

Housing Benefit Circular

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

HB S1/2018

SUBSIDY CIRCULAR

WHO SHOULD READ	All Housing Benefit staff. Officers preparing claims for Discretionary Housing Payment.
ACTION	For information
SUBJECT	2018-19 Discretionary Housing Payments government contribution for English and Welsh local authorities.

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 www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-benefit-for-local-authorities-subsidy-circulars
- have any queries about the
 - **allocation of the government contribution** towards DHPs, contact housing.benefitenquiries@dw.pgsi.gov.uk
 - **technical content of this circular**, contact
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2018-19 Discretionary Housing Payments Government contribution for English and Welsh local authorities

Introduction

1. This circular provides details of the government contribution and overall expenditure limit for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) for 2018-19 for English and Welsh local authorities (LAs).

Background

2. Since 2011-12, additional DHP government contribution funding has been made available to assist with the transition of claimants into the welfare entitlement that resulted from the Housing Benefit (HB) welfare reforms.
3. As set out in the Summer Budget 2015, the overall DHP funding for England and Wales in 2018-19 will be £153 million.
4. The DHP government funding contribution comprises of funding for four separate areas of support:
 - core funding
 - Local Housing Allowance (LHA)
 - Removal of the Spare Room Subsidy (RSRS)
 - benefit cap.
5. The distribution of the DHP funding is based on the effect of each element on individual LAs.

DHPs and Scotland

6. DHPs for Scotland was fully devolved from 1 April 2017 with the Scotland Act 2016 implementing the Smith Commission Agreement.
7. From 1 April 2017, the obligations for DHPs and their allocations to Scottish LAs are the responsibility of the Scottish Government.

Distribution of the government contribution for English and Welsh LAs

8. All four funding streams have been adjusted to take account of customers receiving housing support through Universal Credit (UC). This ensures that LAs who have larger UC caseloads continue to receive a fair allocation.

Core funding (£18 million)

9. We have retained the same methodology for distributing core funding as in 2017-18. This is based on the proportion of LA spend on HB, using published data from 2016-17.
10. An adjustment for UC has been made and is based on the relative proportion of claimants on housing support in UC compared to HB.

LHA (£27 million)

11. The same methodology that was used in 2017-18 has been applied when calculating the funding for 2018-19. As previously, this is based on the estimated reduction in HB entitlement for each LA as a result of the freeze in rates. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) administrative data is used to estimate how housing entitlement would change if LHA rates were increased rather than frozen. The differences are aggregated by LA and used to allocate the pot.
12. The adjustment for UC is based on the UC housing entitlement caseload in the private rented sector (PRS) relative to the HB PRS caseload.

RSRS (£54 million)

13. The allocation of RSRS DHP funding in 2018-19 is the same as in previous years. The distribution of £54 million is based on the LAs proportion of total reductions in HB, as a result of RSRS, based on the 2017 data.
14. This funding also contains an element for allocation to the most fragile rural LA areas affected by this policy. The nine most rural LAs in England and Wales that received this element of the funding in 2017-18 will be allocated the same level of the funding which totals £1.5 million.
15. The adjustment for UC has been applied based on the working age social rented sector (SRS) caseloads in HB relative to the SRS UC housing costs caseload.

Benefit cap (£54 million)

16. The overall DHP funding stream for the benefit cap has been adjusted to take account of our lower funding settlement. For England and Wales this means for 2018-19 funding for this measure will be £54 million.
17. The benefit cap funding in 2017-18 had been allocated based on the LAs proportion of the estimated total benefit reduction under the lower cap. The current funding is estimated for HB and UC full service claimants using DWP data held by DWP and HM Revenue & Customs. Households subject to the benefit cap are identified, alongside the amount by which their benefit has been reduced. This is then aggregated at LA level to allocate the pot. An adjustment has been made for claimants on UC live service based on internal live service management information on caseloads.

Annex A

2018/19 DHP government contribution LA allocation

LA	18/19 Total allocation	Overall limit (x 2.5)
Adur	£130,002	£325,005
Allerdale	£268,023	£670,057
Amber Valley	£221,075	£552,688
Arun	£319,720	£799,299
Ashfield	£280,396	£700,990
Ashford	£274,334	£685,835
Aylesbury Vale	£297,154	£742,885
Babergh	£106,396	£265,989
Barking and Dagenham	£935,049	£2,337,622
Barnet	£1,557,912	£3,894,779
Barnsley	£677,560	£1,693,900
Barrow-in-Furness	£131,950	£329,875
Basildon	£498,352	£1,245,880
Basingstoke and Deane	£395,616	£989,039
Bassetlaw	£208,376	£520,940
Bath and North East Somerset	£320,109	£800,272
Bedford	£347,667	£869,167
Bexley	£592,444	£1,481,109
Birmingham	£4,781,876	£11,954,690
Blaby	£92,473	£231,183
Blackburn with Darwen	£410,303	£1,025,759
Blackpool	£429,366	£1,073,415
Blaenau Gwent / Blaenau Gwent	£260,595	£651,488
Bolsover	£180,243	£450,606
Bolton	£881,396	£2,203,490
Boston	£142,370	£355,926
Bournemouth	£545,900	£1,364,751
Bracknell Forest	£214,181	£535,453
Bradford	£1,367,497	£3,418,741
Braintree	£242,147	£605,368
Breckland	£225,176	£562,939
Brent	£2,204,211	£5,510,527
Brentwood	£85,183	£212,958
Bridgend / Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	£403,191	£1,007,978
Brighton and Hove	£836,667	£2,091,668
Bristol, City of	£1,372,727	£3,431,817
Broadland	£129,145	£322,863

Bromley	£725,249	£1,813,122
Bromsgrove	£99,127	£247,819
Broxbourne	£246,043	£615,108
Broxtowe	£133,511	£333,778
Burnley	£232,472	£581,179
Bury	£363,301	£908,253
Caerphilly / Caerffili	£568,084	£1,420,210
Calderdale	£251,705	£629,262
Cambridge	£223,961	£559,903
Camden	£886,380	£2,215,950
Cannock Chase	£172,583	£431,458
Canterbury	£252,547	£631,366
Cardiff / Caerdydd	£1,340,529	£3,351,322
Carlisle	£211,228	£528,070
Carmarthenshire / Sir Gaerfyrddin	£443,445	£1,108,612
Castle Point	£205,153	£512,881
Central Bedfordshire	£403,836	£1,009,591
Ceredigion / Ceredigion	£303,667	£759,168
Charnwood	£214,921	£537,304
Chelmsford	£302,710	£756,775
Cheltenham	£194,976	£487,440
Cherwell	£265,424	£663,561
Cheshire East	£535,703	£1,339,257
Cheshire West and Chester	£697,842	£1,744,604
Chesterfield	£235,699	£589,248
Chichester	£202,327	£505,819
Chiltern	£123,238	£308,095
Chorley	£178,023	£445,057
Christchurch	£77,011	£192,529
City of London	£21,607	£54,018
Colchester	£394,224	£985,560
Conwy / Conwy	£219,611	£549,028
Copeland	£244,031	£610,076
Corby	£197,936	£494,839
Cornwall	£1,099,816	£2,749,541
Cotswold	£110,281	£275,703
County Durham	£1,341,948	£3,354,871
Coventry	£1,006,037	£2,515,093
Craven	£136,676	£341,689
Crawley	£336,760	£841,901
Croydon	£1,858,451	£4,646,128
Dacorum	£395,843	£989,608
Darlington	£238,759	£596,898

Dartford	£186,766	£466,916
Daventry	£131,242	£328,106
Denbighshire / Sir Ddinbych	£252,543	£631,357
Derby	£625,661	£1,564,152
Derbyshire Dales	£71,945	£179,862
Doncaster	£783,851	£1,959,627
Dover	£246,292	£615,730
Dudley	£784,150	£1,960,376
Ealing	£1,933,912	£4,834,779
East Cambridgeshire	£124,784	£311,960
East Devon	£204,332	£510,830
East Dorset	£98,750	£246,874
East Hampshire	£125,203	£313,007
East Hertfordshire	£216,896	£542,240
East Lindsey	£295,002	£737,504
East Northamptonshire	£131,242	£328,104
East Riding of Yorkshire	£453,105	£1,132,763
East Staffordshire	£190,355	£475,888
Eastbourne	£310,853	£777,132
Eastleigh	£190,565	£476,412
Eden	£168,809	£422,024
Elmbridge	£213,616	£534,041
Enfield	£2,131,652	£5,329,131
Epping Forest	£254,198	£635,495
Epsom and Ewell	£135,359	£338,397
Erewash	£220,491	£551,229
Exeter	£196,479	£491,197
Fareham	£119,053	£297,632
Fenland	£194,345	£485,862
Flintshire / Sir y Fflint	£325,115	£812,789
Forest Heath	£102,240	£255,599
Forest of Dean	£124,583	£311,457
Fylde	£78,812	£197,030
Gateshead	£632,674	£1,581,684
Gedling	£177,160	£442,900
Gloucester	£298,801	£747,001
Gosport	£200,400	£501,000
Gravesham	£244,588	£611,469
Great Yarmouth	£324,971	£812,429
Greenwich	£938,202	£2,345,506
Guildford	£222,658	£556,645
Gwynedd / Gwynedd	£719,976	£1,799,940
Hackney	£1,894,545	£4,736,364

Halton	£536,534	£1,341,336
Hambleton	£108,034	£270,085
Hammersmith and Fulham	£842,312	£2,105,779
Harborough	£72,924	£182,310
Haringey	£1,594,345	£3,985,862
Harlow	£253,021	£632,553
Harrogate	£203,051	£507,628
Harrow	£771,875	£1,929,688
Hart	£83,648	£209,120
Hartlepool	£455,632	£1,139,080
Hastings	£381,729	£954,322
Havant	£229,052	£572,630
Havering	£628,692	£1,571,730
Herefordshire, County of	£294,924	£737,310
Hertsmere	£288,502	£721,255
High Peak	£125,485	£313,712
Hillingdon	£856,754	£2,141,884
Hinckley and Bosworth	£127,612	£319,029
Horsham	£154,656	£386,639
Hounslow	£1,079,340	£2,698,350
Huntingdonshire	£253,061	£632,654
Hyndburn	£174,767	£436,918
Ipswich	£326,116	£815,289
Isle of Anglesey / Ynys Môn	£153,308	£383,269
Isle of Wight	£244,989	£612,473
Isles of Scilly	£214	£535
Islington	£1,055,147	£2,637,868
Kensington and Chelsea	£773,586	£1,933,965
Kettering	£166,856	£417,140
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	£296,373	£740,933
Kingston upon Hull, City of	£966,879	£2,417,196
Kingston upon Thames	£400,517	£1,001,294
Kirklees	£723,649	£1,809,123
Knowsley	£699,633	£1,749,082
Lambeth	£1,421,851	£3,554,627
Lancaster	£276,093	£690,233
Leeds	£2,186,047	£5,465,117
Leicester	£1,051,582	£2,628,954
Lewes	£224,072	£560,180
Lewisham	£1,309,370	£3,273,425
Lichfield	£118,002	£295,004
Lincoln	£208,624	£521,561
Liverpool	£1,998,838	£4,997,095

Luton	£750,960	£1,877,400
Maidstone	£323,178	£807,944
Maldon	£86,617	£216,542
Malvern Hills	£121,372	£303,431
Manchester	£2,432,920	£6,082,300
Mansfield	£255,450	£638,624
Medway	£726,411	£1,816,027
Melton	£57,278	£143,194
Mendip	£202,904	£507,261
Merthyr Tydfil / Merthyr Tudful	£194,602	£486,504
Merton	£547,626	£1,369,066
Mid Devon	£105,151	£262,876
Mid Suffolk	£98,406	£246,014
Mid Sussex	£169,395	£423,487
Middlesbrough	£726,903	£1,817,258
Milton Keynes	£702,672	£1,756,680
Mole Valley	£100,986	£252,465
Monmouthshire / Sir Fynwy	£139,910	£349,776
Neath Port Talbot / Castell-nedd Port Talbot	£454,303	£1,135,757
New Forest	£278,541	£696,354
Newark and Sherwood	£175,245	£438,114
Newcastle upon Tyne	£1,167,939	£2,919,849
Newcastle-under-Lyme	£171,687	£429,218
Newham	£1,764,620	£4,411,550
Newport / Casnewydd	£496,536	£1,241,341
North Devon	£145,060	£362,650
North Dorset	£99,703	£249,257
North East Derbyshire	£206,426	£516,066
North East Lincolnshire	£425,066	£1,062,665
North Hertfordshire	£259,972	£649,930
North Kesteven	£126,693	£316,732
North Lincolnshire	£366,229	£915,572
North Norfolk	£163,410	£408,526
North Somerset	£391,653	£979,132
North Tyneside	£529,964	£1,324,910
North Warwickshire	£93,736	£234,339
North West Leicestershire	£145,351	£363,378
Northampton	£501,613	£1,254,032
Northumberland	£672,184	£1,680,461
Norwich	£469,892	£1,174,730
Nottingham	£1,208,785	£3,021,963
Nuneaton and Bedworth	£270,683	£676,708

Oadby and Wigston	£68,068	£170,169
Oldham	£654,359	£1,635,897
Oxford	£405,010	£1,012,526
Pembrokeshire / Sir Benfro	£232,644	£581,610
Pendle	£144,421	£361,053
Peterborough	£543,328	£1,358,320
Plymouth	£624,451	£1,561,128
Poole	£329,914	£824,785
Portsmouth	£675,063	£1,687,657
Powys / Powys	£558,554	£1,396,386
Preston	£354,818	£887,044
Purbeck	£79,438	£198,594
Reading	£575,640	£1,439,099
Redbridge	£898,267	£2,245,667
Redcar and Cleveland	£485,670	£1,214,174
Redditch	£155,324	£388,309
Reigate and Banstead	£253,984	£634,960
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff / Rhondda, Cynon, Taf	£653,138	£1,632,845
Ribble Valley	£38,233	£95,584
Richmond upon Thames	£363,500	£908,750
Richmondshire	£126,633	£316,582
Rochdale	£669,657	£1,674,143
Rochford	£136,169	£340,423
Rossendale	£120,358	£300,895
Rother	£182,114	£455,285
Rotherham	£774,175	£1,935,437
Rugby	£183,395	£458,487
Runnymede	£151,205	£378,013
Rushcliffe	£123,603	£309,009
Rushmoor	£226,135	£565,336
Rutland	£37,787	£94,468
Ryedale	£210,422	£526,055
Salford	£952,524	£2,381,310
Sandwell	£1,351,569	£3,378,923
Scarborough	£255,345	£638,364
Sedgemoor	£322,300	£805,751
Sefton	£763,510	£1,908,775
Selby	£118,688	£296,720
Sevenoaks	£190,679	£476,697
Sheffield	£1,351,260	£3,378,149
Shepway	£301,761	£754,403
Shropshire	£483,003	£1,207,509

Slough	£649,394	£1,623,484
Solihull	£340,487	£851,217
South Bucks	£103,856	£259,639
South Cambridgeshire	£150,187	£375,467
South Derbyshire	£121,545	£303,863
South Gloucestershire	£423,642	£1,059,105
South Hams	£127,021	£317,553
South Holland	£133,210	£333,025
South Kesteven	£235,300	£588,250
South Lakeland	£113,777	£284,442
South Norfolk	£174,897	£437,241
South Northamptonshire	£76,907	£192,268
South Oxfordshire	£198,087	£495,218
South Ribble	£141,496	£353,741
South Somerset	£281,841	£704,603
South Staffordshire	£125,894	£314,735
South Tyneside	£584,002	£1,460,005
Southampton	£751,893	£1,879,732
Southend-on-Sea	£570,046	£1,425,116
Southwark	£1,277,668	£3,194,169
Spelthorne	£265,061	£662,653
St Albans	£210,731	£526,827
St Edmundsbury	£163,473	£408,683
St. Helens	£590,484	£1,476,211
Stafford	£166,703	£416,758
Staffordshire Moorlands	£84,413	£211,034
Stevenage	£249,017	£622,542
Stockport	£459,166	£1,147,915
Stockton-on-Tees	£533,666	£1,334,164
Stoke-on-Trent	£692,342	£1,730,856
Stratford-on-Avon	£215,578	£538,945
Stroud	£154,295	£385,737
Suffolk Coastal	£164,259	£410,647
Sunderland	£942,102	£2,355,254
Surrey Heath	£106,448	£266,120
Sutton	£492,118	£1,230,295
Swale	£402,738	£1,006,844
Swansea / Abertawe	£654,888	£1,637,220
Swindon	£492,420	£1,231,050
Tameside	£670,240	£1,675,601
Tamworth	£140,621	£351,554
Tandridge	£159,588	£398,970
Taunton Deane	£198,697	£496,743

Teignbridge	£215,448	£538,619
Telford and Wrekin	£560,103	£1,400,257
Tendring	£442,819	£1,107,047
Test Valley	£191,883	£479,708
Tewkesbury	£122,206	£305,515
Thanet	£437,080	£1,092,700
The Vale of Glamorgan / Bro Morgannwg	£277,158	£692,895
Three Rivers	£162,344	£405,860
Thurrock	£517,482	£1,293,705
Tonbridge and Malling	£236,000	£590,000
Torbay	£412,230	£1,030,576
Torfaen / Tor-faen	£340,533	£851,333
Torridge	£178,498	£446,244
Tower Hamlets	£1,598,822	£3,997,056
Trafford	£436,249	£1,090,622
Tunbridge Wells	£191,750	£479,375
Uttlesford	£89,952	£224,880
Vale of White Horse	£182,556	£456,391
Wakefield	£997,585	£2,493,962
Walsall	£1,069,980	£2,674,951
Waltham Forest	£1,034,792	£2,586,979
Wandsworth	£1,158,633	£2,896,583
Warrington	£366,678	£916,694
Warwick	£177,714	£444,285
Watford	£269,545	£673,863
Waveney	£316,570	£791,424
Waverley	£162,603	£406,509
Wealden	£207,171	£517,927
Wellingborough	£163,566	£408,914
Welwyn Hatfield	£262,163	£655,407
West Berkshire	£274,078	£685,195
West Devon	£147,801	£369,503
West Dorset	£155,593	£388,983
West Lancashire	£220,231	£550,577
West Lindsey	£181,749	£454,372
West Oxfordshire	£162,582	£406,455
West Somerset	£154,936	£387,340
Westminster	£1,146,630	£2,866,575
Weymouth and Portland	£180,732	£451,831
Wigan	£724,882	£1,812,205
Wiltshire	£730,533	£1,826,333
Winchester	£138,880	£347,200

Windsor and Maidenhead	£234,892	£587,231
Wirral	£856,805	£2,142,013
Woking	£172,943	£432,358
Wokingham	£177,229	£443,073
Wolverhampton	£1,000,155	£2,500,386
Worcester	£199,356	£498,391
Worthing	£228,447	£571,117
Wrexham / Wreccsam	£349,528	£873,819
Wychavon	£182,155	£455,386
Wycombe	£335,619	£839,047
Wyre	£153,995	£384,988
Wyre Forest	£186,059	£465,147
York	£226,402	£566,004