

As part of the consultation a petition was received on 2nd December 2016 from Joanna Kennedy, CEO from Z2K (Zacchaeus 2000 Trust), a London based charity that provide free advice and support for vulnerable people with household debt, housing or welfare problems and who also campaign to address poverty issues.

The petition states:

NO CUTS TO TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION – TOO POOR TO PAY

We the undersigned are opposed to Tower Hamlets Council's proposal to cut Council Tax Reduction for thousands of the borough's poorest residents. We note that where other boroughs have introduced 'Minimum Payment' schemes, as currently proposed for tower hamlets, the results has been to push residents deeper into poverty.

We understand that the Government's funding cuts have placed Tower Hamlets in a difficult position but feel strongly that our borough's poorest residents shouldn't be made to bear the burden. We call on the council to maintain the existing Council Tax Reduction scheme with 100% support for working age claimants.

The petition was signed by 521 residents.