



Department
for Work &
Pensions

My address: Clare Elliott, Head of the Local
Authority Partnership,
Engagement and Delivery (LA-
PED) division

Date: 24 September 2024

By email

Chief Executive Officers
Chief Finance Officers
LA Single Points of Contact

Dear colleagues

Household Support Fund extension (from 1 October 2024 until 31 March 2025)

On 2 September 2024 the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions announced that the Household Support Fund (HSF) would be extended for a further six months, from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025, with a further £421m of funding. As has been done for previous schemes, the fund will be made available to County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England to support those most in need.

As part of the support package, the Devolved Governments have also been allocated funding in parallel as a result of the Barnett Formula to spend at their discretion.

Included in the guidance for this extension are a number of changes from previous versions, so it is strongly recommended that even those familiar with previous iterations of the HSF familiarise themselves with this new guidance. We bring to your attention the key differences:

- Authorities are able to use the Fund to provide preventative support and deliver provision which has a long-term sustainable impact. We request that all Authorities provide an overview of their activities and estimated spend for this support in their Delivery Plans and Management Information (MI) returns.
- Delivery plans must be signed off by your Section 151 Officer and include the information of the Section 151 Officer and responsible Cabinet Member before submission to DWP.
- MI returns must be signed off by your Section 151 Officer and include the information of the Section 151 Officer and responsible Cabinet Member before submission to DWP.

The fund can be used to provide support with food, energy and water, essentials linked to energy and water, and wider essentials. Authorities can also use funding to support households with housing costs where existing housing support does not meet this need and to supplement support with signposting and advice. Whilst immediate needs should be prioritised, Authorities are encouraged to use the Fund to provide support that has a long-term sustainable impact, for example household items which would reduce bills in the long-term.

As with previous iterations of the Household Support Fund, Authorities are unable to carry forward any underspends from previous schemes. This is because this is a new grant with different conditions.

This HSF scheme will be distributed by County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England. Shire Councils must work closely with District Councils and other local partners to identify a broad range of vulnerable households across their local area. The scheme runs from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 and Authorities should aim to have arrangements in place as quickly as possible to support vulnerable households throughout the grant period.

Authorities will be required to provide two management information (MI) returns outlining their grant spend and the volume of awards:

- an interim MI return for the period 1 October 2024 to 31 December 2024 will be due by 31 January 2025
- a FINAL MI return for the period 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 will be due by 25 April 2025.

Grant payments will be made to Authorities in arrears on receipt of a fully completed, compliant and verified MI return.

The funding for this grant has been allocated to Authorities using the population of each Authority weighted by a function of the English Index of Multiple Deprivation. Authority allocations are shown in **Annex B**.

Authorities are asked to provide the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) with a summary of how you are planning to spend the additional funding during the period 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025.

The delivery plan template has been issued with this letter asking authorities to outline their spending plans. Please complete and return to lawelfare.pdt@dwp.gov.uk. **Do not amend the delivery plan template format or add lines as this causes issues with its uploading.** Any questionnaire that has had its format changed will need to be returned to the Authority to recomplete.

Authorities are required to complete an Interim and Final MI reporting template. The MI template has been updated and any changes are covered in the MI Reporting Requirements guidance document. Additionally, MI must be returned on the MI template provided and copied to your Section 151 Officer/CFO. **No local versions or PDF copies are acceptable, and any received will be returned to the Authority.**

DWP will continue to share the Universal Credit, Pension Credit and Employment and Support Allowance (income related) customer data to Authorities on a monthly basis. DWP will also continue to provide additional data for customers who are in receipt of Housing Benefit only and are not in receipt of a means tested benefit. Authorities may find this useful in targeting support to vulnerable households.

Authorities must ensure that they have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (May 2024) and sign the revised version when it is issued later this year in order to receive the data.

Following the success of the Knowledge-Share events and 'Drop In' sessions we held in previous schemes we have decided to hold further sessions throughout this scheme where you are encouraged to attend to raise any questions you may have or to share good practice. Full details of these will be made available in due course.

Urgent next steps for Authorities

The grant period runs from 1 October 2024 and Authorities are asked to start making immediate preparations to administer the Fund and deliver the support to vulnerable households as soon as possible.

Please complete and return your planning questionnaire to lawelfare.pdt@dwp.gov.uk by 01 November 2024.

You or your nominated single point of contact should dial into a County Councils and Unitary Authorities all-LA MS Teams call on 07 October 2024 at 11:00-12:00. The purpose of this call is to discuss the grant arrangements and give Authority representatives the opportunity to ask any questions or raise any points of clarification. Dial-in details are attached in **Annex A**.

If you have any additional questions, contact LA-PED.lagrantsprojectteam@dwp.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris', written in a cursive style.

Head of LA-PED

County Councils and Unitary Authorities all LA MS Teams call on 07 October 2024

Title County Councils and Unitary Authority Household Support Fund 5 information event

Speaker(s) Rebecca Bryning, Will Walker-Lane

Event call time 07 October 2024 at 11:00am – 12:00pm (60 minutes)
(Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London)

Link and dial in details

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 352 758 092 20

Passcode: fE7Nau

Household Support Fund 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 allocations.

County Councils and Unitary Authorities	DWP allocation of £421 million
Barking and Dagenham	£2,162,051.52
Barnet	£2,455,182.90
Barnsley	£2,351,263.96
Bath and North East Somerset	£966,860.28
Bedford	£1,201,485.00
Bexley	£1,542,309.65
Birmingham	£12,791,135.04
Blackburn with Darwen	£1,618,526.59
Blackpool	£1,745,857.53
Bolton	£2,780,316.57
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council	£2,653,367.04
Bracknell Forest	£555,468.03
Bradford	£5,694,487.83
Brent	£2,781,222.28
Brighton and Hove	£2,140,360.89
Bristol, City of	£4,039,965.11
Bromley	£1,867,882.58
Buckinghamshire	£2,399,190.54
Bury	£1,534,200.05
Calderdale	£1,833,003.46
Cambridgeshire	£3,581,424.56
Camden	£2,006,931.89
Central Bedfordshire	£1,483,073.82
Cheshire East	£2,203,892.10
Cheshire West and Chester	£2,290,047.45
City of London	£63,080.28
Cornwall	£4,528,569.87
Coventry	£3,224,222.30
Croydon	£3,013,689.49
Cumberland	£2,167,439.16
Darlington	£913,853.75
Derby	£2,224,711.41
Derbyshire	£5,404,080.90
Devon	£5,064,876.12
Doncaster	£2,989,273.08
Dorset	£2,294,941.45
Dudley	£2,625,519.07
Durham	£4,676,099.65
Ealing	£2,658,804.97
East Riding of Yorkshire	£2,061,832.61
East Sussex	£3,896,783.88
Enfield	£2,847,994.64
Essex	£9,436,542.83

Gateshead	£1,836,629.95
Gloucestershire	£3,692,483.14
Greenwich	£2,378,692.91
Hackney	£2,822,258.58
Halton	£1,297,880.42
Hammersmith and Fulham	£1,414,374.97
Hampshire	£7,124,127.25
Haringey	£2,406,671.72
Harrow	£1,476,707.18
Hartlepool	£993,021.25
Havering	£1,648,150.98
Herefordshire	£1,329,601.78
Hertfordshire	£6,172,064.84
Hillingdon	£2,069,342.07
Hounslow	£2,042,396.17
Isle of Wight	£1,131,576.08
Isles of Scilly	£11,130.10
Islington	£2,218,159.62
Kensington and Chelsea	£1,180,369.12
Kent	£11,065,380.80
Kingston upon Hull, City of	£3,038,293.68
Kingston upon Thames	£862,867.15
Kirklees	£3,702,823.27
Knowsley	£1,862,188.67
Lambeth	£2,720,637.01
Lancashire	£9,678,235.22
Leeds	£7,098,648.16
Leicester	£3,429,353.16
Leicestershire	£3,620,038.89
Lewisham	£2,668,537.62
Lincolnshire	£5,464,685.20
Liverpool	£6,054,020.20
Luton	£1,829,274.04
Manchester	£6,453,163.20
Medway	£2,262,463.11
Merton	£1,186,607.26
Middlesbrough	£1,653,614.95
Milton Keynes	£1,792,516.52
Newcastle upon Tyne	£2,898,403.85
Newham	£3,339,194.75
Norfolk	£6,696,806.23
North East Lincolnshire	£1,559,664.65
North Lincolnshire	£1,323,892.77
North Northamptonshire	£2,599,628.73
North Somerset	£1,307,847.79
North Tyneside	£1,609,998.05
North Yorkshire	£3,537,549.92
Northumberland	£2,480,330.00
Nottingham	£3,556,933.83
Nottinghamshire	£5,646,450.03

Oldham	£2,419,369.23
Oxfordshire	£3,361,256.14
Peterborough	£1,824,636.27
Plymouth	£2,294,796.82
Portsmouth	£1,888,214.70
Reading	£1,130,648.94
Redbridge	£1,965,979.20
Redcar and Cleveland	£1,296,381.17
Richmond upon Thames	£836,356.66
Rochdale	£2,337,383.85
Rotherham	£2,489,029.87
Rutland	£157,371.07
Salford	£2,733,899.11
Sandwell	£3,471,442.28
Sefton	£2,435,111.24
Sheffield	£5,203,825.56
Shropshire	£2,088,795.13
Slough	£1,177,691.53
Solihull	£1,408,359.07
Somerset	£3,820,415.56
South Gloucestershire	£1,410,016.31
South Tyneside	£1,484,854.01
Southampton	£2,222,676.23
Southend-on-Sea	£1,413,078.83
Southwark	£2,734,366.02
St. Helens	£1,779,580.89
Staffordshire	£5,506,547.99
Stockport	£2,163,129.71
Stockton-on-Tees	£1,685,873.97
Stoke-on-Trent	£2,686,721.90
Suffolk	£5,106,030.02
Sunderland	£2,673,561.91
Surrey	£5,290,829.72
Sutton	£1,155,788.99
Swindon	£1,515,345.60
Tameside	£2,224,686.33
Telford and Wrekin	£1,514,547.04
Thurrock	£1,295,040.81
Torbay	£1,235,356.81
Tower Hamlets	£2,996,279.40
Trafford	£1,458,074.48
Wakefield	£3,124,926.90
Walsall	£2,819,810.19
Waltham Forest	£2,327,527.60
Wandsworth	£2,069,485.13
Warrington	£1,440,750.42
Warwickshire	£3,472,997.02
West Berkshire	£694,849.63
West Northamptonshire	£2,465,491.77
West Sussex	£4,870,362.11

Westminster	£1,951,507.12
Westmorland and Furness	£1,522,795.52
Wigan	£2,818,234.30
Wiltshire	£2,728,656.41
Windsor and Maidenhead	£587,905.21
Wirral	£3,049,345.09
Wokingham	£525,573.35
Wolverhampton	£2,631,877.25
Worcestershire	£3,949,139.19
York	£1,037,906.47
Total	£421,000,000