

# FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL SOCIAL ENTITLEMENT CHAMBER

Held at Enfield

on 24/10/2014

Before Judge J MacDonald

Appellant:

Tribunal Ref.

SC921/14/00500

NI No

NE 94 89 21 C

Respondent: Local Authority Stevenage Borough Council

#### **DECISION NOTICE**

- 1. The Housing Benefit appeal is allowed.
- 2. The decision made on 01/03/13 is set a side.
- 3. The appellant remains entitled to Housing Benefit without a 14% reduction for under occupancy.
- 4. The Tribunal find that the property is in fact a two bedroom property and that the third room on the first floor described as a bedroom by the Local Authority is as a matter of fact not a bedroom and the 14% reduction in Housing benefit has been wrongly applied.

Signed Tribunal Judge: J. Manuar Date: 24/10/2014

J Macdonald

J Macdonald

Decision Notice issued to

Appellant on: 24/10/2014

Respondent on: 24/10/2014

Date of Hearing: 24.10.2014

17/11



### FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

Held at Enfield

on 24/10/2014

Before J Macdonald

Appellant: Tribunal Ref. SC921/14/00500 NI No NE 94 89 21 C

Respondent: Stevenage Borough Council

## STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DECISION

This statement is to be read together with the decision notice issued by the tribunal

- This statement of reasons concerns an appeal made by the appellant that was heard as an oral appeal by the
  First- tier Social Security Tribunal at Enfield on 24/10/2014. The appellant was present. The Local
  Authority did not request an oral hearing and were not present.
- 2. The Tribunal considered the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) SEC Rules 2008. They were satisfied that the Rules had been met and decided that they were able to decide the appeal without a representative from the Local Authority, in doing this the tribunal considered whether an adjournment would be appropriate to enable the authority to have a final opportunity to give oral evidence. However, the tribunal did not consider that an adjournment was necessary there was no indication that the