
Reduce councillor pa
Drug and drink hostels
Tourism, parks and gardens.
neither. Start by reducing salaries to overpaid Councillors, reduce the amount of Councillor expenses, streamline office services & get rid of the ineffectual and wasteful call center - that should leave the IOW with an excess in its budget
Welfare
wages paid to council staff
None of the above
Don't know, bit of a leading question as cuts will be made regardless. Cut the pay of those at the top of the tree would be a start.....
Both frankly
Neither
One's where the community would rally around to keep it working as has been done with libraries.
No so much increase the level of Council tax in general but reduce the rates and discounts for benefit purposes.
librarys, leisure centres, weddings,
High ranking councillors and council leaders. Too many chiefs and not enough Indians. Trim the fat.
Councillor s wages and pensions
bus passes. staff permits at a reduced rate. outside consultants on a huge retained fee. councillors who want to do the job because they see it as a service and dont claim expenses. cap the extra payments for sitting on extra panels. push ore services out to parish and town councils. with a rise in precepts to avoid government fines for increase in council tax. start to put a levy on coaches coming to the island. collected via the ferry companies or the hotels.
less paid councillors
Stop giving "children in care" extras like bus passes or money to equip accommodation. We have to work to pay for these things so they should have to as well.
Children's services, basically I have no dependants so it makes no difference to me.
I would tick both but see my previous answer regarding adult social care.
see previous comments

Please use the space below to make any other comments on the scheme.

Its about time all Local Councils banded together & made the Government re think its policy especially on the IOW lumping us in with the wealthy south is unfair.
This seems the fairest way to ensure that the scheme is fair to all working age.
some pensioner's that have over the £16000.00 capital should not be able to claim

<p>The 75% reduction will provide a large sum with little impact on CT payers.</p> <p>If someone is out of the country for an extended period (except forces personnel) then although they will not be using the services they are still being provided.</p>
<p>if you cut more services it means more people are without a job, if they then struggle to find a new one they could end up needing financial support from the council</p>
<p>This is just a stop gap measure</p>
<p>Most reasonable people know what dire straits the Council finances are in, so what you are suggesting seems the best option.</p> <p>I would like to put in a plea that the council members do restrain from wasting money on too-generous payments made to council officials in severance pay, especially when they are re-hired a short time later. That seems to be mocking the residents who pick up the bill.</p> <p>Also, please be much more stringent about hiring consultants, and much more professional about drawing up contracts for PFI or out-sourced services. Due diligence often appears to have been lacking. Please ensure you are all properly trained in good business practice so that you have the highest financial and administrative expertise you can acquire, and do not lack professionalism.</p>
<p>Where does it mention cutting council tax support for self employed people? I work as well as being self employed. My self employment doesn't give me a great income but it's a bit of an income. My council tax has gone from £39 to £127. I was living on what the government says an adult needs to live on anyway £72.40 so things were already tight. This decision has now made it impossible. I am pretty much looking at being homeless. Homeless means unemployable. I can't cut back anymore than I have already. What's the answer...give up being self employed? So I just have my wage from employed work. Ridiculous!</p>
<p>Having viewed the case studies we were horrified by the multiplicity and value of benefits available compared with our own modest pension incomes. As full council tax payers we feel that it would be only fair to adjust the CTR from 80% to 70%.</p>
<p>The contact centre should be removed and phone calls should be directed to the relevant teams. More effective monitoring should be put in place to ensure contracts are cost effective e.g. adult social care audits should be carried out.</p> <p>Performance related pay could be introduced and work incentives introduced to increase staff moral and productivity.</p>
<p>Council tax scheme should go back to 100% for those who need it young or old that's what it's for.</p>
<p>Stop talking, make some cuts. May encourage the abusers to find a job. Then you can give those actually in need some extra help</p>
<p>At the end of the day it won't matter what the residents say the council will do what they want anyway</p>
<p>The council needs to be mindful of ordinary people's struggle with austerity driven reductions as well as what Brexit will bring. Have you done all you can do to second home owners? How about making it easier for people to live in caravans, straw bale housing and other ecological ways. This would reduce the cost of Housing Benefit. What about using unused council properties or land for people to live communally, again this would reduce HB. With some innovative thinking and consultation better ways can become apparent without causing even more hardship to those who can least afford it</p>
<p>The majority of the proposals appear to be fair and provide an affordable scheme for those on low income and seem to bring in line with other schemes across the country. The unfairness is that the pensioner scheme is protected by government and that the government need to reconsider so that a more balanced share of reduction is achieved. Whether you have limited money or more money we all at some point use council services and should be seen to provide a contribution towards these.</p>
<p>The options appear to be very limited, as usual the poorest people suffer in this society,</p>
<p>The scheme offers too much assistance and does not encourage people to better their circumstances.</p>
<p>Our Council have little choice because of the severe cuts made by central government (the Conservative Party). I feel they can only fail to submit a legal budget next spring through no fault of their own and what happens then - we can only wait and see. The Council, however, cannot be criticised for this failure - although they probably will receive flak from all directions and not least from the local Conservatives whose national leaders have caused this in the first place!</p>
<p>I am trying to exist on a basic £73.10 per week, not only that but this amount has been frozen for a couple of years and looks likely to stay the same for at least another couple of years more. Each year I have to contribute more in the way of Council Tax as it goes up 2% each year! Not only that but my Water and Electricity bills increase every year as well. I seriously do not know how I am going to manage.</p>
<p>As you are restricted to 1.99% increase you can continue to pass increases to local areas who then charge an increased precept.</p>

The most vulnerable on the island is the sick and disabled should not be made to contribute it is not their fault for their misfortune but if we have to pay anything it should be kept to a minimum of £2 this
ALL COMMENTS MADE
should really be 4 weekly
we are in an impossible situation. surely the Leader of the Council and CEO, should put pressure on our MP to get our Island status returned. Then, we should demand the correct Allowances to maintain our Services in a civilised fashion.
I think that I have already said everything that I want to say, but to be clear, JUST PUT UP COUNCIL TAX FOR THOSE PEOPLE LIKE ME WHO CAN AFFORD IT AND KEEP DECENT PROVISION OF SERVICES AND CARE.
The Council seem to think the only way is to increase the charges on everything - eg car parks and now continual increases in Council Tax. This is bad for the Island. It is bad for the tourist industry upon which Islanders rely. As I am not familiar with the details of the Accounts - I would ask a combination of marketing and financial experts to review the Islands options. Marketing, because we also have to sell the Island to bring more money to it from tourists. For example, not supporting the Isle of Wight walking festival and lost the Island a lot of money - just an easy option for the Council.
You're barking up the wrong tree. Don't cut costs, increase income.
I don't see why the only suggestions available are going to effect the vulnerable. Why not more choices.
Solutions have to include a blend of some paying more and reducing spend where practical/possible
It's ridiculous to charge Council Tax to people who are on benefits which the Government already regards as the minimum they need to live on. Being in the Work Related Activity Group of ESA doesn't mean someone is choosing not to get a paying job.
Do not reduce capital from £16000 to £6000 as this conflicts with UC and will be challenged in tribunal.. Do not join in attack on disability.incomes.they get their awards for a reason.
I feel it's time that local governments and people should stand up.to central government. If this government can waste money on Trident and Hinckley then cuts in funding to local governments is not necessary and are immoral
put up council tax for the people who have never worked, for,or paid for its up keepuntill they moved hear from the mainland and not life long island people.
do not employ consultants ,elected personal must have a minimal IQ . no more changes to education council land should be used to build social housing stop wasting money. Get Island funding.
This is an awful survey and even worse description of the situation, and THIS SURVEY MUST BE MADE NULL AND VOID AND REDONE NOW. It assumes an understanding of WHO receives council tax reductions, which, without further explanation, often skews people's views to thinking that it is only 'scroungers' getting benefits. Where do you describe who receives council tax help, such as people with disabilities? Where do you allow some possibility that people with disabilities for example might pay less council tax than jobseekers?? There are many other options than this survey presents and we will be putting in a complaint about yet another user-unfriendly, biased survey by the Isle of Wight Council.
As mentioned previously in ALL the boxes, look at the whole expenditure / income from a different perspective.developing income, making money. Stop penalising those single people, mature uni students, low incomes, widows and disabled people.
Stop penalising the low income families who are finding it difficult to cope.
I was evicted by my landlady after being a tenant for 13 years with no trouble. This was in November of the worst winter weather since 1963 . There was no support for me . I had to find a vacant property within a matter of weeks as I did not want to be searching over Xmas . Age Concern had no helpers available dues to staff shortages from sickness . There was no help in transport so I hand carted all of my possessions through the streets on my own , at 68. I had to grab the first affordable place .As a result I am paying £90 a month from my Pension Credit to a private landlord.

So I cannot afford to lose any of my benefits .
I strongly oppose any change to council tax support that will effect the working class that is in no way fair and would be a fantastic way for people to find themselves not elected the next time around.
The council tax support should be funded by people who can afford to have second homes and not by cutting the support and put even more pressure on people who are already struggling.
I think ive covered most areas.
just keep it simple , it costs less
Council tax for all claimants should be deducted from benefits prior to them being paid, then transferred straight to the councils account, thus removing the need to collect it. Situations of hardship can be looked at individually.
YOU HAVE FAILED TO MENTION SELF EMPLOYED PEOPLE ON VERY LOW INCOME-IF THEY DONT EARN THE MINIMUM AMOUNT REQUIRED, THEY WILL HAVE THEIR BENEFIT STOPPED AS I HAVE- HOW THE HELL DO YOU EXPECT PEOPLE TO PAY THE FULL AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX WHEN IT IS MORE THAN THEIR MONTHLY INCOME- IT'S BLOODY DISGUSTING- THERE WILL BE MORE PEOPLE RELYING ON FOODBANKS AND GETTING INTO DEBT
Stop attacking the poor!
it would seem that this survey is just one way , basically saying we will either increase council tax or decrease the level of support for council tax, either way island residents will suffer with the extra council tax the council is going to add to the annual bill.....not to mention the police will up their percentage and the town councils will up their charges too.....and what do we all get, deeper in debt
In a broken system with the NHS i don't make any cuts or are you making cuts in the winter what you been doing all summer 22 million you need to save get rid of both Chief Executive's get rid of some more staff then provide services for people as it is on the Isle of Wight you're a joke the Isle of Wight Council it to be renamed really don't know
I find it disgusting for the council to single out the poor in this survey. I do not see surveys like this when it comes to pay rises for top council staff on over £100,000 a year? or when discussing councillor expenses.
Take on board all the options quoted.
Already struggle to pay the reminder of council tax bill after reduction as it is, if amount we have to pay is increased we will end up missing payments and ultimately have court costs etc added on.
Whats the point? I hope everybody stops paying it. It just goes to a group of numpties deciding how and where it should be spent. People already cannot cope. You should be ashamed. Cam moron and the previous bunch of scum implemented savings and charges while they lined their own pockets. (Expenses etc.)
i do not receive any cts. however i am aware of friends who do. some would genuinely struggle and the staff are not always sympathetic toward their case. even to the point that it has to be paid above feeding their kids. It sounds so ageist to say that retired folk with their private pensions and homeowning houses should pay more along with those working. however their is a great need to stop the bus passes and free parking. once all has been done ad revenue is calculated. if after implementing all the proposed changes you can then look at if the percentages of help need to be adjusted.
Put cut in money put more money in disband people
Whatever decision is made, it needs to be fair and not necessarily all seven options. Perhaps if some are kept this year it will give an option for any potential change next year too.
Better procurement practices should help drive to current spend.

Please use the space below if you would like the council to consider any other options.

Get Jesus in maybe he can work a miracle or two!!!!!!
n/a
get rid of the Police & Crime Commissioner, how much does he cost & what does he do? how come we managed before without one?
Please please charge properly for the park and ride in cowes , it is giving pensioners free parking for days while on the mainland I know this could be done with southern Vectis , they should pay the 3.50 the same as everyone else and I would be quite happy for this to go up.
I think it is imperative that second homes and empty homes bear a larger burden of council tax because a second home is not essential.
Do not set budget and force government to step in causing publicity about the effects of austerity on local councils.
Perhaps OAP passes on busses should be means tested or a small charge (£1) should be made by OAP. Many OAP's on the Island are financially able to contribute to the bus service.
Reduce services as in our previous comments.
increase turnover at council facilities and invest in new ones for future growth.

Reduce staff levels. Apparently wages are so high so you can get the quality of people needed. See earlier comment on your inept handling of the lost £3000000.00.
The Council could save money from looking at generating income and not looking at a quick fix solution by cutting funding from necessary services.
Another option could be to outsource more services to save them.
Abolish the Contact centre and let individual services pick up messages/calls. Many people are unable to get through and end up being very frustrated when they finally do. Why cant they just phone the service they want.
Reduce the wages of the staff high up, do they really need to be paid such high salaries??? More home working - less office space needed, would also mean less electric/broadband to run the in-house services. Better council processes, we should be using email as a whole to save paper, time and man power, we should be contacting customers through email and online chat, to again save money and 'get with the times'.
Employ a team of higher management that have the ability to get good deals for the island and do not waste so much money, then sack the incompetent clowns that are squeezing the less well off on the island.
You should have argued this out more with the Government.
The CTR scheme should only offer up to 50% assistance and should be limited to a band B.
Too many people able to work and don't make effort to get trained in useful skills. Being a useless t...t should not give right to benefits.
Second homes should have council tax at three times lived in houses.
Visitors should not be able to use bus pass on IW.
Lorries > 25T should pay extra tax.
IWC should publish on it's website of ALL property it owns with a price to trade so people can see what it owns and buy if the price suits their needs or make a counter offer. This will include everything even the things the council dont wish to sell. Everything has its price.
SEE PREVIOUS NOTES
Housing benefit seems to be given out very easily to people who perhaps are not in great need. Perhaps this could be reviewed?
OPPOSE THIS AWFUL TORY GOVERNMENT.
Raising more revenue from parking charges.
As above.
The Isle of Wight Council could form a company that generates electricity for the island's inhabitants. One way of doing this was pioneered by Nottingham Council years ago, when they generated power by burning refuse instead of burying it in landfill. This could solve two problems simultaneously.
Wave power might be cheaper to harness than wind power initially. I have seen a prototype of energy-generating floats which generate electricity every time a wave moves them up or down. These were approximately one or two feet long and were strung together in short lengths of about a dozen at a time. There must be plenty of places around our coast which are not used for bathing, boating or other aquatic activity that would be suitable sites for such generators. Indeed, most of the island's towns are situated on the coast and would be close to one such local generator. Even Newport is on the River Medina, which is tidal for part of its length and could also generate electricity for Newport.
you as our representatives are in a very difficult position and I wish you well with your choices BUT be mindful that it could be you in need one day and if it was you'd be grateful for any help that was offered
Raise a local business tax
Raise a review of officers pay
Impose a tourist tax in the same way that Wightlink, and Red Funnel are.
Central government needs to be forced into a less unreasonable policy, stop reducing funding to local councils, especially when it is being wasted elsewhere, also I of W needs to be treated as special case given it is an island and also high level elderly population
Stop penalising the poorest on the Island. Charge the wealthy for a change. ensure empty properties are let for residents to live in
As mentioned previously in ALL the boxes, look at the whole expenditure / income from a different perspective.developing income, making money. Stop penalising those single people, mature uni students, low incomes, widows and disabled people.

The government should levy a property tax on the wealthiest and use this money to support the poorest . Why do councils not get together to protest against the governments policy which increases the divide between the richest and poorest EACH YEAR. The richest property owners on the Isle of Wight should pay more towards the public good.
The council should look more closely at properties claiming single occupancy reductions when more than one person actually lives at that address
Punish those who deserve it not those who don't, those people who are on benefits long term should be encouraged to get work if they have services like this cut maybe that will stimulate them to get a job.
Cut salaries paid to top level council employees
Independent assessment/audit of the iw council to include all areas, services, workers, councillors etc. Half the town councillors and that still leaves too many for a small island. Make the traffic wardens double as dog wardens on a commission based scheme. Help clear the streets of doggy doody its easy to find cash there. If a layman can spot the phantom crappers a fully trained up uniform wearing, fine issuing street excteeding attendant should do well.
Stop handing out money to feckless lazy spongers and do not waste my money on housing refugees. I do not wish to see money that is taken from me in the form of taxation, simply given to layabouts and excuse makers.
Please take a close look at the Legal Department. This is massively over-staffed and needs a complete overhaul.
Do not import immigrants which we will end up paying thousands for. If you cannot pay for what you already have, common sense says dont add to the problem!!
See answer to question 3.
people moving TO the island pay more council tax ?
Sack one of your two Chief Executive's if not both of them stop wasting money on John Platt School case stop wasting money on expenses to stop wasting money Isle of Wight Council you've never saved any in all the years I've been it you never help the people in all the years I've been here but the services that you do provide do not work it's all broken the whole of the Isle of Wight Council is broken you can't even pick a phone up within a given time
IOW Council should look again at the cost of Adult social care on the Island.
Look at the money that is spent when voting has to be done. If this was electronic there would be less need for the expense that occurs. The money paid to counters and officials is mindboggling and has been for years and yet this continues. Why not put together a volunteer independent group that pulls from the public at all times to investigate how the council work and how they pay the wages they do and what we get for that money. I am sure you will find a lot of savings suddenly appearing. It amazes me that leisure are allegedly now breaking even after years of costing millions...what has changed? Just the fact that they have been forced to do it. Managers should run their areas remembering that they are spending our money not their own. If the leisure arm could run without cost then that should have been the case 20 years ago. Now there is the £12m saving you are looking for plus more.
Reduce Empty and Unfurnished rating from three to one month.
Find ways of raising revenue and building the IOW economy.
Look into mismanagement and bad spending.
can you not start farming out other services to parishes. what about parks and recreation? can the parks not be put back into parish control? the grass cutting and upkeep? after all its for their residents use. or find some way of keeping them in one department but the overall cost and budget divided by the amount of households in that parish and added to their precept?
Low all senior management term in council cut by 75% and give them to live on £125 a week or £52 a week to live on
A wholesale review of spend on Adult social care should be carried out to ensure that a cartel is not being operated on the Island. Weekly ASC costs on the Island are some of the highest in the UK and the service providers explanations simply don't hold water. The current administration have done nothing to address this.

If you have any further comments to make regarding the council tax reduction scheme that you haven't had the opportunity to raise elsewhere, please use the space below.

It seems very unjust that the government continues to protect pensioners from all the cuts - why does it always have to be the working age that are restricted in receiving assistance? At some point there will be no more options available - pension age claims must be brought into line with working age.

<p>If you reduce spending by persuading parish councils to take on more and more amenities it will eventually dissuade people from standing as councillors . The next generation don't get their state pension until around 67 so will probably still be working , so if being a parish councillor is too much work due to running to many amenities , recruitment will become an issue especially with the smaller rural parish councils.</p>
<p>I hope you dont need it yourself in the future.</p>
<p>There are already too many people on IOW using the food bank, suffering for mental health problems, committing suicide, malnourished and children not reaching their potentials. By reducing the help available to people already struggling financially you risk increasing problems such as these</p>
<p>Perhaps the scheme should include pensioners.</p>
<p>The council tax scheme may not be the best way to pay for local services but it is the method that is currently used. We should therefore make sure that the level of council tax charged is sufficient to cover the cost of the needed services. If higher council tax rates mean that more less well off people need rebates, then so be it. We just need to set the level high enough so that those who can afford to pay a bit more do and those that really can't afford to, don't have to pay unfairly.</p>
<p>Because council tax has not been allowed to increase in line with income reductions in the level of personal support are justified.</p>
<p>Further reductions in spending on public services such as toilets, libraries, parks, & general maintenance are not sustainable.</p>
<p>As mentioned previously in ALL the boxes, look at the whole expenditure / income from a different perspective.developing income, making money. Stop penalising those single people, mature uni students, low incomes, widows and disabled people.</p>
<p>I will deeply annoyed if changes to the working classes entitlement are made and i know that I am not alone in thinking so.</p>
<p>highways hedge cutting ,get a contractor and sue/force charge land owner to cover costs and make profit PLUS make roads safer ?</p> <p>cutting the first 3 feet is not enough , cut whole hedge 2 foot back from road edge ? safe for clear view ,passing vehicles and cyclists etc win win £</p>
<p>jobless shouldnt get help. why should I help pay?</p>
<p>Ensure that those whose total benefits packages exceed £300 a week, irrespective of their circumstances pay the full amount due, with no reduction.</p>
<p>just be more considerate to those on the bread line who cant afford to pay what their bills are at te moment and dont make it worse for them</p>
<p>Takeaway disabled past bus passes shut the council offices all of them wanting just to sit in there doing nothing all day [REDACTED]</p>
<p>NB redaction due to defamatory comments.</p>