



Application to apply for an exception to the Council Tax Empty Homes Premium

Address of property application relates to:

Council Tax Account Number:

This application form requests details relative to the factors that Westmorland and Furness Council (the Council) will take into account when deciding if an exception to payment of the Council Tax Premium can be granted. The exception to payment of the Council Tax Premium can be granted for a maximum period of up to 12 months.

The Council Tax Premium is set at differing levels depending on how long a property has been unoccupied. It starts with a 100% increase (making the total charge 200%) on properties which have been unoccupied and unfurnished for between one and five years, a 200% increase on properties which have been unoccupied and unfurnished for a period of at least five years and a 300% increase on properties that have been unoccupied and unfurnished for over ten years.

Each case will be treated strictly on its merits and all applicants will be treated equally and fairly through administration of the scheme.

If you need additional space to answer questions please provide on a separate sheet clearly marking the number of the question to which your response relates.

1. For those owners who are genuinely attempting to sell or let their property which has been vacant for at least one year:

(a) Please provide details of any professional advice and assistance that has been obtained.

(It is expected that when a property has been vacant for one year a professional agent with specialist knowledge of the locality will have been engaged).

(b) Have any offers to purchase or rent the property been received?

If Yes – why were those offers refused?

(Written confirmation of the reasons for refusal will be required from a professional agent).

- (c) Is the sale price or rental in line with recent sale or rental prices for similar properties in the locality?
(Please provide comparisons and explain reasons if not in line with similar properties)

- (d) Has the property been put up for sale by public auction? *(Please provide details)*

2. For those owners who have purchased a property that is subject to the premium (or becomes subject to the premium within 6 months of purchase) and who are renovating it to move into as their main residence or to rent it out:

- (a) Please provide full details of the work that is required, outlining the expected date of completion and details of any professional advice or and assistance that has been obtained.

(b) Is the property to be a second home or holiday let when the work is completed?

(c) Who will be occupying the property when the renovation work is completed?

(3) For those owners who are experiencing particular legal or technical issues which is preventing the sale or letting of the property:

(a) Please detail the legal difficulty or issue which is preventing the sale or letting of the property.

(A solicitor's or legal conveyancer's letter should be produced in evidence detailing the reasons preventing sale or letting)

(b) Is a sale or letting being delayed by the actions of a Public Body? If yes, please provide details.

I confirm these details are correct to the best of my knowledge and understand that I need to inform the Council within 21 days should the circumstances relating to this exception change:

Signed:

Date:

Returning the form

Please return the form to the council office where you live.

If you live in the former Barrow area, you can email it to counciltax1@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

If you live in the former Eden area, you can email it to counciltax2@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

If you live in the former South Lakeland area, you can email it to counciltax3@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

Alternatively, if you are submitting your application, please send it to:

Revenues Team

Town Hall

Duke Street

Barrow, Cumbria

LA14 2LD

Local Taxation Team

Town Hall

Penrith

Cumbria

CA11 7QF

Revenues Team

South Lakeland House

Lowther Street

Kendal, Cumbria

LA9 4DQ

If you need any further advice or information, please contact us on 0300 373 3300