

## How Can I Reduce my Bill?

There are a number of different discounts, relief's and exemptions available that may be of interest to you.

### Personal Discounts

The full Council Tax bill assumes that there are two adults living in a dwelling (as their main home). If only one adult lives in a dwelling, a 25% discount will apply and the Council Tax bill will be reduced by a quarter.

If a dwelling is no-one's main home, a 50% discount will apply. This can apply to empty dwellings and second homes.

When calculating the number of adults resident in a dwelling, certain groups of people are not counted - for example people caring for someone with a disability who is not a spouse, partner. Full-time students. Within each of the groups, a number of conditions may need to be met before the disregard is satisfied. If you would like to see the full list please contact us on text phone 434488.

### Disabled person's relief (Council Tax Disability Reduction)

If a **disabled person** lives in your household and the property has features to the property to help with that person's needs, relief may be available.

The special features are —

- a room provided to meet the special needs of the disabled person (e.g. for storing dialysis equipment)
- an extra bathroom or kitchen is provided for the person with the disability
- extra space is created inside the dwelling to allow for the use of a wheelchair

This relief tries to ensure that disabled people are not disadvantaged by having to pay more tax because of extra space needed. Please note that the use of a private garage for a motor vehicle used by the disabled person is not one of the circumstances which qualify for a reduction.

### Council Tax Exemptions

Some dwellings are exempt from Council Tax. These include dwellings occupied wholly by students and most empty dwellings. There are several classes of exemption, some of which only apply for a specified length of time— For a list of these classes please contact us on textphone 434488 for more information about the classes.

### Granny Annexes –

Where a single property contains more than one self-contained unit, each of those units is treated as a separate dwelling for Council Tax purposes. A self-contained unit is defined as a building or part of a building which has been constructed or adapted for use as separate living accommodation. This includes structures such as those which are commonly termed granny annexes.

Units are exempt from Council Tax if they are occupied by elderly, severely mentally impaired or disabled members of the family that live in the other part of the property.

To find out more about any of the discounts or relief's mentioned or to apply for any please contact us on text phone 434488.