

Council Tax Application for Disability Reduction



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Explanatory Notes

What is a disability reduction ?

The scheme provides for a reduction in Council Tax bills where certain facilities are required in a property to meet the special needs of a disabled person who lives there.

Am I entitled to a disability reduction ?

You may be entitled to a reduction if :-

either you or somebody else (child or adult) who resides in your property is substantially and permanently disabled (whether by illness, injury, congenital deformity or otherwise), **and**

your property contains at least one of the following features which must be essential or of major importance to the needs and well being of the disabled resident :

- A room (other than a kitchen or bathroom) which is mainly used by and required to meet the needs of their disability (e.g. a room used for treatment purposes or a downstairs room used as a bedroom because the disabled person cannot climb stairs etc.) The room need not have been specially built for this purpose but could be an existing room adapted for the disabled resident.

- An additional bathroom or kitchen for use by the disabled resident. (If your property only has one kitchen or one bathroom , adaptations to these will still not be sufficient to qualify for a reduction)
- Sufficient floor space for a wheelchair which is used by the disabled resident within the property.

What reduction do I get ?

If you qualify for a reduction, your Council Tax bill would be recalculated by treating your property as if it were one Band lower than that currently shown in the Valuation List e.g. if your property is in Band D the bill would be calculated as though it was in Band C. (If your property is in Band A, a reduction of one ninth would be applied).

How do I claim a disability reduction ?

If, after reading the above you think you may qualify for a reduction, complete the application form and return it to the Council Tax Section at the address shown above.

Please note :

- *It will be necessary for an Officer to visit your property to confirm that the qualifying conditions are met.*