

## Financial Support

The UK government is providing a further £742 million for the Household Support Fund, extending it from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026. This funding, allocated to county and unitary authorities, will support vulnerable households with essential costs like food, energy, and water bills. Each council will have its own application process and eligibility criteria, so it's best to check your local council's website for details.

Key aspects of the Household Support Fund in 2025-2026:

- **Funding:**

The government has allocated £742 million to councils in England for this round of the Household Support Fund.

- **Duration:**

The funding covers the period from April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026.

- **Purpose:**

The fund aims to help vulnerable households with essential costs, including food, energy, and water bills.

- **Local Variations:**

Each council will administer the fund and determine its own eligibility criteria and application process. Please see below for Cheshire East.

- **Potential Support:**

Some councils may offer support with wider essentials, advice services, and preventative measures.

- **Reporting:**

Councils are required to report on their use of the fund to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

How to find out more and apply:

1. **Check your local council's website:**

Each council will have specific information about the fund, including eligibility, application procedures, and deadlines.

(For Cheshire East:

[https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council\\_and\\_democracy/council\\_information/financial-support/household-support-fund.aspx](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/financial-support/household-support-fund.aspx) )

## **2. Look for information on cost of living support:**

Many councils will have a dedicated section on their website with information about the Household Support Fund and other cost of living support.

## **3. Contact your council directly:**

If you can't find the information you need online, you can contact your local council directly for assistance.