



Notice is hereby given that a **MEETING** of the **COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF GOSPORT** will be held in the **TOWN HALL, GOSPORT** on **WEDNESDAY** the **TWENTY-THIRD DAY** of **JANUARY 2013** at **6.00PM** AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS –

1. To receive apologies from Members for their inability to attend the Meeting.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 3 October 2012 (copy herewith)
3. To consider any Mayor's Communications.
4. To receive Deputations in accordance with Standing Order No 3.5 and to answer Public Questions pursuant to Standing Order No 3.6, such questions to be answered orally during a time not exceeding 15 minutes.

(NOTE: Standing Order No 3.5 requires that notice of a Deputation should be received by the Borough Solicitor NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON ON MONDAY, 21 JANUARY 2013 and likewise Standing Order No 3.6 requires that notice of a Public Question should be received by the Borough Solicitor NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON ON MONDAY, 21 JANUARY 2013).

5. Questions (if any) pursuant to Standing Order No 3.4.

(NOTE: Members are reminded that Standing Order No 3.4 requires that Notice of Question pursuant to that Standing Order must be received by the Borough Solicitor NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON ON TUESDAY, 22 JANUARY 2013).

6. To receive the following Part II minutes of the Boards of the Council:
 - Community Board: 26 November 2012
 - Economic Development Board: 12 December 2012

7. Appointment of Independent Person Under the Localism Act 2011

To advise members of the recruitment process for an Independent Member under The Localism Act 2011 and to recommend an appointment be made by the Council.

8. Local Council Tax Support Scheme

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the proposed final scheme for Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) for Gosport, following grant allocation for the scheme from central Government and the Public Consultation undertaken on the proposed scheme.

**IAN LYCETT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**TOWN HALL
GOSPORT**

15 January 2013

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

(To be read from the Chair if members of the public are present)

In the event of the fire alarm being activated, please leave the Council Chamber and Public Gallery immediately. Proceed downstairs by way of the main stairs or as directed by GBC staff, follow any of the emergency exit signs. People with disability or mobility issues please identify yourself to GBC staff who will assist in your evacuation of the building.

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT:

(1) IF THE COUNCIL WISHES TO CONTINUE ITS BUSINESS BEYOND 9.30PM THEN THE MAYOR MUST MOVE SUCH A PROPOSITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 4.11.18

(2) MOBILE PHONES SHOULD BE SWITCHED OFF FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM 6

A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD

WAS HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2012

The Mayor (Councillor Dickson) (ex-officio) (P), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (P); Burgess (P), Carter C K (P), Mrs Cully (P), Edgar (P), Foster-Reed (P), Henshaw, Mrs Hook (P), Hylands, Kimber (P), Mrs Morgan (P), Murphy (P) and Mrs Wright (P).

It was reported that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Councillors Chegwyn and Hook had been nominated to replace Councillors Hylands and Henshaw respectively for this meeting.

PART II

29 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

30. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in relation to the following item the public be excluded from the meeting, as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during this item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the report.

31. STOKES BAY SPLASH PARK

Consideration was given to a report from the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive regarding the procurement of the Stokes Bay Splash Park

RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Sun Safe Play System Limited tender for Option 1 and the quotation for the Water Recirculation System (also known as the Filtration and Dosing System) as set out in paragraphs 2.3 – 2.6 of the report be accepted; and
2. Officers be authorised to finalise the design and take all actions necessary to complete the Stokes Bay Splash Park project.

Community Board
26 November 2012

The meeting ended at 6.18 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

**A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD
WAS HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2012**

The Mayor (Councillor Dickson) (ex-officio); Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (P), Councillors Allen (P); Chegwyn (P), Edgar (P), Forder (P), Geddes; Mrs Hook (P), Lane (Chairman) (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P) and Mrs Searle (P).

It was noted that, in accordance with standing orders, Councillor Hook had been nominated to replace Councillor Geddes for this meeting.

PART II

28. MARINE PARADE EAST CYCLE TRACK – DEDICATION OF LAND

Consideration was given to a report by the Borough Solicitor and the Deputy Chief Executive which sought the Board's approval for the dedication of Gosport Borough Council land as publicly maintainable highway to enable the provision of a cycle track by Hampshire County Council on Marine Parade East,:-

RESOLVED: That:

- i. the construction of a cycle track alongside Marine Parade East, subject to the submission of a successful planning application, be supported;
- ii. the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into an agreement with the County Council to dedicate Borough Council land as publicly maintainable highway for the use of pedestrians and cycles as necessary to construct the cycle track; and
- iii. the Borough Solicitor be authorised to grant a licence to Hampshire County Council, or its agents, to enter upon the Borough's land to perform the works.

29. ROWNER ROAD CYCLE TRACK – DEDICATION OF LAND

Consideration was given to a report by the Borough Solicitor and the Deputy Chief Executive which sought the Board's approval for the dedication of Gosport Borough Council land as publicly maintainable highway to enable the provision of a cycle track by Hampshire County Council on Rowner Road,

RESOLVED: That:

- i. the construction of a cycle track alongside Rowner Road subject to the submission of a successful planning application be supported;
- ii. the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into an agreement with the County Council to dedicate Borough Council land as publicly maintainable highway for the use of pedestrians and cycles as necessary to construct the cycle track; and
- iii. the Borough Solicitor be authorised to grant a licence to Hampshire County Council, or its agents, to enter upon the Borough's land to perform the works.

30. GOSPORT BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2011-2029

Consideration was given to a report by the Borough Solicitor and the Deputy Chief Executive which sought the Board's approval for the publication of the draft Gosport Borough Local Plan 2029 for consultation as set out in Appendix A.

A Member advised that the draft Local Plan had recognised the importance of the Borough's heritage.

Members further acknowledged the significant work and efforts from the planning officers and the importance of producing such a high quality draft Local Plan.

RESOLVED: That the publication of the draft Gosport Borough Local Plan 2029 be agreed for consultation as set out in Appendix A of the report of the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive.

CONCLUDED: 18:07pm

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

Board/Committee:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	23 JANUARY 2013
Title:	APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PERSON UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011
Author:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Status:	FOR DECISION

Purpose

To advise members of the recruitment process for an Independent Member under The Localism Act 2011 and to recommend an appointment be made by the Council.

Recommendation

That the Council approves the appointment of Mr Richard Perry as the Independent Person for the purposes of Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 for the period of 4 years ending on 22 January 2017.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Under the provisions of Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011, the Council is required to appoint an Independent Person to assist the Council in promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct amongst its elected and co-opted members.
- 1.2 The Independent Person is required to be consulted before the Standards and Governance Committee of the Council makes a decision on a complaint that a member has breached the code of conduct that is being investigated. The Independent Person may be consulted by the Monitoring Team or Assessment Sub Committee before a decision is taken to investigate such a complaint and also by a Member who is subject to an allegation.

2.0 Report

- 2.1 In accordance with the Act the Council has advertised the vacancy in The News and on its website and the person recommended for appointment has submitted an application to the Council.
- 2.2 Applications were received from 1 candidate and an interview has taken place with a panel made up of the Council's three Statutory

Officers.

- 2.3 The interview panel recommend the appointment of Mr Richard Perry who was previously an independent member of the Standards and Governance Committee under the old Standards regime but resigned before 1 July 2011 so is eligible to be appointed as an independent person. Mr Perry lives within the Borough and is a retired local government employee.
- 2.4 Mr Perry satisfied the interview panel that he had the skills and attributes the Council require as set out in the advertisement and the application pack.

Financial Services comments:	None
Legal Services comments:	Contained in the report
Service Improvement Plan implications:	None
Corporate Plan:	None
Risk Assessment:	N/A
Background papers:	None
Appendices/Enclosures:	None
Report author/ Lead Officer:	Ian Lycett

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

Board/Committee:	Full Council
Date of Meeting:	23 rd January 2012
Title:	Local Council Tax Support scheme for Gosport
Author:	Borough Treasurer
Status:	FOR DECISION

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the proposed final scheme for Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) for Gosport, following grant allocation for the scheme from central Government and the Public Consultation undertaken on the proposed scheme.

Recommendation

That full Council approve the Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) scheme for Gosport as attached at Appendix A and notes the statutory scheme for Pension Age customers.

1 Background

- 1.1 The report "Localisation of Council Tax Support" to Policy and Organisation Board on the 27th June 2012 approved the principles of the Local Council Tax Support scheme for Gosport and arrangements for consultation as required by Legislation. The Policy and Organisation Board report is attached at Appendix B.

2 Report

- 2.1 Following the report to Policy & Organisation Board a Public Consultation was undertaken and the results of the Consultation are shown at Appendix C. The scheme for Pension Age Customers is prescribed by Government Legislation.
- 2.2 The proposed scheme essentially maintains the bulk of the previous national Council Tax Benefit scheme with some specific changes to ensure the savings required.
- 2.3 The recent Grant settlement confirmed the funding to be allocated in respect of the LCTS scheme for 2013-14 and this amounts to a loss of £90,757.02 to Gosport, an 11.4% reduction. The new arrangements have divided the funding between Gosport and its preceptors and the preceptors are also facing the same percentage loss in grant in respect of LCTS scheme for Gosport.

- 2.4 The Local Council Tax Support Scheme follows the principles of approved by the Policy and Organisation Board and is largely based on the present national Council Tax Benefit scheme with some changes.
- 2.5 The LCTS maintains the following protections for vulnerable Customers
- The continuation of income disregards for Disability benefits, Child benefit and maintenance payments.
 - The continuation of the full income disregard for War Widows and War disablement pension.
 - The continuation of “extended payments” or benefit “run-ons” when a Customer starts work or increases their hours in work.
 - “fast track” claims to expedite re-claims after a short period of temporary work reducing the requirement for extended verification.
- 2.6 The LCTS sees the following changes to the previous national Council Tax Benefit scheme for working age Customers:
- A 20% reduction in the Council Tax liability figure used in the calculation of the benefit/support entitlement.
 - An overall benefit cap of the equivalent to a Band C Council Tax charge currently £24.69 per week.
 - Abolition of the 2nd Adult Rebate scheme for working age claimants.
- 2.7 The full Local Council Tax Support scheme for Gosport is shown at Appendix A. Following approval by Council the scheme will be published on the Council’s website.

3 Risk Assessment

- 3.1 To mitigate any challenges to the Council over the proposed scheme, an initial Equality Impact risk assessment was undertaken followed by a full Equalities Impact Assessment, which considered all factors of the scheme and the responses to the Consultation. This full Equality Impact Assessment has been considered by the Corporate Equalities and Diversity Steering Group.
- 3.2 The Grant settlement Gosport has received in respect of LCTS is less than originally announced by Department of Communities and Local Government and therefore the proposed scheme requires a slightly higher payment from Customers towards their Council Tax.

3.3 The Government has confirmed that the amount of Administration funding received by Gosport for the administration of the Benefit schemes will not change for 2013/14. However they have confirmed that administration subsidy for Council Tax schemes will be looked at again for 2014/15 and this will need to be considered in future year schemes.

3.4 Legislation requires any Local Council Tax Support scheme for Gosport to be formally adopted by full Council By 31st January 2013. Failure to adopt the scheme will result in the “Default scheme” (essentially the current scheme) being imposed on Gosport which would result in a loss in grant of £90,757.02 for Gosport Council and a £557,507.48 loss for our Preceptors.

4 Conclusion

4.1 Following the report to Policy and Organisation Board on the 27th June 2012 the relevant legislation has confirmed the requirement for Gosport to have its own local scheme for Council Tax Support.

4.2 Protections for Pension age Customers and lower than expected grant figures have resulted in the proposed LCTS.

4.3 It is hoped that by adopting a local scheme which is mainly based on the previous national benefit arrangements Customers will have a smoother transition to the new scheme. The protections we have maintained within the proposed scheme will assist our most vulnerable Customers.

Financial Services comments:	
Legal Services comments:	Contained in the report
Crime and Disorder:	
Equality and Diversity:	An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening form was completed for the proposed scheme and prior to consultation. A full EIA was completed to incorporate screening recommendations, consultation results and final grant settlement figures.
Service Improvement Plan implications:	
Corporate Plan:	
Risk Assessment:	
Background papers:	Equality Impact Assessment
Appendices/Enclosures:	
Appendix 'A'	Local Council Tax Support scheme for

	Gosport
Appendix 'B'	Policy and Organisation Board report dated 27 th June 2012
Appendix C	Consultation results-survey summary and charts
Appendix D	Individual comments received from residents during Consultation.
Report author/ Lead Officer:	Stephanie Pride

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

Board/Committee:	POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD
Date of Meeting:	WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE 2012
Title:	LOCALISATION OF COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT
Author:	FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER
Status:	FOR DECISION

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of Government proposals for the cessation of the national Council Tax Benefit scheme and the requirement for the Council to introduce a new local Council Tax Support scheme for customers on low income.

Recommendation

That Policy and Organisation Board :-

1. approve the principles of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (working age) described in paragraphs 2. of this report
2. delegate authority to the Financial Services Manager to finalise the Local Council Tax Support Scheme and to undertake consultation on it with the major precepting authorities
3. delegate authority to the Financial Services Manager to determine the nature of and undertake public consultation in accordance with government/statutory requirements
4. note that the final Local Council Tax Support Scheme will be reported to full Council for decision.

1 Background

- 1.1 The 2010 Spending Review committed Government to localising support for Council Tax and reducing spending on Council Tax Support by 10% from April 2013. This is part of a wider set of reforms to the welfare system: improving the incentives to work and ensuring resources are used more effectively, so reducing worklessness and ending a culture of benefit dependency. Universal Credit is due to be introduced in 2013, in phases, to eventually replace Housing Benefit by 2017-2020.
- 1.2 Currently lower income households pay a reduced (or in some cases zero) amount of Council Tax. The system of Council Tax Benefit (CTB) is administered by Councils on behalf of the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP). It is this system that will be abolished and replaced with a new system of local support for Council Tax.
- 1.3 From April 2013 CTB regulations will be abolished and local authorities will be responsible for providing their own schemes for Council Tax support. The

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) have indicated that Local Authorities (LAs) will have to operate two schemes:

Pensioner Scheme – whereby pensioners continue to receive the same level of support as under CTB through a national framework of criteria and allowances. (It is believed that the Regulations currently passing through Parliament will confirm “Pensioner” to be the current qualifying age for State Pension Credit, currently just over 61 years of age.)

Local scheme for working age people – where the LA prescribes the level of support to be given to specific working age cases.

1.4 DCLG have indicated that they will produce a ‘default’ scheme which will provide a legal framework for Local Authorities to adopt if they miss the deadline to invoke their local scheme. This default scheme would result in significant subsidy being required from the local Taxpayer.

2 Report

2.1 The legislation will require each Local Authority to:

- Determine a local scheme for providing Council Tax support before 31 January 2013 which will become effective on 01 April 2013.
- The scheme will define who is entitled to support, what reduction will apply for claimants and the process for applying for a reduction.
- Pensioners will not be affected by this reduction in spending, as their existing levels of support will be retained through a nationally determined framework.
- Councils will be free to establish whatever rules they choose for their scheme to support working age people, however the scheme must respect the Council’s existing responsibilities in relation to vulnerable groups (see para 2.10).
- The lead billing Authority i.e. Gosport BC, must consult with the major precepting authorities on the scheme design and then carry out Public consultation on the proposals.
- Once adopted a scheme cannot be changed in within the year.
- If a local scheme is not adopted then a default scheme (reflecting current criteria and allowances) will apply, which will result in the need to identify additional local resources to close the 10% reduction in Government Grant.

2.2 Gosport’s current CTB caseload is as follows:

Pension Age	3030	43.9%
Working Age	3865	56.1%
Total	6,895	

- 2.3 Councils currently receive 100% subsidy for the benefit they pay out, payments are made to LAs on a monthly basis. This demand led subsidy will be replaced with a fixed grant allocation which should be known before the final scheme is approved by Council and the grant will be paid to both billing and major precepting authorities. Consequently the financial risks associated with the scheme will be shared between these authorities.
- 2.4 The funding is expected to be at least 10% lower than the cost of existing CTB payments. Gosport received £5,300,000 in subsidy for the 2010/11 financial year. The Government is currently consulting on funding arrangements but it is believed that the reduction in funding in respect of Gosport will be around £530,000. As the loss will be shared, Gosport's reduction is estimated at £74,000 with the balance falling to Hampshire County Council, Fire and Police Authorities.
- 2.5 Due to the statutory "pensioner" scheme which protects this group to current benefit levels for existing and new claimants, any local scheme will need to make savings of approximately 18% within the remaining Working age caseload to ensure the cost does not exceed the grant provided so that the costs of the scheme are not passed on to Council Tax payers.
- 2.6 The timetable for the implementation of a local scheme is extremely short, draft Regulations are yet to be passed in Parliament. Whilst the DCLG guidance suggests that Public Consultation should take 12 weeks they do recognise that local authorities will need to consider the appropriate length of their consultation depending on the impact of their proposals and the ability to complete the consultation exercise within budgetary timescales. The legislation required to finalise the local scheme has already been delayed. The following table sets out the key milestones for implementation:

	Jan-June 12	Jul-Sep 12	Oct-Dec 12	Jan-Mar 13	April 2013
Legislation	Introduce Finance Bill, Primary legislation passage through Parliament. (Currently delayed and planned for July 12)	Consultation/draft Secondary legislation	Secondary legislation passed		
Modelling	DCLG prepare national scheme for Pensioners and guidance for LAs.	Local consideration of scheme requirements.	Local schemes consulted upon.	Local schemes formally adopted.	
Funding	Technical consultation on grant distribution.		Grant allocations published.	LA budget/CT setting.	
Implementation			IT system changes, publicity, process changes, staff training.		Scheme Implemented.

2.7 There are a number of changes that could be made to achieve the £530,000 (£74,000 Gosport share) required. Some savings could be made by increasing non-dependent deductions, reducing the capital limit, reducing backdating or changing income disregards but these changes would not provide the required level of savings. In addition the more complex the changes made to the current scheme the more the Council exposes itself to challenge and that the software provider may be unable to deliver the appropriate system changes.

Principles of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme

2.8 The most effective way to introduce a local scheme is to base it on what will be the “extinct” current CTB scheme and amend relevant parts of the scheme to achieve the required savings.

2.9 The most efficient option is a percentage cut to the council tax liability figure used in the calculation, which will be finalised once the grant settlement is known, and the capping of benefit entitlement at a Band C level of Council Tax. It is also proposed to remove Second Adult Rebate. Second Adult Rebate is another way in which we can reduce the amount of Council Tax payable where someone who lives with the liable person is on a low income. It is not calculated on the amount of income the liable person has but the amount of income a

Second Adult has. Entitlement can be either 25%, 15% or 7.5% reduction of the bill depending on the income of the Second Adult. Under current rules Second Adult rebate is awarded irrespective of the income and capital of the liable person.

Removal of Second Adult Rebate will be in line with most other Hampshire Authorities, in order to reduce administrative burden and costs.

- 2.10 The Local scheme will maintain the additional protection for vulnerable groups such as the disabled and families with young children by continuing the income disregards for Disability benefits, Child Benefit and maintenance payments. Backdating provisions will also be preserved.
- 2.11 The Local scheme will also maintain the full income disregards applied to War Widows and War Disablement pensions.
- 2.12 In order to support the Government's aim of improving incentives to work, the Local scheme will contain provision for benefit "run ons" (an extension of benefit when starting work or increasing hours) and "fast track" claims to expedite claims after a short period of temporary work reducing the requirement for extended verification.

3 Risk Assessment

- 3.1 Due to the exceptionally short time scales imposed by the DCLG there is a risk that our local scheme is not in place by the deadline of 31 January 2013 due to a delay in the Regulations or software availability . This would mean the default scheme being imposed upon the Council and a shortfall of funding in the region of £74,000.
- 3.2 It is possible that challenges to the local scheme will be made and will result in additional costs being incurred by this Council. In order to partly mitigate against this risk Public consultation and Equality Impact assessment will be carried out in accordance with legislation.
- 3.3 Due to the protection of pensioner claims the savings required will have to be made from working age customers who are both in and out of work. This will increase the financial pressure these households are under and will inevitably have a negative effect on Council Tax collection rates and bad debt provision.
- 3.4 Some "new burdens" funding has been received from DCLG but the Council have not been made aware of the total administrative funding that it will receive to contribute towards the cost of the implementation of the local scheme. Software changes are costly and there are other substantial costs that will be incurred in the implementation of the scheme. As grants have not been confirmed there is a danger in the shortfall in grant and a cost to the Council for implementation.

3.5 Careful forecasting will be required over the forthcoming years to allow for increasing caseload particularly with regard to increasing pensioner caseload to a shortfall in funding the local scheme.

4 **Conclusion**

4.1 Gosport currently has nearly 7000 claimants receiving financial help towards the cost of their Council Tax liability. As the current scheme is means tested it is clear that this important financial help is needed. Central Government reforms require Gosport to implement a local scheme for the same (and increasing) caseload but with a cut of at least 10% in funding.

4.2 The time frame for the introduction of a local scheme is extremely ambitious so this will present significant challenges for the Officers involved. Given the timetable it is intended to report the outcome of public consultation and the final scheme to full Council.

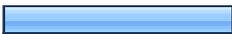
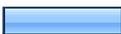
4.3 Protection of the pensioner caseload restricts the choices available to the Council and will potentially bring challenges to the scheme. A comprehensive publicity and explanation of the local scheme will be extremely important to minimise these complaints and challenges.

Financial Services comments:	Following consultation the full scheme will be reported to Council with an assessment of the implications for the Council's budget. .
Legal Services comments:	Contained in the report
Crime and Disorder:	
Equality and Diversity:	An equality impact assessment of the local scheme will be undertaken once the Regulations are laid.
Service Improvement Plan implications:	
Corporate Plan:	
Risk Assessment:	
Background papers:	Localising support for Council Tax in England-consultation July 2011, A statement of Intent May 2012, Funding arrangements Consultation, May 2012, Vulnerable People-key LA duties, May 2012 and Taking Work incentives into account, May 2012.
Appendices/Enclosures:	None
Report author/ Lead Officer:	Stephanie Pride

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair to protect families with children and the disabled by use of income disregards within the LCTS scheme? This means some of a customers income is ignored for the benefit calculation.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Agree strongly		38.8%	31
Agree		12.5%	10
Neither agree or disagree		7.5%	6
Disagree		17.5%	14
Strongly disagree		23.8%	19
answered question			80
skipped question			1

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair that all working age customers should make a contribution to their Council Tax? Working age is all customers under the age for state pension credit.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Agree strongly		36.3%	29
Agree		18.8%	15
Neither agree or disagree		10.0%	8
Disagree		18.8%	15
Strongly disagree		16.3%	13
answered question			80
skipped question			1

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair that customers returning to work should receive additional help in the form of up to 4 weeks benefit and a shortened claim procedure?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Agree strongly		33.3%	26
Agree		17.9%	14
Neither agree or disagree		15.4%	12
Disagree		14.1%	11
Stongly disagree		19.2%	15
answered question			78
skipped question			3

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair to abolish Second Adult Rebate (SAR).

		Response Percent	Response Count
Agree strongly		22.8%	18
Agree		19.0%	15
Neither agree nor disagree		20.3%	16
Disagree		20.3%	16
Strongly disagree		17.7%	14
answered question			79
skipped question			2

5. Are you a Gosport resident?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		97.4%	74
No		2.6%	2
answered question			76
skipped question			5

6. Do you currently receive Council Tax Benefit?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		48.0%	36
No		52.0%	39
answered question			75
skipped question			6

7. How satisfied are you that you are able to access Gosport Borough Council's services as necessary?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Very satisfied		29.7%	19
Fairly satisfied		40.6%	26
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied		23.4%	15
Fairly dissatisfied		3.1%	2
Very dissatisfied		3.1%	2

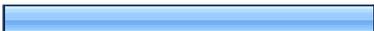
If you were dissatisfied with your ability to access Gosport Borough Council's services, could you please state why 3

answered question			64
skipped question			17

8. What was the age on your last birthday?

	Response Count
	60
answered question	60
skipped question	21

9. Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, limited a lot 	26.6%	17
Yes, limited a little 	14.1%	9
No 	59.4%	38
answered question		64
skipped question		17

10. Ethnic group - White

	Response Percent	Response Count
English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British 	100.0%	62
Irish	0.0%	0
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.0%	0
Any other White background		1
answered question		62
skipped question		19

11. Ethnic group - Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups

	Response Percent	Response Count
White and Black Caribbean	0.0%	0
White and Black African	0.0%	0
White and Asian	0.0%	0
Any other mixed / multiple ethnic background		1
answered question		0
skipped question		81

12. Ethnic group - Asian / Asian British

	Response Percent	Response Count
Indian	0.0%	0
Pakistani	0.0%	0
Bangladeshi	0.0%	0
Chinese	0.0%	0
Any other Asian background		0
answered question		0
skipped question		81

13. Ethnic group - Black / African / Caribbean / Black British

		Response Percent	Response Count
African		50.0%	1
Caribbean		50.0%	1
Any other Black / African / Caribbean background			0
answered question			2
skipped question			79

14. Other ethnic group

		Response Percent	Response Count
Arab		100.0%	1
Any other ethnic group			0
answered question			1
skipped question			80

15. Gender

		Response Percent	Response Count
Male		46.8%	29
Female		53.2%	33
answered question			62
skipped question			19

16. Is your present gender the same as the one assigned to you at birth?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		100.0%	59
No		0.0%	0
answered question			59
skipped question			22

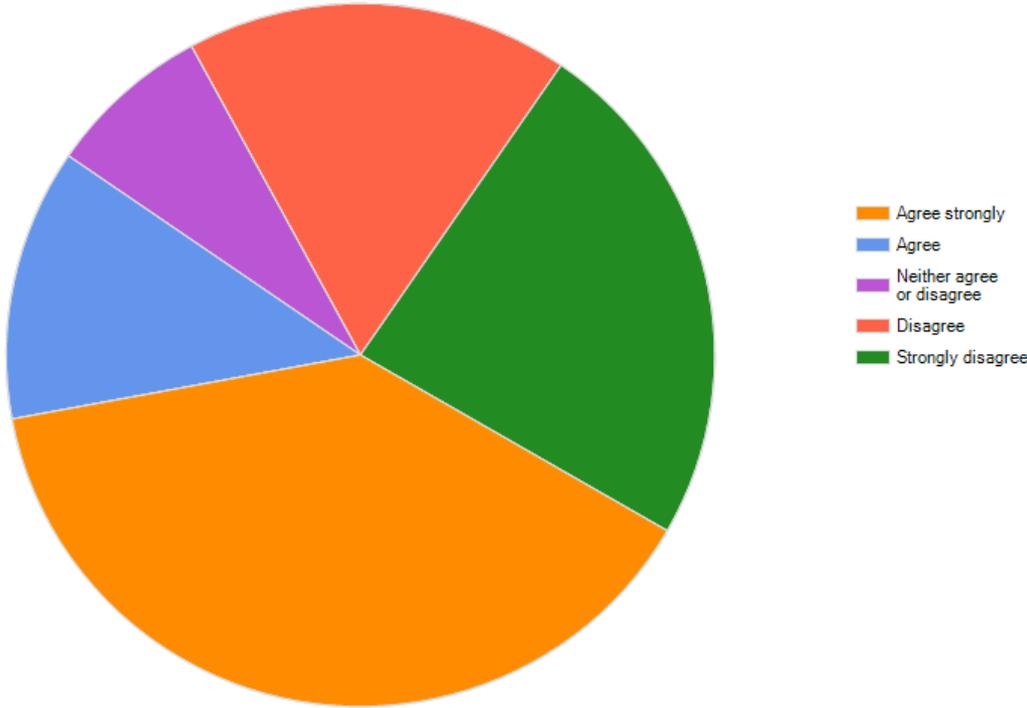
17. How would you describe your sexual orientation?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Heterosexual / Straight		94.4%	51
Gay man		1.9%	1
Gay woman / Lesbian		0.0%	0
Bisexual		3.7%	2
Other (please specify)			2
answered question			54
skipped question			27

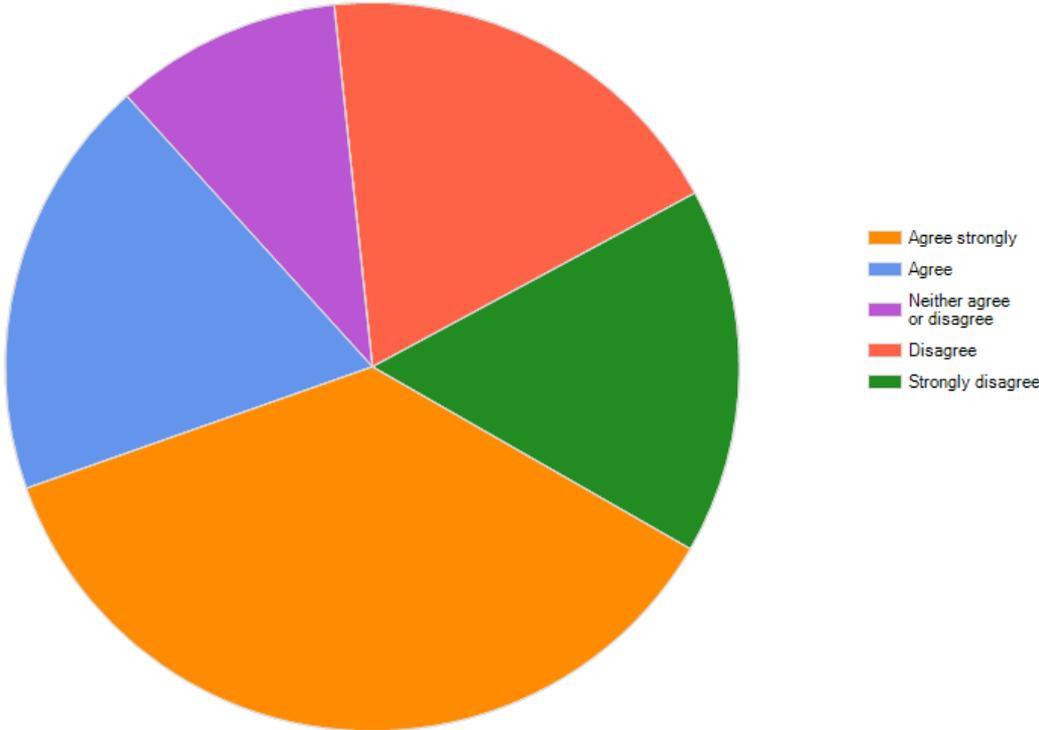
18. What is your religion?

		Response Percent	Response Count
No religion		46.7%	28
Christian (including all Christian denominations)		51.7%	31
Buddhist		0.0%	0
Hindu		0.0%	0
Jewish		1.7%	1
Muslim		0.0%	0
Sikh		0.0%	0
	Any other religion		0
		answered question	60
		skipped question	21

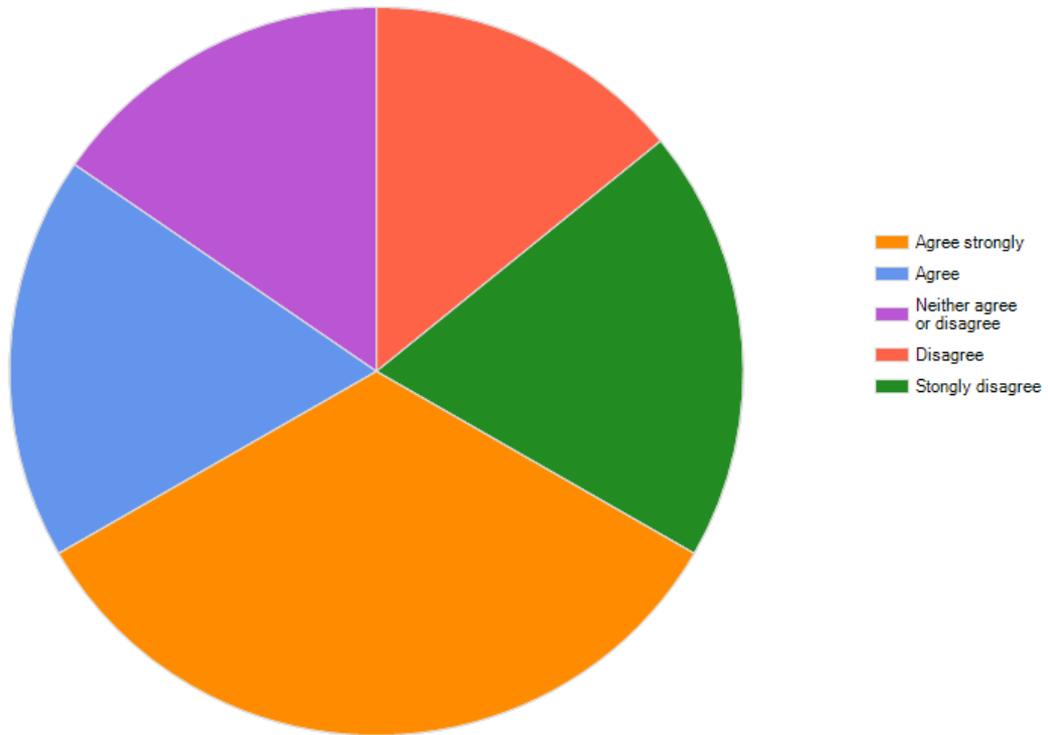
To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair to protect families with children and the disabled by use of income disregards within the LCTS scheme? This means some of a customer's income is ignored for the benefit calculation.



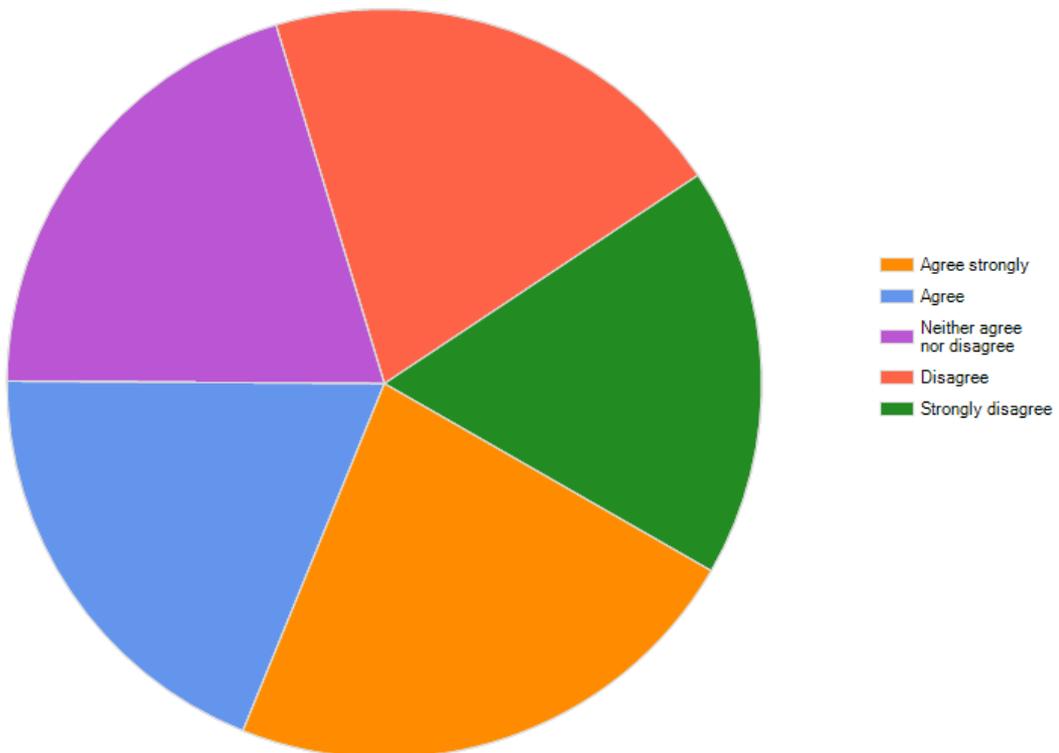
To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair that all working age customers should make a contribution to their Council Tax? Working age is all customers under the age for state pension credit.



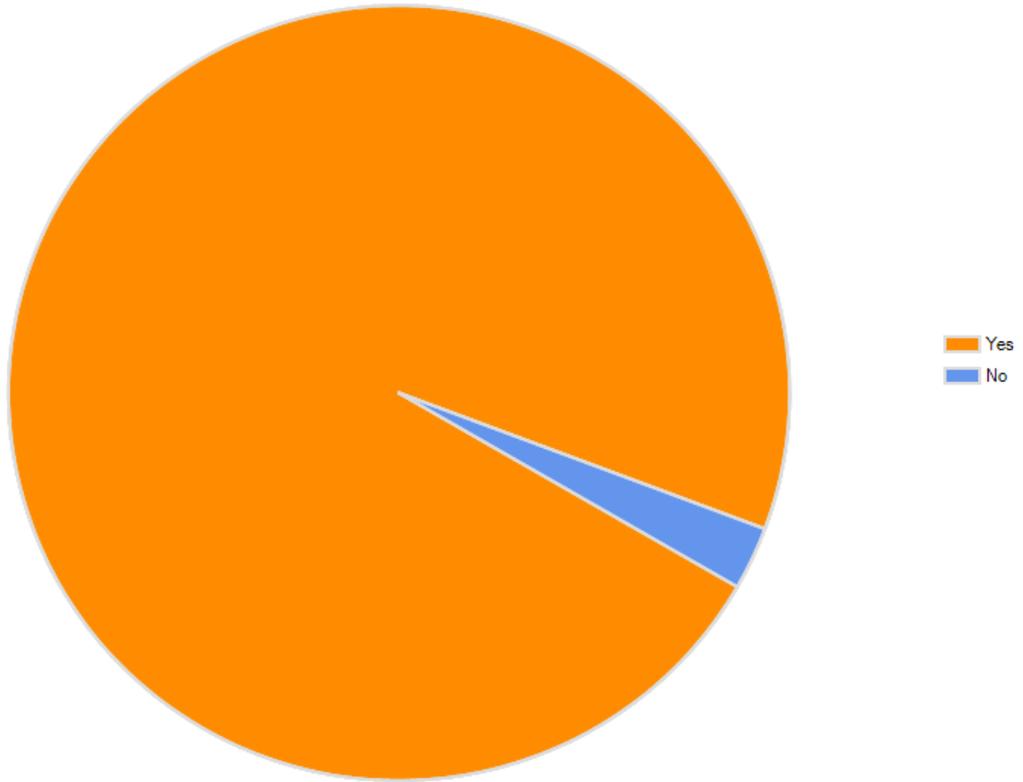
To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair that customers returning to work should receive additional help in the form of up to 4 weeks benefit and a shortened claim procedure?



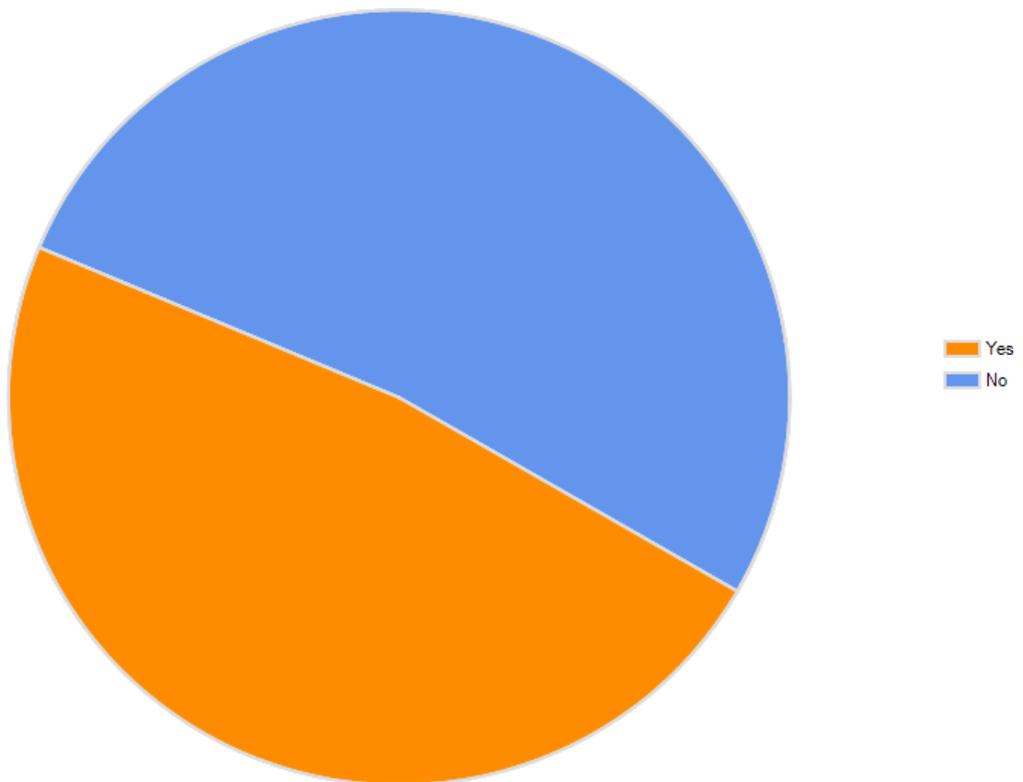
To what extent do you agree or disagree it is fair to abolish Second Adult Rebate (SAR).



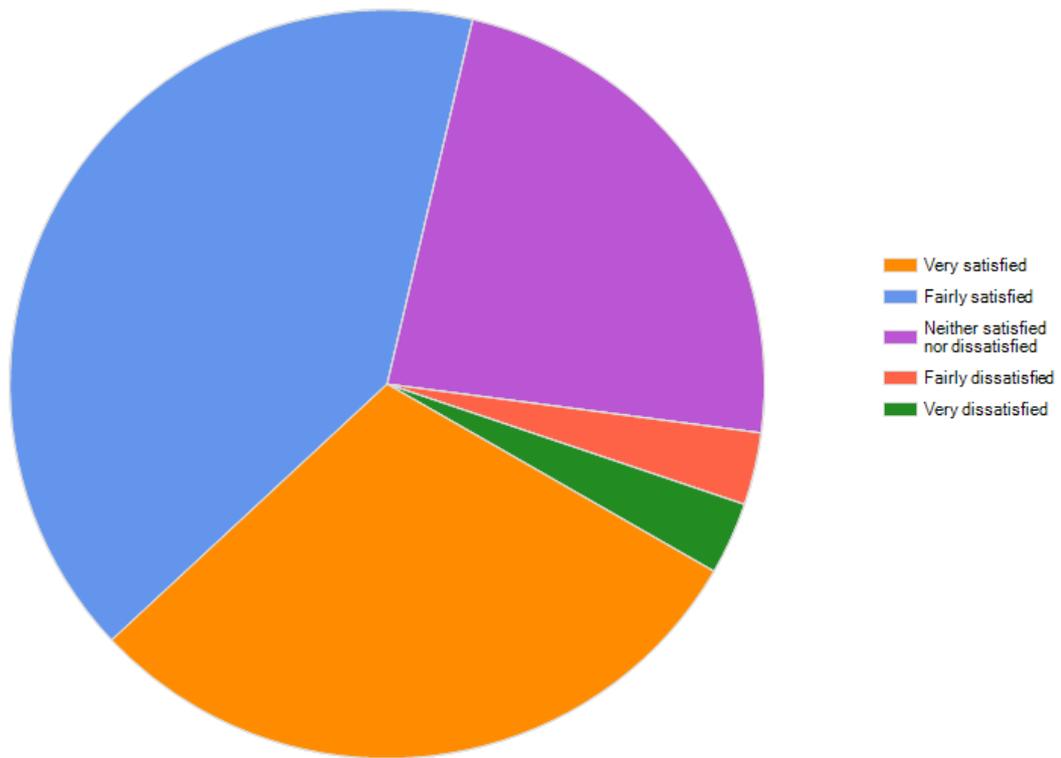
Are you a Gosport resident?



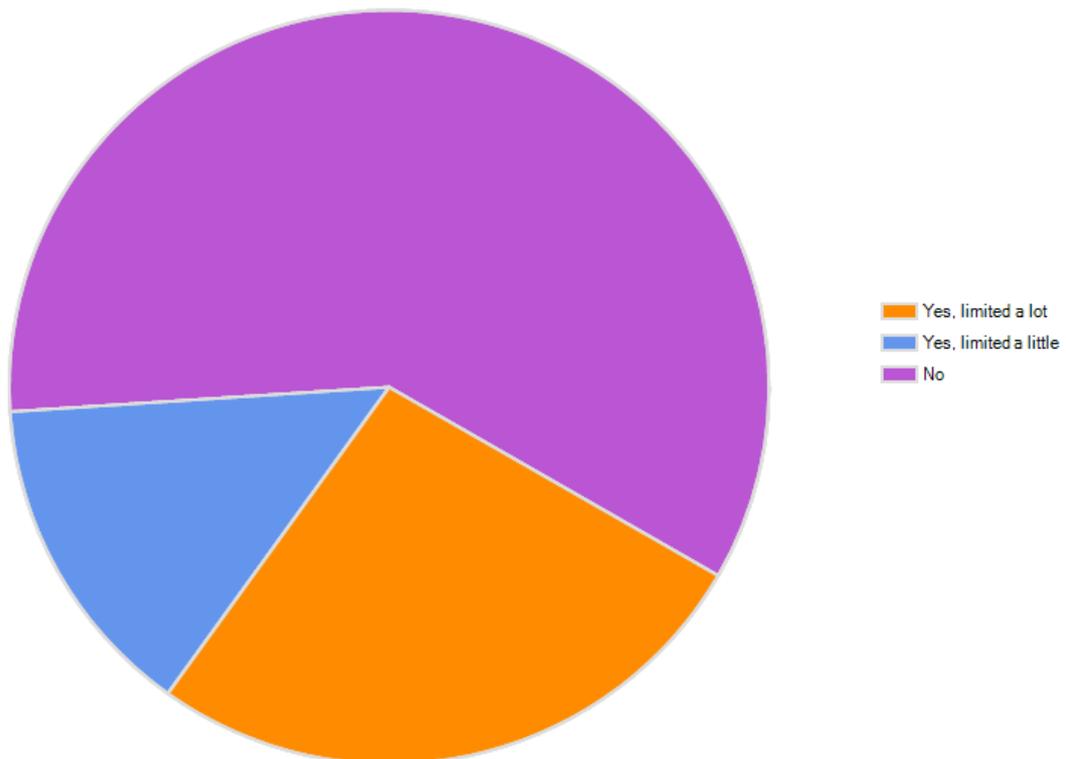
Do you currently receive Council Tax Benefit?



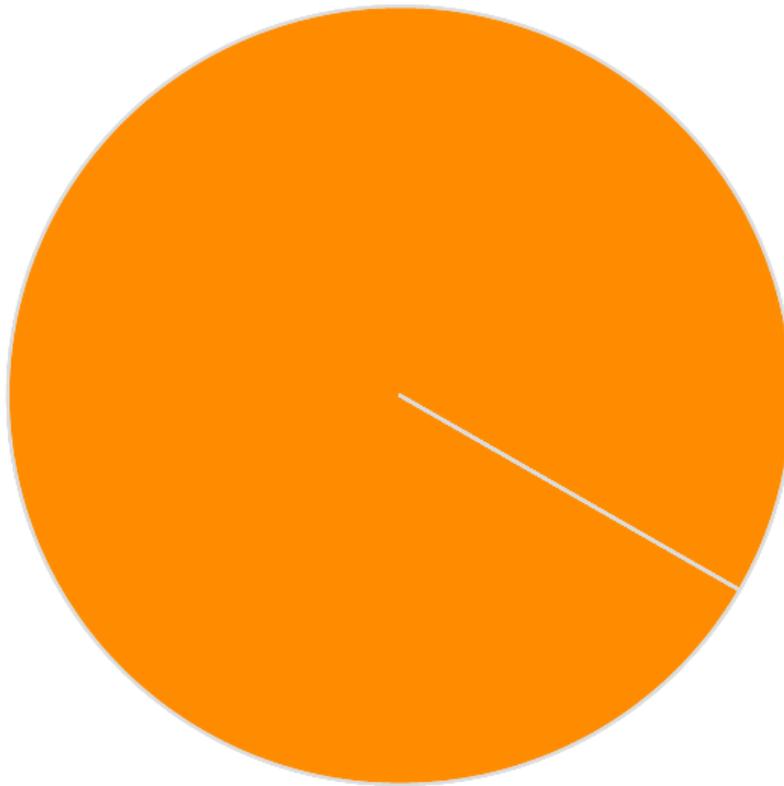
How satisfied are you that you are able to access Gosport Borough Council's services as necessary?



Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?



Ethnic group - White



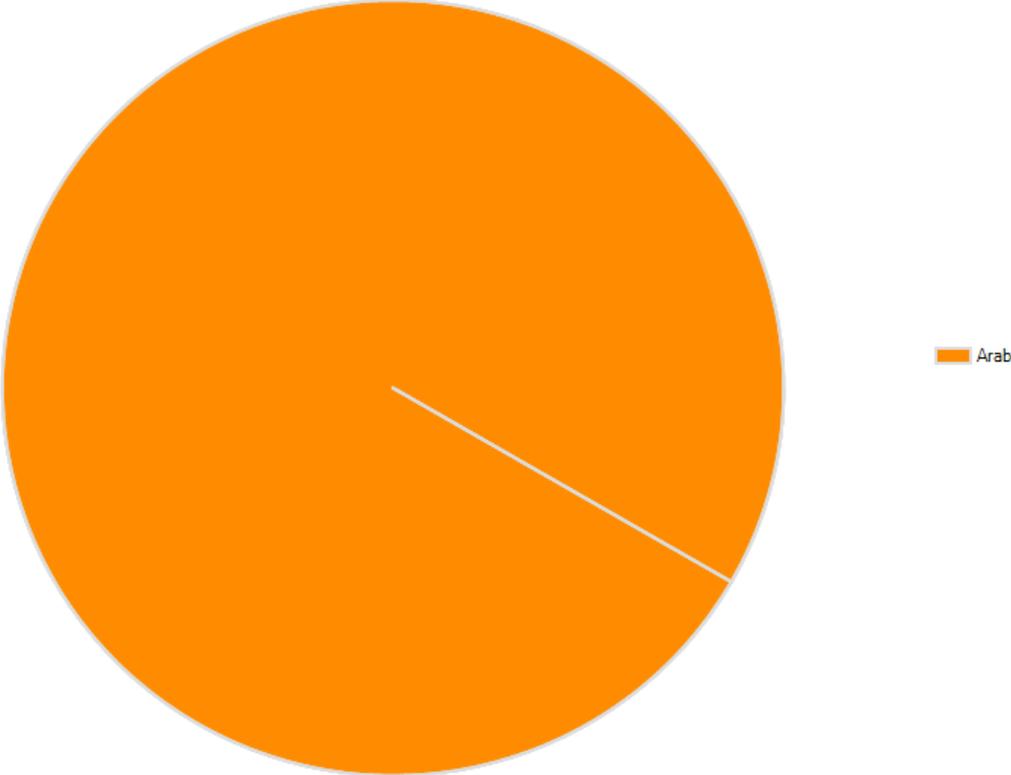
- English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
- Irish
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller

Ethnic group - Black / African / Caribbean / Black British

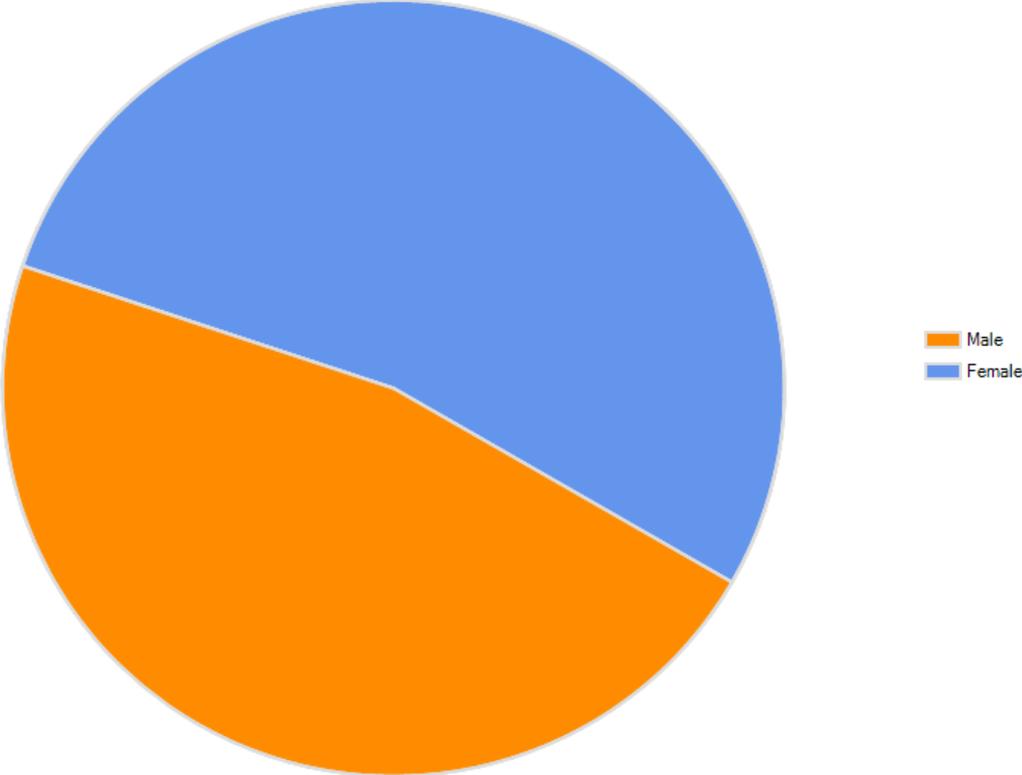


- African
- Caribbean

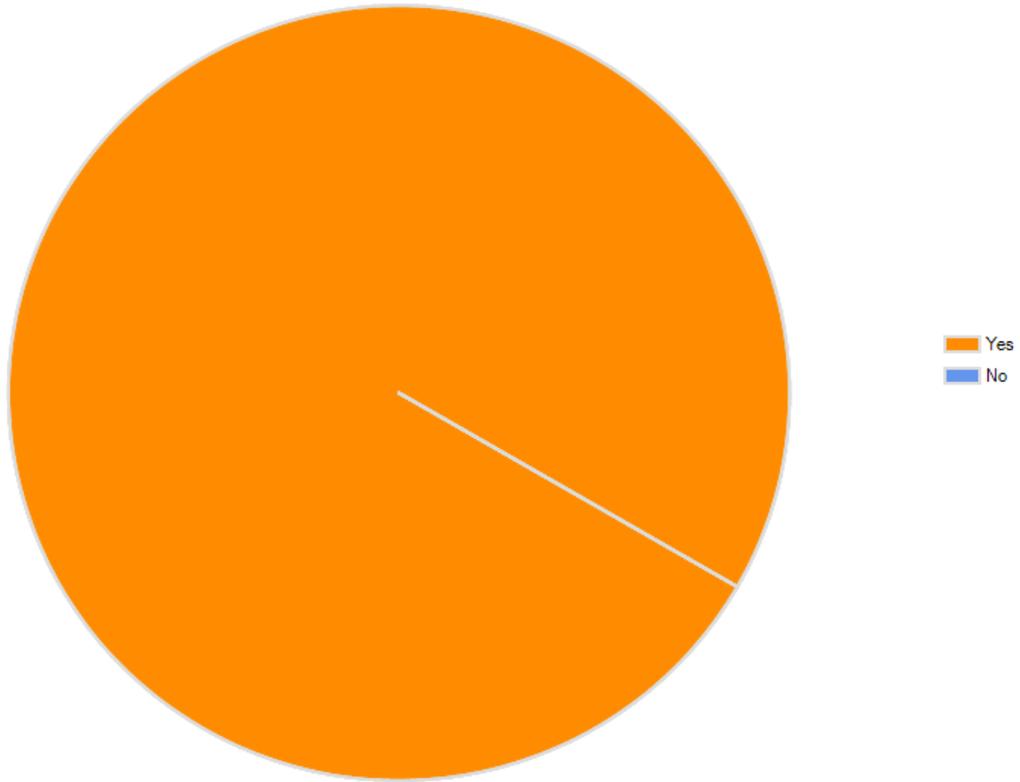
Other ethnic group



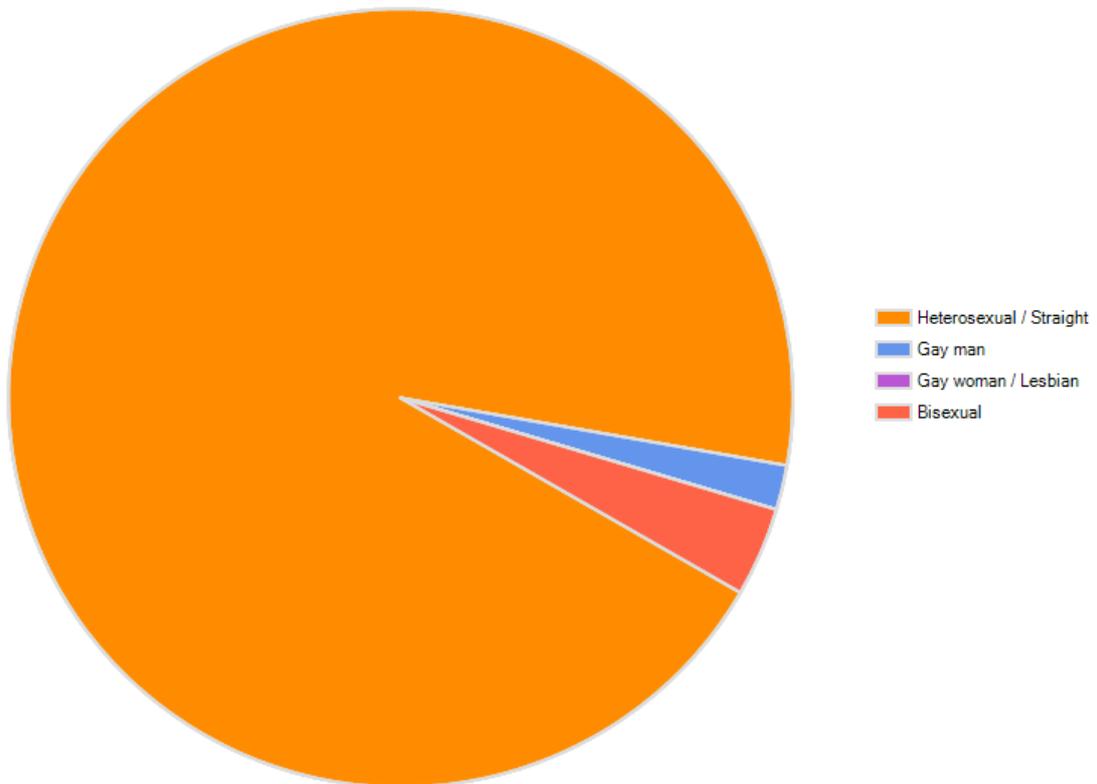
Gender



Is your present gender the same as the one assigned to you at birth?



How would you describe your sexual orientation?



What is your religion?

