

Proposal to Amend Concession Regime - Worcester Allotments

As part of the Allotment Review, the Council are consulting on proposed changes to the concession's regime.

Currently concession discounts are available in the following circumstances:

- Tenants aged over 60's are eligible for 25% concession
- Tenants with disabilities are eligible for 50%
- Tenants who have held a plot since before 2008 are eligible for 25% concession
- Tenants who are over 60 and have held a plot since before 2008 are entitled to 50%
- Site Representatives receive a concession of 50% on one full-size plot
- Anyone taking on a site that is deemed to be in poor condition receives 1-year free rental

Proposed Changes

The proposed changes would take effect from 1st October 2022.

Low-income concession

The Council intends to introduce a new concession of 25% for low-income tenants who live in Worcester and who are in receipt of benefits.

Allotment tenants living outside of the City

Worcester is fairly unique in allowing non-residents to keep allotment plots, most Councils do not. The Council intends to maintain the ability for people who move out of the City to retain their plots, however, from October 2022 there will be no concession reductions available to plot-holder living outside of the Worcester City area.

Age-related Concession

The age at which this concession will apply will increase by one year, each year, starting from October 2022, as such, the age-related concession will apply to tenants aged 61, or over, on 1st October 2022, for those aged 62, or over, on 1st October 2023 etc.

This annual increment will continue until it reaches the prevailing State Pension age (currently age 66).

Increasing the concession age in this way means that Worcester residents who would be eligible for the concession in October 2021 (those aged 60, or above on 30th September 2021) will be unaffected by the change and will continue to receive the concession.

Plot held since before 2008

The concession for having held a plot since before 2008 to be removed.

Maximum Concession

Where a tenant would be entitled to more than one concession, then only the highest concession will apply i.e., someone aged 60, or above, on 30th September 2021, who also on low-income and is in receipt of benefits, would receive 1 x 25% concession.

Concessions Remaining as Current

Tenants with disabilities will continue to be eligible for 50% concession.

Site Representatives will continue to receive a concession of 50% off the cost of one full plot (or equivalent).