

## Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Circular

Department for Work and Pensions

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NA

# HB/CTB A5/2011

### ADJUDICATION AND OPERATIONS CIRCULAR

<b>WHO SHOULD READ</b>	All Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Benefit (CTB) staff
<b>ACTION</b>	For information
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Unrest in Libya – dealing with enquiries from Libyan nationals studying in the UK

### Guidance Manual

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

### Queries

If you

- want **extra copies of this circular/copies of previous circulars**, they can be found on the website at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/local-authority-staff/housing-benefit/user-communications/hbctb-circulars/>
- have any queries about the
  - **technical content of this circular**, contact Ursula Brennan  
Tel: 020 7449 5257  
Email: [ursula.a.brennan@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ursula.a.brennan@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)
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Contents

para

**Unrest in Libya – dealing with enquiries from Libyan nationals  
studying in the UK**

Introduction.....	1
Dealing with enquiries about access to HB and CTB .....	2
No funds available .....	3

## **Unrest in Libya – dealing with enquiries from Libyan nationals studying in the UK**

### **Introduction**

- 1 Libyan nationals currently studying at United Kingdom (UK) universities are generally funded by the Libyan government or their family in Libya. Their immigration status is that they have limited leave to remain in the UK **with no recourse to public funds**. As such, they cannot claim Housing Benefit (HB) or Council Tax Benefit (CTB).

### **Dealing with enquiries about access to HB and CTB**

- 2 At present, funds should still be available to Libyan students despite the current unrest in Libya. Therefore, anyone who approaches a local authority for help with their rent or Council Tax should be advised to contact their bank or the Libyan Embassy in the first instance.

### **No funds available**

- 3 If a Libyan student insists on applying for HB or CTB, contact the Department for Work and Pensions' People from Abroad Team for advice. The team's email address is [PFA.enquiries@DWP.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:PFA.enquiries@DWP.gsi.gov.uk)