

Household Support Fund



Simple to access grant for people aged 65+ living in Derbyshire to help with rising utility bills

The Government have awarded extra funding to every local authority to support those most at need with the increased costs of living.

Age UK Derby and Derbyshire is working in partnership with Derbyshire County Council to support the delivery of their Household Support Fund Grants for residents in Derbyshire aged 65+.

We are offering a quick, simple to access grant to support older people you work with who may be struggling with the rise in the cost of living.

The grant scheme is available now until 30th September 2022, so please refer older people who you feel would benefit from a one-off grant to help them meet extra fuel costs.

We have tried to make referring an older person you work with as simple as possible but:

- ✓ you must seek and record consent from the grant recipient before referring them
- ✓ you must record all the information we need in order to make a grant payment promptly

Recent publicity about scams may mean clients are reluctant to provide bank details. If so a grant can be paid in multi-use gift cards (please indicate in the finance information section) but please note this may present a problem for them to budget by using the gift cards to pay for food and household shopping and use this to offset against their utility bills. A BACS payment into their account is quicker and safer and the funds can be used directly to pay their utility bills.

You can submit a form online. Just click on the link below, complete the online form and submit.

www.ageuk.org.uk/derbyandderbyshire/hsf

or click on the link, print off a form, complete it and either scan it and email or post it to us.

Grants are a one-off payment of: £300

Guidance for Referrers:

- ✓ Referrals for a Household Support Fund Grant must be made by a referral partner not the recipient.
- ✗ **Please do not circulate this information to your service users or in the community.** To manage demand and the impact on our teams we are circulating this information to trusted partners.

We ask you to just use your judgement and refer clients or older people you know through your work who could benefit from a Household Support Fund Grant.

Grants can be used to support the cost of utility bills or rising costs of living. Grant recipients do not need to be in receipt of any benefits or meet specific eligibility criteria but they do need to be struggling to pay their bills. The grant could help to address an immediate need while you get them longer term help and support.

We need to deliver the grants quickly to ensure older people in Derbyshire don't miss out on this support and get their grant when costs and anxiety about bills are high. Remember they can save the grant to pay a future utility bill.

Please consider older people you work with and refer NOW. Grants will be paid as quickly as possible but allow at least 2 weeks from submission of the referral. If there is a particular urgency please let us know when you make the referral and we will do our best to make a payment more quickly.

Thank you for working with us to make sure older people in Derbyshire feel supported