



## LOCAL WELFARE PROVISION

Applications for both Emergency and Grant Provision are to be made via telephone **0300 300 8070 only**. Customers who approach in person will be directed to call the above number and will not be seen.

### EMERGENCY PROVISION

Emergency Provision has been designed to assist households for a short period following a crisis. The payments are relatively small payments intended to cover emergency food, gas and electricity. Payments are made dependent upon household makeup. Awards are provided by a pre-paid Allpay card which can be used to purchase food, gas and electricity.

To be eligible for Emergency Provision an applicant must be permanently resident within Central Bedfordshire at the time of the application.

Applicants do not have to be in receipt of any benefits but do have to demonstrate that due to an emergency or disaster they do not have enough money to meet the essential needs of themselves and their family if they have one.

If successful, awards must be collected from one of three offices (although we are looking for an outlet in Leighton Buzzard):

Biggleswade Area Office  
Ampthill Area Office  
or  
Watling House

In some circumstances cards will be sent via first class post. In addition, we are able to offer food parcels.

**Applicants cannot reapply for Emergency Provision within 6 months of a successful application.** Customers will be signposted to other services if it is felt they would benefit from budgeting assistance.

## **GRANT PROVISION**

Grant Provision replaces the Community Care Grant. To be eligible for Grant Provision an applicant must be permanently resident within Central Bedfordshire at the time of the application.

Applicants must also be in receipt of one of these benefits (or likely to get them in the next 6 weeks):

- Income Support
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Pension Credit

Grant Provision can help:

- applicants, a member of their family, someone they look after or someone they will be looking after, to return to the community from care;
- applicants, a member of their family, someone they look after or someone they will be looking after, to stay in the community instead of going into care;
- ease exceptional pressures on applicants and their family;
- applicants or their partner to look after someone on leave from prison or a young offenders' institution;
- applicants to set up home as part of a planned resettlement programme if they have had an unsettled way of life.

Grant Provision can also help with travelling expenses in the United Kingdom. The journey might be:

- to visit someone who is ill;
- to attend a relative's funeral;
- to visit a child who is being looked after by another parent while waiting for a court decision;
- to ease a domestic crisis, or
- to move to suitable accommodation.

We will provide goods and services to successful applicants and these will be delivered directly. Monetary awards will only be made where the provision of goods and services is not possible. Payments will not be made in retrospect unless there are exceptional circumstances.

**Applicants cannot reapply for a grant if they have already asked for help for the same things in the last 12 months.**