

English families get extended support with food and utility bills

- Families struggling with food and utility costs will get further support through Government scheme
- Boost worth £160 million to families in England
- Scheme will now run until end of September, in line with the end of other COVID-related support

The government's COVID Local Support Grant, first introduced in December 2020, has been extended through to September bringing it in line with the end date for furlough and other COVID-related support. This is beyond the planned ending of restrictions, to help families get back on their feet as the economy recovers and the vaccine rollout continues.

Across the country, families have been benefiting from the scheme in a number of ways, with support designed by local councils to make sure the needs of the community are met. Since beginning of the scheme, support has included food vouchers and help with heating costs over the winter months.

With a new round of funding, councils will be able to continue this support and adapt their offer to suit the needs of families. Those who are in need of support should contact their council to find out how they can access it and what support will be available over the coming months.

The grant was introduced in December 2020 to create new programmes of support tailored to people's needs in their area. The funding is ring-fenced so that 80% is used to support families with bills for food, key utilities and other essentials.

Minister for Welfare Delivery Will Quince said:

This grant is ensuring that thousands of families get help with food and essential utility bills as we move back towards normality.

The new funding extends this lifeline to those most in need in the coming months as we continue to help families back on their feet, including supporting people back into work through our multi-billion pound Plan for Jobs.

Across England, the total new funding is £160million, bringing the overall value of the support since December 2020 to £429.1 million. Devolved administrations have received appropriate equivalent funding.

Between December 2020 and mid-April, almost 6.3 million payments went to vulnerable households in England. Across England 92% of funding has been provided to families with children, and 94% of funding has been used to support households with food or utility bills.

The COVID Local Support Grant is in addition to the £220 million Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, which has been scaled up to cover the whole of England across the major school holidays in 2021 – including this summer. The HAF will provide disadvantaged children across the country with healthy meals and enriching activities.

More information

- The Holiday Activities and Food programme is funded by the Department for Education, and operated through local authorities throughout England. For examples of activities search #HAF2021 on Twitter or visit the [guidance page](#)

Local Authority Allocations of Funding

Below is a table containing the full amounts that each council in England have received, as well as how much they will receive from this extension.

Local Authority	Summer Allocation	Total Allocation
Barking and Dagenham	£818,896	£2,196,176.20
Barnet	£928,904	£2,491,204.18
Barnsley	£890,458	£2,388,096.57
Bath and North East Somerset	£363,954	£976,078.37
Bedford	£453,935	£1,217,396.60
Bexley	£583,269	£1,564,253.79
Birmingham	£4,883,704	£13,097,483.11
Blackburn with Darwen	£607,967	£1,630,491.76
Blackpool	£663,257	£1,778,772.62
Bolton	£1,045,536	£2,803,997.03
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,005,485	£2,696,584.72
Bracknell Forest	£208,202	£558,371.18
Bradford	£2,146,233	£5,755,928.64
Brent	£1,075,216	£2,883,594.09
Brighton and Hove	£814,510	£2,184,413.75
Bristol City of	£1,543,964	£4,140,717.90
Bromley	£709,517	£1,902,835.20
Buckinghamshire	£910,592	£2,442,093.64
Bury	£582,982	£1,563,485.18
Calderdale	£690,834	£1,852,729.95
Cambridgeshire	£1,373,638	£3,683,925.23
Camden	£737,170	£1,976,998.53
Central Bedfordshire	£552,521	£1,481,792.95
Cheshire East	£828,679	£2,222,414.26
Cheshire West and Chester	£871,009	£2,335,937.12
City of London	£18,980	£50,901.64

Cornwall £1,723,828 £4,623,091.30
Coventry £1,216,576 £3,262,704.98
Croydon £1,135,817 £3,046,118.64
Cumbria £1,408,393 £3,777,134.34
Darlington £343,357 £920,841.17
Derby £846,578 £2,270,417.16
Derbyshire £2,052,729 £5,505,161.93
Devon £1,922,592 £5,156,151.50
Doncaster £1,132,714 £3,037,798.06
Dorset £867,909 £2,327,624.22
Dudley £995,863 £2,670,780.21
Durham £1,762,365 £4,726,442.71
Ealing £1,006,101 £2,698,236.77
East Riding of Yorkshire £776,561 £2,082,639.97
East Sussex £1,501,111 £4,025,792.73
Enfield £1,081,923 £2,901,581.73
Essex £3,612,283 £9,687,690.83
Gateshead £696,799 £1,868,727.70
Gloucestershire £1,418,988 £3,805,548.28
Greenwich £910,757 £2,442,535.65
Hackney £1,084,238 £2,907,790.05
Halton £489,377 £1,312,448.37
Hammersmith and Fulham £550,707 £1,476,927.21
Hampshire £2,728,190 £7,316,664.31
Haringey £928,310 £2,489,612.10
Harrow £554,311 £1,486,593.48
Hartlepool £373,599 £1,001,945.27
Havering £625,616 £1,677,823.42
Herefordshire £506,335 £1,357,926.56
Hertfordshire £2,346,853 £6,293,965.58
Hillingdon £782,415 £2,098,338.99
Hounslow £774,943 £2,078,300.91
Isle of Wight £429,972 £1,153,131.30
Isles Of Scilly £3,904 £10,469.52
Islington £825,666 £2,214,333.15
Kensington and Chelsea £444,108 £1,191,041.87
Kent £4,239,152 £11,368,874.99
Kingston upon Hull City of £1,156,816 £3,102,435.58
Kingston upon Thames £323,369 £867,234.85
Kirklees £1,400,255 £3,755,308.60
Knowsley £697,159 £1,869,693.47

Lambeth £1,052,654 £2,823,086.23
Lancashire £3,690,173 £9,896,582.81
Leeds £2,670,642 £7,162,327.45
Leicester £1,319,280 £3,538,144.48
Leicestershire £1,376,153 £3,690,670.12
Lewisham £1,018,831 £2,732,377.38
Lincolnshire £2,092,659 £5,612,250.24
Liverpool £2,295,321 £6,155,764.07
Luton £689,612 £1,849,453.50
Manchester £2,429,569 £6,515,800.82
Medway £855,149 £2,293,403.29
Merton £448,182 £1,201,967.90
Middlesbrough £620,832 £1,664,994.47
Milton Keynes £679,710 £1,822,896.50
Newcastle upon Tyne £1,080,064 £2,896,595.88
Newham £1,274,510 £3,418,076.53
Norfolk £2,579,381 £6,917,577.48
North East Lincolnshire £591,495 £1,586,314.87
North Lincolnshire £501,239 £1,344,261.12
North Somerset £497,328 £1,333,770.94
North Tyneside £607,048 £1,628,026.24
North Yorkshire £1,350,966 £3,623,121.11
Northamptonshire North & West £1,958,320 £5,251,970.00
Northumberland £934,132 £2,505,225.38
Nottingham £1,331,082 £3,569,795.89
Nottinghamshire £2,179,772 £5,845,876.71
Oldham £917,354 £2,460,229.32
Oxfordshire £1,287,441 £3,452,756.35
Peterborough £699,917 £1,877,089.50
Plymouth £871,568 £2,337,435.72
Portsmouth £720,598 £1,932,553.90
Reading £437,174 £1,172,446.50
Redbridge £742,495 £1,991,278.48
Redcar and Cleveland £492,027 £1,319,554.93
Richmond upon Thames £317,042 £850,267.50
Rochdale £881,803 £2,364,885.99
Rotherham £948,137 £2,542,784.28
Rutland £59,315 £159,075.12
Salford £1,025,274 £2,749,656.92
Sandwell £1,321,983 £3,545,392.37
Sefton £922,797 £2,474,825.42

Sheffield £1,967,363 £5,276,221.70
Shropshire £792,126 £2,124,383.22
Slough £447,177 £1,199,272.50
Solihull £532,554 £1,428,242.55
Somerset £1,454,294 £3,900,234.51
South Gloucestershire £535,681 £1,436,629.40
South Tyneside £561,865 £1,506,852.06
Southampton £847,874 £2,273,892.27
Southend-on-Sea £539,943 £1,448,060.37
Southwark £1,046,266 £2,805,954.91
St. Helens £674,186 £1,808,082.40
Staffordshire £2,090,751 £5,607,132.68
Stockport £816,713 £2,190,323.01
Stockton-on-Tees £639,521 £1,715,115.92
Stoke-on-Trent £1,019,838 £2,735,077.32
Suffolk £1,955,696 £5,244,932.67
Sunderland £1,008,813 £2,705,510.30
Surrey £2,001,310 £5,367,262.66
Sutton £434,820 £1,166,132.87
Swindon £578,763 £1,552,169.66
Tameside £841,990 £2,258,112.29
Telford and Wrekin £573,515 £1,538,095.16
Thurrock £492,239 £1,320,123.41
Torbay £471,025 £1,263,229.80
Tower Hamlets £1,132,264 £3,036,590.40
Trafford £553,642 £1,484,798.63
Wakefield £1,185,102 £3,178,294.91
Walsall £1,067,996 £2,864,231.50
Waltham Forest £889,927 £2,386,672.31
Wandsworth £787,019 £2,110,685.97
Warrington £547,428 £1,468,134.18
Warwickshire £1,321,986 £3,545,401.80
West Berkshire £262,483 £703,946.96
West Sussex £1,872,557 £5,021,963.78
Westminster £721,301 £1,934,439.38
Wigan £1,058,388 £2,838,465.06
Wiltshire £1,042,760 £2,796,552.73
Windsor and Maidenhead £222,452 £596,589.25
Wirral £1,152,581 £3,091,077.56
Wokingham £196,426 £526,790.57
Wolverhampton £999,457 £2,680,418.04

Worcestershire £1,512,716 £4,056,915.41

York £392,216 £1,051,874.54

Total £160,000,000.00 £429,100,000.00

Media enquiries for this press release – 0115 965 8781

Follow DWP on: