

Oldham

Who is eligible for support

Eligibility criteria vary by the scheme.

Free School Meals eligibility criteria are used to determine school holiday food voucher support. Warm Homes scheme eligibility criteria are set out at [We can help | Oldham Council](#)

Council Tax Reduction eligibility criteria are used to determine support with fuel costs for pensioners and those of working age.

The HSF is also being used to provide £60,000 administered by Action Together, for the Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise sector to provide support in the following areas: warm clothing and bedding, support for those who are struggling but aren't eligible for benefits and essential items for the elderly including food. Eligibility for the VCFSE offer is determined by the respective providers using existing systems and experience in supporting those in the most need across the community.

Households	Form of support
Families	Food vouchers for children and young people. £15 for the Spring Bank Holiday and total payment of £40 per eligible child over the summer holidays.
Households of working age but in receipt of Council Tax Reduction	£25 to support fuel costs
Households of pensionable age and in receipt of Council Tax Reduction	£110 to support fuel costs
Part of the HSF funding is being used to support the Warm Homes Team	To provide fuel vouchers for those in emergency need and the provision of a boiler repair/replacement service

Application process

Everyone who is eligible for these benefits will receive them automatically there is no need to apply.

However, to receive support from the Warm Homes Team and Action together you need to apply for this help.

How often can I apply?

People can reapply for the Warm Homes Team and Action together and they are decided on a case-by-case basis.

When will I receive my support?

Payments for food vouchers for children and young people will be made by supermarket vouchers in the week before each holiday and will come from the Council or from your school.

Fuel support payments will be made by Post Office voucher and you will have received this by 31 August 2022.

Other Cost of Living Support

The council is investing £3 million in a cost of living package for the next 12-24 months.

The support package will fund:

- Doubling the size of the Warm Homes Oldham programme, providing more grants and support to residents, covering fuel vouchers, boiler replacements, and property repairs for older people.
- Establishing warm banks across Oldham to provide people with safe, judgment-free areas to keep warm.
- Investing £600k in the community engagement team who go out into Oldham every week to speak to people and help them access support and benefits they're entitled to.
- Increasing Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) sessions in every district every week
- Increasing staffing in the council's helpline and providing additional staff for face-to-face surgeries in districts
- Extending the support offered by Oldham's libraries, including expanding the tablet lending scheme and providing additional support with digital skills.
- Working with all Oldham's primary and secondary schools to help them support children in financial hardship, including reducing the financial costs associated with attending and participating in all aspects of school life.
- Providing additional emergency support through community groups to support people with food, energy and other essentials.
- Promoting all the financial, practical, and health help available to residents with a support booklet delivered to every household in Oldham.
- Providing over £450k of additional grants to support childcare, housing and rising energy costs.
- Investing £45k into key support organisations such as Oldham Foodbank so they can continue to help those in need
- Providing additional emergency support through Oldham's Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise sector to support communities with food, energy and other essentials.

Link to website

[Household Support Fund | Oldham Council](#)

Contact information

If it's an emergency, you can contact Oldham's Helpline on 0161 770 7007 (9am – 5pm on weekdays).

To apply for Warm Homes Team help:

Freephone: 0800 019 1084

Email: warmhomes@oldham.gov.uk

Help to heat your home

To apply for Action Together help:

Phone: 0161 339 2345

Email: info@actiontogether.org.uk