



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Local Taxation Division
Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities
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FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL TAX SECTION

Dear Colleague

Council tax rebate – Progress Update

As you will be aware the core council tax rebate scheme was due to close on 30 September. We are grateful for the hard work you have put into ensuring as many eligible households as possible received the rebate by this date.

Extension to the Core Rebate

On 29 September we published [an information letter](#) asking councils that required further time to pay all eligible households to contact us to request an extension. A number of councils responded to the offer of an extension indicating that further time would allow them to carry out administrative checks on payments made. A further group of councils have highlighted a handful of households whose eligibility came to light after the 30 September deadline and asked whether payments to them would be covered by the scheme.

It is clear from our latest data that the vast majority of eligible households had received the core rebate by the 30 September deadline. However, to allow all councils an opportunity to carry out any outstanding administrative checks, and to provide a common approach where late eligibility comes to light, the Department has decided to extend the deadline for all councils in England to **30 November**. Shortly after the deadline, we will ask councils to complete a data return on which we will base our reconciliation and assurance work. **We will not consider any extension request for the core or discretionary scheme beyond 30 November.**

Monitoring Data Publication

All councils have provided monitoring data for delivery of both the core and discretionary rebate schemes up to the end of September. All monitoring data from April to the end of September is available on this [webpage](#). This data shows that 99% of all eligible households had received the rebate by the end of September, representing 19.1m households. Furthermore 1.3m households have benefited from support from discretionary support schemes. The Government intends to continue

collecting monitoring data for the rebate until the end of both the core and discretionary schemes at the end of November.

Ineligible Payments

The Government recognises that over the course of delivering both the core and discretionary schemes, some payments may have been made to households which were later found to be ineligible. A number of councils have asked us how they should handle these cases, and we wish to highlight the guidance we have previously provided through our [FAQs](#). As set out in question 24 we expect councils to take reasonable steps to recover ineligible payments, in accordance with their general fiduciary duties. We appreciate the work many councils are already doing to assess and recover ineligible payments.

Should you have any queries, please contact the Department at:
council.tax@levellingup.gov.uk.

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