



**Wealden**  
District Council

  
**Lewes District Council**  
[www.lewes.gov.uk](http://www.lewes.gov.uk)

  
**Eastbourne**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

*Hastings*  
BOROUGH COUNCIL  
...Making the Difference...

A black and white photograph of a residential street. In the foreground, a classic street lamp stands on the left. The street is lined with houses, some with gabled roofs and chimneys. The background shows a hillside with more houses. The overall scene is a typical suburban or village street.

## **Housing and Council Tax Benefit Non Dependants**

## **What is a non-dependant?**

This is someone, usually 18 or older, who lives in your home on a non-commercial basis.

- an adult son or daughter;
- another relative;
- any adult who does not pay rent or Council Tax at the property.

## **Who is not a non-dependant?**

The following people are not a non-dependant:

- dependant family members for whom Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit is paid, for example, a partner, young son or daughter;
- people who own all or part of your home;
- a joint tenant or sub tenant;
- professional carers;
- someone who lives in the property on a commercial basis.

## **How are Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit affected?**

If you have a non-dependant living in your household the amount of benefit that can be paid may be reduced. This is because it is reasonable to expect the non-dependant to make a contribution towards the household expenses.

The amount of deduction is set each year by the government and depends on the income of the non-dependant.

A list of the deductions for the current year are provided in the loose-leaf part of this leaflet. Please note that the figures are weekly and in the case of housing benefit assume that there are no rent free weeks. Where there are rent-free weeks the actual deduction will be higher and is calculated by multiplying the weekly amount by 52 and dividing it by the number of weeks for which rent is due.

## **When is a non-dependant deduction not made?**

No deduction is made where:

- a claimant or partner is registered blind;
- a claimant or partner is in receipt of Attendance Allowance or a care component of Disability Living Allowance;
- a non-dependant is a student or receives a youth training allowance;
- a non-dependant has been an hospital in-patient for more than six weeks.

## **What if there is more than one non-dependant?**

A separate deduction is made for each non-dependant in the household. If two non-dependants are married to each other, or are treated as a couple, only one deduction will be made for them. The amount of the deduction is based on their joint income.

## **People of pensionable age**

Where a claimant or their partner is 65 or over and a non-dependant moves in, no deduction will be made for the first 26 weeks.

If the personal circumstances of a non-dependant that is already in the household changes and results in an increase in the deduction, the increase will not take place for the first 26 weeks.

In both cases the appropriate deduction will be made in the 27<sup>th</sup> week.

Where the change results in a decrease in the level of deduction this will take place from the date the new circumstances were effective provided we are told within one calendar month of the date of change. If this time limit is not met the reduced deduction will apply from the Monday following the date we were told of the change.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### EASTBOURNE BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### Housing Benefits Office:

1 Grove Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UG

#### Opening Hours:

Monday-Tuesday 0900 - 1700

Wednesday 0930 - 1700

Thursday-Friday 0900 - 1700

#### Telephone:

01323 410000 (General Queries)

#### Fax:

01323 415130

#### E-mail:

housing.benefits@eastbourne.gov.uk (General Queries)

### HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### Benefits Service:

41 Wellington Square, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1PP

#### Opening Hours:

Monday-Thursday 0845 - 1630, Friday 0845 - 1600

#### Telephone:

01424 781900 (Helpline)

01424 781573 (Overpayments)

#### Fax:

01424 781541

#### E-mail:

benefits@hastings.gov.uk (General Queries)  
overpayments@hastings.gov.uk (Overpayment Queries)  
fraud@hastings.gov.uk (Reporting Fraud)

### LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### Finance and Community Services:

Council Offices, Fisher Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2DQ

#### Opening Hours:

Monday-Thursday 0900 - 1645

Friday 0900 - 1615

#### Telephone:

01273 471600 (General Queries)

#### Fax:

01273 484066

#### E-mail:

Benefit@lewes.gov.uk (General Queries)

### WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### Benefits Service:

Vicarage Lane,

Hailsham,

East Sussex,

BN27 2AX

#### Opening Hours:

Monday-Friday 0830 - 1730

#### Telephone:

01323 443500 (General Queries)

#### Fax:

01323 443146

#### Email:

benefits@wealden.gov.uk