

Local Welfare Provision Scheme

As of April 2013 the **Social Fund, Crisis Loans** and **Community Care Grants** were abolished.

Birmingham's LWP scheme helps vulnerable people in short-term crisis with food and essential items. It is grant-based, which means people who receive help from it will not have to repay anything.

- The scheme is funded on an annual basis and once the fund has been exhausted for that financial year, there will be no further awards.
- The scheme is purely discretionary and people have no statutory right to an award.
- No cash awards will be made. Awards will be made by way of pre-paid cards or delivered goods.

Local Welfare Provision Grants

Crisis grants – may be awarded if something unplanned (like a flood or a fire) has left you or your family needing food or essential items.

If awarded, a **Crisis Grant** will be made by pre-paid card.

Examples include:

- No access to essential needs (food & heating)
- Imminent deterioration in health
- Children being taken into care
- Breakdown of family unit

Crisis grants can be given for items including food and heating; nappies and other essential items such as bedding, crockery etc. Other forms of support will be considered in exceptional circumstances i.e. pre-paid bus tickets.

Community Support Grants

A **Community Support Grant** may be awarded if you need help with setting up or maintaining a home. It can provide “white goods” (e.g. fridges) and items such as beds and sofas.

Items provided via a **Community Support Grant** will be delivered and installed to your home.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be resident in Birmingham
- Be aged 16 or over
- Be without sufficient resources to meet their/their families immediate short-term needs
- Not be subject to immigration control or have no recourse to public funds

Help with fuel

This is provided in partnership with a local fuel charity. It helps people who have problems paying their gas and/or electric bills.

To be awarded help with fuel you must be able to show that you have already asked your energy supplier for help.

If an award is made, a code is sent to your mobile phone, which you can use at PayPoint/Payzone outlets, so you **MUST** have access to a mobile phone.

How to apply

Applications are to be made online. The online application form can be access at any time through the following link:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/LWP

You can either apply for yourself or for someone else can apply for you.

You are only allowed to make two applications in any financial year. In exceptional circumstances, they may consider further awards.

The amount awarded will be based on your circumstances and the funds available within the scheme.

