

Housing Benefit Circular

Department for Work and Pensions
Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NA

HB S2/2014

SUBSIDY CIRCULAR

WHO SHOULD READ	All Housing Benefit staff; officers assessing applications for Discretionary Housing Payments
ACTION	For information only
SUBJECT	Additional funding to meet the costs of implementing welfare reform changes in 2014/15

Guidance Manual

The information in this circular does not affect the content of the HB Guidance Manual.

Queries

If you

- want **extra copies of this circular/copies of previous circulars**, they can be found on the website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-benefit-for-local-authorities-circulars-2014>
- have any queries about the
 - **technical content of this circular**, contact
Email: hbctb.subsidyqueries@dwp.gsi.gov.uk
 - **distribution of this circular**, contact
housing.correspondenceandpqs@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

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Additional funding to meet the costs of implementing welfare reform changes in 2014/15

Introduction

1. This circular is to inform you of additional funding of £18.4 million that will be allocated to local authorities (LAs) to support the administrative costs of implementing welfare reform changes in 2014/15.
2. The funding is intended to meet 'new burdens' incurred by LAs as a result of the ongoing implementation of the following areas of welfare reform:
 - changes to Local Housing Allowance (LHA) (including the move to an annual up-rating cycle and changes to the shared accommodation rate)
 - the Removal of the Spare Room Subsidy (RSRS) (including the unintended exemption for certain pre-1996 cases)
 - the benefit cap

Details

3. Although you will receive a single payment, to provide transparency a breakdown of the total funding is given below

Area of activity	Funding distribution based on	Funding (to nearest £0.1million)
LHA Changes	A combined approach of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution of estimated claimant losses from changes as set out in Subsidy circular S4/2013, and • latest estimates of the LHA caseload in each LA 50% of overall funds are allocated on each basis	£2.2 million
RSRS – general	Distribution based on the latest published numbers subject to a RSRS reduction in each LA	£8.4 million
RSRS – reassessment of pre-1996 cases	Distribution based on the latest published numbers subject to a RSRS reduction in each LA	£2.1 million
Benefit cap	Distribution based on latest numbers of capped households in each LA	£5.7 million

4. This funding is intended to meet the identified costs arising from the implementation of the above measures in 2014/15. In the case of RSRS, for example, it is intended primarily to meet the costs of administering additional applications for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP). It also provides funding for ongoing communications with claimants to help them consider their options. It is, of course, for local decision what aspects of the additional administrative cost you actually spend it on.
5. Each element of the funding has been distributed amongst LAs on a basis that reflects the likely distribution of costs, as indicated in the table above. The aggregate allocations are included in Annex A.
6. Each LA will receive a single payment in the week commencing 21 April 2014.
7. Funding for 2015/16 and beyond will be subject to discussions with the LA Associations. We will continue to assess the ongoing impact of welfare reforms on LA administration in line with the new burdens doctrine.

Other funding

8. Funding will also be distributed to meet the IT costs of enhancements to Single Housing Benefit Extract reporting and to assist with the new burdens arising from the removal of access to HB for European Economic Area jobseekers from 1 April 2014. Details of this additional funding will be provided in due course.

Queries

9. Any general queries about this funding should be addressed to hbctb.subsidyqueries@dwp.gsi.gov.uk
10. If you have any queries about the actual payment, please contact Ian.Fensome1@dwp.gsi.gov.uk in shared services.

Allocation of the additional funding

Authority	Additional funding
Aberdeen	£52,350
Aberdeenshire	£25,574
Adur	£10,094
Allerdale	£33,042
Amber Valley	£23,504
Angus	£19,210
Argyll and Bute	£19,804
Arun	£24,644
Ashfield	£33,983
Ashford	£23,589
Aylesbury Vale	£22,013
Babergh	£13,978
Barking & Dagenham	£131,329
Barnet	£157,100
Barnsley	£85,547
Barrow in Furness	£12,118
Basildon	£58,536
Basingstoke and Deane	£34,487
Bassetlaw	£28,024
Bath & North East Somerset	£22,810
Bedford	£35,088
Bexley	£69,521
Birmingham	£448,011
Blaby	£7,106
Blackburn with Darwen	£49,443
Blackpool	£48,163
Blaenau Gwent	£35,632
Bolsover	£22,988
Bolton	£83,574
Boston	£13,847
Bournemouth	£38,658
Bracknell Forest	£16,667
Bradford	£140,104
Braintree	£24,931
Breckland	£27,516
Brent	£307,209
Brentwood	£6,894
Bridgend	£43,047
Brighton and Hove	£81,048
Bristol	£139,650
Broadland	£11,279
Bromley	£66,463
Bromsgrove	£9,144
Broxbourne	£22,616
Broxtowe	£15,550
Burnley	£23,247

Authority	Additional funding
Bury	£39,673
Caerphilly	£68,176
Calderdale	£48,381
Cambridge	£20,307
Camden	£116,360
Cannock Chase	£15,824
Canterbury	£25,124
Cardiff	£129,420
Carlisle	£25,525
Carmarthenshire	£52,290
Castle Point	£12,973
Central Bedfordshire	£37,140
Ceredigion	£12,676
Charnwood	£23,194
Chelmsford	£21,608
Cheltenham	£24,240
Cherwell	£24,407
Cheshire East	£56,876
Cheshire West and Chester	£76,235
Chesterfield	£30,239
Chichester	£17,371
Chiltern	£9,403
Chorley	£19,971
Christchurch	£6,645
City of London	£2,235
Clackmannanshire	£27,118
Colchester	£32,862
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	£5,082
Conwy	£24,486
Copeland	£31,020
Corby	£21,232
Cornwall	£98,796
Cotswold	£10,590
Coventry	£99,873
Craven	£5,956
Crawley	£32,448
Croydon	£153,520
Dacorum	£34,603
Darlington	£25,497
Dartford	£14,704
Daventry	£12,356
Denbighshire	£24,769
Derby	£74,631
Derbyshire Dales	£8,409
Doncaster	£108,173
Dover	£23,687
Dudley	£97,897
Dumfries and Galloway	£35,736
Dundee	£72,067
Durham	£187,850

Authority	Additional funding
Ealing	£232,861
East Ayrshire	£69,380
East Cambridgeshire	£11,195
East Devon	£14,509
East Dorset	£7,789
East Dunbartonshire	£14,340
East Hampshire	£14,307
East Hertfordshire	£14,964
East Lindsey	£29,469
East Lothian	£23,527
East Northamptonshire	£14,857
East Renfrewshire	£11,051
East Riding of Yorkshire	£42,892
East Staffordshire	£20,939
Eastbourne	£23,266
Eastleigh	£19,317
Eden	£6,918
Edinburgh	£161,076
Elmbridge	£16,091
Enfield	£243,276
Epping Forest	£24,209
Epsom and Ewell	£7,878
Erewash	£24,921
Exeter	£20,777
Falkirk	£61,373
Fareham	£8,309
Fenland	£16,527
Fife	£139,219
Flintshire	£37,276
Forest Heath	£8,929
Forest of Dean	£11,416
Fylde	£9,252
Gateshead	£72,701
Gedling	£15,824
Glasgow	£311,112
Gloucester	£29,168
Gosport	£16,927
Gravesham	£27,068
Great Yarmouth	£28,242
Greenwich	£117,681
Guildford	£18,092
Gwynedd	£31,677
Hackney	£199,676
Halton	£59,058
Hambleton	£11,518
Hammersmith and Fulham	£118,878
Harborough	£7,034
Haringey	£197,753
Harlow	£25,608
Harrogate	£15,845

Authority	Additional funding
Harrow	£92,840
Hart	£6,954
Hartlepool	£49,986
Hastings	£32,033
Havant	£22,334
Havering	£68,005
Herefordshire	£31,353
Hertsmere	£21,241
High Peak	£11,172
Highland	£59,323
Hillingdon	£87,236
Hinckley and Bosworth	£14,827
Horsham	£13,308
Hounslow	£96,711
Huntingdonshire	£23,449
Hyndburn	£20,200
Inverclyde	£33,623
Ipswich	£39,121
Isle of Anglesey	£20,791
Isle of Wight	£25,858
Isles of Scilly	£0
Islington	£133,060
Kensington and Chelsea	£122,874
Kettering	£18,847
King's Lynn & West Norfolk	£29,234
Kingston upon Hull	£130,457
Kingston upon Thames	£37,503
Kirklees	£86,237
Knowsley	£88,456
Lambeth	£168,223
Lancaster	£22,089
Leeds	£256,105
Leicester	£120,706
Lewes	£14,999
Lewisham	£147,766
Lichfield	£12,439
Lincoln	£24,401
Liverpool	£280,113
Luton	£58,476
Maidstone	£23,003
Maldon	£8,251
Malvern Hills	£11,553
Manchester	£323,482
Mansfield	£30,729
Medway	£64,038
Melton	£5,441
Mendip	£16,911
Merthyr Tydfil	£26,548
Merton	£52,375
Mid Devon	£10,797

Authority	Additional funding
Mid Suffolk	£9,441
Mid Sussex	£12,386
Middlesbrough	£81,653
Midlothian	£31,968
Milton Keynes	£72,263
Mole Valley	£7,614
Monmouthshire	£16,018
Moray	£13,493
Neath Port Talbot	£58,164
New Forest	£22,436
Newark and Sherwood	£23,251
Newcastle under Lyme	£23,148
Newcastle upon Tyne	£143,273
Newham	£175,957
Newport	£60,509
North Ayrshire	£73,443
North Devon	£14,531
North Dorset	£8,476
North East Derbyshire	£25,986
North East Lincolnshire	£47,818
North Hertfordshire	£26,762
North Kesteven	£14,785
North Lanarkshire	£144,709
North Lincolnshire	£43,487
North Norfolk	£17,116
North Somerset	£37,747
North Tyneside	£68,070
North Warwickshire	£8,877
North West Leicestershire	£17,959
Northampton	£48,593
Northumberland	£78,615
Norwich	£73,007
Nottingham	£152,416
Nuneaton and Bedworth	£30,328
Oadby and Wigston	£6,564
Oldham	£67,427
Orkney	£2,798
Oxford	£42,090
Pembrokeshire	£30,651
Pendle	£16,126
Perth and Kinross	£21,321
Peterborough	£56,672
Plymouth	£61,332
Poole	£26,522
Portsmouth	£65,891
Powys	£25,779
Preston	£37,855
Purbeck	£4,793
Reading	£45,046
Redbridge	£115,588

Authority	Additional funding
Redcar and Cleveland	£53,914
Redditch	£15,190
Reigate and Banstead	£17,916
Renfrewshire	£62,302
Rhondda Cynon Taf	£80,061
Ribble Valley	£3,453
Richmond upon Thames	£26,487
Richmondshire	£4,480
Rochdale	£74,883
Rochford	£8,155
Rossendale	£11,178
Rother	£13,305
Rotherham	£95,097
Rugby	£15,976
Runnymede	£9,198
Rushcliffe	£13,710
Rushmoor	£15,125
Rutland	£3,829
Ryedale	£7,520
Salford	£113,150
Sandwell	£149,839
Scarborough	£27,299
Scottish Borders	£24,995
Sedgemoor	£22,812
Sefton	£88,364
Selby	£13,190
Sevenoaks	£15,248
Sheffield	£161,752
Shepway	£23,797
Shetland	£3,499
Shropshire	£51,994
Slough	£60,230
Solihull	£31,476
South Ayrshire	£39,250
South Bucks	£8,205
South Cambridgeshire	£16,608
South Derbyshire	£12,021
South Gloucestershire	£29,634
South Hams	£10,362
South Holland	£15,136
South Kesteven	£26,864
South Lakeland	£10,858
South Lanarkshire	£110,053
South Norfolk	£18,716
South Northamptonshire	£8,428
South Oxfordshire	£13,705
South Ribble	£14,213
South Somerset	£28,501
South Staffordshire	£15,397
South Tyneside	£75,977

Authority	Additional funding
Southampton	£71,073
Southend on Sea	£47,981
Southwark	£136,305
Spelthorne	£18,506
St Albans	£14,544
St Edmundsbury	£14,666
St Helens	£83,452
Stafford	£18,302
Staffordshire Moorlands	£9,726
Stevenage	£23,402
Stirling	£21,624
Stockport	£50,517
Stockton on Tees	£64,972
Stoke on Trent	£104,602
Stratford on Avon	£17,457
Stroud	£13,702
Suffolk Coastal	£15,596
Sunderland	£123,821
Surrey Heath	£6,798
Sutton	£43,674
Swale	£33,605
Swansea	£74,945
Swindon	£46,211
Tameside	£70,469
Tamworth	£16,670
Tandridge	£9,242
Taunton Deane	£18,432
Teignbridge	£14,670
Telford and Wrekin	£62,729
Tendring	£38,283
Test Valley	£16,925
Tewkesbury	£10,031
Thanet	£36,809
Three Rivers	£14,767
Thurrock	£43,969
Tonbridge and Malling	£18,015
Torbay	£34,095
Torfaen	£41,132
Torrige	£9,075
Tower Hamlets	£223,443
Trafford	£54,643
Tunbridge Wells	£14,922
Uttlesford	£7,993
Vale of Glamorgan	£32,596
Vale of White Horse	£15,856
Wakefield	£133,756
Walsall	£115,672
Waltham Forest	£124,824
Wandsworth	£149,270
Warrington	£35,678

Authority	Additional funding
Warwick	£25,346
Watford	£20,687
Waveney	£24,887
Waverley	£12,718
Wealden	£13,187
Wellingborough	£19,219
Welwyn Hatfield	£23,336
West Berkshire	£19,243
West Devon	£6,582
West Dorset	£13,272
West Dunbartonshire	£65,283
West Lancashire	£26,507
West Lindsey	£18,980
West Lothian	£75,939
West Oxfordshire	£14,676
West Somerset	£6,385
Westminster	£287,561
Weymouth and Portland	£15,005
Wigan	£103,930
Wiltshire	£74,269
Winchester	£12,189
Windsor and Maidenhead	£17,279
Wirral	£110,214
Woking	£13,583
Wokingham	£9,434
Wolverhampton	£112,143
Worcester	£23,809
Worthing	£16,931
Wrexham	£37,423
Wychavon	£18,517
Wycombe	£27,789
Wyre	£17,123
Wyre Forest	£18,910
York	£28,133