Contact details: support@ageukbarnet.org.uk or 0208 203 5040

**Applications**

* Applications directly from individuals
* Third party referrals with client consent obtained
* Professional referrers must use the application form with client consent obtained

**Criteria**

Pensionable age (ie) in receipt of state pension

Considerations given to those age 55+ but living with a long-term health condition and/or facing financial hardship

Living within the London Borough of Barnet (minimum 12 months)

A basic safety net can be provided for Asylum Seekers

You or other member(s) of your household has not received a grant from the household grant scheme via another benefactor

You must not have more than £16k in savings, ISAs or investments, we will request to see evidence as part of the application process

**We cannot consider applications from individuals/families**

Anyone living outside the United Kingdom

Anyone not resident in Barnet

Anyone living in residential and/or permanent care

Anyone in prison

Anyone in the UK unlawfully

If you have received a grant award from the Household Support Fund within the last 3 months

**Application anticipated timescales**

On receipt of the information a decision will be made within 3 to 4 weeks.

All applicants will be informed of the result of the Charities decision usually within 21 working days of that decision.

**What can we help with or consider**

**Please note that cash award payments will be very limited, and the fund will normally issue vouchers as the form of payment.**

**Grants can be awarded towards the following**

* Energy and water this can include energy bills for any form of fuel that is used for the purpose of domestic heating, cooking or lighting, including oil or portable gas cylinders. also be used to support with water bills including for drinking, washing, cooking, and sanitary purposes and sewerage. Pre-payment cards mainly issued.
* Support with food but mainly through food vouchers.
* Essentials linked to energy and water. The Fund can be used to provide support with essentials linked to energy and water (including sanitary products, warm clothing, soap, blankets, boiler service/repair, purchase of equipment including fridges, freezers, ovens, etc.), in recognition that a range of costs may arise which directly affect a household’s ability to afford or access energy , food and water.
* Wider essentials. The Fund can be used to support with wider essential needs not linked to energy and water should there be a rising need, this may include, but are not limited to, support with other bills including broadband or phone bills, clothing, and essential transport-related costs such as repairing a car (within reasonable costs), buying a bicycle or paying for fuel for reasonable travel. This list is not exhaustive. These would be short term/one off grants
* Individuals in receipt of some other form of housing support could still qualify for the other elements of the Household Support Fund, such as food, energy, water, essentials linked to energy and water and wider essentials.
* Help with housing related costs or arrears will be considered on a case-by-case basis

**What we cannot fund**

* The Fund cannot be used to provide mortgage support, though homeowners could still qualify for the other elements of the Fund (such as energy, food, water, essentials linked to energy and water and wider essentials). Where a homeowner is having difficulty with their mortgage payments, they should contact their lender as soon as possible to discuss their circumstances as lenders will have a set procedure to assist.
* Holidays
* Help with long term respite costs
* Paying off multiple debts
* Rent / rent arrears
* Council Tax / Council Tax arrears
* Cost of care / care home / contribution towards care