

Council Tax reductions for patients in hospital

If someone goes into hospital for a long enough period, we may consider it to have become their main home. If so, it is possible that we can apply a discount or an exemption to their Council Tax account.

When is an exemption possible?

If a property is unoccupied because the person who used to live there has gone into hospital, you may apply for an exemption from Council Tax.

An 'exemption' means that no-one has to pay Council Tax for that property.

When is a discount possible?

Council Tax is normally charged on the assumption that two or more people aged over 18 live in a property. If there is only one adult living there, they can apply for a single person's discount of 25%.

However, if anyone aged 18 or over moves into a care home, a nursing home or a health service hospital and without them there is only one adult living in a property, you may apply for the same 25% discount.

We can only consider a reduction or an exemption if the hospital becomes a person's only or main home.

You may also find it helpful to read our leaflet or web page called 'You and the Council Tax'.

We will keep any information you give on the application form on our computer system and we may check it with other information we have. We may also give it to other council sections such as Housing Benefit. This is allowed under the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you knowingly give us false information to get a discount, you could face a penalty of up to £200.

If we give you a reduction and the circumstances of the household change, you must tell us within 21 days.

The information given here is for guidance only and is not a full definition of the law.

You can also get this information in other formats, including Braille, large print and audiotape. Please phone Customer Services on 01303 853555 or email Revenues.benefits@shepway.gov.uk

If you require help completing this form or would like further advice please phone Customer Services on 01303 853555 or email Revenues.benefits@shepway.gov.uk. Alternatively you can visit us at the Civic Centre or any of our One Stop Services in Hythe, New Romney or Lydd. If you would like to visit us but find this difficult due to a disability we can arrange for a visiting officer to visit you at home. Please phone Customer Services on the above number to arrange this.

Council Tax reduction

Application for patients in hospital



Please use black ink to fill in this form and return it to:
Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY

Your name and address	Council Tax account number
	Property address (if different from yours)

Please read the information over the page before you fill in your application.

Your daytime phone number

Name of the person in hospital	Name of the hospital	Ward	Date they went into hospital

Full names of everyone over 18 living in the property:

Your Signature		Date	/ /
----------------	--	------	-----