Priority Categories for Assistance

Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) Housing Payment Policy April 2026

Priority Order	Description	Category	Tenure type	Standard period of individual award
1	Households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness and *reason to believe* would have a main duty owed if a Part VII homeless application were submitted	Benefit Cap	Private rented tenants	3 months (reviewable based on engagement with the 'reasonable steps' set out in the Personalised Housing Plan
2	Households in interim accommodation under a Part VII housing duty (s188/s193)	Benefit Cap	Temporary accommodation	3 months (reviewable based on actions to become exempt from the benefit cap – as applied to temporary accommodation)
3	Households receiving DLA in adapted property	Bedroom Tax	HRA, RSL	12 month/end of financial year
4	Households receiving DLA in non-adapted property and under-occupying by 1 room	Bedroom Tax	HRA, RSL	12 month/end of financial year
5	Households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness without *reason to believe* would have a main duty owed if a Part VII homeless application were submitted	Benefit Cap	Private rented tenants	1 month (reviewable based on engagement with the 'reasonable steps' set out in the Personalised Housing Plan
6	Households with a pregnant woman or with a child who is 12 months away from their 10th or 16th birthday sharing a room	Bedroom Tax	HRA, RSL	12 months or 9 months in the case of pregnancy.
7	Claimant/ partner reaching pension age within the next 12 months	Bedroom Tax	HRA, RSL	12 months
8	Other groups (see note 1 below)	General	All	3 months

Note 1 – Other groups

- Foster carers who are deemed to be under-occupying their homes, especially when between placements.
- Households with children who are at the critical point in their education such as final year of GCSE/A Level course or equivalent until exams are completed.
- Households with children who have special educational needs and for whom a change to another school would be detrimental to their development- subject to confirmation of their circumstances by Children and Young Peoples Service (CYPS).
- Households with a child on the Child Protection Register for whom a transfer to another area would be detrimental to their welfare- subject to confirmation by CYPS.
- Other vulnerable households who need CRF to remain in the community.
- Families who need to provide care to relatives living in the borough and receive carers allowance in reflection of this.
- Applicants with severe health condition who receive a significant care package which cannot be easily transferred (as confirmed by Adults Social Care or other appropriate services)
- Households who are likely to be able to meet or eliminate their rent shortfall in the near future (usually within 3 months) but require CRF temporarily.
- Households with a disabled adult dependent who are subject to the benefit cap.
- Other vulnerable households as described in the CRF guidance manual.
- To make an award outside the terms of the policy in exceptional circumstances and the authority of the Assistant Director Housing Needs & Supply.