



Data Protection Officer
Freedom of Information
NW Leicestershire District Council
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Leicestershire
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Telephone: 01530 454763

Date: 28 May 2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 1158

I write further to your email dated 12 April 2020.

Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), explained on our [freedom of information](#) page.

Your request:

1. How many student discounts have been applied by the authority for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years? For clarity I would like this broken down by numbers of CLASS N Exemption and numbers of individual Student Disregard Discounts applied.
2. What evidence of being a full-time university student does the authority require to satisfy the application for student disregard discount?
3. What evidence do the authority require to apply a Class N discount to a property?
4. Class N - (1) A dwelling which is either
 - (a) occupied by one or more residents all of whom are students;
 - (b) occupied only by one or more students as term time accommodation;
5. Does the authority accept or engage in any digital/online validation of evidence of being a full-time university student? If "Yes" please provide information about how this happens and with which Universities.
6. Does the authority rely on any lists of full-time student supplied by universities and in which case please state which institutions provide this method.

Our response:

We are unable to advise of the number of discounts actually applied during the specific financial years. However, the below figures represent how many disregards/exemptions were on accounts in the requested financial years.

N Exemption	2018/19 - 235
	2019/20 – 246

Student Discount Disregards	2018/19 - 188
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In order to apply an exemption or disregard, a student certificate from the place of study and confirmation of the number of other residents within the property would usually be required. We do receive a list from the University of Leicester and University of Nottingham (Sutton Bonington) twice yearly, which is also used for verification.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer the right to re-use the information. UK copyright law allows information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research to be used without permission. Information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting except for in the case of photographs.

GOING FORWARD

If you are dissatisfied with the information supplied please feel free to contact me on the number above for any queries in relation to this response. Please note that in responding to further enquiries I can only comment on the information contained within this correspondence and cannot provide any further information that may pertain to an additional FOIA request.

Please remember to quote the Authority's four digit reference number given at the top of this email in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the above informal review, you have the right to ask for an internal review. A request for a review whether formal or informal should be submitted within two calendar months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to DPO@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk or the address above.

Further details on our appeals and complaints procedure can be found on our website [here](#).

If you remain dissatisfied following the conclusion of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at accessicoinformation@ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mackenzie Keatley
Information Governance Officer