

Shetland Islands Council



Revenues
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Council Tax Disabled Band Relief

Under Section 80 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Council Tax (Reduction for Disabilities) (Scotland) Regulations 1992, those who meet specified criteria can receive a reduced council tax charge, as well as reduced water service charges. This is known as Disabled Band Relief (DBR).

Not everyone with a disability is eligible for DBR, rather the legislation seems to be aimed at persons who require a larger property due to the nature of their disability. Where the qualifying criteria is met, the taxpayer is charged the rate for the property banding below the banding of their property. Therefore, those in a band D property who qualify for DBR will be billed for the charges relating to a band C property.

In order to qualify for DBR the dwelling must be the sole or main residence of at least one person who is substantially or permanently disabled, whether by illness, injury, congenital deformity or otherwise. The dwelling must also feature one of the following three criteria that meets the needs of the disabled person.

- 1) A room other than a kitchen or bathroom which is predominantly used by the disabled person and is needed or required to meet their needs.
- 2) An additional kitchen or bathroom which is required to meet the disabled person's needs.
- 3) Sufficient floor space to permit the disabled person to use a wheelchair, where the person requires a wheelchair to mobilise indoors.

The feature must be either essential or of major importance to the wellbeing of the disabled person, and it must be required due to the nature and extent of their disability. The disabled person can be any resident in the property including children and the disabled person does not need to be liable for the council tax. The discount is attached to the disabled individual, if they move out of the property, the DBR will end.

When assessing your application, we will consider whether there is a causative link between the disability and the requirement for the room. DBR will only be awarded if the space in question is additional to what a person would need if they did not have the disability.

In order to determine your eligibility for DBR, we may visit the property and / or request photos of the property. A medical certificate will also be required to confirm the disability.

Application Form for Disabled Band Relief

PART A: Application Details

Full name of taxpayer(s):

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Address of property:

Postcode:

Council Tax Account Number:	
Valuation Band of Property (A-H):	

Name of Disabled Person:	
Date of Birth:	
Nature of Disability:	
Date became resident in property:	

Which of the following features is provided within the property?

A room (other than a bathroom, kitchen or toilet) required to meet the needs of the disabled person	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
An additional bathroom or kitchen required to meet the needs of the disabled person	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Extra space inside the property to allow for the use of a wheelchair	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Date facilities became available within the property:	
Are the features of essential or of major importance to the wellbeing of the disabled resident?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Please use the box below to provide any additional information in support of your application:

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PART B: Applicant's declaration

I accept responsibility for the information given in this form, and declare that it is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I authorise the council to make any enquiries it considers necessary to verify the details of this claim.

I undertake to notify Shetland Islands Council Local Taxation Team immediately if circumstances or the occupancy of the dwellings change.

Name / signature:	Date:

Contact Telephone Number:	Contact Email Address:

When you have completed this form, please return to the address on page 1 of the application form, with the completed Doctors Certificate.