

Appendix B

Standard letter to go to the clients relating to a 12 week property disregard.

Dear

Assistance with the cost of Residential or Nursing Care – 12 week property disregard

I understand that you have requested assistance from Devon County Council to help pay for a place in a care home, because you do not wish to sell your former home. .

People who are permanently entering a care home are entitled to have the value of their former home disregarded for a period of 12 weeks or until the house is sold whichever is shorter. For this period, you will have to make a contribution toward the cost of care and this will be assessed based on other capital assets (Savings etc) that you have and income you are receiving. In addition to this amount, if the cost of the placement is more than Devon County Council would normally pay to meet your needs, you will have to agree to pay the difference. After the end of the 12 week period or earlier if their property is sold, you will be required to pay the full cost of the accommodation.

If at the end of the 12 week period the house remains unsold or you do not wish to sell it, then it may be possible for you to enter into a Deferred Payment Agreement with the Council. This means that the Council will continue to pay the full fee for accommodation, but the difference between the assessed contribution as described above and the full cost of the accommodation will be secured against the property. Such an agreement will involve the Council's interest being formally registered with the deeds to the property. The outstanding sum will be payable to the Council on your death or when the property is sold whichever is the sooner.

You will need to sign and return the attached acknowledgement and you will also need to keep the Council informed of any developments relating to the sale of your property. In case you do not wish to sell your former home at present, I attach an information sheet and application form for a Deferred Payment Agreement.

Yours sincerely