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| **Title** | **Care Leavers Council Tax Relief** |
| **Purpose** | **To support practitioners in securing council tax exemption for care leavers and to provide information to care leavers on the process.** |
| **Updated by** | **Siobhan Walsh** |
| **Approved by** | **Siobhan Walsh**  |
| **Date** | **31.10.24** |
| **Version number** |  |
| **Status** | **Final** |
| **Review frequency** | **Every 2 years** |
| **Next review date** | **October 2026** |

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**Council tax relief for care leavers**

As a Surrey care leaver, you are entitled to support with your council tax payments, whether you are open or closed to the service, up until your 25th birthday.

**If you are living in Surrey:**

If there are other adults living with you but who are not care leavers, then they will still have to pay council tax at the property. For example, if there is one other occupant, you would be exempt (disregarded) from paying, and the remaining occupant would receive the standard 25% Single Person Discount.

In partnership with our districts, boroughs and the Police and Crime Commissioner, Surrey County Council have set up a new scheme which offers 100% council tax discount to care leavers, aged between 18 and 24, in Surrey. This will apply after all exemptions and discounts have been applied for.

**If you live outside of Surrey:**

We will pay 75% of the final bill for sole occupancy, if living in shared accommodation we will pay 75% of your portion of the final bill for any Surrey care leaver, aged between 18 and 24. This will apply after all exemptions and discounts have been applied for from that local borough council.

This scheme was revised in 2023 therefore all changes apply only to 2023-24 onwards, please note no back payments can be made.

For more details speak to your PA or email duty.deskleavingcare@surreycc.gov.uk.