

Dartford and Sevenoaks working together to deliver Revenues and Benefits Services

SEVERELY MENTALLY IMPAIRED

Please find enclosed relevant guidance on the Severely Mentally Impaired classification which you may wish to retain and two forms to be completed.

- (i) An application form; and
- (ii) A certificate to be completed by your/the person's G.P.

Please take the certificate to the G.P. and ask him/her to complete Part B. You should then return the application form and completed certificate to the Council Tax section.

If you wish to discuss the matter or require help with the forms then please the Council Tax section on the telephone number shown overleaf.

Revenues Services

Contact

Please contact your local Council using the details below.

Dartford Borough Council
Civic Centre, Home Gardens
Dartford
Kent
DA1 1DR

email: revenues@dartford.gov.uk

web: www.dartford.gov.uk

Sevenoaks District Council
PO Box 103
Argyle Road,
Sevenoaks
Kent TN13 1YT

email: revenues@sevenoaks.gov.uk

web: www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

PAY THE EASY WAY

Direct Debit is the easy way to pay your Council Tax. There are no cheques to write, no paperwork, no postage or overdue instalments.

Not only does it save you time and effort, you have a choice of four payment dates during the month and we can take your details over the phone or you can set the Direct Debit up online.

To set up a Direct Debit visit your Council's website www.dartford.gov.uk/directdebit or www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/directdebit

GUIDANCE NOTES

The definition of Severe Mental Impairment for Council Tax purposes is as follows:

‘A person is severely mentally impaired if he has a severe impairment of intelligence and social functioning (however caused) which appears to be permanent’.

In order to be disregarded for discount purposes, a person must be:

- (a) Severely mentally impaired (per the above definition); **and**
- (b) Stated to be severely mentally impaired by a registered medical practitioner on the prescribed certificate; **and**
- (c) Entitled to a state benefit from the qualifying list of benefits set out below:

The sections referred to are of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 unless otherwise indicated.

- (i) **Incapacity benefit** under section (under s.30A, 40 and 41); **or**
- (ii) **Attendance allowance** (under section 64); **or**
- (iii) **Severe disablement allowance** (under section 68); **or**
- (iv) **The middle or highest rate of the care component of a disability living allowance** (under sections 71 and 72); **or**
- (v) **An increase in the rate of disablement pension** (under section 104); **or**
- (vi) **A disability working allowance** (under section 129 for which the qualifying benefit is either one falling within section 129 (2)(a) (i) or (ii) or income support, and the applicable amount formerly payable included a disability premium); **or**
- (vii) An unemployability supplement under Part I of Schedule 7; **or**
- (viii) a constant attendance allowance under either;-
 - Article 14 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or Article 14 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983; **or**
- (ix) An unemployability allowance under either:-
 - Article 18 (i) of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or Article 18 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 1983

These notes are intended to give helpful guide to this aspect of the Council Tax but they should not be regarded as a complete guide to the law.

APPLICATION FOR CLASSIFICATION AS 'SEVERELY MENTALLY IMPAIRED'
FOR COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT PURPOSES

Please Complete This Form in BLOCK CAPITALS

Persons Name: _____
(i.e. Name of person who may qualify for classification as Severely Mentally Impaired.)

Address: _____

Qualifying Benefit To Which Entitled: _____
(a list of qualifying benefits is given in the enclosed "guidance note")

I will require proof that the person is entitled to this benefit, such as sight of their entitlement letter, a recent bank statement showing payments being credited to them or a letter from the Department for Work and Pensions

DECLARATION

Full Name: _____

Relationship to the Person: _____

Address(if different to that of the person concerned): _____

I declare that the information herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please Note - If after you have returned this form there are any changes to the information above, please inform the Council Tax section as this may affect the amount of the bill.

**THIS CERTIFICATE IS FOR USE IN DECIDING WHETHER THE PERSON NAMED
IS SEVERELY MENTALLY IMPAIRED FOR COUNCIL TAX PURPOSES**

Part A – To be completed by the person or their representative

I authorise you to seek on my / the persons* behalf the certificate set out in **Part B** below from the designated registered medical practitioner.

Person's name: _____

Person's address: _____

Doctor's name: _____

Doctor's surgery (or hospital address): _____

Signature: _____ Name: _____

Address (if different to that of person concerned): _____

*delete as applicable

Part B – to be completed by Registered Medical Practitioner and returned to the local authority.

For the purposes of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, a person is severely mentally impaired if he / she has a severe impairment of intelligence and social functioning (however caused) which appears to be permanent.

In my opinion, the person named above is severely mentally impaired and has been so from (date) _____

Doctor's signature: _____

Doctor's full name (block capitals): _____

Surgery / Hospital Address: _____

Doctor's Status (G.P. etc.): _____

Date: _____