

Bolton

Who is eligible for support

Families with children either in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) or who meet the criteria for FSM.

Pensioners in receipt of Council Tax Support/Pension Credit or Housing Benefit and pensioners discharged from hospital.

Residents that meet the qualifying criteria for Local Welfare Provision.

The HSF is also being using to provide £200,000 to provide grants to a range of community based organisations via Bolton's Fund | Bolton CVS to support those most vulnerable in Bolton.

Households	Form of support
Families with school-age children receiving FSM or who meet the criteria for FSM but have pre-school-age children will receive vouchers during the holiday periods.	£15 supermarket voucher (May Half term) £70 supermarket voucher (Summer Holidays)
Pensioners in receipt of Council Tax Benefit/Pension Credit or Housing Benefit	£100 (Post officer vouchers that can be exchanged for cash)
Part of the HSF funding is being used to enhance Bolton's Local Welfare Provision Scheme.	Dependent on eligibility and need, residents can receive the following: 4 weeks of food provision £100 (individual award cash top-up towards energy costs). £200 (household award cash top-up towards energy costs).
Pensioners discharged from hospital	Hearty Meals programme

Application process

The council will contact all eligible FSM families and pensioners.

Residents that meet the qualifying criteria for Local Welfare provision, will need to complete an application form: Local Welfare Provision Online (egovhub.net).

For community organisations that receive funding from Bolton Fund's they have the discretion to distribute funds in accordance with the HSF guidance.

How often can I apply?

Once every HSF round - so 2 in total to date with a proposed 3rd application following receipt of guidance from DWP.

Can you reapply if you have been awarded previously?

Yes, providing it is a new HSF round e.g. can have a successful claim for the period October 2021 to March 2022 and a further claim for the period 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2022.

When will I receive my support?

Within days of a successful application, with food and gas/electric support via Local Welfare provision aimed at a 24-hour turn.

Future plans

Changes to the HSF are dependent on the guidance received from the DWP with regard to HSF round 3. However, Bolton intends to continue to provide support in the same way through the period of October 2022 to March 2023.

Link to website

[Household Support Fund – Bolton Council](#)

Residents can also receive support about the HSF via the Contact Centre/One Stop Shop.

Contact information

housing.benefits.@bolton.gov.uk

Tel: 01204331590/2272