

Policy Circular

Document No 04/08

Owner: Strategy & Communications Directorate

Subject: LA Threshold Sum

Version: 7 of 7

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Next Review: August 2012

Please note: From 17 June 2010 the ILF is closed to new applications.

1.0 Background

One of the eligibility criteria for Group 2 candidates is that a Local Authority (LA) must be providing services or funding of at least a specified value (the Threshold Sum). This LA provision must consist of Qualifying Support and Services (QSS) as defined in the ILF Trust Deed (see QSS policy).

The Threshold Sum was first set in 1993 and has been increased in 2008 and 2010 so that there are now 3 levels of Threshold Sum.

2.0 Policy

2.1 Threshold Sum £200

The Threshold Sum is £200 for any application received prior to 1st April 2008 and where no request has since been made to ILF for an increased award based on increased need for Qualifying Support and Services (QSS).

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2.2 Threshold Sum £320

The Threshold Sum is £320 for any new application made to ILF between 1st April 2008 and 30th April 2010.

For applications made to ILF prior to 1st April 2008, requests for an increased award based on increased need for QSS received on or before April 30th 2010 required LA input of at least £320. In any such case where ILF has agreed to a care needs increase the Threshold Sum is now £320.

The Threshold Sum for these cases remains at £320 unless the ILF has since agreed an increased award based on increased need for QSS. In that event the £340 Threshold Sum in the following paragraph will apply.

2.3 Threshold Sum £340

The threshold sum for applications or increased requests based on increased need for QSS, that have been received on or after 1st May 2010 is £340 per week.

3.0 Regularity of payments

The Local authority has to meet a minimum of the threshold sum per week averaged over the year (or relevant period that payments are required), however the regularity of those payments is not relevant.

4.0 Fixing the Threshold Sum

LA input can never fall below the Threshold Sum applicable at the date of application.

Additionally in any case where the Threshold Sum has increased (to £320 or £340) because ILF has agreed to increase an award based on increased need for QSS, that new Threshold Sum applies to that case on an ongoing basis and can never reduce.

4.1 New Employer costs

Where an ILF award is increased to incorporate employer costs as outlined in the Increase Requests policy, the Local Authority Threshold sum will not be affected as these costs will be paid in relation to the existing package only.

4.2 Funding from 2 LAs

Very occasionally funding is provided by 2 LAs. The funding from both LAs may be aggregated to meet the Threshold Sum. Such cases are very unusual and may need to be referred to the policy team if changes occur in the funding arrangements.

4.4 Movement from between Local Authorities

Where a user moves from one Local Authority to another then the user will only remain eligible providing that the existing threshold sum is maintained.

4.5 Changes in financial circumstances

If a candidate's financial circumstances, with the result that the candidate's Available Income decreases, ILF can make the corresponding increase to the ILF award without additional LA input.

5.0 Source

Trustees meeting 13 February 2008
DWP e-mail 15 October 2008
Trustees meeting 14 January 2010
Trustees 9 June 2010

6.0 Cross References

Maintaining LA input policy (archived)
Pound for pound policy (archived)
Qualifying Support and Services policy
Increase Requests policy

7.0 History Date Reviewed

January 2009

April 2010

10 June 2010

11 April 2011

08 August 2011