



# HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING

Another update from your local Conservative Councillors



[www.wallaseyconservatives.com](http://www.wallaseyconservatives.com)

## What's being done to help incomes:

### ✓ National Living Wage increased

From April, the National Living Wage will increase to **£10.42** an hour.

This is the largest increase since it was introduced in 2016 and will help millions of low-paid workers. That means an extra **£1,600** for someone in full time work.

### ✓ National Insurance reduced

The amount people can earn before they pay National Insurance has been **increased**. Together with last month's reduction in National Insurance, around 30 million people will see their NI contributions reduced by an average of **£500** over the year.

### ✓ State pension up thanks to 'triple lock'

Next year, the new state pension will increase by **£18.70** a week to **£203.85**. The basic state pension will rise to **£156.20**. To support the poorest pensioners, pension credit will rise by an extra **£1,470** for a couple and **£960** for a single pensioner in our most vulnerable households.

If you need information, advice or guidance, **Moneyhelper** is a free, government-backed service. Call **0800 138 7777** or visit **[www.moneyhelper.org.uk](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk)**

# Check you're not missing out on extra help

## Healthy Start for the early years

Expectant mums with a low income who are more than 10 weeks pregnant or who have a child under 4, may be able to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

[www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)

## Tax-free Childcare

You can get up to £500 every 3 months for each child to help with the costs of childcare. This goes up to £1,000 every 3 months if a child is disabled. You can get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as 30 hours free childcare if you're eligible for both.

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

## Marriage Allowance

Marriage Allowance lets you transfer £1,260 of your Personal Allowance to your husband, wife or civil partner. This reduces their tax by up to £252 in the tax year (6 April to 5 April the next year).

[www.gov.uk/marriage-allowance](http://www.gov.uk/marriage-allowance)

## Council Tax discounts

If you or someone else in your home has been diagnosed with an illness that affects mental ability, such as Alzheimer's or dementia, there is a special Council Tax discount available, in some cases it can also be backdated.

[www.wirral.gov.uk/council-tax](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/council-tax)

## Pension Credit

Pension Credit is on top of the state pension and gives you extra money to help with your living costs. Pension Credit can also help with housing costs such as ground rent or service charges. You can get Pension Credit even if you have other income, savings or own your own home.

[www.gov.uk/pension-credit](http://www.gov.uk/pension-credit)

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 **Local Conservatives**

