



Derby City Council

Single Discretionary Award for Derby 2020/21 CONSULTATION

This is your opportunity to give your feedback on a proposed change to the Single Discretionary Award Policy in Derby.

What is this survey about?

We are consulting about a proposed change to our Single Discretionary Award (SDA) Policy for Derby and would like to know your views.

Your consent to take part in this survey



All information provided will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. We will only use this information to inform the decision-making on the 2020/21 Single Discretionary Award Policy for Derby.

All of the information you provide will remain confidential. Information provided by you will not be shared with any third party. Please see our attached privacy statement for more information.

Q1 Do you consent to the processing and storing of your response for the purpose of this survey?

Please note if you do not select 'yes' to the question below your responses will not be included.

(Please select one)

☐

Yes

☐

No, I do not wish to participate in the survey

What is the Single Discretionary Award Policy?

The Single Discretionary Award (SDA) Policy helps people who have a low income, or no income, to pay their rent and Council Tax. It also provides a support programme which includes money advice, digital skills support, housing advice, health and well being advice, benefits advice and better off calculations (assessments of income and outgoings to help applicants better manage their money), education and training towards work support.

The SDA Policy sets out how we administer the SDA in Derby, and how we decide whether or not someone who makes a claim will receive support. The SDA is made up of Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs), Council Tax Hardship (CTH) and Local Assistance (LAS).

DHPs can provide help with rent payments for some benefit claimants who live in rented housing.

Why are we making a change to the Policy?

The funding for DHPs from Central Government for 2019/20 has been reduced. There are no guarantees that Derby's DHP allocation will increase in 2020/21, so the proposed change is designed to ensure that from next year the awards made are financially viable and can continue to help those in need.

Why are we consulting about the Single Discretionary Award Policy?

We are proposing to make a change to the Policy. The change would mean that from 1 April 2020 it will not be possible for SDA claimants to receive a second DHP award during the same financial year. In 2018/19 this would have affected about 180 households.

The proposed change will not affect our Priority Groups, who can receive up to 12 months' award in the same financial year. People in our Priority Groups are:

- Foster carers;
- Carers;
- Households where substantial disabled adaptations have been undertaken to meet the disability needs of a household member;
- Households with a child who is unable to share a bedroom due to disability and where any of the following applies:
 - o There is a claim for child Disability Living Allowance care component at the middle or highest rate in payment;
 - o There is no entitlement to Disability Living Allowance care component at the middle or highest rate but the child has a disability that may be particularly disruptive.

If we want to make a change to the SDA Policy we need to ask you about it first. We want to hear the views of everyone, whether they receive SDA or not.

How you can give your views

The consultation is open to everyone who lives, works or studies in Derby and wants to take part.

The consultation is open from **23 September 2019** and closes on **3 November 2019**. We have not made a final decision about this proposed change to the SDA Policy. Your views and ideas will help us make this decision. If you need this information in another format please email yourcityyoursay@derby.gov.uk or call 01332 642752 Minicom 01332 640666 to request one.

We will consider all the feedback we receive when finalising our SDA Policy. The Council will make a final decision on the Policy at a Council Cabinet meeting in January 2020.

Your views on the proposed change

We are proposing to change our SDA Policy so that from 1 April 2020 it will not be possible for SDA claimants to receive a second DHP award during the same financial year. In 2018/19 this would have affected about 180 households.

The proposed change will not affect our Priority Groups, who can receive up to 12 months' award in the same financial year.

Q2 **How strongly do you agree/disagree with this proposal?** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Don't know

Q3 **Do you have any other comments about the proposed Policy or how it may affect you and your household?** *(Please write in the space below)*

Q4 **Are you responding to this consultation as...** *(Please select all that apply)*

- ☐ a resident of Derby?
- ☐ a local business?
- ☐ a local voluntary, community or third sector organisation?
- ☐ a local charity?
- ☐ a landlord?
- ☐ other?

Other, please say

Q5 **If you are completing this as somebody who lives, works or studies in Derby, do you or someone in your household receive a Discretionary Housing Payment?** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

Q6 **How would you best describe your household?** *(Please select all that apply)*

- ☐ A household without dependent children
- ☐ A household with dependent children
- ☐ A household with full and / or part time workers
- ☐ A household that includes a disabled person
- ☐ A household that includes a foster carer
- ☐ A household that includes a carer

If you are completing this as somebody who lives, works or studies in Derby....

The next few questions will help us to make sure that we hear everyone's views, whatever your age, circumstance or background.

Why are we asking these questions?

To make sure that we comply with our legal equality responsibilities and understand what all sections of our community feel about our services and functions.

We are keen to hear from people from equality groups or who have protected characteristics (as referred to in the Equality Act), so that we can make any appropriate changes. You can find out more about this in the guide to public authorities.

We would like people to complete these equality questions, but it is not essential. If you feel uncomfortable answering these questions, please leave them blank and move to the next page.

Q7 **Are you...** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

Q8 **Is your gender the same as you were assigned to at birth?** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q9 **What was your age on your last birthday?** *(Please tell us your age in years)*

Q10 **To which group do you consider you belong?** *(Please select one)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British - Indian | <input type="radio"/> Dual Heritage - White and Black African |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British - Pakistani | <input type="radio"/> Dual Heritage - White and Asian |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi | <input type="radio"/> Any other Dual Heritage background |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British - Chinese | <input type="radio"/> White - English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British |
| <input type="radio"/> Any other Asian background | <input type="radio"/> White - Irish |
| <input type="radio"/> Black or Black British - African | <input type="radio"/> White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller |
| <input type="radio"/> Black or Black British - Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> Any other White background |
| <input type="radio"/> Any other Black background | <input type="radio"/> Other ethnic group - Arab |
| <input type="radio"/> Dual Heritage - White and Black Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> Any other ethnic group |

If you have selected one of the 'Any other background' options, please give further details.

Q11 **Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q12 **I consider myself to be...** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ heterosexual/straight
- ☐ bisexual
- ☐ a gay man
- ☐ a gay woman/lesbian
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Q13 **Do you have any religious beliefs?** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Q14 **If yes, to which religion do you belong?** *(Please select one)*

- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Christian
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Sikh
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say



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Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

For further information, please contact John Massey, Head of Revenues, Benefits & Exchequer Services at john.massey@derby.gov.uk

or, Bernard Fenton, Head of Customer Management at bernard.fenton@derby.gov.uk

Please return your completed questionnaire by midnight on 3 November 2019 in the pre-paid envelope provided, you don't need a stamp. You can also return your completed form to us using your own envelope addressed to:

Single Discretionary Award Policy Consultation
Derby City Council
FREEPOST
MID24259
Derby
DE1 2BR

We can give you this information in any other way, style or language that will help you access it. Please contact us on: 01332 640000 Minicom 01332 640666.

Corporate Consultation Privacy Notice

How is your information used?

You will be asked for your consent at the beginning of every paper based questionnaire. Where we have your consent we may use your information to:

- Inform the decision on which the consultation subject matter is based or the formation of the policy, service or event that the consultation is concerned with;
- Help us understand who takes part in our consultation in terms of gender, age, ethnicity and other demographic factors and how views differ across respondents;
- Send you communications which you have requested and that may be of interest.

Who has access to your information?

We may share your information with the following third parties for the reasons detailed;

- A research company that we have commissioned to undertake consultation on our behalf. If this is the case it will be clear on all consultation materials that an external agency is conducting the consultation on our behalf and they too will be bound by GDPR.
- Internally with Council departments for the purpose of:
 - Giving feedback gathered in the consultation to the services to inform their work
 - At the consultees request where they have asked that we pass on their details to the relevant department to address a particular issue or concern
 - Where a safeguarding concern has been raised in a consultation response
- Statutory agencies, such as the Police or National Fraud Authority - we may share your information with statutory agencies in line with our legal obligations and/or in completion of our public tasks.

We will not sell or rent your information to third parties. We will not share your information with third parties for marketing purposes.

For further information about how your personal information will be used, please visit www.derby.gov.uk where you can see a full copy of our Privacy Notice. Alternatively you can request a hard copy from - The Consultation Team, The Council House, Corporation Street, Derby, DE1 2FS. Telephone: 01332 640745, email: yourcityyoursay@derby.gov.uk.