



Rutland County Council

Rutland County Council
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29 August 2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 1126/18

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request / Response:

I hereby request under the Freedom of Information Act the following information specifically in relation to Council Tax and a deceased person:-

1. Your specific policy, written or adopted in relation to Council Tax, when a person has deceased.

Answer: The Council does not have a specific policy in relation to Council Tax for a deceased person. The Council follows the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 as amended.

2. How you handle that persons name when they have deceased and there are 2 people listed on the property one of which is still living.

Answer: The Council changes the Title of the person i.e. Mr, Mrs etc. to 'Exors of'. The Council Tax account for 2 people would be apportioned at the date of death if both Council Tax payers are jointly liable.

3. Your specific policy in relation to non-payment of Council Tax where one of the people on the property demand has deceased leaving a widow or widower in a period of 3 or 6 months following being notified of the persons death.

Answer: The Council has a Corporate Debt Policy which addresses collection of Council Tax from deceased persons. The policy states that ' An apportioned bill is normally sent. Occasionally this will cause distress and staff should deal sympathetically with any enquiries'.

The current Corporate Debt Policy is being updated. The new policy has a section on vulnerability. This includes 'a customer who has lost a close relative (spouse, child, parent) within the last 6 months. In such cases officers will have regard to how a vulnerability affects a customer's ability to pay. The new policy is expected to be approved by Council on 12th November 2018.



4. Your policy when you have been notified of probate.

Answer: The Council does not have a specific policy in relation to notification of probate. The Council follows the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 as amended.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP
You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council