

ITEM NO: A03 (CABINET)APPENDIX 7b
ITEM NO:4B (COUNCIL) APPENDIX 7b

Appendix 1

Council Tax
Qualifying Criteria for Older Persons Discount Scheme

1. Discount is 10%
2. Apply to all SCC/Police/Fire elements
3. Period applicable - indefinitely
4. Qualifying age is 65 at the 1st April 2009
5. Proof of age is not required
6. Must be the Council Tax payer on the bill 'now'
7. All residents at the property must be 65+
8. If they reach 65 during the year can only qualify from the following 1st April
9. If in receipt of Council Tax Benefit they do not qualify
10. If they are in receipt of Council Tax Benefit on 1st April but subsequently lose it during the year they will be entitled to the discount from the day after benefit ceases
11. If they are not in receipt of Council Tax Benefit at 1st April, qualify for Discount, but subsequently are awarded Benefit during the year, remove Discount from the date Benefit awarded
12. If they move into the area during the year, meet the qualifying age, they have to wait until next 1st April to receive discount
13. If they move within the area Discount automatically transferred
14. Does not apply to Care/Residential homes

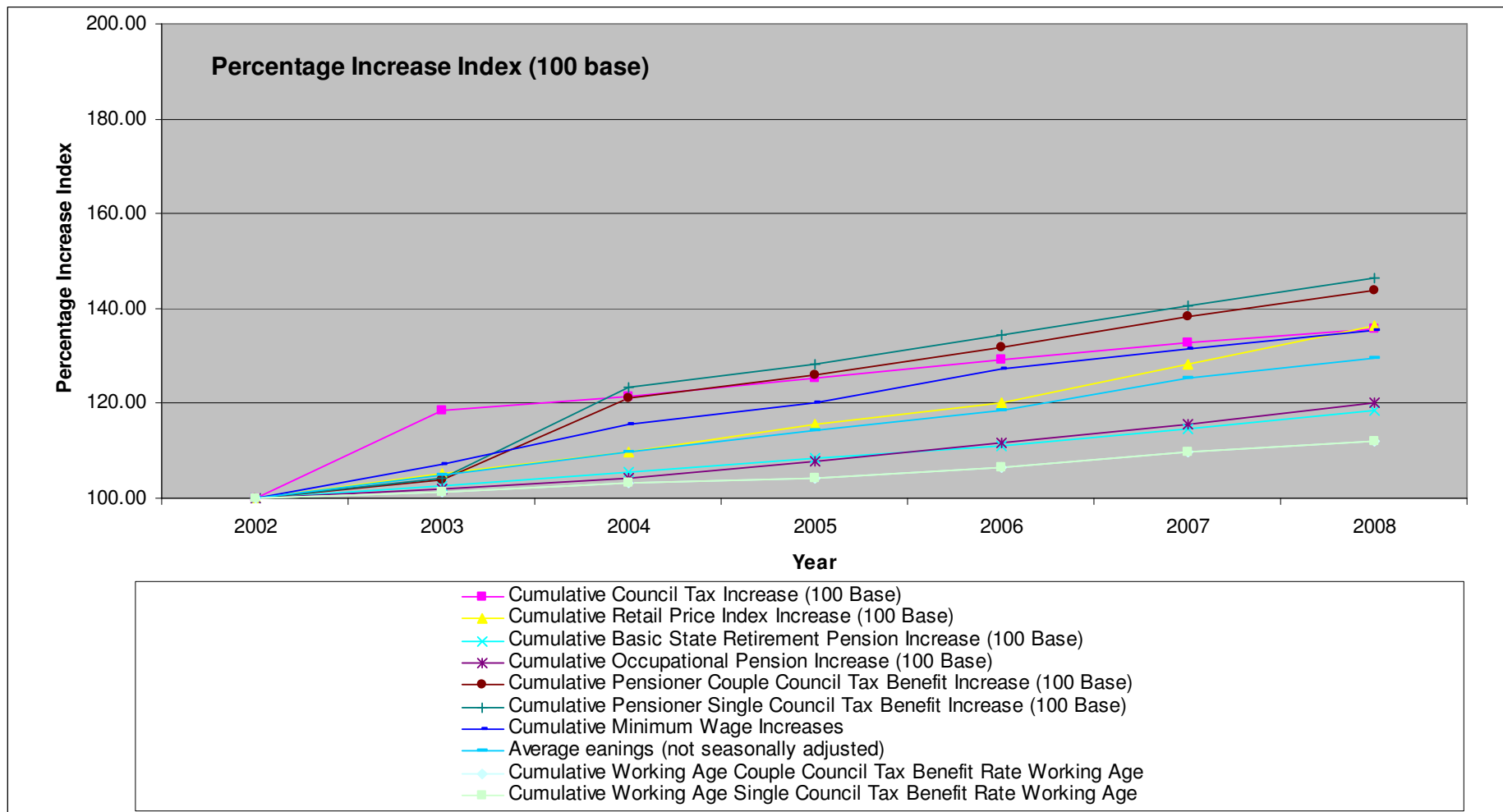
Council Tax
Qualifying Criteria for Special Constables Discount Scheme

1. Discount is 100%
2. Apply to all SCC/Police /Fire elements from 1st April 2009
3. Work as a Special Constable based in the Southampton Operational Command Unit – information confirming dates of appointment, are to be supplied by the Police Authority and the discount can only be awarded once this is received and they meet other qualifying criteria
4. If they cease to be a Special Constable this is to be confirmed by the Police Authority and the discount shall cease from the relevant date
5. They live at an address within the SCC area
6. Council Tax is payable at the address where they live, but they do not have to be the liable person

Appendix 2(a) – Comparison of Council Tax and Income Percentage Increases

Year	Cumulative Council Tax Increase (100 Base)	Cumulative Retail Price Index Increase (100 Base)	Cumulative Basic State Retirement Pension Increase (100 Base)	Cumulative Occupational Pension Increase (100 Base)	Cumulative Pensioner Couple Council Tax Benefit Increase (100 Base)	Cumulative Pensioner Single Council Tax Benefit Increase (100 Base)	Cumulative Minimum Wage Increases	Average earnings (not seasonally adjusted)	Cumulative Working Age Couple Council Tax Benefit Rate Working Age	Cumulative Working Age Single Council Tax Benefit Rate Working Age
2002	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
2003	118.56	105.10	102.58	102.09	104.00	104.20	107.14	105.00	101.30	101.30
2004	121.49	109.80	105.36	104.22	120.96	123.29	115.48	109.90	103.13	103.15
2005	125.48	115.60	108.44	107.79	125.90	128.27	120.24	114.40	104.13	104.17
2006	129.37	120.10	111.12	111.85	131.94	134.43	127.34	118.40	106.44	106.49
2007	132.67	128.30	114.74	115.50	138.18	140.70	131.43	125.30	109.63	109.64
2008	135.57	136.50	118.63	120.00	143.88	146.50	135.23	129.66	112.17	112.14

Appendix 2(b) – Comparison of Council Tax and Income Percentage Increases



Appendix 3 - QUALIFYING HOUSEHOLDS

Council Tax Valuation Band	Number of Properties (per Valuation List)	Estimates Total Pensioner Households (*)	Pensioner Households in Receipt of Council Tax Benefit	Qualifying Applications Received	Possible Additional Qualifying Application's to be Received
A	30,526	6,573	4,494	1,217	862
B	32,321	6,954	2,597	2,100	2,257
C	21,879	4,736	436	2,459	1,841
D	9,177	1,908	279	1,201	428
E	2,995	669	39	448	182
F	1,358	295	10	216	69
G	455	110	3	59	48
H	32	-	-	-	-
	98,743	21,245	7,858	7,700	5,687

(*) No specific data exists for this and the number of pensioner households has been estimated using census information.

Appendix 4 - DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSHOLDS BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE AND INCOME DECILES

Table 1. Estimated number of pensioner households in Southampton by Income*

Household Income Deciles	Proportion of Pensioner Households	Estimated Number of Pensioner Households	CTB Entitlement (Ignoring Capital)	Proportion of Non Pensioner Households	Estimated Number of Non Pensioner Households	CTB Entitlement (Ignoring Capital)
Below £8036	16.7%	4,266	Yes	7.54%	5,275	Yes
£8036 to £10490	16.1%	4,118	Yes	7.79%	5,447	Yes
£10491 to £13598	17.3%	4,419	Yes	7.32%	5,123	Yes
£13599 to £16884	14.4%	3,684	Possibly	8.39%	5,869	Possibly
£16885 to £20397	10.5%	2,690	Possibly	9.81%	6,863	Possibly
£20398 to £24409	8.6%	2,202	No	10.51%	7,351	No
£24410 to £29404	6.8%	1,732	No	11.18%	7,817	No
£29405 to £36248	4.6%	1,173	No	11.97%	8,372	No
£36249 to £47663	3.0%	770	No	12.58%	8,802	No
Above £47664	2.1%	532	No	12.91%	9,029	No
Total		25,585			69,948	

Total Households	95,533
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***figures are based on the proportion of Pensioner Households in UK. The same proportions have then been applied to Southampton household figures for all people. Data for households comes from dwelling stock by CT band for March 2006 (Last updated 28 September 2007)**

[Household figure comes from dwelling stock by CT band produced by DCLG](#)

Appendix 5

Special Constables – Police Authority Proposal to the Home Office

Hampshire Constabulary – Southampton Operational Command Unit Proposal under The Special Constables (Amendment) Regulations 2002

Report of Chief Inspector Karen Scipio MBE

This proposal is submitted in accordance with the Home Office Circular 010/2003 requirements and after consultation with the NPIA.

1. Intention

This proposal is seeking Home Office approval for Special Constables living and working in the city of Southampton to receive a financial benefit by way of an exemption from payment of council tax for the property in which they reside.

This application has the full support of Hampshire Police Authority, Hampshire Constabulary and Southampton City Council.

2. Funding of the Scheme

This funding of this scheme will be met by Southampton City Council who have agreed to waive the council tax charge for any Special Constable working and living in the city of Southampton.

The local Authority suggests that this scheme will equate to around £100k lost revenue per annum. This is viewed as a cost effective way of gaining additional support for policing of the city. If the Local Authority were to employ 25 extra Accredited Community Support Officers it would cost considerably more than this.

3. Aims of the Scheme

The Scheme aims to increase the recruiting of Special Constables within Southampton City. Currently we have 60 and we would like to achieve in excess of 85. This will assist with reducing crime and disorder by making more uniformed officers available and visible. This will also assist with enhancing public re-assurance and act as a visual deterrent for anti social behaviour and quality of life issues, for the community. Further the scheme seeks to increase the number of hours worked and improve retention amongst the Specials.

The scheme seeks to attract local people who have a personal interest in making sure the community they live in is a safer place.

4. Terms and Conditions attached to the scheme

The scheme will only be available to those Specials who live and work within the City boundary.

They must be fit and available for duty.

Commit to working a minimum of 20 hours a month.

Misconduct issues may result in the withdrawal of the benefit

If a Special is no longer able to comply with the requirements of the scheme then they will be served written notice that the benefit is being withdrawn and Council tax payment will be required from the date of the written notice

5. Implications of the scheme

These have been considered and because the benefit is not by way of individual payments to the Specials concerned their tax and employment status is not affected. Indeed in some cases where a Special is still living in a family home it will be the person(s) responsible for paying the council tax that will ultimately benefit. The Local Authority already have various schemes in place where individuals are exempt all or part of their Council tax for a variety of reasons and this would be an addition to those schemes.

6. Proposed methods of data collection.

Southampton Police will have responsibility for ensuring that the scheme is managed and that the details of all those who qualify are notified to the Local Authority. They will monitor each individual to ensure that they are complying with the requirements of the scheme and notify the Local Authority of any breaches. Southampton Police will keep detailed data of the impact of the scheme on the recruitment, retention and hours worked by the Specials and measure this against a baseline set prior to the scheme being invoked.

Data will be kept regarding the gender, age and ethnic background of all recruits.

7. Allowing for an exit strategy

This scheme will be agreed on an annual basis after consultation with the Local Authority and Southampton Police. In consultation we will consider the cost benefit of the scheme and the impact on crime, disorder and public reassurance (through data sets already established).

Specials entering the Scheme will be advised and given written information that clearly explains the terms and conditions and the annual review process.

8. Evaluation

As stated above a full evaluation will be conducted of this scheme annually to ensure that it is meeting its objectives, Southampton Police will have responsibility for any evaluation or reporting on progress. sure the community they live in is a safer place.

Appendix 6 – QUALIFYING HOUSEHOLDS BY PROPERTY BAND IN AREA

AREA	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Total
Town Centre	65	27	45	30	19	5	-	-	191
Northam	23	18	3	-	-	-	-	-	44
Lower Avenue Area	45	107	105	79	73	14	12	-	435
Freemantle	142	124	202	15	3	1	-	-	487
Shirley	64	101	96	127	43	25	1	-	457
Coxford	89	296	225	182	99	36	5	-	932
Bassett	24	230	150	184	174	131	37	-	930
Portswood	109	116	261	77	7	-	-	-	570
Bitterne	183	270	418	191	23	4	4	-	1,093
Sholing	141	243	325	134	3	-	-	-	846
Woolston	142	292	428	129	3	-	-	-	994
Millbrook	126	185	126	29	1	-	-	-	467
Lordshill	64	91	75	24	-	-	-	-	254
	1,217	2,100	2,459	1,201	448	216	59	-	7,700

APPENDIX 7

Indicative Maximum Pensioner Weekly Income Figures for Entitlement to Council Tax Benefit equal to or more than 10% Council Tax Discount.

PROPERTY BAND	PENSIONER COUPLE MAX WEEKLY INCOME	SINGLE PENSIONER MAX WEEKLY INCOME
A	£294.00	£202.00
B	£307.00	£212.00
C	£320.00	£222.00
D	£333.00	£232.00
E	£359.00	£251.00
F	£386.00	£271.00
G	£412.00	£291.00
H	£451.00	£320.00

Please Note – the assumption has been made in calculating the above income figures that the Claimant has no savings, no other forms of income and there is no other persons living at the property who can be classified as non-dependants. The income figures are based on 2008-09 council tax charges.