

Request 6424 – Tax and revenues, Council Tax

(SCDC) Council tax and disabled band reduction

1. How many households in your local authority area made an unsuccessful claim for a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill during the 2018/19 tax year?
2. How many households in your local authority area made a successful claim for a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill during the 2018/19 tax year?
3. Including any successful claims made during the 2018/19 tax year, how many households in your local authority area were successfully claiming a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill as of 5 April 2019?
4. How many households in your local authority area paid council tax during the 2018/19 tax year?
5. What is/are your policy/policies in relation to backdating a successful claim for a disabled band reduction to a council tax bill?
6. What methods (such as online or by post) do you use to make residents in your local authority area aware of the existence of the disabled band reduction to a council tax bill?

Response

1. Our operating system does not hold an application date so I can only report on applications made through our designated Disabled Band Reduction form. We do receive applications through other methods such as emails, letters etc. but I have no way of identifying these for the purpose of your query. I can confirm we received 1 unsuccessful application for a Disabled Band Reduction via our designated application form during the tax year 2018/19.
2. Given the explanation above, I can confirm we received 9 successful application for a Disabled Band Reduction via the designated application form during the tax year 2018/19.

3. I can confirm there were 296 households receiving a Disabled Band Reduction on 5 April 2019.
4. There were 66,207 households chargeable for Council Tax during the tax year from 2018/19 within South Cambridgeshire District Council.
5. We automatically backdate all Disabled Band Reductions for any period where it can be established qualification for the discount existed up to a maximum period of 6 years from the date of application. Any applications requesting a discount beyond 6 years are referred to a panel of managers for a final decision on the earlier period.
6. We promote the discount on our website and through letters, emails and calls to our customers directly. We also have sent out posters and flyers to partner agencies, doctors, health centres, day centres, libraries and other public places to promote the discount further. We have also undertaken a promotion in our own magazine which is delivered to every household within the district.