**Council Tax Reduction April 2019 changes**

**Pre April 2019**. When the CTR claimant or their partner receive PIP (DLC) or DLA (CC) no ND deductions are made. However, at present , when the ND is the person receiving Attendance Allowance, PIP or DLA, all their income is taken into account when assessing the ND deduction.  However part of the resulting CTax bill is written off under Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act. Thus, in most cases where a CTR claimant has an ND in receipt  of PIP, AA or DLA the affective ND deduction is reduced to £4.00 per week. The Benefits Section have identified most affected claimants, who remain in receipt of CTR and asked for details of the ND’s extra expenses due to disability. We have arranged Section 13A assistance to all those claimants who have replied. There may be a few affected claimants, who were not identified. We will not have been able to identify affected claimants whose CTR ended as a result of the new LCTRS. If these claimants are drawn to our attention we will, once the claimant provides details of their ND’s extra disability related expenses, arrange for a Section 13A award to be made.

**From 01/04/19** the LCTRS is due to be changed again. From this date the maximum ND deduction for NDs in receipt of AA, DLA, PIP or ESA will be £4.00 per week. There will therefore be no need to consider Section 13A awards except in very exceptional circumstances where even a £4.00 per week ND deduction causes hardship. Claimants, whose CTR ended as a result of the April 201 changes, but who will become entitled to CTR again as a result of the April 2019 changes, will need to submit a new CTR claim. From 01/04/19 CTR can be backdated up to 52 weeks, when claimants have good cause for delaying their claim.  Please note that all the above only applies to working age CTR claimants. Claimants over the qualifying age for pension credits get CTR based on the national prescribed CTR scheme.