



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 25/26-103, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding Council Tax discounts in your local authority.

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.).
2. What percentage of households received Council Tax discounts in the 2024/25 financial year?
3. Have any Council Tax discounts or exemptions been reduced, removed, or otherwise changed in 2025/26 compared to 2024/25?

If so:

- o Please specify the types of changes made (e.g. eligibility rules, discount rates, categories affected).
 - o The effective date(s) of these changes.
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.).
 5. If available, please provide any impact assessments, internal reports, consultation documents, or equality impact assessments related to these changes.

Response:

1. During 2025-2026, for the 43528 accounts that are live during this period, 15696 (36.06%) receive some form of discount
2. During 2024-2025, for the 49748 accounts that were live during this period, 21587 (43.39%) received some form of discount
3. The only change made was that the Long-Term Empty Premium charge can now be applied after a property has been empty, unoccupied and unfurnished for 1 year, it was previously 2 years. This came into effect on the 01.04.25.
4.
271 with a lower disabled reduction (0.72%)
1037 with lower discounts from other discounts (empty, second homes, etc) (2.77%)
11103 with lower single person discounts (29.69%)
54 with lower discounts from local schemes (0.14%)
3196 with lower CTRS (8.55%)
The information gathered is for accounts that were active for the whole of 2024-2025 and those that have been active from 01.04.25.
5. n/a

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 25/26-103.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.