

(CCC) Downsizing scheme

I'm looking for more information about schemes the council has in place offering financial/other incentives for renters to downsize and free up housing for larger families.

1) Does the council have a downsizing scheme where renters are offered incentives to move to a smaller home? If so, what are the incentives on offer and who is eligible?

2) Can I get a breakdown of how much money in total was given to people who successfully qualified for the scheme for the following years?

a) 1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019

b) 1 January 2020 - 31 December 2020

c) 1 January 2021 - 31 December 2021

3) What was the single highest award in value given out to a successful applicant for the following years:

a) 1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019

b) 1 January 2020 - 31 December 2020

c) 1 January 2021 - 31 December 2021

Response

I hope the following will answer your query:

Does the council have a downsizing scheme where renters are offered incentives to move to a smaller home? If so, what are the incentives on offer and who is eligible?

Cambridge City Council offers an Under Occupation Scheme to encourage tenants under occupying their existing council properties to move to smaller accommodation that is appropriate for their needs. This scheme also supports the Council to maximise opportunities to fully occupy its housing stock.

Under the Scheme the tenant could be offered an Under Occupation Assistance Payment of up to £1000 per bedroom and a contribution towards removal costs. Due to the limited budget available Cambridge City Council cannot guarantee that all applicants who apply for an under-occupation payment will be successful in receiving the full amount.

In order to qualify for the under-occupation scheme, applicants must be secure tenants of Cambridge City Council, and must have held their tenancy of the current property for at least two years. Applicants must also be eligible for the type of property they are moving to, in accordance with Cambridge City Council's Lettings Policy. The under-occupation scheme is discretionary, and the Council may consider some applicants ineligible for the scheme, for example if applicants have any debt owed to the Council that exceeds the maximum amount of under occupation payment.

Additional information can be found on this Council webpage - [Move to a smaller council home - Cambridge City Council](#)

Can I get a breakdown of how much money in total was given to people who

FOI Ref

10570

Response sent

11 Mar 2022

successfully qualified for the scheme for the following years.

Please note that the Council records information based on financial years (April – March, rather than calendar years).

- a) 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020 - £43,630.00
- b) 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021- £21,210.00
- c) 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022 - £24,900 (to 01/03/2022)

What was the single highest award in value given out to a successful applicant for the following years?

- a) 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020 - £2,650.00
- b) 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021- £2,650.00
- c) 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022 - £2,650.00 (to 01/03/2022)

We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further queries on this matter should be directed to foi@cambridge.gov.uk