

What about other welfare benefits?

Other benefits will stay the same and will still be dealt with by the Department for Work and Pensions.

This includes:

- Sure Start Maternity Grants
- Funeral Payments
- Cold Weather Payments
- Winter Fuel Payments
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Support

The Department for Work and Pensions will also continue to offer support if you're waiting for your first benefit payment and need an advance to help tide you over until the benefit is paid to you in full. First though, you need to be able to show you are entitled to benefit and that you will be able to repay the advance within three months. You will also have to show that you don't have any other source of financial help.

The new Scottish Welfare Fund. Help when you need it most.

You can contact your local Council about a Crisis Grant or Community Care Grant in a number of ways:

Online

Click www.dundee.gov.uk/welfarereform

By phone

Call 01382 431 188

Introducing The Scottish WELFARE FUND

Starting from April 2013 there will be important changes to the Social Fund scheme.

This leaflet explains what the changes will mean and how they may affect you.





How changes to the Social Fund could affect you

From April 2013, changes to the Social Fund scheme mean that Crisis Loans for Living Expenses and Community Care Grants will stop. In their place will be a new scheme called the Scottish Welfare Fund mainly for people on benefits. It will provide two types of grant:

■ Crisis Grants

Providing you with a safety net in the event of a disaster or emergency

■ Community Care Grants

Helping you to leave care and live on your own, or to continue living in your own home.

Why the changes?

Unlike the Social Fund, which is managed by the Department for Work and Pensions, the new Scottish Welfare Fund will be managed by local Councils, based on guidance from the Scottish Government. This will mean national help being delivered locally to provide a broader range of services.

A Crisis Grant may help if...

you are

in crisis because of a disaster like a fire or flood, or an emergency such as losing all your money or having to visit a sick child in hospital.

you need

help with costs that have arisen as a result of the disaster or emergency, to keep you and your family safe from harm. If you qualify for a Crisis Grant, the help you receive will depend on the particular difficulties you face. You may be given money or another form of support, for example, a voucher, fuel card, travel ticket or furniture.

How to apply

To find out if you are able to get a Crisis Grant or make an application, contact your local Council. You'll find all the details you need on the back of this leaflet.

A Community Care Grant may help if...

you are

about to leave care to live on your own in the community, for example after being in hospital or in prison, or face going into care because you don't have the things you need to continue living at home.

A Community Care Grant may also be able to help if you are struggling to provide a safe and secure home for your family.

you need

help to get essential household items like a cooker or washing machine but don't have the money to buy it.

As with the Crisis Grant, if you qualify for a Community Care Grant the help you receive will depend on your circumstances. You may be given money or you may receive support another way, for example, a voucher, fuel card, travel ticket or furniture.

How to apply

To find out if you are able to get a Community Care Grant or to make an application, contact your local Council. You'll find all the details you need on the back of this leaflet.