



Leaflet MCL9

Second Adult Rebate



Merseyside authorities working together

This leaflet is one of a series produced by a number of Merseyside authorities to help you understand Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit. It is a general guide. People have different circumstances, so please contact us if you need more detailed advice. Addresses are on the back of this leaflet.



Knowsley Council
www.knowsley.gov.uk



The City of Liverpool
www.liverpool.gov.uk

Sefton Council 
www.sefton.gov.uk

 **WIRRAL**
www.wirral.gov.uk

FIGHT FRAUD – PLAY YOUR PART

Benefit Thieves take money from your pocket. Don't turn a blind eye and let them get away with it. If you know or suspect a Benefit Thief, report it in confidence. You do not have to give your details.

Call FREE on **0800 0730532** or use the simple Online Form at **www.knowsley.gov.uk**

You can also get this information in other formats and languages. Please phone **0151 443 4031** or email **customerservices@knowsley.gov.uk**

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1. What is Second Adult Rebate?

Second Adult Rebate is a type of Council Tax Benefit that is based on the income of other people living with you. It is paid to your Council Tax account and reduces the amount of your bill.

2. Who can claim Second Adult Rebate?

You can claim Second Adult Rebate if you are a single person responsible for paying the Council Tax on the property where you live, and have other adults aged 18 or over living with you who are on a low income.

Second Adult Rebate is usually for single people who do not qualify for Council Tax Benefit because their income or capital is too high.

3. What if I have a partner living with me?

Most people who have a partner living with them cannot get Second Adult Rebate.

If you have a partner living with you, Second Adult Rebate can only be paid if the following conditions are met:

- There is at least one other adult resident at the property with you and your partner, the other adult is on a low income and
- You or your partner are not counted for Council Tax discount purposes (see list below).

People not counted for Council Tax discount purposes:

- Full-time students
- Student nurses
- Severely mentally impaired people
- Youth Training Scheme trainees
- People detained in hospital
- Long-term hospital patients
- Certain apprentices
- Patients in nursing homes
- Members of religious communities
- Certain care workers
- Prisoners.

4. How is it worked out?

Second Adult Rebate is worked out by looking at the total gross income of all the other adults who live with you. We do not need to know any details of your income or capital.

5. How much can I get?

This depends on the type and amount of income of the other adults in your home. Second Adult Rebate may reduce your Council Tax bill by the following:

- 25% - if all of the other adults are in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseekers Allowance or Pension Credit, or any combination of these
- 15% - if their total gross income (before any deductions) is below £169.00 per week
- 7.5% - if their total gross income is between £169.00 and £219.99 per week.

If their total income is £220.00 or more per week, you will not qualify for Second Adult Rebate.

6. Examples

Detailed below are some common examples of circumstances when Second Adult Rebate may be awarded.

Example 1

Marjorie is a 45 year old teacher who works full time and owns the house in which she lives. She is divorced and has no partner. She is not on a low income. Her son John is 22 years old and still lives at home with her. John has recently started working after finishing university and earns £200.00 per week before deductions.

Marjorie can claim Second Adult Rebate and would qualify for a reduction of 7.5% of her bill.

Example 2

James is a solicitor who works full time at a local law firm and lives alone. His mother and father then come to live with him, they are getting Pension Credit.

James can claim Second Adult Rebate and would qualify for a reduction of 25% of his bill.

7. How can I claim?

The person who is liable to pay the Council Tax on the property must make the claim for Second Adult Rebate.

They must complete a benefit claim form and provide evidence of the other adult(s) income. Don't be put off by the size of the claim form, as you only need to complete a small part if you are applying for Second Adult Rebate.

If you are not sure whether to claim Second Adult Rebate or Council Tax Benefit, you should fill in a claim form.

You will need to give details of your income and all savings and capital, and your partner's if you have one; together with those of other adults in your household. We will work out your entitlement to each benefit and award the higher of the two.

If you only want to claim Second Adult Rebate, you will not have to give details of your income, only those of the other adults in your household.

If you want any more information about Council Tax Benefit, see our leaflet "Help with Council Tax".

8. What if my circumstances change?

If there is a change in your income or household circumstances you must notify us in writing immediately, or you may lose benefit. If the change gives you more benefit, but you did not tell us within a month of it happening, your benefit will change from the Monday following the date you told us. You can do this by letter or you can visit your nearest One Stop Shop.

9. What if I have a query?

You can call our Contact Centre or you can call in person at any of the One Stop Shops. You can write a letter to us, or email us. Contact details are on the back of this leaflet.

Leaflets and where to get them

All of these leaflets are available free of charge. You can get them from the One Stop Shops, Citizen Advice Bureaux and libraries. You can also download copies on www.knowsley.gov.uk.

For your ease, all of the leaflets have a reference to identify them:

MCL1	Starting Work
MCL2	Help with Rent
MCL3	Help with Council Tax
MCL4	How to claim Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit
MCL5	Help with Disputing a Benefit Decision
MCL6	Information for Landlords
MCL7	Housing & Council Tax Benefit Discretionary Housing Payments
MCL8	Housing & Council Tax Benefit for Young People
MCL9	Second Adult Rebate
MCL10	Council Tax Discounts and Exemptions
MCL11	Council Tax Disabled Relief
MCL12	Students



How to contact us

Information relating to the services which the Council provides and how to contact the various departments can be obtained from any Branch Library or One Stop Shop

In person: Please call at:

Huyton One Stop Shop
Municipal Buildings
Archway Road
Huyton
Merseyside
L36 9XJ

Kirkby One Stop Shop
Municipal Buildings
Cherryfield Drive
Kirkby
Merseyside
L32 1TX

Prescot One Stop Shop
Prescot Shopping Centre
Aspinall Street
Merseyside
L34 5GA

Halewood One Stop Shop
5/21 Ravens Court
Leathers Lane
Merseyside
L26 0UP

One Stop Shop opening times:

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

Saturday 9.30am to 1.00pm (Huyton, Kirkby and Prescot offices only)

By post: Please write to:

Housing Benefit Section
Knowsley Borough Council
Municipal Buildings
Cherryfield Drive
Kirkby
Merseyside
L32 1TX

By telephone:

Please ring contact centre on
0151 443 4042

By e-mail:

benefits@knowsley.gov.uk

By fax:

0151 443 4142

Disabled access is available at all of the One Stop Shops. The following facilities are available:

- Wheelchair/pram access and lowered desks
- Minicom telephone system for hearing impaired people. Please dial: 0151 443 4248
- Advisors trained in British Sign Language (up to Level 2)
- Access to BTs language line through which we can contact an interpreter in minutes
- Private interview rooms
- Friendly staff who are happy to assist