

Summary of changes: FRS 2020/21

This document summarises the changes that were made to the Family Resources Survey (FRS) Questionnaire following the Summer 2019 consultation. Please note that this document does not include details of processing changes/improvements.

New Questions.....	1
Deleted Questions	3
Amended Questions	3
Documentation Changes	3
Other Changes.....	3

New Questions

- Whether the respondent is up to date with their rent payments (RentArr).
 - Number of missed rent payments in the last 12 months (RentArPy).
- Questions about water and sewerage providers:
 - To which service provider do you pay your water rates or charges? (WSWtSp)
 - To which service provider do you pay your sewerage rates or charges? (WSSwSp)
 - To which service provider do you pay your combined water and sewerage rates or charges? (WSComSp)
 - To which service provider do you pay your combined water and sewerage rates or charges? (WtSwSup)
 - To which service provider do you pay your water rates or charges? (WatSup)
 - To which service provider do you pay your sewerage rates or charges? (SewSup)
- The number of hours of free early years education have been used in the last seven days FreeCChr).
- A question has been introduced to separate out the maintenance and tuition fees parts of student loan. How much of this (amount) will be paid directly from the loans company to your university (or college) for tuition fees? (TuAmt).
- The number of average working days, asked to those who receive statutory sick pay (SSPWkDay).
- How many days the respondent missed (during a spell of absence, whilst Statutory Sick Pay has been claimed) (SSPWkMis).

- The number of missed working days that relate to the usual pay. This is asked to those who just started or finished receiving statutory sick pay (SSP)/ maternity/ paternity/ adoption pay (SMP/SSP/SAP), then received statutory sick pay (USSPWkMs).
- How long after completing the most recent period of full-time education did the respondent start a regular paid job? (EduWrk)
- Has the respondent received the Job Start Payment in the last 12 months? (Scotland only) (JSP).
- Is the respondent in receipt of Scottish Child Payment (Scotland only) and amount of benefit (KidBen, SCPAmt).
- Information about the amount of time children spend with their other parent:
 - Does the child/do any of the children ever stay overnight with their other parent? (MntStay)
 - Which children stay overnight with their other parent? (MntStyCh)
 - How many nights a week does the child usually stay at their other parent's house? (MntNight)
 - Does the child/do any of the children ever spend any time with or under the supervision of their other (non-resident) parent? (MntSee)
 - Which children spend time with or under the supervision of their other parent? (MntSeeCh)
 - How many hours a week, does the child spend with or under the supervision of their other (non-resident) parent? (MntHour)
- Details of the overdrawn account. How much was this account overdrawn at the end of last month/pay period? (AccOvrD)
- Information about informal investments:
 - Does the respondent currently have any money saved in any of these ways: (InfType)
 - Money given to someone else to look after or save.
 - Money saved in cash.
 - Total amount of money saved in these ways (InflAm).
- A new set of questions on debt. The questions focus on debt from the following sources:
 - Mail order account (from a mail order catalogue) (DMOAny, DMONum, DMOIns, DMOoft1)
 - Hire purchase and credit agreements (DHPAny, DHPNum, DHPIns, DHPoft1)
 - Loans (DLAny, DLNNum, DLIns, DLoft1)

- Credit cards, charge cards and store cards (DCards, DAnyCards, DANum, DAmount1)
- Interviewer feedback questions have been updated to gather feedback on newly added questions to 2020/21 FRS questionnaire.

Deleted Questions

- Question related to awaiting the outcome of an application for Council Tax reduction.
- Questions about 'made-up' pay have been removed.
- Question which asks whether the respondent is awaiting the outcome of a claim for a benefit they are not receiving.
- Tax Credit related questions:
 - Whether Tax Credit has ever been received.
 - Reasons for not receiving Tax Credits.
 - Total amount of benefit received.
 - Type of Tax Credit received.

Amended Questions

- Any references to Council Tax Benefit have been changed to Council Tax reduction.
- Change to question about employment training to reflect the devolution of employment support in Scotland.
- Benefit references have been amended to reflect an updated list of state support available to respondents.
- Assets block has been updated, investment types which no longer exist have been removed from relevant answer categories.
- Routing of Education Maintenance Allowance questions has been amended. These are not being asked in England.
- Categories of total savings have been changed.

Documentation Changes

No changes planned at present.

Other Changes

A number of additional changes have been made to the main questionnaire as a result of COVID19. These included:

- Additional questions on:
 - Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and furlough pay
 - Self-Employed Income Support Scheme
 - NHS Test and Trace
 - Covid related Employment Support Allowance Payment
 - Covid related changes to employment
 - Mortgage holiday
- In addition, the following questions have been temporarily suspended:
 - Questions relating to household expenditure
 - Debt related questions

Reviewed March 2021