Cost of living: managing your debts

The government understands that people are worried about the impact of rising prices and its effect on household incomes.

The government's <u>MoneyHelper</u> has lots of free information and resources to help you manage your money in uncertain times and how to keep up with essential bills and payments.

If you are worried about debt, speaking to a <u>trained and experienced debt</u> <u>adviser</u> about your situation could help you decide what to do.

And if you are concerned about missing a payment towards your <u>Individual</u> <u>Voluntary Arrangement</u>, <u>Income Payments Agreement or Income Payments Order</u> having early conversations is the best first step to resolving your money issues and avoiding missing payments.

Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVA)

If you are in an IVA, you can ask your supervisor to review your income and expenses to see if you are eligible for a reduction in payments or payment break.

You will be required to provide evidence of your income and expenditure to support a change to your contributions. This could include providing payslips, statement of benefits or utility bills.

Any amendments to your contributions into your IVAs would need to be agreed with your creditors.

Your supervisor has been provided with the latest guidance on adjustments to payments, via the IVA Standing Committee, and they will also be aware of alternative solutions to help you resolve your debt issues and can help you find further information where appropriate.

Income Payments Agreements and Income Payments Orders

If you have an Income Payments Agreement or Income Payments Order, you can ask for a review of your income and expenses to see if you are eligible for a reduction in payments, or payment break.

The spending guidelines have been updated for inflation in the current financial climate and if you feel you need a review, you should contact the organisation you make payments to.

If you pay Advantis, the Official Receiver's collection agent, you can contact them on:

If you pay the Official Receiver directly, you can contact them on:

If you pay an Insolvency Practitioner or their collection agent, please

contact them directly.

Further information can be found in the <u>Guide to Bankruptcy</u>

Other payment agreements

If you currently have an agreement to pay the Official Receiver as trustee in bankruptcy or liquidator of a company, and are concerned about future payments please email the DART Team via <u>dart.post@insolvency.gov.uk</u>.