# **Payment notice for Council Tax, Water** and Sewerage charges

(Local Government Finance Act 1992)

**EH41 4FD** 

Council Tax East Lothian Council P.O. Box 13251 John Muir House Haddington East Lothian EH41 3HA

Mr Alexander David Wood Miss Deborah Ann Munro 108 Bothwell Avenue Haddington East Lothian

Enquiries: www.eastlothian.gov.uk/council-tax or 01875 824314 Payments: www.eastlothian.gov.uk/pay-council-tax or 01875 824301

See notes over the page

For property 108 BOTHWELL AVENUE

HADDINGTON EAST LOTHIAN EH41 4FD

2024/2025 Financial year: Account number: 102330607 **Property number:** 207478 Date of issue: 25.02.2024

Bill number: 2/0

Your Council Tax, Water and Sewerage charges for 2024/2025 are shown below. The reason for issue is annual billing.

Your Council Tax Band is G.

The yearly Council Tax charge for your band is	£2811.42
The yearly Water charge for your band is	£421.50
The yearly Sewerage charge for your band is	£489.15

Your billing period is 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025.

Your Council Tax charge for this period is	£2811.42
Your Water charge for this period is	£421.50
Your Sewerage charge for this period is	£489.15
Your total charges are	£3722.07

The total amount you have to pay is	£3722.07
Less the amount you have paid to 25.02.2024	£0.00

Thank you for paying by direct debit.

Your instalments are 1 payment of £312.07 on 05.04.2024 followed by 11 monthly payments of £310.00 from 05.05.2024.

Visit www.eastlothian.gov.uk/tax-and-spending for Council Tax and budget information. This includes frequently asked questions and cost of living support.

## YOUR COUNCIL TAX PROPERTY BAND

Domestic properties are placed in one of eight valuation bands, depending on their value. The Council Tax you pay depends on the band your property is placed in. This is decided by the Assessor for the Lothian Valuation Joint Board.

If you disagree with your Council Tax band, you can email the Assessor at enquiries@lothian-vjb.gov.uk or telephone 0131 344 2500. Alternatively, you can write to the Assessor at 17a South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9FL.

Further information can be found at www.lothian-vjb.gov.uk.

## Your COUNCIL TAX CHARGE

Who is responsible for paying Council Tax?
There is one bill issued for each property, which the owner-occupier or tenant must pay. Couples who are living together and people who are joint owners/tenants will be jointly and severally liable for paying Council Tax. This means the Council can recover money due from any one of the liable partners.

How is my Council Tax charge calculated?
The amount of Council Tax you pay depends on two things - the valuation band of your property and the number of adults living there. When your Council Tax charge is calculated, it is assumed there are two adults living in the property.

Who decides what water and sewerage charges I must pay? We bill and collect water and sewerage charges on behalf of Scottish Water, however we are not responsible for setting these charges. Further information can be found at www.scottishwater.co.uk or you can phone Scottish Water on 0800 0778 778.

What to do if you don't agree with your Council Tax charge

If you are happy with your Council Tax band, but not satisfied with any part of your Council Tax charge, you can contact the Council Tax team and we can review your circumstances.

If you disagree with the outcome of the review, you can appeal the decision. This initial appeal must be in writing to the Council Tax & Debt Management Team Leader, stating the reasons why you are unhappy with the decision. More details can be found at www.eastlothian.gov.uk/council-tax-charge-review

If you are still not satisfied, you have the right to appeal to the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service Local Taxation Chamber, Bothwell House, First Floor, Hamilton Business Park, Caird Park, Hamilton, ML3 0QA.

T:01698 390012; E:LTCAdmin@scotcourtstribunals.gpov.uk; W:www.localtaxationchamber.scot

## **HOW TO PAY YOUR COUNCIL TAX**

- By direct debit visit www.eastlothian.gov.uk/council-tax or phone 01875 824314 during office hours.
- Over the internet visit www.eastlothian.gov.uk/pay-for-it
- By debit or credit card call 01875 824301 during office hours.
- At any Post Office or PayPoint outlet using your payment card.
   Payments may take up to four days to reach us.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T PAY YOUR COUNCIL TAX

You must pay your Council Tax on or before the instalment date. If you don't, we will send you a Reminder Notice.

If you do not pay the amount due in seven days, we will send you a Final Notice and you will lose the right to pay by instalments. If payment is not made within 14 days a Summary Warrant Notice will be raised to recover the debt.

At this stage a 10% surcharge will be added to the outstanding balance.

#### **HOW TO REDUCE YOUR COUNCIL TAX**

What properties are exempt from paying Council Tax? Exempt properties are those that you do not have to pay Council Tax on. Occupied properties that may be exempt include those where only people under 18 live, those where only students live and those where only people who are severely mentally impaired live. A qualifying period applies to some of these exemptions.

Who qualifies for a Council Tax discount? We can award a 25% discount if a person lives alone or if there are two people living in the property but one is not counted (referred to as a disregard). We can award a 50% discount if everyone living in the property is disregarded. Examples of people who are disregarded for Council Tax purposes are those aged under 18 year of age, those in long-term care or those with a severe mental impairment who live with other adults.

Do people with disabilities qualify for a reduction? If anyone in your household needs to use an extra room or needs extra space because of their disability, you may be entitled to a reduction in your Council Tax charge.

## Who qualifies for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme?

Council Tax Reduction Scheme is available to help people who are on a low income or out of work.

How do I apply for a reduction in my Council Tax? For more information, including application forms, visit www.eastlothian.gov.uk/council-tax. Evidence may be requested to support any application.

If you are awarded a discount or exemption and your circumstances change, you must notify the Council Tax team straight away.

## **EMPTY PROPERTY REDUCTIONS & PREMIUMS**

Empty properties that may be exempt from paying Council Tax include those that are being structurally repaired, those that are unfurnished for less than six months and those where the person responsible for paying Council Tax has died and owned the property.

If your property is empty and unfurnished, you may qualify for a six month exemption. If the property remains empty, you may qualify for a 50% discount for an additional six months. If your property remains empty after 12 months, unless the property is actively marketed for sale or rent, no further discount will be applied. If your property remains empty for 24 months, an additional 50% premium will be applied. For those properties that are still empty after 36 months, an additional 100% premium will be applied.

Before we award an empty property exemption or discount, we may request evidence to support your application, for example photographs of the empty property.

### **HOW WE WILL USE THE DATA YOU PROVIDE**

East Lothian Council uses the personal data you provide for purposes associated with the delivery of our services. For more information visit www.eastlothian.gov.uk/privacyct. Personal data will be retained in line with East Lothian Council's retention policies. For more information contact Data Protection Officer, East Lothian Council, John Muir House, Haddington, EH41 3HA. Email: dpo@eastlothian.gov.uk

This authority has a duty to protect the public funds it administers and may use the information you have provided for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information within the authority or with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds. For further information visit our website www.eastlothian.gov.uk