

# Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Circular

Department for Work and Pensions

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## HB/CTB S1/2009 (Revised)

### SUBSIDY CIRCULAR

<b>WHO SHOULD READ</b>	All HB and CTB staff. Officers preparing claims for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs)
<b>ACTION</b>	For information only
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Details of the revised government DHPs contribution for 2009/2010 for some local authorities

### Guidance Manual

The information in this circular does not affect the content of the HB/CTB Guidance Manual.

### About HB/CTB Circular S1/2009

*HB/CTB Circular S1/2009* unfortunately, as a result of an inputting error in the 2007/08 spend figures provided by us and which were subsequently used to calculate the 2009/10 allocations, gave incorrect figures in respect of the 2009/10 allocations.

### Queries

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## Discretionary Housing Payments – Revised Government contribution for 2009/10

### Introduction

- 1 Due to an inputting error in the 2007/08 spend figures provided by us, which were subsequently used to calculate the 2009/10 allocations, it has been necessary to revise the 2009/10 allocations. This has resulted in a slight change in the government contributions for most local authorities. Therefore, this circular gives details of the revised government contribution for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) for 2009/10 for some local authorities.

**Note:** Although, for administrative easement, this information has been issued as part of the Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) Subsidy series of circulars, DHPs are stand-alone payments and do not form part of HB/CTB entitlement. You should note that the DHP government contribution is not subsidy, and this is why it is subject to a separate claims procedure.

### Background

- 2 Since 2 July 2001, DHPs have allowed authorities to help those entitled to HB or CTB who, in their opinion, require further financial assistance with housing costs. The relevant regulations are the *Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001 [SI 2001/1167]*.
- 3 The financial arrangements are covered in the *Discretionary Housing Payments (Grants) Order 2001*, which also came into effect on 2 July 2001 [SI 2001/2340] covers how LAs
- should submit claims
  - re-imburse DHPs
  - sets the overall limit on expenditure at 2.5x each authority's contribution from central Government

### Distribution of the government contribution and upper limit for 2009/10

- 4 For 2009/10, the overall financial limit has been set at £50m, of which £20m is made up of the government contribution. This means the amounts remain unchanged from 2008/09.
- 5 The distribution formula is intended, as far as possible, to target resources according to need. Each authority's allocation is based on the mid-point between its DHP spend for the latest year for which we have reliable data and its contribution for that year.

- 6 So, for example, if the LA had a contribution of £5,000 and spent £4,000, it would be allocated £4,500. And if it had spent £7,000, it would be allocated £6,000. Any balance is based on expenditure and average rent restrictions, but this year, the entire £20million funding was allocated using the mid-point only.

**Note:** This year, allocating the mid-point to each LA exceeded the £20 million funding available by around £250,000. As the funding is restricted to £20 million, we removed a proportion of this excess from each LA, based on each LAs proportion of overall DHP spend.

- 7 Local Authority Associations (LAAs) raised concerns that the current DHP formula may not be responsive to the Broad Rental Market boundary changes arising from the reviews by the national rent services completed in 2008. We therefore undertook to carry out a review of the distribution formula with LAA representatives before 2009/10.

### **Review of discretionary housing payments formula**

- 8 This review has now been conducted in conjunction with the LAAs. A number of options were considered but it was agreed that, because the LHA was only introduced last year there was insufficient data available upon which to establish reliable DHP allocations. It has therefore been agreed that the introduction of any new formula should be postponed until 2010/11 and that for 2009/10 the existing formula should be retained.
- 9 *Appendix A* shows each authority's allocation and upper spending limit for 2009/10 based on the existing formula.

## Allocation of £20m fund for Discretionary Housing Payments

Local Authority	DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)	Overall Limit (£)
ABERDEEN	73,674	184,185
ABERDEENSHIRE	24,260	60,650
ADUR	10,214	25,535
ALLERDALE	5,732	14,330
AMBER VALLEY	19,331	48,328
ANGUS	25,414	63,535
ARGYLL-BUTE	34,569	86,423
ARUN	48,135	120,338
ASHFIELD	48,180	120,450
ASHFORD	30,713	76,783
AYLESBURY VALE	21,272	53,180
BABERGH	28,380	70,950
BARKING	90,881	227,203
BARNET	245,517	613,793
BARNSLEY	34,329	85,823
BARROW IN FURNESS	9,589	23,973
BASILDON	40,369	100,923
BASINGSTOKE	31,596	78,990
BASSETLAW	12,078	30,195
BATH & NE SOMERSET	63,825	159,563
BEDFORD	53,849	134,623
BEXLEY	54,435	136,088
BIRMINGHAM	786,360	1,965,900
BLABY	12,483	31,208
BLACKBURN	41,527	103,818
BLACKPOOL	105,785	264,463
BLAENAU GWENT	14,632	36,580
BOLSOVER	3,881	9,703
BOLTON	68,762	171,905
BOROUGH OF POOLE	32,633	81,583
BOSTON	4,645	11,613
BOURNEMOUTH	55,684	139,210
BRACKNELL	8,413	21,033
BRAINTREE	23,069	57,673
BRECKLAND	39,108	97,770
BRENT	236,294	590,735
BRENTWOOD	19,966	49,915
BRIDGEND	42,038	105,095
BRIGHTON & HOVE	312,228	780,570
BRISTOL	145,009	362,523
BROADLAND	12,689	31,723
BROMLEY	83,240	208,100
BROMSGROVE	9,132	22,830

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
BROXBOURNE	27,037	67,593
BROXTOWE	9,878	24,695
BURNLEY	19,579	48,948
BURY	41,804	104,510
CAERPHILLY	17,491	43,728
CALDERDALE	43,137	107,843
CAMBRIDGE	26,071	65,178
CAMDEN	170,861	427,153
CANNOCK CHASE	4,313	10,783
CANTERBURY	32,844	82,110
CARDIFF	263,455	658,638
CARLISLE	9,908	24,770
CARMARTHENSHIRE	45,448	113,620
CASTLE POINT	20,649	51,623
CEREDIGION	57,483	143,708
CHARNWOOD	14,493	36,233
CHELMSFORD	34,754	86,885
CHELTENHAM	14,511	36,278
CHERWELL	69,186	172,965
CHESTERFIELD	25,392	63,480
CHICHESTER	111,890	279,725
CHILTERN	35,755	89,388
CHORLEY	10,329	25,823
CHRISTCHURCH	23,630	59,075
CITY OF BRADFORD	122,329	305,823
CITY OF LONDON	1,228	3,070
CITY OF WESTMINSTER	207,259	518,148
CLACKMANNANSHIRE	5,336	13,340
COLCHESTER	135,967	339,918
COMHAIRLE	7,200	18,000
CONWY	43,779	109,448
COPELAND	10,985	27,463
CORBY	3,633	9,083
COTSWOLD	15,198	37,995
COVENTRY	97,976	244,940
CRAVEN	6,613	16,533
CRAWLEY	33,189	82,973
CROYDON	175,598	438,995
DACORUM	47,294	118,235
DARLINGTON	24,965	62,413
DARTFORD	16,929	42,323
DAVENTRY	5,928	14,820
DENBIGHSHIRE	36,072	90,180
DERBY	95,920	239,800
DERBYSHIRE DALES	15,287	38,218
DONCASTER	61,940	154,850
DOVER	57,034	142,585
DUDLEY	54,614	136,535
DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	39,425	98,563

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
DUNDEE	31,246	78,115
EALING	250,798	626,995
EAST AYRSHIRE	14,208	35,520
EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE	8,685	21,713
EAST DEVON	50,371	125,928
EAST DORSET	22,346	55,865
EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE	33,592	83,980
EAST HAMPSHIRE	19,786	49,465
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE	33,098	82,745
EAST LINDSEY	28,793	71,983
EAST LoTHIAN	24,783	61,958
EAST NORTHAMPTON	8,280	20,700
EAST RENFREWSHIRE	14,562	36,405
EAST RIDING	69,531	173,828
EAST STAFFORDSHIRE	8,441	21,103
EASTBOURNE	76,643	191,608
EASTLEIGH	10,121	25,303
EDEN	6,895	17,238
EDINBURGH	332,431	831,078
ELMBRIDGE	120,583	301,458
ENFIELD	179,013	447,533
EPPING FOREST	19,727	49,318
EPSOM AND EWELL	24,056	60,140
EREWASH	25,395	63,488
EXETER	43,328	108,320
FALKIRK	7,878	19,695
FAREHAM	17,334	43,335
FENLAND	14,117	35,293
FIFE	77,858	194,645
FLINTSHIRE	45,467	113,668
FOREST HEATH	19,103	47,758
FOREST OF DEAN	15,039	37,598
FYLDE	7,694	19,235
GATESHEAD	36,945	92,363
GEDLING	14,334	35,835
GLASGOW	894,434	2,236,085
GLOUCESTER	24,299	60,748
GOSPORT	11,751	29,378
GRAVESHAM	14,078	35,195
GREAT YARMOUTH	34,501	86,253
GREENWICH	318,416	796,040
GUILDFORD	30,985	77,463
GWYNEDD	71,734	179,335
HACKNEY	100,623	251,558
HALTON	29,497	73,743
HAMBLETON	14,361	35,903
HAMMERSMITH	150,676	376,690
HARBOROUGH	6,643	16,608
HARINGEY	295,031	737,578

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
HARLOW	15,646	39,115
HARROGATE	41,518	103,795
HARROW	93,874	234,685
HART	11,390	28,475
HARTLEPOOL	37,268	93,170
HASTINGS	64,659	161,648
HAVANT	23,109	57,773
HAVERING	56,551	141,378
HEREFORDSHIRE	46,145	115,363
HERTSMERE	23,834	59,585
HIGH PEAK	32,108	80,270
HIGHLAND	44,158	110,395
HILLINGDON	131,452	328,630
HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH	8,245	20,613
HORSHAM	29,821	74,553
HOUNSLOW	74,980	187,450
HUNTINGDON	33,255	83,138
HYNDBURN	16,003	40,008
INVERCLYDE	34,299	85,748
IPSWICH	86,821	217,053
ISLE OF ANGLESEY	15,753	39,383
ISLE OF WIGHT	37,458	93,645
ISLES OF SCILLY	99	248
ISLINGTON	77,008	192,520
KENSINGTON & CHELSEA	127,914	319,785
KETTERING	13,706	34,265
KINGS LYNN & WEST NORFOLK	39,226	98,065
KINGSTON-UPON-HULL	103,783	259,458
KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES	54,952	137,380
KIRKLEES	124,691	311,728
KNOWSLEY	51,928	129,820
LAMBETH	149,927	374,818
LANCASTER	21,610	54,025
LEEDS	294,712	736,780
LEICESTER	71,047	177,618
LEWES	36,537	91,343
LEWISHAM	166,955	417,388
LICHFIELD	13,816	34,540
LINCOLN	57,789	144,473
LIVERPOOL	212,182	530,455
LUTON	52,793	131,983
MAIDSTONE	101,240	253,100
MALDON	8,630	21,575
MALVERN HILLS	16,745	41,863
MANCHESTER	372,281	930,703
MANSFIELD	21,278	53,195
MEDWAY TOWNS	62,160	155,400
MELTON	6,365	15,913
MENDIP	28,034	70,085

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
MERTHYR TYDFIL	7,990	19,975
MERTON	93,021	232,553
MID DEVON	18,099	45,248
MID SUFFOLK	15,581	38,953
MID SUSSEX	16,791	41,978
MIDDLESBROUGH	39,718	99,295
MIDLOTHIAN	24,007	60,018
MILTON KEYNES	35,863	89,658
MOLE VALLEY	19,563	48,908
MONMOUTHSHIRE	24,410	61,025
MORAY	7,633	19,083
NEATH PORT TALBOT	31,602	79,005
NEW FOREST	44,803	112,008
NEWARK	10,847	27,118
NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME	10,903	27,258
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	71,800	179,500
NEWHAM	209,169	522,923
NEWPORT	33,296	83,240
NORTH AYRSHIRE	39,771	99,428
NORTH DEVON	17,017	42,543
NORTH DORSET	9,827	24,568
NORTH EAST DERBY	8,972	22,430
NORTH EAST LINCOLN	42,685	106,713
NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE	26,664	66,660
NORTH KESTEVEN	15,098	37,745
NORTH LANARKSHIRE	60,463	151,158
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE	29,213	73,033
NORTH NORFOLK	23,211	58,028
NORTH SOMERSET	105,686	264,215
NORTH TYNESIDE	25,139	62,848
NORTH WARWICKSHIRE	17,595	43,988
NORTH WEST LEICESTER	6,425	16,063
NORTHAMPTON	32,254	80,635
NORWICH	34,449	86,123
NOTTINGHAM	59,639	149,098
NUNEATON	31,895	79,738
OADBY AND WIGSTON	10,324	25,810
OLDHAM	30,670	76,675
ORKNEY	651	1,628
OXFORD	70,338	175,845
PEMBROKESHIRE	22,254	55,635
PENDLE	17,728	44,320
PERTH & KINROSS	12,878	32,195
PETERBOROUGH	63,194	157,985
PLYMOUTH	65,178	162,945
PORTSMOUTH	64,706	161,765
POWYS	21,990	54,975
PRESTON	10,333	25,833
PURBECK	9,917	24,793

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
READING	63,628	159,070
REDBRIDGE	97,151	242,878
REDCAR & CLEVELAND	29,513	73,783
REDDITCH	14,120	35,300
REIGATE AND BANSTEAD	18,342	45,855
RENFREWSHIRE	42,350	105,875
RHONDDA CYNON TAFF	34,098	85,245
RIBBLE VALLEY	3,141	7,853
RICHMONDSHIRE	7,646	19,115
RICHMOND-UPON-THAMES	113,621	284,053
ROCHDALE	58,298	145,745
ROCHFORD	22,712	56,780
ROSSENDALE	12,746	31,865
ROTHER	60,996	152,490
ROTHERHAM	41,294	103,235
RUGBY	6,698	16,745
RUNNYMEDE	14,677	36,693
RUSHCLIFFE	6,310	15,775
RUSHMOOR	13,704	34,260
RUTLAND	8,534	21,335
RYEDALE	9,097	22,743
SALFORD	84,672	211,680
SANDWELL	43,063	107,658
SCARBOROUGH	30,755	76,888
SCOTTISH BORDERS	17,599	43,998
SEDGEMOOR	16,890	42,225
SEFTON	58,341	145,853
SELBY	9,016	22,540
SEVENOAKS	40,790	101,975
SHEFFIELD	92,668	231,670
SHEPWAY	37,703	94,258
SHETLAND	524	1,310
SLOUGH	27,834	69,585
SOLIHULL	43,976	109,940
SOUTH AYRSHIRE	74,411	186,028
SOUTH BUCKS	21,381	53,453
SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE	25,986	64,965
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE	17,272	43,180
SOUTH GLOS	59,536	148,840
SOUTH HAMS	51,546	128,865
SOUTH HOLLAND	2,833	7,083
SOUTH KESTEVEN	20,485	51,213
SOUTH LAKELAND	25,662	64,155
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE	121,428	303,570
SOUTH NORFOLK	24,288	60,720
SOUTH NORTHANTS	5,539	13,848
SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE	22,089	55,223
SOUTH RIBBLE	8,271	20,678
SOUTH SOMERSET	39,305	98,263

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE	13,303	33,258
SOUTH TYNESIDE	21,801	54,503
SOUTHAMPTON	65,667	164,168
SOUTHEND ON SEA	104,146	260,365
SOUTHWARK	132,835	332,088
SPELTHORNE	16,300	40,750
ST ALBANS	46,998	117,495
ST EDMUNDSBURY	19,807	49,518
ST HELENS	48,835	122,088
STAFFORD	13,580	33,950
STAFFS. MOORLANDS	10,654	26,635
STEVENAGE	17,865	44,663
STIRLING	27,306	68,265
STOCKPORT	105,411	263,528
STOCKTON ON TEES	24,368	60,920
STOKE ON TRENT	63,659	159,148
STRATFORD-ON-AVON	57,306	143,265
STROUD	21,639	54,098
SUFFOLK COASTAL	46,765	116,913
SUNDERLAND	44,286	110,715
SURREY HEATH	14,667	36,668
SUTTON	60,608	151,520
SWALE	67,683	169,208
SWANSEA	65,521	163,803
SWINDON	17,924	44,810
TAMESIDE	54,143	135,358
TAMWORTH	8,622	21,555
TANDRIDGE	24,070	60,175
TAUNTON DEANE	13,968	34,920
TEIGNBRIDGE	49,297	123,243
TELFORD AND WREKIN	31,844	79,610
TENDRING	38,521	96,303
TEST VALLEY	25,114	62,785
TEWKESBURY	14,176	35,440
THANET	30,668	76,670
THREE RIVERS	29,084	72,710
THURROCK	19,872	49,680
TONBRIDGE & MALLING	29,789	74,473
TORBAY	59,416	148,540
TORFAEN	30,747	76,868
TORRIDGE	11,304	28,260
TOWER HAMLETS	140,934	352,335
TRAFFORD	33,783	84,458
TUNBRIDGE WELLS	27,571	68,928
UTTLESFORD	22,554	56,385
VALE OF GLAMORGAN	32,032	80,080
VALE OF WHITE HORSE	21,013	52,533
WAKEFIELD	81,246	203,115
WALSALL	32,727	81,818

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>DHP Allocation 2009/10 Government Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Overall Limit (£)</b>
WALTHAM FOREST	104,882	262,205
WANDSWORTH	80,076	200,190
WARRINGTON	38,424	96,060
WARWICK	28,266	70,665
WATFORD	19,090	47,725
WAVENEY	22,195	55,488
WAVERLEY	29,534	73,835
WEALDEN	72,205	180,513
WELLINGBOROUGH	5,634	14,085
WELWYN HATFIELD	21,121	52,803
WEST BERKSHIRE	53,920	134,800
WEST DEVON	18,461	46,153
WEST DORSET	38,575	96,438
WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE	29,132	72,830
WEST LANCASHIRE	30,304	75,760
WEST LINDSEY	13,736	34,340
WEST LoTHIAN	44,326	110,815
WEST OXFORDSHIRE	16,545	41,363
WEST SOMERSET	9,740	24,350
WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND	26,119	65,298
WIGAN	57,174	142,935
WINCHESTER	18,150	45,375
WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD	49,563	123,908
WIRRAL	310,919	777,298
WOKING	22,492	56,230
WOKINGHAM	14,013	35,033
WOLVERHAMPTON	62,600	156,500
WORCESTER	27,512	68,780
WORTHING	23,178	57,945
WREXHAM	15,826	39,565
WYCHAVON	25,473	63,683
WYCOMBE	45,062	112,655
WYRE	21,251	53,128
WYRE FOREST	14,200	35,500
YORK	29,527	73,818
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE	26,349	65,873
CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER	55,307	138,268
CHESHIRE EAST	86,907	217,268
CORNWALL	171,706	429,265
DURHAM	102,053	255,133
NORTHUMBERLAND	59,476	148,690
SHROPSHIRE	52,415	131,038
WILTSHIRE	140,553	351,383