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# Household support fund

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# Household support fund applications

Funding has been made available by the government's Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) to support vulnerable Blackpool residents who are struggling with rising living costs.

The Household Support Fund is a national scheme to provide support to vulnerable households in most need of help with significantly rising living costs.

Our current application scheme for help with energy costs is now closed as funding has been fully allocated.

We will update this page if future funding is made available.

### **Urgent support**

Please note this is not an emergency support scheme. If you require urgent support with food, gas or electricity pre-pay top-ups, Blackpool Council <u>Discretionary Support Scheme</u> may be able to help.

Additional help with Council Tax may be available from the Council Tax Reduction scheme.

Additional help and advice regarding affordable warmth advice and assistance, including:

- Warm homes discount
- Priority services register
- Understanding and reducing fuel bills
- Energy efficiency
- Budgeting money
- Dealing with fuel debt
- Fuel incentives
- Tariff differences
- Switching
- Smart meters
- Green measures
- Addressing damp
- and more

are available from the <u>BCH Warm and Healthy Homes project</u>. This service is available to owner occupiers and tenants (not just BCH tenants).

# Additional household support funded schemes

We also used funding from HM Government's household support fund during 2023/24 in the following ways:

## Cost of living helpline

The helplne is run in partnership with Empowerment Charity and Blackpool Wyre & Fylde Volunteer Centre. If you are struggling to find the help you need the helpline can signpost you to an organisation that may be able to help.

Telephone: Monday to Friday 9.00am until 3.00pm, 0808 175 3379.

### School meal support during holidays

Families with children normally eligibile for free school meals will receive food vouchers for £15 per week for each eligible child during school holidays. Vouchers are distributed by Blackpool schools. You do not need to apply.

If you have any queries about eligiblity or vouchers please contact your school. This is a temporary arrangement for additional support as there is no statutory requirement to provide support during school holidays.

This scheme runs until 31 March 2024.

### Care leavers

We will provide support to our care leavers that are responsible for household bills. You do not need to apply. If you have any enquiries please contact your usual support worker.

### Voluntary sector grant schemes

Additional information

You can view details of what support is available locally from community organisations.

Our Grant application schemes for voluntary sector organisations are now also closed as funding has been fully allocated for 2023/24.

# Help for Households Cost of living help Cost of living support - Gov.uk

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