

More Information and Advice

If you require any further information please contact:

Benefit Section
Finance Division
Erewash Borough Council
PO Box 2
Wharnccliffe Road
Ilkeston
Derbyshire
DE7 5SE



Housing and Council Tax Benefit

Your Guide to Discretionary Housing Payments

Erewash Borough Council
2009/10

If you require this information in your language, please contact the Council using one of the below methods.


"જો તમને આ માહિતીની તમારી પોતાની ભાષામાં જરૂર છે, તો નીચેની પદ્ધતિઓમાંથી એકનો ઉપયોગ કરીને કાઉન્સિલનો સંપર્ક સાધો."


如果您需要自己语言的此信息，请通过以下方法之一与委员会联系。

"ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਇੱਕ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਦੀ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਸੰਗਲ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।"

اگر آپ کو اپنی زبان میں یہ معلومات چاہیں تو براہ کرم نیچے دی گئی طریقوں میں سے کسی ایک کا استعمال کر کے سہولت سے رابطہ کریں۔

 **0845 907 22 44**

 **communications@erewash.gov.uk**

 **Ilkeston Town Hall, Wharnccliffe Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 5RP**
Long Eaton Town Hall, Derby Road, Long Eaton, Derbyshire NG10 1HU

0845 907 2244 Ext 3480

benefits@erewash.gov.uk

Guide to Discretionary Housing Payments

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) are from a special fund allocated to help people who have difficulty meeting their housing costs where Council Tax and/or Housing Benefit have been awarded but there is still some rent or Council Tax left to pay.

Although they are not payments of Benefit, in order to receive an award you must:

- Be in receipt of Housing Benefit to help pay your rent (you cannot get help with the costs of service charges not eligible for Housing Benefit such as water rates).
- Satisfy the DHP Officer that you require extra help with Housing costs (i.e. Rent and/or Council Tax)

The Council only has so much money per year to spend on DHP and so the amount of money being spent will be carefully monitored throughout the year.

As part of the claim process you will be asked to provide details of your weekly expenses and, where necessary will be asked to provide proof.

You may be asked to state why the property you are living in is particular suitable for your needs and whether moving is an option.

You may be advised to look for more affordable accommodation and could be sent a list of Registered Social Landlords who have property in the area. You can request these from our office at any time.

For independent advice about Benefits or your tenancy please contact Erewash Citizens Advice Bureau, 62 South Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire 0115 9441646

Other Available Grants

Severn Trent Trust Fund is an independent charity set up by Severn Trent Water. It aims to help people in need by providing grants to clear or reduce water and/or sewerage debt and relieve distress caused by financial hardship. In addition it will help to support money advice and debt counselling through its association with other charities and organisations.

Anyone who receives their water or sewerage services from Severn Trent is eligible to apply to the Trust. There is no maximum or minimum grant you can apply for.

To contact Severn Trent Trust Fund call 0121 355 7766, email office@sttf.org.uk or log on to the website www.sttf.org.uk

Alternatively Claire Matthews at CVS has leaflets with more information about how you can apply to the Trust - contact her on 01332 227706 or email cmatthews@cvsderby.co.uk

SEVERN TRENT TRUST FUND



The British Gas Energy Trust, which incorporates the Scottish Gas Energy Trust*, is an independent Charitable Trust established in September 2004 which aims to contribute to the fight against poverty. Covering England, Scotland and Wales it is the first national utility Trust of its kind and will make a significant difference to those in need.

Grants are available to help individuals and families in need to meet arrears of energy charges and other household bills and costs. The Trust will also fund voluntary sector organisations to provide money and debt advice services.

Who can apply?

To be able to apply to the Trust Fund, you must be a domestic customer of British Gas or Scottish Gas.

If you live in a home which is supplied by British Gas or Scottish Gas but you are not the account holder e.g. a lodger who pays gas or electricity as part of their rent, you can still apply to the Trust for help with other household bills or costs (evidence will be required that the household receives its energy from British Gas or Scottish Gas).

Apply by Post

If you would like to apply to us for help, you will need to fill in our application form. If you are asking for help with your gas/electricity charges, we will contact the company to confirm how much you owe them. If you are asking for help with gas/electricity please make sure you have entered a dated meter read on the form.

Call Charis Grants Ltd on 01733 421021