

Letters to: Local Taxation Service, PO Box 10505, Wood Green, N22 7WJ

Tel: 020 8489 1000

www.haringey.gov.uk

email: council.tax@haringey.gov.uk



APPLICATION FOR REDUCTION – SEVERELY MENTALLY IMPAIRED

You should complete this application in respect of any persons who you consider should be disregarded in assessment of Council Tax discounts, because they are Severely Mentally Impaired.

Council Tax Reference Number			
Address of Property			
Contact telephone number			
Email address			
Are you the owner or tenant of the property?		Owner / Tenant	
If you are a tenant, please provide the full name and address of your landlord			
Total number of adults in the property			
Persons to be disregarded:			
Full Name			
Qualifying Benefit Received			
Date Benefit Commenced			
National Insurance Number			
Name, Address and Telephone Number of Doctor (who has knowledge of the person to be disregarded)			
You must notify the Council immediately if any of the above details change			
Declaration			
I declare the details given in this application are to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate and the Council may verify this information from appropriate sources.			
Signed		Date	
<small>This authority is under a duty to protect the public funds which it administers, and to this end may use information held about you for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes.</small>			

SEVERELY MENTALLY IMPAIRED

The full Council Tax bill assumes that there are 2 adults residing in a dwelling. However, for Council Tax purposes certain people will not be counted when looking at the number of adults.

The effect of disregarding certain adults may be to reduce the Council Tax bill by 25% or 50%.

EXAMPLE 4 adults residing in a property

one person in disregarded category	100% charge as there are still more than 2 adults to be counted.
two persons in disregarded category	100% charge as there are still 2 adults to be counted.
three persons in disregarded category	75% charge as only one adult is to be counted.
four persons in disregarded category	50% charge as there are no adults to be counted.

Below are answers to some questions about who should be disregarded under this category, for the purpose of assessing Council Tax discount.

Q. How is "severely mentally impaired" defined?

A. For the purposes of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 a person is severely mentally impaired if he/she has a severe impairment of intelligence and social functioning (however caused) which appears to be permanent.

Q. What does this mean in practical terms?

A. A person will be disregarded on grounds of being severely mentally impaired if -

(i) He/she is entitled to one of the following benefits:-

- ◇ Employment and Support Allowance
- ◇ Incapacity benefit
- ◇ Attendance allowance or constant attendance allowance
- ◇ Severe disablement allowance
- ◇ Care component of a disability living allowance payable at either the middle or highest rates
- ◇ Unemployability supplement
- ◇ Pension Credit, Income support or Working tax credit where the applicable amount includes a disability premium

AND

(ii) He/she is confirmed as being severely mentally impaired by a registered medical practitioner.

Q. What should I do if the person(s) I am applying for are not in receipt of one of the above benefits but I think they may be entitled to it?

A. If you would like more information about any benefit contact the Department of Social Security.

Q. How do I apply?

A. Complete all parts of the form overleaf and return it without delay. Once it has been assessed you will be notified of the Council's decision.

Q. For how long will the discount be allowed?

A. For as long as there are less than two adults in the property who are not disregarded. *If there is any change in circumstances then you must notify the address shown above.* Failure to do so may result in a penalty being imposed.

Data Protection Act 1984

The information you provide on this form will be used to determine if you are eligible for a discount from your Council Tax, and may be recorded on a computer. Although you are not obliged to give this information, the Council will be unable to assess your eligibility for a discount unless you do so.