**EHDC - Position statement on council tax payments – 27 03 20**

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| **EHDC website response** |
| During the coronavirus outbreak, residents have enquired about delaying their council tax payments.  Please note, central government provides council tax support to those on a low income and with savings less than £16,000.  This will be additionally supplemented by up to a maximum of £150 for the coming year as a result of coronavirus.  [Find out how to apply for council tax support](http://www.easthants.gov.uk/council-tax-support).  At this time, **East Hampshire District Council** will **not** be deferring council tax for all residents. **For those most at need, we are agreeing changes to their council tax payments on a case-by-case basis.**  Just nine per cent of your total council tax bill is received by East Hampshire District Council. The remainder supports key infrastructure such as:   * Hampshire County Council * Hampshire Adult Social Care * The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire * Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service * Parish and town councils   The council does not have the necessary cash-flow to delay council tax payments from all residents. |
| **EHDC social media responses (FAQs)** |
| *Will the council defer council tax?*  At this time, the council will **not**be deferring council tax for all residents. **For those most at need, we are agreeing changes to their council tax payments on a case-by-case basis.**  East Hampshire District Council receives just 9% of the total council tax bill residents pay, and does not have the necessary cash-flow to delay council tax payments from all residents.  *I can't afford to pay my council tax!*  Central government provides council tax support to those on a low income and with savings less than £16,000. This will be additionally supplemented by up to a maximum of £150 for the coming year as a result of coronavirus. [Find out how to apply for council tax support](https://www.easthants.gov.uk/council-tax-support).  *I am on Universal Credit - do I need to pay council tax?*  If you are on Universal Credit you still need to pay council tax. You can additionally apply for:   * [Council tax support](https://www.easthants.gov.uk/council-tax-support" \o "https://www.havant.gov.uk/council-tax-support" \t "_blank) * [Housing benefit](https://www.easthants.gov.uk/benefits/housing-benefit" \o "https://www.havant.gov.uk/housing-benefit" \t "_blank)   *I am retired - what help can I receive with my council tax?*  If you receive a state pension and have a low income, you can apply for [housing benefit](https://www.easthants.gov.uk/benefits/housing-benefit). |

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