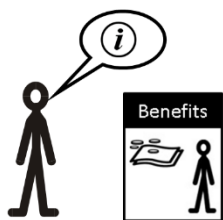


Accessing benefits and other government support



This easy read document tells you about getting benefits and other help from the government

Problems paying for things



It is important that you can afford to pay for things that you have agreed to pay for.

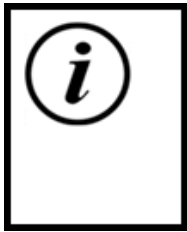


If you have problems paying for things, you should not ignore them.



You should speak to your bank or lender if you need help to keep up with your payments.

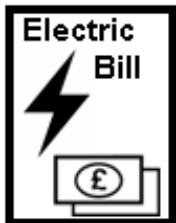
Types of support



Cost of living support

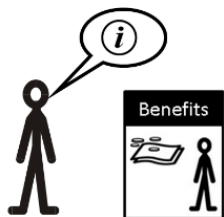
The government has published a [webpage](#) with advice for cost of living support.

Energy Bills Support Scheme



Ofgem has published a [webpage](#) with advice for getting help if you can't afford your energy bills.

Benefits Checker



Many people may be entitled to additional financial support through benefits they are not claiming.



Benefits calculators will help you find out if you could get extra financial help.

Citizens Advice have published [advice and links](#) to benefit calculators that you can use.

Specialist Benefits Advice



Nottinghamshire County Council has a team of people who can give advice on benefits.



They have [webpages with information, and a form to request a telephone call](#) with a specialist adviser.

Money worries



The [Money Saving Expert](#) and [Money Helper](#) websites can give advice and support on issues including mortgages and other debts, renting and energy top-ups.

Council Tax



Council Tax is collected by district and borough councils. It is used to pay for local services, including the police and fire service, and the costs of councils, including Nottinghamshire County Council.



The amount you pay is based on the value of the house you live in. Values are put into Council Tax bands. Band A is the lowest and Band H is the highest.



You may be entitled to discounts or reductions on your Council Tax, if you live on your own, have disabilities or receive certain benefits.

To find out if you qualify, contact your local district or borough council:



Ashfield District Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 01623 457400



Bassetlaw District Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 01909 533744



Broxtowe Borough Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 0115 917 7777



Gedling Borough Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 0115 901 3901



Mansfield District Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 01623 463463



Newark and Sherwood District Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 01636 650000



Rushcliffe
Borough Council

Rushcliffe Borough Council

Read their [website](#) or

Telephone: 0115 981 9911

Websites to help jobseekers and employers



We have produced a website called [Nottinghamshire Opportunities](#).



It can help you to find training courses, apprenticeships and jobs.

Universal Credit



Universal Credit is the main benefit for people on low incomes. It has replaced Working Tax Credits and some other benefits.



Universal Credit is available for people who:

- are on a low income
- need help with living costs
- are working
(including self-employed or part-time)
- are out of work
- have a health condition that affects their ability to work



You can [apply for Universal Credit on the GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website.

Employment and Support Allowance



Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) is payable to people who have an illness or disability which stops them from working, and have come to the end of their Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) or are not able to get SSP



Whether or not you can get ESA is based on your National Insurance record. This is from employment, self-employment, or NI credits.



If you have a low income and less than £16,000 saved, you may also be able to get Universal Credit.



If you already get Universal Credit, you can apply for ESA using your Universal Credit account.



You can also apply for ESA by contacting your work coach or case manager.

You can make a [claim for ESA online on using the online form](#) at GOV.UK.



You can also telephone 0800 328 5644

Statutory Sick Pay (SSP)



You can claim Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) if you are an employee and are temporarily unable to work because of an illness or disability



You may be able to claim extra benefits to top up SSP, such as Universal Credit.



If you are entitled to SSP, it should be paid automatically by your employer. If you think you should get extra benefits you should ask for advice from the contacts in this document.

Links in this document

Cost of living support webpage

gov.uk/cost-of-living

Ofgem energy bills advice

ofgem.gov.uk/getting-help-if-you-cant-afford-your-energy-bills

Citizens Advice benefits calculators

citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/benefits-introduction/what-benefits-can-i-get

Nottinghamshire County Council benefits advice and callback request

nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/benefits-finance/benefits

Money Saving Expert

moneysavingexpert.com

Money Helper

moneyhelper.org.uk

Ashfield District Council - Council Tax Support

www.ashfield.gov.uk/benefits-council-tax/council-tax/council-tax-support

Bassetlaw District Council - Council Tax Support

www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/benefits/council-tax-reduction-scheme

Broxtowe Borough Council - Council Tax Support

www.broxtowe.gov.uk/for-you/benefits-grants/council-tax-support

Gedling Borough Council - Council Tax Support

www.gedling.gov.uk/resident/counciltax/helpingyoupaycounciltax

Mansfield District Council - Council Tax Support

www.mansfield.gov.uk/benefits/council-tax-support-reductions

Newark and Sherwood District Council - Council Tax Support
test-www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/counciltaxsupport

Rushcliffe Borough Council - Council Tax Support
www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/benefits/council-tax-reduction/council-tax-reduction-scheme

Nottinghamshire Opportunities
oppsinnotts.co.uk

Apply for Universal Credit
gov.uk/universal-credit/how-to-claim

Apply for Employment and Support Allowance
www.apply-new-style-employment-support-allowance.service.gov.uk/who-is-applying

For plain English web page version of this information, go to:

[Accessing benefits and other government support | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/business-community/cost-of-living-support/accessing-benefits-and-other-government-support

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