

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT:

Funding available in Lincoln to support residents

Free support
and advice
available



There are a number of schemes available for eligible residents struggling during this cost of living challenge.

Volume 5.

From December 2024

Support available to eligible Lincoln residents



COST OF LIVING SUPPORT



HM Government

The Government is committed to providing Cost of Living support, particularly for those with the greatest need.

Find out more: www.helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk

Household Support Fund 6

The UK Government has awarded Lincolnshire £5.5million for the sixth round of the Household Support Fund, which covers the period from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025. Find the most up-to-date information on the Household Support Fund at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/householdsupportfund

BENEFITS



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Independent Benefits Calculator

Independent benefits calculators are free to use and are anonymous. To find out what benefits you could get and how to claim them, use:

- [Turn2us Benefits Calculator \(benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk\)](http://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk)
- [Benefits Calculator \(entitledto.co.uk\)](http://entitledto.co.uk)
- [Benefit and budgeting calculator \(betteroffcalculator.co.uk\)](http://betteroffcalculator.co.uk)

Benefits Calculator for Residents of Lincoln

If you are unsure what benefits you can claim, complete the online calculator with your current information to find out what and how you can claim.

To use the calculator, visit www.lincoln.gov.uk/online/find-benefits-can-claim

Benefits and Money Advice

We help provide confidential advice regarding your money, welfare, and benefits. For further information please visit www.lincoln.gov.uk/benefits/benefits-money-advice or call **01522 873382**

Pension Credit:

Could you, or someone you know be missing out on pension credit? To find out more about this income and check if you are eligible, visit www.gov.uk/pension-credit

FINANCIAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Citizen's Advice

Citizens Advice offer free, impartial advice on debt, benefits, employment, and housing problems. Advice Line on freephone **0800 1448848** (Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm). Regular surgeries are also held in the city. Find out more: www.citizensadvicelincolnandlindsey.org.uk/

Lincolnshire Credit Union

Credit Unions help people save money and can offer affordable loans. Visit www.nottsandlincscu.co.uk or call **0330 004 0842**.

ENERGY SAVING AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Winter Fuel Payment

The Winter Fuel Payment is an annual tax-free payment between £200 and £300. From winter 2024 to 2025, the payment will only be made to those of State Pension age and over who are in receipt of Pension Credit or other means-tested benefits. For more information, visit www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment.

Home Energy Upgrade Scheme

The Home Energy Upgrade Scheme is available to Lincolnshire residents and offers energy saving home improvements, like insulation, renewable heating systems and solar panels. Contact Yorkshire Energy Solutions on 03309 126 199 or go to www.lincoln.gov.uk/environmental-issues/green-sustainable-living-1/4 for more information.

Warm Home Discount Scheme

You could get a one-off £150 discount off your electricity bill for winter 2024 to 2025 under the government's Warm Home Discount Scheme. If you're eligible, you'll usually get the discount automatically and your electricity supplier will apply the discount to your bill. For more information, visit www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme.

Energy Outreach Sessions

With the help of City of Lincoln Council, Citizens Advice Lincoln & Lindsey have partnered with Cadent Gas to deliver vital energy outreach sessions in warm hubs across Lincoln. The sessions provide crucial support to the community, especially in the face of rising energy costs. For more information on the energy outreach sessions and to find your nearest warm hub, please visit www.lincoln.gov.uk/benefits/cost-living-support/3.

HELP WITH HOUSING

If you or someone you know is struggling to pay their rent or mortgage payments, you can contact us via www.lincoln.gov.uk, or you can call customer services on **01522 881188** as soon as possible to discuss payment options or see if you are eligible for discounts.

Discretionary Housing Payments

Discretionary Housing Payment can provide extra money to help residents in receipt of Housing Benefit or the housing element of universal Credit with housing costs including:

- Rent deposits
- Rent arrears
- Rent in advance
- A shortfall between housing benefit and rent
- Moving costs
- or housing costs included in Universal Credit and rent

Find out more: www.lincoln.gov.uk/dhp.

Safe, Warm and Well Grant

A maximum grant of £10,000 is available for minor essential repairs to make homes safe and warm for either vulnerable owner occupiers or private tenants with full repairing responsibilities, who are aged over 65, have children aged 14 or younger, or have chronic or severe mental or physical condition and are living in homes in need of heating or safety improvements.

Email housing.privatesector@lincoln.gov.uk for further details or call **01522 881188**.

Gas Central Heating Scheme

Up to £10,000 to provide a gas central heating system and installation for owner occupiers with a chronic or severe mental or physical condition exacerbated by cold.

Email housing.privatesector@lincoln.gov.uk for further details or call **01522 881188**.

Housing Advice

If you are worried about how to pay your housing costs, you should contact your landlord or mortgage lender as soon as possible. Our housing advice teams can offer impartial advice to tenants and landlords, to access this advice please visit www.lincoln.gov.uk/housing-council-tax/homelessness-housing-advice.

HELP WITH FOOD

Community Grocery

Lincoln Community Grocery is open for the people of Lincoln helping to keep families fed and give members access to support too. Visit communitygrocery.org.uk/lincoln/ or call **01522 265511**

Food Banks

Lincoln Foodbank can provide emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. Call them on **01522 542166** or visit lincoln.foodbank.org.uk. Lincoln Community Larder is a registered charity which aims to relieve poverty in the Lincoln. Call them on **01522 569 291** or visit lincolnlarder.co.uk.

Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership

Lincolnshire has a range of community support charities, churches and organisations that can help with emergency food. Eligibility and referral processes vary. Visit lincolnshirefoodpartnership.org/foodbanks/.

WELL-BEING AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Mental Health Support

Lincolnshire has confidential, free phone helpline for emotional mental health support. Specialist workers provide support, advice, and guidance **24 hours a day** on **0800 001 4331**.

Here For You

Offer mental health and emotional wellbeing advice line for young people, parents, and carers. Available **24 hours a day** on free phone **0800 234 6342**.

Wellbeing Lincs

Wellbeing Lincs is a countywide service supporting adults across Lincolnshire to achieve confident, fulfilled, and independent lives. Call 01522 782140.

Bridge Central Wellbeing Cafe

Bridge Central is home to Bridge Church and hosts many activities and events throughout the week. Visit the Bridge Centre Community Facebook page to find out more or call 01522 530730.

Lincoln Salvation Army Community Drop-ins

Lincoln Salvation Army hosts a safe, warm and friendly place for residents every Wednesday and Friday from 10am - 12.30pm at 106 High Street, providing free breakfast and hot meals and drinks.

NEED FURTHER SUPPORT?

Further support can be found on our dedicated **Cost of Living Support** page on our website, which will be regularly updated. Please visit lincoln.gov.uk/benefits/cost-living-support or scan the QR code.

If you need information in a different format please contact us stating the format that you need (for example, braille, BSL or large print). Other languages are also available.

SCAN ME



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Lincoln's ambitious future

