

Nicola Hesketh
Project and Information Co Ordinator

Our Ref: FOI4802/NH/02
Please ask for: Nicola Hesketh
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[Name Redacted]

21st November 2017

Dear [Name Redacted]

Freedom of Information – Request for Information

With regards to your recent enquiry for information held by the Authority under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Please find the information you requested below with reference in the box to your original enquiry for clarity where multiple answers are required.

Details of Your Request

- 1. How does Tamworth Council collect from self employed residents their figures for earnings from self employment when calculating eligibility for Council Tax relief or reduction?*
- 2. What time period is used for the calculation, e.g. previous tax year, previous calendar year etc*
- 3. Does Tamworth Council apply a “floor” level which all self employed residents are judged to earn regardless of their actual earnings?*
- 4. If two residents have identical circumstances in all respects which are measured including amount earned, but one is employed and one is self employed, do they qualify for the same level of relief or reduction in Council Tax?*

The response to your request as follows:

The answers to all of your questions can be found in Tamworth Borough Council’s Council Tax Reduction Scheme S13a and Schedule 1a of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the link is attached for your convenience.

<https://www.tamworth.gov.uk/council-tax-reduction-scheme>

In particular Regulations 27 and 28 cover how we collect the information from self- employed earners to establish a claimant’s eligibility under this scheme, along with what period of time is appropriate.

Question 3 asks if we use a “floor level” for all self-employed earners, the answer to this is no as it is a means tested calculation done on each individual claimant’s household and income.

Employed earners and Self-employed earners have different calculations as there are different regulations covering the 2 types of earnings.

Regulation 26 gives details of how the earnings of an employed earner must be treated.

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Details of Tamworth Borough Council's internal review and complaints procedure are attached, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Hesketh
Project and Information Coordinator