

I am writing in support of the proposal to reduce the Rates Cap to £400,000 (currently set at £500,000 and which is higher than those charged in England and Wales).

In many cases the burden of these charges, based only on the capital value, will fall on those who are not necessarily in a position to meet them easily simply because they live in properties whose value has risen dramatically over the years.

My wife and I are pensioners and also caring for my 95 year old mother-in-law who is living with us and are worried that when the transitional relief comes to an end the increased payments will make a considerable impact on our household costs especially when the Water Charges are also imposed on top of this.

A reduction, as proposed, would go some way to alleviating at least some of these costs.