

Other Means-Tested Benefits. 1968.

Welfare Milk
School Meals
Rent Rebates
Rate Rebates

1. Welfare Milk & School Meals

i) eligibility

a) Welfare Milk

Parents may obtain a 'Milk Token Book' for each child under 5 years of age. This entitles them to buy milk at the welfare rate (liquid or dried) of 4d. ✓

Free welfare milk is available to families judged unable to afford the normal cost of W.M.
The standard = any family eligible for assistance was also eligible for free milk.
Also those families whose resources were just above S.B. qualification level, or had resources below that level but were disqualified by their head being in full-time work.

Source: Circumstances of Families, Min. of Social Security, HMSO. 1967. pp. 27-28



b) Free School meals

Each local authority makes free school meals available to a child or children in a family whose income is less than or equal to the current non-contributory benefit scales.

Source: Circumstances of families p.28.

ii) Government figures

a) Welfare Index

98% of families with initial resources below requirements obtain W.M. (Circumstances of Families p.28)

Your Means Tested Bs. paper: 220,000 in annual receipt of W.M & Foods (people) excluding those in receipt of S.B.

b) Free School meals

7% of all children receiving school meals, receive them free. (approx. 372,000)

(Circumstances of Families p.29)

Your MTB. paper: (1972) 805,000 (with est. take up 75-80%)



Hansard 3rd Dec 1971 Col. 181.

free school meals:	1967	404,000
	1968	841,000 *
	1972	805,000

* including free meal to 4th
& subsequent child in family irrespective of
income

Hansard Jan 15th Nov. 1971, p 115

Estimated that take up of free school meals is
between 80 & 85% of those eligible.
(May '71 763,000 pupils obtained free meals).
(see Molly Teacher p 28)

iii) References

Min. of Social Security, Circumstances of
Families.

CPAG Poverty No 2. Spring 1967.

Tony Lynes 'The Failure of Selectivity' in
Bull (ed) Family Poverty, p 22.

Molly Teacher article pp 24 - 25.



Same problem as
Circumstances of Families
Cannot treat "free" figures
as reliable.

Welfare Milk & School meals

i) Welfare Milk

Over 90% of the households in the survey did not contain children under 5. Therefore the following tables only include those H.H. with this basic qualification.

Parents of children under 5 can obtain tokens from the Min of Soc. Sec., these are handed to the milkman.

All families with children under 5 can obtain a pint of milk for each child for each day for (2½p) per pint cheaper than retail prices.

Free milk tokens have to be claimed separately.

The ineffectiveness of means-tested benefits → non-take-up.

Only 13% of parents with children under 5 claimed free W.M.

Just over $\frac{1}{4}$ of these claimants were below the absolute poverty line (£100)

Just under $\frac{1}{4}$ were on the margins of poverty
And the rest (almost $\frac{1}{2}$) were outside the secondary poverty line (of 140).

Nearly half of those households who were not getting either free or cheap W.M., were in, or on the margins of, poverty. (42%).

TABLE ①

Altho' $\frac{2}{5}$ of the H/H. in poverty (i.e. below 100) were receiving free W.M., the remaining $\frac{3}{5}$ were only receiving W.M. cheap or not getting any at all. (Compare Gov. figure of 98%).

Of the 135 H/H with children under 5 on the margin of poverty, only 10 received free W.M.

One of the most striking features is the total parallel (see table 1) for the take up & non-take up of W.M. between H/H on the margin of poverty & those over the critical 140 limit.

i.e. failure of 'selective' services to be selective.
→ abuse by higher income units.

Discouragement effect of means tested benefits

eg. obstacles to application such as separate procedures for obtaining free W.M. as opposed to cheap rate.

i.e. still $\frac{1}{2}$ of those H/H with children under 5 who have incomes below the basic SB scale rates are only getting W.M. at cheap rate. As we see 80% of those H/H. with incomes only 40% above this basic poverty line.



When the TABCO figures are broken down via the Household Type I categories we find that 2 & 3 child households receiving free w.r. were divided equally among those on the margin of poverty & those beyond the critical 140.

None of these H/H below the basic poverty line received free w.r. altho 90% received it at the cheap rate.

Altho' $\frac{2}{3}$ of 4 child H/H in poverty receive free w.r. the remaining $\frac{1}{3}$ only get it at the cheaper rate.

$\frac{1}{3}$ of 'other H/H with children' below the fund. poverty line do not get any w.r.

Of those H/H with 3 adults & children & other H/H with children on the margin of poverty; altho' $\frac{1}{4}$ receive free w.r. the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ either do not receive any (to) or receive it only at the cheap rate.

Of all H/H consisting of a couple & 2, 3, 4 or more children, below the basic poverty line, only 46% receive free w.r., whereas 50% get cheap rate w.r.

Of the H/H on the margin of poverty, only $\frac{1}{10}$ receive free w.r.

TAB (2)

Abuse of benefits (cont.)

Altho' $\frac{1}{3}$ of the unskilled manual workers obtain free W.M. for their child(ren) under 5, the proportions in the middle & upper-class grades obtaining free W.M. is very high (between 10 & 15% in middle classes & 5 & 10% in upper classes)

The upper & middle class utilization of the cheap rate W.M. benefit is very high ($\frac{4}{5}$ of individuals on average obtain cheap rate W.M.)

Furthermore whereas just over 5% of unskilled individuals do not obtain W.M. the figure is identical for the the Higher Inspectorate & as low as 10% for the Professional grades i.e. higher grades reaping rewards.

Of the social classes, the skilled manual obtain most free W.M. (over $\frac{1}{4}$), with unskilled receiving just under $\frac{1}{4}$.

The Higher Inspect., Managerial & Professional grades receive nearly $\frac{1}{5}$ between them.

There are as many not getting W.M. in the Professional & Higher Inspectorate grades as individuals in the unskilled manual.



Regions

Northern Ireland: over 70% of unskilled manual workers obtain free W.M.
Its incidence being confined solely to the 2 lowest classes.

Scotland: only free W.M. in 3 lowest classes

South East: Professionals set to & Higher
Aspects. $\frac{2}{10}$ of free W.M.

ii) School meals

Households with children at school comprise about 20% of the survey, of these some 70% take school meals.

TAB ①

Also TAB ③ Appendix.

Ineffectiveness

Even tho' $\frac{2}{3}$ of children from H/H in poverty receive free school meals, the remaining $\frac{1}{3}$ ~~have to~~ pay for them. (Government = 80-85% of ^{that eligible!})
Of the total H/H in poverty with children at school, some 15% of the latter either take sandwiches or eat at home.

Of the total free school meals given in the country children from poverty households receive less than $\frac{3}{10}$ of them, whereas those children on the margins of poverty receive $\frac{2}{5}$ & those from H/H over 140 receive just over $\frac{3}{10}$.

(School children from poverty H/H comprising less than 10% of the total school children in the sample).

Over 50% of school children from H/H in, or on the margins of, poverty pay for their meals.

Nearly 10% of those H/H over the secondary 140% level obtain free school meals.



The vast majority of the sample of H/H with children at school pay for their school meals (82%)

All MW1 H/Hs pay for their school child's meals.

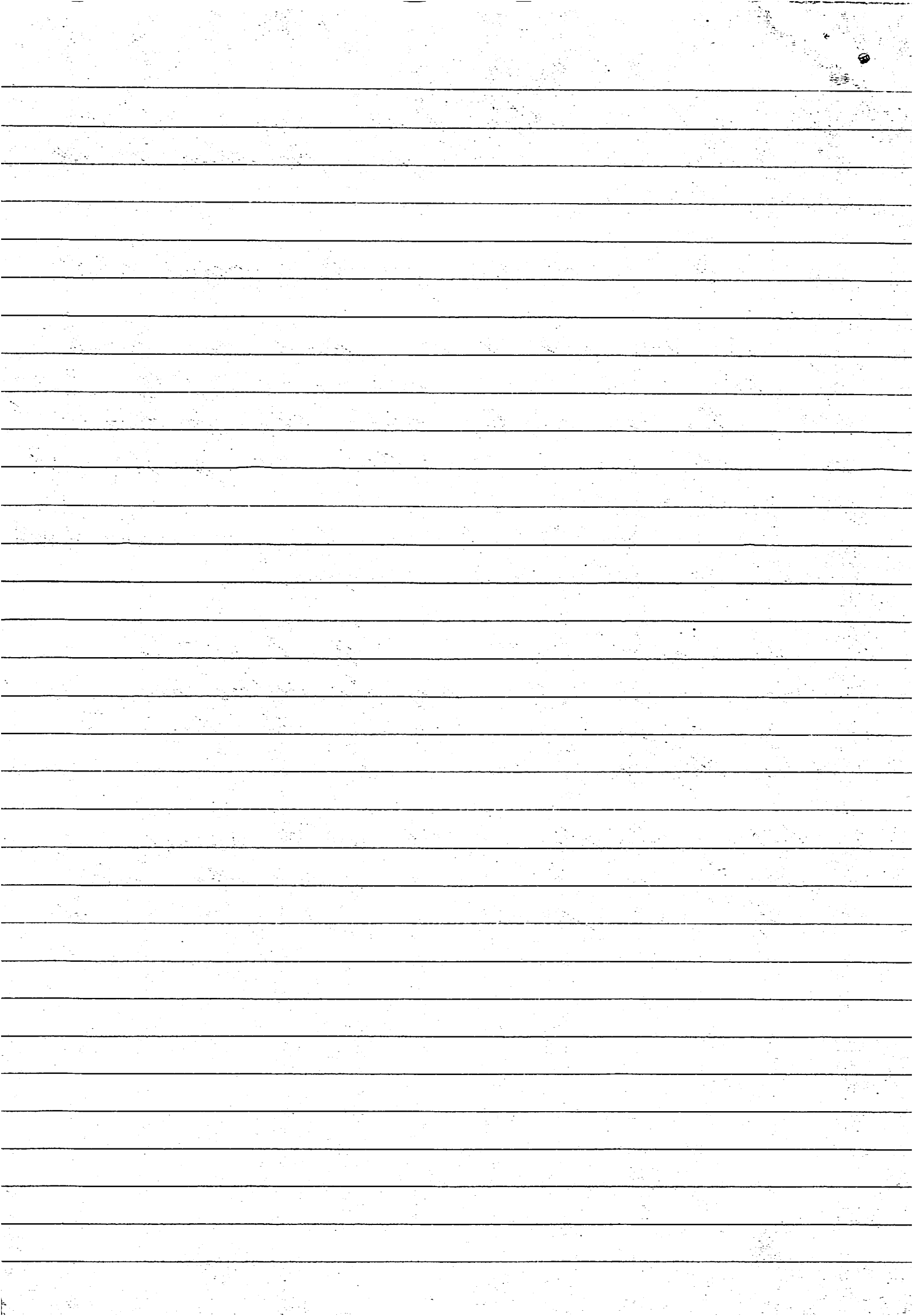
Only 20 of both MW2 & MW3 H/Hs receive free school meals. (i.e. over 90% of 243 H/H in poverty & on margins do not receive free meals)

Altho' there is a sharp rise (45%) for MW4 + H/Hs, still over $\frac{1}{2}$ of that H/H type pays for school meals. |?

In 3ADC H/H nearly $\frac{9}{10}$ pay for school meals. Of 'other' H/H with children $\frac{3}{5}$ pay.

A high proportion ($\frac{3}{4}$) of H/H with 2 or more children, in poverty, pay for school meals. On the margins of poverty this proportion is even higher (nearly $\frac{4}{5}$)

A higher proportion of H/H on the margins of poverty get free school meals than those actually in poverty.




Nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of the children from unskilled #/H pay for school meals.

A significant proportion of managerial & ~~prof.~~ & higher inspect. gain free school meals. The ~~most~~ majority are in the skilled manual group (nearly $\frac{2}{3}$) but only $\frac{1}{5}$ get free school meals.

Regions

Nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total unskilled workers with children getting free school meals are found in Scotland & N. Ireland.

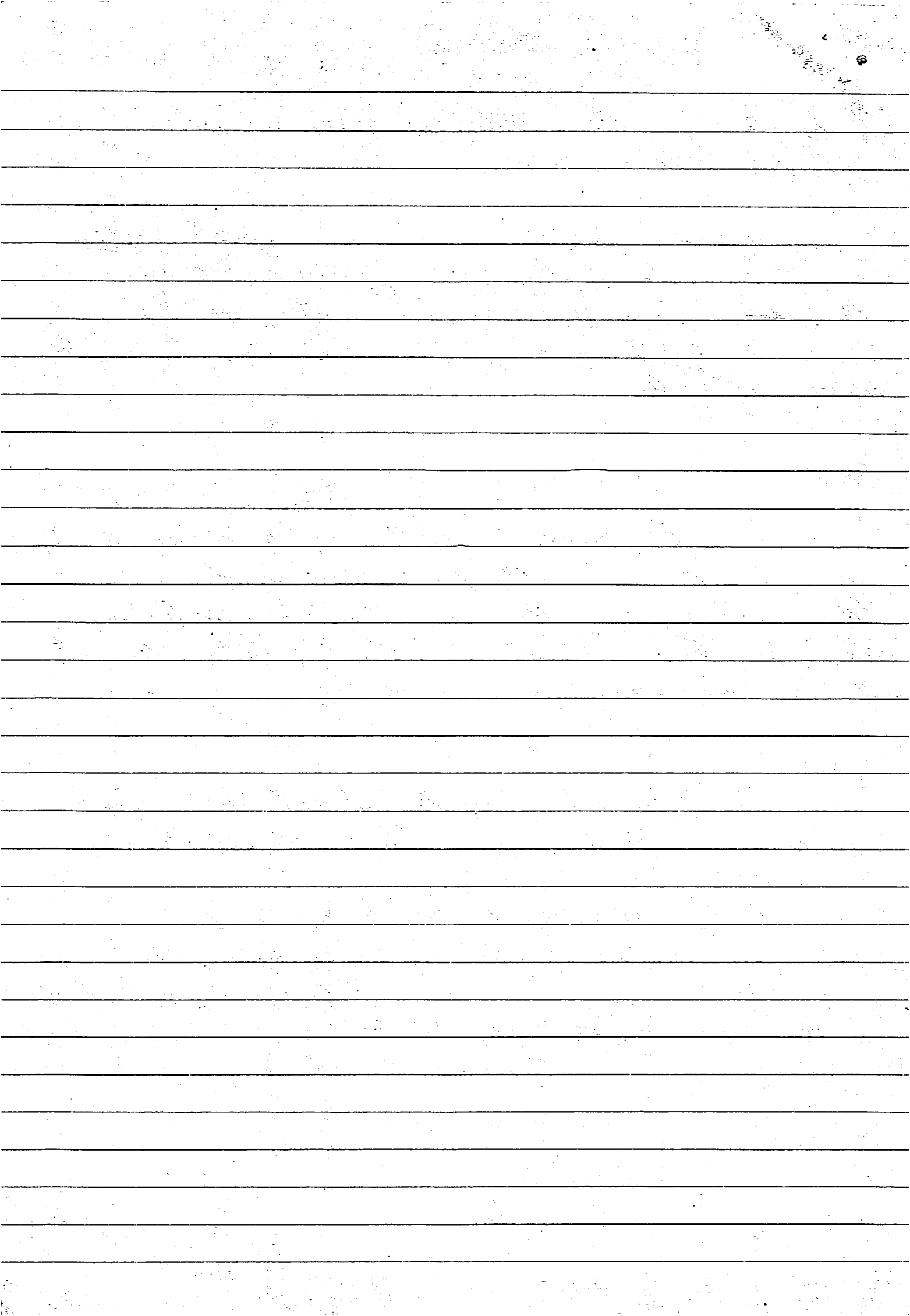
The majority of the same class individuals pay for their children's school meals thro' out the other regions (just under $\frac{2}{3}$). 

Ages

The greatest proportion of all free school meals is taken by those between the ages of 5 & 10 (nearly $\frac{3}{5}$).

This being the largest single age group.

$\frac{4}{5}$ of children between ages of 11 & 15 pay for school meals & $\frac{2}{10}$ between ages of 16 & 25 & over $\frac{1}{10}$ between ages of 0 & 4.



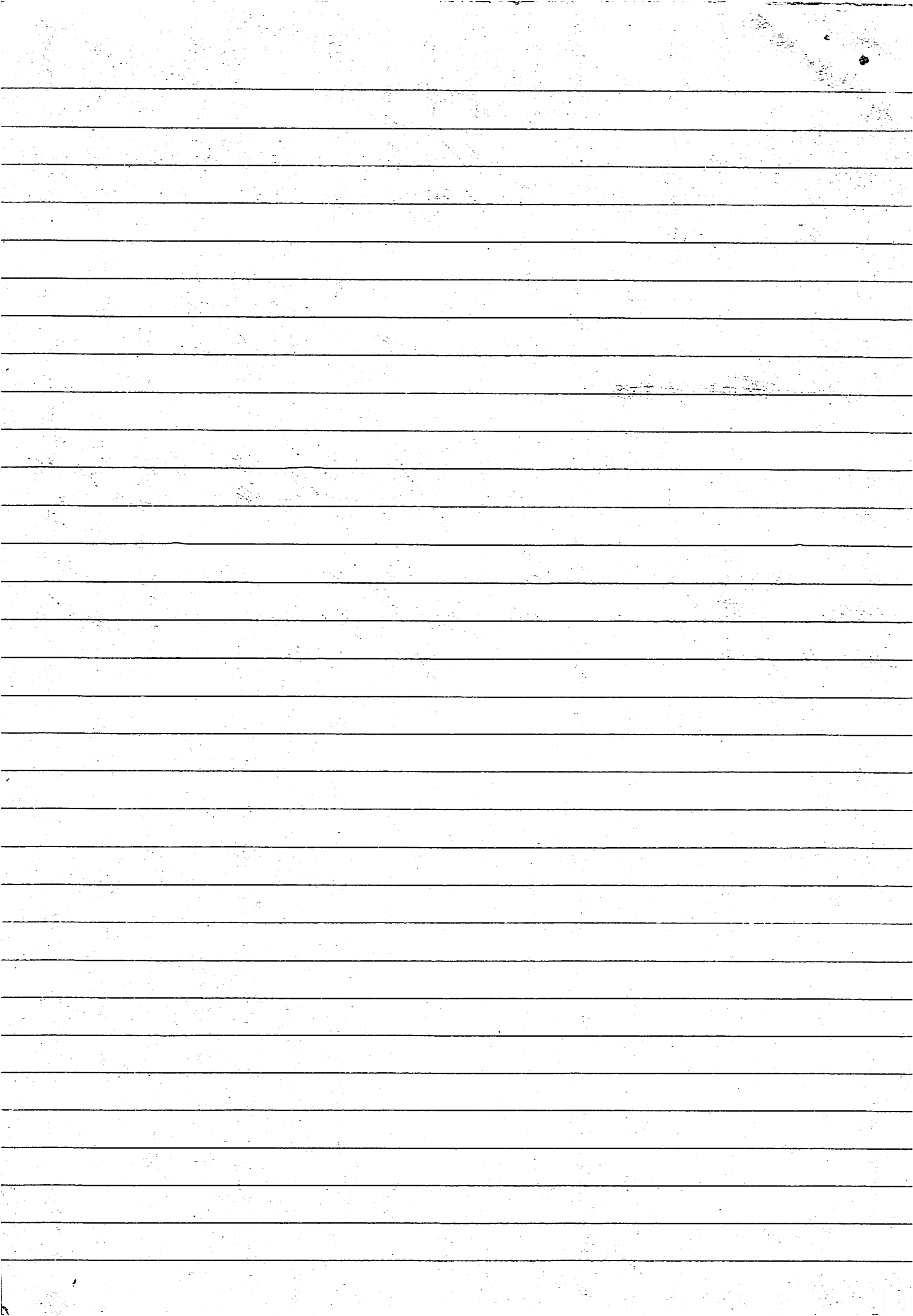
TAB (4)

Effectiveness of mean tested schemes \rightarrow discouragement?
Nearly 15% of those receiving SB are not
getting free SMS. ✓

Just over 10% of those who CNC SB are
receiving free SMS for their child (ren.)
(~~eq. low paid workers~~). ✓

Nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of those eligible but not receiving SB
do not receive free SMS for their child (ren.) ✓

The largest proportion of free SMS ($\frac{2}{3}$) goes to
those that are ineligible for SB. (largest
single group). (eq. low paid workers). ✓



2. Rent Rebates & Rate Rebates.

i) Eligibility

a) Rent Rebates. (only council tenants)

Local auths. could grant rebates to tenants according to any scheme they may decide upon. Very little information in fact.

b) Rate Rebates

Income limits for full rebate:

up to 1 Oct. 1968

After 1st Oct 1968

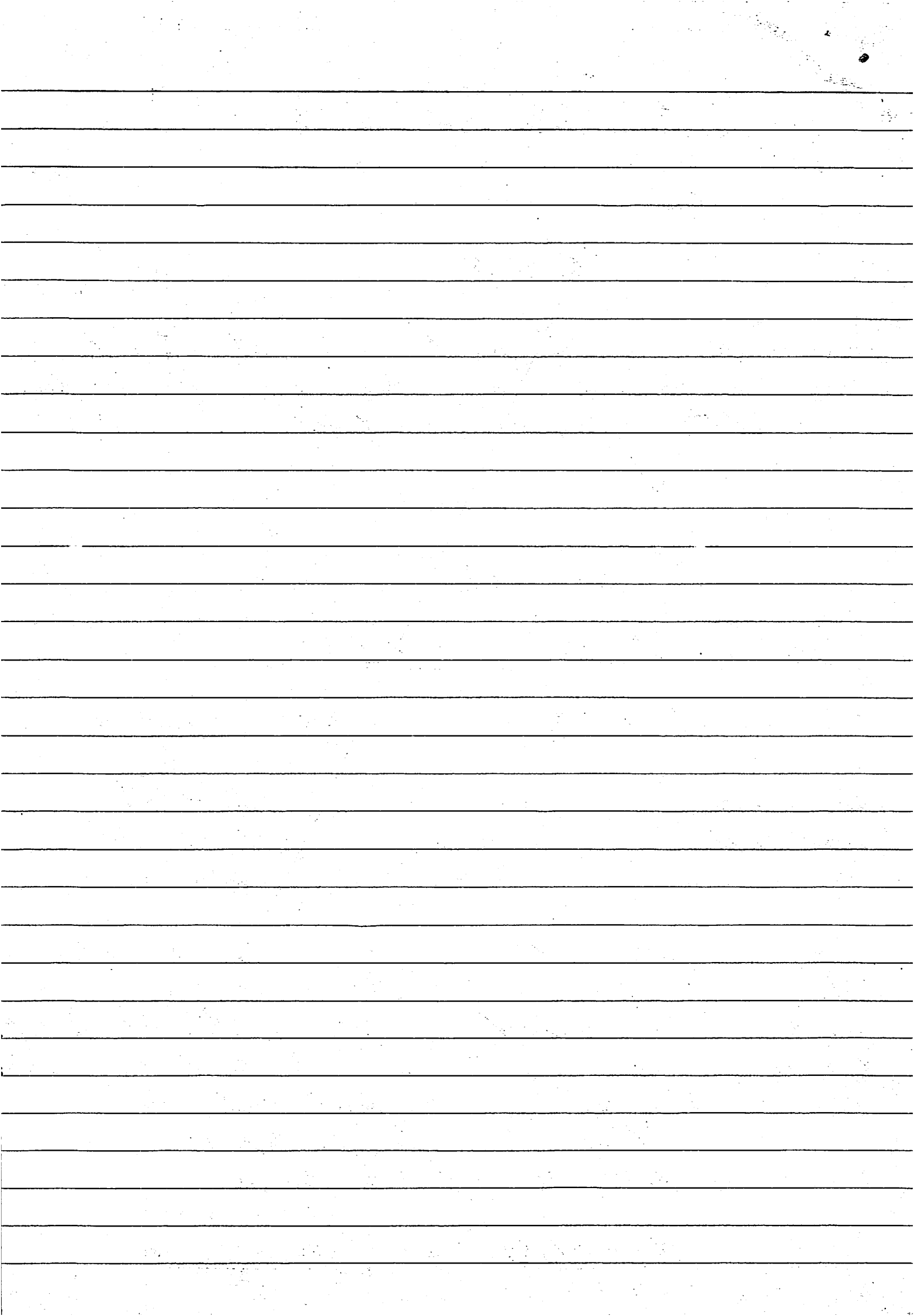
single householder	£8 pw.	£8 pw £9
married couple	£10 pw	£11 pw.
each resident child	£1.50 pw	£2 pw.

Where an applicant's income is somewhat above the limit for a full rebate, he may nevertheless be entitled to some rebate. The amount depends on how much above the limit his income is & the size of the full rate bill.

1968 - 69, 115,421 (16% of total) received rebates below the full rate for this reason.

Source Rate Rebates & Eng. & Wales 1968-1969

Min. Housing & Local Gov., HMSO 1969



S.B. recipients usually excluded.
i.e. SBC pays rent & rates.

ii) Government figures.

a) Rent Rebates

little information.

Est. Number in annual receipt 425,000
source: Housing Statistics 1970

b) Rate Rebates

Harvard Jan. 15 Nov 1971. p 119.

1970-71 approx 795,000 rate rebates.

Dept. of the Environment, Handbook of Statistics
(Local Gov, Housing & Planning), HMSO 1970, p 5

1967-8 (Eng & Wales) Total Rebates £12.30m
Ave Rebate £15.65
No. of recipients as
% total 5.1%.

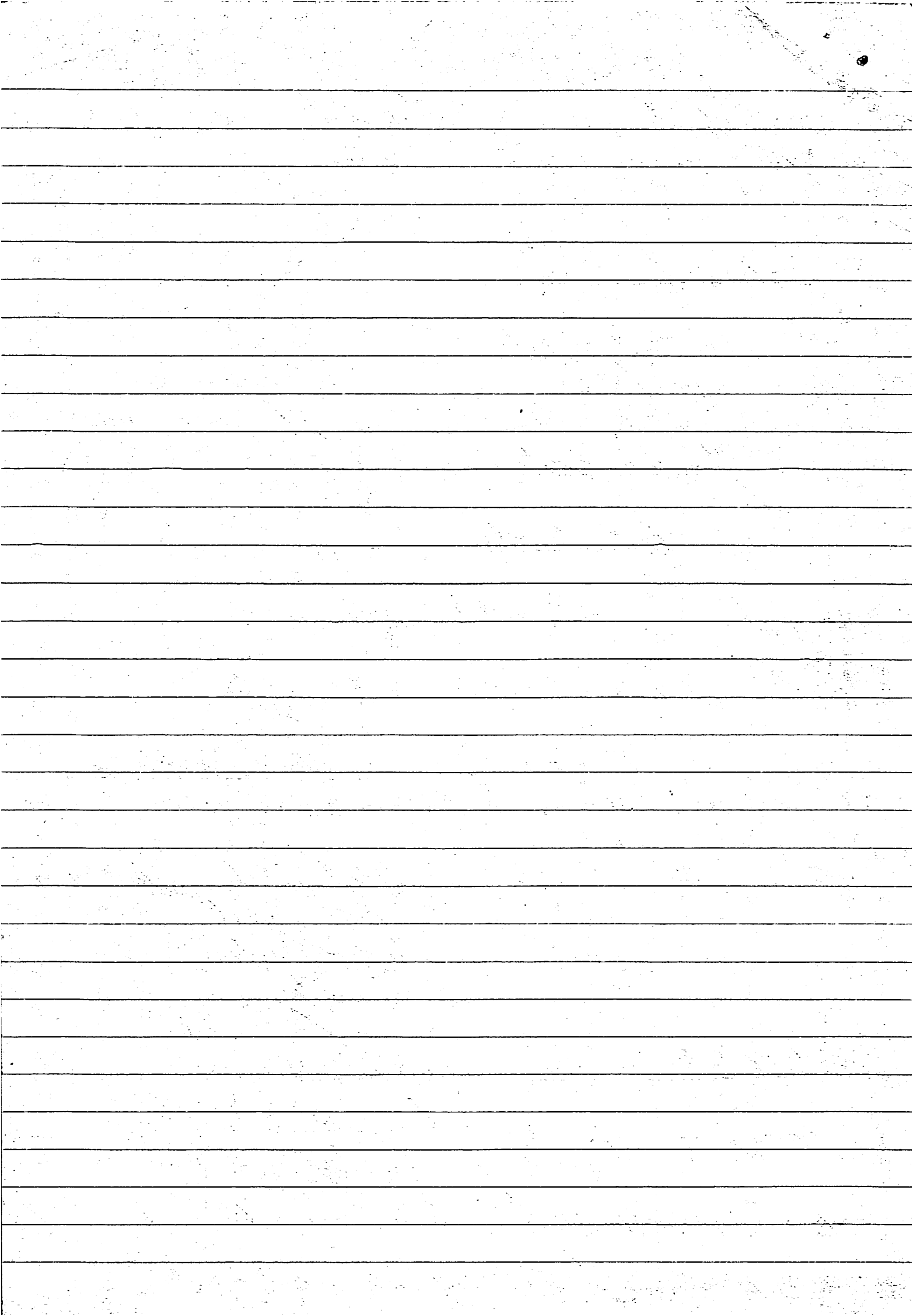
Rate Rebates in Eng. & Wales 1968-9 p 4.

Average for 1967-68 787,150.
1968-69 791,798.

(rise in 1968 due
to increase in rates
& better publicity).

Recipients as prop. of all domestic hereditaments = 5%.

c. 2m. householders getting help with rates via SB

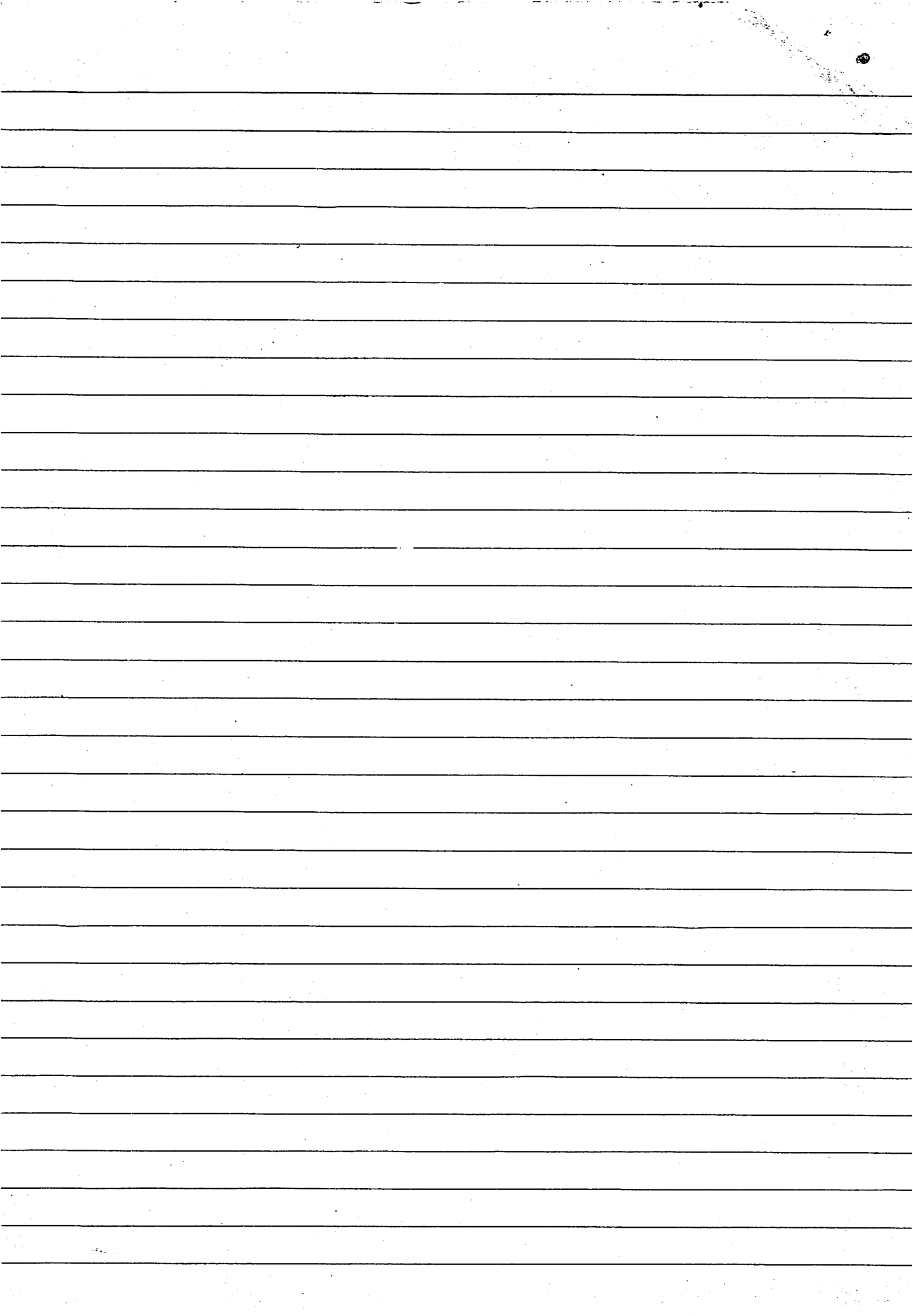


iii) References

Rate Rebates in England & Wales. 1968/69

Holly Meacher article.

Tony Lynes 'Rate Rebates: what went wrong?'
Poverty No 1 1966.



Analysis

Rent Rebates.

TAB ⑤

&

TAB ⑥

Appendix.

About ^{over $\frac{1}{4}$} ~~$\frac{1}{4}$~~ of the total sample were council tenants (tables \therefore exclude non-council tenants).

Tab ⑥ shows the significant part played by uncertainty in Differential Rent schemes.

TABs ⑤ & ⑥ do not include those respondents who replied negatively to the question: 'do you know if the council operates a diff. ^{rebate} rent scheme?'

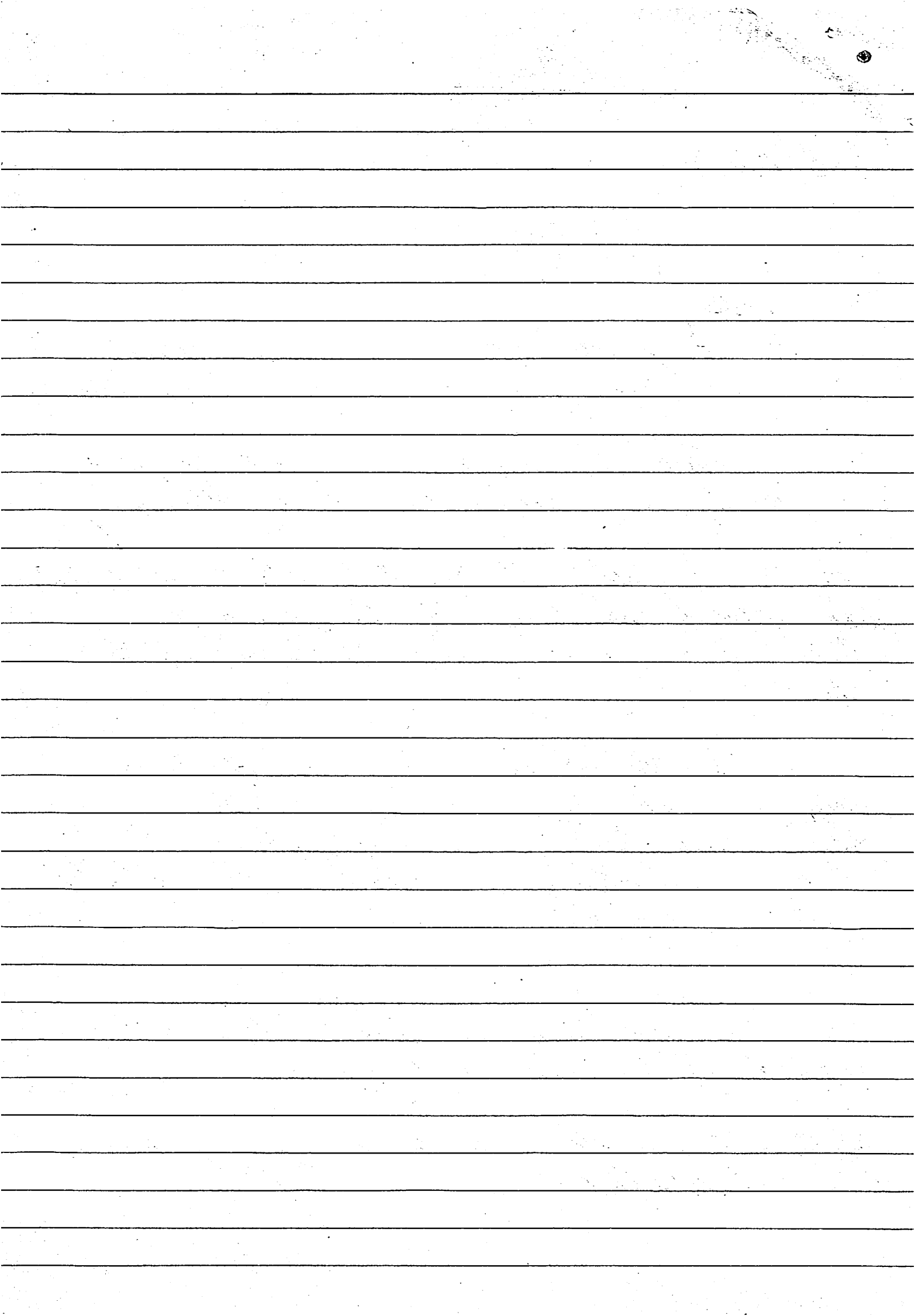
\therefore $\frac{2}{5}$ do not know if council operates a scheme or if they are getting a rebate.

Former uncertainty = lack of publicity etc.

latter uncertainty = rebate often deducted before payment of rent.

Over $\frac{2}{3}$ of those in poverty have not applied for a rent rebate.

Nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ of those on the margin of poverty have not applied.



Of the total receiving R.R. $\frac{1}{2}$ are on the margins of poverty & to be in poverty (effect of those ~~paying~~ receiving SB?).

Nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of recipients are outside the critical 140 limit.

Altho' $\frac{2}{3}$ of those receiving SB. have not applied for a R.R., this is equalised by the SBC who pay recipients' rents.

What is more significant is the 54% of those eligible but not receiving SB. who have not applied for a R.R.

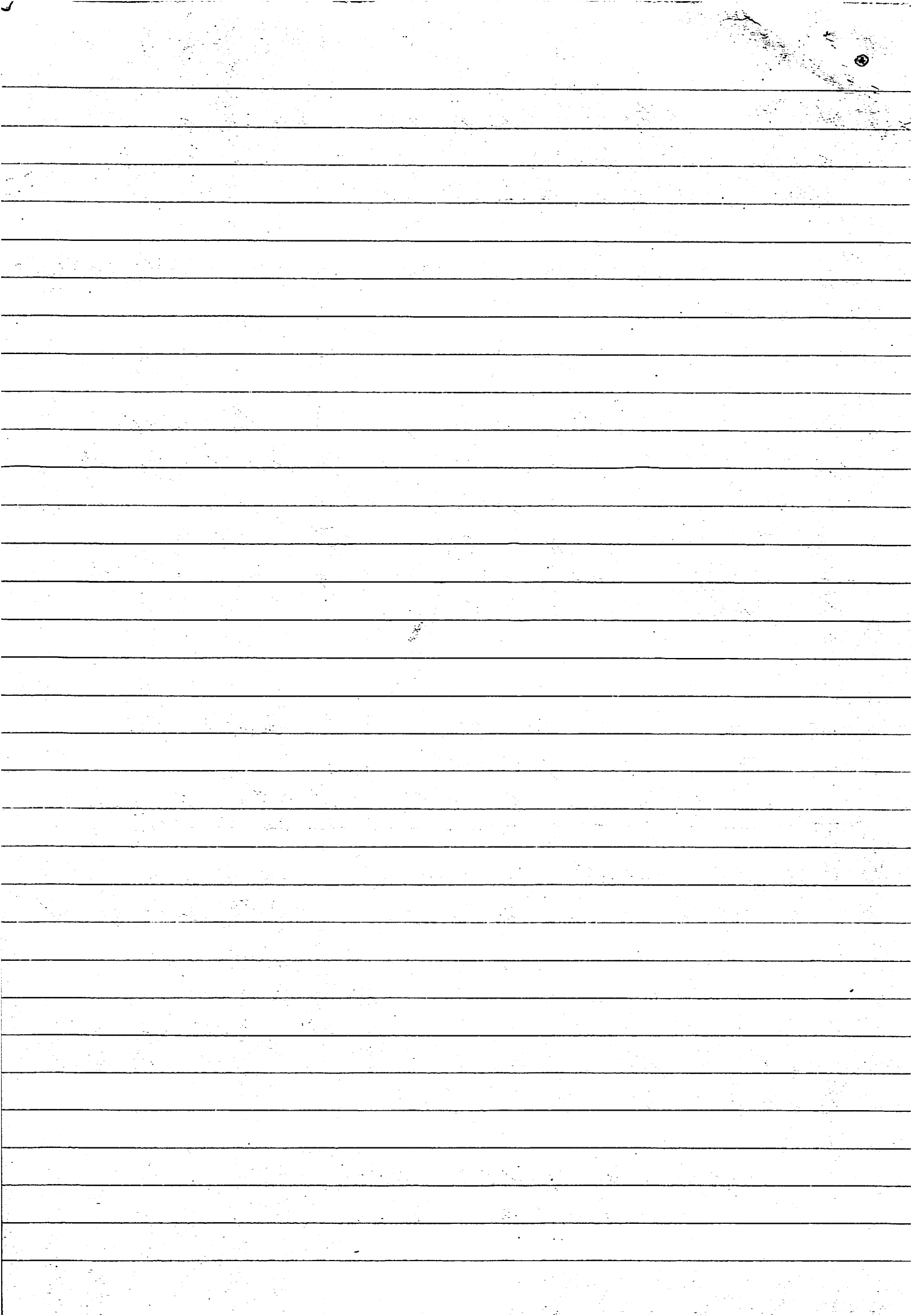
Bearing in mind the fact that those on SB have their rents paid for them
(i.e. need programme to filter out those paying SB):

Of single adult H/Hs (above & below 60) all female men & $\frac{1}{2}$ male men had not applied for a R.R.

Just over $\frac{1}{3}$ of MW H/H received a R.R.

Altho' all MWC & nearly $\frac{3}{10}$ of MW2 H/H received a R.R., only 6% & 18% of MW3 & MW4 + H/Hs received one.

The average for 3ADC, 4AD, others without children & others with child was 7%.



i.e. large families & H/H not receiving R/Rs.
In fact the mean for not applying for all
H/H larger than MWC was over 90%.

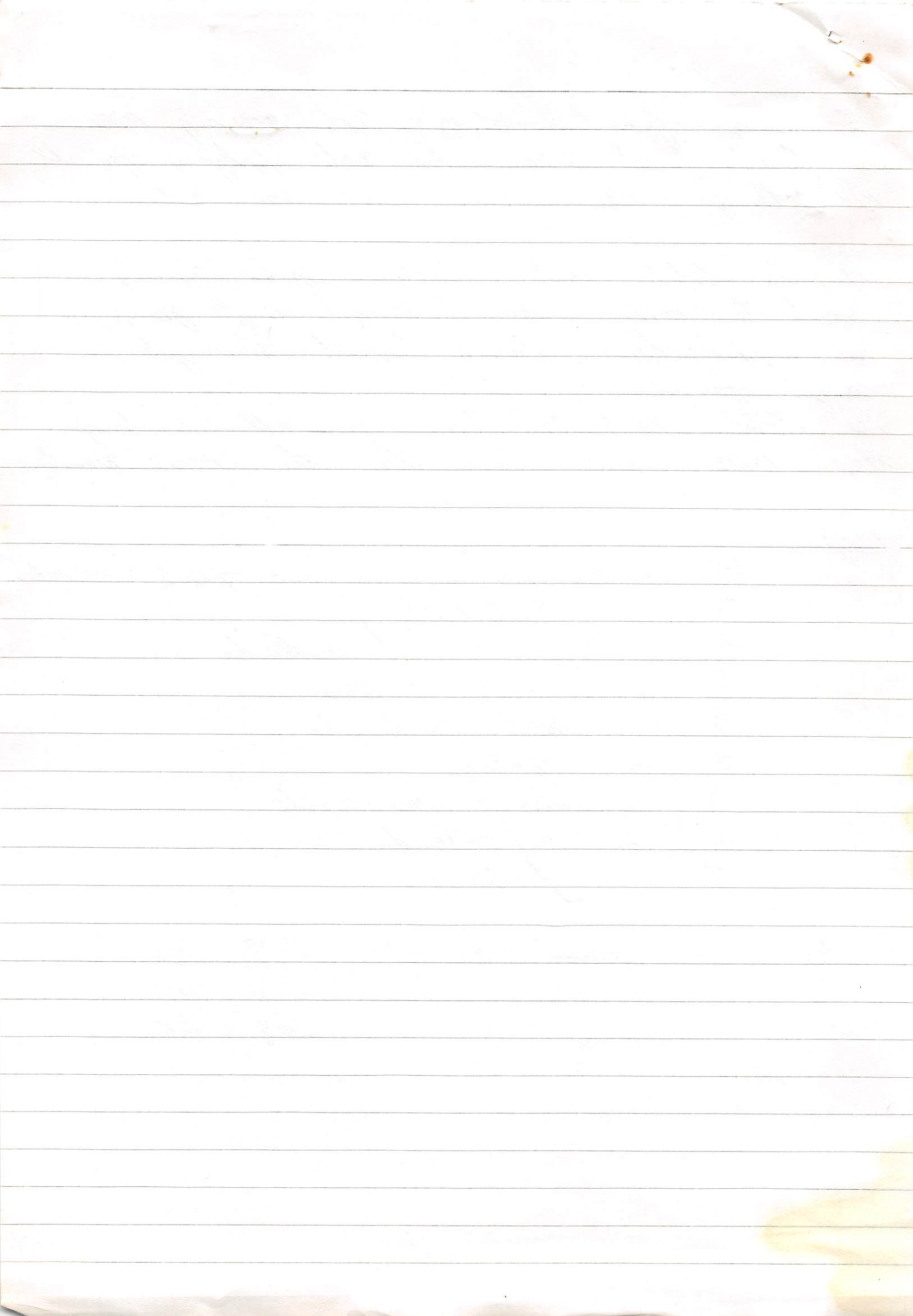
Of the total rent reductions given nearly $\frac{1}{3}$
went to MNZ H/Hs (largest single group).
Non-applications being highest amongst
larger families.

The total rent reductions for all H/H larger
than MNZ was less than the MNZ numbers.

Regions

$\frac{2}{3}$ of councils in GLC area operate a RR scheme.
 $\frac{4}{5}$ in South East
 $\frac{1}{5}$ in Anglia & East Midlands
 $\frac{2}{3}$ in S. West & Wales
 $\frac{1}{2}$ in West Midlands
 $\frac{1}{3}$ in North
 $\frac{1}{3}$ in Yorks & Humberside
0 in N. Ireland
 $\frac{1}{2}$ in Scotland.

Figures for ~~total~~ G.B. = 50% YES
30% NO
20% DK.



Rate Rebates

TAB (7).

Rent payers

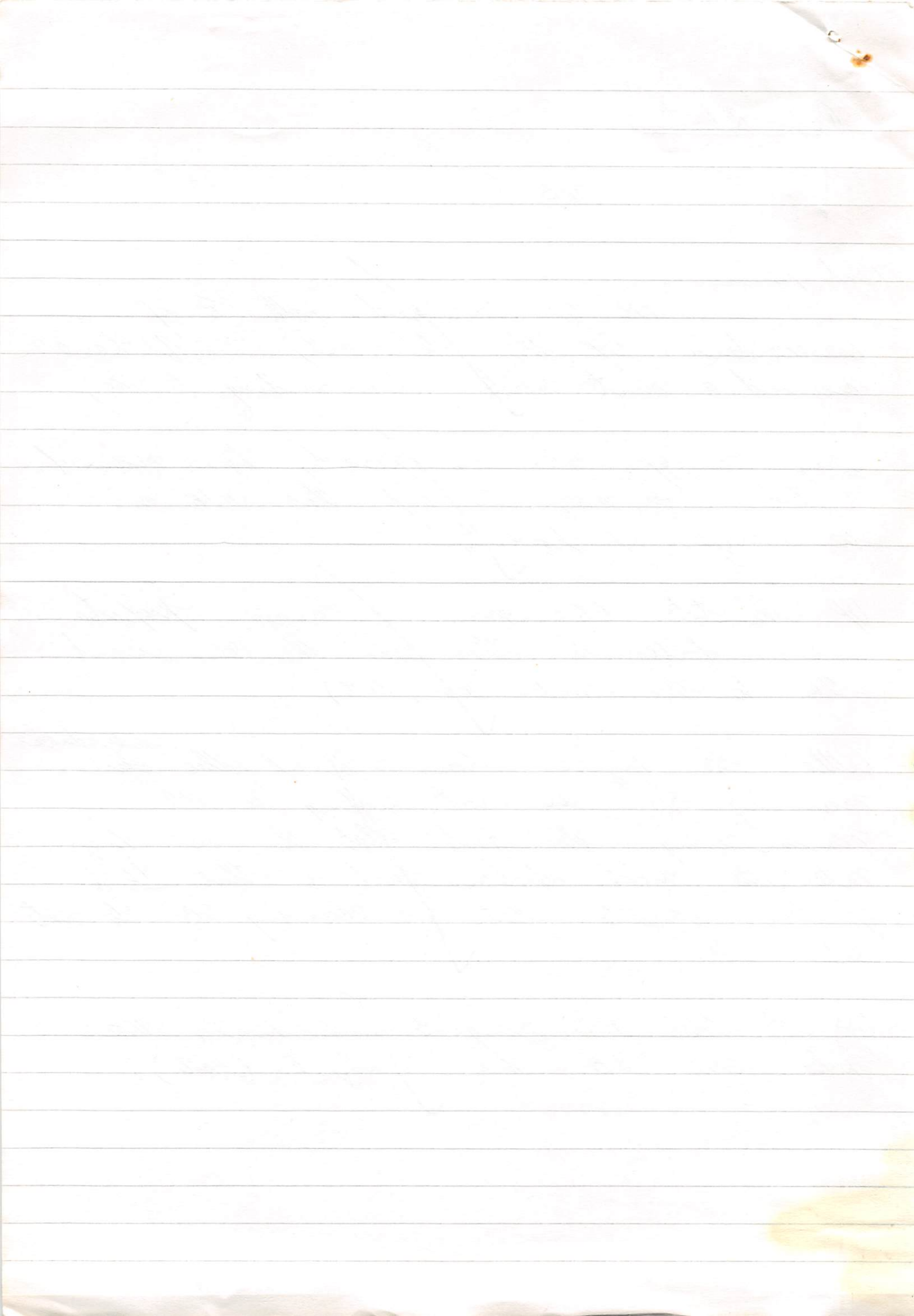
We are concerned with $\frac{2}{5}$ of householders. Of this total only 2.5% have received a rent rebate. (excluding 6 DAs)

Only $\frac{1}{20}$ of H/Hs in poverty have received a R.R. & only $\frac{1}{5}$ of those H/H on the margin of poverty.

Of the total R.R.s given a larger proportion (35%) falls to those over the 140 limit than to those under 100 (20%).

Altho' the figures show 95% of the ^{individuals} ~~the~~ receiving SB are not getting a R.R., remembering the fact that the SBC pays rates the most striking fact is that 92% of those eligible but not receiving SB do not get a R.R.

Of the total R.R.s going to individuals those who CNC SB take nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ (46%).



Owner Occupiers

TAB (7).

We are concerned with $\frac{1}{3}$ of the sample of households.

($\frac{3}{4}$ of those in poverty have not received a RR)

$\frac{4}{5}$ of those on the margin of poverty have not received a rate rebate.

Again nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ (65%) of those ^{H/H} eligible for SB but not receiving, have not had a RR.

Of the total RRs given the largest proportion goes to the CNC category (30%).

The largest proportion of Owner Occupier RRs go to MN2 H/H (40%) they being the largest single household group.

The total going to all larger than MN3 = 12%.

The sample figure for rate rebates 78 x 10,000 roughly corresponds with Government information (but no Gov. information on take-up).

