

Grants information sheet



Contact us for further information & advice on a variety of topics.

Grants may be available those on a low income who need help with a one-off expense or short-term general living costs. Age UK Wiltshire don't generally offer grants but we can help you to apply. Grants don't need to be paid back.

General criteria

- Usually you need to be in receipt of a means-tested benefit, or in the process of applying for one.
- Grants are not paid retrospectively. A grant must be awarded before work is undertaken or item is purchased.
- Usually 2 quotes for work or evidence of the cost of an item are required to accompany a grant application.
- Evidence of low income (bank statements, benefit letters) is required to accompany a grant application
- A benefits check is completed to ensure you are maximising your income.

General grants

- **Friends of the Elderly** offer grants to people over pension-age of up to approx £300 for essential household items, unexpected bills and digital technology items.
- **Occupational / health charity** grants are available to help retired and current employees of certain professions e.g. SSAFA, Cavell Nurses Trust, plus for informal carers and some specific health conditions. This may be applicable to the client and/or their partner.
- **Turn2Us grants search** is a comprehensive database of grants and contact details: www.turn2us.org.uk
- **Turn2Us** administer 2 grants which AUKW can apply to:
 - Turn2Us response fund – for clients experiencing a significant life event in the last 12months
 - Elizabeth Finn fund – for clients of certain specified professions

Age UK Publications

Help with health costs (FS61)

Home improvements and repairs (FS67)

Save energy, pay less (IG30)

More money in your pocket (IG43)

Getting help with debt (IG57)

Request a free publication from Age UK – Tel: 0800 169 6565

Boiler/heating system repairs or replacement:

- Age UK Wiltshire '**Spread the Warmth**' leaflet has grants, schemes and relevant local organisations listed.
- Check if you're entitled to **Warm Home Discount** from your electricity supplier.
- Check if you're entitled to **Surviving Winter grant** from Wiltshire Community Foundation.
- Contact your supplier to ask about grants.

White goods, furniture and housing costs

- Local authorities have **local welfare provision** for urgent emergencies e.g. supermarket gift cards, white goods, pre-payment meter cards. Contact your local council for details.
- Local authorities *may* have funding for rent deposit schemes to help people with costs of moving into private rented property – contact your local council.
- Local **furniture re-use charities** offer low-cost items (sometimes free!) to those on a low income.

Home adaptations, equipment and repairs

- You can request a **free care needs assessment** from your Local Authority adult social care team. This could result in up to **£1000 of free aids/equipment** and/or a means-tested **Disabled Facilities Grant** for larger adaptations e.g. wet room or stairlift. (FS42)
- Local authorities may offer subsidised loans or grants in *exceptional* cases. Contact the 'private sector housing renewal' team at your local council.
- For **mobility scooters** Better Mobility list specific grants www.bettermobility.co.uk/charity_funding_options.php

What other money could you be entitled to?

- You may qualify for **help with NHS health costs** (NHS Low Income Scheme tel: 0300 330 1343).
- There may be **discounts on your utility bills** if you are on a low income, or you could switch supplier.
- If you have debts, seek **free debt advice** to help (IG57).
- A free **benefits check** will ensure you are maximising your entitlement to welfare benefits

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Useful Organisations

KFR (Kennet Refurbiz) 01380
720200 www.kfr.org.uk/

Furniture charity covering all
of Wiltshire

Friends of the Elderly grants
020 7730 8263
www.fote.org.uk

Turn2Us grants search

020 8834 9200

www.turn2us.org.uk/

Wiltshire Citizens' Advice

0800 144 88 48

www.citizensadvicewiltshire.org.uk/

Swindon Citizens' Advice

0808 2787813

www.citizensadviceswindon.org.uk/