



**Bassetlaw**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
— North Nottinghamshire —

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Have your say on Council Tax scheme

Bassetlaw District Council is consulting on the options available for the Local Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme for 2017-18 following changes in funding from the Government.

Formerly known as Council Tax Benefit, CTR is a means tested scheme to help people in financial need to pay their Council Tax.

The last consultation on the scheme took place in October 2013 and led to the Council providing a 90% reduction in Council Tax, with individuals and families who are on low incomes paying the additional 10%.

The 2016-17 Bassetlaw scheme is estimated to cost approximately £7.8m, which will be made up of funding from the Government and Council Tax receipts. However, since 2013 the Government has reduced Bassetlaw's Revenue Support Grant, the amount of funding it gives to Councils, with the aim of removing this grant by 2020.

As such a review of the scheme is taking place in order to ensure it is affordable for the future and Bassetlaw residents have an opportunity to have their say.

The Consultation is available until 28<sup>th</sup> November and you can be part of this by visiting [www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/CTR](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/CTR) or by picking up or requesting a hard copy from reception at the Council Offices in Worksop or Retford.

Cllr Kevin Dukes, Cabinet Member for Co-operatives and Corporate Services said:

"We offer one of the most generous Council Tax Reduction schemes in the country, but as we deal with further reductions in Government funding, we need to review the scheme. We will try and deliver this as fairly and equitably as possible and our resident's views will be vital in determining our approach for 2017/18. I urge everybody to have their say by taking part in the consultation."

**[ENDS]**

### Notes to Editors

- The Bassetlaw scheme currently offers a "protection" from this 90% limit to vulnerable working age people in receipt of Disability Benefits who qualify for a Severe Disability Premium within the calculation of those benefits or in the calculation of Housing Benefit.