

Housing Benefit Circular

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

HB S1/2019 (Revised)

SUBSIDY CIRCULAR

WHO SHOULD READ	All Housing Benefit staff. Officers preparing claims for Discretionary Housing Payments
ACTION	For information
SUBJECT	2019-20 Discretionary Housing Payments government contribution for English and Welsh local authorities

Revisions

We have included a further column at Annex A with the overall expenditure limit for each local authority. You will also find a new paragraph 4 providing further information regarding this column. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Guidance Manual

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

Queries

extra copies of this circular/copies of previous circulars can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-benefit-for-local-authorities-circulars>

- about the
 - allocation of the government contribution towards DHPs contact
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Contents

para

2019-20 Discretionary Housing Payments government contribution for English and Welsh local authorities

Introduction 1
Background.....2
Distribution of government contribution for English and Welsh LAs ...7
2019-20 DHP government contribution LA allocationAnnex A

2019-20 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 2019-20 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 at Summer Budget 2015, the overall DHP funding for England and Wales in 2019-20 will be £139.5 million.
4. In addition to the central government contribution, English and Welsh LAs are able to top up their DHP funding up to a maximum of two and a half times this figure using their own funds. For instance, an LA receiving £100,000 as DHP central government funding, could top up this amount with up to £150,000 of their own funds, giving them a maximum possible total expenditure of £250,000 – **see Annex A**.
5. 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
6. The distribution of the DHP funding is based on the effect of each element on individual LAs.

Distribution of the government contribution for English and Welsh LAs.

7. 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)

8. We have retained the same methodology for distributing the funding as in 2018-19. This is based on the proportion of LA spend on HB using the published data for 2017-18.

9. An adjustment for UC is based on the relative proportion of claimants entitled to the housing support in UC compared to HB.

LHA (£27 million)

10. The same methodology that was used in 2018-19 has been applied when calculating the funding for 2019-20. This is based on the estimated reduction in HB entitlement for each LA from the freeze in LHA rates in 2018-19. The Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP) administrative data is used to estimate how housing support amounts would change if LHA rates were increased rather than frozen. The differences are then aggregated by LA and used in order to allocate the pot. An adjustment for UC is based on the UC housing caseload in the private rented sector (PRS) relative to the HB PRS case load.

RSRS (£40.5 million)

11. The reduction in funding as a result of the lower funding settlement agreed at Summer Budget 2015 has been applied this year to the RSRS funding stream. This has reduced from £54 million in 2018-19 to £40.5 million for 2019-20.
12. The RSRS funding allocation is based on the total reductions in HB from the RSRS using data published in May 2018. The pot is then allocated based on the LAs proportion of total RSRS reductions in HB. The UC adjustment is applied based on the working age social rented sector (SRS) caseloads in HB relative to the SRS UC housing caseload.

Benefit cap (£54 million)

13. The benefit cap funding is allocated based on the LAs proportion of the estimated total reduction in benefit under the lower benefit cap. Capped households are identified along with the amount of reduction applied to their benefit. This is then aggregated at LA level in order to allocate the pot. Published statistics provide the number of households capped in both HB and UC full service in each LA. A UC adjustment is made for live service using internal live service benefit centre management information.

Annex A

2019-20 DHP government contribution LA allocations

Local authority	2019-20 Total allocation	Overall limit (x 2.5)
Adur	£120,093	£300,231
Allerdale	£228,217	£570,544
Amber Valley	£176,403	£441,008
Arun	£285,587	£713,967
Ashfield	£243,980	£609,951
Ashford	£278,091	£695,227
Aylesbury Vale	£302,207	£755,516
Babergh	£106,148	£265,371
Barking and Dagenham	£856,893	£2,142,233
Barnet	£1,717,419	£4,293,548
Barnsley	£578,089	£1,445,223
Barrow-in-Furness	£110,355	£275,887
Basildon	£433,792	£1,084,479
Basingstoke and Deane	£334,791	£836,978
Bassetlaw	£176,500	£441,249
Bath and North East Somerset	£291,288	£728,221
Bedford	£316,172	£790,431
Bexley	£520,970	£1,302,425
Birmingham	£4,281,017	£10,702,542
Blaby	£80,146	£200,364
Blackburn with Darwen	£366,033	£915,083
Blackpool	£379,507	£948,767
Blaenau Gwent / Blaenau Gwent	£218,395	£545,986
Bolsover	£150,695	£376,737
Bolton	£768,884	£1,922,210
Boston	£110,747	£276,868
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£847,253	£2,118,132
Bracknell Forest	£184,357	£460,892
Bradford	£1,177,095	£2,942,739
Braintree	£236,373	£590,932
Breckland	£209,923	£524,808
Brent	£2,140,219	£5,350,548
Brentwood	£90,569	£226,423
Bridgend / Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	£365,158	£912,896
Brighton and Hove	£827,062	£2,067,655

Bristol, City of	£1,158,306	£2,895,765
Broadland	£104,901	£262,253
Bromley	£628,202	£1,570,506
Bromsgrove	£89,660	£224,150
Broxbourne	£313,173	£782,933
Broxtowe	£120,809	£302,023
Burnley	£238,007	£595,017
Bury	£315,865	£789,662
Caerphilly / Caerffili	£493,012	£1,232,531
Calderdale	£435,382	£1,088,455
Cambridge	£201,673	£504,184
Camden	£871,859	£2,179,648
Cannock Chase	£141,262	£353,154
Canterbury	£255,382	£638,456
Cardiff / Caerdydd	£1,152,996	£2,882,490
Carlisle	£178,751	£446,878
Carmarthenshire / Sir Gaerfyrddin	£386,739	£966,847
Castle Point	£187,905	£469,762
Central Bedfordshire	£364,510	£911,276
Ceredigion / Ceredigion	£286,908	£717,271
Charnwood	£209,989	£524,971
Chelmsford	£259,962	£649,904
Cheltenham	£164,545	£411,363
Cherwell	£249,848	£624,619
Cheshire East	£457,711	£1,144,277
Cheshire West and Chester	£610,905	£1,527,263
Chesterfield	£189,696	£474,241
Chichester	£178,227	£445,569
Chiltern	£103,579	£258,948
Chorley	£151,335	£378,338
City of London	£18,156	£45,390
Colchester	£324,348	£810,871
Conwy / Conwy	£200,626	£501,564
Copeland	£189,487	£473,717
Corby	£161,568	£403,919
Cornwall	£972,059	£2,430,147
Cotswold	£92,049	£230,122
County Durham	£1,170,046	£2,925,115
Coventry	£1,154,066	£2,885,165
Craven	£119,050	£297,624
Crawley	£297,009	£742,523
Croydon	£1,740,407	£4,351,016
Dacorum	£369,409	£923,523

Darlington	£199,553	£498,884
Dartford	£176,813	£442,032
Daventry	£122,836	£307,090
Denbighshire / Sir Ddinbych	£197,587	£493,967
Derby	£525,737	£1,314,344
Derbyshire Dales	£78,209	£195,521
Doncaster	£676,011	£1,690,028
Dorset	£553,455	£1,383,637
Dover	£219,417	£548,543
Dudley	£700,012	£1,750,030
Ealing	£2,053,076	£5,132,689
East Cambridgeshire	£99,821	£249,553
East Devon	£177,988	£444,971
East Hampshire	£125,493	£313,732
East Hertfordshire	£206,686	£516,716
East Lindsey	£257,202	£643,005
East Northamptonshire	£107,145	£267,863
East Riding of Yorkshire	£421,146	£1,052,866
East Staffordshire	£174,629	£436,571
East Suffolk	£428,798	£1,071,996
Eastbourne	£315,028	£787,571
Eastleigh	£180,427	£451,068
Eden	£150,684	£376,710
Elmbridge	£215,643	£539,108
Enfield	£2,249,300	£5,623,251
Epping Forest	£239,633	£599,084
Epsom and Ewell	£136,763	£341,907
Erewash	£186,537	£466,341
Exeter	£174,340	£435,849
Fareham	£111,138	£277,845
Fenland	£176,766	£441,915
Flintshire / Sir y Fflint	£286,264	£715,659
Forest of Dean	£104,055	£260,137
Fylde	£75,094	£187,735
Gateshead	£525,393	£1,313,484
Gedling	£149,034	£372,586
Gloucester	£275,934	£689,836
Gosport	£156,595	£391,489
Gravesham	£221,412	£553,529
Great Yarmouth	£265,455	£663,638
Greenwich	£860,486	£2,151,215
Guildford	£201,084	£502,709
Gwynedd / Gwynedd	£694,585	£1,736,462
Hackney	£1,772,360	£4,430,901

Halton	£469,587	£1,173,967
Hambleton	£93,654	£234,135
Hammersmith and Fulham	£816,060	£2,040,151
Harborough	£56,732	£141,831
Haringey	£1,563,947	£3,909,867
Harlow	£240,387	£600,967
Harrogate	£182,385	£455,962
Harrow	£843,634	£2,109,084
Hart	£107,393	£268,482
Hartlepool	£360,723	£901,806
Hastings	£328,868	£822,169
Havant	£211,904	£529,760
Havering	£566,060	£1,415,150
Herefordshire, County of	£252,491	£631,227
Hertsmere	£262,410	£656,025
High Peak	£110,633	£276,583
Hillingdon	£837,223	£2,093,059
Hinckley and Bosworth	£110,444	£276,109
Horsham	£158,228	£395,571
Hounslow	£1,106,402	£2,766,005
Huntingdonshire	£224,854	£562,134
Hyndburn	£179,061	£447,652
Ipswich	£283,033	£707,582
Isle of Anglesey / Ynys Môn	£143,208	£358,019
Isle of Wight	£281,475	£703,687
Isles of Scilly	£217	£542
Islington	£925,825	£2,314,561
Kensington and Chelsea	£798,967	£1,997,418
Kettering	£150,485	£376,212
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	£251,481	£628,703
Kingston upon Hull, City of	£801,265	£2,003,162
Kingston upon Thames	£417,668	£1,044,170
Kirklees	£656,185	£1,640,462
Knowsley	£588,883	£1,472,208
Lambeth	£1,337,808	£3,344,520
Lancaster	£276,255	£690,638
Leeds	£1,847,615	£4,619,039
Leicester	£869,657	£2,174,143
Lewes	£209,143	£522,858
Lewisham	£1,291,543	£3,228,858
Lichfield	£108,751	£271,877
Lincoln	£178,674	£446,684
Liverpool	£1,714,181	£4,285,454

Luton	£716,961	£1,792,402
Maidstone	£302,510	£756,276
Maldon	£73,534	£183,836
Malvern Hills	£104,864	£262,160
Manchester	£2,192,166	£5,480,415
Mansfield	£204,189	£510,472
Medway	£644,210	£1,610,525
Melton	£49,395	£123,487
Mendip	£187,867	£469,669
Merthyr Tydfil / Merthyr Tudful	£169,956	£424,890
Merton	£549,093	£1,372,734
Mid Devon	£104,927	£262,318
Mid Suffolk	£94,602	£236,506
Mid Sussex	£184,425	£461,062
Middlesbrough	£577,412	£1,443,529
Milton Keynes	£634,612	£1,586,529
Mole Valley	£91,363	£228,407
Monmouthshire / Sir Fynwy	£116,265	£290,662
Neath Port Talbot / Castell- nedd Port Talbot	£421,335	£1,053,339
New Forest	£263,617	£659,041
Newark and Sherwood	£158,123	£395,308
Newcastle upon Tyne	£932,043	£2,330,106
Newcastle-under-Lyme	£176,954	£442,385
Newham	£1,816,118	£4,540,294
Newport / Casnewydd	£453,012	£1,132,531
North Devon	£157,730	£394,325
North East Derbyshire	£177,997	£444,992
North East Lincolnshire	£352,556	£881,391
North Hertfordshire	£209,419	£523,546
North Kesteven	£113,943	£284,859
North Lincolnshire	£312,342	£780,854
North Norfolk	£143,216	£358,041
North Somerset	£362,462	£906,155
North Tyneside	£449,390	£1,123,475
North Warwickshire	£76,325	£190,811
North West Leicestershire	£126,679	£316,698
Northampton	£437,027	£1,092,568
Northumberland	£542,894	£1,357,235
Norwich	£397,458	£993,645
Nottingham	£995,734	£2,489,336
Nuneaton and Bedworth	£252,351	£630,877
Oadby and Wigston	£62,959	£157,398

Oldham	£638,046	£1,595,115
Oxford	£336,825	£842,061
Pembrokeshire / Sir Benfro	£236,825	£592,063
Pendle	£154,018	£385,044
Peterborough	£498,584	£1,246,461
Plymouth	£572,147	£1,430,368
Portsmouth	£617,464	£1,543,660
Powys / Powys	£551,676	£1,379,189
Preston	£327,109	£817,772
Reading	£550,022	£1,375,055
Redbridge	£910,299	£2,275,747
Redcar and Cleveland	£389,757	£974,393
Redditch	£121,588	£303,971
Reigate and Banstead	£258,903	£647,256
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff / Rhondda, Cynon, Taf	£552,087	£1,380,217
Ribble Valley	£37,716	£94,289
Richmond upon Thames	£378,165	£945,413
Richmondshire	£125,560	£313,900
Rochdale	£569,568	£1,423,920
Rochford	£117,088	£292,720
Rossendale	£90,598	£226,496
Rother	£170,744	£426,860
Rotherham	£643,316	£1,608,290
Rugby	£152,661	£381,652
Runnymede	£150,145	£375,363
Rushcliffe	£107,321	£268,301
Rushmoor	£214,996	£537,491
Rutland	£30,188	£75,470
Ryedale	£207,413	£518,532
Salford	£845,773	£2,114,431
Sandwell	£1,092,488	£2,731,220
Scarborough	£227,169	£567,922
Sedgemoor	£255,944	£639,859
Sefton	£659,531	£1,648,828
Selby	£101,625	£254,064
Sevenoaks	£164,643	£411,606
Sheffield	£1,141,374	£2,853,436
Shepway	£269,822	£674,555
Shropshire	£413,601	£1,034,004
Slough	£650,504	£1,626,259
Solihull	£329,996	£824,990
Somerset West and Taunton	£328,871	£822,177

South Bucks	£87,621	£219,054
South Cambridgeshire	£147,388	£368,470
South Derbyshire	£114,360	£285,900
South Gloucestershire	£370,613	£926,533
South Hams	£111,951	£279,877
South Holland	£111,842	£279,606
South Kesteven	£204,057	£510,143
South Lakeland	£93,649	£234,121
South Norfolk	£152,468	£381,169
South Northamptonshire	£69,152	£172,879
South Oxfordshire	£186,006	£465,015
South Ribble	£131,879	£329,698
South Somerset	£232,768	£581,920
South Staffordshire	£115,406	£288,516
South Tyneside	£480,841	£1,202,102
Southampton	£671,833	£1,679,583
Southend-on-Sea	£513,031	£1,282,577
Southwark	£1,193,755	£2,984,388
Spelthorne	£234,682	£586,706
St Albans	£200,361	£500,903
St. Helens	£516,305	£1,290,764
Stafford	£135,904	£339,761
Staffordshire Moorlands	£86,700	£216,749
Stevenage	£202,045	£505,112
Stockport	£404,433	£1,011,082
Stockton-on-Tees	£411,897	£1,029,743
Stoke-on-Trent	£619,728	£1,549,320
Stratford-on-Avon	£173,086	£432,716
Stroud	£123,013	£307,532
Sunderland	£830,913	£2,077,283
Surrey Heath	£85,140	£212,851
Sutton	£463,784	£1,159,459
Swale	£349,841	£874,603
Swansea / Abertawe	£585,574	£1,463,934
Swindon	£443,053	£1,107,632
Tameside	£582,726	£1,456,814
Tamworth	£135,865	£339,662
Tandridge	£146,009	£365,024
Teignbridge	£194,014	£485,035
Telford and Wrekin	£481,676	£1,204,191
Tendring	£402,811	£1,007,028
Test Valley	£160,348	£400,869
Tewkesbury	£108,061	£270,151
Thanet	£395,901	£989,752

The Vale of Glamorgan / Bro Morgannwg	£239,742	£599,355
Three Rivers	£155,588	£388,969
Thurrock	£507,310	£1,268,276
Tonbridge and Malling	£208,883	£522,206
Torbay	£395,285	£988,212
Torfaen / Tor-faen	£300,652	£751,631
Torridge	£93,085	£232,712
Tower Hamlets	£1,741,963	£4,354,907
Trafford	£427,026	£1,067,566
Tunbridge Wells	£163,575	£408,938
Uttlesford	£85,524	£213,809
Vale of White Horse	£189,692	£474,230
Wakefield	£849,842	£2,124,604
Walsall	£840,917	£2,102,293
Waltham Forest	£1,030,474	£2,576,186
Wandsworth	£1,097,573	£2,743,932
Warrington	£309,240	£773,100
Warwick	£160,835	£402,088
Watford	£258,700	£646,751
Waverley	£139,181	£347,952
Wealden	£208,032	£520,079
Wellingborough	£142,622	£356,556
Welwyn Hatfield	£255,913	£639,783
West Berkshire	£239,943	£599,857
West Devon	£147,159	£367,896
West Lancashire	£200,628	£501,570
West Lindsey	£164,724	£411,810
West Oxfordshire	£141,634	£354,086
West Suffolk	£232,870	£582,174
Westminster	£1,078,174	£2,695,436
Wigan	£625,433	£1,563,583
Wiltshire	£659,105	£1,647,763
Winchester	£133,087	£332,716
Windsor and Maidenhead	£202,913	£507,283
Wirral	£732,041	£1,830,102
Woking	£162,457	£406,143
Wokingham	£184,648	£461,620
Wolverhampton	£829,412	£2,073,531
Worcester	£165,605	£414,011
Worthing	£189,871	£474,677
Wrexham / Wreccsam	£329,065	£822,663
Wychavon	£152,527	£381,317
Wycombe	£309,322	£773,305

Wyre	£125,778	£314,444
Wyre Forest	£176,328	£440,819
York	£210,097	£525,242

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