

FOI number: HBC_FOI_20200259
Date FOI Received: 12/04/2020
Department: Council Tax
Title: Council Tax Student Disregard Discounts
Description: Information about Student Disregard Discounts

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

Please advise: -

- 1) How many student discounts have been applied by the authority for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years? For clarity I would like this broken down by numbers of CLASS N Exemption and numbers of individual Student Disregard Discounts applied.
- 2) What evidence of being a full-time university student does the authority require to satisfy the application for student disregard discount?
- 3) What evidence do the authority require to apply a Class N discount to a property?

Class N - (1) A dwelling which is either–

(a) occupied by one or more residents all of whom are students;

(b) occupied only by one or more students as term time accommodation;
- 4) Does the authority accept or engage in any digital/online validation of evidence of being a full-time university student? If "Yes" please provide information about how this happens and with which Universities.
- 5) Does the authority rely on any lists of full-time student supplied by universities and in which case please state which institutions provide this method

Thank you in advance for the information to be provided.

Warm regards,

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

- 1) Please see table below:

	Number of Class N exemptions	Number of Student disregards
2018/19	334	640
2019/20	336	842

- 2) We request a certificate from the university, signed and stamped confirming full name, date of birth, address and course details.

- 3) It's the same level of verification but for all residents of the household.
- 4) No
- 5) No

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards