

# Coronavirus Government Resident Support Measures

Eligibility: all Harrow Residents

Support Measures from Harrow Council & Government	Eligibility	How to access the scheme
<p>For the latest information about support from Harrow council please regularly check the <a href="#">council's website</a></p>		
<p><b>Monies to reduce your Council Tax - Up to £150 discount</b></p>	<p>All council tax payers in receipt of Council Tax Support and classified as of working age (excludes pensioner households)</p> <p>This will apply to approximately 6,400 households in Harrow where the council tax bill for 2020/21 shows they already receive council tax support.</p>	<p>Will be automatically applied to your Council tax liability by Harrow Council. A revised bill will be issued in due course.</p> <p>This will be allocated against your April instalment, and if it pays this in full, any balance to be offset against the May instalment etc</p>
<p><b>Coronavirus Hardship Scheme</b> For residents experiencing exceptional hardship as a result of the coronavirus, for example where they may have been laid off work with no pay or 80% of salary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value of weekly food and other payments will be:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ £25 for each member of household age 14 or over</li> <li>○ £15 for each member of household up to age 14</li> <li>○ Additional £10 per household for sanitary products</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Value of weekly energy fuel</li> </ul>	<p>All residents of Harrow. Application limited to head of household or their partner. One application per month up to a maximum of three applications subject to funds being available,</p> <p>Residency check will be carried out against Housing Benefit/Council Tax records</p> <p>Evidence of hardship to be provided e.g. letter from employer advising to take unpaid leave, bank statements to demonstrate salary stopped.</p> <p>Evidence of capital such as electronic bank</p>	<p>In line with social distancing guidance the application process will be via an on-line application form.</p>

<p>payments &amp; essential utilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Electricity £10</li> <li>○ Gas £10</li> <li>○ Water £10</li> <li>● Prescriptions/medication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cost of prescription - £9.15 per item</li> <li>○ Cost of pre payment card for 3 months £29.65</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	statements	
<p><b>Support for residents receiving Universal Credit and Working Tax Credits</b></p> <p>The standard rate in UC and Working Tax Credits will be increased by £30 per week from 6/4/2020.</p>	Impacts those who may now have no income or reduced income	Via DWP/HMRC
<p><b>Extra Support for Renters</b></p> <p>Local Housing Allowance Rates to be increased to pay at least 30% of market rents in our geographical area</p>	Only impacts those receiving Housing Benefit or housing costs in their Universal Credit from 1st of April 2020.	Will be automatically applied by Harrow / DWP and any monies paid to you via either your Housing Benefit or your Universal Credit.
<p><b>Payment holidays for residents with mortgages</b></p> <p>Possible payment holiday or allowed to pay interest only</p>	Any resident who has a residential mortgage	Contact your mortgage provider
<p><b>Also extended to Help to Buy homeowners (with loans which attract interest, and Buy to Let mortgages. The latter is to prevent renters in the private rental sector, as well as those in the social housing sector, from being evicted.</b></p>	<p>Any Help to Buy homeowners</p> <p>Any landlord who has a buy to let mortgage</p>	Contact your mortgage provider

<p><b>Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme:</b> All UK employers will be able to access support to continue paying part of their employees' salary for those employees that would otherwise have been laid off during this crisis – via HMRC online portal; HMRC will reimburse 80% of furloughed workers wage costs, up to a cap of £2,500 per month.</p>	<p>All UK businesses</p>	<p>Business to designate affected employees as 'furloughed workers, notify your employees</p> <p>Your employer will need to submit information to HMRC about you as an employee that has been furloughed and details of your earnings through a new online portal (HMRC will set out further details on the information required)</p> <p>HMRC are working urgently to set up a system for reimbursement.</p> <p>Contact your employer.</p>
<p><b>Statutory Sick Pay</b></p> <p>2 weeks' SSP per eligible employee who has been off work because of COVID-19.</p>	<p>All UK businesses.</p> <p>Will apply to your employer if they have less than 250 employees as of 28 February 2020</p>	<p>A rebate scheme is being developed.</p> <p>Contact your employer.</p>
<p><b>If you're self-employed or not eligible for SSP</b></p> <p>If you are not eligible for SSP – for example if you are self-employed or earning below the Lower Earnings Limit of £118 per week – and you have COVID-19 or are advised to stay at home, you can now more easily make a claim for <a href="#">Universal Credit</a> or new style <a href="#">Employment and Support Allowance</a>.</p> <p>If you are eligible for new style Employment and Support Allowance, it will now be payable from day 1 of</p>	<p>Self-employed</p>	<p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit">www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-style-employment-and-support-allowance">www.gov.uk/guidance/new-style-employment-and-support-allowance</a></p>

sickness, rather than day 8, if you have COVID-19 or are advised to stay at home.		
Removal of the minimum income floor from Universal Credit claims for self-employed people	Self-employed people in receipt of Universal Credit	DWP