



FAQ: Wicklow City Council - 2026 Differential Rent Scheme

1. Commencement Date

This scheme will take effect from 3rd October 2026. This scheme supersedes previous Rent Schemes and is calculated based on the assessable household income.

2. Is my rent due in advance?

Yes. Wicklow County Council operate on a rent-in-advance system, meaning your payment covers the upcoming rental period.

3. Penalty Rent:

If you have received a penalty rent, then please contact the Rents team for further instruction. You will be required to complete a differential rent form and provide supporting documentation. The penalty rent will then be removed and any necessary adjustments made to the account.

4. Will Rent increases/decreases be backdating?

No. Wicklow County Council have placed an amnesty on this occasion. Your new rent, whether it is a decrease or an increase, is effective from 3rd October 2026.

5. I filled out my differential rent form for the rent review, my situation has changed since then. What do I need to do now?

Please contact the Rents team immediately with any household or income changes, ensuring to provide relevant proof (example payslip, birth certificate, forwarding address).

6. I notified you on the differential rent form that my son left this property last year. Why am I still being charged his portion of the rent?

You may not have provided proof of a forwarding address for your son. To remove a household member from your rent assessment, you must provide proof of their new address. Once we receive this information, the Rents team will review your account and make any necessary adjustments.

7. Will the rent review impact my Rent Arrears?

No. Any existing arrears will remain in place and will not be affected by the rent review. If you have any questions about outstanding arrears, please direct them to the Debt Management Team by calling 0404 20128 or by email to debtmanagement@wicklowcoco.ie.

8. I pay my rent by standing order, will the new amount be taken automatically?

No. If paying by Standing Order you are responsible for notifying your bank of the change. Please ensure to reference your rent account number on the payment. You will find your rent account number listed in the box at the top of this cover letter.

9. My weekly rent is taken from my Social Welfare payment in the Post Office, will the new amount be taken automatically?

It is your responsibility to ensure that the correct rent is being deducted from your social welfare payment, and any shortfall is covered by an alternative payment method.

10. Carers Allowance

Wicklow County Council now exempts Carer's Allowance from rent assessments unless it is your only source of income.

11. Can you explain my rent increase from €200.00 as my rent was previously capped?

Wicklow County Council's new rent scheme removed the €200.00 maximum rent cap, leaving no maximum limit on rent.

Please note that Bray and Wicklow Differential Rent Scheme has now been amalgamated under the one scheme for the County.