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From: FOI Responses

To:

**Subject:** Freedom of Information Response

Importance: Normal Sensitivity: None



Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025 for information about Council Tax discounts. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

**Question 1:** What percentage of households currently receive any form of Council Tax discount in the 2025/26 financial year?

Please include all discount types (e.g. single person discount, low income-based reductions, disability-related discounts, student exemptions, etc.).

## Response:

As at 31/05/25:

Exemptions	1.57%
Disabled reductions	0.46%
Single person discounts	34.11%
One person regarded discount	1.13%
All persons disregarded discount	0.43%
Council Tax Reduction	17.31%

# Question 2: What percentage of households received Council Tax discounts in the 2024/25 financial year?

#### Response:

As at year end:

Exemptions	1.65%
Disabled Reductions	0.46%
Single Person Discounts	34.13%
One person regarded discounts	1.14%
All persons disregarded discounts	0.44%
Council Tax Reduction	17.34%

**Question 3:** Have any Council Tax discounts or exemptions been reduced, removed, or otherwise changed in 2025/26 compared to 2024/25?

If so:

- \* Please specify the types of changes made (e.g. eligibility rules, discount rates, categories affected).
- \* The effective date(s) of these changes.

**Response:** The City of Doncaster Council do not have any discounts or exemptions that have been reduced, removed or otherwise changed in 2025/2026 compared to 2024/25.

Question 4: Of the households that received any Council Tax discount in 2024/25, how many (and what percentage) are receiving a reduced discount or no discount in 2025/26?

If possible, please provide this by discount type (e.g. single person, low income, disability-related, etc.).

### Response:

Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act allows for a request for information to be refused where the cost of supplying this information exceeds the appropriate limit. After carefully considering your request for information the City of Doncaster Council has decided that to respond to your request would exceed the appropriate limit as defined in the <u>Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004</u>. The regulations allow a request for information to be refused where the cost of supplying this information exceeds £450 (or 18 hours of officer time).

The cost limit applies in this case because the City of Doncaster Council does not hold a central record of this information and in order to determine how many households that received any council tax discount a total of 78,564 records will need to be reviewed. It is estimated that each record will require a 30 second investigation. As details of 78,564 records require review in order to determine this information this would result in a total time of approximately 39 hours which would exceed the time limit.

Question 5: If available, please provide any impact assessments, internal reports, consultation documents, or equality impact assessments related to these changes.

Response: Not applicable.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £98.00 to respond to this request for information.

### Reviewing any decisions made:

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email <a href="mailto:FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk">FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk</a>

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. www.ico.org.uk Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely, Sophie

#### **Sophie Ormshaw**

Information Governance Officer Information Governance Team Corporate Resources City of Doncaster Council Civic Office Waterdale Doncaster DN1 3BU

Phone: 01302 735326

E-mail: sophie.ormshaw@doncaster.gov.uk

Web: http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/

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