

DIRECTION OF TERRY COLLINS UNDER THE HOUSING BENEFIT AND COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT (ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS) MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS) ORDER 2006

Durham County Council, ('the Authority') in accordance with paragraph 2 of Schedule 11 to the HB Regulations 2006, paragraph 2 of Schedule 10 of the HB (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006; and paragraph 13 of Schedule 1 of its Council Tax Reduction Scheme introduced under the provisions of The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012 No.2885), hereby makes the following directions—

1. An individual who, in accordance with the 2006 Regulations makes a claim for Housing Benefit under the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 is authorised to do so by an electronic communication, provided that the individual uses the method approved by the Authority in relation to the claim.
2. An individual who, in accordance with the 2006 Regulations has had a change in their circumstances affecting their Housing Benefit under the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 is authorised to do so by an electronic communication, provided that the individual used the method approved by Authority in relation to the change.
3. An individual who, in accordance with the Durham County Council scheme makes an application for Council Tax Reduction under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is authorised to do so by an electronic communication, provided that the individual uses the method approved by the authority in relation to the application.
4. An individual who, in accordance with the Durham County Council scheme who has had a change in their circumstances affecting their entitlement to Council Tax Reduction under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is authorised to do so by an electronic communication, provided that the individual uses the method approved by the Authority in relation to the change.
5. The methods and form set out, at the time of, and for the purposes of, the delivery of such a claim or application or the informing of a change in circumstances as referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4, as provided on the Authority's website, are respectively –
 - (a) the methods approved by the Authority for—
 - (i) authenticating the identity of the individual making the claim or application, or providing evidence or information;
 - (ii) submitting the claim, application, evidence or information;
 - (iii) authenticating any claim, application, evidence or information; and
 - (iv) electronic communication

- (b) the form approved by the Authority in which the claim, application, evidence or information is to be delivered.

Signed by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Collins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

2016
Chief Executive