

## **FOI 494/2016**

### **REQUEST**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your council tax department:

- In each of the past three years from January to December (or April to March, depending on how you record the information) how many households paid council tax to your local authority?
- In each of the past three years from January to December (or April to March, depending on how you record the information), how many households claimed a 25% council tax reduction due to one occupant being medically certified as 'severely mentally impaired'?
- In each of the past three years from January to December (or April to March, depending on how you record the information), how many households didn't pay any council tax at all due to the sole occupant being medically certified as 'severely mentally impaired'?
- How many pages long is the form for applying for a 25% council tax reduction due to a 'severe mental impairment'?
- How many pages long is the form for applying for a council tax exemption due to a 'severe mental impairment'?
- What supporting evidence/information, other than a diagnosis from a registered medical practitioner and proof of eligibility for one of a list of certain benefits – do applicants have to provide in order to claim the 25% council tax reduction for a 'severe mental impairment'?

### **RESPONSE**

Further to your FOI request received on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016, please below the answers to your enquiry.

The form for both the exemption and the disregard is 2 sides of a single A4 sheet of paper. There is no additional evidence required to the medical diagnosis and the proof of entitlement to certain benefits.

Year	Number of Households with an S.M.I. Exemption	Number of Households with a S.M.I. Disregard	Number of Households
31st March 2016	189	350	68941
31st March 2015	187	344	68633
31st March 2014	153	317	68345