**Council Tax**

**What?** The Government has cut the funding paid to local authorities to pay for Council Tax Benefit. They are leaving it up to each local authority to decide how much Council Benefit they can afford. People on benefits who have never paid Council Tax may need to start making a contribution.

**When?**

From April 2013

**What you need to know:**

Council Tax Benefit will not be part of Universal Credit. CTB will continue to be managed by local authorities, and people on benefits may have to contribute an amount in the next financial year (April 2013-April 2014). You may have received a letter a letter about this already. Brighton & Hove counsellors are to decide how much Council Tax claimants must contribute, they will decide in Feb-March 2013 and publicise their decision and inform people.

**How much?**

To be confirmed. But it is expected that people on means-tested benefits will have to pay £3 to £4 a week in Council Tax - they will be sent monthly bills with a barcode on it. This can be paid in various ways, including the Post Office Pay Points.