

Child Benefit

You will also not be counted if you are at least 18 years old and someone is entitled to child benefit in respect of you, or would be if you were not in local authority care.

If you are an 18 or 19 year old who left school after 30 April, you will not be counted until 1 November of the same year. (You may continue to get a discount as a student if you go on to further education).

Carers

You will not be counted if you live with, and care for, a person with a disability who is receiving one of certain allowances or disablement pensions. You must be providing care for at least 35 hours a week on average. But you will be counted if you are caring for your husband or wife (or partner with whom you live as husband and wife), or your child under 18 years old.

People in Prison

Prisoners who are on remand or in prison are not counted. However, people who are imprisoned for not paying a fine or the council tax are counted.

Diplomats; Members of Visiting Forces, International Headquarters and Defence Organisations are not counted.

If you would like to apply for a discount, please tick the relevant box and an application form will be sent to you.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Single Person | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hostels | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Apprentices | <input type="checkbox"/> | Monks & Nuns | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Youth Training Trainees | <input type="checkbox"/> | Child Benefit | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Student/Student Nurses | <input type="checkbox"/> | Carers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hospital Patients | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prisoners | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nursing Homes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diplomats | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Severely mentally impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Council Tax Reference Number _____

Name _____

Address _____

Please return to PO Box 1, Town Hall, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 3WZ

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01773 841440.

The address of our Headquarters is:

Amber Valley Borough Council

Town Hall, Market Place, RIPLEY,

Derbyshire DE5 3XE

Tel: 01773 570222

Fax: 01773 841343

E-mail: enquiry@ambervalley.gov.uk

Website: www.ambervalley.gov.uk

Switchboard and Reception Opening Hours

9.00am - 4.30pm Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday and Friday.

10.00am - 4.30pm Wednesday



A Minicom telephone system for hearing impaired people is now in operation at the Council.

Please dial 01773 841490

EMERGENCY NUMBER

Out of office hours only - 01773 841414

**ONLY TO BE USED IN A REAL EMERGENCY -
THREAT TO LIFE OR PROPERTY**

Direct Dial Helplines between 9.00am - 4.30pm Monday,

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

10.00am - 4.30pm Wednesday

Council Tax Recovery 01773 841445

Business Rates 01773 841444

Benefits/Council Tax 01773 841470

Refuse Collection 01773 841326

NEEDLES HOTLINE NUMBER IS OPEN 24

HOURS - 0800 0925131

OUR TOWN CENTRE OFFICES

Payments and enquiries are at:

Alfreton House, High Street, Alfreton

King Street, Belper

Market Place, Heanor

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,

Friday 9.00am - 4.30pm

Wednesday 9.00am - 1.30pm

Market Place, Ripley

Opening hours: Monday - Friday

9.00am - 4.30pm



JANUARY 2009

DESIGNED & PUBLISHED BY AMBER VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELPING YOU

*claim discount
on your
Council
Tax Bill*



number 5



AMBER VALLEY
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Caring & Working for Amber Valley

The full Council Tax bill assumes that there are two adults living in a dwelling. If only one adult lives in a dwelling, the Council Tax bill is reduced by 25%. The bill is not increased if there are more than two adults in the dwelling.

The Council Tax bill for a dwelling which is no-one's main home is reduced by a half (50%), although from April 2009 this will change, and extra amounts will be charged. This can apply to empty dwellings and second homes.

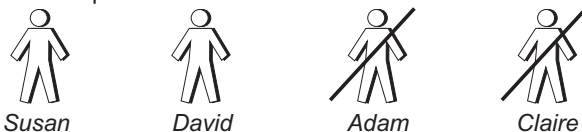
If a dwelling is unfurnished and unoccupied, a 100% discount will apply for 6 months. From April 2009, after 6 months has expired, a 100% charge will become payable.

If the unoccupied property is furnished (known as a "second home" for Council Tax purposes), then the Council Tax bill will be reduced by just 10%. (The only exception to this is where the property occupied elsewhere by the Council Tax payer is required for job related purposes, i.e. the property is provided by the occupier's employer as a condition of employment, in which case the Council tax bill on the unoccupied property will continue to be reduced by 50%).

Certain people are not counted when looking at the number of adults resident in a dwelling. They are disregarded.

To find out if a discount may apply to your home, you should count the number of adults who live there as their main home, take off any adult who falls into one of the following categories. If you are left with one adult or less, a discount will apply.

For example:



There are four adults living here. Claire is not counted as she is a student. Adam is not counted as he is an apprentice. There are still two adults counted so no discount applies.



There are three adults living here. Carl is not counted, as he is a Youth Training trainee. Louise is not counted as she is a Student Nurse. One adult is counted, so a 25% discount will apply.

Who is not counted?

Apprentices

You will not be counted if you are an apprentice employed to learn a job, and, as part of that learning, are undertaking training leading to a qualification recognised by the National Council for Vocational Qualifications. You must be paid a maximum of £160 per week (before tax) and expect to earn substantially more when you qualify.

Youth Training trainees

You will not be counted if you are under 25 and are receiving training in line with an individual training plan under the Youth Training Scheme, such as TCT, Options, Future and Next Step.

Students

You will not be counted if you are a student (or an overseas student) on a full-time or qualifying course of education.

You are a student if you are:

- attending a university or college course which lasts for a least an academic year, takes at least 24 weeks a year and involves at least 21 hours of study per week during term-time; or
- under the age of 20, and studying for more than three months and at least 12 hours per week for any qualification up to A level, ONC or OND standard. Correspondence courses, evening classes, or courses taken in connection with a person's job, such as on day-release, are not included.

Student nurses studying academic courses at university or who are on Project 2000 courses, are classed as students for council tax purposes.

Foreign language assistants registered with the Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges are also treated as students.

You will not be counted if you are the spouse or dependent of student, are not a British Citizen, and are prevented by the terms of your permission to be in the UK either from taking paid employment or from claiming benefits.

Student Nurses

You will not be counted if you are a student nurse on a course leading to registration on any of Parts 1 to 6, or 8 of the nursing Register. Only student nurses studying for their first inclusion on the Register are not counted. Nurses who are already on the Register or are taking further courses are counted. Student nurses studying academic courses at university or who are on Project 2000 courses, are excluded from this definition as they are considered as students.

Resident hospital patients

You will not be counted if you are a patient in a hospital which is your only or main home. If you are in hospital for a short time and you have a home elsewhere, you will carry on paying council tax at your home.

People living in Residential Care Homes, Nursing Homes, Mental Nursing Homes and Hostels providing a high level care

You will not be counted if you live, and are receiving care, in one of these places, as long as its your only or main home.

People who are severely mentally impaired

People who are severely mentally impaired are not counted. For council tax purposes, person is regarded as severely mentally impaired if he or she suffers, for whatever reason from severe impairment of intelligence and social functioning which appears to be permanent. This will usually include people suffering from Alzheimer's Disease and of similar illnesses.

In order not to be counted, a person will need a certificate from his or her doctor to say that he or she is severely mentally impaired. The person must also be entitled to one of a number of benefits including certain incapacity benefits, disability allowances, unemployment allowances or attendance allowances.

People staying in certain hostels or night shelters

A person whose main or only residence is in a dwelling such as a short stay hostel or night shelter providing communal accommodation for people who have no fixed abode and no settle way of life is not counted. These may include hostels run by the Salvation Army or Church Army.

Monks and Nuns

You will not be counted if you are a member of a religious community, provided that you depend on the community for your material needs and have no personal income or capital.

Only member of religious communities whose main work is prayer, contemplation, the relief of suffering, education or any combination of these are not counted.