

Council Tax – Care Leavers Discount Scheme (CLDS)

Harrow Council introduced a new exemption from 1st April 2018, to help with some of the initial pressure for residents leaving care and moving into independent accommodation. If you are aged between 18 and 25, live in Harrow and have recently left care, you may qualify for an exemption for up to six months on your Council Tax. You must live in a property that for Council Tax purposes is in Band A, B or C, be the only person responsible for payment and be supported by Harrow Council.

If awarded, the exemption will stop either on your 26th birthday or the date that is six months following the date from which the exemption started, whichever comes first.

To apply please complete this form in full and ask you care worker to complete part two of this application form. Once complete your care worker must sign the declaration at the end of the application form.

Part One

Care leavers name:	
Date of Birth:	
Address:	
Council Tax Account Number	

- 1) Are you the only person over the age of 18 living at this address? (please indicate below)

Yes		Please carry on to the next questions
No		You will not qualify for this relief. Please do not complete this application. If you need support in managing your finances please speak to your Support Worker

- 2) Is your property in Band A, B or C (if you do not know look at your bill or look your address up on www.voa.gov.uk)?

Yes		Please carry on to Part 2
No		You will not qualify for this relief. Please do not complete this application. If you need support in managing your finances please speak to your Support Worker

Part Two (to be completed by your Support Worker)

The following are conditions for the relief to be met. By noting the below as yes you are confirming that the named person meets the criteria in the policy for the Care Leaver's Discount Scheme (CLDS)

I confirm that:-

- a) The claimant meets the definition as a former relevant child under the Children Act 1989 **YES/NO**
- b) The claimant has applied for any relevant national reliefs, exemptions or discounts **YES/NO**
- c) The claimant has been given a Single Person Discount – this will appear on the Council Tax Bill (or submitted an application for this via www.harrow.gov.uk/spd) **YES/NO**
- d) The claimant has applied for or qualifies for Council Tax Support- this will appear on the Council Tax Bill (or submitted an application for this via www.harrow.gov.uk/benefits) **YES/NO**
- e) The claimant is aged between 18-25 years old **YES/NO**
- f) You can confirm that the claimant is a care leaver received from Harrow Children's Social Services team **YES/NO**
- g) You have confirmed that the claimant was in the care of Harrow Council for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14 and that they were in care on their 16th birthday **YES/NO**

If you are able to confirm all of the above as yes please sign and complete the below.

Name:		Title:	
Signature:		Date:	
Contact Phone Number		Contact Email Address	

Should their circumstances change and they no longer meet the qualifying criteria, you must notify us within 21 days.

By signing the form you agree that, to the best of your knowledge, the information contained on the form is true and correct.

The care leaver must continue to make payments as shown on their Council Tax bill until such time as they receive a revised bill. Making an application does not mean they can stop making payment or reduce the payments requested.

This authority is required by law to protect the public funds it administers. We may share information you provide with other bodies responsible for auditing, or administering public funds, or where undertaking a public function, in order to prevent and detect fraud. We may also share information you provide to a Specified Anti-Fraud Organisation (SAFO) for the purposes of preventing and detecting fraud. For further details on this please visit www.harrow.gov.uk/privacy and select Corporate Anti-Fraud Team.

Please return this application by uploading it via our website at www.harrow.gov.uk/evidenceform or posting it to Harrow Council, PO Box 731, Station Road, Harrow, HA1 2DT