

NEWHAM COMMUNITY AND CRISIS SUPPORT

Part 1: Eligibility Criteria

- 1) In order to be considered for Community or Crisis Support an applicant must:
 - a. Be 18 years old or over, or;
 - b. Be 16-18 years old and living independently of the family home, and;
 - c. Not be a person subject to immigration control and as a result not entitled to recourse to public funds, and;
 - d. not be a member of a religious order, in relevant education, not habitually resident, or involved in a trade dispute, and;
 - e. Not have savings they can access that cover the cost that they are applying for, and;
 - f. Not be entitled to alternative support from the DWP that would cover the cost they are applying for, and;
 - g. Not be applying for a cost that the London Borough of Newham has an alternative statutory duty to cover, and;
 - h. Not be reasonably able to meet their need except through Newham Crisis and Community Support, and;
 - i. Not be applying for an excluded item (see [Part 5](#)), and;
 - j. Be in receipt of a qualifying benefit (see [Part 2](#)), or;
 - k. In the case of a person leaving institutional care, be likely to receive a qualifying benefit, and;
 - l. Agree to meet any additional condition placed on receipt of the support.

- 2) In order to be considered for Community Support an applicant must:
 - a. Be ordinarily resident in the London Borough of Newham, and have resided there for the last 12 months, or;
 - b. Have been placed by the London Borough of Newham in housing outside of the borough within the last 6 months, or;
 - c. Be leaving prison within the next 6 weeks, and plan to move into the London Borough of Newham, or;
 - d. Be leaving the care of the London Borough of Newham, or;
 - e. Be leaving a residential care facility within the next 6 weeks, and plan to live in the London Borough of Newham, or;
 - f. In the case of a person fleeing domestic violence, plan to move into the London Borough of Newham, and;
 - g. Not have received a DWP Social Fund Community Care Grant or Newham Community Support for similar items within the last 12 months; and
 - h. Not have received Newham Community Support in the form of a loan that is not being repaid according to the repayment schedule; and
 - i. Be likely to be able to repay the amount of support applied for within the next 24 months; and
 - j. Be in a situation where support is needed (see [Part 3](#)).

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- 3) In order to be considered for Crisis Support an applicant must:
- a. Be ordinarily resident in the London Borough of Newham, and have resided there for the last 6 months; or
 - b. Have been placed by the London Borough of Newham in housing outside of the borough within the last 6 months; or
 - c. Be leaving prison in the next six weeks, and plan to move into the London Borough of Newham; or
 - d. Be leaving the care of the London Borough of Newham; or
 - e. Be leaving a residential care facility within the next 6 weeks, and plan to live in the London Borough of Newham; or
 - f. In the case of a person fleeing domestic violence, reside in the London Borough of Newham; and
 - g. Not have received Newham Crisis Support in the form of a loan that has not been repaid in full; and
 - h. Be likely to be able to repay the amount of support applied for within the next 12 months, and;
 - i. Be in a situation where support is needed (see [Part 4](#)).

Part 2: Qualifying Benefits

The following list could be considered as qualifying benefits for Community and Crisis Support:

- Income-Based or Contributory Jobseekers' Allowance
- Income-Based or Contributory Employment and Support Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit
- Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Support
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Universal Credit, where the applicant's earned income is below the Conditionality Earnings Threshold of 35 hours per week at the National Minimum Wage.

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Part 3: Situations for Community Support

The following non-exhaustive list details situations that will be considered for Community Support:

- An applicant or a member of their family needs support in order to continue to live in the community, rather than moving into institutional care.
- An applicant or a member of their family needs support in order to live in the community because they are leaving institutional or residential care.
- An applicant or a member of their family needs support with settlement following a period where they have experienced an unsettled way of life, or following a major crisis that has caused them to move.
- An applicant needs to look after a prisoner who is on temporary release.
- An applicant needs to purchase a basic necessity for their home that will ease an exceptional pressure on them or their family.
- An applicant needs support, including accommodation, in order to travel to visit a relative who is ill, to attend the funeral of a relative, or to visit their child who has been placed with the child's other parent pending a court decision.
- An applicant needs support to pay the rent in advance, deposit, or moving costs on a move to suitable accommodation.
- An applicant has moved into work or has an offer of a job, and needs support to pay initial childcare fees or meet the initial costs of moving into work.

Part 4: Situations for Crisis Support

The following non-exhaustive list gives examples we might consider for situations where an applicant may be eligible for Crisis Support because they have experienced a disaster or an emergency which means that it is the only means by which harm to their health and safety or that of a member of their family can be avoided:

- An applicant has recently left institutional care and needs to meet basic living expenses until their next benefit payment.
- An applicant has spent their benefit money for the payment period, and needs to meet basic living expenses until their next benefit payment.
- An applicant has had their fuel supply cut off and needs to pay to have it reconnected and restored into credit.
- An applicant has experienced a disaster such as flooding, fire, or burglary, and needs to meet basic living expenses until their next benefit payment.
- An applicant has lost their benefit money or had it stolen, and needs to meet basic living expenses until their next benefit payment.
- An applicant has not yet received their benefit or tax credit payment and needs to meet basic living expenses until their next benefit payment.
- An applicant needs to pay for hostel accommodation in order to avoid homelessness.

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Part 5: Excluded items

The following items will be excluded from provision

- Non-essential electrical goods such as a television or radio
- Travel costs except in the case of provable sickness or death in the family
- Debts
- Expenses relating to a motor vehicle
- Housing or accommodation rental payments or arrears, except where stated
- Costs relating to installation of a telephone line or payment of a telephone bill
- Legal expenses
- Domestic assistance or respite care
- Any medical, dental, aural or optical equipment provision of which is the responsibility of the NHS
- Council Tax or water charges