

Appendix 1

Application for Council Tax discount

An application for a Council Tax discount has been received from Mr Stenlake in respect of 13 Killicks Hill, Portland.

The property was previously let with the tenant being responsible for payment of Council Tax. The tenancy terminated on 21 May 2016 and, as the property was a furnished let, Mr Stenlake became liable to Council Tax from that date.

Prior to the tenancy coming to an end, Mr Stenlake decided to put the property up for sale and a buyer was found on 28 April 2016. Most of the contents of the property were offered for sale and the purchaser forwarded a list of the items she wished to purchase.

Exchange of contracts took place on 2 August 2016 with completion on 19 August 2016. Mr Stenlake was advised by the purchaser/solicitors that the sale was delayed due to a backlog in the Local Land Charges Team.

The Council Tax charge for the period 21/05/16 to 19/08/16 totals £351.30. Mr Stenlake has applied for 100% discount to be awarded in respect of that charge as he feels that:

1. It is unfair that he is being charged Council Tax for the period that the property was unoccupied, but furnished.
2. The sale of the property was delayed due to issues within the Local Land Charges Team.

The Council has the discretion to refuse the application or award a discount of up to 100%. There is currently no budget provision for such awards. Any discount awarded would have to be met fully by the Council's General Fund.